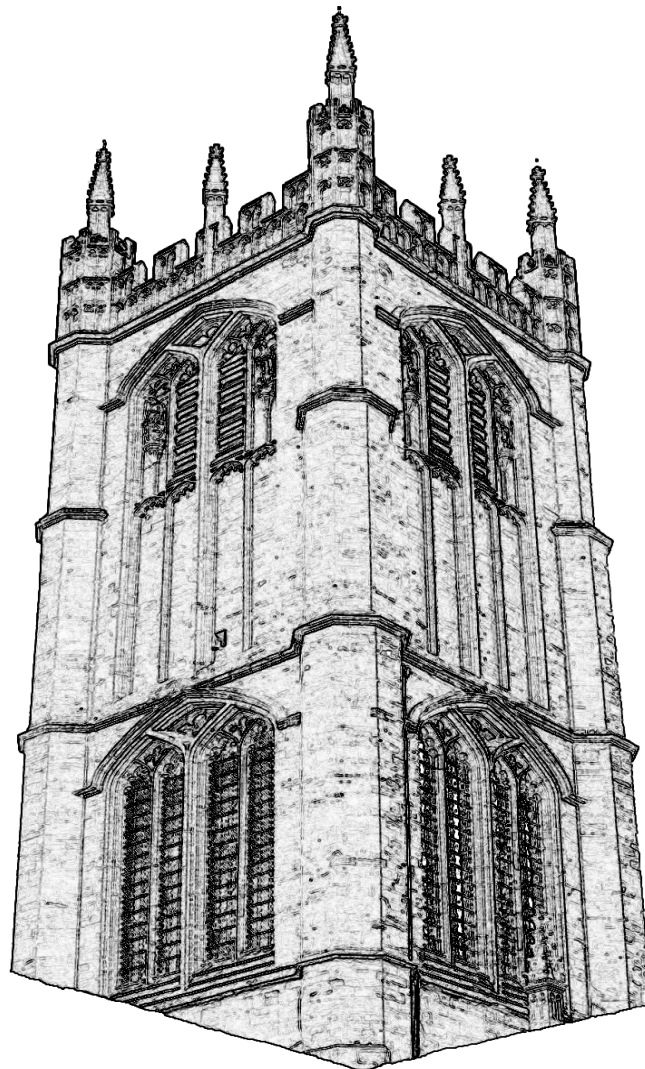


THE PARISHES OF LUDLOW & LUDFORD

LUDLOW TOWER

Parish Magazine

March 2010



Bringing you the latest news.....

(Contributions to offset the cost of printing this magazine are gratefully received)

THE PARISHES' OFFICE

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CLERGY (Days off are shown in brackets)

Team Rector	<i>Currently Vacant</i>		
Acting Team Rector	Revd Richard Green	(Friday)	831113
Acting Team Rector	Revd James Stewart	(Friday)	856625
Assistant Minister	Revd Prebendary Ann Barge	(Tuesday)	877307
Minister in Secular Employment	Revd Steve Jarvis	(Saturday)	07879 442751
Curate	Revd. John Beesley	(Tuesday)	874383

NORMAL SUNDAY SERVICES

St Laurence	8 am	Holy Communion BCP
	9.30 am	Parish Communion
		2nd Sunday Choral Communion
	11.30 am	2nd Sunday Plainchant Matins
		4th Sunday Choral Matins
3.30 pm	1st and 3rd Sundays Choral Evensong (No 3rd service on the 5th Sunday of the month)	
St John	9.30 am	Holy Communion with Hymns
St Giles	11.15 am	Holy Communion
		1st Sunday Family Service
		Last Sunday Godly Play

Thank you to all our contributors.

COPY FOR THE APRIL TOWER TO THE OFFICE PLEASE BY

Wednesday 17 March 2010

Please send articles by email.

**Please send information about events and subjects
which you would like to appear.**

What we do not know, we cannot pass on!

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CLERGY LETTER

For a number of years now I have been interested in Ignatian spirituality, that is, the kind of spirituality developed by St Ignatius of Loyola, the 16th century Spaniard who founded the Society of Jesus, or the Jesuits.

There is one spiritual practice that St Ignatius recommended, which is so very simple and yet which I have found so very helpful in my life these past few years, and I want to suggest that each of you gives it a go.

The practice, or exercise, is called *the examen*. 'Examen' is a Latin word which simply means examination. The exercise consists of simply sitting down at the end of each day and asking yourself two questions: for what have I been most grateful today; and, for what have I been least grateful today. These two questions can be put in any number of other ways:

What was today's high point?	What was today's low point?
When did I feel most alive today?	When did I feel life draining from me today?
When was I happiest today?	When was I saddest today?

St Ignatius believed that God speaks to us through ordinary, everyday experiences; experiences that might be forgotten or overlooked unless we stop at the end of each day to review them. For Ignatius, the examen is a way of finding direction and purpose in our life. He taught that God's will for us is, by and large, to experience gratitude and love. If, over time, the same sorts of things are giving us those positive feelings, then perhaps those sorts of things are what we are being called to do. By the same token, if over time we notice that the same sorts of things are draining us, then maybe God is calling us to do less of them.

