

Church of All Saints in the Vendée

“To know and to share Jesus Christ”



October 2018

CONTACTS:

Interregnum

Vicarage:

27 rue de Malvoisine, 85110 St Vincent Sterlanges:

Please Note: New Phone no: 02 51 31 23 71

e-mail address: allsaintsvendee2@gmail.com.

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

President

David Martin phone no: 02 51 00 92 97 email: davidpat.martin@orange.fr

Church Warden:

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

David Martin: (PdS) Phone no: 0251 00 97 email: DavidPat.Martin@orange.fr

Assistant Church Wardens:

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

Lay Reader:

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

Website:

www.allsaintsvendee.fr



This month I am delighted to be able to take advantage of Father Gareth Randall’s forward planning. As a great supporter of “Grapevine”, last year(!) he sent me this “Spare Letter”, as he called it, in case I was “hard-pressed to find someone to write one” Well, this month, as no-one has come forward, here goes.....



Preface



Dear Friends,

All are welcome?



Over a decade ago back in England, I was a full-time teacher. Dame Alice Owen’s School was founded in 1613 in memory of a lady, a daughter of an inn keeper, born in Islington who had married and widowed a brewer, a mercer and a judge and who had had over a

dozen children. Relatively rich, Dame Alice left money for her first husband's livery company, the Worshipful Company of Brewers of the City of London, to establish in Islington, at that time a village on the edge of London, a school for 30 poor boys from the parishes of Islington and Clerkenwell.

By the time I worked at Owen's, the school had moved out to Potters Bar on the edge of the M25 and had become a mixed comprehensive with over a thousand pupils. I taught English then RE and used to run the Christian Union. In assembly, when there was a meeting of the club at lunchtime, I always used to say at the end of the notice, 'All are welcome' in the hope of encouraging students to come and see for themselves what we were getting up to.

Now, here in France, the priest of an Anglican church, I try to put the same principle into practice. 'All are welcome' means that regardless of denomination or nationality, folk are welcome to come to church to join in the service and if they are communicant members of their own church, then they are more than welcome to take communion with us. Of course, there is the need to have a reasonable grasp of English because our services are necessarily in English but what we are trying to do here at St Bart's is to have a warm and welcoming church in which people can feel at home, at ease, able we trust to be in touch with God whom we love and who loves us.

If love is the fulfilling of what God wants us to do, is there any better way to live other than by loving not only our neighbour but also the stranger just as we love ourselves.

Every blessing,

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

(in September 2017, Father Gareth let me have this Preface for use in case of need. What a wonderful message to leave with us.

- Jacqui)

October into November 2018

CHURCH SERVICES with LECTIONARY READINGS

HC = Holy Communion; MW- Morning Worship
 LCP = La Chapelle Palluau PdS = Puy de Serre
(The Psalm for each week is included to guide your reading at home)

7th October Morning Worship 11.00 La Chapelle Palluau 19th Sunday after Trinity
 Job 1.1;2.1-10 or Genesis 2.18-24
 Hebrews 1.1-4; 2.5-12 Mark 10.2-16
Psalm 26

14th October Holy Communion 11.00 Puy de Serre 20th Sunday after Trinity
 Job 23.1-9, 16-end or Amos 5.6-7, 10-15
 Hebrews 4.12-end Mark 10.17-31
Psalm 22.1-15

21st October Holy Communion 11.00 La Chapelle Palluau 21st Sunday after Trinity
 Job 38.1-7[34-end] or Isaiah 53.4-end
 Hebrews 5.1-10 Mark 10.35-45
Psalm 104.1-10

(Remember - Clocks go BACK 1 hour!)

28th October Holy Communion 11.00 Puy de Serre Last Sunday after Trinity
Also: Simon & Jude, Apostles; Bible Sunday
 Job 42.1-6, 10-end or Jeremiah 31.7-9
 Hebrews 7.23-end Mark 10.46-end
Psalm 34.1-8

<p><u>4th November</u> Holy Communion 11.00 La Chapelle Palluau <u>4th Sunday before Advent</u> Deuteronomy 6.1-9 Hebrews 9.11-14 Mark 12.28-34 <i>Psalm 119.1-8</i></p>	or	<p><u>[All Saints Day (1st November)]</u> Wisdom 3.1-9 or Isaiah 25.6-9 Revelation 21.1-6a John 11.32-44 <i>Psalm 24.1-6</i></p>
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**If you are a Reader, it will be necessary to please check with the
 Worship Leader or Church Warden for any last minute changes*



