

# THE BRIDGE

THE MAGAZINE FOR THE PARISH OF MALEW

---

OUR VERY LAST EDITION!  
(in this format)

We began at EASTER 1995 -

SEE THE 4-PAGE BLUE-COLOURED INSERT  
to see what some of us were up to back then

- and we finish at CHRISTMAS 2010  
after

158 (ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY EIGHT) EDITIONS!

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THE ABBEY CHURCH, BALLASALLA  
MALEW PARISH CHURCH, CHURCH BENDS  
ST. MARK'S CHURCH, ST. MARK'S

DECEMBER 2010AD / JANUARY 2011AD



## **MALEW VICARAGE**

**Christmas, 2010AD / January, 2011AD - the last letter, no less!**

**"He is before all things, and in him all things hold together."  
(Colossians: chapter 1; verse 17)**

**Firstly, to basics: the green-page insert has all the details of our Christmas Services and Events; and the blue-page insert is a souvenir from our very first edition of THE BRIDGE, in this format, all those years ago...where the appearance of one '8 days old' Wesley Omar is commented upon; and where the old photograph of the Youth Club reminds me - and it is a salutary thought! - that many of the children pictured (who do you recognise?) could now very well be parents themselves! My sincere thanks, as well, to all who have contributed over the years including, in this edition, Phil & Lil's Fun Page, Roy & Jo, the Throwers Recipe Page and Andrea.**

**Somebody, just the other day, asked me what I shall miss when I retire - incidentally, my very last Service is scheduled to be on Easter Day, next year - and I replied, "YOU." That, of course, includes all of YOU. It has been a rare privilege to be your Vicar since 1993, and though all the 'ups and downs' of parish life - and who would really have it any other way (certainly not me!) - I am reminded of the above verse from Colossians. Yes! Even though we may all try our very best - and in your many and varied ways I genuinely think YOU all have in the Parish of Malew - as mere mortals, and with all the best intentions in the world, we so often get things wrong. However, rest assured, and remind yourselves in the years ahead, that GOD is 'before all things,' and GOD will, with your continued help, 'all things hold together.' Don't let others 'complicate'; it is as simple as that!**

**Accordingly, don't worry and fret about possible lengthy interregnums - just talk to Helen (Kinvig)...she's seen them all! - and after my 6 months 'holiday' (it is a requirement of Bishop Robert), who knows, you may see me take an occasional service!**

**For the very last time, MAY GOD BLESS YOU ALL. Michael**

# THE ABBEY CHURCH

WELCOMERS

READERS

PRAYERS

COLLECTION

FLOWERS

DECEMBER 2010 AD	5TH	12TH	19TH	26TH
Welcomers	BARBARA L.	MAUD	JEAN C.	TED
Readers	SALLY	DONALD	ROY	BARBARA H.
Reading	ROMANS Chapter 15 Verses 4 - 13	JAMES Chapter 5 Verses 7 - 10	ROMANS Chapter 1 Verses 1 - 7	HABREWS Chapter 2 Verses 10 - end
Prayers	ANDREA	ELLEN	CAROLINE	MICHAEL
Collection	CHURCH WARDENS	ANN and MIKE	ANDREA and LILLIAN	BARBARA and TED
Flowers	MARGARET	MARGARET	LILLIAN	LILLIAN

A 'helping-hand' each week: Ted. If you are away, please arrange a 'swop'. If you would like to be included in the Rota please see the Vicar.

# THE ABBEY CHURCH

WELCOMERS

READERS

PRAYERS

COLLECTION

FLOWERS

JANUARY 2011 AD	9TH	16TH	23RD	30TH
Welcomers	JO	BARBARA H.	JEAN C.	DONALD
Readers	DAVID	ANDREA	ANN	PETER
Reading	ACTS Chapter 10 Verses 34 - 43	SPECIAL READING	1 CORINTHIANS Chapter 1 Verses 10 - 17	1 CORINTHIANS Chapter 1 Verses 18 - 31
Prayers	JANET	MARGARET D	CAROLINE	ELLEN
Collection	BARBARA L. and TED	MOTHERS' UNION	ANDREA and LILLIAN	JOHN L. and MIKE
Flowers	HELEN	HELEN	HELEN	HELEN

A 'helping-hand' each week: Ted. If you are away, please arrange a 'swop'. If you would like to be included in the Rota please see the Vicar.