The examen has other benefits. For the pessimists among us, having to find at least one thing we have been glad about every day helps us to realise that not all is doom and gloom. For the optimists, having to find at least one negative thing each day helps us to face up to the difficult parts of life.

A good way to do the examen is with someone else: that way you can discuss your findings and help each other to discern God's will. Of course, you may have to do it alone on a daily basis, but you could try and meet up with others to do an examen of the week or even the month.

There's a great book which goes into much more detail about the examen and which I've found really helpful. It's called *Sleeping with Bread: Holding what gives you life* by Dennis Linn, Sheila Fabricant Linn and Matthew Linn, and is available on Amazon.

Why not give the examen a go and find out where God might be leading you?

Fr Richard

FROM THE BISHOP

The strawberry season and the taste of them seems a long way off! (Strawberries from overseas never seem to me to have quite the same flavour.) It is not just a longing for spring and summer that makes me mention this: it is also my thinking about prayer and Lent. Let me explain.

As well as liking the taste of strawberries themselves, I also like the fact that there is a long aftertaste. Hence the connection with prayer. When you spend time in dedicated prayer, offered to God, then the flavour of that spills over afterwards, and lingers on, causing the rest of the day to "taste" different. The more we pray, the more the rest of the day becomes lived in an awareness of God as well. If you pray at the beginning of the day for the people you will be meeting, the things you will be doing, and ask God for the guidance of his Spirit to shape your thoughts and actions, then the consciousness of the whole day being lived in his presence will grow - the flavour will infuse the day.

If you were able to mark Ash Wednesday with a special sense of prayer, then the taste of that may well have lingered on, not only for the whole of that day but also for the beginning of Lent itself. Each day needs marking with prayer. Each day needs flavouring. Each day we can begin anew, building on what has gone before, deepening our prayer and our life in Christ. The Spirit himself is the Teacher, leading us into all truth. The fullness of truth is Christ himself, and the Spirit's task is to make Christ known.

Just as we can pray alone, so we can learn alone. But just as we also need to pray sometimes with others, so we may well learn better with others. Most of us benefit greatly from learning as part of a small group, whether it is a house/home group, Lent group, prayer group or some other kind of study group. There is, for example, a new diocesan group about to begin for those wanting to learn more about how to be "prayer guides" of others. Your parish or benefice will provide opportunities for you to study locally in a small group, just as there are other opportunities provided more widely within the diocese.

We are committed to growing in prayer and to learning how to pray better, but above all growing in holiness and discipleship. The Holy Spirit is our Teacher, but the development of most of us will be helped as well by our learning as part of a home/house group so that we have the opportunity to discuss the real issues affecting us in our daily Christian living.

Use the opportunities that this Lent provides, but above all be strengthened in your walk with Christ along his way of the cross, and yours.

+Anthony

A TRIBUTE AND THANK YOU TO DOREEN WATKINS

I am quite sure that all of us, anyone and everyone associated with St Laurence and the whole Town of Ludlow will be sad to learn that Doreen will no longer be working her wonderful “magic” with the Flower arrangements, as after many years, sterling service she has decided to retire.

Long ago when Howard became Churchwarden Doreen took on this role; she was also responsible for so much wonderful catering – many are the capabilities of this lady – Her devotion to duty over all these years has been remarkable and unstinting.

From a personal point of view Doreen has prepared many a pedestal for me particularly, as for others, as memorial for relatives and many occasions – Too many to name here, for fear I may omit some of the wonderful works! Doreen has a code which she always worked to, her knowledge of Church “protocol” Festivals and Liturgy leaves nothing to be desired – she loves the Church of St Laurence which she has served for many years.

Doreen, Thank you from the bottom of my heart – You will, as well as your arrangements, be sadly missed.

Pat Perry

ELECTRONIC VERSION OF “THE TOWER”

Each month, “The Tower” is made accessible through the St. Laurence’s web-site and at the same time an e-mail is sent to subscribers telling them that the latest edition of “The Tower” is ready to download and read on-line.

If a significant number of our congregation were to regularly use the electronic edition rather than the paper version of “The Tower” it would enable us to print fewer copies which could make worthwhile savings not only in financial terms but also in office time.

To subscribe to the e-version of “The Tower” please go to the St. Laurence’s web-site (<http://www.stlaurences.org.uk/>) and click on the “Subscribe” button in the bottom left hand corner of the home page.

You may have noticed that we have taken steps to update a number of key sections of the website, particularly the new Team Ministry section, services section and Conservation Trust section.

Colin Hamer

APPOINTMENT OF THE TEAM RECTOR

Over the past weeks a working group has prepared a document giving a profile of our Team Ministry and its parishes, and a statement of needs setting out both the nature of the post and the person we need. This document was approved by a meeting of the churchwardens of the Team on 1 March, and will be sent to those who respond to the advertisement for the post. This will appear in The Church Times on 5 and 12 March. The interview days will be 13 and 14 April and will involve both visits and formal interviews. The interviewing panel will include both Bishop Anthony and Bishop Alistair, the patrons, eight churchwardens representing our town and village parishes, Richard Green as Team Vicar, and myself as Rural Dean.

Here is the statement of needs:

STATEMENT OF NEEDS

THE NATURE OF THE POST

This important post in the Diocese of Hereford offers significant opportunities and challenges to provide leadership in developing the life and ministry of the Ludlow Team.

