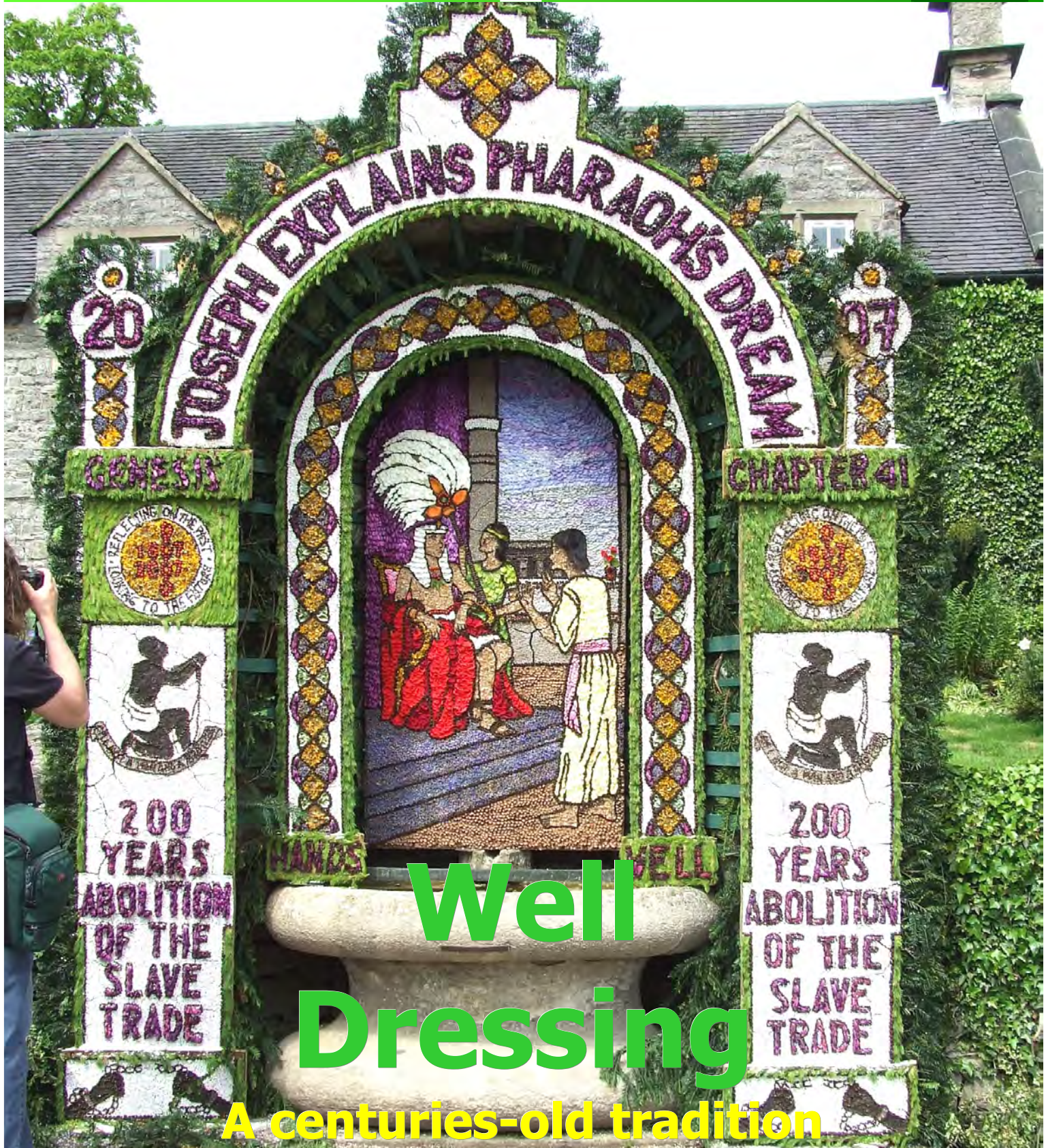


JUNE 2015

the spire

stjames-hamptonhill.org.uk

FREE please take a copy



AROUND THE SPIRE P4 ■ RECIPE FOR LIFE P6 ■ WHAT'S ON P7

Our Church

Registered Charity No 1129286

Clergy

Vicar

The Revd Peter Vannozi (pictured, right)
Peter was born in Hanwell in 1962, but owes his surname to his Italian great-grandfather. He was ordained in 1987. Peter is a Governor of Hampton Hill Junior School and a Trustee of the Hampton and Hampton Hill Voluntary Care Group.
Telephone: 020 8979 2069
Email: vicar@stjames-hamptonhill.org.uk



Curate

The Revd David Bell
David was born in Skipton in 1952. He is a self-supporting minister, ordained in June 2012, and working during the week in events sponsorship management.
Telephone: 077 1057 2498
Email: davidbell@stjames-hamptonhill.org.uk

Parish Office



Administrator

Jane Gibson
For all general enquiries and hall bookings. The office is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings.
Telephone: 020 8941 6003
Email: office@stjames-hamptonhill.org.uk
Address: St James's Church, 46 St James's Road, Hampton Hill TW12 1DQ

Officials



Churchwarden

Nick Bagge
Nick is a former television journalist, now working at a local theatre.
Telephone: 020 8783 0871
Email: Nickbagge1@aol.com



Churchwarden

Penny Sewell
Penny is a retired hotel industry training officer; now a school reading volunteer.
Telephone: 020 8977 2844
Email: penny29bpg@aol.com



Treasurer

Don Barrett
Before retiring, Don worked at the Church Commissioners for England, who manage the Church of England's assets.
Telephone: 020 8979 3331
Email: donbarrett8@blueyonder.co.uk



Organist / Choirmaster

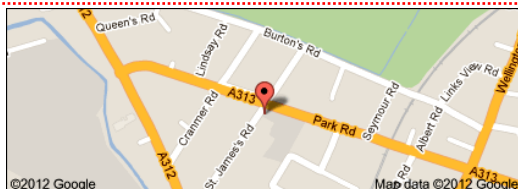
Mark Blackwell
Mark is an accomplished parish organist with 40 years of experience.
Telephone: 077 6814 6879
Email: Mark@mhrconsultancy.co.uk

SUPPORT US!

