

View from the Rectory

The end of my last message to you (see July 2010) was as follows: *'And my tip for July 11 – well England, of course - beating Germany 2-1 after extra time!'*

How wrong can one be! It just proves how little I know about football (or the England team for that matter) as I watched Spain beating Holland after extra time in a bad tempered and ugly match. We were on holiday with what seemed like the whole of Holland, as the bar and patio area where we watched the game was crammed full with orange flags, painted faces and the dreaded 'vuvuzelas'!

Helen and I arrived back in England from France relaxed and rested, but also knowing that the news of our departure would have been formally announced. We were very touched by cards and letters awaiting us expressing thanks and best wishes for our future. Since then your kindness and best wishes to me as I have travelled around has been appreciated. Of course the question that most people ask is *'Why are you leaving?'*, so I thought I'd try to simply answer this, in this edition of KVN.

We have had a wonderful 2 years with you and I have enjoyed working with Keith and Gill as most generous colleagues. The churchwardens also have been wonderfully supportive, especially given some of the more unconventional things I have suggested which they have had the vision and enthusiasm to back.

At the end of the day it all boils down to a matter of 'calling' - something which every minister in the Church of England (and the wider Church of God) has to grapple with. The more I reflected and prayed about the future, the clearer it became that I (we) should seek a future as incumbent somewhere else. I was surprised however, to discover that I secured the very first position I applied for. It has all happened quicker than even I had anticipated. My ministry here has been shaped by working with you all and I know that much of what I have learned here will stand me in good stead in my new Benefice.

So thank you for everything you have been to Helen, me and the family. We will treasure our time here in this beautiful part of the world and the lovely people who have enriched us in so many ways. We will be very sad to leave but hope that in some way friendships forged in our time here can last beyond our physical presence here in the Benefice.

Until we leave there is much to do (not least, our daughter's wedding!) and in addition, I will be focussing on the continuing ministry of the Benefice into the future.

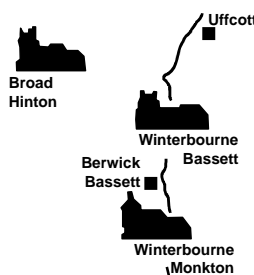
My last service is at:

Broad Hinton on Sunday 17th October at 10.00am.

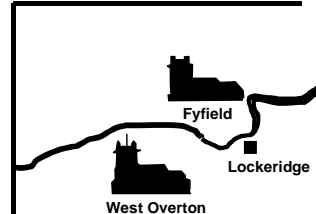
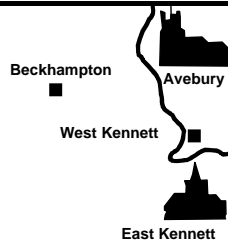
Helen and I would be delighted if you could join with us to celebrate all that we have shared together.

Revd Paul Bradish

September 2010



Upper Kennet News



BERWICK BASSETT to FYFIELD
Edition



Upper Kennet Churches Notice Board:

Weddings

Zoë Styles & Andrew White

14 August - Broad Hinton

Service of Blessing

Henry Cabot Lodge III & Michèle Marias

7 August - Avebury

Funerals

Pauline Davis

5 August - Kingsdown Crematorium

23 August - Burial of Ashes -
Broad Hinton

David (Dick) Mundy

19 August - Broad Hinton

This coming month the following couples will be getting married and we remember them in our prayers:

Phillip Ludgate and Leonie Moore

18 September - Malmesbury

Katie Morton & Martin King

18 September - Avebury

Jocelyn Bradish & John Hudson

25 September - West Overton

A woman went to a walk-in clinic, where she was seen by a young, new doctor. After about three minutes in the examination room, the doctor told her she was pregnant. She burst out, screaming as she ran down the hall. An older doctor stopped her and asked what the problem was, and she told him what had happened. After listening, he had her sit down and relax in another exam room.

The older doctor marched down the hallway back to where the first doctor was and demanded, *'What's the matter with you? Mrs. Terry is 59 years old, has four grown children and seven grandchildren, and you told her she was PREGNANT?'*

The young doctor continued to write on his clipboard, and without looking up, asked, *'But does she still have the hiccups?'*