

WELCOME

Every penny counts at St James' Sign up to a regular monthly donation

The church, just like any other organisation, has to pay for everything it does. This includes paying for clergy wages, insurance, heating, building maintenance and a host of other expenses. We get no money from the council or the government.

St James' has a planned giving scheme. This is a scheme whereby church members or supporters give a regular amount each week, month or year, so enabling the church to budget for all its expenses.

Why should I join Planned Giving?

Some questions to think about:

- Is it important to you that we have a parish church as part of our community?
- Have you had a baptism or been married in church?
- Do you like to go to informal church services with your children?
- Do you like to go to church at Christmas, Easter or other special occasions?
- Are the moral values the church promotes important in our society?

We are sure many of you make regular payments for activities that you or your family undertake (e.g., swimming lessons,

gymnastics, Brownies, dancing, aerobics classes, etc.); but do you give to the church on the same basis?

How can I join?

- It's easy! You can either have a set of weekly envelopes to put in the collection, or you can set up a monthly standing order from your bank. You can pick up a form for this in church, or from the office. You can even email the office for one.

Gift Aid

If you are a UK taxpayer, this is a simple way to

increase the value of your donation by allowing us to reclaim the tax on your gift. Currently this is at 22%, so a donation of £10 is worth £12.82 to us. However from April 2008, charities will only be able to claim back £2.50 on a £10 donation. Unless we all think about increasing our giving, the church's income will go down.

Every penny counts

- Any amount of giving is appreciated and can be varied whenever you like.
- For more information please contact Rodney Taylor, the planned giving recorder, on 020 8979 0046.

Thank you.



PULPIT HUMOUR



...what do you mean you don't like our latest church banner!?
From the first of July you're legally obliged to display it!!

NOTES TO NOTE

Lost your copy? Want to read an article again? *Spire* magazines are being put on the website. Whole magazines from January 2006 are online, as are some of the archived magazines (this section will gradually be increased). Go to: **Spire Magazine > Magazine Archives.**

Access the *Spire* magazine in different ways.

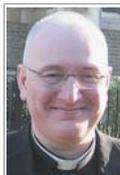
Did you know that our magazine is also available on a cassette tape or could be enlarged on request. If you would like it sent by email, just give your email address to Prill. It is also available on our website.



All copy for the next issue of *The Spire* must be with us by: **14 May.**
Send to the Parish Office (details in the left-hand column).

LEADER

Three into one: understanding the Trinity



PETER VANNOZZI

'When I told the people of Northern Ireland that I was an atheist, a woman in the audience stood up and said, "Yes, but is it the God of the Catholics or the God of the Protestants in whom you don't believe?"'

Quentin Crisp

'The Father uncreate, the Son uncreate, and the Holy Ghost uncreate. The Father incomprehensible, the Son incomprehensible, and the Holy Ghost incomprehensible. The Father eternal, the Son eternal, and the Holy Ghost eternal. And yet they are not three eternals, but one eternal. As also there are not three incomprehensibles, nor three uncreated, but one uncreated, and one incomprehensible.'

The Athanasian Creed

The kind of words quoted above are probably enough to put anyone doubtful off religion entirely. Add to that the global rise in religious violence (which gives weight to the spurious claim that religion lies at the heart of most wars in history) and many kind, thoughtful people decide that the very idea of God is not worth bothering with.

I hope that recent developments in Northern Ireland are evidence of a move away from sectarianism. Different groups almost claiming God as theirs is less than healthy. Yet some broader conceptions of God may end up as being incomprehensible in themselves never mind rendering God incomprehensible.

Christianity seems to be particularly good at tying God up in words. The more complicated the verbal knot, the better! A Christian festival is celebrated on June 10 which is specifically about the Christian

belief in God - Trinity Sunday.

At St. James' we will sing, as part of the service:

'Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty...

...God in Three Persons, blessed Trinity.'

One in three, three in one. Unity yet diversity. On it goes and round in circles. Is there a way of making sense of what Christians are trying to say about God?

Christian language about God speaks of God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit. I believe this gets us to the heart of God. The first way this is so is that God is not seen as an 'unmoved mover'. God is not distant from the world, pulling the levers, gazing on the world with a stony heart. Rather, God is the Creator of all things; creation itself an act of love.

