



# St HELEN'S WINDOW

## “Events, dear boy. Events”

(Harold MacMillan, when asked what might blow a government off course.)

*The Revd Dr Charles Miller*

I hope no one will take offence when I confess this, but I only read *The Mail* (Sunday or weekday) when I'm waiting for my haircut. It was there, in fact, that I came across a piece by Radio 4 broadcaster John Humphrys early in the new year. Looking back over 2010 and forward into 2011, he titled his article '2010 – Our Year of Living in Limbo' (*The Mail on Sunday* (January 2, 2011), pp. 24-5).

His point was that the intense succession of 2010's 'events' have left us unsure about where we stand and where we'll end up in 2011. Financial fiddles by MPs have cost the reputation of Westminster dearly; will the clean-up clear it up? Unpalatable therapeutic potions have been applied to the economy; how will they really affect us, and will they work? Interest rates remain low, but that can't last forever; so when will it change, and what results will it have? A coalition holds the reigns of government; can it effectively steer? Britain's military is being eviscerated on the basis of a predictable world order into the 2020's; but what about the unexpected, radical changes now afoot through the Middle East states; can we cope? All of this, we must admit with John Humphrys, makes for uncertainty—'limbo'. It also makes for that subtle, corrosive killer of the human spirit about which Jesus often warned his followers: *anxiety*.

I've never liked the so-called apocalyptic passages in the Gospels—predictions by Jesus of wars, and rumours of wars, of division, of flight, of woe—because, I guess, I've never known how to translate them into anything meaningfully 'modern' and contemporary. But perhaps John Humphrys' article gives a small clue. The world in which we live is constantly beset by imponderables; it's always seeping or bursting out of the controlled boundaries we set for it, challenging our self-deception when we declare 'Thus far, and no further'. Maybe Jesus was reminding his hearers that just because he was aware of those uncertainties and of the anxieties of strain or catastrophe, we need all the more to listen to his admonition: 'Fear not, little flock'.

However much the messages from the news may suggest incoherence or 'limbo' and prompt anxiety, Christian faith includes the confidence that 'the kingdom we are given is unshakable' (Hebrews 12.28). However much the nations may 'furiously rage' we're rooted in a still-point, namely, the care and compassion of a God who will never let 'events' skew his strong and good purposes.

Times of uncertainty and anxiety compel us to ask ourselves what the basis of our sense of safety and confidence is. If that basis is any of the vying kingdoms of this world, then we have a lot of work to do.

Thanks, John Humphrys, for prompting us Christians to remember that.

## The Editors

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preceding month

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## From the Editors: calling all readers and parishioners - of all ages!

This month's *Window* celebrates parishioners at work, in military chaplaincy, science, heritage preservation, cultural outreach, and service to people living with disabilities, in Abingdon, Oxford and beyond.

April's issue will take our experiences of renewal in the Christian life—pilgrimage, retreats and quiet days, spiritual growth, prayer, study and recreation—as its theme.

In May, the spotlight will focus on the activities and needs of children and young people, in church and at school, college, and university. For the May issue

(deadline: 5 April), we particularly encourage contributions from children and young people: what is your experience of St Helen's, of school, of life? What issues are important to you? What problems do you face? Do you have a drawing of our parish life, church or town you would like to share?

As always, the *Window* welcomes your contributions on any of our upcoming themes, as well as suggestions for future themed issues. Bring copy to the Church office, or send it by e-mail to [StHelensWindow@gmail.com](mailto:StHelensWindow@gmail.com), by the 5th of each month, for consideration for the next month's issue.

## Letter from Afghanistan- 6 January 2011 - excerpts

*Stephan van OS*

Looking back, I have rolled over in a Mastiff vehicle, been caught in a 'contact' while out on a 'Find, Feel & Understand Patrol', observed a firefight against some remarkably careless Taliban, thrown myself heavily around a few irrigation ditches and most importantly of all preached the gospel in some very isolated parts of Helmand Province....