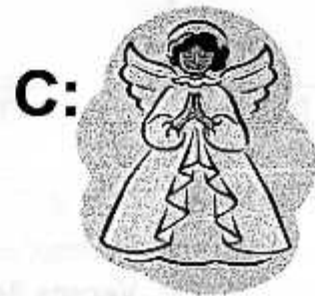
**NEW SOUND SYSTEM!**

# Community Christmas

## Outdoor Crib Service

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Question: Can I come dressed as?



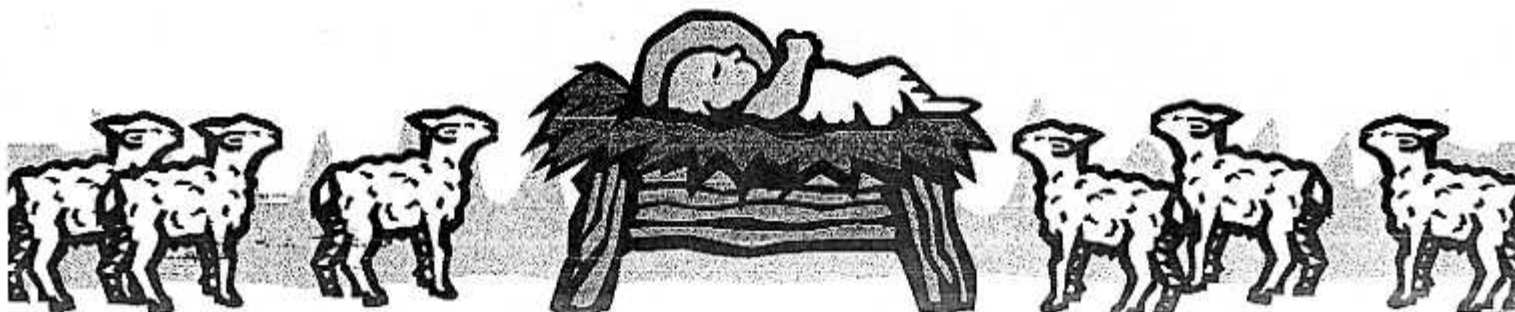
***Please Come dressed as a  
King, Sheherd or Angel! (not compulsory)***

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**Children, Adults, Residents or Christmas Guests  
are ALL invited to join in the celebration.**

**Abbey Church, Ballasalla  
4 pm Christmas Eve**

**Followed by Refreshments in the Church Hall.  
Wet weather contingencies in place!**



# Village Mini Market General-Stores

Kosangas \* NEWSAGENT \* Greeting Cards

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except Christmas Day

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**Would you like to advertise in this space?**

**Have you something to sell?**

**If your answer is "YES!"**

**...simply contact Michael on 822469**

Casement's Agreeably Flavoured

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# **DON'T FORGET!**

And Christmas continues here with a very special invitation to a.....



## **MESSY CHRISTINGLE PREPARATION SUPPER**

**The Hall, Abbey Church, Ballasalla**  
**Saturday 4 December from 6 pm**  
*Food and Fun and Family Community Event*

**followed by**



## **CHRISTINGLE CELEBRATION**

**Join us for a special candlelit celebration**

**on Sunday 5 December at 4 pm**  
**at The Abbey Church, Ballasalla**

**followed by Christingle Tea and Competition Results**

**All proceeds go to The Children's Society**

**Christingle: the service for children that welcomes the whole Community**

# PHIL & LIL'S VERY LAST FUN PAGE!

## When Insults Had Class-----

These glorious insults are from an era *before the English language changed to 4 letter words.....*

The exchange between Churchill & Lady Astor: She said, "If you were my husband I'd give you poison." He said, "If you were my wife, I'd drink it."

A member of Parliament to Disraeli: "Sir, you will either die on the gallows or of some unspeakable disease."

"That depends, Sir," said Disraeli, "whether I embrace your policies or your mistress."