'Religious violence must be alien to Christianity if the Trinity is what we believe to be the truth about God.'

God is the rescuer of all things, reaching out in a human life to the world, and demonstrating the intensity of love.

God is the sustainer of all things, not withdrawing, but remaining in all things and yet not contained by them. The apparently narrow and dry language of the Athanasian Creed above is actually pointing to the God of all things and not the God of a sect.

The second way I believe that Christian language can get us to the heart of God is that he is not conceived as being monochrome. If you like, God is multi-coloured. As Father, Son and Holy Spirit we can speak of God as 'community'. The very diversity of humanity reflecting the diversity of God yet

in God all is held together by bonds of love. Anything that goes against this, that divides, tears apart the cords that hold people together, can be seen as nothing less than ripping apart the way we were meant to be.

Religious violence must be alien to Christianity if the Trinity is actually what Christians believe to be the truth about God.

This seems a long way from sectarian kidnapping of God or dry statements which reduce God to a bore. God is God of all, not the few. God's own self is reflected in the way we are made to be.

Having said all this, perhaps Trinity Sunday can make a little more sense to us. It will also be a day at St. James' where we give thanks for people's financial contributions to the church during the past year.

There will also be an opportunity to begin to contribute financially to their church in a planned way, if they wish and if they are able. What has that to do with the Trinity? If we are indeed created to reflect the very nature of God that is true in all aspects of our lives. God is generous. Am I?

If we want places such as St. James' to continue to exist to proclaim Christian belief about God and the practice that flows from it, we need to support it.

Time is important as well as money, of course, but our concern on June 10 is specifically on the latter.

Just to end with another religious quote. This time from Spike Milligan. If humour cannot be contained within the heart of God, and if religious people cannot laugh at themselves, I would be very disappointed: 'And God said, "Let there be light" and there was light, but the Electricity Board said He would have to wait until Thursday to be connected.'

Amen!



The monthly column of news and events from Hampton Hill and beyond

We all enjoyed the **service** on 6 May, when the band, the uniformed groups and a shared baptism of mother and baby made a happy occasion. **Catherine Fletcher** was married here and she and her baby son **Arthur** were **baptised** together. Congratulations to the family!

Thank you to everyone who helped with the **Christian Aid** collections last month. At the time of printing the money is still being counted and the total will be published next month.

Our **Guide** and **Scout** groups are still in need of **additional leaders**. Please do think seriously about whether you could help. These groups are an invaluable part of St. James' commitment to our young people.

Welcome to the Italian kitchen **shop** which has **recently opened** by the traffic lights on the site formerly occupied by the art gallery.

There will be a **coffee morning** on Thursday 14 June from 10:30-12:30 at 149 Burtons Road, hosted by a neighbour of Wendy Baker, to raise funds for the **Prostate Cancer Research Campaign**.

All are welcome.

Griselda Barrett and **Ash Charles** will soon be relinquishing their posts as parish administrator and organist respectively. We thank them for all they have done, seen and unseen, during their periods in office.

*Do you have any news to share?
We always welcome contributions,
care of the Parish Office.*

Registers

For April:

Baptism

29 Kyle Graham Bradbury, Hampton

Wedding

21 Robin David Cordery and Parineeta Bilagi

Funerals

- 23 Tracey Marshall, Hampton 44
- 24 Joan Mabel Norma Worth, Hampton Hill 76
- 26 James Ernest Pearce, Hampton Hill 84
- 30 George Ivan Robinson, Virginia Water 93

SPECIAL FEATURE

A year of achievements and challenges for our Uniformed Groups

Members of the 3rd Hampton Hill Brownies, Guides and Scout Troop join the St. James' congregation for the All Age Services on the first Sunday of each month, carrying their flags in a colourful parade through the church. They act as sidespersons, read lessons and say prayers during services and assist with Parish Breakfast.



By Paul Fitchett

The 3rd Hampton Hill Scout Group is a successful and expanding Scout Group with an excellent team of leaders, young leaders, committee members and adult helpers. Membership of the Group has increased, doubling in size over the past five years, and is 145 with links and a feed to the Hampton Explorer Unit that has a membership of 15.

All Sections are open to girls. The Group comprises two Colonies of Beavers, two Packs of Cubs and a Scout Troop. Please visit the Group's website for more information:

www.3hhscouts.org.uk

In the past year there have been several camps: Borough Camp, Cub Camp, Easter and Summer Camps, both locally and further afield.

