

Church of All Saints in the Vendée
"To know and to share Jesus Christ"

The Grapevine

October 2017

CONTACTS:

Interregnum.

Vicarage:

27, rue de Malvoisine, 85110 St Vincent Sterlanges:

Phone no: 02 51 46 39 51

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During the Interregnum and/or in case of emergency, please contact any of the following:

President

Barbara Kenyon Phone no: 02 51 40 51 59, email: bandrkenyon@orange.fr

Church Wardens:

Keith Fowler: Phone no: 02 51 49 83 25, email: antheakeithfow@aol.com

Polly Ward: Phone no: 02 28 13 01 93, email: wardpolly@outlook.com

Assistant Church Wardens:

Margaret Kent (PdS) Phone no: 05 49 72 27 72, email: maguyjelley@gmail.com

Jo Collinson (LCP) Phone no: 02 51 55 84 56, email: collinson5@orange.fr

Tonie Chandler (LCA) email: toniechandler@live.co.uk

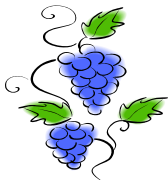
Lay Reader:

John Matthews: Phone no: 05 49 75 29 71, e-mail: matthewsj@wanadoo.fr

Website: www.allsaintsvendee.fr



My thanks to Revd Gareth Randall for contributing our Preface this month. Revd Gareth is Priest-in-charge of St Bartholomew's, Dinard. He has written for "Grapevine" on numerous occasions and also provided sermons to be read at our services throughout the interregnum.



Preface



Dear Friends,

Fruitful ?

As I sit down to write to you up here on the Brittany coast, it very much feels like Autumn now. On the last Sunday in September, at St Bartholomew's Dinard, we have our Harvest Festival and the church is full of colour with flowers, fruit and vegetables, tinned and packet food, given by my congregation for the Banque Alimentaire and the Little Sisters of the Poor.

And, at Harvest-tide, I ask myself the question, 'What makes for a fruitful life ?' On reflection, what do you think is the harvest of a life well led?

Is it being connected, being in touch? Is it being a member of a family, with friends and neighbours, kith and kin, one of a community among whom you feel a part, play a part, giving and receiving as and when appropriate?

Is it being at ease in the place in which you find yourself, enjoying the rhythms of life where you are, the change in the seasons, delighting in the pleasure of the familiar and enjoying the surprise of the unusual?

Is it being part of the fellowship of a church community: being there for each other and feeling the presence of God in the worship; being challenged by the readings from scripture and the sermon clarifying them; being uplifted by the music and the chance to sing familiar hymns; and, of course, the chance to chat before and after the service, possibly over a coffee or a meal?

Whatever you think makes for a fruitful life, however you judge a life worth living, the good life, I believe that we are here to make a difference by what we do and by what we say; by how we behave towards our neighbours, towards strangers and, above all, by our attitude to God - Father, Son and Holy Spirit. If to love is to fulfil what God truly wants us to do, then we would be wrong-headed not to love being here in France, being part of the community in which we are fortunate to find ourselves and playing our part in the lives of others to the best our ability.

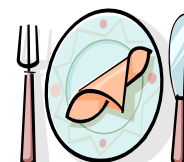
But what do you personally think makes for a truly fruitful life?

Every blessing,

Gareth



Please join us ...
...for **Tea, Coffee & Biscuits** after our services,
followed by a **Bring & Share Lunch**.



Everyone is welcome to join us

- even if you have not brought anything, there is always enough to go round!

Unfortunately, when there is a service on the fifth Sunday in the month, the hall is not always available

October into November 2017

CHURCH SERVICES with LECTIONARY READINGS

HC = Holy Communion; WW = Word & Worship
 LCA = La Chapelle Achard LCP = La Chapelle Palluau PdS = Puy de Serre
 (The Psalm for each week is included to guide your reading at home)

1st October Holy Communion La Chapelle Palluau 11h00 Harvest 16th after Trinity
 Deuteronomy 8.7-18; Luke.16-30
 (Psalm 78.1-4, 12-16)