- The more **volunteers**, the more we can do
- Support us by **regular giving**, it's easy to do
- Leave a **gift in your will**, a lasting legacy

Finding us

St James's Church is on the corner of St James's Road and Park Road. There is ample parking in the road.



Bell Ringing Susan Horner 020 8979 9380

Brownies and Guides

Girlguiding.org.uk or 0800 1 69 59 01

Charities and Links Committee

Ann Peterken 020 8891 5862

Children's Champion

Stuart Richardson 020 8890 4854

Church Cleaning Debbie Nunn 020 8979 3078

Church Flowers Coryn Robinson 020 8979 6786

Churches Together Around Hampton

Ann Peterken 020 8891 5862

Deanery Synod Ann Peterken 020 8891 5862

Electoral Roll Jane Gibson 020 8941 6003

Eco-Group Catherine Gash 020 8783 0563

Hall Bookings

Jane Gibson 020 8941 6003

Hall Tea / Coffee Rotas Clare Ryan 079 6413 1135

Mission Partner Link Liz Wilmot 020 8977 9434

Mozambique/Angola Link

Gwynneth Lloyd 020 8943 0709

Music and Worship Committee

Peter Vannozi 020 8979 2069

PCC Secretary Clare Ryan 079 6413 1135

Planned Giving Committee

Gwynneth Lloyd 020 8943 0709

Properties Committee

Bryan Basdell 020 8979 2040

Safeguarding Officer

Jane Newman 020 8979 6154

Scout Group Paul Fitchett 020 8941 7186

Servers Lesley Mortimer 020 8941 2345

Sidespersons Janet Taylor 020 8979 0046

St James's Ark Debbie Nunn 020 8979 3078

St James's Hospitality / Parish Breakfast
Clare Ryan and Kirstie Craig 079 6413 1135

St James's Players Martin Hinckley 020 8979 0528

The Shell Seekers (Sunday School)

Term-time in the hall from 9.25am
(except when there is an all-age service.)
Stuart Richardson 020 8890 4854

Tools with a Mission Janet Nunn 020 8979 6325

Theatre Club Peter Hale 020 979 9287

Visitors' Group Liz Wilmot 020 8977 9434

Weekly Pew Sheet Jane Gibson 020 8941 6003

From the Editor...

In this month's edition we are highlighting a truly English tradition which Susan Horner describes in the centre pages.

Few people, it seems, know about 'well dressing'. It involves the whole village in its preparation and is followed by a blessing when it is put in place in front of the village well. I watched one of the designs being put together in the Derbyshire village of Eyam several years ago. It was fascinating to see the amount of work involved and watch people of all ages taking part.

We are also featuring another Derbyshire tradition — the Bakewell Pudding (not the tart that we know) and there is a famous Bakewell Pudding Shop in Bakewell!

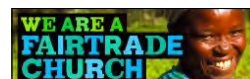
This month we shall be saying goodbye to our curate, David, as he moves to pastures new and the next stage of his journey. We send our best wishes to David, and his wife Janet, who has compiled this month's *My Favourite...* We shall miss both of them.

Thank you to everyone who has so generously supported this year's Spire Appeal. We have already received well over £1,000 and all your contributions are gratefully received.

Best wishes

Janet

Janet Nunn



the**spire** is published nine times a year for the Parochial Church Council of St James.

We make no charge for this magazine, but we 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.

STORIES, FEATURES

If you have any ideas, or would like to write for the magazine, please contact the Editor, Janet Nunn.

Telephone: 020 8979 6325

Email: janunh@btinternet.com

AROUND THE SPIRE

If you have any news, please contact Susan Horner:

Email: smhorner5@yahoo.co.uk

WHAT'S ON

Nick Bagge is listings editor. If you have an event to be considered for inclusion, contact him.

Email: Nickbagge1@aol.com

WEBSITE / SPIRE BY EMAIL / YOUNG SPIRE

Prill Hinckley is webmaster. If you would like to receive the magazine by email, please contact her.

Prill also compiles the Young Spire page.

Email: p.m.hinckley@blueyonder.co.uk

CIRCULATION

the**spire** is available free from church and other outlets. It is also delivered across the parish and posted further afield. Contact Susan Horner:

Telephone: 020 8979 9380

Email: smhorner5@yahoo.co.uk

Write to: 5 St James's Avenue, Hampton Hill, Middlesex TW12 1HH

NEXT ISSUE / COPY DEADLINE

The July issue is published on Fri 26 June. All copy must be with us by **Tue 2 June**.

Credits

PRODUCTION

Design Nick Bagge

Proofreaders Susan Horner and Dick Wilde

PUBLISHING

Printer Justin Hollingsworth 020 8686 4481

the**spire** magazine is printed on paper that is sourced from well-managed forests, as laid down by the Forest Stewardship Council.



© St James's Church 2015. Unauthorised reproduction in whole or part is prohibited without written permission from the editor.

Manuscripts, photographs and artwork are accepted on the basis that the**spire** does not accept liability for loss or damage to them. We cannot print anything subject to copyright. Views expressed in the**spire** are not necessarily those of the PCC of St James.

Please recycle this magazine after use



Come and worship with us!