Walter Kerr: "He had delusions of adequacy."

Winston Churchill: "He has all the virtues I dislike and none of the vices I admire."

Clarence Darrow: "I have never killed a man, but I have read many obituaries with great pleasure."

William Faulkner (about Ernest Hemingway): "He has never been known to use a word that might send a reader to the dictionary."

Moses Hadas: "Thank you for sending me a copy of your book; I'll waste no time reading it."

Mark Twain: "I didn't attend the funeral, but I sent a nice letter saying I approved of it."

Oscar Wilde: "He has no enemies, but is intensely disliked by his friends."

George Bernard Shaw to Winston Churchill: "I am enclosing two tickets to the first night of my new play; bring a friend... if you have one."

Winston Churchill's response: "Cannot possibly attend first night, will attend second... if there is one."

Stephen Bishop: "I feel so miserable without you; it's almost like having you here."

John Bright: "He is a self-made man and worships his creator."

Irvin S. Cobb: "I've just learned about his illness. Let's hope it's nothing trivial."

Samuel Johnson: "He is not only dull himself; he is the cause of dullness in others."

Paul Keating: "He is simply a shiver looking for a spine to run up."

Charles, Count Talleyrand: "In order to avoid being called a flirt, she always yielded easily."

Forrest Tucker: "He loves nature in spite of what it did to him."

Mark Twain: "Why do you sit there looking like an envelope without any address on it?"

Mae West: "His mother should have thrown him away and kept the stork."

Oscar Wilde: "Some cause happiness wherever they go; others, whenever they go..."

Andrew Lang (1844-1912): "He uses statistics as a drunken man uses lamp-posts ... for support rather than illumination."



**BALLASALLA  
SENIOR CITIZENS'**

**TRADITIONAL  
CHRISTMAS  
LUNCH**

will take place in

**The Whitestone Inn**

on

**Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> Dec 2010**

starting at

**12.30 pm**

**(The Whitestone opens at 12 noon)**

**All costs are paid for from the proceeds of fund-raising events organised and supported by patrons of the Whitestone Inn and local businesses.**

**Any Ballasalla senior citizen wishing to enjoy the lunch and meet old friends please sign one of the lists available from:**

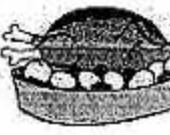
**Andy's Mini Market**

**Ballasalla Post Office**

**Rev. Michael Roberts, the Vicar at the Abbey Church**

**Places are limited so sign up early.**

**The lists will close on Friday 3rd Dec 2010 or when maximum numbers (100) are reached**



## ARTICLE FOR 'THE BRIDGE'

### 'EVENING OF MANX MUSIC AND VERSE'

What a wonderful evening we enjoyed on Saturday, 9<sup>th</sup> October, when we were once again treated to performances by some of the finest talent on the Isle of Man. The evening was a great success thanks to the high standard and variety of performers, who played to a packed church. Michael provided an innovative introduction which had everyone involved from the start. In his inimitable style, as Master of Ceremonies, John Kennaugh made the evening flow and stressed the delights of living on and celebrating this beautiful island as ours. He also performed with the other members of the Farmers' Quartet (David Brew, Noel Cringle and Peter Quayle) and recited an excerpt from T E Brown's 'In the Coach' about a preacher, for Michael's benefit. Our other performers were Terry & Sarah and John & Una Qualltrough (our own version of the Von Trapp family), the Abbey and Malew Parish Players (Barry, Bobba, Phil & Marc), The Harmony Sisters (Helen, her daughter, Sarah & Rachel Hall), Jane Mayne and Ruth Crossley on flute. Ruth's haunting accompaniment to Terry's singing of 'My heart will go on' was especially moving. Mary Cringle, Alex Williams and Roy provided accompaniments on the piano / organ, while Derek skilfully twiddled the knobs as our sound engineer. Jo designed and published the lovely posters, tickets and programmes and, for those who failed to identify the view, the photograph was taken at the summit of South Barrule, looking north.