8th October Holy Communion Puy de Serre 11h00 Harvest 17th after Trinity
 Deuteronomy 8.7-18; Luke.16-30
 (Psalm 19 or Psalm 19.7-end)

15th October Holy Communion La Chapelle Achard 11h00 18th after Trinity
 Exodus 32.1-14; Philippians 4.1-9; Matthew 22.1-14
 (Psalm 106.1-6, 19-23 or Psalm 106.1-6)

22nd October Holy Communion Puy de Serre 11h00 19th after Trinity
 Exodus 33.12-end; 1 Thessalonians 1.1-10; Matthew 22.15-22
 (Psalm 99)

29th October Fifth Sunday - no service (please check website) Last after Trinity
 Deuteronomy 34.1-12; 1 Thessalonians 2.1-8; Matthew 22.34-end

5th November Holy Communion La Chapelle Palluau 11h00 **All Saints**
Revelation 7.9-end; 1 John 3.1-3; Matthew 5.1-12
 or 4th before Advent
 or Micah 3.5-end; 1 Thessalonians 2.9-13; Matthew 24.1-14

Interregnum: Please note that in the absence of a priest, Holy Communion will not be celebrated but there will always be a service in its place)

(If you are reading, please check with the Worship Leader for any last minute changes)



Sunday Club



*Sunday Club takes place at Puy de Serre.
 If you know of any children who would like to join our Sunday Club
 please bring them along at 11a.m.
 They will be most welcome.*

Barbara

*[Please contact Barbara if you require more information:
 Phone 02 51 40 51 59, email: bandrkenyon@orange.fr]*



Dates for your Diary



October 2017

- 1st **Sunday- HC Harvest Festival LCP followed by Special Harvest Bring & Share Lunch.**
Sunday Conference Day at La Chapelle, rue du Portail, Doué La Fontaine;
Topic: Is there life after Brexit? Speaker: member from the British Embassy in Paris.
Lunch will be provided at € 15.00 per person.
If anyone is interested in attending, please could they contact Ann Eastell, 7 rue de la Brèche, 49700 Les Verchers sur Layon. Tel: 02 41 59 97 50 (Contact Ticia Goode)
- 2nd **Monday - Deux-Sèvres Bible Study Group** at the home of Bill and Carole Stocking
(Please phone: 05 49 06 05 85)
- 3rd
- 4th
- 5th
- 6th
- 7th **Saturday - 14.30 Decorating the church for Harvest PDS**
- 8th **Sunday-HC 11.00 Harvest PdS - Donations please and Bring & Share Lunch.**
- 9th **Monday - Deux-Sèvres Bible Study Group** at the home of Bill and Carole Stocking
(Please phone: 05 49 06 05 85)
- 10th
- 11th **Wednesday 3.00pm Memorial Service** at Arçay Parish Church. (86200)
- 12th **Thursday 2.30pm Sewing Circle** (Contact Joan Stewart)
- 13th
- 14th
- 15th **Sunday 11.00 HC La Chapelle Achard**
- 16th **Monday - Deux-Sèvres Bible Study Group** at the home of Bill and Carole Stocking
(Please phone: 05 49 06 05 85)
- 17th
- 18th
- 19th
- 20th
- 21st
- 22nd **Sunday 11am HC PdS**
- 23rd **Monday - Deux-Sèvres Bible Study Group** at the home of Bill and Carole Stocking
(Please phone: 05 49 06 05 85)
- 24th
- 25th
- 26th **Thursday 2.30pm Ladies Circle - Painting glass with Debs** (Contact Joan Stewart)
- 27th
- 28th
- 29th **5th Sunday - No service (please check with website for any last minute changes)**
- 30th **Monday - Deux-Sèvres Bible Study Group** at the home of Bill and Carole Stocking
(Please phone: 05 49 06 05 85)
- 31st

(For possible Quiz nights, please contact Polly Ward)