Sundays

8am Holy Communion

9.30am Parish Communion

Sunday 7 June

Corpus Christi

Genesis 14.18-20;

1 Corinthians 11.23-26;

John 6.51-58

Sunday 14 June

2nd Sunday of Trinity

Ezekiel 17.22-24;

2 Corinthians 5.6-17;

Mark 4.26-34

Sunday 21 June All-Age Service

3rd Sunday of Trinity

8am and 11am: Job 38.1-11;

2 Corinthians 6.1-13;

Mark 4.35-41;

9.30am: Matthew 16.13-20

Sunday 28 June

4th Sunday of Trinity

Wisdom of Solomon 1.13-15; 2.23,24;

2 Corinthians 8.7-15;

Mark 5.21-43

Mondays-Fridays (not Tues)

9.15am Morning Prayer

Tuesdays

9.30am Holy Communion

COMING SOON

Sunday 5 July

Jacky Cammidge's first eucharist as curate

Sunday 12 July

St James's Day

Lunch in the Vicarage garden.

Climb the spire, ring the bells

The journey continues



Why do things have to change? Can't we just be the same? I mean...it's so good, isn't it? Can't we just stay as we are? There is something in all of us that wants to keep things just as they are, yet we only grow by changing and adapting to new developments in our lives.

However, as Christians, we face the unpredictable with a vital and unchanging connection between Jesus Christ and ourselves. 'I am the vine,' he says, 'and you are the branches' in John's gospel Chapter 15. The allegory of the vine brings before us the importance of fruitfulness in our Christian lives and the truth is that, in the face of a changing world, this fruitfulness is the result, not of human achievement, but of abiding in Christ. St Paul described believers as being 'in' Christ.

After six years of 'abiding' with you all at St James's, change is in the wind for Janet and me and it is time for us to put on our walking boots and head out on another path. We move with a feeling of loss, naturally, after sharing such a happy time with you and enjoying your companionship in the love of Jesus.

From my early sermons, when I tried to work out how the teachings from scripture can enable us to be closer to God, to my first Eucharist as a priest, you have watched, listened and encouraged me in my vocation.

We are a Eucharistic community here at St James's, in that we give thanks to God at nearly all of our worship by celebrating Holy Communion. It is a pattern that comes from Jesus who constantly gave thanks to his Father and it is another constant in times of change.

Charity Box Cara — Making life better for people with HIV

The word Cara is derived from the Gaelic word for friend. Cara Trust was founded by the Revd David Randall in 1988 as a community of friendship for people living with HIV, a focus that continues to make it unique as an HIV charity.

St James's is a faithful supporter of the Cara Trust, whose annual income is about £250,000. From its base in Notting Hill, the charity's main aim is to support and improve the lives of people across London who are



HIV positive and need a little extra help.

It recognises the importance of providing a holistic service catering to mind, body and soul.

The range of services include social, spiritual and emotional support, advice and advocacy, financial support applications, complementary therapies, retreats and social activities, counselling, home and hospital visiting, and very helpful peer support groups.

Volunteers play a valuable role in all that Cara Trust delivers. Service users enjoy meeting people from all walks of life.

www.caralife.com

At our very first visit to this church, Janet and I felt that it was the right place for us. Since then we have worshipped at the Lord's table, shared our stories and enjoyed the Sunday services in the Fitz Wygram Hall for a few months. All of it is recorded with panache in the excellent *Spire* magazine, which the Bishop acknowledged as among the best.

I give thanks for having such a sagacious trainer as Peter, who made us both welcome from the first and has listened to my thoughts and been there to show me how and why (sometimes over and over again!) with such patience.

Just as the sun rises on a new day, you will have a new curate, Jacky Cammidge, with new skills and talents that will enrich your spiritual lives, as she develops and grows. This nurturing characteristic of our community is something to be celebrated and acknowledged.

In my venturing out from St James's, another part of the wider body of the church will benefit from the way I have been shaped, as a priest, by your attentiveness and fellowship.

The purpose of the vine is to bear fruit and, in Jesus, we have a strong and healthy vine on which to depend.

So I give thanks to God as I set out for new possibilities, like many other pilgrims who walk in faith and travel with their Lord. But before we do we have to thank all of you for your love and being so supportive....and I'll miss the cake!

David's final Sunday with us is 7 June. It will be followed by a celebration toast and food in the Fitz Wygram Hall. Do help to make this a suitably warm St James's send-off



Thought & Prayer

Taking time to talk to God

Vocation and Devotion

God our Father, who has taught us that there are a variety of gifts, but the same spirit, send your Spirit now to renew the vision of your people, that as we give thanks for all that has been, so may we look forward to the time when we, in all our diversity, may truly become people of God.
Amen.

May I never boast of anything except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.

Galatians 6.14

May the Lord bless our ears, that we may hear his word.
May the Lord bless our eyes, that we may see his light.
May the Lord bless our lips, that we may respond to his love.

May the Lord bless our hearts, that he may dwell there forever.

May the Lord bless our shoulders, that we may carry his cross and live always by his saving power.

Amen

You are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with saints and also members of the household of God.

Ephesians 2.19

Lord your spirit sends apostles to all points of the compass, and you draw people of all races and nations into one family in your church.

Broaden our horizons to learn from one another, expand our generosity to support one another, increase our vision to pray for one another, that united, as joint heirs of your grace, the whole earth may resound with your praise and glory, through Jesus Christ, who is our true peace.
Amen

Jesus says that he came to call not the righteous, but sinners to be his followers.

Matthew 9.13

Prepare me, O Lord for the place you have set for me.
Use me as you will, for in your desire is my hope and in your purpose is my true goal.
Give me patience when your pace seems too slow to me.
Strengthen and sustain me when I fear that I may collapse under pressure.

In all things, keep me hopeful and keep me thankful, for your love has held me to this point and I know it will never let me go.

Forgive me when I forget your eternity;
Through Jesus Christ who is our companion and salvation.

