

A January Surprise

Big Ted

Hello again dear readers!

I'm very miffed! Little Ted and I have been evicted from church "for our own safety". It's not at all fair, I should be there supervising and helping out! As you know, we are having the inside of the church painted (in fact, by the time you read this it should all be finished - crossed paws). We're not having the ceiling done that's all OK, but the walls are looking rather sad so they're being painted purple to cheer them up (snigger)! [What?! *Big Ted*] Sorry, they're actually being painted a nice clean white (really, I think purple would be far more fun).

One day, just after Christmas and the New Year, as I was settling down for a good post-holiday snooze, some very nice men came into church and put up lots of scaffolding in the Vestry, Chancel and Nave - just think of all the climbing opportunities for an adventurous bear [*Another reason you and Little Ted are safely out of the way, Big Ted*] - and Little Ted and I got thrown out! Then the painting men came in and worked on the walls. I do admit I wouldn't like to get paint on my splendid fur, but I'm sure I could have done something to assist - pink and blue polka dots perhaps? I know it will all be fine in the end and Little Ted and I can get back to our home in the Children's Corner; we can't wait to see what it looks like, but we're still miffed!

Christmas seems a long time ago, but as usual it was good fun with lots of carol concerts, choirs, candles, cuddles and Christingles (and other words beginning with "c" but I can't think of any at the moment). The Christingle service was wonderful with so many well-behaved children attending. The crib figures of Mary, Joseph and the Donkey went on a Posada journey around the parish, stopping in a different home each night during Advent. They arrived back in church in time for the Christingle service.

Now I have lots to look forward to in the next couple of months, especially a Candlelight Concert and Lenten Lunches in February (lots of wonderful singing and yummy soup - but not together I hope). After that there's a Lotions and Potions Fellowship Event on Saturday, 17 March where Uncle Paul will help us explore the natural cosmetics and skin treatments available in biblical times, and we'll even make some of our own (I'm not sure how my splendid fur will cope with this one!). And then it's Easter.



I may have time to get out and about on my own journeys as well. Before Christmas I went to Rutland and visited every church called St Mary in the county (there's only seven)! I've put them all on my web pages (see bigtedplumtree.uk/rutland.asp). It's the first time I've "finished" a county so I need to get cracking on finishing some others.

I also visited Rutland Water. It was very cold and even the birds had gone into hiding; it looks quite desolate in the photo. I was very glad to be wearing my lovely stripy cardigan and a woolly hat.

It's very hard work being a Roving Ambassador (with splendid fur).



Love, Big Ted & Little Ted