November 2017

1st	
2nd	
3rd	
4th	
5th	Sunday- HC 11am LCP
6th	Monday - Ministry Team Meeting 10.00 at the Vicarage Monday Deux-Sèvres Bible Study Group at the home of Bill and Carole Stocking (Please phone: 05 49 06 05 85)
7th	
8th	
9th	Thursday 2.30pm Sewing Circle (Contact Joan Stewart)
10th	
11th	Remembrance Day Service 14.30 at the Stéle, near Angles, and afterwards, Afternoon Tea at Sally's home.
12th	Sunday- HC 11am PdS
13th	Monday - Deux-Sèvres Bible Study Group at the home of Bill and Carole Stocking (Please phone: 05 49 06 05 85)
14th	
15th	
16th	
17th	Friday Hall preparation for Marché de Noël tomorrow:
18th	Saturday: Marché de Noël 10.00 at St Hilaire de Voust (Hall preparation 17th November)
19th	Sunday- HC 11am LCA
20th	Monday - Deux-Sèvres Bible Study Group at the home of Bill and Carole Stocking (Please phone: 05 49 06 05 85)
21st	
22nd	Wednesday Church Council Meeting
23rd	Thursday 2.30pm Ladies Circle - Cardmaking with Dot (Contact Joan Stewart)
24th	
25th	
26th	Sunday- HC 11am PdS
27th	Monday - Deux-Sèvres Bible Study Group at the home of Bill and Carole Stocking (Please phone: 05 49 06 05 85)
28th	
29th	
30th	

and looking ahead:

- 10th December: Sunday: Lessons & Carols 11.00 at Puy de Serre
17th December: Sunday: Lessons & Carols 11.00 at La Chapelle Achard
17th December: Sunday: Christingle Service 16.00 at Puy de Serre
24th December: Sunday: Christmas Eve Services: 11.00 at La Chapelle Palluau (if a priest is available)
& 16.00 at Puy de Serre

**For dates, times and updates of other events, especially Quiz Nights,
please consult the Contact Person or the Website Calendar**



Notes from your Churchwardens

October is calling to us and we are now in the season of 'Harvest festival' – but have you tried explaining to the French why we have them so late?

The 'season of mists and yellow fruitfulness' = As I am in quiz mode from last night, I should point out that there is no prize for knowing where that quote came from.

Martyn is back with us and his first service will be at Puy de Serre on Sunday 24 September. He will be with us until mid-November. Hazel is otherwise occupied at the moment but we are promised her company again before Christmas.

And now for the bad news – mostly for those in the East. You may have heard rumours that Puy de Serre is due to close for repairs at some point in the future. It seems this is almost on us – and probably before Christmas. Enquiries will be started this week as to alternatives in the vicinity. If you have any comments to make about this, please pass them to Polly and we will try to take them into account.

Lots of people (including me) are off for their 'Post-summer' holidays and we wish them all well on their travels.

I am away from 30 September for 1 week but will be contactable by mobile. Keith is away for most of October.

Polly Ward



OCTOBER FORWARD PLANNING

This Forward Planning Rota displays those essential responsibilities which make our Services and Refreshments afterwards possible. If you feel able to "fill in the blanks", please contact the Organiser concerned.

Responsibility (Organiser)	1st October HC LCP	8th October HC PdS	15th October HC LCA	22nd October HC PdS	29th October No service
Salle Setup/ Clearing away (Chris Green at PdS)		Parkyn/ Martin		Martin/ Rackham	
Refreshments after the service (Jenny Wilkinson at PdS)		Curtis & Dee		Marian & Richard	
Musicians +/-Organist (Polly Ward)		Stuart		Stuart	



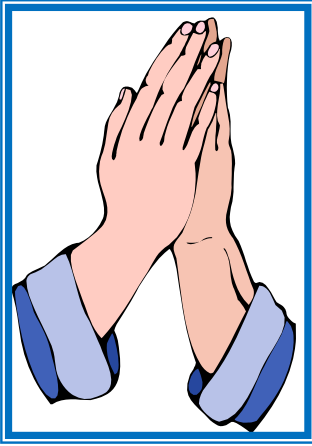
For more details and updates of all Church events, please visit the ASV website where you can also view the Photo Gallery, Sermons you may have missed, Church Notices and Minutes and Reports of meetings.

www.allsaintsvendee.fr

To view the newsletter of DIET – "Diocese in Europe Times" click here:
<http://europe.anglican.org/resources/diet-newsletter>



