

Miss Enid Arrives!

Miss Enid lives only a very short distance from St. Hilary's. She arrived in Daffodil Green all on her own because she has no close family and never married. However her one great love is music and when she was very small she so loved listening to the organ in church she vowed SHE would be an organist one day.....and so she had lessons and practised REALLY hard and eventually became a really good one!

See how her very first visit to St. Hilary's went here.....and how the vicar decided to ask her if she would become St. Hilary's resident organist too...

Priscilla Jane is the first girl to notice that a new lady is sitting on the organ stool!

The new lady is Miss Enid, who has just arrived in the village of Daffodil Green. She loves playing the organ and can't resist hearing what this lovely two manual pipe organ sounds like!

Isn't it good that she remembers to keep her special organ shoes with her all the time? Many organists like to have a special pair of shoes to play the pedals on the organ. Priscilla Jane helps Miss Enid change her shoes whilst Georgie, Robert Alexander's pet dog, looks on.



the music notes correctly BEFORE playing this piece of music to them.

Alice hears the organ being played so she comes over to see who it is.....

Oh dear though.....look who ELSE has also come to see Miss Enid.....it is Snowy the friend to the church mouse, Nunc Dimittis! NAUGHTY Snowy wanting to frighten poor Miss Enid.....AND on her very first visit to St. Hilary's too!



Poor Miss Enid's eye sight is not as good as it was when she was younger. She therefore ALWAYS has her special pair of specs with her too.....and to make sure she never loses them she keeps them around her neck on a chain!

Megan and Ben are fascinated to meet a new visitor to St. Hilary's whilst Miss Enid is busy making sure she reads ALL



The vicar hears Miss Enid playing too and also comes to see her!

He is SO impressed with her playing (*he even secretly thinks she looks lovely too but is too shy to admit that to her.....yet!*) he takes his courage in both hands and asks her if she would like to be St. Hilary's new church organist?

He is so delighted because, when she finishes playing.....she says..... YES!

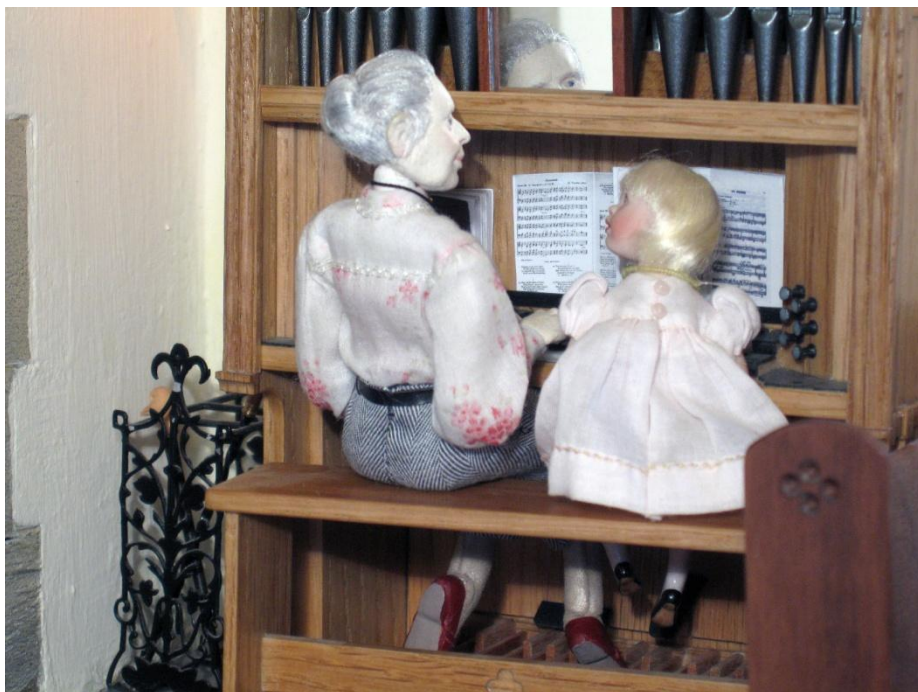
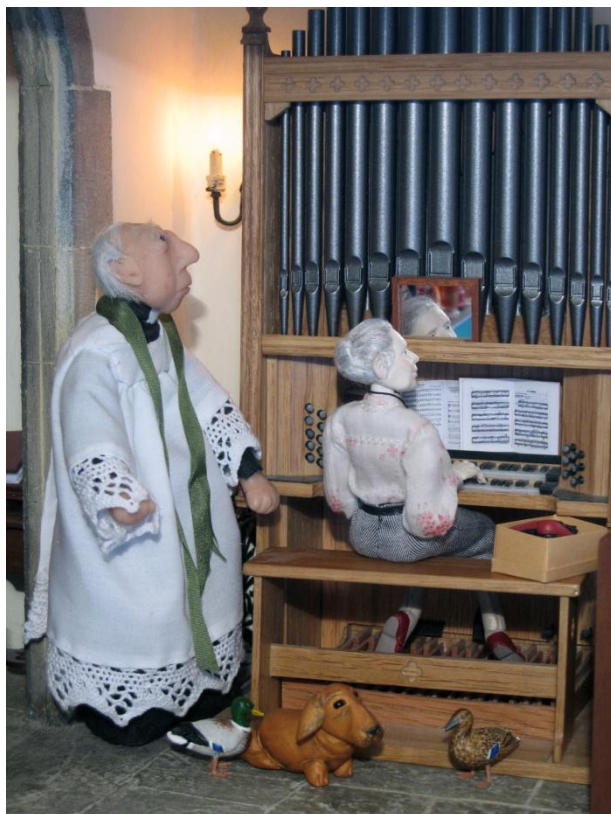
Bardsley the bishop's dog and the ducks, Esme and Ernest, are very happy to hear that Miss Enid has joined their church!