One of my best nights on the road so far was one at CP Canal. This is a small vehicle checkpoint with about eight soldiers manning it along with some Afghan Police. The only electricity was for powering the radio and intercom system; lighting was by candles, and cooking was done by hexamine burners, with everyone sleeping in a series of mud-built compounds. However, this was no occasion for poor morale. Over in one corner of the Ops Room the guys had fashioned something called The Canal Gentlemen's Club (Members Only). It doubles up as a dining room, a place to hold a church service and generally hang out. My time there coincided with a Sunday so we did church in the afternoon, and dinner by candlelight in the evening. Someone had gifted me some posh cheese from a welfare parcel. At the end of the meal I got the cheese out and shared it round. Even ration pack 'biscuits brown' taste good in those circumstances. The evening was off to a roaring start with stories about previous Op Tours, thoughts of home and what we might all do on R&R. In spite of

the fact that we are located in the middle of a war zone where all kinds of terrible and tragic events take place, when we go home it will be the memories of comradeship, shared hardship and the occasions when something funny happened that left us nearly crying with laughter that we will carry through the rest of our lives.

### *Some suggestions for prayer:*

- Now that we are halfway through the Tour pray that we will retain our focus on the important issues and aims of the Tour at every level in the Battle Group. We are inflicting some serious damage on the Taliban but need also to win the hearts and minds of the local people and create space for them to rebuild their lives with schools, clinics, shops and other infrastructure.
- Pray for our continued safety and security as we travel about whether by road, on foot or by helicopter. IEDs continue to be the main threat we face and it is a deadly threat.
- Pray for my continuing ministry that I may find the right words to share in sermons, daily personal encounters and in my daily thought for the day at the Battlegroup Conference. Also that my words will be able to engage unchurched soldiers with the good news in categories they can grasp.
- Pray for continuing good relationships at all levels of the Battle Group and that as we move into the latter half of the Tour we will all maintain a good work-life balance, good sleep and diet to sustain us till the end.

There is a cost involved in living what is effectively a gypsy lifestyle. Praying for grace to cope with the routine disruptions of my life is a key part of my morning and evening prayer. The good news is that it is only for six months and we are now over halfway there.... Thank you to all of you who sent cards, letters, gifts, who posted comments on my Facebook page and generally let me know I wasn't forgotten. Little gestures like that assume an importance way beyond their natural scale. I've even received personally addressed welfare parcels from comparative strangers I have never met which helped make my day. I think I speak for everyone here when I say

that Mail = Morale. If the mail gets through everyone is happy in spite of the problems of daily existence. If it doesn't get through then 'wait out' because my job just got that little bit harder....

Love and best wishes to you all. I'm always delighted to hear from you by whatever means, but above all keep us in your prayers in whatever way you go about doing that. *Stephan*

### Parishioners serving the Community: Janet and Ken Chapman

*Recent issues of St Helen's Window have featured voluntary organisations with which parishioners are involved. Here, we highlight the extraordinary record of voluntary service which Janet and Ken Chapman have given to multiple organisations over many years. Janet's service to the Mothers' Union—Janet is currently the Branch Leader for the Abingdon MU—is well known to members of St Helen's. Both have also been stalwarts of Scouting and Guides, Ken working with the Cubs for eighteen years, and Janet leading units of Brownies and Guides, with special concern for Guides with disabilities, for twenty-five years. Less well-known, perhaps, is the long, intense involvement that Janet and Ken have had with two charities which support people living with disabilities, Phab and Mencap.*

Founded in 1957, Phab, which stands for 'physically handicapped and able-bodied', runs clubs, outings, and holidays throughout England and Wales with the aim to 'promote and encourage people of all abilities to come together on equal terms, to achieve complete inclusion within the wider community'. Janet and Ken are founder members of the Vale of the White Horse Phab Club, which celebrated its twenty-fifth anniversary this year. Around forty members of all ages, from teenagers to adults, currently meet each Thursday evening at Christ Church in Abingdon, for refreshments, chat, and a varied programme of activities, including games, quizzes, music, and crafts.

Animated by the motto 'Don't dwell on the disability, but on the ability', the club invests considerable ingenuity in modifying all activities so that all members can take part, whether their limitations involve sight, hearing, or mobility. The Abingdon group look forward to the annual visit of the Mayor and town councillors, who preside over the Mayor's Challenge Cup. One meeting a month is devoted to Christian fellowship, led by Janet, and the members enjoy a carol service and Christmas dinner in December. The White Horse Phab branch is staffed entirely by volunteers and largely self-funded from members' subscriptions, with some support from Christ's Hospital.