Key elements of the role include:

- Providing spiritual leadership across the Ludlow Team to all the people of its fourteen parishes
- Providing, in partnership with the Team Vicars, strategic leadership for the Ludlow Team, particularly in relation to the development of the Local Ministry Group, stewardship and Mission Action Plans
- Developing a sustainable model of ministry for the parishes of the Team
- Promoting and encouraging co-operation and team work within and between all the parishes and churches of the Ludlow Team
- Having pastoral responsibility for the Parishes of Ludlow and Ludford
- Supporting the continuing development of musical excellence at St Laurence's and its contribution to the life of the Team and the Diocese
- Vigorously promoting the Ludlow Vision Project across all the communities in Ludlow and beyond in order that the project may be brought to a successful conclusion

- Engaging with the town of Ludlow, including the College and schools, so that the ministry of the Church to the community is fully recognised and appreciated
- Developing the newly reorganised administrative structure of the Ludlow Parish to enable the clergy to focus upon their distinctive ministry
- Ensuring effective communication both across the Team and within the parishes
- Encouraging the congregations to recognise the ways in which they can contribute to the mission of the Church

THE PERSON WE NEED

We are open to consider all those who feel that God has called them to lead and serve our town and rural parishes, but we expect the person appointed be able to demonstrate the following qualities:

- A disciplined prayer life rooted in the Daily Offices and the Eucharist
- Commitment to encourage and enable the ministry of the whole people of God
- Enthusiasm for developing teaching and nurture and promoting mission across the Team
- Commitment to excellence in preaching, liturgy and music
- Effectiveness in communication
- Ability to handle routine work with speed and effectiveness
- The ability to provide effective leadership
- Commitment to work as a member of a team, with clergy and laity, both employed and voluntary
- Empathy with rural communities
- A sense of humour

END

Please hold in your prayers in the coming days all who will be involved in the appointment process, including not least all who offer themselves as candidates for the post.

James Stewart
Joint Acting Team Rector & Rural Dean

VISION PROJECT: UPDATE

It would be easy to think that the Vision Project has gone quiet, but the Project Team has been very busy working away in the background. As 2009 drew to a close, so did the first phase of the project, the public consultation. In November we presented the findings of the public consultation to the Diocesan Advisory Committee and representatives of Shropshire Council and English Heritage. In early 2010 we reported the completion of Phase 1 to the Project Steering Group, representative of the wider community of Ludlow: business, cultural, educational and political. The DAC commended the Project Team for its work in Phase 1 and singled out the public consultation as 'exemplary'. They encouraged us to be bold in our work and look forward to working with us on the design of the project.

The start of Phase 2 in early 2010 saw the expansion of the Project Team to include representatives from St John's and St Giles', Bill Eastwell and John Nash. Whilst we realise the project is focused on St Laurence's, the Team is committed to working in partnership with the other churches in the town.

The initial work of Phase 2 can be summed up by the word 'homework'; we have a great deal of research and paperwork to complete. We have commissioned an Asset Management Plan to look at our three buildings: St Laurence's, St John's and No.2 College Street and calculate the costs of their maintenance over a 25 year period. We will also be preparing a Conservation Management Plan for St Laurence's, a detailed survey of its contents to inform the schedule of repairs and the design of the re-ordering.

After extensive consultation and research we have embarked upon a Mission Action Plan, which requires St Laurence's to focus on five mission priorities. We are completing the W exercise: Who does What, with Whom, Where, When and Why. This will help us understand the specific needs of St Laurence's and the community it serves. We are also in the process of appointing a project architect; wide consultations have helped us draw up a large long list and we will be compiling a shortlist as the year progresses. Later on in 2010 we hope to commission a Feasibility Study with the project architect. This will take into account our research and provide a concept design with project costs. We also hope to commission a funding resource study which will identify potential sources of major funding and establish a fund raising office.

The Project Team is especially pleased to announce the appointment of David Stancliffe, Bishop of Salisbury as liturgical advisor to the Project Team. Bp David has been at the forefront of reordering a number of high profile church buildings, and we look forward to working with him.

Most importantly, please remember in your prayers those who are charged with the responsibility for carrying forward this project. Remember also the community which we are called to serve, and that, as part of this community we may continue to express a welcome and love for all.

Shaun Ward – Project Coordinator

MISSION ACTION PLAN: ST LAURENCE'S

At the PCC Away Day in February led by Jeffrey Wilcox, Anna Branston and Shaun Ward we started by considering the meaning of mission and evangelism, particularly in our present age in Ludlow. This was followed by an outline of the Mission Action Plan (MAP), a process that provides the means to achieve our vision for mission by setting five realistic and achievable mission priorities.

We have completed a lengthy programme of review and data gathering in preparation for the MAP. These have included the Delphi consultation, Healthy Churches Course, the Angel of the Church exercise, the 'W questions' exercise and the Community Review (pink questionnaires). The outcomes of these studies were presented to the PCC; the data helped to demonstrate how complex and active a church St Laurence's is. The "W" questions 'Who does what, with whom, where, why and when', showed us, for example, that we have more than 50,000 visitors and pilgrims a year and about an average of 200 worshippers a week across all services. If you include all events in the building, nearly 70, 000 people come through our doors in over 120 different types of events.