Pheobe comes over and immediately asks Miss Enid if she can sit next to her on the organ stool as Miss Enid plays.....Miss Enid is delighted and after she has finished playing to her they have a long chat about music.

Pheobe is very musical and the vicar has often let her play for the hymns in church. However she is thrilled to have a REAL organist again who can teach her how to play the organ even better! AND, of course,

Miss Enid can play the pedals but she is too small to reach them.....yet!

Miss Enid feels that everyone in St. Hilary's are so friendly she is looking forward to her new life in Daffodil Green.





Ernie's Thanksgiving Service

(Ernest Stephen Davies: 1 January 1909 - 5 July 2009)

"In my Father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you" (John 14 v2)

The day of Ernie's thanksgiving service is now here! The children are extremely sad and upset because he died after a very short illness in hospital. They had hoped he would get better and were SO looking forward to seeing him in the churchyard again weeding and tidying it up. He always welcomed them and even let them help him with the gardening as his hands and knees had become very arthritic and painful making work quite difficult for him at times. They remember the wonderful 100th birthday party they had for him too.....

Stephen is proud to be wearing the outfit he wore at his wedding. He remembers how much his great great Uncle Ernie loved him in it on his and Esther's wedding day! It seems the right thing to do to wear it for this, his great great Uncle Ernie's final farewell.

He is waiting patiently at the door for the hearse with the coffin to arrive.

Can you see that Ben is peeping pensively through the half closed doors of the church. He too is anxiously awaiting the arrival of the coffin alongside the other children who are already inside.....

Ambrose and Tom are making themselves busy. They are carrying the trestles which the coffin will stand on whilst it is in church during the thanksgiving service.



Esther has brought along a family heirloom of Stephen's especially for the occasion. It is a hand crocheted coffin cover which was crocheted for family funerals back in Victorian times.

Tom is MOST impressed because, although it is VERY old in his eyes, it is also VERY clean and white. Stephen's family have taken great care of it to keep it looking so clean and white! Magnifi-Cat and Tinker are also MOST impressed and Tinker is not happy until she has had a little dab at it too.

Stephen, together with the other pall bearers, has now brought the coffin of dear Ernie into church and set it on the trestles.

Esther is very careful to lay the coffin cover on to Ernie's coffin correctly. She spent ages last night ironing it!

Belle watches her carefully to ensure she puts the cover on correctly....



Ambrose is going to place the family wreath on to the coffin. Stephen and his family wanted to have a cross made up of white lilies with lemon and white roses. Doesn't it look beautiful!

Ernie never married so he had no children. Stephen and his family are his next of kin.



Priscilla Jane together with Esme and Ernest, noticed that Ernie had left his muddies wellies outside the church door. Ernie was always SO careful NEVER to tread mud into the church!

Priscilla Jane has brought the muddy boots into church.....but when she realised that the mud was still wet because it had been raining outside she found some old newspaper to put them on.

They all can't believe that Ernie was only, last week, working in the churchyard and now he had left them all for good. Poor Priscilla Jane is looking so sad and upset as she just stares at Ernie's wellies.....unable to take it all in.....

Suddenly Priscilla Jane has a really brilliant idea.....AND she thinks that Ernie, if he was there, would approve of it.



Priscilla Jane asks Adele if she will help her carry the muddy boots into church.....and now Adele is going to honour Ernie in the children's own special way.....