Helping people has always come naturally to Janet and Ken. Janet's mother, who was herself disabled, led a Girl Guide corps for disabled Guides in Oldham while Janet was growing up. Janet's own experience of multiple disabilities - she had her first operation on her feet at the age of two, and has coped with increas-

ing vision loss over the years—has given her a fearless, pragmatic, and deeply compassionate approach to helping others. Janet and Ken have both served Phab formally in Oxfordshire over the past twenty-five years in varied leadership and administrative roles, and also informally, in their constant support of disabled members outside of club hours and over the telephone. Members know that Janet and Ken are always there for them, no matter what the day or hour.

Janet, who currently serves as the vice-chair of the White Horse branch, was in October 2010 given its David Carter Memorial Shield, awarded to 'Any member, able or disabled, who has gone that bit farther'. Special mention was made of her constant support over the years of two members with spina bifida and epilepsy, and crucial life-saving interventions she made on two occasions in the previous year. In particular, in September 2009, Janet's calm and expert support was instrumental in saving the life of 36-year-old Lisa McBeth during a seizure. She received the Carter Shield at the 2010 Phab AGM, at which the two annual Phab Cups were given to Lisa and Ken (see photo). Lisa was cited for her courage and endurance in coping with epilepsy over the past year. Ken was recognised for his long-term service as county chairman (14 years), club leader (4 years), and now treasurer. Ken's devo-

tion to Phab has even taken him as far as Siberia: he survived travelling twenty-seven hours on the Trans-Siberian Railway to support The Perm Association for the Disabled, Oxfordshire Phab's sister organisation, on its fifth anniversary. Ken has in addition also volunteered for many years with Mencap, the charity for people with learning disabilities.

Janet and Ken emphasise the dual function of groups such as Phab and Mencap: they provide a life-line and a safe space for those living with disabilities, but they also serve an important role in helping to increase awareness of disabilities, and to help overcome the fears and prejudices that are common responses among the able-bodied when they encounter people with physical and mental disabilities. Janet and Ken's example of generous, dedicated service, and living with disabilities, has been a continual encouragement to others who live daily with disability, and is an inspiration to all of us.



Lisa McBeth, Ken Chapman, Janet Chapman

## St Helen's at Work in Abingdon, Oxford and Beyond

We know one another from worshipping together and drinking coffee on Sundays – but what do we do the rest of the week? In this issue, we reveal some of the things our fellow parishioners are doing in the worlds of science, heritage preservation, and cultural outreach through museums – and we encourage all *Window* readers to write in with their own experiences and involvements.

### A day in the life of a Pitt Rivers Museum Gallery Supervisor.

*Judith Hosking*

When I was threatened with redundancy just before Christmas 2008 I applied for a job as joint Front of House Supervisor at the Pitt Rivers Museum in Oxford. To my surprise and delight I was offered the job, and started work, appropriately enough, on April 1<sup>st</sup> 2009.

In contrast to my previous experience working in the City Council's Museum of Oxford, the Pitt Rivers presents an overwhelmingly Victorian appearance, with a proliferation of glass cases in an impressive three-storey Victorian galleried building joined by an archway to the Oxford University Museum of Natural History.

Even after 18 months working at the museum, I still experience a thrill when I enter the Pitt Rivers Museum in the morning, particularly at the weekend when I often open up and switch on the lights. Many visitors imagine that the dark, empty museum must be spooky, but I have never found it so – though I am not sure I would wish to spend the night there! The collection is primarily anthropology and archaeology, with the accent on anthropology. It is a fascinating mix of textiles, pottery, amulets and charms, weapons, surgical instruments, currency,



body arts and much, much more. If you have never been to visit you might find the organisation confusing, as objects are grouped according to type rather than geography or chronology. However Lieutenant Augustus Henry Lane Fox Pitt Rivers and the first curator Henry Balfour liked the idea of grouping objects according to type, which apparently is an ideal system for anthropologists! Consequently you will find baskets, textiles, boats, or weapons grouped together. The problems arise when families are looking for all the objects from Egypt or the Aztecs for their child's school project. Those objects are distributed throughout the museum, and some take a great deal of finding, as the cases are crammed and the museum dark, for conservation reasons!

I am part of a great team in the Front of House. We are responsible for security and visitor services, and this can be both a rewarding and challenging role. We patrol the various areas of the museum, ensuring the smooth running of the service, and liaising with schools, colleges, and various specialist interest groups. The work is varied and interesting, though quite physically tiring. We are on our feet all day so I am building up my stamina! It is, however, a great place to work.