Prayer List



In our prayers this month, we remember:

David and Chris (friends of Richard and Marian)

Joëlle and Bernard

Polly

...and for the recently bereaved and their families:

Anne

Barbara, Joe and Molly

Dominic

Janet

Mike

Nolan

David Pearson

*An Appreciation of
Revd Geoffrey Colman
by Revd Brian Davies*

See Page 11

*A Memorial Service will take place at
Arçay Parish Church (86200)
at 3.00pm on 11th October.*

Everyone is invited to join the family in the Salle afterwards



Don't forget.....

if you missed last week's service,
it is possible to read the sermon on line.
Simply go to the website and click on

PREVIOUS SERMONS



URGENT **HELP** NEEDED PLEASE !!

At ASV we are fortunate to own our own Vicarage which is empty at the moment until a new Priest-in-Charge can be found. We, your Church Council, are now asking for volunteers to join a rota to spend a few hours occasionally to do a bit of housework (cobwebs!) and tidy up the VERY small garden at the Vicarage. The more people who volunteer, the fewer times you will be required.

Please volunteer your services by contacting one of the wardens, Keith Fowler or Polly Ward, or one of the Deputy Wardens, Margaret Kent, Jo Collinson or Tonie Chandler. Again, the more volunteers we have, the fewer times you will be required !

Many Thanks and remember, many hands make light work.

Doug Green



August 2017 Income and Expenditure for All Saints Vendée

The total combined number of congregation present at Puy de Serre, La Chapelle Achard and La Chapelle Palluau throughout the month of August 2017 was:

113.

The total income, collections and planned giving, amounted to:

1285.16 euros.

The total expenditure amounted to:

99.89 euros

During the month of August we also received a donation of:

50 euros

Thank you all for your support and contributions.

Suzanne Patterson - Treasurer ASV

Deux-Sèvres BIBLE STUDY GROUP



*We are now studying The Acts of the Apostles
We meet each Monday afternoon at 3.00pm at our house
at La Barangerie, La Chapelle Thireuil (79).
Our phone number is 05 49 06 05 85.*

EVERYONE IS WELCOME

Please give us a ring if you would like to join us and we will give you directions to the house if you don't already know where we are.
Carole and Bill Stocking.



You are warmly invited to our next "Faites le Plein!" meeting
on Wednesday 4th October, 2017.

This month we'll be having a

WORSHIP EVENING WITH BIBLE READINGS & TESTIMONIES

From 7pm for refreshments, for a 7.30pm start.

"Faites le Plein!" offers an opportunity to gather with other Christians from different backgrounds.

We also offer prayer ministry to those who feel they would like to receive it.

These meetings are held in La Roche sur Yon at the Maison du Diocèse, 62 rue Maréchal Joffre (the entrance to this site is opposite the Boulangerie Potier, through the large gateway, into the car park).

Look out for the "Faites le Plein" signs directing you towards the restaurant.

If you require further information about this meeting or about "Faites le Plein!" in general,
please contact Jan Gordon : jangrdn1@gmail.com

As a newcomer, you'll be made very welcome!

Jan GORDON for the "Faites le Plein!" team



These are YOUR pages.....



Once again, my thanks to all the Contributors of notices and articles for this month's "Grapevine" so, read on, and see what you can discover.

Your comments will be much appreciated.

You will discover:

Messages and Notices received from friends of ASV, including:

An Appreciation of Revd Geoffrey Colman

Harvest Request from Jo Collinson

"Thank you" from Revd Gareth (who wrote our Preface this month),

A Brexit Conference Invitation from Ticia Goode,

"Do you pay tax?" from Keith Fowler,

"Autumn Bazaar/Marché de Noël" from Marian,

as well as Greetings from Olwyn-Anne Cook in Australia.



Sunday October 1st

Dear All,

As you know I attend the Doué La Fontaine Catholic Church (English services) run by Fr. Kevin Eastell.

I thought your congregations might like to know that there is to be a

Conference Day

on Sunday October 1st at La Chapelle, rue du Portail, Doué after the 11am service.

All welcome to the service, lunch and the conference.

Topic: Is there life after Brexit?