Altar Flowers



14th October – Ticia Goode

28th October -Polly Ward

*Liz has volunteered to organise the flowers for the Communion Table
 at Puy de Serre. Please contact Liz if you would like to help in any
 way.*

Tel: 02.51.52.58.01



Dates for your

October 2018

1st

2nd

3rd

4th

5th

6th

7th **Sunday 11.00 MW La Chapelle Palluau**

8th

9th

10th

11th Thursday 2.30pm Sewing Circle

12th

13th

14th **Sunday 11.00 HC The Salle at Puy de Serre**

15th

16th

17th

18th

19th

20th

21st **Sunday 11.00 HC La Chapelle Palluau**

22nd

23rd

24th

25th Thursday, 2.30pm **Ladies Circle**

Cakes: Jen; Dorset buttons with Joan

26th **Quiz Night** at the Salle at Puy de Serre

27th *(Remember - Clocks go BACK 1 hour!)*

28th **Sunday 11.00 HC The Salle at Puy de Serre**

29th

30th

31st



Dates for your

November 2018



Diary

Please Note: All Services are subject to Priests and premises being available.

1st	
2nd	
3rd	
4th	Sunday 11.00 HC La Chapelle Palluau
5th	
6th	
7th	
8th	Thursday 2.30pm Sewing Circle
9th	
10th	
11th	Sunday 10.50 Service of Remembrance at The Salle at Puy de Serre followed by Bring & Share Lunch <i>Also</i> 15.00 Service of Remembrance at the Crash Site Stele near Angles, and <i>Afterwards Tea at the home of Sally Mills in Longueville.</i>
12th	
13th	
14th	
15th	
16th	
17th	
18th	Sunday 11.00 HC La Chapelle Palluau
19th	
20th	
21st	
22nd	22nd Thursday , 2.30pm Ladies Circle Cakes: Jane; Gentle exercise with Mel and Julie + painting baubles with Debs
23rd	Quiz Night at the Salle at Puy de Serre
24th	
25th	Sunday 11.00 HC The Salle at Puy de Serre
26th	
27th	
28th	
29th	
30th	
31st	

Future Dates for your Diary.....

9th December 11.00 Lessons & Carol Service at Puy de Serre

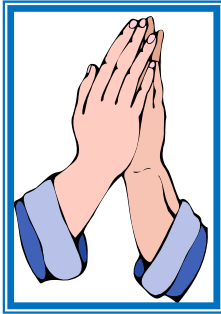
16th December 11.00 Lessons & Carol Service at La Chapelle Palluau

16th December 16.00 Christingle Service at Puy de Serre

21st December Carol Singing at Apremont – details from Maggie Pascoe (email: energie.musicale85@gmail.com)

24th December 1600 HC Christmas Eve Communion at Puy de Serre

All Services are subject to Priests and premises being available.



Prayer List

*In our prayers this month,
we remember:*

Maureen

Barbara (friend of Polly)

Suzy and Mick

Mike

Penny & David (friends of David & Sally)

Pam and Brian

Pat

Roy

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

Iain and his daughter **Morar**

The family and friends of **Revd Gareth Randall**

(Please see the final pages of this October Grapevine to read Tributes and messages)

David and Chris (whose names were on last month's Prayer List) wish to thank all those who have been praying for them. David's cancer is currently under control, the short life expectancy originally given is extended and our prayers that new treatments be discovered before his time runs out seem to be being answered. Currently the two of them are enjoying comparatively normal lives, travelling widely and spending time with grandchildren. Long may it last, so their sincere thanks to everyone.

(Marian & Richard)

[If you would like a name to be added to the Prayer List, please contact David

Tel: 02 51 61 05 04 or Email: davidpearson@orange.fr]

**Puy de Serre
Church Service Rota**

October 2018

DATE	VENUE	TIME	SERVICE	PRES	PRCH	WL	ORG	CH	INT	READERS	WEL	NOTES
07/10/2018	*LCP	11:00	MW	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	19th after Trinity
14/10/2018	PDS(S)	11:00	HC	-	HD	MM	SSJ	PW	SP	AC & PW	IMc & FMc	20th after Trinity
21/10/2018	*LCP	11:00	HC	-	HD							21st after Trinity
28/10/2018	PDS(S)	11:00	HC	-	HD	DG	SSJ	MM	CG	DM & PM	BC & AC	Last after Trinity

* For LCP, please see below....

