

Hampton Hill's Parish Magazine

OCTOBER 2011

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thespire

stjames-hamptonhill.org.uk

please take a copy



Harvest Festival

Please bring your gifts to
church by mid-October

Back to Church Sunday is 2 October. Please join us!

thespire 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.

Thank you.

GET IN TOUCH

STORIES, FEATURES

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Welcome October 2011



Summer seems to have passed all too quickly this year with indifferent weather, and we are already looking forward to our **Harvest Festival** on 2 October (see page seven).

This issue features a centrespread on the charities which St James's supports. It is written by Ann Peterken, who co-ordinates a small committee that recommends charities to the PCC each year. They keep in regular touch with all the charities, providing the church with information and feedback. There is a board on the wall in the South Aisle which gives more details, together with thank-you letters from the various charities. The Witness and Mission section of our website also has information on the charities we support. Thanks to Ann's continued work over many years we are kept up-to-date on our supported charities. As I write this Ann is off to visit Milo Hospital, in Tanzania, under the auspices of USPG.

We look forward to seeing you at our Harvest celebrations.

Best wishes

Janet

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➔ **AMENDMENTS** to the Editor, please.

OUR CLERGY



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Revd Peter Vannozzi

Peter was born in Hanwell in 1962, but owes his surname to his Italian great-grandfather who came from Florence to the UK in the late 19th century. Peter was ordained in 1987 and prior to St James's he was Vice Dean and Canon Pastor at Wakefield Cathedral. He is Chair of Governors of Hampton Hill Junior School and a Trustee of Hampton and Hampton Hill Voluntary Care Group.

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SERVICES FOR OCTOBER

Sundays

8.00am Holy Communion

9.30am Parish Communion (except 2 Oct)

2 October — Harvest Festival

At 8am: Deuteronomy 8.7-18;

2 Corinthians 9.6-15; Luke 22.16-30

At 11am: Psalm 148; Matthew 6.25-33

9 October — 16th Sunday after Trinity

Isaiah 25.1-9;

Philippians 4.1-9;

Matthew 22.1-14

16 October — 17th Sunday after Trinity

Isaiah 45.1-7;

1 Thessalonians 1.1-10;

Matthew 22.15-22

23 October — Last Sunday after Trinity

Leviticus 19.1-2, 15-18;

1 Thessalonians 2.1-8;

Matthew 22.34-46

30 October — All Saints' Sunday

Revelation 7.9-17;

1 John 3.1-3;

Matthew 5.1-12

Mondays-Fridays

(but not Tuesdays)

9.15am Morning Prayer

Tuesdays

9.30am Holy Communion

1st Wednesday in month

5 October

7am Holy Communion

1st Thursday in month

6 October

2pm Holy Communion



Food, glorious food, one third of it wasted

Have you ever wondered what lurks at the back of your freezer? Of course, you may very regularly de-frost it so there is never anything to discover! I have to confess that my de-frosting moments are less than they should be. In the midst of a glacier in my freezer I often find food that I had forgotten about. I might come across a piece of turkey put away after Christmas for use later; soup made from surplus vegetables; a ready meal 'just in case'. They all have in common the unfortunate fact that by the time I find them, they are no longer fit to eat. Their end is clear — the bin! An attempt to avoid waste creates waste. The figures for food waste in the UK are horrifying: 8.3 million tonnes each year at a cost of £50 per month for an average family. If this waste was reduced, it is estimated that it would cause a reduction in CO2 emissions equivalent to taking one car in four off the road.

On Sunday 2 October we will be keeping **Harvest Festival** at St. James's. Each year we support a charity financially, and through the gift of food. The Upper Room is a charity based at St. Saviour's Church in Hammersmith which serves over 20,000 meals a year to people in west London who are homeless, vulnerable and socially disadvantaged. I saw for myself last year some of what the project does, and it is very worthy of our support.

Food will be brought at Harvest Festival to be given to people who visit the Upper Room. This food will not be the fresh produce we used to bring to harvest, the first fruits of the earth, but rather tins and packets which are of such use to the Upper Room. Around the country churches, schools and other bodies will be doing the same thing. Why is this?

