



Parish Focus

August – September 2013
Number 66

News and Views from Brailsford, Shirley, Osmaston, Edlaston and Yeaveley

Phil Michell by Colin Johnson

Most of you will have heard by now that our curate, Phil Michell, will be leaving us at the end of September to take up the post of Priest-in-Charge in the Hulland group of churches. We have been very fortunate to have Phil with us for the past three years as he has far exceeded what could reasonably be expected from a curate, including a period of two months last summer when Paul was away on his sabbatical leave and Phil became Acting Vicar. We shall be sorry to lose him and his family but pleased that we shall be able to remain in touch.

Phil's last service will be the United Benefice Service at 10.00am at Osmaston on 29 September and that will be the occasion to say our farewells to him. We shall naturally want to give him something to remember us by and anyone who wishes to contribute towards a leaving gift can do so through the Church Office. His licensing at Hulland will take place shortly afterwards and it would be good to give him our support on that occasion too though there may have to be a limitation on numbers – watch out for further details in due course through service bulletins or the church website.

Phil's departure is going to leave a considerable hole in the lives of our five

parishes, not least in terms of Sunday service provision. From October onwards it will be difficult to provide a service every Sunday in every church. Looking on the positive side, however, we shall still be providing a variety of worship opportunities, both in terms of style and timing, across the United Benefice – and that phrase, *across the United Benefice*, is the key. Most of us travel into Ashbourne or Derby to shop. We may have to travel within the United Benefice to worship.

On the positive side Fiona Crocker, who is training for the ministry and will be with us on work placement during the autumn, will be able to help out with some of the things Phil was doing. Those of you who have already met Fiona will know how capable she is and how fortunate we are to have her. Furthermore the possibility of having another curate in July 2014 has not been ruled out.

Meanwhile we need to find ways of doing the things we believe are most important without killing our Vicar through overwork. That's down to all of us.

Phil has written an article reflecting on his time with us – it is on page 6.

Life in the Boiler House, Man and Boy

by Ray Jones

One day I came across a small 1940 diary of mine and on reading it I saw entries every Saturday "lit church boiler". This made me remember that, in 1940, when I was 10 years old, I started to help my uncle George to look after the coke boiler at Brailsford Church. Uncle George was Sexton which meant that he was required to look after not only the heating but also the churchyard, including digging graves. We would cycle down to the Church on Saturday morning and begin to clean out the boiler – coke-fired – and remove the clinker and ash from the previous week. Then we would relight the boiler using sticks and paper. Sometimes this process would take well over an hour, and longer if the wind was from the wrong direction, when the boiler house would completely fill with smoke and we would have to rush outside and wait for it to clear. In summer a lorry load of coke was tipped just outside the church wall (now the car park) and we would use wheelbarrows to take it either into the boiler house tunnel or we would heap it under the yew tree outside the vestry window.

While we waited for the fire to ignite the coke in the boiler, we would rake all the gravel paths and generally tidy up around the building. When the coke was catching fire we piled on some more. At 10 o'clock the same evening we would cycle down again to put on more coke. The system pushed hot water through 4 inch cast iron pipes throughout the

church – the protective grilles can be seen in the chancel today.

Uncle George died in 1946 and Dad (Walter) took over his duties. We continued as before, although we had to have a new boiler shortly afterwards. I would often go down for a final shovelling of coke at 1.00am after I cycled back from Quarndon after seeing Beryl, my late wife, while we were courting.

Dad died in 1959 and I took over the reins – or should that be the shovel? It was still a weekly visit to the boiler house in autumn and winter. Then in 1964 the coke boiler gave its last gasp and was replaced by an oil-fired system. The new boiler was installed and working just in time for the Christmas Eve service that year. I found the new boiler easier to work though I still needed to go down each Saturday evening, and any other time if heat was needed – weddings, funerals, choir practices, etc. There have been one or two difficulties over the years. Last year for example, after days of heavy rain, the drainpipe by the boiler house became disconnected and allowed water to flood the boiler and completely ruin the electrics.

I have now decided to retire from these voluntary duties. I have worked with 2 coke boilers and 2 oil-fired ones and after 73 years I think I have seen it all. It is sad to think, however, that after 100 years the connection of the Jones family with the All Saints boiler will cease!

Breathe, Balance, Be Activated

A new class will commence 13 September 2013, from 10am to 11am on Friday mornings at Brailsford Methodist Church for the over 60s. Mainly seated chair work, working with breath, movement and muscle activation points. Suitable for all abilities. £4 booked in advance £5 on the day.