Amen

A prayer for vocation



Local and National stories

Carole hands over keys to Penny

AFTER FIVE YEARS as a churchwarden, Carole Greville-Giddings, pictured right, has stood down.

At the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM), Peter, our vicar, paid tribute to her immense contribution and presented her with a bouquet.

Stepping into her shoes is Penny Sewell, whose husband Laurence is a member of the Parochial Church Council (PCC). Penny will serve alongside



Nick Bagge, who was re-elected for a fifth year. The PCC has two new members. Linda Webb, who helps run our Sunday School, the Shell Seekers, returns to the PCC after a two-year break. Joining her is Emma Disher from The Ark group. The PCC hope to fill two further places soon.

Church growth a key challenge

THE PCC HAS been asked to come up with a strategy to increase the congregation and attract more families. It follows the PCC's Away-day in January at which the former Bishop of Kensington, the Rt Revd Paul Williams led discussions on how other churches had achieved growth.

Peter told the APCM that a working party had been set up to explore all the options. He emphasised that the desire to grow did not mean that existing members weren't valued, but the number of parishioners would decline year-on-year unless action was taken.

Meanwhile, treasurer Don Barrett reported that the church had a surplus at the end of the year, due to the legacy from the Revd Betty Stewart. Some had been invested to produce an income. The church had also made donations of £5,000 each to the hospital in Milo and to St Richard's Church, Hanworth. The rest would be invested in the short term while the PCC decided how best to use it.

Annual spending included £118,000 to replace the heating system. However, if the legacy and heating costs were taken out of the accounts, the church recorded a small loss for the year.

Help sought for care charity

A NEW LOCAL CHARITY, Embracing Age, has been established by Tina English, pictured, a trained nurse who has worked for Age Concern and Age UK. Research shows that older people in care homes are twice as likely to feel lonely as those living in the community.

While other local charities offer valuable befriending services to older people in the community, Embracing Age aims to support those in care homes by offering friendship and one-to-one activities, such as using technology to stay in touch with family and friends, reading to someone with a visual impairment or simply chatting.

The faith-inspired charity is currently seeking volunteers. Anyone interested should visit embracingage.org.uk or call 020 3778 0035.



Jacky's ordination service

AFTER THREE YEARS of intensive training, Jacky Cammidge will be ordained deacon in St Paul's Cathedral on Saturday 4 July at 3pm. Please come and support her. We will welcome Jacky as curate the next day at our 9.30am Parish Communion and afterwards in the hall.

Jacky will now be able to lead services, funerals and baptisms. In a year's time she will be ordained priest, enabling her to conduct Holy Communion.

■ Jacky has bought Hillpark Nursery School, which operates from our church hall, from current owner Sarah Merry. Jacky will continue to run a nursery school at The Greenwood Centre.



Well dressing: a



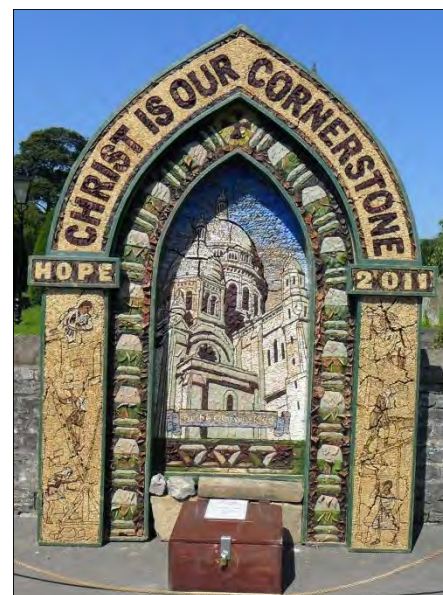
Every year, between May and September, villages across the Peak District dress wells to give thanks for their clean water supply. Dating from the Plague in 1348, when a third of the population died, elaborate pictures are created using flower petals pressed into clay. **Susan Horner** looks at how the local custom first began.

Well dressing has been a custom in many villages in Derbyshire and Staffordshire for many hundreds of years. It is a thanksgiving for the gift of water and in its present form is thought to have started in the village of Tissington, just after the Black Death of 1348-9.

Although the population nearby was ravaged, in Tissington all escaped, and the immunity was thought to be due to the purity of the water supply. It became the custom to decorate the wells in thanksgiving. It is also recorded that during a severe and prolonged drought in 1615, when many cattle perished and crops failed, the five wells of Tissington flowed freely and surrounding villages were grateful for this unending supply of water.

Pictures often tell Biblical stories

In earlier times, the wells would be simply decorated with a few flowers and leaves. However, since Victorian times, the well dressing takes the form of a picture, often from the Bible. The cover photograph shows a well in Tissington in 2007, with Joseph explaining Pharaoh's dream. The side panels celebrated the end of slavery.



centuries-old art



The wooden frames for the picture are soaked in water in a river or pond for a week before work starts. A thick layer of clay, sometimes mixed with salt, is then trowelled into the frame. This must not be too wet, as it will not accept the design, or too dry, when



it will be unable to hold the petals. The design, which has been drawn out on paper, is placed over the clay and pricked through with a needle or compass point. The outline is then marked out with seeds. Mosses and lichens, grass and leaves are used to start to build up the picture and flower petals are added last



of all. Berries, corn and cones may also be used, but all materials must be natural. The frames are often made up of several parts to enable them to be



worked on concurrently by the petallers. The process involves the whole community, with all age-groups contributing to the final display. The task of creating the finished picture takes about a week and it is then erected by the well. There is usually a procession to each well, where it is blessed by the local vicar. The pictures last about a week, depending on weather conditions, and the frames are then dismantled, cleaned and stored until the following year.

Where there is more than one well in a village, one is often decorated by children. The photo, left, shows a well in Eyam in 2014, celebrating 100 years of the Brownies.