Food matters. If a person is starving, then this is clearly obvious as it is a matter of life or death. For those of us in the UK — where there is plenty of food — what we do with food, though, is an indicator of our inner attitudes.

This year, food is the emphasis of what is called **Creationtime**. Running throughout September and into October, **Creationtime** is a period of a few weeks when Churches Together in Britain and Ireland — an umbrella



Peter Vannozzi

body for all the churches in our islands — encourages people to consider God's creation.

When we do so, it may cause us to wonder, to give thanks, to celebrate. Yet does it also cause us to change? It is all very well to admire the beauty of a flower, yet then to do nothing to ensure that in the future those flowers will still grow. I may thank God for a wonderful view, but still happily use more carrier bags than I need which have to go to landfill. This autumn food is paramount in **Creationtime**.

The Bishop of London, Richard Chartres, has said this: 'Human beings, according to the Book of Genesis, are to "till and keep" the earth. This balance between preserving and

developing the creation is reflected in the thanksgiving of the Church for our daily bread as "fruit of the earth and work of human hands". The prayer of thanksgiving transforms the fruits of creation into gifts of divine love and **Creationtime** is a season for contemplating this wonderful mystery.'

With the bishop's words in mind, what will we do at Harvest Festival? Aware that people read this magazine not just in Hampton Hill, but elsewhere in the country, I would urge all readers to do three things.

First, to give thanks for the richness of creation, seen as God's gift.

Second, to respond by looking at your own consumption and wastage of food. What could be different by a little thought and planning? I ask myself *Do I need to buy this? How much do I need? How can I use rather than waste?*

Third, it may be that you know that a particular project in your area is being supported with food at harvest — contribute to it.

All good gifts around us are sent from heaven above we sing as part of the chorus of the hymn *We Plough the Fields and Scatter*. That's fine — so let's demonstrate we believe it this Harvest and **Creationtime**. Words and actions combined can make a difference. Will you and I choose to make a difference this autumn?

In Thought and Prayer

Here is a form of prayer from Churches Together in Britain and Ireland for **Creationtime**.



It can be found in full, together with other material, at www.ctbi.org.uk/creationtime

Creator God, for thousands of years we, your people, have co-operated with your creative power at work in the land and seas around us to bring forth food for our nourishment and that of our children. Help us to continue to respect the earth itself and the natural processes around us, so that future generations can be sustained by that same generous life-giving earth.

O God, hear us we pray,

Response: O God, give us your love for the whole of Creation

Bounteous God, may our sharing in food and drink keep us aware of our dependence on all beings for life and strength.

May it increase our reverence for land, sea and sky.

O God, hear us we pray,

Response: O God, give us your love for the whole of Creation



Creator God, we know that the animals from which we get our meat are sentient creatures. May we at least ensure, through our purchasing power, that animals are bred, transported and killed in respectful conditions.

O God, hear us we pray,

Response: O God, give us your love for the whole of Creation



O God, may we use the gift of our senses to see, smell, touch and taste your goodness shown in the daily bread we share. Bless us as we live our lives with awareness of your loving gift of the natural world. May we always be mindful of the hungry who share the earth with us and may we be generous in providing for their needs.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen

Sound system gets major overhaul



PCC The church's sound system has undergone a major upgrade. The Parochial Church Council gave the go-ahead at its September meeting, following a number of breakdowns over the past year. The 30-year-old speakers have been replaced by new ones and a new amplifier to ensure that services can be heard throughout the church. There are also new radio microphones as well as a radio stick microphone that will be put to good use around the church.

■ **APPEAL** Thank you to everyone who responded to two appeals. £700 has been sent to the **East Africa Crisis Appeal** from recent collections, and £327 to the **Children's Society** from the boxes.

MILO In July we were sad to hear of the death of our dear friend Benaiah Kilwale, at the age of 70. Benaiah was the senior clinical officer at St Luke's Hospital in Milo, a remote village in south-west Tanzania. He was born in Milo and loved the house and land his father had bequeathed.