For the second year running the Group held a Family Camp at Walton Firs Scout Camp, Cobham, in May 2006, with 57 families attending. The Group's AGM was also held at that camp.

Although camping is a very important element of scouting there are so many

other activities that the young people and adults can experience; many that would not normally be available to them.

All sections of the Scout Group have provided an incredible programme of activities. The quality, diversity and creativity has been superb.

Sections have been active in the District, County and local community and have provided many residential nights away (sleepovers and camps). This is a list of some of the activities:

Beavers

Themes based on: Winter Olympics, space, Australia (Aboriginal art, survival and Australian animals). Visits from: RNLI and mobile planetarium. Events and visits: District Beaver Fun Day, Lighting up Parade, Beaver Xmas sleepover at the Scout Hall, District New Year Party.

Cubs

Themes based on: chocolate, fitness and nature. Visits from: mobile planetarium and Crime Prevention officer. Events and visits: Ian Goddard Challenge, District Swimming Gala, treasure hunts, pantomime at Wimbledon, Cub Camp. Badges on: cycling, map reading, astronomy and the environment.

Scouts

Themes based on: fire safety, Night Hike preparation. Events and visits: Easter camp, Great Parent Scout Cookout, Borough Camp, knee boarding, Summer Camp, Fireworks evening, ice skating at Hampton Court Ice Rink (followed by investiture on the ice), Patrol Leaders training camp. Competitions: Five-a-side football, Kingston's Annual Rifle competition, Dayprowl, National Scout Air Rifle Championships, Annual quiz with the Guides, District Swimming Gala, Cooking Competition, NSRA YPS Course, District Volleyball Tournament, District Rifle Competition, County Night Hike, Big Curry Party with the Guides (funds raised for charity). Badges on: fire safety, camping.

All Sections

Practice for Church Parade: each Section is involved with 'hosting' one of the Church Family services on a pre-planned programme at St James' Church. There was a big turnout at the Christingle service and the District St George's Day Parade. About 100 members of the Group attended the Twickeree Tri-Annual Richmond upon Thames District Camp at Marble Hill

Park in June 2006.

The first of the Richmond upon Thames District events for the Centenary of Scouting was the Richmond United Together Fun Run held in January. Other events include the St George's Day Parade in Richmond in April.

Finances

The Group's annual expenditure is considerable. All Leaders and helpers do so on a voluntary basis. Subscriptions are £35 per term. We try to keep it at an amount that does not deter families on low incomes. Each year we have to pay a membership capitation fee, over £4500 in January 2007, to the Scout Association.

Other expenditure, for the Scout Hall, maintenance and repairs, insurance, running costs for the Sections and the shared costs of a minibus, amounts to several thousand pounds every year. The Group also organises fund-raising activities.

We received grants of:

- £4353 from the Awards for All Lottery Funding to buy/replace tents and a marquee;
- £250 from Reuters for hiking tents and kit;
- £250 from BP towards a staircase and balustrades in the Camp Store.

Objectives

The Group needs to raise funds for its increasing membership, to maintain the high standards of the programme, plus:

- improvements to the Scout Hall;
- a new staircase in the entrance lobby with new rooms in upstairs area;
- replacement of the minibus (shared with Hampton Hill Junior

School); and

- new equipment.

The strength of the Group is the leadership and adult support within it, but there is a continual need to recruit more adult help.

Leaders needed

The most urgent needs are for additional cub and scout leadership. We have successfully filled the gap left by Akela Belinda Drake's departure. Jon Holloway, one of our assistants has taken up the role.

However, our Monday Akela, Richard Holmes, has stepped down and we are currently without a leader for Monday Cubs

Next year, we hope to open a second Scout troop to cater for ever growing numbers and need a complete team; a Scout Leader and at least two assistants. We welcome all interest. Job descriptions are available for anyone who would like to consider volunteering. Training is available. Contact the Group Scout Leader, Richard Moody on 020 8286 6918 or the Scout Leader Paul Fitchett on 020 8941 7186.

Centenary Year of Scouting

This year is the Centenary Celebration Year of Scouting. More info at: www.thejamboree.org

The Group has a very full programme of events planned at local, county and national level. The highlight is the District Centenary Celebrations Camp at Phasels Wood in July, including a daytrip to the Centenary World Jamboree site.