When the Plague came to Eyam

The village of Eyam is also famous because of its reaction to the Plague. In 1665, some tailor's materials were delivered from London, where the Plague was raging, to a house in Eyam. The man who opened the package became ill soon afterwards and died, this death being quickly followed by the deaths of other members of the household.

The infection spread rapidly through the village and the death toll in October was the same as that for the whole of the previous year.

Under the leadership of the rector, instead of fleeing the village, the residents agreed to three drastic measures to control the spread of infection.

Firstly, they agreed to quarantine themselves so that the disease did not spread to the surrounding area. Food was left by the then owner of Chatsworth and by people from neighbouring villages at three dropping zones near the village boundary.

When they had gone, the Eyam villagers collected the food and left money in holes drilled in stones, to which they added vinegar to disinfect the money.

Secondly, they buried the dead in their own gardens and fields, instead of the churchyard, so that the infected corpses could be buried as quickly as possible and nobody outside the family was involved.

Finally, they closed the church and worshipped in the open air, so that they could keep at a greater distance and minimise the risk of passing the infection to each other.

Even so, over the next 14 months the Plague claimed 260 lives out of a population of about 800, including the rector's wife.

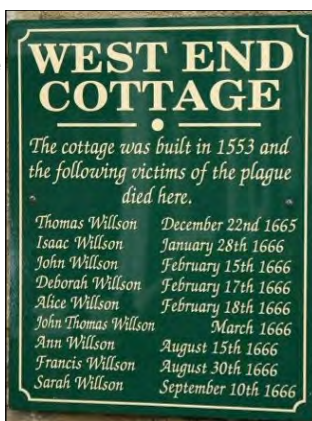
There are plaques today outside many of the houses recording the deaths of up to 9 members of the household in this short time.

The result of the self-imposed quarantine of the people of Eyam was that the Plague remained contained in the village and nobody in the surrounding area was infected.

Planning your visit

It is certainly worth a visit to the wells at Eyam, Foolow, Tissington, Hartington, Buxton or many other towns if you are in the area. Well dressing happens throughout the summer.

A list of dates can be found on the internet at welldressing.com



A clutch of clergy grandchildren!



SINCE THE previous issue of *The Spire*, both our outgoing and incoming curates have become grandparents, and our former vicar, Brian Leathard, has a second granddaughter.

On 21 March, a daughter, Millie Isabella, was born to David and Janet Bell's daughter Catherine and her partner Kristian in Brighouse, Yorkshire.

Easter at the vicarage at Chelsea was particularly special this year as Peter and Anusha Hesketh's second daughter Anya Isabella, a sister to Leila, was born on Holy Saturday. Brian's father Ray had just arrived from Berwick-on-Tweed and Ramani's mother, Thilaka, from Sri Lanka, so four generations were together to celebrate Easter. The family is pictured top left.

Abigail, eldest daughter of Jacky and Alan Cammidge, married Jacobus Zietsman at St. James's last May, and their first child, a son, unnamed at the time of going to press, was born on 4 May. Proud grandfather Alan is pictured top right with his grandson.

We send our congratulations and best wishes to all these families.

Singers needed for big event

THE LOCAL Voices for Hospices Choir has been invited to be part of the Festival of Rugby, a series of events that will support the Rugby World Cup in September and October.



Membership of the choir is open to all, and they are looking for singers to join them at a special day of events at Kempton Park Racecourse on 27 September, one of the highlights of which will be a massed Come and Sing performance of *The Armed Man*, accompanied by a professional orchestra. This event will raise funds for local hospices including the Princess Alice Hospice and Shooting Star Chase, which has hospices in Hampton and Guildford. For more information go to vfchoir.com.

Christian Aid



THANK YOU to all the Christian Aid Week volunteer collectors who pounded the streets around the parish delivering the red envelopes and returning to gather them in.

Co-ordinators Linda Webb, left, and Liz Wilmot, centre, are pictured with Jean Jennings, one of the door-to-door collectors.

We'll announce the total amount collected in our next issue.

A toast to Pat



CONGRATULATIONS to Pat Young, who celebrated her 90th birthday with her family on 22 April. Pat has been a member of our congregation for 60 years, helping to run a keep-fit class until she was 80, and also active in the Mothers' Union and flower arranging, which she only gave up last year. The celebrations included drinks and birthday cake after church.



World unites to save the planet



World Environment Day (WED) began in 1972 and is celebrated every year on 5 June. It has become one of the most important ways that the United Nations encourages worldwide awareness of the environment. The aim is for everyone to take positive action to protect nature and the planet Earth. WED is a day for people from all walks of life to come together to ensure a cleaner, greener and brighter outlook for themselves and future generations.

Ethiopia is considered one of Africa's poorest nations. In 2000 it recorded some of the highest poverty rates in the world, with 56 per cent of the population living below the poverty line. As part of its poverty-reduction strategy, Ethiopia began



Returning from work in the fields

introducing modern agricultural methods in 2005, as well as increasing new export schemes to help economic growth. Despite very good progress made in reducing poverty, a number of challenges means that some 37 million Ethiopians remain either poor or vulnerable to falling into poverty.

Millions don't get enough to eat

Three out of every four Ethiopians work in agriculture, mainly farming and livestock production. Despite this, more than 31 million people don't eat enough nutritious food. Frequent drought, a lack of training and equipment for farmers, and poor access to markets make it difficult for many of them to earn a living.

In Ethiopia, rural farmers are increasingly vulnerable to unpredictable weather patterns brought on by the effects of climate change. Since the 1960s, average annual temperatures in



Taking water home

Ethiopia have increased by 1.3°C. Weather patterns are becoming increasingly hard to predict, with shortened seasons, dramatic shifts between wet and dry conditions and more frequent storms and other extreme weather events, such as flooding and droughts. As temperatures continue to rise due to climate change, these problems are all likely to increase.

