

Hampton Hill's  
Parish Magazine  
celebrates  
**150 years**  
of  
St James's Church  
1863-2013

# thespire

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**ANNIVERSARY SOUVENIR EDITION**

*Phill*



# The First Word



Welcome to this special double issue of *The Spire* to celebrate our 150th anniversary.

We have produced this edition — with a wonderful watercolour by Prill Hinckley on the cover — to coincide with St James's Day. We hope you like it and will keep it as a souvenir.

As this is part of our monthly issue of *The Spire*, we have included a separate sheet with details of services and events in July.

A big thank you to everyone who found photos and gave us anecdotes of events at St James's over the past years.

I have really enjoyed meeting people and reminiscing and I know other people have likewise enjoyed the experience. We have tried to go back in words and photos, mostly over the past 50 years, but also brought it right up to date to look to the future.

If you would like any extra copies for friends do get in touch with the church office or pick up extra copies in church.

This has been a mammoth task and I must thank all of the committee: Peter Vannozi, Susan Horner, Griselda Barrett, Dick Wilde and especially Prill Hinckley and Nick Bagge, who have spent a lot of time laying out the material. Our thanks also go to Ann Peterken, who did the Charities page.

We have also been helped by many other people who have proof-read and suggested amendments.

None of this would have been possible, though, without our excellent printer, Justin Hollingsworth, who produces such high quality work and always delivers on time.

We must also thank our road stewards who do such sterling work delivering the magazine across the parish nine times a year.

Janet Nunn,  
Editor



From left: Griselda Barrett, Janet Nunn, Dick Wilde, Susan Horner, Prill Hinckley and Nick Bagge

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With thanks to past members of  
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The Parochial Church Council of St James would like to thank the family of the late Revd Rupert and Connie Brunt who have contributed to the cost of printing this special issue.

The regular magazine is produced nine times a year. We make no charge for it, but hope that you will contribute towards the production costs to enable us to expand our important outreach across the parish. If you are a regular reader please consider making an annual donation. Cheques should be made payable to *The PCC of St James* and sent to Spire Appeal c/o the Parish Office.

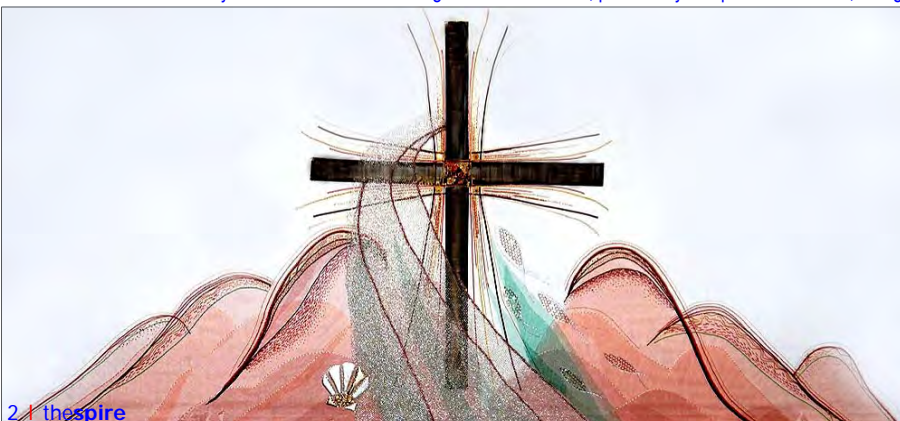
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We have tried to be as representative as possible within the space available. It has not been possible to cover all the events and we hope you will forgive us if we have not been able to include your photo or particular events you were connected with. In some cases photos were not of good enough quality to reproduce, but, nonetheless, we enjoyed looking at them. Equally, we haven't been able to put credits against the photos because of lack of space and also not knowing who took many of them. We have used material from the website and also Margery Orton's book, *The Birth and Growth of Hampton Hill*, which was published to celebrate the centenary of St James's Church in 1963.

Margaret Lawrance was asked by the Revd Nicholas Chubb in 1984 if she would repair a stole and an altar frontal for the high altar. Both were beyond repair, so Margaret took on the task of designing and making a new stole and altar frontal, and a burse and veil. These were dedicated on Easter Sunday 1985 and have been in regular use ever since, particularly on special occasions, and greatly admired. Margaret

chose the theme of St James the Fisherman and also incorporated the shell symbol of St James. Colours were used to match the terracotta tiles in the chancel and Margaret wanted the cross to dominate, rising out of the turbulent sea (the world) and the 'waves' to appear from the distance as bowed heads.







## Foundation and Inspiration Fitz Wygram 1863-1881

Fitzroy John Fitz Wygram was the founder of the church and parish of St. James, Hampton Hill, and the inspiration for future generations as well as his own. He proclaimed the good news of Christ in word and deed – church and community for him were one.

## Mission, Beauty and Establishment Bligh

1881-1893

Henry Bligh's ministry saw St. James's outward-looking attitude continue and be strengthened. However, he settled down to the day to day running of a busy church. He sought to beautify the building into which he tried to draw people.

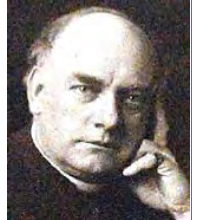


## Communion, Confirmation and Cricket Job 1893-1914

Charles Job put an emphasis on the importance of Holy Communion in a Christian's life, and scores of young people at a time were confirmed. A sportsman and a busy foreign traveller, Job was the last vicar who could be called a 'gentleman' in the old-fashioned sense.

## The War to end all Wars Coad-Pryor 1914-23

Richard Coad-Pryor's time as vicar was inevitably overshadowed by the First World War and its aftermath. There would not have been a street in the parish untouched by casualties, and then post-war economic problems. Illness affected the last few years of his incumbency and church activities were curtailed.

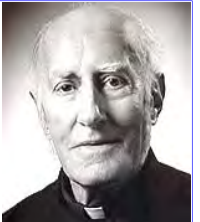


## Depression, War and Reconstruction Harvey 1923-1950

Frederick Harvey served in the period from the aftermath of one world war, through another, and then the consequences of them both. This was a solid if quiet ministry with great events swirling around an apparently stable church community.

## White Heat of Change Brunt 1951-80

Rupert Brunt's ministry reflected the times in which he lived, with considerable change in both church and society. His tenure saw the introduction of the Parish Communion as the principal Sunday service, and changes in forms of service. Also, a temporary altar was used at the front of the church facing the congregation, in line with thinking of the time.



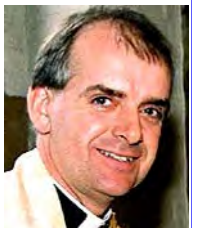
## Speaking and Seeing Chubb 1981-1988



Nicholas Chubb continued the direction that he had inherited, and made permanent a westward facing altar for the Parish Communion by building a platform at the front of the nave. In his time a sound system was introduced for the first time. This, together with more flexible forms of service, shows his concern for people to access worship more easily and directly.

## Building for the Future Leathard 1989-2006

Brian Leathard grasped the nettle of the church owning too many properties, and the sale of two led to the construction of the church hall next to the church. The opening up of the west porch was evidence of his outward-looking emphasis, in both church and community, continuing the best tradition of St. James's.



**The Revd Peter Vannozi,**  
Vicar of St James's Church  
since 2007, assesses his  
predecessors' achievements



# Baptisms and Weddings

## 1951-1980: The Revd Rupert Brunt



**TOP Duncan Robinson** was baptised on 16 March 1975. This photo shows his great grandmother, Vivienne Prentice, holding Duncan, with his parents Ian and Coryn Robinson, and his grandparents, Hal and Eila Severn, outside their house.

Duncan is the elder son of Ian and Coryn; his younger brother, James, and sister, Caitlyn, were also baptised by Rupert, assisted by Vivienne's brother, the Revd Owen Fulljames.

Duncan now lives in Singapore with his wife Helen and their two children. The family returned to St James's for their baptisms — Oliver by Debbie Oades, and Isla by Peter Vannozi.



**BOTTOM David and Joy Thompson** were married on 3 September 1955. David was a member of the choir at St James's and Joy used to attend church with her mother. It was a packed church in those days and you had to arrive early.