It's a really exciting year for all those involved with the 3rd Hampton Hill Scout Group.





GUIDES

By Natasha Clifford and Carol Bailey

The Brownies

The Brownies have had a very busy year. They were sad to say goodbye to Brian, who had been the vicar for many years. They made a book for him that included pictures of Hampton Hill High Street, Bushy Park and other local landmarks.

The Brownies raised over £200 for a wildlife charity from a sponsored walk. It was a lovely day so we all enjoyed the walk and there wasn't a sore foot in sight.

At the end of the summer term, to say goodbye to those Brownies joining the Guides, we had a cycle ride though Bushy Park followed by a family picnic.

After the summer holiday we welcomed a new batch of Brownies to 3rd Hampton Hill, and they started to prepare for their promise.

During November we took part in a very wet Hampton Hill Lighting Up Parade, but it did not dampen our spirits. We raised money along the way for the Shooting Star Hospice.

To celebrate our last day before Christmas we had a meal at Joe's, where we exchanged presents.

The Brownies worked hard to get their first aid badge. This was achieved over four weeks with the help of St John Ambulance. All those who took part passed. We were very proud of their hard work.

In February the Brownies' annual disco was held which gave us a chance to meet other Brownie packs from Hampton. We had a fantastic time playing lots of games.

Our new Brownies took their promise and were presented with their

Brownie Badges by Sarah Reed. This was followed by tea and cakes made by the Brownies themselves.

We welcomed Peter, our new vicar, when he paid us a visit. We then had an Easter egg hunt in the churchyard.

We are looking forward to Kids Dance paying us a visit and are working very hard towards getting more badges. On June 12 we are holding a bring and buy sale, with all the money raised going to St James Church. Please try to come between 18:15-19:15.

We meet every Tuesday during term time, 1800 - 1915 in the Church Hall. For more information, or to join please contact Natasha Clifford on 020 8979 0361.



The Guides

The Guides have had another successful year. As part of the worldwide movement of Guiding, we aim to help the girls develop the skills they need to become active and responsible citizens.

We try to achieve this by working in patrols which are encouraged to self-govern and make their own plans in addition to company activities.

In the summer term we explored aspects of outdoor life. We learnt to kayak on the Thames and enjoyed racing dragon boats. We also camped in both Shere and the New Forest, where we developed maritime skills by sailing in the Solent.

During the autumn term we tried skiing and skating and to complement these sporting skills several patrols worked on 'glamour' and others on their senses. We completed the term with a sponsored danceathon to raise money for nursery education for the Sand people in Namibia.

During the spring term we explored the UN Conventions of the Rights of the Child through activities, including games and trading. Each patrol has also run its own programme, which has varied from cake decorating to music and world cultures.

As a unit we also work with other groups. We have taken part in the Scout/ Guide Day Prowl competition, held a quiz and activity challenge with the Scouts and worked with our Brownie pack. We continue to work closely with the church and have taken our full part in family services, including Christingle.

Progression for individuals is another important part of Guiding. Opportunities include the local Explorer unit and our Duke of Edinburgh Award group, which is run jointly with the Scouts and meets after Guides on Tuesdays. This year has seen two of our founder Guides complete their Adult leadership qualifications and three others complete their Young leadership training. This is an important aspect of our work as it allows the unit to develop.

Positions Vacant

We are looking for more members of the leadership team. The 3rd Hampton Hill Guides needs enthusiastic leaders and helpers. We have a newly qualified Assistant Guider, young leaders, unit helpers and supportive parents, but urgently need up to two adult women to lead the group and help run it on a regular basis. We can offer training and mentoring, the support of an enthusiastic young team and the satisfaction of seeing young people reach their potential.

For more information please call Carol Bailey on 020 8783 0633.

We look forward to the challenges of a new term and thank the church for their ongoing support. If you would like to join the Brownies please call Carol.

YOURS FAITHFULLY

The Clifford Family



PRILL HINCKLEY

Grant Clifford, a surveyor, has lived in Hampton Hill all his life. His wife, Natasha, is a part-time nail technician and also helps to run St. James's Brownies. Their children are Laura, 11, Georgia, ten, Alice, seven, and Arthur, three.

When and why did you come to St James?