### The Abingdon Museum and its Friends

*Sheila Hills*

St Helen's and the Abingdon County Hall Museum are linked by more than just their commanding positions at the two ends of East Saint Helen Street. A number of parishioners are involved with the Museum, through serving as volunteers, and through the Abingdon Museum Friends, whose monthly meetings are held in the St Helen's Church Centre on the first Thursday of the month. Abingdon Museum Friends was inaugurated in 2000. The group exists to support the Museum with ideas, practical efforts and resources, but for our members, the programme of

talks, visits and social gatherings means that many friendships are made through these shared interests.

Most of our readers will already know of the project to improve the Museum facilities in the outstanding seventeenth-century Market Hall designed by Christopher Kempster, a colleague of Sir Christopher Wren, and considered to be one of the finest buildings of its type in the country. The Friends and many local organisations, headed by Abingdon Town Council, are working together to improve the facilities of our iconic building. The Museum closed at the

end of October 2010, and its contents were moved into storage. As demonstrated by the scaffolding and plastic sheeting which now envelop the building, renovations have now begun. The beautiful Sessions Hall is to be environmentally improved so that more delicate and valuable objects can be displayed. In the past, the Gallery was so hot in summer, and so cold in winter, that visitors and staff alike found the conditions very difficult. The barrel-vaulted cellars will be refurbished to provide an education centre, cafe and shop, and the 1901 gas-powered water pump will be refurbished and displayed with moving parts. When the County Hall Museum re-opens in 2012, the public will be able to enjoy its twenty-first century facilities at the heart of Abingdon.

Abingdon is renowned for its ‘Bun Throwing’ ceremonies, when hundreds of current buns are thrown from the roof of the County Hall to the eager townsfolk in the Market Place below. Bun-throwing marks special events in local and national history, and the specially-baked buns bear the date and an appropriate symbol, such as insignia or initials. The re-opening of the Museum in 2012 will surely be celebrated by such an event. Despite the scaffolding, Abingdon

tradition continues: we have been granted a special dispensation so that buns may be thrown from the Museum’s scaffolding to mark the Royal Wedding on 29 April, at 6 pm.

The activities of the Museum Friends go on as usual during the Museum’s closure, and in addition, we are holding monthly fundraising events until 2012, to raise £400,000 for the museum’s redevelopment. Following the official launch of the project in June 2010 by the Lord-Lieutenant of the County, a most enjoyable and successful public launch day followed, with many activities for children and visits to the roof. July was a day of Open Gardens, visited by the public, in wonderful weather, and in August, Abingdon’s current Mayor, Duncan Brown, underwent torture in the stocks by means of wet sponges during our Market Place event. All are welcome to our next special event, a Fish and Chip supper with quiz, in the St Helen’s Church Centre on Saturday, 9 April at 7.30 pm. Further details from Sheila Hills. 01235 521077

The Friends are always happy to welcome new members. You can always contact me – I am always somewhere around!

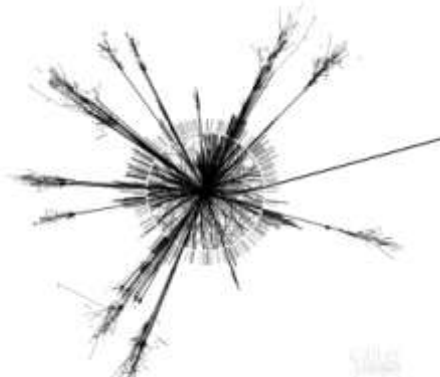
## CERN Laboratory, Geneva

*Norman Gee*

If you are one of those who think that the most important scientific discoveries have been made, you might go outside and look up at the night sky. With modern instruments, astronomers know that less than 5 percent of the cosmos is made from ordinary stuff like stars and planets. The rest of the universe – that is, almost all of it – seems to be made of a mixture of ‘dark matter’ and ‘dark energy’, which like the wind we can’t see except through their effects on other things. This is but one of the mysteries being explored at the CERN laboratory in Geneva.

For the last 70 years, CERN has been building and operating particle accelerators. Some of the machines have worked with protons (the heavy core of hydrogen atoms), others with electrons. In both cases, the trick is to make the particles travel at close to the speed of light by pumping energy into them, then make them hit something and watch what happens as all the stored energy is released. Life gets much more interesting if you can arrange a head-on collision with another particle travelling in the opposite direction, hence the Large Hadron Collider (LHC), which is the fourth machine of the head-on type to be built at CERN.