**La Chapelle Palluau
Church Service Rota**

October 2018

PLEASE NOTE All services in the West will now be held at La Chapelle Palluau

Date	Venue	Sunday	Service	Celebrant	Welcome	W/Leader	Readers	Intercessors	Chalice	Computer	Coffee
07-Oct	LCP	19th after Trinity	Morning Worship			TC	SM/JC	PP		Books	LG
21-Oct	LCP	21 st after Trinity	HC	HD							

Key to abbreviations:

CC = Chris Chandler; CoG - Colin Grimshaw; HD = Hazel Door; HG = Hester Grimshaw;
JC = Jo Collinson; JB = Joyce Bossard; LiG = Linda Gorton; MC = Martyn Crompton;
MW = Maureen Wills; ; PP = Peggy Pitcher; PW = Polly Ward; SM = Sally Mills; TC = Tonie Chandler.

If you are unable to attend on a Sunday, please try to find someone to do your reading/intercessions for you and let the Worship Leader know of the change

October 2018 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)	7 th October HC 1100 LCP	14 th October HC 1100 Salle at PdS	21 st October HC 1100 LCP	28 th October HC 1100 Salle at PdS
Salle Setup/ Clearing away (Chris Green at PdS)		Condie & Martin		Martin & Green
Refreshments after the service (Jenny Wilkinson at PdS)		Liz & Danny		Ann & Bill Condie
Altar Flowers (Liz Lapsley at PdS)		Ticia Goode		Polly Ward
Musicians +/-Organist (Polly Ward)		Stuart		Stuart





Sunday Club



Sunday Club continues to take 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.








Sunday Club members are hoping to join in the hymns with their own band.
We are studying the Bible with plays, drama, quizzes and funtime games.

[Please contact Jenny if you require more information:
email: jennywilkinson213@gmail.com

Your Church Wardens' from East and West write:



October 2018

Summer is nearly over and the Autumn approaches, although the weather remains fine and dry for the moment. The past couple of weeks, we have been watching the harvesters and lorries harvesting the fields around us. It is wonderful to watch God at work, with the farmers bringing in the crops, and following on behind the farmers are birds of all sizes, and other creatures, feeding from the grain and seed produced by the harvest. There is plenty for all. This year we were indebted to Geoff and Margaret Kent for allowing us to use their barn for the Harvest Festival. There really couldn't have been a more appropriate place to give thanks for the Harvest.

September saw the cancellation of the service in the West on the 3rd Sunday again, due to lack of numbers. The Service Rota for the West has been put together until the end of the year. Due to people being away, the last service before Christmas will be a service of Communion and Carols on the 16th December. There will be a service on Christmas Eve at Puy de Serre. Further details will be published nearer the time. It is good that many of us have family to go to at this special time of the year, but at the same time, it is a pity that it only takes three or four people to be away to mean that services cannot take place. We need to pray for some new people to come and join our congregation. Home Church in the West continues to do well and during September we have been able to welcome some of our friends who have moved back to the UK but have been over for a holiday.

Services in the East return to the Salle in Puy de Serre after our foray into the wilds of Deux Sevres for the Harvest Festival. We hope to see many of you there.

David & Tonie



Treasurer's Report for August 2018

<i>Income for August 2018 :</i>	<i>1288.37</i>
<i>Outgoings:</i>	<i>914.55</i>
<i>Balance:</i>	<i>+ 373.82</i>

The bringer of good news, for once!
Iain McGregor.
(Treasurer).



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 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 02 51 00 34 70

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

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



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 for the
November edition to:

Jacqui at: sjfamily66@hotmail.com

before 15th October

Requests to be included on the emailing list can be addressed to:

Jacqui Stainton-James at: sjfamily66@hotmail.com



These are YOUR pages.....

Once again, my thanks to all the Contributors of notices and articles for this month's "Grapevine"
Your comments are much appreciated.



In this edition you will discover:

Ladies Circle Calendar; Christmas Market details; An Invitation to Carol Singers; Church Meeting Summaries; Anniversary Quizzes; Harvest Festival photos and report; Tributes to Father Gareth Randall...and much more...