Joy was introduced to David at the annual Laurel Dene Fete. Joy and David have four children: Philip, Christopher, Andrew and Linda. They were all baptised by Rupert and attended Sunday School.

Joy's wedding dress was made by David's cousin and is still in pristine condition 58 years later. She also has her veil and headdress, as well as decorations from the wedding cake.

## 1981-1988: The Revd Nicholas Chubb



**TOP Kelly Fitchett** was baptised on 20 April 1986. She is the elder daughter of Paul and Carol Fitchett.

They have three children, all baptised by different people. Their son, Kristian, was baptised on 13 December 1987 by Hannah Stanton and their younger daughter, Kim, by Brian Leathard on 10 March 1991.

Kelly now has three children of her own - Joshua, Kayla and Sophia.



**BOTTOM Karen and Gary Hide** were married on 14 July 1984.

Karen is the daughter of Brian and Wendy Baker and the couple now have four grown-up children: Laura, Matthew, Thomas and Emily.

Laura and Matthew were baptised at St James's by Nicholas and Thomas and Emily by Brian.

They have lived all their married life along the road from their parents, who moved to Hampton Hill from Twickenham in 1981.

The photograph shows that Karen had a lovely bouquet of roses and lilies.

## 1989-2006: The Revd Dr Brian Leathard

**TOP Olivia Nettleton**, the daughter of Charles and Susannah Nettleton, was baptised on 15 January 1995, and Isobel, Henry and William were all baptised by Brian in future years at the 0930 Parish Communion service.

All the children have attended Sunday School, the girls have played in the orchestra at All-age Worship, and all four children have been confirmed.

Charles and Susannah sing in the church choir and Susannah regularly trains the children's choir, who sing at special services.



**BOTTOM Helen and Thilo Rensmann** were married on 23 November 1991 and made their home in Bonn, Germany.

Helen and her two sisters, Susan and Johanna (daughters of Tony and Margaret Lawrance), came to live in Hampton Hill in 1969 and all the girls attended the Young People's Fellowship. Helen was also a server for many years.

Thilo met Helen at university in Virginia, where they were both studying law, and their wedding had two special features: it was candlelit, and the service was conducted in English and German — fortunately Brian is fluent in both!

Helen and Thilo have four children, Edward, Thomas, Charles and Catherine, who were also all baptised by Brian at St James's in bilingual services.

Helen is very active in the English church in Bonn.



## 2007-2012: The Revd Peter Vannozi

**TOP Louisa Jerwood**, the daughter of Emma and Lee Jerwood, was baptised on 14 November 2010 by Peter, who also married Emma and Lee 25 July 2009.

Louisa's middle names are June and Rose after her parents' maternal grandmothers. The family had a very happy gathering after the baptism in our church hall. Emma, Lee and Louisa attend church as often as they can and Louisa always points the church out when they pass in the street.



**BOTTOM Elliot and Amy Blazewicz** were married on 21 December 2012. Elliot and Amy (daughter of Alan and Jacky Cammidge) have been worshipping at St James's for some time and have now bought a house locally. They featured in The Spire in 2010 as Elliot proposed to Amy in view of the Eiffel Tower! As their wedding was in December the couple chose Christmas carols for the service, instead of traditional hymns, and had their reception at Hampton Court Palace.





## In the beginning

St James's Church was completed in 1863 for the growing village of New Hampton, on glebe land given by the mother church of Hampton about a mile to the south. It was a simple building with a nave 67ft long by 24ft wide, with a chancel 20ft by 24ft. The Revd Fitzroy Fitz Wygram was appointed Vicar, and the church was consecrated on 11 December 1863 by the Bishop of London.



The parish flourished under the devoted and financially generous care of Mr Fitz Wygram, and by 1872 the church needed enlargement. The north aisle and west porch were planned and built. The church was reopened by the Bishop of London on 29 November 1873.

Twenty years of development followed. A new organ chamber and organ were installed in 1874 and the chancel enlarged with new stained glass. The south aisle and south porch were completed in 1879. Mr Fitz Wygram died in 1881, at the age of 55, and is buried in the churchyard at the south-east side of the church. The stained glass west window depicting the transfiguration and the windows in the south aisle illustrating the parables were presented to the church in his memory.

## The church grows upwards

The induction of the Revd Henry Bligh took place in 1881. Additions and improvements to the church continued.



A further acre of glebe land was given for the churchyard in 1882. The building of a tower and spire was planned to begin in 1887, the year of Queen Victoria's Golden Jubilee. The foundation stone was laid on 21 June 1887 and the capstone of the tower placed in position by the intrepid Mrs Annie Bligh on 3 January 1888.

The clock and four bells were installed and formally set in motion by Mr Bligh on 3 December 1893.



## Hampton Hill is born

The exterior of the church was now very much as we see it today, except for the new west porch. However, inside the church there have been many changes. The Revd Charles Job became Vicar in 1893. The name *Hampton Hill* replaced *New Hampton* about this time.

Maintenance continued, a further two bells were added to the tower in 1902, electric light replaced the gas lamps in the church in 1905, and the organ was rebuilt in 1913. Mr Job left St James's in 1914, exchanging parishes with the next vicar, the Revd Richard Coad-Pryor, who was vicar throughout the First World War. The war memorial in the churchyard was built in 1920. Mr Coad-Pryor died in 1923, and the Revd Frederick Harvey became vicar in the same year. The old school building in School Road was given to the church for use as a church hall, which was opened in 1932. A new vicarage was completed in 1937.



## War damage and a head for heights

Much-needed repairs to the clock and spire were undertaken in 1947. The spire had been badly shaken during Second World War German bombing raids over London. Steeplejacks were employed to make good the damage.

Much further work would soon prove necessary.



## Rising to the challenge of more repairs



Mr Harvey retired in 1950 and the Revd Rupert Brunt became Vicar in 1951. There was a formidable amount of work to be done, but Mr Brunt met this challenge with great determination and vigour. A fund-raising campaign raised the money for the repair of the leaking roof and rain-damaged roof-beams.

In 1954 the house *Wayside*, in St James's Road, near the church, was bought for small church meetings. In 1961, a new form of giving called *Christian Stewardship* was introduced.

## Volunteers at the ready

The Properties Committee was formed at this time, its members voluntarily giving their practical knowledge and skills to assist in the maintenance of the church.

Mr Brunt retired in 1980, after 29 years of untiring service, and was succeeded by the Revd Nicholas Chubb in 1981.

In 1983 the chancel was extended into the east end of the nave by an apron stage fronted by removable altar and wooden communion rails. The heating boilers were changed from oil to gas, and the church sound system improved.

## Property and outreach

In 1988 Mr Chubb left to become a hospital chaplain. The Revd Dr Brian Leathard began his ministry in September 1989. He had the enthusiasm and determination to enhance the church's presence in the community by its facilities and its outreach.

The sale of both *Wayside* and the old Church Hall in School Road funded the building of the modern church hall at the south side of the church. Dr Leathard is shown with Mrs Vivienne Prentice at the opening of the hall in 1994.

Modern seating in the north aisle and improved church lighting were also installed.

Dr Leathard had a further vision of the interior of the church being open to view at all times.

To achieve this a new west porch with glass doors was planned. This gives a clear view of the whole length of the church up to the high altar. The church office and a utility room are also incorporated in this porch. This was all completed in 2005.



## Continuing to invest for the future

The Revd Peter Vannozi became Vicar in March 2007 and has continued the unceasing work to guide the maintenance and improvement of the church, the hall, the courtyard and churchyard.

The lighting in both church and hall has been modernised, where possible modern economy lights have been fitted, with a noticeable reduction in electricity consumption. The church sound system has been enhanced to cope with the wide range of uses to which the church is put.

A complete replacement of the present heating system has been planned using economy boilers which we hope will be started in 2014.

What began as a modest building in 1863 has, over time, evolved into a major landmark of Hampton Hill. It is a symbol of 150 years of worship and service to the community.





# The Churchyard

In 1863 our churchyard was a small area surrounding the church as the cemetery was at the mother church of St Mary in Hampton.

In 1882 the Vicar of Hampton gave an acre of land in Park Road so that we could have our own burial ground. The churchyard was further extended in 1924 including part of the Vicarage ground. It now covers nearly two acres.