The concert was followed by wine and an array of delicious canapés made by church members. The event concluded with a raffle, with splendid prizes, such as a deluxe suite for two, including dinner, wine and breakfast at the Sefton Hotel and dinner for two plus champagne at The Atlantis Restaurant (where Peter Hughes is the chef – although not at the moment due to his hip replacement!). Other prizes were: a Fortnum and Mason's hamper (thanks to Margaret Dyson), the contents of which (beautifully arranged by Val), plus a case of wine, were donated by people from the congregation and village; a lovely bouquet from Beautiful Blooms; and a half box of Merlot (from Bob Pilling). As a result of such tempting prizes the raffle alone raised £428, lifting the overall profit to £1,443. We were delighted that members of the church won the star prizes - Peter and Katy Hughes (the night at the Sefton) and Andrea and Michael (the meal at the Atlantis).

Looking back, we began fundraising only two years ago. Thanks to all the generous support we have received through the two musical evenings; two very enjoyable and lively auction suppers; and the generous special birthday donations from Jean Clifton, Helen Kinvig and Donald Whittaker, we have raised sufficient monies to pay off the PCC loan of £6500 completely. Indeed we have made an excess, some of which will buy two additional speakers for the audio system, enabling us to have sound outside the church for events such as the Crib Service, and some high quality percussion instruments for the Sunday School.

Because of the success of the two Evenings of Manx Music and Verse and numerous requests for a repeat, we plan to hold a similar evening on **Friday, 7<sup>th</sup> October, 2011** and have already booked John Kennaugh's services. So put the date in your diary.

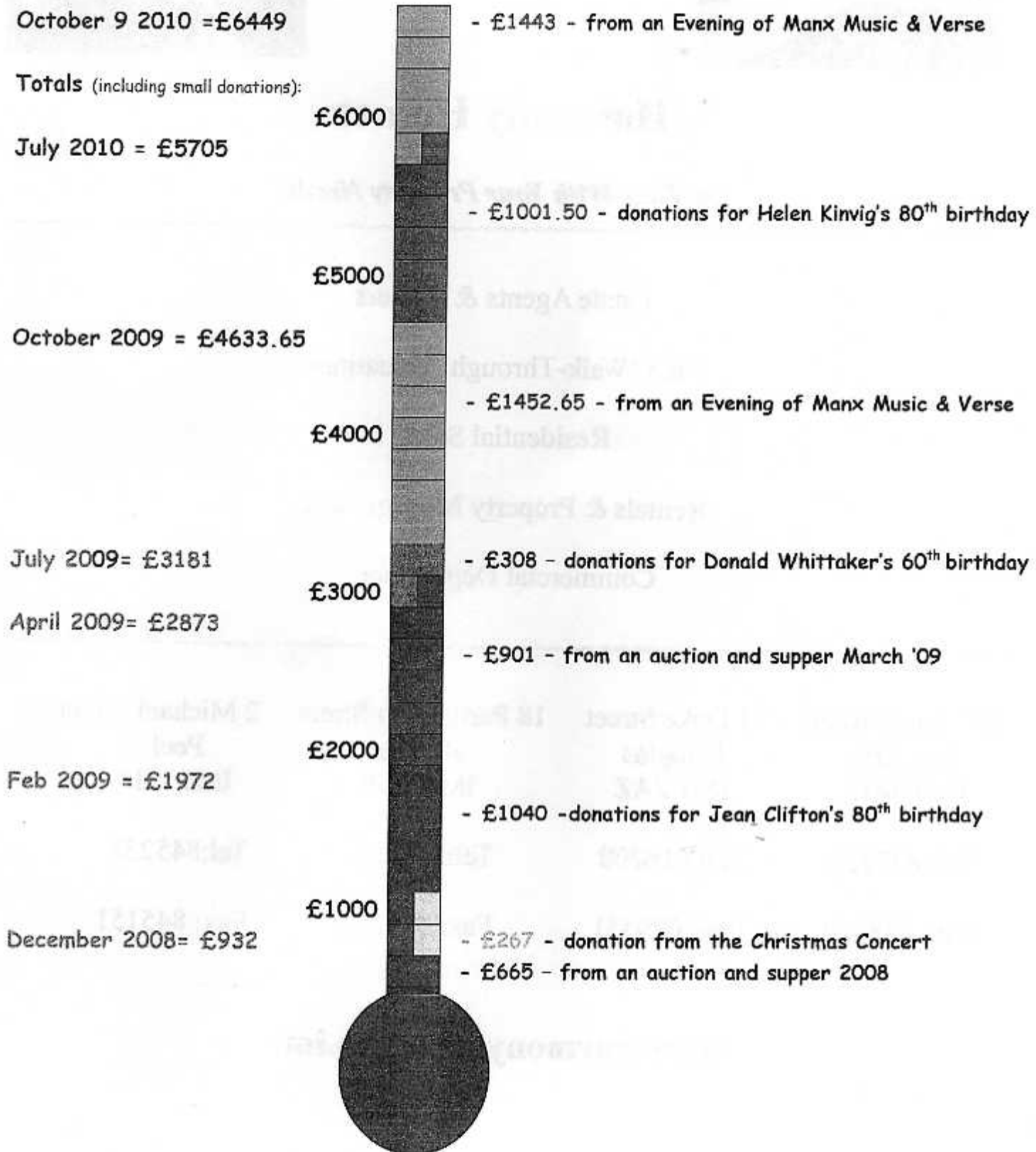
Thank you all again for your support in helping us provide such a fine, state-of-the-art audio system.