ASV LADIES CIRCLE SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS 2018

Thursday 11th October, 2.30pm
Sewing Circle

Thursday 25th October, 2.30pm
Ladies Circle
Cakes: Jen
Dorset buttons with Joan

Thursday 8th November, 2.30pm
Sewing Circle

November, 2.30pm

Ladies Circle
Cakes: Jane
Gentle exercise with Mel and Julie
+painting baubles with Debs

Thursday 13th December, 11am

Ladies Circle
Get ready for Christmas! – crackers, table centres, wreaths, etc
Bring and share Christmas lunch



Thursday
22nd



The final 2 quizzes of the year are booked for –
26 October and 23 November

These are the 44th and 45th quizzes in a series which began in March 2011.

Around this time next year we will be sitting down to the 50th quiz

– has anyone got any special ideas about how we could celebrate this?

SUMMARY OF MINUTES FOR ASV 6TH SEPT 2018.

The latest meeting of the Church Council took place on the 6th September at the vicarage. There were some **matters arising**, which included a gift for Polly for all her service as Church warden and her continued work with the Social calendar, Jo Collinson is responding well with the Aqua-therapy, and the keys to the vicarage have been reduced for insurance purposes. There was also thanks from Marian for the helpers in the vicarage garden, it is working well but there is room for more volunteers, if you feel inclined.

David announced that there would be a **new Planned Giving form** to assist Joan Stewart in the future. If you are still on the envelope scheme will you consider changing to Planned Giving?

The treasurer Iain, reported a healthy balance although with falling congregations, for a number of reasons, the burden of raising funds will increase on those of us still here! He questioned whether we could afford a stipend for a new priest in light of the extra social charge that would be imposed by France.

Additional info from Iain. The plate collection from all the services from Jan to June is set out below.

January:	75.00
February	65.00
March	105.00
April:	178.80
May	320.00
June	55.00

Total: 799.70

Brief Ministry Team notes.

Harvest 9th September PDS BUT THE HALL IS NOT AVAILABLE. It was decided to hold the service at normal time at Maggie and Geoff's barn followed by the usual bring and share lunch. Maggie to take organ and urn at next service. Decorating of the barn to take place on Saturday 8th at 2.30 onwards. MK to write an article in Grapevine with venue details and asking for help with the decorations. DM to be asked to take the donations for Secours Catholique to Therese Tallon.

There will be no **Harvest service** at LCP.

Remembrance service PDS 11/11/18 to start at 10.50. MM asked that ex-service personnel be asked to take part in the service. JM will be the preacher and he and MM will liaise to allocate roles of readers, Intercessor, Worship Leader etc.

The **Crash Site service** will be later than normal at 3 pm. to allow people to travel from PDS - DG and RR to liaise and lead and S-S-J will play his flute at the cemetery. CG to contact Sally Mills re refreshments.

Lessons and Carol services. PDS 9/12/18 and 16/12/18 at LCP.

No service at PDS on the 23/12/18 but communion on the **24/12/18 at 1600** led by HD.

23/12/18 Christmas Communion 1100 led by MC.

All subject to availability of premises and priests. To be ratified at the next meeting.

Christingle Service at PDS 1600 on 16/12/18 led by CG. CG to write an article for the November Grapevine and to investigate publicity posters.

Safeguarding

All Welcomers need to do Stage 1 training. AC to write an article for Grapevine explaining this requirement. TC will contact all people at LCP to give them the link to do this on-line training. If you fall into this category. Please contact Anne Condie for information and help with the on-line training.

Social Events.

Quiz today but we need future dates from Polly.

Winter Bazaar on 17th November People needed to help man/woman the stalls! Contact Marian if you can help and are not already on the list! Keep an eye out for suitable items for all the stalls. The money raised from the Winter Bazaar subject to approval from Council will be shared with the Hospice at La Châtaignerie and the church. Maggie Kent will visit the Hospice for more information.

Pastoral Care.

The work load for David is increasing and he could do with some help and support.

AOB. Hazel asked if the Jungle at the back of the Vicarage Garage could be tamed, to allow her to park more easily. Marian and Richard will investigate on their return.

Sunday Club.

We should encourage the youngsters who would like to be involved with the music in church and we will approach Stuart for his support and mentoring.