There are over 1,000 graves and over 4,000 people buried in the churchyard. The first burial is that of Walter Richard Daines, aged 11 months in 1864. This is near the notice-board at the junction of Park Road and St James's Road. The very last burial was Bruna (Walter) Blaschke in 1987 and his grave is in the far corner near the gardens in St James's Road and St James's Avenue.

The churchyard was closed by Order in Council in 1991 and is now cared for by the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames. From this point onwards only previously booked spaces could be used for burials and the interment of ashes.

This is a huge relief to the church as it was an impossible task to keep up with the maintenance of such a large area.

## World War graves

During the First World War, twelve Canadian war graves were erected for soldiers who had been in the hospital in Bushy Park and eventually died from their wounds. The Canadian war graves are in a line and there is a fine Canadian maple tree near them. There are also five British war graves.

In 2008 our vicar had a request from Australia for the ashes of Phyllis Manning, aged 93, to be placed with her husband Harold, who died in 1947, aged 27, from war wounds and is buried near the Garden of Rest.

Listed on the War Memorial are 124 men from the First World War (1914-18), and 29 men and women from the Second World War (1939-45).

## Garden of Remembrance

The Garden of Remembrance was created in 1962 for the burial of ashes and all the names are recorded in the Book of Remembrance in the church.

Many fascinating people are buried in the churchyard: Canadian Joe Boyle, whose remains were exhumed and returned to Canada in 1983, 60 years after his death; three station masters

from Fulwell Station; John Templeton, the opera singer; and many more. Their stories make interesting reading and can be found on our website: [www.stjames-hamptonhill.org.uk](http://www.stjames-hamptonhill.org.uk).

## Churchyard Guardians

In 1962 the Revd Rupert Brunt appointed three *Churchyard Guardians*: Denis Leatherdale, Roy Brooks and Jack Gostling, whose responsibility it was to look after the churchyard. This was an enormous task, without any of today's power tools. Regular mass attacks were held to try to keep the vegetation under control.

Denis surveyed and drew by hand a detailed scaled plan of the churchyard with all the graves marked, which we still have today.

## Churchyard records

In the early 1990s, Helen Taylor initiated the recording of the names and position of all the graves in the churchyard before there was any more deterioration.

A working party was set up and every word recorded on separate sheets. This was eventually collated into the *Churchyard Records 1864-2000* which was published in 2001.

This information is now also available on the website and all but the current Burial Register are stored at the London Metropolitan Archives.

## Anniversary bulb planting

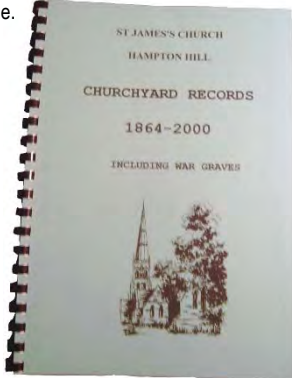
A tree survey was carried out in 2011 and nearly 80 trees identified. In 2013 it is hoped to survey the wildflowers.

To mark our 150th anniversary, 150 narcissus bulbs were planted in the autumn of 2012 outside the east window of the church and bloomed splendidly!

Today the churchyard is a well-cared for peaceful place, a haven for wildflowers and wildlife. It is a joy to walk through at all times of the year, but particularly in spring with the snowdrops, then the bluebells and eventually the autumn colours. Many birds can be seen and heard in the varied trees.



The War Memorial commemorates the 153 people who died in service during the two world wars. Each year a service of dedication is held on Remembrance Sunday.



Above: The book of Churchyard Records. Below: A feast of colour in the churchyard in spring.



1967 Operation Mass Attack: David Nunn was among 50 volunteers who carried out a major clear-up of the churchyard



From left: The first burial was of Walter Richard Daines; the grave of Harold and Phyllis Manning; two of the Canadian war graves, maintained by the Canadian War Graves Commission; the very last burial was that of Walter Blaschke in 1987



# Supporting Charities

## Giving is at the heart of our outreach

At the start of this anniversary year, Peter Vannozi wrote: 'For Fitzroy Fitz Wygram, St James's first vicar, Christianity was not an ungrounded spiritual vagueness that had no practical outworking.'

Twenty-first century Britain is a very different place from Victorian Britain, but sadly the need to think of those less fortunate has not gone away and charitable giving is at the heart of our parish outreach — an essential part of the good news our Christian faith encourages us to proclaim. The colourful logos represent many of our supported charities.

Over the past 15 years, St James's has made donations averaging almost £12,000 a year, and in some years the figure has been much higher — as when we raised an additional £10,000 for our millennium project. This level of sustained giving has been possible because St James's always includes charitable grants in its annual budget, thereby ensuring that our giving is not the first casualty of economic downturns.

## Combating poverty across the world

St James's is a faithful supporter of Christian Aid, a charity that works with people, of all faiths and none, to combat poverty and injustice across the world.

Each May, during Christian Aid Week, parishioners deliver and collect envelopes throughout Hampton Hill and run various fundraising activities — typically raising £4000 on top of our other giving.

## Inspiring role models

What St James's does in the present is due in no small measure to the example set by those who have gone before us. Two very special ladies, whose lives spanned the same eight decades of the last century, are remembered with great affection by many.



**MILO** St James's has enjoyed a special friendship with St Luke's hospital in Milo, Tanzania for over 30 years.

## Many of the charities St James's supports:



**Ann Peterken and Freda Moses in January 1992**

Freda Moses was a much loved parishioner who quietly showed how to love your neighbour, although she would be the last person to think her life had been anything special.



Hannah Stanton fought for the rights and needs of others all her life, wherever she was living — in South Africa, in Uganda, and here in Hampton Hill through the anti-apartheid movement and as a founder member of the Hampton and Hampton Hill Voluntary Care Group (VCG).

She did so much in her life, yet her commitment to parish life at St James's and to her many friends never suffered.

**Hannah Stanton**

Thanks to Hannah, St James's has enjoyed a special friendship with St Luke's hospital in Milo, Tanzania, for over 30 years. We have learnt so much about the lives of the people who work there and have helped where we can — most recently covering training fees for several young people.

## The Greenwood Centre

Our special charity for this 150th anniversary year is the Voluntary Care Group at The Greenwood Centre. We hope to raise a good sum from retiring collections at special events to support its ongoing work in our community.

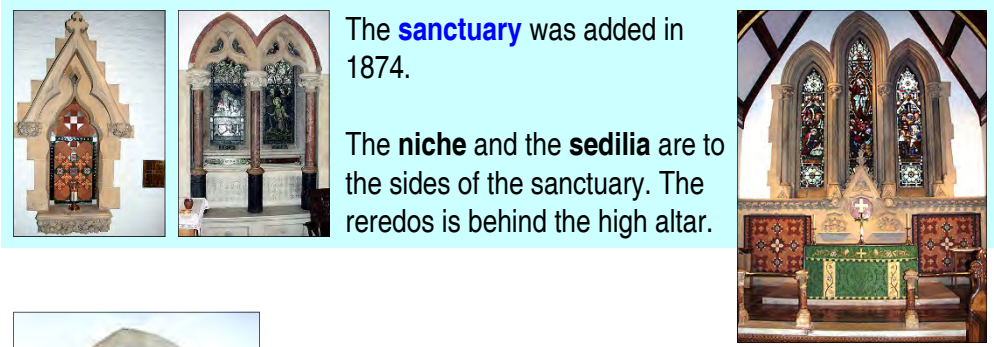


It is a charity at the heart of the community, something St James's Church has strived to be throughout its history.