As part of the MAP process each of the PCC committees were asked to respond to three questions:

- What is the purpose of your committee?
- How does the work of your committee contribute to the whole life of the church in Ludlow?
- How does the work of your committee contribute to the whole life of the church worldwide?

The work of the PCC committees demonstrated a commitment to ensure that the mission of the Church, local and worldwide, continues whether through ensuring income and infrastructure, supporting the delivery of liturgy, prayer and pastoral work here at St Laurence's or to outreach giving to the worldwide community.

We then discussed opportunities that are before us and set up a working party to prioritise the mission actions according to mission values of the Church of England and identify no more than five mission actions with which we will

move forward. The findings of this working party will then be sent to PCC for their approval. Once the MAP is adopted the PCC will review the mission actions annually.

Anna Branston

COMPETITION TIME

"Can our readers suggest a really imaginative collective noun for a group of clergy, a group of traffic wardens and a group of rambles? Mary Stewart will be the judge and an appropriate prize will be given by Ian Barge...For example, how about a hover of traffic wardens? The English language is already rich in collective nouns: a murder of crows, an unkindness of ravens, a crash of hippopotami."

Why not have a go?

Ian Barge

NEWS FROM ST. GILES

A Mission Statement:

We met at Hennor last May, held an open meeting after the service on October 18, another on Saturday 16 January and finally came to the PCC meeting of 27 January to express as succinctly as possible what we felt was true about the life of our church and what were our hopes and aims. This was done thoughtfully and prayerfully, trusting in the Holy Spirit to guide us.

Here then is our Mission Statement:

- We give thanks for all that we have received within the life of our church, and are especially grateful for the warmth of fellowship, the shared joys and sorrows, the common worship and common activities, and we recognise in them the work of God's Holy Spirit.
- We see ourselves as a welcoming church, nurturing and supporting each other; a healing community whose house is a house of prayer open daily, a sanctuary to all who come seeking the comfort of God.
- We long to continue to be a church 'where things happen', not so much through organisation as through its members being open to the Holy Spirit, and we value our links with other churches.
- We believe that we are called to serve the community in which we are set, and to proclaim the love of Christ to it. We long to attract more young families and children to the church and to proclaim Christ to visitors and the local community, by whatever means will attractively declare our faith and purpose.

Our celebratory lunch and tea held on February 28 will have come and gone. Hopefully many will have taken the opportunity to enjoy hospitality and to see the work done in St. Giles' over the last eighteen months – the new carpet throughout, the painted ceilings, the restored brasses which will see so much activity and publicity during the Ludlow Festival, the newly plastered and painted vestry, and the bright pew rag-runners.

Our AGM will be on April 11, and before then we will be looking for a new churchwarden and a PCC secretary. We will also be holding a Stewardship Renewal.

Philip Jepps

St Laurence's Church, Ludlow

VACANCIES

PARISH ADMINISTRATOR

An able and dynamic administrator is required to manage the Parish Office. This part-time role (15 hours per week, with potential for more) would suit someone seeking an interesting and varied role, contributing to the running of this important church.

Working with the clergy and a small team of employees and volunteers, the successful candidate will possess excellent communication and management skills, be an able administrator, fully conversant with computerised office and accounting systems and be highly self-motivated.

Closing date for applications – 17 March

HONORARY TREASURER

The person appointed will have the important task of being responsible for all aspects of the church's finances.

HEAD VERGER & ASSISTANT VERGER

Two vacancies exist at this vibrant, growing Greater Parish Church which sets liturgical and musical excellence at the centre of its worship and attracts over 50,000 visitors annually. Closing date for applications – 10 March

Further details of these positions are available from the
Parishes' Office, 2 College Street, Ludlow SY8 1AN
Tel: 01584 872073 Email: office@stlaurences.org.uk

For an informal discussion, please contact Dr Ewart Carson 01584 879155.

The Parish of Bitterley with Middleton

QUIZ NIGHT

Saturday 6 March

7 pm

Bitterley Village Hall

£7 includes supper

Bring your own drinks

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2010

ANNUAL SERVICE

Will be held on 5 March at the

Ludlow Methodist Church

2.30 pm and 7.30 pm in the Garden Room

The service has been prepared by Christian Women of Cameroon

CHRISTIAN AID LENT LUNCHESES

CTAL lent lunches are continuing on Fridays –

from 12 noon to 1.30 pm in Wesley's.

Do go along and enjoy home made soup with tasty bread and cheese
and help Christian Aid at the same time, through your donation.

St Laurence's will be hosting the lunch on March 19,

but please attend on other Fridays as well.

CHRISTIAN AID COLLECTORS MEETING

The preparation meeting for collectors for Christian Aid week (May 10 - 16) will be on **Wednesday April 21** (not March 29 nor April 23, as some people may have understood) in Wesley's Café from 6 pm to 8 pm. A bread and cheese supper will form part of the evening (donations welcome). All the Christian Aid Week materials will be distributed on that night.

CHRISTIAN AID IN LENT

Christian Aid has produced a leaflet

"Count your Blessings - a life -changing experience for Lent".