Roy and Jo

**HOORAY - we've done it!**

**Total raised for the ABBEY CHURCH AUDIO SYSTEM = £6449**

Plus enough for two more speakers and some percussion instruments for the Sunday School



**THANK YOU TO EVERYONE FOR YOUR SUPPORT - Roy and Jo**



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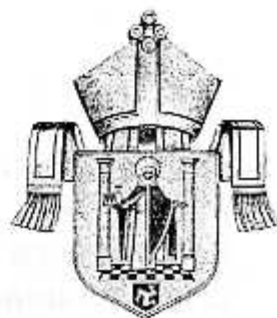
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## A word from the Bishop

*Dear Friends,*



On Remembrance Sunday this year I wondered what would happen if anyone – other than an anarchist – were foolish enough to trivialise that special occasion of remembrance and commitment to justice and peace. The reaction would be strong and principled.

Then I compared our approach to Christmas, the celebration of the Word of God coming to 'pitch his divine tent among us' as St John so powerfully describes it. Of course Christmas is a joyful celebration, so in that sense it is different from Remembrance Sunday, but for Christians it is one of the most important experiences of the year, second only to the three days of Easter.

One of the side-effects of the financial crisis seems to have been that the commercial 'Christmas' began a few weeks later this year, yet the whole thing remains a travesty of the celebration. Perhaps you now expect a rant from the bishop about the wickedness of commercialisation. No, I want to ask how we have got ourselves into this state.

It's you and me, the people who call themselves Christians; we've simply allowed it to happen. In fact, we've more than allowed it, we've encouraged it and been sucked into it, and now we're complaining about it. But we still do little or nothing about it. Until we ourselves courteously say "No" to excess, any attempt to witness to a more Christian festival will be met with cries of "Kill-joy!" and "Hypocrite!" – and those cries will be justified.

What can you do about it? You can say to your friends and family that you don't need so many presents but they could give you something to make the world a better place to live in. A goat or five mosquito nets for £15, or 1,000 saplings for £30 from [www.presentaid.org](http://www.presentaid.org); or twin your toilet with one in the developing world [www.toilettwinning.org](http://www.toilettwinning.org)

Or is Christmas just a bit of fun and no more?