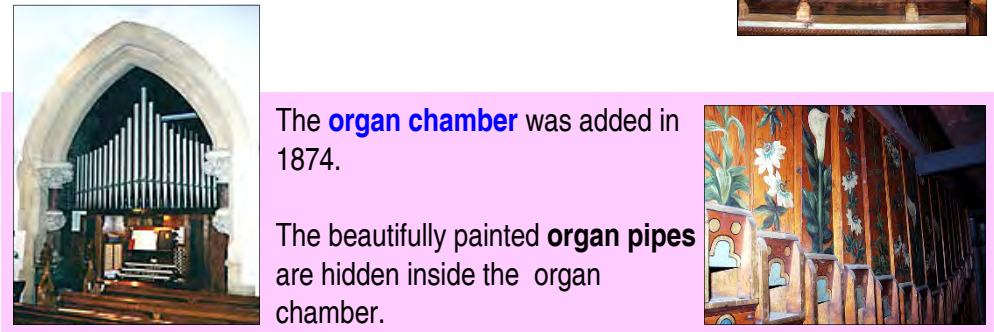


# Inside the Church



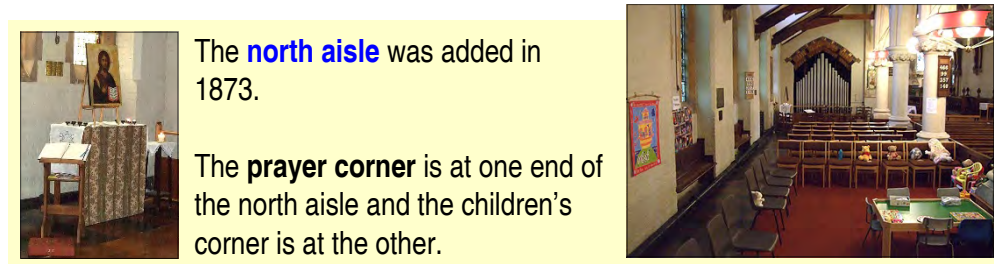
The **sanctuary** was added in 1874.

The **niche** and the **sedilia** are to the sides of the sanctuary. The **rederos** is behind the high altar.



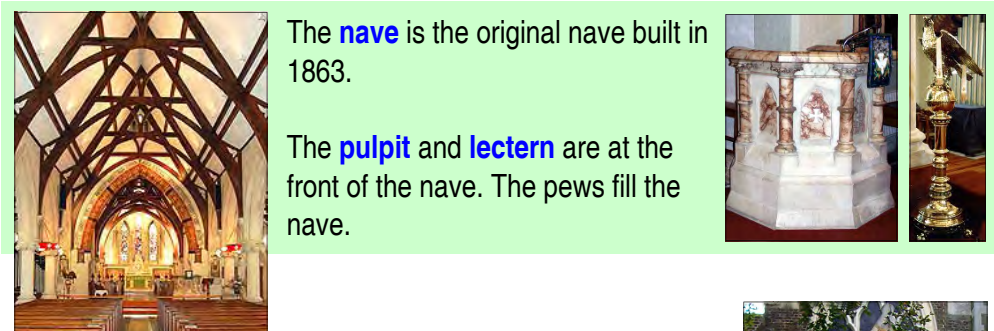
The **organ chamber** was added in 1874.

The beautifully painted **organ pipes** are hidden inside the organ chamber.



The **north aisle** was added in 1873.

The **prayer corner** is at one end of the north aisle and the children's corner is at the other.



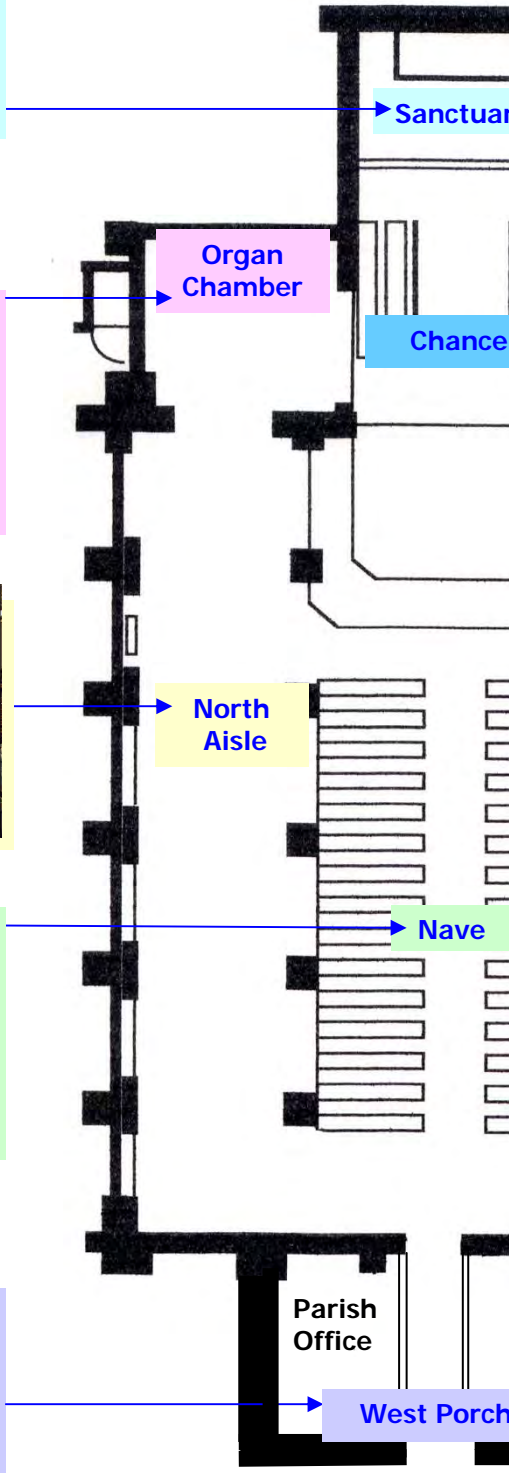
The **nave** is the original nave built in 1863.

The **pulpit** and **lectern** are at the front of the nave. The pews fill the nave.



The **west porch** was added in 2006 replacing the 1883 porch.

The **church office** is here. Email: [office@stjames-hamptonhill.org.uk](mailto:office@stjames-hamptonhill.org.uk)  
Telephone: 020 8941 6003

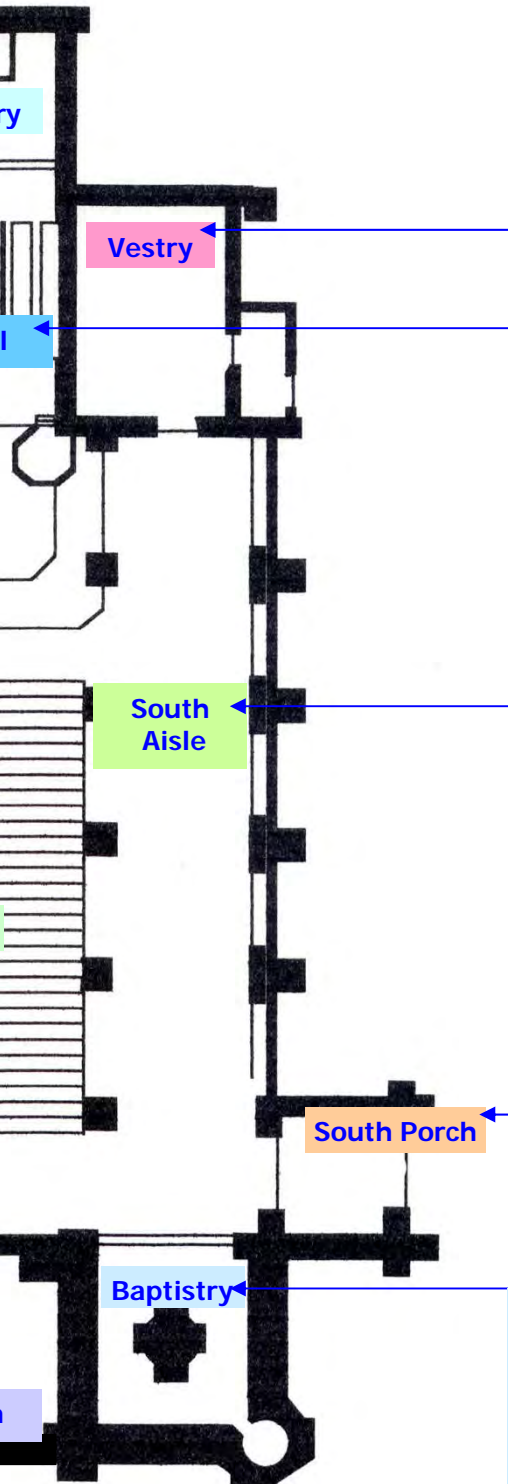



The **bell tower and clock tower** were added in 1887/8.