Synod. Tonie is due to finish this year, and her house maybe sold in the meantime, but she will be at Synod and will represent us and furnish a report. An election for a new representative will be looked for at the AGM 2019.

With Tonie leaving we also need a **new Church Warden.**

Website update. A sub committee including Jacqui, David and Iain to be set up, a.s.a.p.

Chalice Assistants. A new list is needed and the information passed to the Arch Deacon for approval. Hazel will put the list together. David and Tonie will send lists to Hazel.

With Keith also leaving we need a **new Parish rep to help Maggy K.** David volunteered.

The meeting closed with The Grace.

(Richard Rackham – Secretary)



Calling all Singers....

Hello ! - My name is Maggie Pascoe & I live in Apremont.

I formed an association Energie musicale June last year to create musical links & bring more music into the area.

This summer we organised la " fête de la musique" & just recently we organised Jazz au château/Music in the Park, with the Beach Band des Sables. This is all on FB page Apremont-energie musicale, if you would like to have a look.

In March this year we (myself & Lisbeth ,my communications officer) did a " prise direct" with RCF & Pascale Lèvrier regarding music & Patrick Proust as the other interviewee.

The reason for my e-mail is that I plan to do a " nocturne de chants de Noël at the foot of the church in Apremont on Friday 21st December.

I am approaching the chorale group in Apremont, but I would also like to create a small group of carol singers to sing some of the more traditional British carols.

My view is to have the singers at the foot of the church with the audience in Place St Martin. I am hoping to have a harp player as well. After the singing, I plan to have a procession with " flambeaux" up to the Place Calvaire, where I envisage serving mulled wine and mince pies.

Mair Pugh suggested I contacted you, as I am looking for singers who would like to take part. I have spoken to Tonie Chandler, who says she will mention it on Sunday.

I hope you will be able to help with this quest.

Cordialement

Maggie Pascoe


Christmas Market 17th November 2018 St Hilaire du Voust

Herewith the details promised in last month's Grapevine. We hope and pray that you have made a note in your diary to attend, assist if possible and spend, spend, spend! But as we have said so often, an event like this is only as good as the helpers, the customers and the produce on sale so..... please will you send any contributions to the people below, or contact a committee member or stall holder for collection.

Maggie C. feels her jewellery collection is getting somewhat "tired" having been picked over for several years so she will welcome new contributions, also glass wear of good quality. Space is limited so just the best please.

Dee and Curtis are yet again organising a Christmas Hamper so please contact them if you have a contribution. Should you wish to donate a raffle prize they will all go into one larger raffle as opposed to several small ones, so please tell them also.

The hyacinths and spring bulbs made good sales last year, and pleasant change to the usual stalls, so will be repeated. Please will you plant a bulb, more if you can, as soon as they appear in the shops?

Posters and flyers will be available for printing on the web site, and next Grapevine. Please distribute these as widely as possible, especially to French friends and neighbours.

Glass & Jewellery	Maggie Calton	Please see information above
Cakes	On the day please, "Promises" to Chris Green, Maggie Kent or Barbara Matthews Email: greensinfrance@yahoo.co.uk; Phone no: 05 49 72 27 72, email: maguyjelley@gmail.com Phone: 05 49 72 27 72 e-mail: matthewsj@wanadoo.fr Phone: 05 49 75 29 71,	
Toys	Jean and Ken Miller	[Contact details c/o Rackhams]
Gifts	Joan Stewart	Phone: 02 51 00 34 70
Books	Polly Ward, Marian & Richard Rackham	[email: wardpolly@outlook.com [Contact Marian & Richard]
Tombola	Marian and Richard Rackham	[see details below]
Scarves	Pat Martin	Phone: 02 51 00 92 97
Raffles	Dee and Curtis Parkyn	[Contact details c/o Rackhams]
Bulbs	Liz Lapsley	Phone: 02.51.52.58.01

Any further information and offers of help, please contact Marian and Richard Rackham
02 51 27 64 67 richard.rackham22@gmail.com richard.rackham@cegetel.net



Plea for cakes, pastries, home-made produce

I am sure you have Saturday 17th November in your diaries for our Christmas Market at Ste Hilaire de Voust.

This year we will again need cakes on the refreshment stall to sell with tea and coffee but also to sell at the cake stall which, this time, will be attached to the Refreshments area. But not just cakes but also pastries, savouries and any home-made produce. If

everyone was able to provide at least one item we would have a wonderful display.