Consume with care

The WED theme this year is *Seven Billion Dreams. One Planet. Consume with Care*. Evidence is building that people are consuming far more natural resources than the planet can sustainably provide. Many of the Earth's ecosystems are nearing critical tipping-points of depletion or irreversible change. By 2050, if consumption remains the same, we would need three planets to sustain our ways of living.



Everyone helps to do the washing

Photos: Dan Smith

Our Sunday School, The Shell Seekers, meets in the hall from 9.25am during school terms, except for one Sunday in most months when there is an all-age service in church. We welcome new members. Come along for a trial visit and see just how much fun it can be.



Bakewell Pudding



Bakewell pudding comes from Bakewell in the Peak District in Derbyshire. The pudding should not be confused with Bakewell Tart. It is only a very distant, far-removed cousin from the glacé cherry-topped tart championed by Mr Kipling. The pudding is made with puff pastry, whereas the tart uses shortcrust pastry.

Its origins are not entirely clear. The generally accepted story is that it was originally made by accident at a local inn around 1860. Mrs Graves, the landlady of the White Horse Inn (now called Rutland Arms Hotel), instructed her cook to bake a strawberry tart for some guests, but instead of stirring the egg mixture into the pastry, cook accidentally spread it on top of the jam instead.

The surprisingly delicious result was declared a triumph, and Bakewell resident Mrs Wilson, the entrepreneurial wife of a tallow chandler, obtained the recipe and began selling the puddings from her cottage.

Unfortunately, like many legendary stories, it doesn't stand up to scrutiny. The White Horse Inn was demolished in about 1804 and recipes for the pudding appeared in a book in 1845.

What we do know for sure is that the official recipe has never been released, and the town still remains jealously protective of it.

Bakewell Pudding is probably more of a dessert than a treat in the afternoon with a cup of tea, though, like the recipe itself, opinion is divided.

Ingredients

Makes one pudding

500g puff pastry, shop bought is fine
3 tbs raspberry jam
150g butter
150g caster sugar
3 medium eggs plus 1 yolk, beaten
150g ground almonds
zest of a 1 lemon
1 tsp almond extract



Method

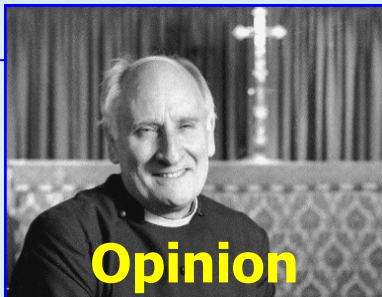
- 1) Pre-heat the oven to 190°C / 375°F or Gas 5. Roll out the pastry on a lightly floured board to ¼ inch / 5mm thick.
- 2) Grease and then line an 8 inch/20 cm deep tart tin with the pastry. Prick the base all over with a fork. Chill in the fridge for 20 minutes.
- 3) Line the tart case with baking / greaseproof paper and fill with baking beans. Cook for 15 minutes or until the pastry is a pale golden colour. Remove the baking beans, cook for a further 5 minutes.
- 4) Spread the raspberry jam onto the base of the pastry case, leave to one side.
- 5) Cream the butter and sugar together until pale in colour with an electric whisk. Beat the egg yolk into the beaten eggs and slowly add to the creamed butter and sugar a little at a time. Gently fold in the ground almonds, lemon zest and almond extract.
- 6) Pour the mixture into the pastry case. Level the surface, ensuring the whole case is filled. Bake for 30 minutes.



Next Issue:

Celebration Cake





Opinion

with Canon Julian Reindorp

WHO CARES?

I am always amazed that in all the talk about immigration no-one seems to question that we have a right to drain some of the best doctors and nurses from the developing world to work in our NHS. Then, when we are old, we once more drain the developing world of their carers for our needs, and we pay them the minimum wage or less for their work. Next time you have a chance to talk to a carer, ask them about their pay and conditions.

THE POOR AND RICH

In the same fortnight we learnt that a record 1.1 million people are now using food banks, a 19% increase on the last year, and up from 41,000 in 2009-10. Experts warned that these figures are the 'tip of the iceberg' of food poverty in the UK, while doctors said that the inability of families to buy enough food had become a public health issue.

Meanwhile, Britain's billionaires have seen their net worth more than double since the recession: the richest 1,000 families now control £547bn (up from £258bn in 2009).

London now has 80 billionaires, more than any other city in the world. The Institute for Fiscal Studies says the average family is as well off as in 2008. The richest sports star is Lewis Hamilton, worth £88m, and the Queen has for the first time dropped out of the richest 300.

RISE IN VOLUNTEERING

The number of volunteers involved in church community projects has risen nearly 60% in four years. The National Church and Social Action Survey shows that 1.4 million volunteers shared in UK church-based projects in the past year, involving 114.8 million hours.

The top five activities were food distribution, parent and toddler groups, school assemblies or RE work, festivals or fun days and children's clubs. Many churches now provide marriage courses as well as youth work. In the past four years, church involvement in food distribution had risen from 8% to 80%.

CHRISTIAN PERSECUTION

Cardinal Vincent Nichols, Roman Catholic Archbishop of Westminster, has asked whether Christians fleeing in large numbers from the Middle East, the cradle of our faith, will ever return?

A recent report for the United Nations suggested that Christians are targeted in 151 of the UN member states. Pope Francis paid tribute to persecuted Christians, whom he called 'the martyrs of our time'.

PASSION PLAY CROWDS

The organisers of the Richmond Passion Play, performed in the town's streets on Good Friday expected some 500 people to turn up. In fact, over 2,000 did.

RELIGION IN THE UK

The UK is among the least religious countries in the world. In a global ranking of 65 countries, the UK came sixth from last with 30% calling themselves religious. Globally two-thirds of people consider themselves religious, and those under 34 tend to be more religious than other age groups.