Speaker: member from the British Embassy in Paris.

Lunch will be provided at E15.00 per person.

If anyone is interested in attending, please could they contact Ann Eastell, 7 rue de la Brèche, 49700 Les Verchers sur Layon. Tel: 02 41 59 97 50

Some distances for your congregations to travel I know, but maybe the Embassy will have some idea of what is happening by October....or maybe not, now that we have an election suddenly upon us!

Regards, Ticia (Goode)

An Appreciation of
Revd Geoffrey Colman M.A. (Oxon)
by Revd Brian Davies



*Revd Geoffrey at Revd Brian's
Licensing at Foussais-Payré 2010*

Geoffrey and I first met in the Summer of 2002, when Pam and I were searching for the location of the Summer Garden Party in the Chaplaincy of Poitou Charentes. We were lost and so were he, Janet and Gary and we encountered one another at a crossroads, recognized U.K. registration plates and stopped to help. In no time we found out where we were and, naturally, having arrived together, shared a table. At that time I was a Reader, Licenced to the Chaplaincy and, having discovered this, Geoffrey revealed his true calling. Our paths were not to cross again until the following year but a 'seed' had been sown.

In 2003, supported by Michael Hepper, then Chaplain, together with the Chaplaincy Council I went forward to Selection Conference for Ordained Ministry in the Anglican Church. Having been selected, issues of Ministry in my absence emerged. By this time two congregations had been 'planted' in the Vendée, one in the West at La Chapelle Achard and the other in the East at Puy de Serre. Geoffrey was destined to play a major role focused on the latter. When I returned in 2004 I was made Deacon and Geoffrey was immensely supportive as I 'learned' my new Ministry. He was able to Preside regularly at services of Holy Communion, and, following my Ordination as Priest in the following year, was on hand to help me as again I 'learned' my new role.

We grew close as families over succeeding years, meeting frequently, often enjoying food and wine together in an evening at each other's homes, 'sleeping over' and sharing breakfast together the following morning.

In 2007 the church 'plants' in the Vendée were freed from their association with Poitou Charentes and All Saints', Vende was established with myself as Priest-in-Charge. This meant new responsibilities and again, Geoffrey was at the fore, particularly at Puy de Serre where he and Janet were regular worshippers, and where we were privileged to share in Ministry together on many occasions. By now he had taken an initiative in seeking to 'plant' a new congregation in Arcay, an area without spiritual support for expatriates living in and around that location. This thrived due to his boundless enthusiasm, and testimony to that initiative is a congregation which continues to grow and to thrive today.

What kind of man was Geoffrey? He was at once kind generous, witty and humorous, and yet there was a serious side to him when it came to matters Spiritual. He was gifted with a very fine mind and intellect, which, combined with a deep spirituality made him a wonderful and engaging companion. I loved the hours spent exploring issues with him and found his capacity to challenge the 'cutting edge' of my mind a delight. I cherish those memories! He also 'thought outside the box' and once when we were discussing the Ordination of women to the Priesthood (which we both welcomed) he raised the issue of the then Bishop being unwilling to Ordain a woman as Priest and yet Licencing no less than 15 (at that time) including making one a Canon. 'I'll write to him' he said and he did! I'm not sure what answer he got! During his latter years his disabilities increased, but he never indulged in self-pity and retained his sense of humour

Who can forget his eightieth birthday with family present from as far away as 'down under'. He produced a folded Mitre, placed it on his head and gave a fine rendition of his favourite 'If I were a Bishop'.

Those who worshipped at Puy de Serre will remember notices being given at the conclusion of the Service. It was usual once the formal ones had been given to ask anyone if they had such. There would be a pause and then this beautifully modulated voice would say one word 'eggs'. This referred to the fact that Janet kept chickens and therefore eggs were available.

Well, he was an eggceptional man with an eggsemplary manner, and it was a truly wonderful eggspereience to have known him.

Geoffrey, dear fellow Priest, mentor and friend rest in peace and rise in glory!