*Your own in Christ,*

*+ Robert.*

## **BISHOP ROBERT IS WRONG... twice!**

**Am I allowed to say that? I think I am!**

**And I'm sure that Bishop Robert is perfectly happy with his priests having a different opinion to himself, the 'broad Church of England' and all that...**

**You will see that I have printed the Bishop's Christmas Letter on the previous page, and he is clearly unhappy with the way we all celebrate Christmas in the twenty-first century. I quote: "yet the whole thing remains a travesty of the celebration."**

**No it doesn't. With all due respect, Bishop Robert is completely wrong. Christians the world over can celebrate Christmas as they see fit, as I hope and pray that you all do, dear readers of this last edition of THE BRIDGE, and however you personally choose to 'welcome the baby Jesus' I'm sure that it is not a "travesty of the celebration."**

**Equally, the democratic 'world at large' can celebrate Christmas as they see fit, too, whether people choose to call themselves Christians or not. I love every minute of Christmas, just as it is - dare I say, especially in the Parish of Malew! - from our Christmas Fayre at the end of November, right through to Christmas Day itself: I do not feel for one moment that I have been "sucked" into anything.**

**Next; please look at the article immediately after the 'blue-coloured' insert; and you will see an alternative view to Fresh Expressions (of which Bishop Robert was a leading contributor).**

**Accordingly, when our Bishop comes to talk to YOU next year about the future of the Parish of Malew in particular, and the deployment of Clergy in the south of the Isle of Man in general, if, like Revd. Dr. Giles Fraser and myself, you still believe in the "traditional parish model", please stick to your guns! However much Bishop Robert believes in his "Fresh Expressions", there are many other ways for the Church to flourish. In short, beware of Evangelicals with only one point of view! (M)**

# THE PARISH OF MALEW

## CHRISTMAS 2010AD

26 NOVEMBER - 7 DECEMBER

DATE: FRIDAY, 26 NOVEMBER  
TIME: 6.00 P.M.  
PLACE: THE HALL  
EVENT: CHRISTMAS FAYRE

DATE: WEDNESDAY, 1 DECEMBER  
TIME: 8.00 P.M.  
PLACE: THE VICARAGE  
EVENT: ADVENT COURSE

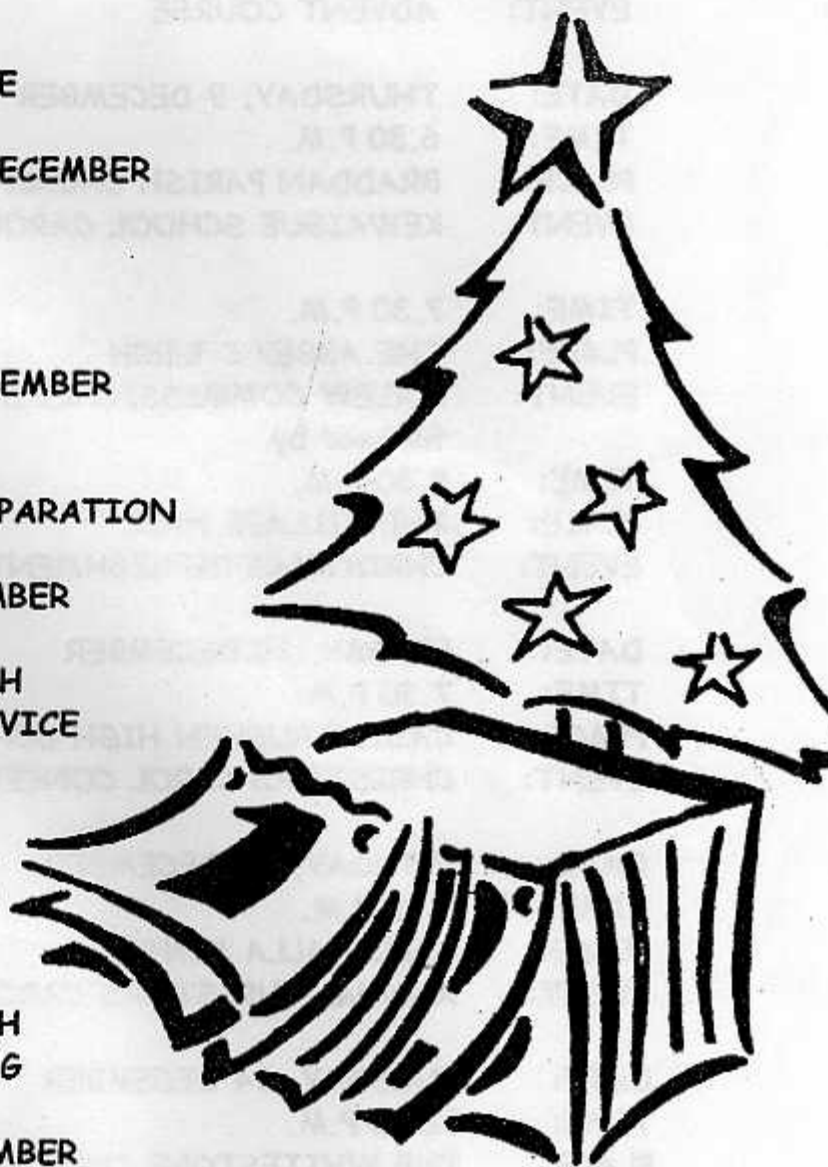
DATE: SATURDAY, 4 DECEMBER  
TIME: 6.00 P.M.  
PLACE: THE HALL  
EVENT: CHRISTINGLE PREPARATION