I hope you will be able to provide something - the more we have the better!

Many thanks, Chris Green and the Catering Team

greensinfrance@yahoo.co.uk

This letter is from MARGARET KENT about the Christmas Market and where the proceeds will be going:



Marché de Noël - 17 November 2018

This year's Marché de Noël will take place once again in St Hilaire de Voust on Saturday 17 November 2018. It is one of the two big fundraisers that we have held this year. We may not have a permanent priest at the moment, but with the kind help of the Reverend Martin Crompton and the Reverend Hazel Door, we have been able to continue to hold services of Holy Communion fairly regularly.

We have a 'Vicarage' to maintain, along with all the usual costs, payments toward travelling and expenses for our priests, charges to pay the Church of England etc...etc. Therefore, fundraising is essential. It also helps us to work together and socialise and bring in others to Church events.

Although we need funds to run the Church, we must also reach out and give to others less fortunate than ourselves as much as we can. It has been suggested by the Marché de Noël group and ratified by the Church Council, to donate some of the funds raised on this occasion to a department in one of our local hospitals.

Several of our congregations have spent their last days in the Palliative Care unit within the local hospital in La Chataigneraie. Many of us know of others within our circle of friends and acquaintances who have also spent time there. There are five bedrooms especially allocated to this very important time at the end of someone's life. The staff and atmosphere are kind, caring, calm and peaceful. Depending on the amount of money that we donate, we will be able to designate what we would like to see the money spent on. This is a very special and local 'good cause'.

Please support the event in any way that you can - donating goods to stalls, manning stalls, helping with the set-up, coming and spending money and telling your friends and neighbours. Posters and flyers will be available in a month or so.

(Margaret Kent)

ASV Harvest Festival 2018



BIG, BIG THANK YOU! To all our fellow worshippers, who came, armed with flowers, grape vines and foliage, to help decorate our barn the day before the Harvest Festival service held there on Sunday 9 September. Thank you also to those who travelled here for the service itself and contributed to its success. Geoff even managed to rig up a microphone on a hoe to help proceedings be well-heard!

There were thirty members of the Congregation at the service, which was beautifully put together by our Reader, John Matthews, who also preached the sermon. We sang some of the traditional Harvest hymns with gusto. In fact, our nearest neighbour had visitors and wondered what the lovely music was!

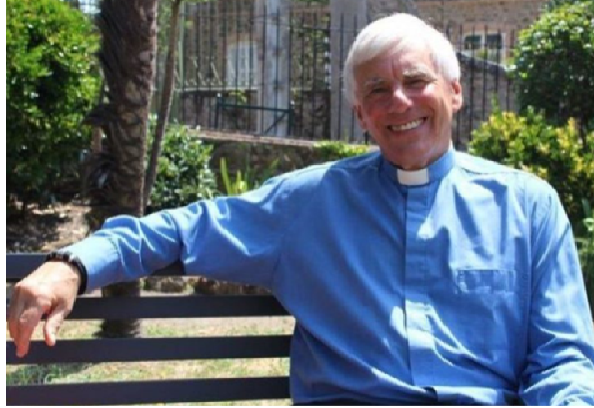
It was a beautiful day and we were able to have coffee afterwards in the garden (including melting chocolate biscuits!), followed by a Bring-and Share lunch in the cool of the barn. Everyone was very generous with their gifts of non-perishable goods and we sent David Martin off with a boot full of items to be distributed to the needy in the parish of Puy de Serre by Secours Catholique, as is our usual custom.

We would be very happy to host any other services in warm weather. I'm afraid there are too many draughts coming through the old barn doors for winter use!

Margaret and Geoff Kent



FATHER GARETH RANDALL – A TRIBUTE



Sometimes you meet a person for the first time and you can tell instantly that you are not going to make a massive attempt to ever see them again but, fortunately, you can sometimes meet someone who will have a profound effect on your life. Such a one was Father Gareth Randall. Vicar of St Bartholomews, Dinard, who died unexpectedly this summer.

On a purely factual note, Gareth was born in East London in the 1950s, educated at East Ham Grammar School for boys in the 1960s (followed by Southampton University). In 1984 he joined Dame Alice Owens School later becoming Assistant Head. He was ordained in 1993 and retired at the end of 2006 to become a priest in Dinard.