This gives scientists a factory in which collisions are produced to order. What happens in each collision is random, but governed by the rules of nature – the same delicately balanced rules that control the sun and allow life to develop. By looking at the subatomic debris from lots of collisions, we hope to fill the holes in our current knowledge of the rules. The very large amounts of energy in the LHC allow nature to be explored with minute detail (at distances of less than a millionth of a millionth of the size of an atom), and at temperatures 100,000 times hotter than the sun. Here we expect to find an understanding of the origin of mass itself, and perhaps a window into extra dimensions or the dark matter problem mentioned above.



Simulated production of a black hole in Atlas. Photo from <http://atlas.ch>

The last step in the story is the apparatus used to intercept and record details of the subatomic debris after a collision. Despite its immense size, it has the precision of an optical microscope. And with a community of more than 3000 scientists from more than 150 institutes, it is a triumph of organisation and international cooperation as well as a technological marvel. Several members of St Helen’s are also involved at CERN, and there’s lots more we could tell you.

## What's on in March

### St Helen's Church

Sunday 6 March  
**Newcomers' Lunch**  
 Sign list in church or contact  
 Susan Scott 522960

Tuesday 8 March  
**Pancake Supper**  
 Time to be confirmed  
 Centre Hall

Wednesday 16 March  
**Wednesday Club**  
*Climate Change:*  
*A matter of Fact or Opinion*  
 John Race  
 20.00 Centre Hall

Saturday 19 March  
**Coffee Morning**  
 10.00-12.00 in Church Centre  
 By Mothers' Union for Overseas  
 Relief Fund

Friday 25 March  
**Friends of St Helen's**  
*AGM with wine & cheese nibbles*  
 19.30 followed by talk at 20.00  
*Darwin, Evolution & God's Action*  
*in the World*  
 by Revd Dr Simon Thorn

Monday 4 April  
**St Helen's Church AGM**  
 19.30 in Church Centre

If you would like an event listed on this page let us know by the 5<sup>th</sup> of the previous month and we will try to include it. Contact Silvia at alanj@phonecoop.coop or tel: 01235 521247

### St Michael's Church

Tuesday 8 March  
*Lor'n' order*  
**a lighthearted concert**  
 by our 3 tenors  
 19.30 in Church Room

Thursday 10 March 19.45  
 Thursday 24 March 14.30  
*Paul's Story*  
 Paul Smith  
 in Church Room

### Abingdon Central Cluster

Saturday 26 March  
**Parish Lenten Quiet Day**  
*Ways of Praying*  
 10.00 - 16.00  
 Short addresses by parish clergy,  
 with time for meditation, study,  
 walking, and worship  
 Centre for Reflection,  
 Aston Tirrold URC  
 For more information or to book,  
 contact Parish office

### Church in Abingdon

Friday 4 March  
**Women's World Day of Prayer**  
*How Many Loaves Have You?*  
 Service prepared by the  
 women of Chile  
 10.30 at St Nicolas Church  
 19.00 at All Saints Methodist  
 Church