DATE: SUNDAY, 5 DECEMBER  
TIME: 4.00 P.M.  
PLACE: THE ABBEY CHURCH  
EVENT: CHRISTINGLE SERVICE

TIME: 5.00 P.M.  
PLACE: THE CHURCH HALL  
EVENT: CHRISTINGLE TEA

TIME: 6.30 P.M.  
PLACE: ST. MARK'S CHURCH  
EVENT: ADVENT EVENSONG

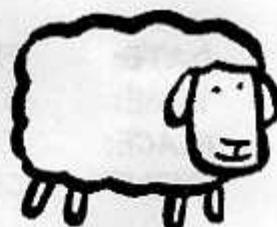
DATE: TUESDAY, 7 DECEMBER  
TIME: 7.00 P.M.  
PLACE: THE ABBEY CHURCH  
EVENT: 9 LESSONS & CAROLS with BALLASALLA SCHOOL



**8 DECEMBER - 14 DECEMBER**

**DATE:** WEDNESDAY, 8 DECEMBER  
**TIME:** 7.00 P.M.  
**PLACE:** THE ABBEY CHURCH  
**EVENT:** 9 LESSONS & CAROLS with BALLASALLA SCHOOL

**TIME:** 8.00 P.M.  
**PLACE:** THE VICARAGE  
**EVENT:** ADVENT COURSE



**DATE:** THURSDAY, 9 DECEMBER  
**TIME:** 6.30 P.M.  
**PLACE:** BRADDAN PARISH CHURCH  
**EVENT:** KEWAIGUE SCHOOL CAROL SERVICE

**TIME:** 7.30 P.M.  
**PLACE:** THE ABBEY CHURCH  
**EVENT:** MALEW COMMISSIONERS CAROL SERVICE  
followed by

**TIME:** 8.30 P.M.  
**PLACE:** THE VILLAGE HALL  
**EVENT:** CHRISTMAS REFRESHMENTS

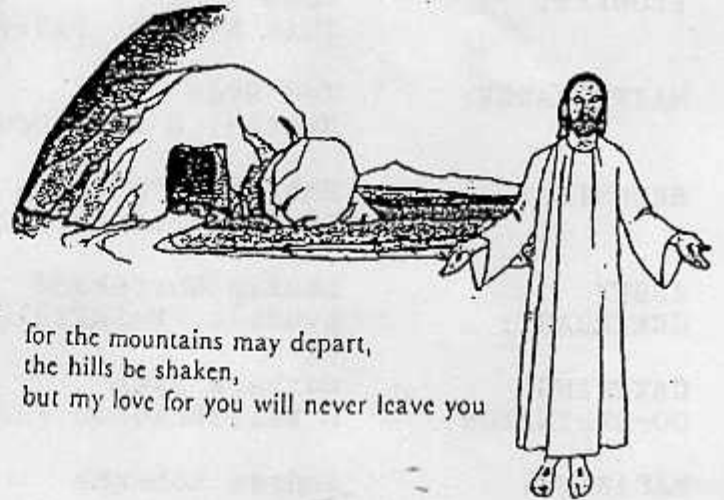
**DATE:** FRIDAY, 10 DECEMBER  
**TIME:** 7.30 P.M.  
**PLACE:** CASTLE RUSHEN HIGH SCHOOL  
**EVENT:** CHRISTMAS CAROL CONCERT