MORE WOMEN BISHOPS

After Libby Lane, as Bishop of Stockport, we now have Alison White as Bishop of Hull and Rachel Treweek as Bishop of Gloucester — all of them have clergy husbands.

What's On

with Nick Bagge



NEW

Faith at Work

Saturdays from 6 June, 9.15-10.15am, St James's Church

The Summer programme of discussions about how our faith impacts on our working lives opens with Alan Cammidge and Faith in Changing Roles.

The rest of the programme is: 11 July, Lou Coaker, Faith and Taxation, postponed from March; and 25 July, Lesley Mortimer, Faith on the Campus.



NEW

Traidcraft Stall

Sunday 7 June, 10.30-11.30am, St James's Church

There will also be a stall on Sun 5 July (in hall) and in church on Sat 11 July (10am-3pm) and Sun 12 July (12.30-3pm).

NEW

Hampton Hill's Future

Monday 8 June, 6.30pm, Hampton Hill Playhouse, 90 High Street, Hampton Hill TW12 1NZ

Richmond council's Village Plan for Hampton Hill will shape the area. It will cover a range of improvements — for example the look and character of buildings, the use of green space and traffic issues. This informal gathering is co-hosted by the Hampton Hill Association and the Hampton Hill Traders' Association, who will be joined by the council's Community Links Officers. As the venue is limited in size please RSVP to info@lovehamptonhill.com or register at Hampton Hill Library.

NEW

Twickenham Choral Society

Saturday 13 June, 10.30am-5pm, St Andrew's Church, Maple Road, Surbiton, Surrey KT6 4AL

An open workshop on Handel's *Israel in Egypt*, led by Laurence Cummings, Musical Director of the London Handel Festival. Tea and informal concert at 4pm.

NEW

The Barnes Choir

Saturday 20 June, 7.30pm, All Saints Church, East Sheen Avenue, London SW14 8AX

A concert including Vierne's *Messe Solennelle*, Duruflé's *Requiem* and Fauré's *Motets*. Telephone 020 8876 4825.

NEW

Concordia Voices

Sunday 21 June, St Mary with St Alban Church, Teddington

Tickets £12 (concessions £10) on door or £10 (£8) in advance from members, or by emailing secretary@concordiavoices.org

NEW

Hampton Hill Summer Fair

Saturday 27 June, 12.30-7pm, all along High Street

It must be summer! The local traders help us celebrate what is good about the local community. The fun includes a treasure hunt, tug of war, storytelling, music workshops, face painting, craft and food markets, a dog show, pony rides and children's rides. For full information go to Lovehamptonhill.com

NEW

Teddington Choral Society

Saturday 27 June, 7.30pm Waldegrave School, Main Hall, Fifth Cross Road, Twickenham TW2 5LH

An evening of jazz-inspired choral music, including George Shearing's *Songs and Sonnets from Shakespeare*; John Rutter's *Birthday Madrigals* and Bob Chicott's *A Little Jazz Mass*. Tickets £14 on door (£12 concessions).

NEW

Twickenham Choral Society

Saturday 4 July, 7.30pm, All Saints Kingston Parish Church, Market Place, Kingston upon Thames KT1 1JP

Handel's *Israel in Egypt* with Brandenburg Baroque Sinfonia and soloists Mary Bevan, Roderick Morris and Nathan Vale.

NEW

Car-free Sunday

Sunday 5 July, St James's Church

We encourage worshippers, wherever possible, to leave the car at home and think about the environment.

NEW

TW12 Jazz Festival

Friday 17-Sunday 19 July, various locations

Now in its third year — and with even more events over an entire weekend in South West London. For details of the musicians and to book go to tw12jazzfestival.co.uk

NEW

St James's Day Service and Open Day

Sunday 12 July, 11am, St James's Church

Our annual service and open day will this year be a double celebration as it will include several members of the congregation being confirmed by our preacher, the Rt Revd Stephen Platten, Rector of St Michael's, Cornhill, and an honorary Assistant Bishop to the Diocese of London.



Prior to taking up the post in July last year, Michael was Bishop of Wakefield for 11 years. Born in London, he worked for Shell before ordination. As usual, following the service, lunch will be served in the hall and can be taken into the vicarage garden.

The church will re-open from 1pm-3pm, giving parishioners and visitors the chance to climb the tower and ring the bells.

NEW

Prudential Ride London

Saturday and Sunday 1-2 August

Over 95,000 cyclists will be participating in five separate events on traffic-free roads in London and Surrey over the weekend. After passing through Richmond Park, the Prudential Ride London-Surrey Classic route continues through the heart of Kingston upon Thames and through Bushy Park to Hampton Court and into Surrey. Many local roads will be closed and expect some congestion. We'll have more in our next issue.

Registers for March and April

MARCH

Baptisms

8 Heidi Joan Mackenzie Hodgson, Teddington
22 Alice Mary Healing, Teddington

Wedding

27 Gregory Wilfred Woodland and Lisa Jane Kingston, Twickenham

Funerals

3 Brian Edward Deal, 74, Hampton Hill
5 William John Finnemore, 91, Hampton Hill
16 Florence Edith Benham, 89, Hampton Hill
25 Elizabeth Anne Davies, 73, Hampton Hill