It suggests how we can observe Lent whilst supporting Christian Aid projects. There is a prayer, as well as a thought for each day throughout the season, with accompanying suggestions, for each day, as to how to express your concern. The leaflets are on the table by the pigeon holes. Please pick them up, take them away and use them.

EASTER EXPERIENCE 2010

Several churches are getting together to arrange an Easter Experience again, but this year it will be for adults. The Easter Experience will begin at 7 pm at St Giles' on Monday 29 and also Wednesday 31 March.

There will be only 30 places each evening, so booking is essential through Jon Edwards 01584 874076. Please support this ecumenical venture by making it known in your church.

EVENTS IN HEREFORD CATHEDRAL

Saturday 20 March

Hereford Choral Society

Hummel's Mass in B Flat and Walton's Belshazzar's Feast

Soloist Peter Savidge; Hereford Symphonic

Tickets £10 - £20 from 0845 4633 124

Thursday 30 March

Bach's St John Passion

sung by the Cathedral Choir with soloists and Marches Baroque

Tickets £14 - 18 available from the Cathedral Shop

CARING FOR GOD'S ACRE

A-Z of Churchyard Conservation

O is for Owl

Tawny Owl is the most likely owl to be heard in the churchyard. It will nest in the church building or in large trees and roost in winter in evergreen trees. The male makes the familiar 'hooo-hoo-hooo' sound while the female replies with a coarse 'ke-wick' call. In days gone by the Tawny Owl was seen as the harbinger of death because it often called from churchyard trees in the dark months of autumn and winter when many people died. The owls can live up to 23 years. For more information on birds, contact the British Trust for Ornithology, 01842 750050 or the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, 01767 680551. They both have excellent websites: www.bto.org.uk, www.rspb.org.uk

Caring for God's Acre, the conservation charity for churchyards and burial grounds, 01568 611154, www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk

MUSICAL NOTES

Over the past few months Jane & Tom from Special Music Projects have been working hard preparing an application to the Heritage Lottery Fund to enable the organ case to be restored. You may not know, but the case built by John Snetzler is one of the finest examples of his work; he built an identical but much smaller version for Peterhouse Cambridge. The case survives in its original form, though the façade pipes would have originally been gilded, funds not being available when the organ was restored in the 1980s; the pipes were instead sprayed with gold metallic paint. The gilding of the pipes would make a fitting climax to the works of restoration over the last 20 years.

The first Sunday in March will see the choir performing a new piece in their repertoire, *Sicut Cervus Palestrina*. A staple part of the choral repertoire, this piece has certain challenges in that it has a very complex texture and is performed unaccompanied. We are very grateful for the sheet music which was donated by Mrs Louise James in memory of her late husband.

Looking forward to the summer we will again be hosting concerts during the Ludlow Festival. However this year we will also be promoting our own series of lunchtime concerts as part of St Laurence's Mini-Fest. We shall also be hosting the Hereford Cider Museum Concert Steinway. This piano purchased for Hereford is housed in Holy Trinity my last parish; it will be a great pleasure to have one of the finest pianos in the West Midlands with us for a week. To mark the residence of the Steinway we will be hosting an evening concert *Schubert Winterreise*, sung by one of our country's leading tenors James Oxley. James' song recital at last year's Hereford Three Choirs Festival was a complete sell out. Please remember to put this date in your diary; proceeds from the concert will go towards St Laurence's Church.

Chorister tutor Katherine Bromley and I have been working very hard planning and preparing chorister recruitment. During March we hope to visit all the head teachers in the region in preparation for a large recruitment campaign for junior choristers. Later next term we hope to visit schools and hear children sing. Children who show an interest and potential will be invited to an open evening and an opportunity to audition for the choir. Over the last three years we have worked on a number of outreach projects to build up our relationships with the schools in our Team. Please remember this cause in your prayers as we go about this important work. The last three years have been very successful for the choir; to ensure this continues we must now recruit more children.

Thank you to those of you who volunteered for the chorister tea rota. I still need a few more people; this is a vital part of our welcome to new parents and children in our community, duties are only once a month. *Shaun Ward*

CHURCHWARDENS' CORNER

NEWS FROM PCC & STANDING COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The full PCC now meets six times a year, in the third week of each of the odd numbered months. Standing Committee, which includes the officers of the PCC, meets in each of the even numbered months, in order to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings, taking action on relevant items or making recommendations to the PCC as appropriate. Items of interest from the January and February 2010 meetings, in addition to items referred to elsewhere in the magazine, together with subsequent activity, included the following:

David Lloyd Memorial

It has now been agreed that the necessary repair and conservation works on the three medieval roundels in the north aisle should be carried out as part of the memorial to David Lloyd. The intention is that this will be funded by public subscription, so that all may have the opportunity to contribute whether or not they have a connection with St Laurence's. Also as part of the memorial will be a peal of bells and the lighting of the Tower during the Festival. This would have been the occasion of David's 75th birthday. There will also be the annual David Lloyd Memorial History Lecture given as part of the Festival in conjunction with the Conservation Trust and the Ludlow Historical Research Group, with this first one to be given by Professor Michael Rosenbaum on "The Stones of Ludlow"

The Vision Project

See separate article

Special Music Projects

A programme of organ recitals has been arranged for the summer. In addition there will be more, extensive musical outreach activity for local schoolchildren. Funds are also being raised that will enable the gilding of the organ case to go ahead.