Married for almost 50 years, he leaves a wife and large family. Benaiah will be greatly missed by his community, both for his personality and for his medical skills. His family's long connection with the hospital will continue through his daughters who work there and we at St James's will continue our support.



Peter and his dog, Paddy

Churchyard plea to pet owners

FOULING Signs have gone up in the churchyard to remind dog owners about fouling. It follows a number of complaints about excrement on graves.

Peter, himself a dog owner, stressed that the church was not anti-dog. 'We are simply asking all pet owners to be responsible and to clear up any mess their dogs make. Many people use the path through the churchyard as a shortcut, but it is important to remember that it is first and foremost a cemetery.'

Dogs should also be kept on leashes.

FOCUS ON FAIRTRADE **EASY BEAN** one-pot meals – the UK's first ever Fairtrade ready prepared meals. These delicious meat and veggie meals can be bought at Sainsbury's St Clare's superstore on the Uxbridge Road.



Registers for July and August



JULY

Baptisms

- 10 James Jasper Ambrose Coffin, Hampton
- 16 Lucas John Leverett, Hampton Hill
- 17 Abigail Grace English, Hanworth
- 17 Freya May Brett, Hampton Hill
- 24 Harrison Lucas Platt, Twickenham

AUGUST

Baptisms

- 6 Ellie Ana White, Hampton



- 7 William Christopher Shaw, Hampton Hill

- 21 Clara May Aila Leonard, Feltham
- 28 Demi-Lee Leah Wain, Hampton
- 28 Leo Frederick Wain, Hampton

Weddings

- 13 Joe Sweeney and Alana Byrne, Birmingham
- 19 Ian Powell and Katy Williams, Hampton Hill

Funeral

- 23 Richard (Dick) Pooley, 60, Esher

Faith, hope and charity



St James's puts charitable giving at the heart of its outreach. The money supports charities across the world, as well as here in the UK, making a real difference to people's lives. **Ann Peterken** reports on where the money has been spent over the past year.

Regular giving by our parishioners maintains parish life in Hampton Hill, but it also enables our parish to reach out and support charities — part of our collective witness that is not so visible.

In 2010 St James gave £10,600 to chosen charities. Two-thirds of this sum was planned, coming out of our annual budget for charitable grants. The rest came from special appeals — the Haiti earthquake early in the year, followed by appeals during Lent (for ALMA), Harvest (for the Diocese of South West Tanzania) and Advent (for The Children's Society) — and a generous donation from St James's Ark playgroup. In addition, individual collecting boxes for The Children's Society raise about £330 a year.

Traidcraft Exchange

Our Traidcraft stall delivers a small profit thanks to bulk buying. This profit is returned to the charitable arm of the company, Traidcraft Exchange, which does good work helping to build up the business skills of its overseas suppliers and pioneering new products to bring to the fair trade market.

Christian Aid

During Christian Aid Week in May parishioners walk the local streets delivering and collecting envelopes from homes — part of our ongoing support for a charity that works with people, of all faiths and none, in around 50 countries, to combat poverty and injustice. This May nearly £3500 was raised.

For more information...

St James's website www.stjames-hamptonhill.org.uk has information on all the charities we support in the Witness and Mission section. It would be very good if people made a habit of looking there. Newsletters from some of the charities are also referenced directly from the home page.

I will now explain a little of the work that our supported charities undertake, divided into those that help people in the UK and those that reach out across the world.

HERE AT HOME...

Distressing events across the country in August revealed the 'other world' that exists in parts of our inner cities. All church leaders called for a renewed commitment to the building of strong communities.

Church Urban Fund



The Church Urban Fund provides key financial support to grassroots, community-based projects in areas of high deprivation. When we send our annual gift we can be sure it is well used. One of the projects we help support is the **New Hanbury Project**, pictured above — a centre for personal development and training, located off Shoreditch High Street, East London. The area has all the usual inner-city social problems, including high unemployment, high crime and poor housing.

The project helps people build their self-confidence, learn useful and practical life skills, become involved in voluntary work, go on training courses and gain employment opportunities.