Grant: St. James' has always been part of my life. My parents and grandparents were married there; I went to the Sunday School, Cubs and Scouts as a boy, and was married at St. James' in 1994.

Natasha: I started attending regularly after our wedding.

When did you become a Christian?

Grant: I was baptised at St. James'. My daughter Laura was confirmed last year and I am now considering confirmation for myself.

Natasha: As I got older, I wanted to be part of the church and the community, and for our children to be involved.

What difference does being a Christian make to your life?

Natasha: The services make you think; one of the Lent sermons in particular spoke to me. The sense of belonging is very important.

Grant: It is good to think you can have a positive bearing on people's lives.

What do you valued most about St James?

Natasha: It is family orientated, and includes a wide range of people. I value the intercessions for those in need.

Grant: The church is there for everybody both in the good times and in the bad times, like illness and family bereavement.

Laura: Sunday School. The fact that everybody participates and helps to run the church, even though they may have full-time jobs.

Georgia: Brownies.

Alice: Throwing at coconuts and trying the bells at Open Day.

Arthur: Singing, drawing, trying the bells.

What is the most useful lesson you have learned in life so far?

Grant: Perseverance; not giving up when things are difficult. Life-long learning: you are never too old to learn and to take part.

Natasha: That it is important for a family to feel they have roots; it gives strength.

YOUNG SPIRE

The Trinity: all is revealed

On Trinity Sunday (3 June) the church rejoices in the mystery that God is *triune* (three-in-one) - Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Christians believe that the One God is made up of three Persons or aspects, **Father, Son, and Holy Spirit**. This godhead is called the Trinity or the Triune (three-in-one) God. Think of it as a clover leaf which has three parts to it. The symbols of the Trinity always have three parts. The **Father** is the creator of all things; **Jesus Christ**, his only son, is the redeemer or saviour of all people; the **Holy Spirit** blesses everyone and everything and makes them holy.

We might think of it this way, also. God as **Father** is God greater than us and above us. God as **Son** is God alongside us, sharing our humanity. God as **Holy Spirit** is God within us, present always.

All three work together. The mystery of the interaction of the three parts of God is central to the Christian faith. That statement of faith is made in the Creed that we say every Sunday in Church.

The liturgical colour for Trinity Sunday is white which represents the holiness and perfection of God. Look at the altar, the book rest on the pulpit and the book mark in the large bible.

Churches have many different symbols that represent different things. For example:

Symbols of God the Father

A hand coming from a cloud, or a hand raised in blessing.

Three Symbols of God the Son, Jesus Christ

IHS or IHC - the first three letters of the Greek for Jesus (ΙΗΣΟΥΣ).
INRI - the initial letters of the Latin words for 'Jesus of Nazareth, King of the Jews' (IESUS NAZARENUS REX IUDAEORUM). This was the inscription which Pilate wrote and put on the cross.

XP - the first two letters of the Greek word for Christ (ΧΡΙΣΤΟΣ).

Symbols of God the Holy Spirit

A dove with a halo, or a sevenfold flame, as a symbol of the Holy Spirit's power.

Can you find any of these in and around our Church? There are quite a few.



This famous window is in Holy Trinity Church in Long Melford, Suffolk. It shows three rabbits, each with two ears but only three ears between them - the symbol of the Trinity.

JAYS NEWS

Miracles all around us

April saw the Sunday school looking at the gospel stories of when Jesus rose from the dead.

The story of the breakfast with the disciples after Jesus had told them to cast their net on to the other side was a favourite as the children afterwards played the 'chase the fish up the room' game!

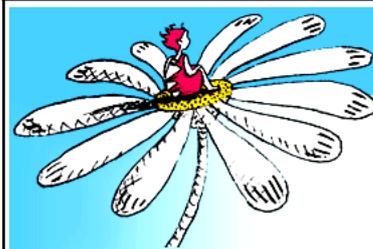
In the last week of April, they explored the miracles all around us, like plants, the sun, new



born babies, food etc and there are examples of this in collages

displayed in the hall - seen above.

The Jays have been working hard....



Final amount for Daisy Garland Charity

We raised over £500 thanks to the efforts of everyone in the congregation.