APRIL

Baptisms

12 Stanley Harrison Fox, Hampton
26 Ronnie Patrick Darbon, Hampton

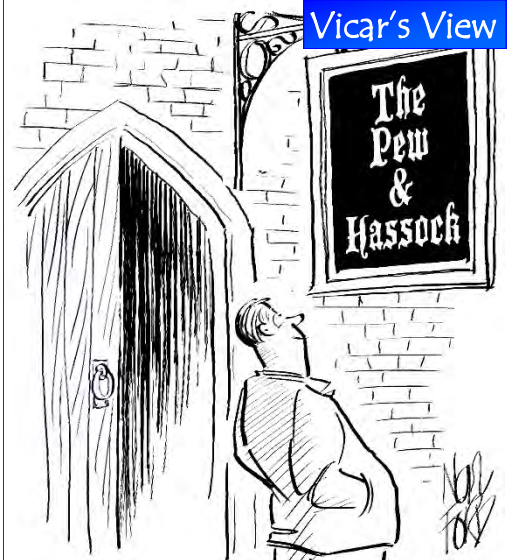
Weddings

7 Robert James Kennard and Lindsay Kay Clifford, Walton on Thames
18 Andrew Nigel Hyde and Anna Elizabeth Clark, Maid's Moreton

Funerals

2 Walter Sigismund Blaschke, 90, Hampton
21 Jean Edith Coats, 84, Hampton
28 Ricky Smith, 32, Richmond

Vicar's View



Changing the name from *St Mark's Church* resulted in a big increase in the number of men attending services



Where every night is a first night performance

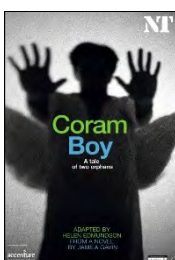
There is something very exciting about sitting in a theatre auditorium waiting for a live production to start. Film is fixed in time, but theatre responds to the audience and each performance is a unique experience.

David and I love theatre and try to go whenever the opportunity arises. Narrowing it down to 10 favourite productions has been almost impossible, but has reminded us of some memorable experiences.

So, in no particular, order...

1 CORAM BOY National Theatre

An epic production, based on the book *The Coram Boy*, with a large cast, orchestra and chorus. We didn't know the story of the hospital for orphans in Bloomsbury and Sir Henry Coram but found the production at the Olivier Theatre one of the most moving we have experienced.

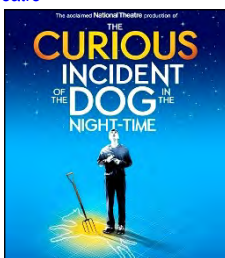


If ever music enhanced an experience it was here with Coram's contemporary Handel conducting a quartet as the soundtrack to superb effect. If the gentleman who sat next to me is reading this – apologies and thank you for your concern as I sobbed at the end of the first half.



2 THE CURIOUS INCIDENT OF THE DOG IN THE NIGHT-TIME National Theatre

The programme for this engrossing play gives you the hint that this account of a boy with autism is actually about the reaction of the people he encounters in life: parents, healthcare professionals and other folk. The staging cleverly provides an insight into what it is like to be affected and how coping mechanisms are employed by one so young.



3 GUYS AND DOLLS National Theatre



Sit down you're rocking the boat! From curtain up, we were off on a toe-tapping, finger-clicking ride of pure entertainment. Imelda Staunton acted as though she was six feet tall, when she is really quite petite. But it was Clive Row who stopped the show for a standing ovation after singing *Sit Down You're Rocking the Boat*. Making up the duo of top names in Richard Eyre's classy production was Henry Goodman.



4 AMY'S VIEW National Theatre

Such a good story and so topical at the time of the early 80s recession, when investments were collapsing and the ground shifting underneath people's feet. Moving from security and success to insecurity,

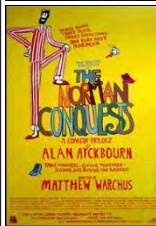


Judi Dench's character spoke for many. We will never forget the skill of Judi and Samantha Bond, who while relaxing on a sofa (in the centre of the vast National Theatre on the South Bank) had a softly spoken heart-to-heart chat clearly audible right across the auditorium and leaving the audience spellbound.



5 THE NORMAN CONQUESTS Globe Theatre, London

The pinnacle of Alan Ayckbourn's comic writing in our opinion, as we sat and laughed at ourselves bring parodied on stage. We knew it was pulling us apart and showing how silly humans are, but we didn't care and told others to go and see it.



Later, the playwright went into a darker period in his writing and his plays became less comfortable – which was unfortunate as we had taken friends to the theatre and told them how funny it would be!

6 STONES IN HIS POCKETS Tricycle Theatre, London

The actors were masters of making us set aside the logical and believe that two people can become so many different characters.



In this comedy-drama, two actors play 14 characters without the aid of props or costumes. Each character is defined by voice and body posture. The ability to tap into our imagination was a credit to the versatile actors and the writing.



7 MIDDLEMARCH Orange Tree Theatre, Richmond

Such a good story, sorry, stories (this was a trilogy), and a master class in condensing a book. A tome that is measured by its weight, rather than number of pages. Slightly disturbing that Dorothea was entranced by a clergyman who was such a twerp, but we won't dwell on that! The direction in each production shone out.



We moved from scene to scene with the minimum of fuss. We were right there in the drawing room with the sun bursting through, or in the middle of the night in a scullery.



8 BOEING BOEING Comedy Theatre, London



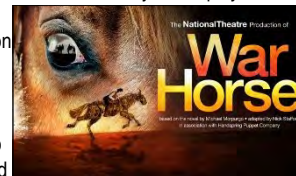
Farce has to be fast and furious to work and this was spot on. The opening and shutting doors, the air stewardesses, the arrivals and departures all like clockwork until it starts to unravel and the laughter keeps coming. And with Mark Rylance and Roger Allam, there was never going to be a bumpy landing.



9 WAR HORSE National Theatre



Suffering and the human condition were played out in front of us by the display of a boy's affection for a horse that went to war and became a hero. We knew the horses were puppets, but they became magically alive thanks to the talented puppeteers.



10 THE PITMAN PAINTERS National Theatre



I bought the script of this play afterwards, as it was packed with great lines.

This was the definitive 'follow-your-heart' play, with so much to offer about the creation and appreciation of art... as well as the systematic destruction of an industry.