OTHER NEWS

Time and Talents – St Laurence's needs you!

With an organisation as large as St Laurence's to run, there will always be opportunities for anyone who feels able and willing to volunteer for the many

tasks that are required to be performed. No one is ever going to be turned away we can assure you!

However, at the moment there are some vitally important roles where we are looking for volunteers. First, Don Beattie will shortly be stepping down from his position as **Honorary Treasurer** (he offered to do the job for one year, but has given us valiant service for over two!). So we now urgently need someone willing to take on this very important task of being responsible for all aspects of the church's finances. We are also looking for someone to act as a **Bookkeeper** to take on some of the more routine tasks associated with the finances of St Laurence's.

Another opportunity arises for someone to take over the role of **Honorary Secretary to the PCC** from Maureen Stinton who has performed the task with great efficiency over these past few years.

Do please talk to us if you might be interested in any of these very important tasks.

Summer Fête

Last summer's fête was a huge success and the intention is that this year's, taking place on Saturday 17 July, should be even better. However, successful events need much organising, so we are looking for two or three people who would be prepared to take a leading role in planning this year's fête. Last year Shaun provided the lead, almost single handed, but now it is time for others to share the tasks, so that he is able to focus on his other roles as Director of Music and Clerk of Works. We know that there are a number of you out there who would be able to help, so please do come and talk to Shaun or ourselves.

Fairtrade Church

We are pleased to have received our certificate and are now officially a Fairtrade Church. We are holding events in the church during Fairtrade Fortnight to reflect our commitment. Please do visit the exhibition and come to the parish breakfast on 7 March (you can sign up for this in the church).

Opportunities for Giving

Spring Bulbs:

After a long winter the appearance of snowdrops and narcissi as harbingers of spring makes a very welcome sight. We are planning to plant more bulbs around the church, so any contributions towards their cost would be very welcome. The

snowdrops are £8 per 100 and the narcissi are £22 per 100. Please see Shaun who will be placing an order shortly.

Crockery:

Many of you will have enjoyed one or more of our social events over the past year. However, as these social occasions become ever more popular, we are finding that we are needing new crockery. If anyone is willing to contribute towards this cost, we should be very grateful.

Anna Branston and Ewart Carson

REVD COLIN HUTT

I went to Revd Colin Hutt's funeral on January 25 at Whitton Church, together with several old friends from the Ludlow area.

He served in the Tenbury area where he worked as priest before his retirement, due to ill health.

Colin served in the Ludlow Team for several years and did much work whilst he was here. I shall always remember him for his friendship and help when my husband Preb. John Baulch died in 1993.

He was often seen in the town and in church on his motorised chair, in recent years.

Pat Baulch

FROM THE REGISTERS

BAPTISMS

No Baptisms in Ludlow during February

WEDDINGS

20.2.10	Laurence Tilt & Amy Bennett	St Laurence
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FUNERALS

28.1.10	Doreen Barrett	H/Crem
12.2.10	Mable Brown	St John
13.2.10	Joe Meredith	St Laurence
17.2.10	Ted Penny	St John
18.2.10	Ted Hobby	H/Crem

SUNDAY READINGS FROM THE BIBLE

7 March 3 rd Sunday of Lent Purple	Isaiah 55.1-9 Psalm 63.1-9 1 Corinthians 10: 1-13 Luke 13.1-9
14 March 4 th Sunday of Lent Purple <i>For Mothering Sunday</i>	Joshua 5: 9-12 Psalm 32 2 Corinthians 5: 16-21 Luke 15: 1-3, 11b-end <i>or</i> Exodus 2: 1-10 <i>or</i> 1 Samuel 1: 20-28 Psalm 34: 11-20 <i>or</i> Psalm 127 2 Corinthians 1: 3-7 <i>or</i> Colossians 3: 12-17 Luke 2: 33-35 <i>or</i> John 19: 25b-27
21 March 5 th Sunday of Lent Purple <i>Passiontide begins</i>	Isaiah 43: 16-21 Psalm 126 Philippians 3: 4b-14 John 12: 1-8
28 March Palm Sunday Red	<i>Liturgy of the Palms: Luke 19.28-40</i> Psalm 118.1-2,19-end [118.19-24] <i>Liturgy of the Passion</i> Philippians 2.5-11 Luke 22.14-end of 23

SOCIAL COMMITTEE

A big thank you to all those who attended the Candlemas Supper, particularly to the helpers, cook and bottle washers; a superb evening was had by all. There were so many people at evensong that we ran out of places and hymn books.

Anna Branston

ST LAURENCE'S SHOP

We have more new lines in the shop this month: microwavable lavender scented wheat bags, available as a traditional wheat bag, fluffy slippers and various cuddly toys, perfect for these chilly days and nights. We also have new notelets in packs of 10 with beautiful drawings of the church and highlights of the church's interior. Keep an eye out as there are more new lines on the way during March!

REPAIRS & CONSERVATION ST LAURENCE'S

2009 was year of much work in the conservation of St Laurence's. As well as the major programme of restoration of the tower bells, there were many projects taking place to secure the future of our church building. For the second year running the PCC committed a sum of nearly £12000 for routine maintenance and upkeep of the building, vital if we are to keep on top of the challenges.