About to receive:
the evening meal
service at the
Upper Room

Upper Room

At Harvest time we support another community charity — the **Upper Room** in Hammersmith — dedicated to the relief of poverty and social disadvantage among the marginalised and homeless of West London. Our Harvest gifts help to sustain its evening meal service (UR4Meals) during the winter months.

Another project, UR4Driving, seeks to reduce recidivism and improve the employability of young ex-offenders by teaching them to drive in return for voluntary work. Jobs in the transport and warehousing industries are often still open to those with a criminal record, so a valid UK driving licence is a *de facto* vocational qualification for an ex-offender.

Welcare

Even closer to home, **Welcare** in Richmond helps parents who might otherwise be isolated or find it tough to cope — strengthening families so that they can give children the best possible start in life.

In June we welcomed one of their clients to our Sunday worship: a mother whose self-esteem had been totally restored and said 'Welcare gave me a new life'.

New toys, brought to the Crib Service on Christmas Eve, will be given to Welcare. If wrapped, please indicate age and gender.

... AND OVERSEAS

St James's has always valued being part of the Church worldwide.

St Luke's, Milo



We continue our long friendship with **St Luke's** hospital in Milo, a remote village in the highlands of south-west Tanzania.

The recent death of Benaiah Kilwale (see News Bulletin) has put even more of a load on to 72-year-old Dr Simeon Mbuligwe, seen in the picture above with three of Benaiah's daughters who work at the hospital in various capacities.

Our support is channelled through USPG: Anglicans in World Mission, which places health care as one of its main priorities.



ALMA

The partnership between the dioceses of London, Angola and Mozambique, known as **ALMA**, is a wonderful way to learn something about the joys and sorrows of life in these two developing countries. The website www.almalink.org helps greatly to bring this friendship alive.

As well as supporting the general work of ALMA, St James's shares a link with **Santa Maria Madelena** in Pemba on the north-east coast of Mozambique. We were saddened to hear of the unexpected death of their priest, Revd Juliao Fenias, who died last December while being flown from Pemba down to Maputo for treatment — a distance of over 1000 miles.



A celebration in St Paul's Cathedral on 10 July, pictured above, included beautiful intercessions based on the letters making up the word ALMA.

Church Mission Society

Our Church Mission Society partners, David and Shelley Stokes, in the Diocese of northern Argentina share their own news in **Your Voice** on Page Eight.

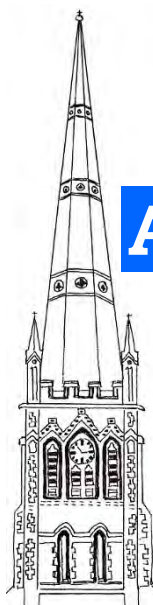
Tools with a Mission

We continue our support of **Tools with a Mission** by collecting unwanted sewing machines, gardening and DIY tools, bicycles, scissors, wool and fabrics. Every contribution helps, so please call Janet Nunn on 020 8979 6325.

All these charities, and more besides, are woven into the fabric of our parish life. Please keep informed by looking in the Witness and Mission section of the parish website and raise any questions or ideas you may have.

If you have some news to share:

smhorner5@yahoo.co.uk



Around the Spire

NEWS FROM HAMPTON HILL AND BEYOND

A new face in the kitchen

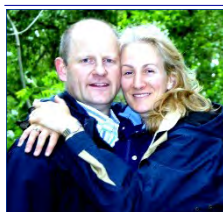
Pip and Anne Rowett have recently given up organising the coffee rota and buying the supplies after 22 years. **Clare Ryan**, pictured, has taken over this task and also the general management of the kitchen from **Betty Rainbow**. We owe a huge debt of thanks to Pip, Anne and Betty for their years of often unseen work and thank Clare for offering to take this on.



■ **Two families who have worshipped at St. James's for many years were united on 19 August when Ian, son of Geof and Gillian Powell, married Katy, daughter of John Williams and the late Susan Blay. The couple are moving to Oxford where Katy will take up a post as a paediatric nurse at the John Radcliffe Hospital and Ian will start a course in Paramedic Science at Oxford Brookes University.**



■ We send our congratulations to **Prill and Martin Hinckley**, who celebrated their 20th wedding anniversary in July with a family celebration in Cirencester.