Mondays in Lent

### CiA Lent Course

20.00 at All Saints Methodist  
 Church

14 March  
*Jesus - the Alpha & Omega*  
 Revd Dr Nigel Wright, Principal  
 Spurgeon's College

21 March  
*Jesus & Discipleship*  
 Richard Fisher, Chief Exec. of BRF

28 March  
*Jesus - Man with a Mission*  
 Revd. Richard Zair,  
 Vicar of Marcham

4 April  
*Jesus - Word & Spirit*  
 Revd Will Donaldson, Wycliffe Hall

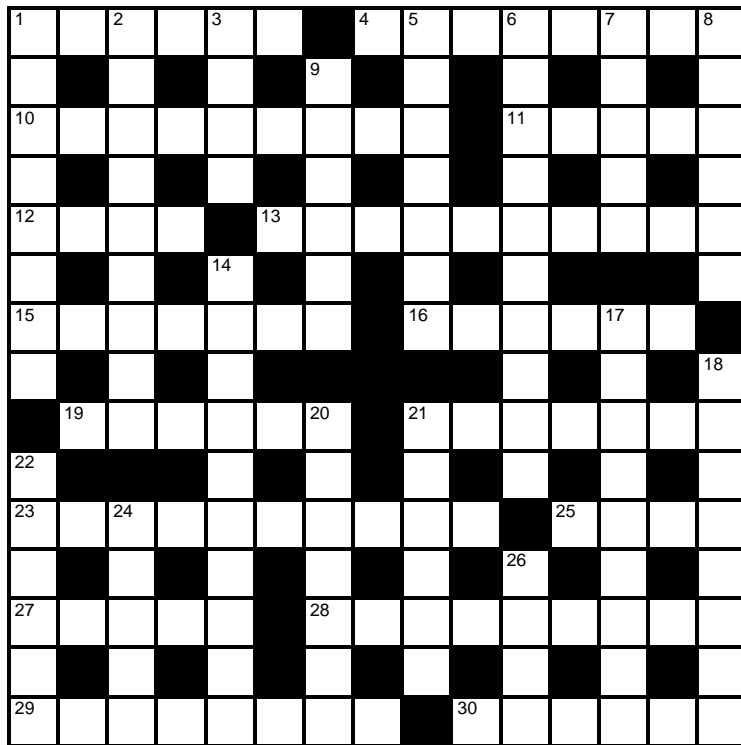
11 April  
*Jesus - the Saviour*  
 Naomi Starkey, Editor *New Daylight*  
 BRF notes

Saturday 26 March  
**The Big Sing!**  
 in aid of Christian Aid  
 14.00 - 17.00 at  
 Trinity Church Hall  
 Led by Sally Mears and Rachel  
 Smith - a variety of music, sacred  
 and secular  
 Tickets £7.50 & £3 children  
 from church representative or  
 01865 736344

Wednesday 30 March  
**Fresh Vision**  
 19.30 at St Ethelwold's House  
 Led by Revd Laura Hodges  
 A simple service with time for  
 discussion & reflection

<b>Answers to December's</b>	12	Magic Circle	25	master class	37	metonic cycle
<b>Merry Christmas Quiz</b>	13	morbid curiosity	26	Military Cross	38	master of ceremonies
1 morning coffee	14	Monte Cristo	27	mad cow	39	Marie Curie
2 massive clearance	15	Midnight Cowboy	28	mint creams/ chocolates	40	Monday's Child
3 magistrates court	16	Maltese Cross	29	Maiden Castle	41	Mammoth Caves
4 Maureen Connolly	17	Michael Caine	30	Madeira cake	42	Max Clifford
5 Marie Celeste	18	Mornington Crescent	31	Michael Crawford	43	manx cat
6 Morning Cloud	19	Mr Chips	32	mustard & cress	44	morse code
7 Melanie Chisholm	20	Magna Carta	33	Magdelene College	45	Methodist chapel
8 Martin Chuzzlewit	21	Mother Carey	34	mineral concession	The winners of <i>The Oxford</i>	
9 Meissen china	22	Monte Carlo	35	middle class	<i>Companion to English Literature</i> were Jeff and Janet	
10 Mount Cook	23	minor chord	36	Mariah Carey	Dale	
11 Miles Coverdale	24	motley crew				

Crossword by Ian Miles



**‘Don’t Give Up!’** Exactly half the solutions contain either a clear (\*), or in some way scrambled (\*\*), liturgically-topical reference in 4 letters

**Across**

- 1\* Gift of narrative Gospels *etc* (6)
- 4\* Evoking one to try another 40 days (8)
- 10\*\* Flight east in trouble? Sample some evening fun ... (9)
- 11 ... Gold-encrusted playcube, farewell! (5)
- 12 No mercy without her OT book (4)
- 13\* Kind love returns to youngest bro, 10-abouts (10)
- 15\*\* Forgiving season that is inwardly pointed (7)
- 16 It sweetly sticks to loud charge (6)
- 19 A twisted pin's left on the backbone (6)
- 21 Bring out rotating Scripture curriculum again (7)
- 23\*\* Grumpy old man can't bother with abstinent spell (10)
- 25 Urban dwelling with no gas (4)
- 27 'Mr Preview' might take Divinity as well (5)
- 28\*\* 40 days + 26dn + 1, frothing with enthusiasm! (9)
- 29\*\* In praise of clearly a good XI borrowed by others (8)
- 30\* Small pulse, fast one, loud initially (6)