Ahhhhhhhh.....THAT is what Adele and Priscilla Jane wanted to do! We hope that the vicar and Stephen's family approve of this!

Adele has put the muddy boots, whilst still on the paper, ON to the coffin next to the beautiful cross wreath from Ernie's family.



Priscilla Jane so wanted to plant something special in memory of dear Ernie she has brought the seed tray along so that it too can be put on the coffin.

Can you see which flowers she has chosen to plant?

"Forget me nots" are SO appropriate aren't they? EVERY time the children see them in the churchyard they will ALWAYS remember dear Ernie. AND they were one of his favourite flowers together with the Marigolds.

She wonders if Ernie can see these tributes as he is now in heaven.



Alice AND Ambrose are sharing the reading which is taken from John's Gospel.

. They know that one may break down and cry whilst trying to read so the vicar said they can both share it!

Adele has moved the wellies along to make sure that they leave room for the seed tray!

Goodness - Ernie would be so thrilled to see his coffin decorated so beautifully!

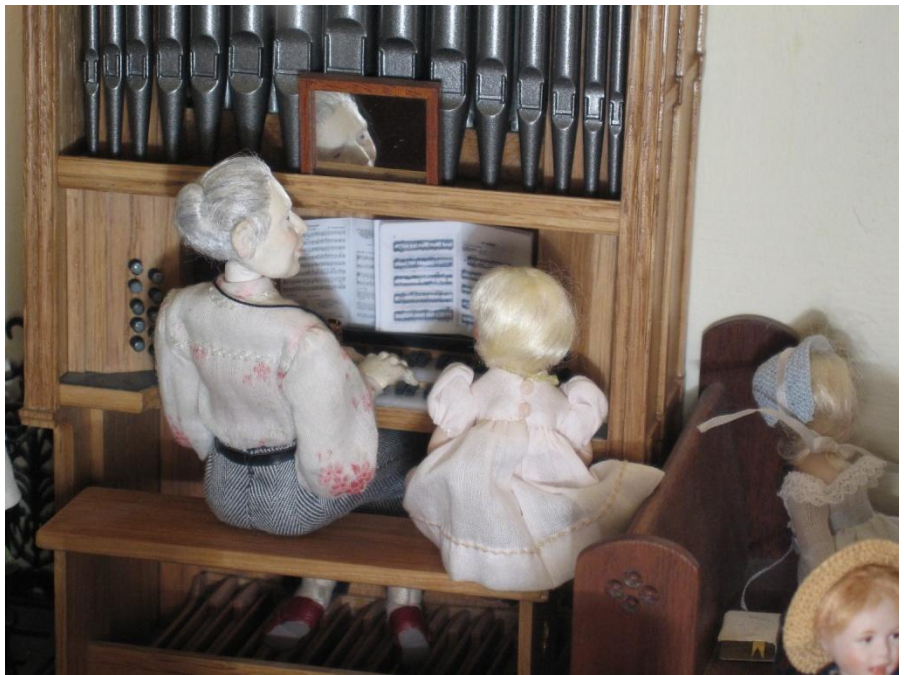
The children KNEW him so well didn't they?



Phoebe is helping Miss Enid by turning her pages for her.....it also helps her not to cry because she has to keep watch all the time to ensure that she turns the pages at the right time!

This is an extra special service for Miss Enid. It is the very FIRST proper service she has played for in St. Hilary's.

Miss Enid is also pleased to have Phoebe by her side as she knows she is such a musical girl she will make sure she doesn't go wrong!



Who has also come into church to pay his respects to Ernie?

It is Homer. Ernie used to invite Homer around for dinner when he was hungry and when it was cold in the Winter. Ernie was such a kind and gentle man that all in St. Hilary's and Daffodil Green loved him.

The vicar is talking to them about Ernie and about the Bible reading they have heard read by both Alice and Ambrose.

Ben wants to know if Ernie will be able to be a gardener in heaven because he preferred to be outside. He was worried because in the Bible reading Jesus only mentions rooms and not gardens.

The vicar reassures the children that there is a place in God House in heaven for everyone who loves Jesus as much as Ernie did...EVEN a beautiful garden!

Priscilla Jane is thrilled to lead the prayers for Ernie.

She loves to pray whilst kneeling at the prayer desk in the church Prayer Corner.

She asks God to bless them all and help them as they learn to live without Ernie in their lives.

The children KNOW that Ernie is now much happier because he no longer has to suffer his arthritis and that he can do lots of gardening in heaven without all of that pain!



Oh dear.....it is ALL too much for Adele.....isn't it good that Esther remembered to bring LOADS of tissues to church for the children and congregation too.