Families on the move...

Guy and Louise Rawstone, and children Millie and William, are moving to Australia for two years, where Guy will heading a new sales and marketing team for Le Creuset. Guy has arrived in Sydney and the others will follow by November.

We wish them well and thank them for helping with the Sunday School.

■ Three local families all moved house during August; two to be nearer other family members: **Alex and Anja Clarke** to West Worthing and **Ian, Lesley and Karina Brough** to Tarrant Keynston, Dorset. The **McEvoy** family, who run the Globe Players, have moved from their house in St. James's Avenue after 55 years, but will still be living locally. We wish them all happiness in their new homes.



■ **Abigail Grace**, daughter of **Sarah (née Clay)** and **Chris English** was baptised during Parish Communion on 17 July. Sarah was baptised and confirmed at St. James's and she and Chris were married there in 2007. Sarah and Abigail are regulars of The Ark.



Join our Sunday School and explore the world!

Young Spire

Greetings from Kandersteg



Dear All,
The summer holidays meant only one thing... time for the 3rd Hampton Hill Scouts to go international!
Paul Fitchett reports on life-changing experiences...

The Spire
St James's Church
Hampton Hill
TW12 1DQ
U.K.



Kandersteg is a standing Jamboree site in Switzerland, bought by Baden Powell many years ago to be an international centre for Scouting. For our trip, Wend and John Williamson carried out all the planning, including a visit there two years ago.

More than 50 Scouts, Explorers and Leaders boarded a coach in July, and 19 hours later we arrived in the picturesque village.

My first impressions were of its 'chocolate-boxness': we were surrounded by snow-capped peaks; all the buildings had Swiss flags and flower boxes overflowing with blazes of scarlet; and, yes, the cows had bells round their necks!

So what did we do? Amongst other things we:

- Joined a pioneering challenge to build structures with poles and rope, in which all nationalities were mixed up, creating interesting communication methods and many friendships;
- Cooked and gave away 400 cream teas on the Swiss National Day;
- Entered talent competitions;
- Paraded through the streets with Scouts from around the world to a fireworks display;
- Enjoyed a raft trip down river to Bern, the Scouts free to leap in and out as they pleased;
- Had a toboggan ride during which the Scouts urged us to ignore the brake!
- Walked to an alpine lake with a dip in its icy waters, with snow-capped peaks all around;
- Hiked, staying overnight in a hut for one group, while the second experienced a torrential storm, with the worst conditions our guide had ever seen;
- Went to a spa, with hot pools, slides, rapids;
- Experienced a full-on abseil deep into a gorge with a torrent running through at the bottom; and
- Had a high ropes course with the Scouts whizzing across a gorge on immense zip wires.

What I found most liberating was the Swiss approach to health and safety which, unlike our nanny state, makes the safety of the individual and of those around them, their responsibility.

The following are from the team and Scouts:

Matthew Tumill said: *The best activities were the zip wire, high ropes and sled run and my funniest moment was Christine being pushed in the water!*

Sarah, Jamie and Toby Schleich said: *We returned feeling extremely fortunate. I often catch myself smiling thinking of the bravery of the children who overcame their fears to achieve things; plus a very committed, dedicated Leadership Team, who live and breath Scouting.*

Thomas Hunter said: *My favourite memory is going to the thermal baths! Everyone who went to the baths had a great time and would have stayed all day if we had had more time.*

James Hunter said: *My favourite moment was when we were rafting and Jon Hawkins swam up behind my friend and dragged him backwards!*

Jon Holloway said: *My highlight was the gorge abseil, adrenaline-packed and defo the real thing.*

Sue Flude said: *The best laugh was the lake, and best cry was when Annie completed the High Adventure and then abseiled into the gorge.*