Completed Works 2009

- General Maintenance £12 000
 - Repairs and painting of flower stands, oiling of external doors, servicing of all plant: boiler, bells, organ, and lightening conductor. Repairs to the chancel step, cleaning drains & hoppers, changing light bulbs, cleaning the tower stairs, and minor electrical repairs.
- Larger projects included (approximate sums):
- Cleaning Chancel Floor £1000
- Restoration Tower Bells £70 000
- New Carillon £10 000
- Overhaul Tower down pipes £3500
- Repairs to lightening conductor £1000
- Repairs to St Leonard's wall £4000
- Dismantling of 6no. Pinnacles £1000
- Re-ordering Shop £8000
- Stained Glass survey £800
- New tower floodlights £1300
- Painting conservation – Adam Ree/Charles Evans £610

Total £ 113 210 (PCC £85 300/Conservation Trust £27 910)

Works planned during 2010:

- Repairs to parapet gutter above pulpit Provisional Sum £2500
- General roof inspection PS £660
- General repairs to flashings around parapets PS £750
- Repairs to the South Aisle Ellis Shaw leak £779
- Repairs to masonry west door £2429.85
- Installation of a roped Access System on the roofs £8205.24
- Monument condition Survey £3866.36
- Conservation of Royal Arms & Commandments Board £8400
- Stained Glass repairs Phase 2 Chancel £10573

- Lady Chapel repair of cracks in lead roof PS £1000
- Repairs to stone masonry – Chancel North Clerestory £8300
- Repairs to Chancel Clerestory South windows £1000
- Repairs to Parvis Room Ceiling £5000
- Repairs to lightening conductor £689
- Repairs to chancel cross – removal and repair £1215
- Repairs to chancel reredos £2337
- Stained glass – extra work to Phase 2 already agreed £1890
- Repoint crack south transept gable PS£200

We hope to achieve a considerable amount of work this year; many of the tasks are ‘stitch in time’. The works will cost in the region of £64k. The Conservation Trust for St Laurence is an enormous help in this work, and for their continued support the PCC is grateful. We do however need help from anyone who would be able to assist us complete grant aid applications.

I will be giving two lectures later on in the year on the work we will be carrying out so that you can see first hand what we are hoping to achieve.

Over the past few years we have received generous help from private benefactors with some projects. The acting Team Rectors and Churchwardens would be very happy to discuss the sponsorship of any project with private benefactors upon enquiry.

Shaun Ward

NEWSLETTER

You may not be aware how the newsletter gets published each month and here is a little insight. Articles and items for inclusion are sent to the parish office where Lesley assembles them into a draft electronic document. Prior to publication I spend roughly 3–4 hours typesetting the newsletter into our house style and adding in other new articles that we commission i.e. churchwardens’ corner, news about ‘this n that’. We then have a few proof readers to attempt to remove any ‘gremlins’, though some do occasionally slip through. The document returns to Lesley who then prints it, another 4 hours, some 250 copies. Currently we supply this newsletter free and it costs roughly £600 a year to produce.

We have made great efforts to expand the information contained within; we hope this meets your approval? We are looking to continue this expansion, so if you are chair of a committee or church group please do pass on a short summary of the work you are currently undertaking so that the parish can support you. I only see myself as a stop gap, if you like a guest editor, until someone can take on this task. So please give this your thought and prayers; we do need someone to take on this vital role, only 3–4 hours work a month and extremely rewarding.

Shaun Ward

MARCH

<i>Date</i>	<i>Day</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Event</i>
2	Tues	2pm	CTAL Service Four Rivers
4	Thurs	10- 12noon	Conservation Trust Coffee Morning £3 entry, – <i>hosted by Bill & Shirley Lloyd-Kitchen, Old Bell Cottage, Ludford</i>
5	Fri	2.30 pm 7.30 pm	Women’s World Day of Prayer Annual Service – <i>Methodist Church</i> WW Day of Prayer – <i>Garden Room Methodist Church (The service has been prepared by Christian Women of Cameroon)</i>
6	Sat	7 pm	Quiz Night tickets £7.00 to include supper– <i>Bitterley Village Hall</i>
7	Sun		Lent 3
8	Mon	10.30am	Prayer Fellowship Group – 3 Greenacres, Ludlow
9	Tues	2.30pm	Mothers Union Meeting Lent Talk by Revd Melia Cope – <i>Ludlow Conference Centre</i>
11	Thurs	10.30	Prayer Group Meeting – St Catherine, Chapel – <i>St Laurence</i>
13	Sat	10-4pm 1pm	Marriage Prep Day – <i>Ludlow Conference Centre</i> Wedding Adams/Stewardson – St John
14	Sun		Lent 4 –Mothering Sunday
16	Tues	2pm	Holy Communion – <i>Four Rivers</i>
17	Wed		Deadline for Copy to the Tower
21	Sun	3pm 3.30pm	Lent 5 Baptism Connor Perks – <i>St Giles</i> Local Ministry Team Celebration event & Graham’s Farewell please join us for worship, study, and a high tea – <i>Craven Arms Community Centre (contact Suki Gregson-Smith)</i>
22	Mon	10.30am	Prayer Fellowship Group – 3 Greenacres, Ludlow
25	Thurs		Annunciation of Our Lord
26	Fri	7.30pm	Baptism Preparation Evening <i>venue to be confirmed</i>
27	Sat	7.30pm	Ludlow Choral Society - <i>St Laurence(stage up 10am rehearsal 2pm)</i>
28	Sun	9.30 am 10 am 3.30 pm	Palm Sunday Procession departs from <i>St Giles</i> Joint Parish Communion – <i>St Laurence</i> Choral Evensong - <i>St Laurence</i>
29	Mon	7pm	Easter experience contact Jon Edwards 874076 – <i>St Giles</i>
31	Wed	11am 7pm	St Laurence Primary School Service – <i>St Laurence</i> Easter Experience contact Jon Edwards 874076 – <i>St Giles</i>