The **clock and four bells** were installed in 1893. The **four bells** were added in 1893.



# Inside the Church



The **vestry** was enlarged in 1874.

Photographs of **previous vicars** are hanging on the wall.



The **chancel** was incorporated in the original building of 1863 and later enlarged in 1874.

The **choir stalls** and sanctuary chairs are here.



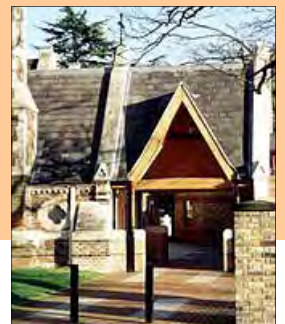
The **south aisle** was added in 1879.

There are beautiful **stained glass windows** of the parables here.



The **south porch** was added in 1879 and in 1994 it joined up to the new hall.

There is a **stone sculpture** above the south porch door.



The **baptistry** was added in 1887 at the base of the tower.

The **font** has symbols on each side. There are marble decorated outer columns.



**spire** were

**r bells** were  
two further  
1902.





# Sunday School

The first records of the existence of a Sunday School at St James's are in the March 1885 edition of the church magazine, at which time there were 273 children 'upon the books'. The traditions and role of the Sunday School in the 19th century/early 20th century still have something in common with what our children enjoy today – having fun together – but there are just not so many of them!

During the late 1800s and early 1900s attendance at Sunday School grew so much that by 1910 it became impossible to seat all the children in church, so it was decided to have a separate service taken by the teachers for them in the church room at the same time as the service in church. The service was 'short, simple and suited to the capacities of the little ones'.

The June 1885 magazine reported on the flourishing Sunday School: 'The numbers still continue to increase, and in addition to some fifty older ones who attend classes at Mrs. Fitz Wygram's and at the Vicarage, there are now 292 upon the books.'

## Sunday School Outings

Annual trips had been started in 1882 to places like Crystal Palace. Sometimes the trip included nearly 300 children with the Hampton Brass Band meeting the party at the train station on their return with flags and a parade. The Sunday School excursion in 1898 was to Brighton and included members of the choir and Bible class and a special train was arranged with the railway company.

The following year the excursion was to Southsea and the party numbered 485. During the 1930s/1940s the annual Sunday School treat continued to be an outing on the train, often to Brighton. Each year about 110 of the younger Sunday School children, the 'Tiny Tots' who did not go on the outing, were invited to the vicarage for games and tea. In the winter there was entertainment and distribution of prizes for the children in Sunday School.



**Betty Stewart** was a Sunday School teacher from her confirmation until she retired 45 years later in July 1984. Betty was in charge most of this time. Her dedication was immense and led eventually, when women were allowed to be ordained, to her taking up training and being ordained herself in 1993.

In 1952 a Sunday School was set up at Rectory School (now Hampton Academy) for the Rectory Farm Estate part of the parish. This was led by **Jean Western** (pictured right).



The Sunday School in 1908 (above) and 1916 (below)



Betty Stewart with the Sunday School in the 1950s

This photograph shows the Sunday School performing in the 1977 Queen's Jubilee Concert, with teachers Pam Atkinson and Prill Hinckley



In 1988 the Sunday School was renamed The Jays with three age groups; the 11-14s were called the Young Church (see page opposite). The significance of The Jays was the 'J' from Jesus and the 'J' from James.

Lou Coaker (right) was leader of The Jays for 19 years. During the last seven years she was ably assisted by Sarah Petersen (far right). They both retired from The Jays in 2010. During this time the children left church during the first hymn and returned for the Eucharist.

The name of the Sunday School was changed in 2011 to The Shell Seekers – the symbol of St James's and the fact that we are all seeking to further our knowledge of God and his love for us. They start the sessions a little earlier at 9.25am in order to give more time for discussion of issues in depth. After each session they join with the rest of the congregation in the church in receiving a blessing or communion and singing the last hymn. This way they are always included in the church service itself and therefore feel part of it.

Sunday School children are an integral part of the church community and contribute to its rich tapestry. They are valued as individuals. They develop and grow within the church family and progress to taking the intercessions and serving, and many years later to bringing their own children to church! They are encouraged to create, listen, question and are challenged to think of others and to



look for ways to help them.

Sunday School gives them so many challenging and exciting experiences and such a positive start to their Christian lives.

The current Shell Seekers' teachers are Catherine Gash and, from left: Stuart and Sarah Richardson, Linda Webb, Nicki and David Hetting.



## St. James's Ark

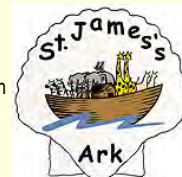
The most recent initiative for young people has been St. James's Ark, started in September 2009 and led by the then curate, the Revd Debbie Oades.

This Christian group, which is non-educational, meets on Monday mornings in term-time and provides a warm welcome for children under five years old, accompanied by parents or carers.

Every session includes a craft activity, a wide range of toys, singing and stories. The craft activities include individual 'works of art' to take home, as well as wall displays made by all the children who work together – sometimes to the amazement of their parents!

They have given money to Welcare at the end of each term as well as to St James's.

A series of cake sales raised money for the Maternity Hospital in Bethlehem, and this money was presented by Canon Julian Reindorp and the Revd Peter Vannozi on the parish pilgrimage to the Holy Land in 2013.







Young people meeting in Windmill Road in 1908

## Early days

The Church has always been keen to foster activities for young people. While Sunday Schools cater for the very young, other activities are necessary as they approach and pass the age of confirmation. The youth organisations at the end of the 19th century were considerably different from those which exist today.

The oldest Church youth organisation in the village was the Church Lads' Brigade, started in 1892, which trained youths in 'health, citizenship and the principles of the Church of England'. A boy had to be a member of St. James's Bible Class or Sunday School before he could join the Brigade. When boys knew their drill, they were eligible to join the seaside camp in the summer.

A Band of Hope, a youth organisation in connection with the schools, was started in 1893 and was very popular. The programme included magic lantern shows, entertainment and activities of all kinds, and a quarterly tea.

Other groups formed in the 1890s included a Lads' Institute in the church for boys over 14 and a Girls' Friendly Society which had weekly handicraft meetings.

By the 1920s more general societies were inaugurated to take in all sections of the village youth. St. James's Young People's Social Guild was started in 1932 with 37 members.

St. James's Youth Club began between the two world wars and met for games, indoor sports and dancing. This was suspended in 1951 and a Youth Fellowship, more closely attached to the church, was started. There were visiting speakers, practical topics, Bible study and fellowship holidays and the young people also helped at church functions and took a responsible part in church life.

## Young People's Fellowship

There were various changes to these groups in the following years, but in the 1960s/70s the Young People's Fellowship (YPF) was very active. In its early days the group met in the homes of members of the congregation and it became known, among other things, for dramatic performances and for leading the services at *Laurel Dene*.



The YPF performing in the 1977 silver jubilee concert

Later the group met at *Wayside* on Fridays for social events and Sunday evenings for more serious discussions, Bible study, talks and prayers led by members and leaders, such as Alan Taylor and Seymour Harris. New members, churchgoers or not, were welcomed and the YPF gained a reputation for being 'a decent place to go on a Friday night'.

## Uniformed Groups

Although members of the 3rd Hampton Hill Brownies, Guides, Beavers, Cubs and Scouts are not strictly church organisations, being 'open groups', they have always attended church parades at the All-age services, carrying their flags, reading lessons, leading the prayers and sometimes acting as sidespersons, or helping with refreshments after the service.

The March/April 2013 *Spire* featured the Brownies and Guides; the June 2013 issue focused on the Scout Group.

## YPF memories

The following is a compilation of reminiscences provided by Richard Melville, Lesley Mortimer (nee Young), Richard Cox, Gill Gostling and Anni Douglas (nee Stuart): 'The rickety table-tennis table at Wayside was where both good and novice players could take turns at using the equipment. If you could play on a sloping surface, so much the better! The snooker table was worse. It was several years later that I discovered that a *cushion edge* was meant to bounce the ball back rather than stop it.