Contact Emily Smedley on 07813 798643 or email Elomehyrr@gmail.com.

Osmaston Park Walks

In memory of Miss Jane Walker-Okeover, a lady for whom the park was life its self.

**Sunday 8 September 11am - 4pm
in Osmaston Park.**

The walks vary in distance.

Entrance £5, children free and dogs on leads welcome. Refreshments and cold drinks will be on sale.

Fingers crossed for good weather!

Food for Thought by Colin Johnson

We were on holiday in Guernsey recently and, like many visitors, went to see the Museum of the German Occupation. This proved to be a fascinating collection of materials and artefacts relating to the five years of German occupation between 1940 and 1945. Some of it was chilling, for example the short notice declaring that an islander had been shot for releasing a homing pigeon. But there were also some good stories.

Dr Kowald was a German doctor who, when medicines were hard to come by, used German army supplies to treat the islanders. In January 1945 he was imprisoned for this – mercifully not for long as the islands were liberated in May of that year. On the eve of his departure as a prisoner of war, sixteen islanders signed the following letter to him.

12.5.45

Dr Kowald

We the undersigned, beg leave to take this opportunity, at the eve of your departure, of expressing our heartfelt thanks and gratitude to

you for your many kindnesses during the past 2 years.

We shall never forget our privations during the 5 years of German occupation, but at the same time shall also remember how good you were to us in the supply of medicines especially at the time when these were unobtainable through our own local doctors. We little knew the risk you were taking when you were giving us the medicines, & we greatly regret that you had to suffer imprisonment through helping us in such ways.

We much regret that we are unable to express our thanks in a tangible form owing to present circumstances, but we hope that this may be possible some day.

In any situation, however evil, it seems that good men and women continue to follow the dictates of their consciences. In these times when the newspapers are full of stories of malpractice and corruption I still dare to hope that that is the norm and not a rare exception.

Our Walk at Carsington Water by Will Lawrence (aged 9 years)

On Thursday 27 June, Years 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 from Osmaston Primary School headed out on a walk around the reservoir in Carsington. On the way, we learned all about Carsington and the reservoir.

Mrs Hart found a dead newt and showed it to us all, so we learned about newts. It had probably died out of the water. Its body wasn't wet enough, so it could not breathe. I felt very sorry for it! We also found out that Carsington only allows people to fly fish (if somebody wants to fish), not coarse fishing.

At Carsington, there were some very steep hills which we had to walk up and down. We had lunch in a hay field. The grass was even higher than me when I sat down.

When we reached Millfield, it got very windy and rainy. I had to hold on to my cap! When we eventually reached the visitor centre, I purchased a chocolate ice cream with 2 scoops. Although I asked for 2 scoops, I received 2 and a half, I'm not

quite sure whether the shop assistant was being generous, or whether it was an accident – either way it was a bargain!

I really enjoyed the 8 mile walk, as it had some interesting views and I learned a lot about Carsington's past on the way.

Unclaimed Raffle Prize from the Brailsford Church Fete

Ticket Number 47 – a bottle of whisky.

Ring 361368 to collect the prize.

Shoe Recycling

A shoe recycling bin has arrived at The Shoulder of Mutton, Osmaston.

All the proceeds from unwanted shoes will go to The Variety Club of Great Britain, Sunshine Coaches.

Church Services – August

These service details are believed to be correct at the time of going to press but check village notice boards and the notice board outside the Methodist Church in Brailsford for more up-to-date information. All services are in modern language unless designated as ‘1662’.

Sunday/ Church	4 August <i>Trinity 10 Proper 13 Green</i>	11 August <i>Trinity 11 Proper 14 Green</i>	18 August <i>Trinity 12 Proper 15 Green</i>	25 August <i>Trinity 13 Proper 16 Green</i>
Brailsford Methodist	10.45am United Café Style Service at All Saints <i>Phil Michell Mark Broadhurst</i>	10.30am Morning Worship <i>Fiona Green</i>	10.30am* Family Service with breakfast served from 9.15 <i>Tim Morris</i>	10.30am Family service <i>Tim Dutton</i>
Brailsford All Saints		10.45am Holy Communion <i>Phil Michell</i>	10.45am Holy Communion with crèche <i>Paul Taylor</i>	No service
Edlaston	9.15am Holy Communion (1662) <i>Paul Taylor</i>	10.45am Holy Communion <i>Colin Johnson</i>	No service	10.45am Parish Praise <i>Paul Taylor</i>
Osmaston	6.30pm Evensong <i>Ian Mansfield</i>	8.00am Holy Communion (1662) <i>Phil Michell</i>	9.15am Holy Communion <i>Paul Taylor</i>	No service
Shirley	10.45am Holy Communion (1662) <i>Paul Taylor</i>	9.15am Holy Communion (1662) <i>Phil Michell</i>	No service	9.15am Holy Communion (1662) <i>Paul Taylor</i>
Yeaveley	9.15am Holy Communion <i>Phil Michell</i>	9.15am Morning Prayer <i>Ian Mansfield</i>	No service	6.00pm Holy Communion <i>Paul Taylor</i>
Readings	Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12–14; 2:18–23 Psalm 49:1–12 Colossians 3:1–11 Luke 12:13–21	Genesis 15:1–6 Psalm 33:12–22 Hebrews 11:1–3, 8–16 Luke 12:32–40	Jeremiah 23:23–29 Psalm 82 Hebrews 11:29–12:2 Luke 12:49–56	Isaiah 58:9b–14 Psalm 103:1–8 Hebrews 12:18–29 Luke 13:10–17