Brian Davies (Reverend)
Sometime Priest-in-Charge,
All Saints', Vendée

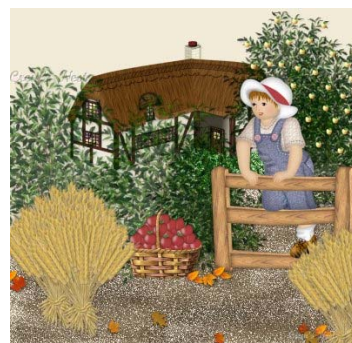
With harvest coming up, this is a reminder to all the folk in the West:

It will be at Chapelle Palluau on October 1st followed by a bring and share Harvest Lunch in the Salle des Fêtes.

Please bring gifts of tins etc., for Restos du Coeur.

We shall be preparing the Salle from 9.30 with as much help as possible please.

Jo Collinson



Do you **pay** French taxes?

If so, did you know that:

for every 100 euros that you give to our Church the taxman will reduce your tax bill by 60 euros thus a 100 euro donation will only cost you 40 euros (and you will be able to increase your donation!!!)

You simply need to make your donation in a recordable manner.



You can put your donation in numbered envelopes in the collection box, set up a standing order (virement) or send money to the planned giving officer (Mike Mylod) giving your name and address. At the end of the year your contributions will be totted up and a certificate issued. You enter this amount on your tax return (no need to send proof, just keep your certificate in case you are asked for it) and the taxman will reduce your tax bill by a figure equal to 60% of your donations.

Donations to the vicarage renovation can also qualify for tax relief if made through ASV.

Do you **pay** English taxes?

If so did you know that :

for every £1 donated the UK government will add a further 25p to your donation, not only that you will be able to claim the full value of your donation for tax relief!

We are currently looking to open an account with Stewardship in the UK to enable this. If you feel that to you would be prepared to donate in this way, please contact the new Planned Giving Officer, Joan Stewart on 00 33 251 00 34 70



Start Planned Giving now or revise your donation.....

.....and let the taxman help our Church!

Keith Fowler

" Thank You "

Are you good at saying thank you ? Sometimes, do you ever fail to thank someone who's been kind, gone that extra mile to be of help to you ? Careless at the time, preoccupied, distracted, you fail to say thank you when could and now you can't.

On Radio 4, 'Saturday Live', there's a spot where the Revd Richard Cole gives their listeners a chance to say thank you to someone who's been of help but, at the time, the moment passed without thanks.

Out of the blue, this year, came the thought of what I, as a twelve-year-old, owed a teacher. Mr Tidman, my form teacher, taught Maths. One Tuesday afternoon, algebra, and suddenly I understood the chalk and talk. A light went on in my brain and I felt the real delight of understanding mystery. After all these years, I think that was a crossroad's moment when I discovered the pure pleasure to be had in learning and in understanding and it has shaped my life thereafter.

I wish I could thank him now but, of course, I can't – but who would you like to thank if could and for what ?

Gareth Randall,
Priest-in-charge,
St Bartholomew's Dinard





Marché de Noël

18th November '17 at Saint Hilaire du Voust

Members of the Congregation of All Saints Vendée,
and those who are permanent, second-home owners and visitors.

Hopefully you have seriously considered growing the hyacinths mentioned in last month's Grapevine, because we have it on good authority that the bulbs are now in the shops!

Below is a list of stall holders who will be pleased to receive your offerings:-

Jewellery and good glass	Maggie Calton
Scarves, of all types	Pat Martin
Good as New (Gifts)	Hester and Colin Grimshaw
Cakes and preserves	Jo Collinson
Books	Anthea and Keith Fowler
Toys and Bran tub	Jean and Ken Miller
Craft and Christmas décor.	Joan Stewart, Jenny Wilkinson
Spring Bulbs	Peter Somerville
Tombola	Marian and Richard Rackham

Refreshments: The Refreshment Team will be grateful for cakes on the day, but whilst not turning down small cakes they would prefer large type which can be cut and sliced, or scones please!

Meals will be available to purchase as last year.

There will also be a **"Guess the Cake Weight", Christmas Hamper, Raffles, Side Shows, Pet's Portrait Painting raffle and other attractions,** but we are still open to **YOUR additional ideas.**

Posters should be available for you to print, and flyers to distribute, later in October. Hopefully these will be available on the Grapevine site on the web.