She knew that the thanksgiving service would be really upsetting for everyone attending even though they knew that Ernie was now better and in heaven where God can now look after him.

Tom is holding back the tears.....just.....

Esther is feeling rather choked up with tears but it is no surprise as

she too had grown very close to dear Ernie.



A Summer Flower and Music Festival in Memory of Ernie 2009

The children wanted to have a flower festival this Summer even though they were still very sad about losing their dear churchyard gardener, Ernie, very recently. The vicar suggested that it would be a good idea if they had a flower AND music festival this year to celebrate and remember Ernie and they ALL thought this was a very brilliant idea!

The theme of the flower and music festival this year is the sun.....because without the sun we would not have even ONE beautiful flower to add to our festival. All the flowers this year reflect the different colours of the sun.....yellow.....white.....orange.....red..... The children love to see the sun at sunrise.....and as it sets in the evening and changes from the blinding white of the midday sun to yellow.....and then to the deep orange/red as it appears to swell before it sets in the western skies. The children, congregation and clergy feel that the "colours of the sun" theme is a perfect way to remember dear Ernie, who so loved working in the churchyard when the sun was at its best during the Summer months.

See how well they all do.....

Pheobe's family have agreed to let the church borrow their beautiful old spinet for this year's flower and music festival because they used to so enjoy Ernie's visits to their home.

Ernie LOVED playing the family spinet on his visits and he also used to love giving Phoebe impromptu lessons on it as he taught her some simple tunes to play on it.

Miss Enid tells Pheobe how she TOO learnt to play the spinet many years ago and she has NEVER forgotten. Miss Enid is checking some music before she plays a little bit to Phoebe as she gives her a short and simple lesson.



Miss Enid is going to play some spinet music during the festival to entertain the visitors as they look at all the floral displays or just sit and enjoy a nice cuppa, piece of cake and, of course, the music!

Megan runs over to Amelia as she hears her strumming on her guitar in the chancel.....

Amelia LOVES her guitar lessons! She couldn't resist bringing her guitar to church and is enjoying playing it.

Syd, the pigeon, flies over to see what is going on.....he is such a nosy bird.....

Who can we see in the sanctuary doing some timely cleaning before the flowers are arranged?

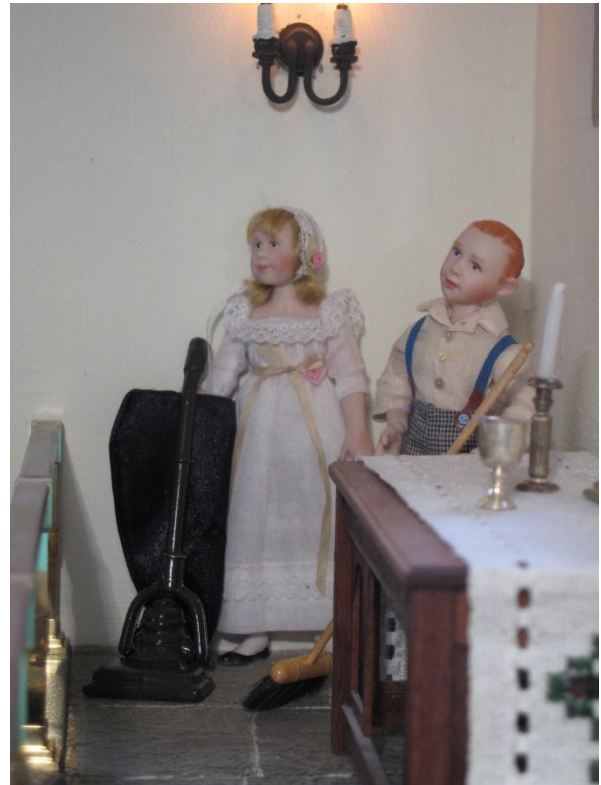


Alice is shocked to see how much dust and dirt there is on the sanctuary floor.

She just HAS to fetch the vacuum cleaner and vacuum up all the mess on the floorbits of old dead flowers that have fallen and been missed.....whilst Ambrose sweeps it up into a corner in order to make it easier for her as she vacuums it all up.

Look who has joined young Amelia and Tom? It is Ben! He too has brought an instrument to play. It is his violin.

He is quite a show off and when he heard that Amelia was bringing her guitar and Phoebe, her



family spinet, he could not BEAR to be left out here!

Tom just has to be where the action is.....as does Syd, the pigeon.....

Rev Ken loves to sing when he plays the guitar. He has just been singing and playing to the children to show them how brilliant the



guitar can sound.