* Breakfast served from 9.15am

Benefice Web Site: www.fiveofthebest.org.uk

Church office telephone: 361239

Church Services – August

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Sunday/ Church	1 September <i>Trinity 14 Proper 17 Green</i>	8 September <i>Trinity 15 Proper 18 Green</i>	15 September <i>Trinity 16 Proper 19 Green</i>	22 September <i>Trinity 17 Proper 20 Green</i>	29 September <i>Michael and All Angels White</i>
Brailsford Methodist	10.45am United Café Style Service at All Saints <i>Phil Michell Peter Dawson</i>	10.45am Harvest on the Farm at Culland <i>Phil Michell Fiona Crocker</i>	10.30am* Family Service with breakfast served from 9.15 <i>Fiona Green</i>	10.30am Communion Service <i>Tim Morris</i>	10.00am United Benefice with Brailsford Methodist Holy Communion at Osmaston <i>Paul Taylor</i> <i>This will also be the occasion for saying farewell to Phil Michell as he leaves us to become Priest- in-Charge of the Hulland group of churches</i>
Brailsford All Saints			10.45am Holy Communion with crèche <i>Paul Taylor Fiona Crocker</i>	10.45am Harvest Festival <i>Paul Taylor</i>	
Edlaston	9.15am Holy Communion (1662) <i>Paul Taylor</i>	10.45am Holy Communion <i>Paul Taylor</i>	6.00pm Evening Worship <i>Phil Michell</i>	10.45am Parish Praise <i>Fiona Crocker</i>	
Osmaston	6.30pm Evensong <i>Ian Mansfield</i>	8.00am Holy Communion (1662) <i>Paul Taylor</i>	9.15am Morning Prayer <i>Fiona Crocker</i>	10.30am Noise Factory <i>Ian Mansfield</i> 4.00pm Harvest with Osmaston School <i>Phil Michell Fiona Crocker</i>	
Shirley	10.45am Holy Communion (1662) <i>Paul Taylor</i>	9.15am Holy Communion (1662) <i>Paul Taylor</i>	9.15am Holy Communion (1662) <i>Paul Taylor</i>	9.15am Holy Communion (1662) <i>Phil Michell</i>	
Yeaveley	9.15am Holy Communion <i>Phil Michell</i>	9.15am Morning Prayer <i>Fiona Crocker</i>	9.15am Harvest Festival <i>Phil Michell</i>	6.00pm Holy Communion <i>Paul Taylor</i>	
Readings	Proverbs 25:6–7 Psalm 112 Hebrews 13:1–8, 15, 16 Luke 14:1, 7–14	Deuteronomy 30:15–20 Psalm 1 Philemon 1–21 Luke 14:25–33	Exodus 32:7–14 Psalm 51:1–11 1 Timothy 1:12–17 Luke 15:1–10	Amos 8:4–7 Psalm 113 1 Timothy 2:1–7 Luke 16:1–13	

* Breakfast served from 9.15am

Please note that there are significant variations to normal service patterns during August and September – don't assume that you know when 'your' service will be!

**Chronicles from the
(outgoing) Curate
by Phil Michell**

I'll admit it – it was a bit of an inauspicious start! Being ill and not turning up to my welcome service in the marquee was *not* how I had envisaged beginning my ministry in these five parishes. Still, it gave people something to talk about!

Looking back on my three years here – there have been a few things which will stick in my mind:

- There was the occasion when a page boy at a wedding dropped the groom's ring down the grate at Osmaston church – resulting in us having to use the best man's ring during the ceremony.
- Last year's Jazz in the Park event – a great fundraiser and an enjoyable evening out for 200 people.
- Doing 'Prayer Spaces' at Osmaston School. A really special couple of days encouraging children to engage with God in a variety of ways.