'YPF holidays were legendary and we always set off very early on Easter Monday morning. Typically, we would hire a minibus and embark on a long journey — usually north somewhere; an uncomfortable ride, but fun due to the jokes and singing. One was to the Peak District, which gave me a taste of freedom, enjoyment of the countryside and belonging to a group like never before.

'Subsequent memories include the time in Yorkshire when Alan Taylor decided we should tackle both Ingleborough and Pen-y-Ghent on the same day. YPF holidays introduced me to the mountains which have been a source of joy ever since.

'Just about everything we did was an adventure. There was a real love of life. Activities on these holidays ranged from intense activity to challenging discussion in groups.

'YPF taught me the value of friendship. I have the warmest memories of those days and I still meet some of the friends I made there from time to time.

'Music featured strongly in the social side, including an attempt at a skiffle revival. Every Christmas a group of 20 plus would go carol singing round the parish, often starting at the Rockcliffe's house in Gloucester Road, Teddington, and ending in Ormond Drive, Hampton — all in the one evening! We would be fed and watered at various houses along the way, including the Melvilles.

'On New Year's Eve we would gather at the church and Peter Orton would ring in the New Year on the St. James's bells, after which we would sing *Auld Lang Syne* in the middle of the junction with Park Road.

'YPF was the place where we grew in responsibility, laughed and learned about life and the wider world. I am forever thankful for that most important and formative time, and for the friendships that were formed, many of which remain to this day.'

## The Questers



Performing during the 1983 St James's Church Open Day

The Questers was a small group of young people who met weekly, often in *Wayside*. They were in the early stages of learning to be self-reliant and, hopefully, building a strong relationship with God.



The Spire of Flowers made by the YPF in 1977 for the church Jubilee float

## More recent developments



Young Church Fashion Show with the Revd Brian Leathard and the Revd Freda Evans

In 1988 the Sunday School, then known as the Jays, met in three age groups. The Young Church, for those aged 11-14 years, met during the morning service under the leadership of Stuart Ward and others, initially in the vestry and later in the upper room of the new church hall.

There were work books which prompted discussions and other written activities. They rehearsed several plays written by Stuart Ward focussing on the parables and the Easter story and then performed them in church.

In due course nearly all the Young Church joined the band, when it was changing into a small orchestra, for the informal first-of-the-month services.

They also put on various entertainments for the congregation and friends, including the popular fashion show.

A new group for young people aged about 13 to 18 started in 1993, meeting on Sunday evenings in the portable building situated outside the church during the building of the new hall, and subsequently moved into the hall. There were regular Christian talks, discussions and activities.

However, by the turn of the millennium there were no specific groups for teenagers, partly because of the lack of leaders but also due to the many other activities available to young people.

There were, however, other local church-based groups for teenagers, including one at nearby All Saints Church, Hampton, which welcomed those from St. James's.

■ More information about all the groups featured, and more detailed reminiscences from members of the Young People's Fellowship can be found on the ST James's Church website: [stjames-hamptonhill.org.uk](http://stjames-hamptonhill.org.uk).





# Music

At St. James's we believe music to be a gift of God and so all music which takes place in our church is offered to God in worship and thanksgiving. The ministry of music is an extremely important part of our parish's life and witness. In this, as in many regards, the church is a major focus in the local community. Local schools, community organisations and other music-makers seek to use the church for musical occasions. We are lucky to have a wide range of skilled and keen musicians who contribute to the musical life of the church. People of all ages are involved and the music covers a wide range of styles – truly a mixture of ancient and modern! We have a thriving choir, orchestra (St. James's Players) and children's choir.

## The Organ

The organ was originally built in the 1830s, but not purchased for St. James's until 1874. It cost £150 and was installed in the new organ chamber.

It has undergone a series of renovations and improvements over the years, starting back in 1885.



The view of the organ on the north side of the chancel, shown left, is familiar. Only an intrepid few, however, have ventured into the interior of the instrument, behind the console. Here can be seen metal and wooden pipes of many shapes and sizes, the wooden louvres that open and close to change the volume and the miniature computer that is the 'brain' of the instrument. The pedal pipes were painted with lilies and foliage in cream and gold in 1894. The real gold leaf used was specially supplied by the Admiralty. These pipes originally formed the frontage in the west arch of the organ chamber but were moved to the rear of the organ chamber in 1916.



## The Choir



The Church Choir c1890 with the organist, Mr. F. W. Dawkins

There is no record of when a choir was first formed at St. James's but by 1889 there were twenty men and eighteen boys in the choir, and a second training choir of twenty boys. Nowadays he church choir supports the congregation regularly, though not every week, at Parish Communion services. The choir also participates in the traditional Carol Service, the All Souls' Requiem and many special services throughout the year, helping to celebrate important milestones in the Christian Year. It remains in demand for a number of weddings throughout the year and there are occasional special Sunday evensongs. For several years the choir has been invited to sing evensong in the chapel at Sutton's Hospital in Charterhouse. New singers in all voices are always welcome – there is no audition but members need to be able to read music.



The Church Choir 2012 with the organist, Samuel Draper

## St. James's Players

The orchestra started life as the Travellers, a band of about half a dozen adults, led by Paul Revis. It has evolved over the last sixteen years into an amazingly well balanced orchestra thanks to its current director, Martin Hinckley, who also arranges all the music. The membership changes slightly as people come and go, but the group continues to draw in both the young and not so young and encompasses a wide range of musical experience.

New members of more or less any instrument at more or less any standard are always welcome at any time. The Players contribute the music in the All-age Worship and have supported special services, such as the Carol Services, Confirmations and a Deanery Service at St. Mary's Hampton.



## The Children's Choir

The children's choir is open to all children from Year 1 and above who love singing. The annual programme usually consists of singing during the services at Mothering Sunday in the spring, Harvest Festival in October, a service around Christmas and any other special occasion.



Music in church tends to be very visible — certainly audible! What you see and hear during a service though is the tip of quite a large iceberg with nine tenths of the work having already happened in advance, usually weeks or months beforehand. St. James's is continually keen to widen the range of its musical life and enhance the inclusive value of musical participation.



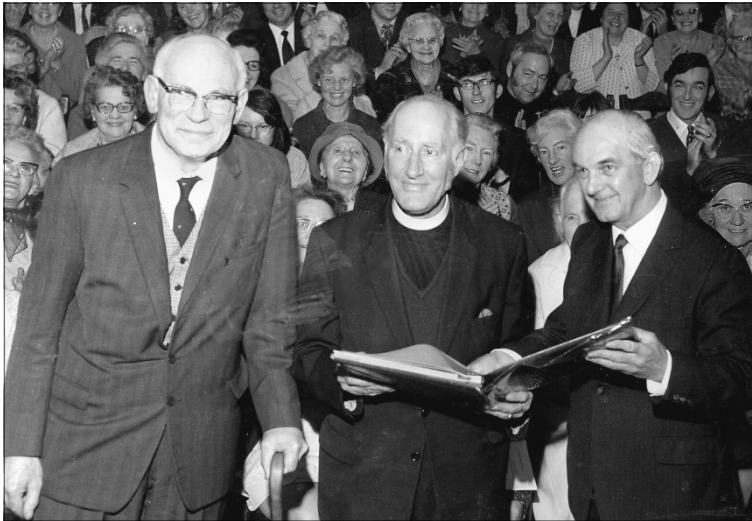
## Recitals and Concerts

The ministry of music is an important part of our parish's life and witness. In this, as in many regards, the church is a major focus in the local community. The layout of the church, its fine acoustics and the facilities of the adjacent church hall all make St. James's an excellent venue for musical events. St. James's hosts concerts by local groups, schools, community organisations and other music-makers, as well as by visiting musicians. The church makes a good rehearsal venue, being home for the chamber choir Concordia Voices, the local Rock Choir and other groups.





# Churchwardens



**1950-1980s** Len Rockcliffe, left, and Bill Robinson, right, present the Revd Rupert Brunt with a book to mark his 21st year as vicar of St James's Church.



**1983-2008** From left to right: Dick Wilde, Lesley Mortimer, Rodney Taylor, Liz Butler, Margaret Taylor, Eila Severn, Alan Taylor and Ann Peterken

St James's Church has an established tradition for the election of our two churchwardens. Historically we had two very long-standing churchwardens — Len Rockcliffe and Bill Robinson — who retired in the early 1980s.