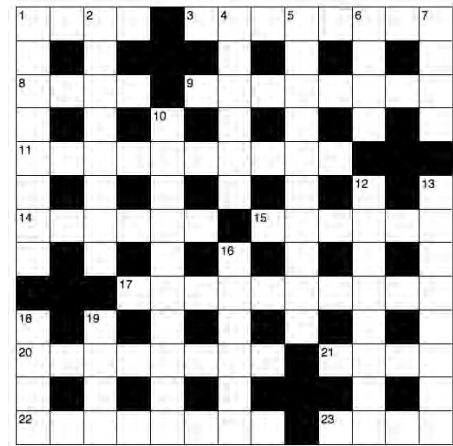
Laura Tumill said: *The best bits were the friendship and laughter throughout the camp; rafting was excellent fun and abseiling down the Gorge was outstanding.*

Originally I wasn't sure about going on an expensive international expedition. It wasn't until the pioneering competition that I learnt the true value as an explosion of friendship erupted at the end of the competition. From that moment on we never knew just what nationalities would be sitting round our fire of an evening. The other value was being able to enjoy activities not possible at home. I and a number of Scouts can now say that we were caught in a furious thunderstorm in the Alps, with mud-slides, avalanche defences and trees being washed away before our eyes!

Thanks to the leadership team, especially Christine, who spent so much time in the kitchen, and to Wend and John for researching and organising the trip and making it such a success.

T H E P U Z Z L E R

Crossword



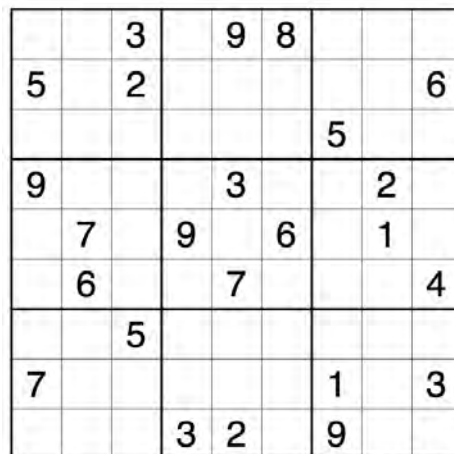
Across

- 1 Grandson of Mered and his Judean wife (1 Chronicles 4:18) (4)
- 3 He said of Jesus, 'This man has done nothing wrong' (Luke 23:40-41) (8)
- 8 Herb with pleasantly scented roots, present in the Beloved's orchard (Song of Songs 4:13) (4)
- 9 What God brought Sarah with the birth of Isaac (Genesis 21:6) (8)
- 11 Port on the Red Sea where King Solomon built ships (1 Kings 9:26) (5,5)
- 14 Donald —, Archbishop of Canterbury 1974-80 (6)
- 15 Cereal (Ezekiel 4:9) (6)
- 17 Jesus' description of a Pharisee (Matthew 23:24) (5,5)
- 20 Not as widely used at church services nowadays as used to be the case (8)
- 21 '— all your anxiety on him because he cares for you' (1 Peter 5:7) (4)
- 22 One of the three strands of Methodism united in 1932 (8)
- 23 'They broke bread in their homes and ate together with — and sincere hearts' (Acts 2:46) (4)

Down

- 1 The rebuke of 3 Across, 'Don't you fear God... since you are under the same —?' (Luke 23:40) (8)
- 2 Horse-drawn vehicle used by King Solomon (Song of Songs 3:9) (8)
- 4 Dearer (anag.) (6)
- 5 One-time editor of *Punch* and controversial writer and broadcaster who became a noted Christian, Malcolm — (10)
- 6 'When you sit to dine with a ruler, — well what is before you?' (Proverbs 23:1) (4)
- 7 'God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both — and Christ' (Acts 2:36) (4)
- 10 One description of the inspired nature of scripture (10)
- 12 'The Son himself will be made subject to him who put everything under him, so that God may be — —' (1 Corinthians 15:28) (3,2,3)
- 13 Recognized as valid (1 Samuel 3:20) (8)
- 16 A long A (anag.) (6)
- 18 'For God does not — favouritism' (Romans 2:11) (4)
- 19 Comes between Joel and Obadiah (4)

Sudoku

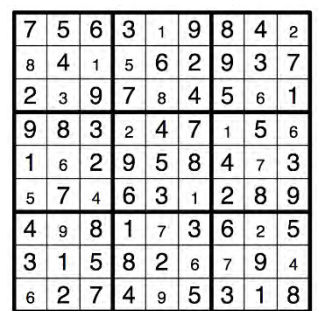


Complete the grid so that every row, column, and each 3 x 3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 once.