Overall, it has been a privilege to walk with people in their journeys of faith and life – through the good times and the more difficult moments. It gives me enormous pleasure seeing people grow closer to our Lord Jesus and becoming stronger in their faith.

People have been very kind to my family and me during my curacy and I would like to thank you for your support and encouragement. I've received lots of feedback – which has always been helpful – and most clergy do appreciate it!

My final service in this Benefice will be a sad day. It's going to be hard leaving such a wonderful group of people. Although it's not so much a case of 'Good bye' as 'Au revoir' as I'm only moving five miles away! And while it's hard saying good bye, it might be even more difficult if I don't turn up again! Hopefully that won't happen....

**Yeaveley Harvest Lunch
Sunday 15 September
at Wyaston Village Hall
12 noon for 12.30**

Home made pie with vegetables
Sweet buffet followed by tea or coffee.
(Welcome to bring own drinks and glasses)

Tickets available from Betty Harrison (330531) before 5 September please. Adults £10 and children of junior school age £7.

Followed by auction of Harvest produce.

**Illustrated Talk
on HMS Britannia
Friday 18 October**

7.00pm in Yeaveley Church

More information in the next Parish Focus

From the Derby Mercury 24 April 1833:

***DERBY and ASHBOURNE ROAD
CONTRACTS WANTED***

Persons desirous of contracting with the Trustees for forming and completing an intended new line of road commencing on the present Road at or near to a certain Barn in the occupation of John Hill, in the Township of Ednaston and terminating at or near to a cottage on the said Road in the Township of Shirley, in the occupation of Samuel Maskey, as set out in a Plan, and according to a section and specification approved by the Trustees, and now lodged for inspection with Mr. HARDY, the Surveyor of the said Road at Brailsford, are requested to send Tenders for executing the Work according to such plan and specification, addressed to the Chairman of the said Trustees, to be sealed up, and left at the offices of Messrs. SIMPSON and FREAR, in Derby, on or before the 6th day of May next.

And persons desirous of contracting with the said Trustees for supplying 8000 Rails and 2700 Posts, to be laid down on the said new line of Road, according to a specification also lodged with the said Surveyor, are requested to send Tenders addressed as above, specifying the number and price of each sort intended to be supplied.

Shirley Church Alterations – Fund Raising in May from John Fletcher

We have been working hard since January on the alteration work at St Michael's. We have raised a further £20,000 so far this year, which has allowed us to install a low energy lighting system and purchase 32 chairs to replace the pews removed from the South Aisle

On Saturday 18 May David and Isobelle Goodall opened up their barn for a Barn Dance .It was complete with bar, the beer and other drinks provided by Robin and Terri Hunter of the Saracens Head and food by Nigel Brown of Ashbourne. The 180 guests had a wonderful time being entertained by Wallop the Pot Ceilidh Band, either dancing the night away, watching and listening or, mainly the children, enjoying the barn and farm yard area.

On Monday 27 May the Church and 20 private gardens were open from 11am to 4pm. The event was hosted by Ruth and Ian Crabtree of Shirley Hall farm and the conservation grade

farm provided a host of things to do with local home-made ice cream, bacon butties at lunch and the Owl Man exhibition. There were the usual attractions, cake stalls, plant stalls, a wind band, book-stalls, and an exhibition by the Local History Club of their work to remember those who died and served in WW1, besides the gardens themselves. The weather was very good and over 350 people were in the village during the day, many came before 11am and were still here at 4.

There were a great many enthusiasts wandering around the gardens and the Scarecrow Competition with over 30 entries in both adult and children's categories was a closely fought competition.

Financially the 2 events were a great success raising £4,525.12 together, more than £2,200 each, but just as important was the social success with old friends coming back and many new friends made.

Bhutan's Mysteries and the Wildlife of Vancouver Island

Georgina Jackson has agreed to give another illustrated talk on Saturday 19 October at 7.00pm in St. Oswald's Church Hall – this time from Bhutan to Vancouver Island.

Tickets £8 (children 11-16 £5 and children under 11 free) including a glass of wine and light refreshments. Tickets from Mossie Jackson (350297) or Jennifer Swabey (348855). There will also be a raffle. All proceeds to be divided between St. Mary's, Mapleton and St. Martin's, Osmaston.

Georgina has the skill to make her talks both interesting and entertaining. Definitely to be recommended.