CONTACT US.....

THE PARISH OF ST LAURENCE, WITH ST JOHN

Churchwardens	Dr Ewart Carson, Fairfield, Linney	879155
	Ms Anna Branston, Wootton House, Livesey Road	876958
PCC Secretary	Mrs Maureen Stinton, 28 Friars Garden	873445
Electoral Roll	Mrs Claire Wilcox, 4 Lower Broad Street	877199

ST LAURENCE'S, LUDLOW

8am Sidesmen's Rota	Mr & Mrs R. Burns, 8 Poyner Road	872419
Children's Church	Mrs Katherine Bromley	874259
Communion Rota	Mrs Fay Carson, Fairfield, Linney	879155
Conservation Trust	Mrs Helen Coleman	875113
Director of Music	Mr Shaun Ward, Parishes' Office	872073
Flowers - church	Mrs Antonia O'Kennedy, 17 Friars Garden	877309
Flowers - wedding	Mrs Doreen Watkins, 1 Linney Fields, Linney	875909
Gift Aid Secretary	c/o Parishes' Office	872073
Sacristan	Mrs Antonia O'Kennedy, 17 Friars Garden	877309
Servers Secretary	Mr. Paul Suthern	711491
Stewarding	Mrs Pam Latchford, 3 Poyner Road	874990
St Laurence Shop	Mrs Di Corston, 13 Whitbatch Close	873778
Tower Captain	Mr Tony Greatrex	01568 780764
Tower Floodlighting	Forms at St Laurence Shop	
Treasurer	Mr Don Beattie, Parishes' Office	872073
Verger	Mr Matthew Lenthall, Parishes Office	872073

ST JOHN'S, LUDLOW

Deputy Wardens	Mr Bill Eastwell, Briar Cottage, 5 Julian Road	874044
	Mr Don Craft, White Gates, St Julians Ave.	874323
Treasurer	Mr Peter Phelps, Hill Crest, Gravel Hill	873179
Secretary	Mr John French, 4 Coach House Fields, Livesey Road	876142
Organist (also St Giles')	Mr Edmund Rowsell, Braeside, Overton Road	873537

ST GILES', LUDFORD

Churchwardens	Mrs Daphne Jepps, 2 Eagle Cottages, Orleton	01568 780517
	Mrs L. White, Blackpole Cottage, Luston	01568 620632
Treasurer	Mr John Nash, The Old Gate House, Ludlow	879029
Secretary	Vacant	
Minutes secretary	Mrs Karen Unwin, 8 Corver Street, Ludlow	872987
Electoral Roll	Mr B. Heatley, St Julians, Park Road, Ludford	877424
Flowers	Mrs G. Nash, The Old Gate House, Ludlow	879029
Wedding Flowers	Mrs H. Meyrick, 24 Mary Elizabeth Road, Ludlow	873813

LUDLOW TEAM MINISTRY

Bible Reading Fellowship	Mrs. Joan Bowker, 3 Clayton Close, Knowbury	891549
Mothers' Union Branch Leader	Mrs SheJagh Jenkyns, Sarum House 9 Bromley Road	874105

PRAYER INTENTIONS MARCH 2010

These intentions are used at public worship in the Ludlow Team Ministry during the week and you are invited to use them as subjects for your own prayers on the appointed days.

- 1 The Church, government and people of Wales
- 2 The Diocese of Lichfield
- 3 Fairer systems of trade in our world
- 4 All who live in poverty in our world
- 5 The work of animal welfare charities
- 6 St Peter's RC Church, Ludlow
- 7 Our Team and its parishes
- 8 The Commonwealth
- 9 All in training for ordination
- 10 All whose lives are blighted by addiction
- 11 Farmers and all who work in agriculture
- 12 The United Nations and its peacekeepers
- 13 All engaged in the exploration of space
- 14 Our Team and its parishes
- 15 Poets and writers
- 16 The Church, government and people of Ireland
- 17 The Anglican Church in the Holy Land
- 18 All foster parents and those in their care
- 19 The Diocese of Durham
- 20 All responsible for the Church's liturgy
- 21 Our Team and its parishes
- 22 All without access to clean water
- 23 Greater commitment to tackle climate change
- 24 That we may be obedient to God's call
- 25 The government and people of Greece
- 26 Forthcoming annual church meetings
- 27 Local school governors
- 28 Our Team and its parishes
- 29 The keeping of a good Holy Week
- 30 Christian bookshops and booksellers
- 31 The Mothers' Union