It was then proposed that in future churchwardens should serve for a five-year term, giving the parish not only a range of skills, but also a body of parishioners who even after their term of office have a useful familiarity with the detail of parish administration.

The first churchwarden to serve in this way was Ron Bridges, taking over from Len Rockcliffe, and the following year Eila Severn took over from Bill Robinson. Since then most churchwardens have served for either five or three years, trying to ensure that both churchwardens don't retire at the same time.



**1950-1980s** Ron Bridges, left, and Ruth Mills

We have been very fortunate in our churchwardens and all but four are still members of the congregation. Ron Bridges sadly passed away in 2002 and Alan Taylor, Ruth Mills and Liz Butler have moved away.

Churchwardens must be elected and re-elected by the parish at the Annual Meeting of Parishioners and are formally admitted to the office by the Archdeacon at a special Diocesan service.



**2008-PRESENT** From left: Richard Melville, Liz Wilmot, Carole Greville-Giddings and Nick Bagge. Churchwardens can serve for up to five years.

## FREDA EVANS 1999-2002

Freda came to St James's as a Deacon in July 1999 and was ordained priest in 2000. Prior to this Freda had worked full-time at All Saints, Fulham, during her training. Freda's strong organising skills were of great help to the parish.

In October 2002 she moved to be Vicar of St Barnabas Church, Kingshurst, on the outskirts of Birmingham. In December 2007, Freda was invited to be Team Rector of St Barnabas, Erdington. This has been a very demanding job as it involved the rebuilding of the church which was badly damaged by fire in October 2007.

True to her character, this great work has made Freda feel Birmingham is now her spiritual home.



**The four curates at St James's Church:**

Top left: Freda Evans; Top right: Debbie Oades  
Bottom left: Julie Gittoes; Bottom right: David Bell

## JULIE GITTOES 2003-2006

Our next curate was Julie Gittoes, who came to St James's in July 2003 straight from her training at Westcott College, Cambridge.

During her time with us Brian Leathard took a three-month sabbatical and left Julie in charge of the parish. In 2006 Julie was invited to be the Vicar of our neighbouring church, All Saints, Hampton, and she stayed for five years before becoming a residentiary canon at Guildford Cathedral, where she was installed and inducted on 6 May 2012.

Whilst with us Julie continued her studies and obtained her PhD so we had two Revd Drs in the parish!



## DEBBIE OADES 2008-2011

Debbie came to St James's in October 2008 as a self-supporting curate, having been ordained deacon in 2006 and serving as curate at The Good Shepherd Church, Hounslow.

Whilst at St James's, Debbie also continued her love of teaching music (clarinet, saxophone and recorder).

Debbie showed particular interest in mothers and young children, and was instrumental in setting up The Ark playgroup, among other things.

Debbie moved to Southampton in February 2011 to take up the full-time post of Assistant Vicar of the Benefice of Maybush with St Jude.

## DAVID BELL 2012-PRESENT

David trained at the South East Institute for Theological Education, which is a collaborative partner of Canterbury Christ Church University and came to St James's in September 2009 during his ordination training.

He was ordained Deacon at the end of June 2012 in St Paul's Cathedral and began working as a self-supporting Deacon at St James's.

He was ordained a priest in June 2013 at St Mary's, Osterley, Isleworth.

David is working during the week in events sponsorship management, combining his job with his work at St James's.



# Past Events

**1971 St James's Float** at the Old People's Welfare Pageant, with Peter Bowes-Cavanagh as the Revd Fitzroy John Fitz Wygram and Margery Orton as Mrs Fitz Wygram. Ron Bridges and Yvonne Childs are on the left, and Alan Taylor, Kath Brooks and Bob Britten are on the right. The two can-can girls are Roma Bridges and Pat Young – those were the days!



**1972 Mothers' Union Anniversary Party** The St James's group began in 1897 and continued for over 90 years. The 75th anniversary party was attended by Susan Varah, wife of the founder of the Samaritans, and London president of the MU, pictured centre. On the left are Doris Childs, Vera Rockliffe and Pat Young. On the right are Dorothy Edmonds and Brenda Oliver.



**1974 Waste Paper Collection** Long before the borough council began recycling, David Nunn started a parish doorstep collection. A team from church scoured the area once a month on a Friday night and piled the paper and magazines outside Wayside in St James's Road where it was collected. From 1974 to 1982, £4,000 was raised for local charities and 163 tonnes of newsprint and 52 tonnes of magazines were recycled.



**1978 The Flower Festival** was a popular event for many years. This photo shows, from left to right, Margery Orton, Margaret Leatherdale, the Revd Rupert Brunt and Eila Severn admiring the colourful display at the high altar.

**1980s The Ladies' Choir** was founded in the 1960s by Vivienne Prentice, (mother of Eila Severn), as part of the Mothers' Union. After the MU ceased meeting the choir continued for many years; the members enjoying their singing together. They met regularly in the vestry until 2011. They also entertained local groups; here they are singing at Laurel Dene in the 1980s. Left to right are Eila Severn, Mary Wigginton, Violet Clark, Pat Young and Roma Bridges.



**1989 Dudley the Donkey** made frequent appearances for the church. He lived in a garden in Park Road, next to the churchyard, and many children walked to see him. He stood outside church on Palm Sunday and led the Christmas parades. He is seen here with Mrs Scrimshire's barrel organ and the model of the church for the Spire Appeal Fund.



**1990 The Liturgical Dancers** worked together for 25 years, starting in the early 1980s. They were led by Eila Severn and Pat Young. Their dancing was a form of worship, illustrating a prayer or biblical story; they danced at other churches, and often involved children in performances. Pictured, from left: Jennifer Lloyd, Helen Taylor, Roma Bridges, Eila Severn, Pat Young and Kath Brooks.



**1991 Confirmation** of nine young people (a record number for the time) took place on 9 May, Ascension Day. They were confirmed by Bishop Roderick Coote, assisted by the Revd Dr Brian Leathard. From left: Emily Ormerod, Judith Hennessy, Sanaz Sazegar, Caitlyn Robinson, Lisa Atkinson, Lucie Ormerod, Jessica Treherne, Christopher Melville and Geoffrey Nunn.



**1995 Beating the Bounds** on St James's Day. One year, Brian and Ramani Leathard rode a tandem! In 2000, the parish boundary was extended; it runs from the Hampton side of Apex Corner eastwards along the middle of Staines Road, turning into the Sixth Cross Road, turning again into Wellington Road, crossing the railway, including Kings Road, crossing Hampton Road into Bushy Park, emerging to cross the High Street into Uxbridge Road, then along the whole of the schools' side of Hanworth Road, including the 'Poets' Estate' and back to Apex Corner.



**1997 St James's Day** was a lovely sunny day and lunch was served on the church hall lawn. Many familiar faces are in this photo, including Betty Stewart and Jean Western. St James's Day is 25 July, and we celebrate it with parish communion at the later time of 11am on the nearest Sunday. After the service we traditionally celebrate further with a picnic in the hall area and the vicarage lawn. It is an occasion where parishioners and friends can meet socially. The spire is also open, giving people the chance to ring the bells and enjoy the view.







**1950s The Brunt family** in the mid-1950s. Pictured with the Revd Rupert Brunt and his wife Connie (seated, right) are their four children, left to right: Clare, Bernard, Rosalind and Francis.

When Rupert came to St James's as vicar in 1951, the church urgently needed repairs and renovations. He personally led a very vigorous campaign of fund raising, in the early stages wheeling a barrel organ round the parish with some parishioners, dressed traditionally, asking for donations to help repair the church.

Later he introduced the Stewardship Scheme, now known as Pledged Giving, which transformed the church finances.



**1961 The Chubb family** in the vicarage garden soon after their arrival. Pictured, from left to right, are Andrew, Naomi, Mrs Susan Chubb, Sarah and The Revd Nicholas Chubb. Nicholas continued the tradition of friendly outreach into the community and modernisation of the church building, with the extension of the chancel into the nave, enabling easier access to the communion rail.