Megan and Amelia really love to watch his fingers as he plays.....

As you can see though....he now looks very tired. However that is no surprise at all because he HAS been entertaining the children with his music for quite a long time. He really DOES deserve this little rest doesn't he? He hasn't played for quite a long time so is a little out of practice.....but we hope that he will be all tuned up to play well when the church receives its' first visitors to the flower and music festival.



Oh dear! What has happened here? Ben has lost his music! HOW did that happen? Can you see where it is? WHO is hiding it?

Magnifi-Cat is VERY naughty isn't he? He HATES the sound of the violin when Ben plays it. When he saw that Ben had brought his violin to church AGAIN he decided enough was enough.

And so.....when Ben's music fell off the music stand....instead of telling Ben where it had fallen.....what did Magnifi-Cat do.....he SAT on it! Poor Ben! We hope he sees what has happened soon.....and that Magnifi-Cat relents and lets him have it back.



Magnifi-Cat suddenly feels VERY bad for upsetting Ben so much by sitting on his music. He had NO idea how special the violin was to Ben and how he so loved to play it. It was almost too much to bear for Magnifi-Cat to watch as tears started to well up in Ben's eyes.....so, as you can all see.....he says sorry to Ben for upsetting him. Ben is so happy to have his music back on the stand where it belongs!

Of course he forgives Magnifi-Cat who promises to be VERY good and NEVER sit on his music ever again!

Whilst the musicians practise their pieces others are also working hard in preparation for the impending Flower and Music Festival.

What has Ambrose brought into church?

It is a very precious sunflower.....and why? It is very special because it is one of the very last sunflowers that Ernie planted in the churchyard before he died!

Ambrose was very keen to give it pride of place at the entrance of the church so that EVERY visitor to the flower and music festival will see it first when they arrive. Can you see what else Ambrose has brought to complement the sunflower? It is Ernie's old muddy boots.....STILL sitting on the very same dirty newspaper as the day that Ernie left them on his last day working in the churchyard.

Tinker IS a naughty cat! She is ALWAYS begging for attention but Ambrose is taking no notice of her is he? Esme and Ernest, the local Mallard ducks, are also having a little look at the muddy boots.....



Adele brings in Ernie's old rusty watering can. She is now adding the final touch to HER very own special flower arrangement in honour of Ernie!

However.....WHO is distracting poor Adele in her efforts? It is Homer's pet rat, Sepp who is being VERY cheeky here!

Belle, Esme and Ernest are making sure she doesn't make any mistakes here!

Ambrose brings in Ernie's very old rusty old bucket in to the church after seeing Adele has brought in his rusty old watering can.....he couldn't have one without the other....WHAT would Ernie think!

He is admiring his "work of art" flower arrangement" in the bucket!



Ernie would be SO proud of him AND Adele for remembering how important his old bucket and watering can were to him when working in the churchyard..... AND his muddy wellington boots too of course!

Oh dear.....Esther has missed something.....what is it?

It is Snowy the mouse friend of Nunc Dimittis who is enjoying a little wander on the font!

Esther is so busy checking that she is happy with her arrangement she has completely missed Snowy who may enjoy a

little nibble of the leaves as is his wont!

We hope she sees him in time to stop him in his naughty tracks.....



The morning of the first day of the festival arrives and the vicar is seen here officially opening it.

He is explaining to the visitors that all of the colours chosen for the festival this year are those that are associated with the sun. Even white has been chosen because the sun can be so bright it appears like a blinding bright white light! He tells everyone that, indeed, white is also the colour of the hottest heat too.....and draws a comparison with the Holy Spirit who is also portrayed as a white dove.....and also as a flame.



The end of the first day of the Flower and Music Festival has finally come.....Miss Enid has had a brilliant time playing for all of the visitors who have come to hear the music and see the flowers.

However.....she is very tired and her fingers feel sore where she has her arthritis too. Her poor throat too is parched after all of her hard work.

Ambrose is giving her a nice cup of tea and two pieces of cake to revive her.....isn't he a kind boy?

No wonder Alice thinks the world of him.....WHERE could she find a better boyfriend than Ambrose!

It may be the end of the day.....but ONE young lady can't tear herself away.....and it is Megan!

Megan just loves seeing how effective all the yellow, orange, red and white flowers are in the sanctuary and on the altar.....they really DO remind her of the sun when it is at its best in the Summer.....flooding the world with warmth and enabling the flowers to bloom and look so beautiful.....

Megan still hears the vicar telling them all earlier today to stop for a moment to remember that it is God who colours all of our world.

Ernie would be so proud.....because after all.....he loved ALL of God's creation.