The Ashbourne Show Saturday 17 August

St. Martin's Church will have their 'Attic Treasures' stall. Please, if you have any items for us to sell contact either Gerald Parker 300387 or Jennifer Swabey 348855.

A visit to our stall is a worthwhile experience.

Rights of Way in Brailsford and Ednaston from Judith Pugsley

As the Ramblers' footpath warden for the parish, I have been checking the state of our paths again recently. While there are a few matters to report to Derbyshire County Council, overall the routes seem fairly clear and well indicated.

If there is any problem or issue that you wish to report, do feel free to get in touch on 360097 or judith.pugsley@hotmail.com.

Harvest Services

Harvest on the Farm at Culland Hall	8 September 10.45am
Yeaveley Holy Trinity	15 September 9.15am
Brailsford All Saints	22 September 10.45am
Osmaston St Martin's	22 September 4.00pm
Shirley St Michael's	6 October 10.45am
Edlaston, St James	6 October 2.00pm

Things To Do, Places To Go

Date	Time	Event	Contact
5 Aug	Pick up at 12.30pm	Greenfields Over 60s Club. <i>Age Concern</i> service at Ashover Bring a packed lunch. Tea with Darley Dale WI. Cost £10.	Gerald Parker 300387
August		Brailsford & District WI Summer Outing	Daphne Brown 360524
2 Aug		Osmaston & District WI. Visit to Highgrove, lunch en route and tea at Highgrove.	Jennifer Kitchen 330488
20 Aug	7.00pm	Shirley Local History Club AGM. Open meeting in St Michael's church	
22 Aug	7.30pm	Brailsford Millennium Craft Guild at Brailsford Village Hall Bring Your Own Project	Roy Howard 360506
25 Aug	10.00am–4.00pm	Tea , Coffee and Cakes at the Old Rectory Shirley I aid of church funds – Jonathan and Barbara Worsley	
10 Sep	Pick up at 12 noon	Greenfields Over 60s Club. Birthday lunch at Milton WI followed by visit to Byrkeley Garden Centre.	Gerald Parker 300387
12 Sep	7.30pm	Brailsford & District WI at Brailsford Village Hall Buddhism, Its Principles and Meditation – <i>The Taro Centre</i>	Daphne Brown 360524
14 Sep	5.00pm	Visit by the Bishop of Derby to St Michael's Shirley to dedicate the chairs bought in memory of friends.	
17 Sep	7.30pm	Greenfields Over 60s Club at Wyaston Village Hall. An Afternoon with Pam and Joyce – Patricia Wilson. Cost £1	Gerald Parker 300387
17 Sep	7.30pm	Osmaston & District WI at Wyaston Village Hall My Role in the Battlefield – <i>Janet Tadgham</i>	Jennifer Kitchen 330488
21 Sep	7.15pm	Shirley Church – <i>The Rolls-Royce Choir</i> . Tickets £7, children half price available from Sylvia Foster (360950), John Fletcher (360645), Philip Beetham (361050) or Ian Wakefield (360884).	
26 Sep	7.30pm	Brailsford Millennium Craft Guild at Brailsford Village Hall Traditional Buttons – <i>In House</i>	Roy Howard 360506

Regular Events

Mon	9.30–11.30am	Coffee Shop at St Michael's, Shirley	
Tues	9.30–11.30am	Coffee Shop at Brailsford Methodist Church	
Tues	9.30–11.30am	Coffee at the Shoulder of Mutton, Osmaston	
Tues	7.30pm	Brailsford Handbell Ringers at Brailsford Methodist Church NOT in August	Roy Howard 360506
Weds	12 noon	Midweek Communion Service at St Michael, Shirley Note: NO services in August – restarts 18 September	
Weds	7.30pm	Church Bell Ringing Practice at All Saints, Brailsford	Chris Booth 360402
Alt. Thu	7.30pm	Church Bell Ringing Practice at St Martin's, Osmaston	Chris Booth 360402
Thurs	2.00-3.30pm	Brailsford's Busy Bees and Toddler Group at Brailsford Village Hall	Louise Clarke 07772 898213
1st, 3rd Thurs	7.45pm	Folk Dance Club at Brailsford Village Hall NOT in August	John Topliss 01332 516719
Fri	6.00–7.00pm	Brailsford Church Choir Practice at All Saints Church, Brailsford	Mahala Titterton 360703

Parish Focus has no single editor, but articles or information about events may be posted or delivered to 51, The Plain, Brailsford, Derbyshire, DE6 3BZ or emailed to chris@BRYNAWEL99.freereserve.co.uk.

The last date for input to the October–November issue is 1 September