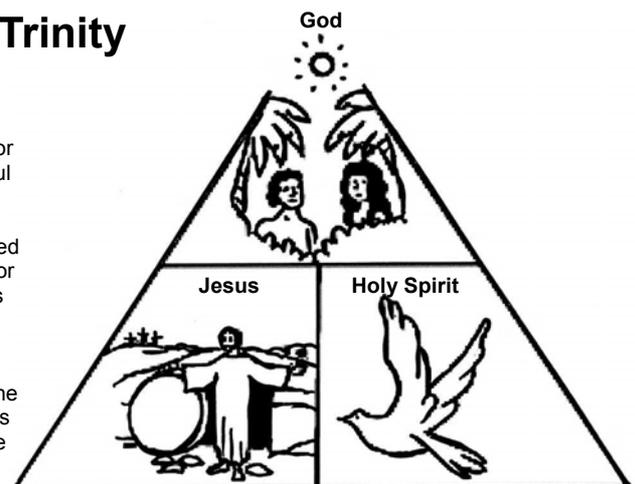
- Sleepover: £110.00
- Sponsorship: £261.50
- Breakfast: £147.00

What does the Trinity mean for us?

We can thank **God** our creator for the universe and all his wonderful works.

We can thank **Jesus** that he loved us so much he died on a cross for us, and rose again and is always with us.

We can be aware of the **Holy Spirit** in our lives, invisible like the wind. It guides us and teaches us the right way to think, and to love and care for others.





FEATURE

We hold the earth's future in our hands

Should St James' adopt radical eco-options?

By Catherine Gash

We have all heard a great deal lately about climate change, fair trade and poverty and disease in the developing world, but we don't necessarily stop to reflect on the connection all this has to our own lives.

A few weeks ago, Ann Peterken and I had a chance to do just that, when we attended the 2007 Ecumenical World Development Consultation on this topic.

The conference was held in the lovely setting of a Christian conference centre at Swanwick in Derbyshire.

There were several prestigious and expert speakers, including Elaine Storkey, President of Tearfund, and Sir John Houghton, former scientific advisor to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC).

All the speakers had a powerful and urgent message. Global warming **will** happen - how much, will depend on the measures that we do or don't take.

We have possibly a decade to try to stabilize and slow the increase in greenhouse gases. There will be more intense floods and droughts and an increase in heatwaves and hurricanes, leading to vast numbers of environmental refugees - possibly as many as 150 million people by 2050.

Where are all these people to go? World resources are becoming depleted and we in the West are consuming a disproportionate amount of them: for example, a European consumes four times as much as an Asian and five times as much as an African. The planet cannot sustain this model of Western over-consumption. So far...so gloomy.

But there is room for optimism too. Sir John Houghton stressed the commitment of the scientific community to dealing with climate change and that the technology is already available to do so.

One speaker suggested that global business enterprise could transform the lives of the world's poor; others, that our

economies must become more co-operative internationally.

All agreed that we need **urgent** scientific, economic and political action. The government must take a lead (as it did in the Second World War); we need national and international action akin to an environmental war economy.

One thing came through loud and clear: we **all** need to recognise our responsibilities and act accordingly by transforming attitudes and lifestyles in radical ways.

As Christians we know that we have stewardship of the earth in partnership with God. Loving our neighbours as the Bible commands includes using the earth's resources wisely and paying particular attention to the poor and needy who are bearing the brunt of climate-related problems.

We can **all** do something and indeed we **must**. Sir John Houghton quoted the philosopher Edmund Burke:

'No one made a greater mistake than he who did nothing because he could do so little.'

We can cut our consumption and waste; recycle and insulate more; reduce flights and our car use; support fair trade; and above all, hold the government to account.

The stated object of the conference was 'to help churches respond practically to the concerns about the impact of our lifestyle choices' and we were encouraged to share what we had learnt with our communities.

One of the topics for discussion was 'How prepared are you to be changed?' I found this put me on the spot. Talking informally with other participants during shared meals revealed tremendous knowledge, expertise and levels of commitment among 'ordinary' people. It was a humbling and encouraging experience.

Many churches are considering eco-options - perhaps this is something that we at St James' should address. We are already a Fairtrade church, but we could take it further. What do people think?

CHARITIES & LINKS COMMITTEE



This month: G8 pledges and an African prayer

Keeping to the G8 pledges

A coalition of agencies has been urging supporters to remind leaders of the promises made two years ago in Scotland, ahead of the following meetings:

- From 6-8 June leaders gather at the G8 Summit in Heiligendamm, near Rostock, Germany.
- From 21-22 June, the European Council meets in Brussels.

