

From Shipton to Westminster

It was with great interest I learned that John Reyntiens, stained glass artist, had been commissioned by the Houses of Parliament to create a stained glass window commemorating the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. This entailed a set of three huge windows approximately fifteen feet tall to be installed above the north door of Westminster Hall. John's work was known to the Queen through his replacing of the stained glass windows destroyed by fire in Windsor Castle.



lunch party and told him of our endeavours to beautify our church for the millennium by having a new window to replace one that was in a state of decay. Our first efforts had been considered unacceptable by the Diocesan Advisory Committee and at that stage the project had been abandoned.

Stained Glass Artists

This is of special interest to us in Shipton - under -Wychwood as our beautiful millennium window in St Mary' church was designed by John's father Patrick Reyntiens, one of the most celebrated stained glass artists Britain has ever produced and a worldwide leader in hand-painted stained glass. Some of his famous windows include Coventry Cathedral, Eton College Chapel, the Great Hall of Christ Church in Oxford, Washington National Cathedral, to name a few. It was quite by chance that I met John through a

A Great Window for St Mary's

John showed a kindly interest, visited us in Shipton, viewed the church and thought his father should be consulted. Patrick and John came to lunch and after seeing the church, Patrick agreed to design some cartoons. Our vicar at the time, Reverend Wendy, was encouraging and, for guidance, suggested some words at the end of St Matthew's gospel which Jesus addressed to his disciples:

"Go ye therefore and teach all nations ..."

And so a great window was installed in our church adding to those others which were also made by the finest stained glass artists of their day.

If you don't know it, do go and see it!

Jane Graham

Oxford Welsh Male Voice Choir

The Choir will be singing at St Mary's Shipton on **8th September**. Tickets are £12 each and are available from Milton-under-Wychwood and Shipton-under-Wychwood Post Offices. The United Benefice office at Groves Yard in Milton will also sell them on Friday mornings between 9.30am to 1.30pm. The concert starts at 7.30pm. It is first come, first seated and the pews are hard enough to merit the audience bringing cushions! Parking is available at the New Beaconsfield Hall. A glass of refreshment is included in the price. For further information or difficulty getting tickets please call:

Peter Hills on: 01993 830289.