Those of us who had the privilege of meeting him will never forget his friendly, outgoing nature. He was someone who was always ready to listen to good news or bad, to successes or failures or problems.

But, even for those who never met him, his influence on our lives was always there – his helpful, amusing and interesting articles in Grapevine, the sermons he would provide for us when there was no other priest available – sometimes, he would check through a sermon which had been written by someone in our congregation for use on Sunday and his comments were always helpful and encouraging.

I don't suppose we will ever forget the shock when we heard the news that he had been found in his flat having died in the night

I can't finish this article without mentioning his helpful attitude to those of our congregation who have paid a visit to Dinard for the purpose of confirmation – or the labrador who might appear from the direction of the organ as the service progressed

Goodbye Father Gareth, I am sure we will meet again but, until then,
we will just have to try and manage without you.



Polly Ward

Reminiscences of Father Gareth from Grapevine readers :

Good morning and thanks for Grapevine.

When we left Foussais we moved near to Dinard just minutes away from St Barts. That is where we met Father Gareth he was charming enduring helpful and a wonderful person. Not sure if you are aware but Gareth's late Mother was born and brought up in Cwmparc which is near to Treorchy in the Rhondda Valley. Indeed, his late Mother's ashes are scattered on the Rhigos Mountain. I too was born and brought up in the Rhondda and indeed at the head of the valley.

Father Gareth was born and brought up in London. He was an avid reader and all of my articles for St Barts were based upon Rhondda Valley life and this hopefully gave him an insight into the life in the valleys of his late Mother and which was missing in part from his understanding.

Everyone shall miss him and he and I agreed that on the 23rd of September when we are in France we would take Holy Communion and then we would entertain Father Gareth to lunch. Gareth was a joy to be with and on a very personal level there is a void in my life which will never be filled.

With kind regards to everyone at ASV

Linda and Ken Ivin

And this message to all at ASV:

Hi Jacqui it is absolutely fine to include our tribute it simply gives us the man and we were proud to have known Gareth not only for his ministry but as a human being. Unique I think it's the word.

Hope everyone is well at ASV we will be coming down in the Spring and will come to Church

Take care

Ken

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Messages of sympathy and condolence were received from:

Tim & Rosemary Bravington; Jenny & Graham Salt; Geoff Cornwall; Bill & Carole Stocking; David & Pat Martin; David Pearson; Marian & Richard Rackham; Bob Quick

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Please note that the next "Deadly Sin - Gluttony" will appear in our November Grapevine.

There was a moving tribute in the **OuestFrance Journal** with this photo of the Funeral Service at St Bartholomew's, Dinan

(please excuse my translation...Jacqui)



Two hundred and fifty people gathered yesterday to pay a final tribute to Reverend Gareth Randall.

Reverend Gareth Randall dreamed of gathering. There was a crowd yesterday at the farewell ceremony.

The pastor left his mark on the life of Dinard. Yesterday, more than 250 people filled St. Bartholomew's church, around his family: English, Americans, French, everyone had a good reason to come to the funeral of a man whose commitment compelled respect.

Protestant priests and Anglicans were in the choir, joined by their Catholic brothers, Father Luc Pialoux, priest of Dinard and Jean-Baptiste Gailly, deacon.

A welcoming man:

An example of perfect understanding and tolerance, to be remembered, in the churches engaged in the gathering. Accompanied by three assistants, Bruno Deslandes, Jean-Louis Vergne and Elisabeth Bauve-Leroy, the mayor, Jean-Claude Mahe, praised the memory of "a man of openness, welcoming, always available. "

The ceremony was a long and moving moment of meditation. Even more intense, at the time of the homily of Meurig Williams, head of the Anglican Church in France.

The testimonies were numerous. Also moving, like that of two retired Dinardais, "We were to have a final meeting of preparation today, and the Reverend was to marry us next Saturday. "

Reverend Gareth Randall's friends will remain united, as on the first day. "He was a great open man who liked to trust, to take, but also to give responsibilities". A Briton summed up an almost general feeling: "He was and will always be an eternal young man".

The question of the future of the Anglican Church of Dinard will no doubt soon find a solution. The Anglo-American community is substantial and the religious authorities will be keen to continue a life so well engaged by Reverend Gareth Randall.