PLEASE give us your FULL SUPPORT

We hope and pray we shall see you there

Marian

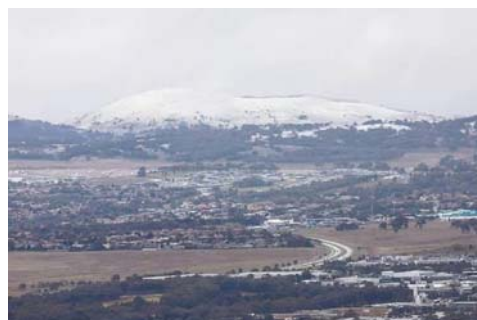
Richard.Rackham@cegetel.net



Following last month's greetings from friends of Grapevine, I have received an update from Olwyn-Anne telling us about her new life in Australia:

[Hi Jacqui,

Hope this is in time for the newsletter, I always seem to run out of time! I do so love reading what you send me each month and do hope next year that I may pay a visit back to the Vendée!]



My dear friends at All Saints Vendée.

It doesn't seem possible that it's now three years since I left the Vendée to make a new life here in Australia. I live in an 'old' established city in NSW, just on the outskirts of Canberra, and it reminds me of an English county town where everybody knows everyone else - so shopping, going to the post office etc can be a long affair with people wanting to stop and talk, have a cup of coffee, etc.

I have settled on going to the Uniting Church here, only a few minutes drive from where I live, where we have a mix of ages, colours and very diverse cultural backgrounds. After the service we always have morning tea so get to know all the people who attend and there is talk of having bring and share meals occasionally - I really do miss those, and the fellowship they give.

Five days after arriving here, I started working as a volunteer cook at a drop in centre, which is run by 4 local churches, it's open to all, and operates five days a week, of which I do two. Three or four of us turn up, look in the fridges and see what there is. - think Ready Steady Cook but for between 75 - 90 people. Various charities donate food, so what is produced can be very eclectic - yesterday we did Beef and Lamb spicy ragout with roast potatoes and cauliflower cheese for 79!

Am managing to travel round Australia a little, having been to Tasmania, Queensland, Victoria and a few weeks ago up to Alice Springs and then Darwin in the NT. Also was lucky enough to be invited by Joyce (from A S V) to meet up with her in NZ, and where we had a marvellous time.

I still haven't got used to the notion of all the spring flowers and blossom being out in Aug/Sept, but the gardens are a riot of colour of yellow pink and white at the moment - and the Golden Wattle (just like our Mimosas) are a sight to see.

The weather here is great - four definite seasons - and because we are so high above sea level, gets very hot in summer and cold in winter. We have had lots of diversity in the past three weeks, snow, sleet, hail, rain and then the past three days it's been 23 degrees with brilliant blue skies - we hardly have any rain in the winter, so blue skies are the norm, with lots of people in shorts and tee shirts, but then it will be up to -5 or worse at night.

I go pet sitting for people in the area, and just now am looking after a dog, 5 chooks and two Shetland ponies - never a dull moment. Also have become secretary of the local Seniors group, with whom I play indoor bowls every Friday pm. With all this and a walking group on Thursdays, plus helping out at the church every week I am kept very busy.



Next month sees the date when I can put in for Australia citizenship, so am up to my elbows in forms and documents at the moment - bureaucracy doesn't change no matter what country you live in!!

The photos show my church at Pentecost, the view of a wonderful sunset, which I can see from my fourth floor flat, and what it was like in the area 9 days ago.

Take care my friends and may God bless you all and hold you in the palm of His hands and keep you safe.

Olwyn-Anne

(If you would like to reply to Olwyn-Anne, I will be happy to forward your messages.....Jacqui)



I hope you have enjoyed this edition of "Grapevine".
My thanks to all the Contributors and
I look forward to hearing from you next time

Please send your contributions and comments to:
Jacqui at: sjfamily66@hotmail.com

[before 15th October](#)



*Requests to be included on the emailing list should be addressed to:
Jacqui Stainton-James at: sjfamily66@hotmail.com*