**Down**

- 1\*\* Is doctor loaned, as it were, green fingers? (8)
- 2\*\* Relax, let Penny hug in comfort! (7,2)
- 3 Fisher-disciples honing strokes here? (4)
- 5\*\* Crucial part of me energised in rutting season (7)
- 6 Where Obama monitors Easter Egg outlines? (4,6)
- 7 Former partner, one the French send abroad (5)
- 8 Mocks Henry's old snapshots (6)

- 9\* Is over penitent phase, but tight-lipped (6)
- 14\* Find oneself afloat NW of IoW and 'talk back' (2,8)
- 17\* Top-notch spreadsheet program over 6wks or so (9)
- 18 Golf-obsessive, yet on the wagon? (8)
- 20\*\* Knocker's demand that is made up initially during queasy season (3,2,2)
- 21 Improved cricket score is in preparation for ... (4,2)
- 22 ... Spike's 1-metre flying leap (6)
- 24 Daily fitting for her purple-fabric clients (5)
- 26 Dispirited as a Boat Race winner (or loser)? (4)

Last Month's solution - Diagonal Movers by Eccles (Archbishops of Canterbury)



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## March at St Helen's Church

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**Divine Services**

6 March	10.00 Sung Eucharist with Welcome to Newly Baptised
<b>9 March</b>	<b>19.00 Ash Wednesday Service</b>
13 March Lent 1	10.00 Sung Eucharist with Great Litany
20 March Lent 2	10.00 Sung Eucharist with Great Litany
27 March Lent 3	10.00 Sung Eucharist with Great Litany
Morning Prayer	09.10 Monday to Friday
Evening Prayer	17.10 Monday to Friday
Holy Communion	08.00 Sundays (in St Nicolas Church)
Sung Eucharist	10.00 6, 13, 20, 27 March <u>with Junior Church</u>
Silent Prayer	18.10 Mondays 7 and 21 March
Wednesday Church	10.30 Wednesdays, Holy Communion followed by refreshments

**Sunday Evening Services**

6 March	18.30 Eucharist
13 March	18.30 Taize
20 March	16.30 Choral Evensong
27 March	18.30 Service for Wholeness and Healing

**Meetings and Gatherings** all in Church Centre Hall unless marked

Baby and Toddler Group	09.30 & 11.00 Mondays
Baptism Preparation	20.00 Tues 1 & 15 March, Lounge
Brownies	18.15 Tuesdays
Clergy consultation	19.00 Weds by appointment
Cubs	18.20 Wednesdays
DCC meeting	19.30 Monday 14 March
Desiring Life	14.30 Tues 1, 8, 22 and 29 March, Lounge
Junior Church	10.00 every Sunday, starts in Church
Mothers' Union	20.00 Tues 15 March, <i>The trip to New York</i>
Men's Group 6:19	20.00 Wed 2 March, <i>Science Fiction</i> , Old Anchor Pub
Wednesday Club	20.00 Weds 16 March

**Events** (more details on page 6)

Peal attempt	10.00	Sat 5 March	Tower
Newcomers' Lunch	12.00	Sun 6 March	Church Centre Hall
Shrove Tuesday Pancakes	t.b.c.	Tues 8 March	Church Centre Hall
Peal attempt	10.00	Fri 11 March	Tower
Coffee Morning	10.00 - 12.00	Sat 19 March	Church Centre Hall
St Helen's @ Lunch	12.00	Tues 22 March	King's Head and Bell
Friends of St Helen's	19.30	Fri 25 March	Church Centre Hall
St Helen's AGM	19.30	Mon 4 April	Church Centre Hall

*The services and events listed here are correct at the time of going to press  
- please consult the weekly Newsheet if in doubt.*

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To arrange baptisms, weddings and funerals contact the Church Office.  
Clergy are available in the Church Office between 19.00 - 20.00 on a Wednesday.  
Call the office to book an appointment.

Rector:	The Revd Dr Charles Miller
Assisting Priest (NSM):	The Revd Tim Hewes
Curates (NSM):	The Revd Dr Simon Thorn, The Revd Dr Jane Baun
Director of Music:	Christopher Fletcher-Campbell
Parish Administrator:	Linda Barker

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St Helen's Church Office: St Helen's Court, Abingdon, OX14 5BS  
01235 520144  
Normal opening hours 09.00 to 14.15 Mon, Tues, Weds; 09.15 to 14.15 Fri  
E-mail: administrator@sthelens-abingdon.org.uk  
www.sthelens-abingdon.org.uk

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