**DATE:** MONDAY, 13 DECEMBER  
**TIME:** 7.15 P.M.  
**PLACE:** BALLASALLA SCHOOL  
**EVENT:** ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CAROL CONCERT

**DATE:** TUESDAY, 14 DECEMBER  
**TIME:** 12.30 P.M.  
**PLACE:** THE WHITESTONE INN  
**EVENT:** BALLASALLA SENIOR CITIZENS CHRISTMAS LUNCH

# THE BRIDGE



for the mountains may depart,  
the hills be shaken,  
but my love for you will never leave you

*A Happy,  
Blessed Easter*

*The Abbey Church*

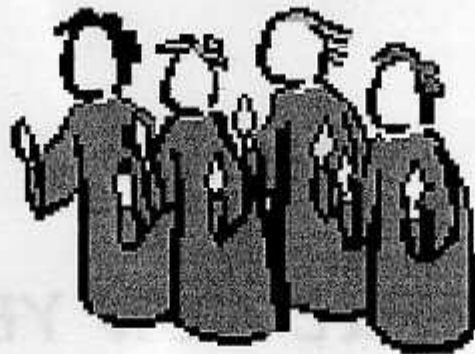
*Malew Parish Church*

*St. Mark's Church*

**April  
1995**

<b>YOUR CONTACT:</b>	<b>Name / Address</b>	<b>Telephone</b>
<b>TREASURER + GRAVEYARDS:</b>	Arthur Jones 97 Silverburn Crescent	822286
<b>ORGANIST &amp; CHOIRMISTRESS:</b>	Helen Kinvig Crossack House	824163
<b>JUNIOR CHOIR:</b>	Jane Murray Garey Rhennie, Ballamodha	823777
<b>MOTHERS' UNION:</b>	Sandra Sunderland 2 Holmfield Villas, Douglas Road	823944
<b>LITTLE SUNBEAM CLUB!:</b>	Caroline Convery Strooan Moar, Crossag Road	822103
<b>T.A.S.K. FORCE:</b>	Andrea Roberts Malew Vicarage, St. Mark's Road	822469
<b>YOUTH CLUB:</b>	Andrea / Michael Roberts	(as above)
<b>MEN'S GROUP:</b>	Geoff Case 4 Homefield Park	825793
<b>FLOWERS:</b>	Jean King Thie Ny Ree, Ballamodha	823788
<b>MAINTENANCE:</b>	Ted Hyde Hyston, 8 Ballabridson Park	823747
<b>BROWNIES:</b>	Shirley Strathdee 12 Ballachrink, Colby	834692
<b>ABBEY CENTENARY:</b>	Leslie Whitehead Lyndale, Holmfield Villas	823537
<b>CATERING CO-ORDINATOR:</b>	Barbara Hyde 8 Ballabridson Park	823747
<b>MAGAZINE:</b>	Andrea Roberts	(as above)
<b>ADVERTISING:</b>	John Moore Mullinaragher, St. Mark's	823307
<b>HISTORIAN:</b>	Hughie Jackson 8 Railway Terrace	824412
<b>READER:</b>	Alan Matthews Crosk Yvor, Ballahick Crossing	822432
<b>DEACON:</b>	Gordon Barker Ingleton, Shore Road	822941

**The Abbey Church  
Ballasalla  
welcomes you to a**



**FESTIVAL OF  
CHRISTMAS CAROLS  
MUSIC AND READINGS**  
featuring special guest appearances  
from our Church Family

**6.30 pm**  
**Thursday 16 December**  
*followed by Refreshments*

**A Manx Radio Recording!**

The Abbey Church

A

VERY

HAPPY CHRISTMAS

AND

PEACEFUL NEW YEAR

TO

EACH

AND

EVERY

ONE!

FESTIVAL OF  
CHRISTMAS CAROLS  
MUSIC AID READINGS  
featuring special guest appearances  
from our Church Family  
6.30 pm  
Thursday 20 December  
followed by a treat  
A Manx Radio Recording!