**1980s Tom Stanton, Jean Wilson and Margaret Leatherdale.**

Tom, who died in January 2013, was an ordained priest who worked for peace and liberation in Africa. His occasional visits to our parish, where he had family links, were always warmly welcomed by his friends, as well as his sister Hannah. Jean



Wilson is the widow of Canon Gordon Wilson. They lived for many years in this parish after Gordon's retirement. Gordon taking many services at St James's Church. Margaret Leatherdale is now also a widow. She and her husband Denis were always very active in parish work.

**1991 Hannah Stanton (left) and Margery Orton (with bowl) and friends**

at a Hampton Hill Association Christmas party. Hannah, Tom Stanton's sister, was a lay reader of the church. She was knowledgeable and active in church affairs until her death in 1993.

She and Tom were both campaigners against apartheid in South Africa.



Both, at different times, were imprisoned there.

Margery was a faithful member of our church and contributed to and edited the book *Birth and Growth of Hampton Hill*, written for St James's centenary in 1963. She was a keen local historian and held many exhibitions. Her talks of welcome, introducing the parish to newcomers, were always enjoyed.



**2007 Ros McDowell** after being ordained priest by Bishop Michael Colclough on 6 January at the church of The Holy Innocents, Hammersmith. Ros and her husband Tim worshipped at St James's for several years, and Ros did her training for ordination under Brian Leatherdale. Ros and Tim and their two children, Mark and Iona, now worship at St Mary with St Alban, Teddington, their local parish church.

**2010 Eila and Hal Severn (centre) and Ruth and Jack Gostling** have all lived in the parish and worshipped in St James's Church for over 50 years. They have all contributed to the church in many ways; mainly in the launch of the Stewardship Scheme in the 1960s, which rescued the church finances. They have all generously shared their own individual talents. Perhaps most marked of these are Eila's singing, Hal's financial expertise, Ruth's skill as a hostess and Jack's advice and practical work in building and carpentry.



**1994 Left: Topping Out the Church Hall.** Brian Leatherdale and Jack Gostling in the foreground, in the background are Geoffrey Nunn with Helen and Alan Taylor.

Brian initiated the project; Jack and Alan supervised the work and also worked with parish volunteers who dug foundations and drainage channels.

**Right: Vivienne Prentice at the Opening the Church Hall on 4 September 1994.** Vivienne was matriarch of the present Severn dynasty, Hal, Eila, their children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Older choir members will remember her beautiful contralto voice.



**2011 Margaret and David Taylor** are both involved with the Hampton and Hampton Hill Voluntary Care Group (The Greenwood Centre), and always seem to be there when someone needs a helping hand or quiet counsel.

Margaret has been a Churchwarden and for many years the Christian Aid Week organiser. David has served on the PCC. His tenor voice in the church choir has given us many splendid solos; he has also sung with other local choirs. In a humbler, but essential task, Margaret and David have organised and given practical leadership for many years in the duty of weekly church cleaning.



# The Magazine and Website

## 1884: In the beginning

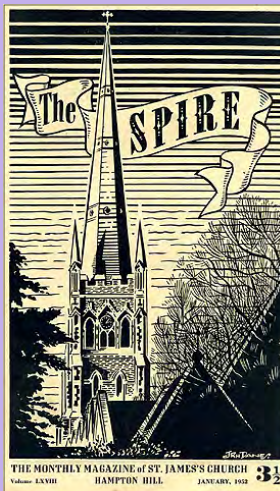


The Hampton Hill Parish Magazine was launched in November 1884. It stated aim was 'to place on record the various little events of parochial life; to give statistics and financial statements of the various institutions of the parish; to give notice of the services and parochial events; and to give the Vicar an opportunity of communicating with his parishioners as occasion may require'.

These original aims were set out in the first editorial and have not changed much over the years. However, the way in which they are achieved has changed a great deal. All the early magazines contained the offertories; extracts from parish registers; hymns; church accounts; individual articles; and the church calendar, showing the services, meetings and activities for the month. Issues also had school reports and the number of District Nurse visits.

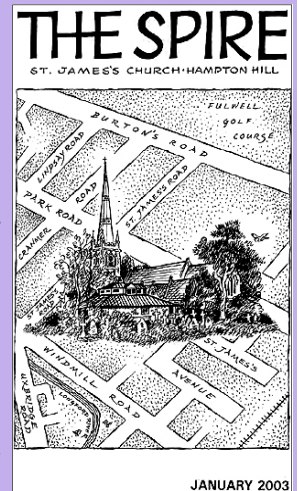
In June 1885 it reported that 'the cost of publication is considerable, one penny-and-two-fifths per copy, exclusive of the trouble of delivery'. The magazine underwent many changes, including size, cover, content and cost, the latter being raised to 4d a copy in the late 1940s.

## 1952: The Spire is born



The Spire was introduced in January 1952, replacing the Hampton Hill Parish Magazine.

The first cover showed a print of the church and succeeding issues continued that idea with the design changing many more times over the years.



One of the achievements of the Christian Stewardship Campaign in 1962 was that plans were made for the free distribution of *The Spire* magazine 'to all who are sufficiently interested to ask for it', an idea continued to this day.

Later, it was decided to have an editorial team of volunteers to produce the magazine instead of the vicar producing it more or less on his own.

From 1983, a few simple black and white images were added, including specially drawn cartoons, but at this stage there was no use of photographs.

The December 1984 issue saw the first deviation of the cover image from the spire to a specifically Christmas design and from then on there were nearly always special Christmas and Easter covers, either in the design or the colour of the paper on which it was printed.

## 2006: Photographs added

APRIL 2006	
Leader	2
Saint for April	3
What's Your Answer?	4
Gap Year Travel Report	5
Making poverty History Update	5
Update on Lent Appeal	5
The History Lady Around the Spire	6
Church Staff	7
Church Contacts	7
Services at St James's	8
Easter Services	8
Dates to Note	8
Forthcoming Events	8
Music at St James's	8

April 2006 saw the first copies of *The Spire* produced in-house. The size changed from A5 to A4. Photographs were added for the first time. The magazine was professionally printed again from October 2008, and the design was revamped to include a number of new features.

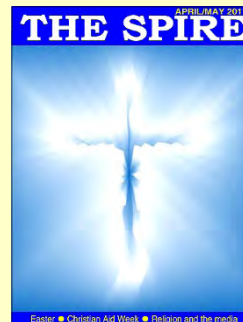
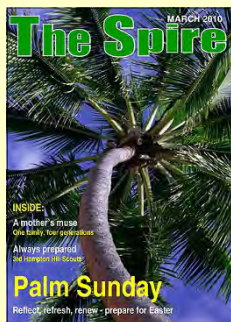
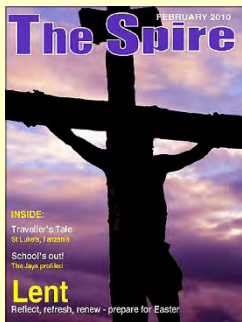


## 2010: Outreach expanded and now in full colour

The distribution of *The Spire* was reviewed in 2010 and as a result more copies were placed in various venues in the High Street, including the Post Office with the response being 'outreach at its best'.

In 2011 the printer, Justin Hollingsworth, was able to produce all nine yearly issues in full colour at no extra cost, fulfilling a Spire Committee ambition.

The magazine continues to evolve with new features, changes to design (see below), and wider circulation, always with the aim of making it into something with even greater appeal throughout the parish. With the new generation's appetite for the internet, *The Spire* is already thinking global!



## 2000: Website launched

After the St. James's Day Parish Communion on 25th July 2000 Bishop Michael of Kensington officially launched St. James's Church website which was created by the still current webmaster, Prill Hinckley. This website exists to further the church's mission to 'Build the kingdom of God on earth, and particularly here in Hampton Hill' by providing information about our church and its activities and by stimulating reflection on our Christian values. The website is an effective way of promoting St. James's, offering an insight into the life of the church, its activities, events and regular services. Increasingly, people are finding this website using a search engine and so the website has become an integral part of our church's outreach to the local community and beyond by being informative, instructive and educational, now averaging over 10,000 visits a month. Please email information to p.m.hinckley@blueyonder.co.uk.