Remember that in September 2000, all UN member countries and their governments set themselves eight goals to halve world poverty by 2015. This year is the halfway point. Please take a look at the colourful **Millennium Development Goals** poster in church.

Dedication of St Luke's only doctor

Many of you will know of Dr Douglas Lwoga, the only doctor at St Luke's Hospital in Milo, Tanzania. He is past retirement age, undergoing treatment for prostate cancer and lost his wife last November. His dedicated service is invaluable, but a replacement doctor needs to be found. Benaiah Kilwale, a clinical officer, has asked us to pray about this.

PCC

Gratitude for gifts and help

Two key members of the St James' team retired from their posts in April. They have asked to use our columns to pass on their thanks.

Rodney Taylor, writes:

'I am very grateful to everyone at St James' for the kind words that have been said, the thanks that I have received, and for the generous gifts that I was given when I stepped down after five very eventful years as churchwarden.

'During that time there have been many changes and challenges, not least with the West Porch and other building works, and especially in the run-up to and during the interregnum.

'I have had some very

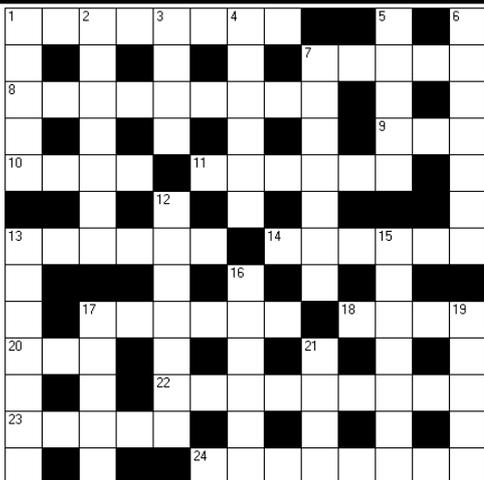
interesting times and have learned an enormous amount. However, it has all been done by teamwork, to which many, many people have contributed.

'I am very grateful to them all, and especially to Liz Butler as my fellow churchwarden for the past four years.

Paul Peterken writes: 'A huge thanks to everyone for the claret and book-token I received at the annual meeting.

'After nine years as parish treasurer, I will now have plenty of time to enjoy them.

'I would also like to say thank you for all the support and help I received; it was a great way of meeting people!'



Crossword No 200706

Across

- 1 Calms, as a bribe concealed in the cloak calms great wrath, according to Proverbs ch. 21 (8)
- 7 Description of the accursed ephah in Micah ch. 6 (5)
- 8 Whitsuntide (9)
- 9 Tree (3)
- 10 Period preceding Easter (4)
- 11 ...chaff on a threshing-floor in the _____ (Dan 2.35) (6)
- 13 One of the wooden receptacles in Exodus ch. 7 (6)
- 14 Originally a story of a saint's life (6)
- 17 Wild flower (6)
- 18 With the loss of this, Samson became weakened (4)
- 20 Earth (prefix) (3)

Down

- 1 Pertaining to the Pope (5)
- 2 Ecclesiastical (7)
- 3 Gratis (4)
- 4 A going out (6)
- 5 Part of church containing bells (5)
- 6 Baffled (7)
- 7 ...clapped your hands and _____ your feet (Ezek 25.6) (7)
- 12 ..and _____ events and great signs (Luke 21.11) (7)
- 13 and 17 down Mormon leader (7,5)
- 15 Resilient (7)

- 16 Noah's wife was this relation to Ham (6)
- 17 See 13 down
- 19 Description of cities taken by Joshua in Joshua ch. 11 (5)
- 21 Mineral into which Lot's wife was turned (4)

Answers to May Crossword (200705): Across 7 Reason 8 Malice 10 Message 11 Tibet 12 Laos 13 Sharp 17 Sweet 18 Iraq 22 Cross 23 Edomite 24 Legume 25 Ersatz Down 1 Crumble 2 Passion 3 Roman 4 Pasture 5 Limbs 6 Death 9 Bethlehem 14 Awesome 15 Artisan 16 Squeeze 19 Scale 20 Forge 21 Court