Solutions to both puzzles will appear in the next issue

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Solutions to August/September puzzles





THE RIOTS — REMEMBER BRIXTON 1981?

No Quick Fix

John Shirley, Sunday Times reporter of the year in 1981, and Brixton resident for 40 years, said: 'Today, Brixton feels like a resilient community; there is a buzz of confidence and energy in the air. But it has taken a generation to get there — to build a workmanlike level of trust between police and the black community, to improve education in local schools, to bring a measure of confidence to the high street. There have been no quick fixes, no easy answers. The lesson is surely that cheap political tricks may play to the gallery of public opinion, but don't cut the mustard when addressing the problems of society. Compassion, reflection and the exercise of wisdom might serve us better than seeking revenge. Otherwise it might all happen again — and soon.'

What young people want

A large group of young people in South London was asked recently what they wanted, their overall answer — a job, somewhere to box (they really trusted the boxing trainers) and to be taught how to look after themselves. Taking a grandson to the local playground in South London I noticed that part of the exceptional complex was Balham Boxing Club. How much do we really listen to those who so often feel rank outsiders to our society?

WHY PRIVATISE OUR NHS?

Going through the House of Lords this autumn is the Health and Social Care Bill. It will massively open up the NHS to private providers — why? There is a great deal of evidence that they cannot provide care cheaper than the NHS, and they will have shareholders to satisfy. As Baroness Shirley Williams recently pointed out: 'The NHS is recognised by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), the US Commonwealth Fund, most of our own medical organisations and many of those who use it as one of the most efficient, least costly and most effective in the world.' It also one of the most accessible systems. Health care in the US costs twice as much per head, and one in three people cannot afford to use it. In 2008 the Department of Health expected 90 NHS trusts would go under in the next 20 years. Scotland and Wales have refused to take the privatisation route; change and development, yes, but not the costly private providers.

FREE SCHOOLS?

The first 24 Free Schools are opening, free from the local education authority. They were supposed to be in deprived areas, and to avoid being centres for middle-class children. Their start-up costs, their insistence on fewer than 24 pupils in a class — written into their contracts in some cases — their placement, all suggest that these schools will in the long run take resources from other schools. Local experience in the past 20 years is that where a group of parents get together with others they can change the atmosphere and reputation of a school: Grey Court School, Kingston, in the 1990s, and Christ's School, Richmond, in the past decade, are interesting examples.

If your event is missing:

✉ griseldabarrett@blueyonder.co.uk



What's On

Faith at Work

Continues on selected Saturdays, in October and November, from 9.15-10.15am.

St James's Church, Hampton Hill

Find out what difference faith makes to our daily lives. See leaflet in church.

1 October — The Faith of a Volunteer, Ann Peterken

15 October — How Faith fits my life, Kirstie Hird

29 October — Faith in Retirement, Dick Wilde

12 Nov — Having Faith in Computers, David Hetling



community charity that helps the socially disadvantaged in west London. Please bring toiletries and non-perishable foods to this service, or before mid-October, making sure they are well within their 'best by' date.

A flyer of suggested items is available from church. The plate collection on 2 October will go to the **Upper Room**, so please come prepared.

Back to Church Sunday is now the largest single initiative of its type in the world. It is based on the simplest and shortest step in evangelism — that we should invite someone we already know to church. The initial focus was to invite 'back' those who used to attend, but we want to ensure that anyone who doesn't currently attend can be guaranteed a specially warm welcome.

Around 3,500 churches welcomed back 51,000 people last year, which is an average of 18 people per church. Let's help St James's Church top that figure in 2011. For more information please **pick up a leaflet in church**.

Harvest / Back to Church Sunday

Sunday 2 October, 11am, St James's Church,

Hampton Hill, followed by a bring and share lunch

We are combining our

Harvest Service with Back to Church Sunday. This

All-Age Communion, with a

parade by our uniformed groups, will be followed by a bring and share lunch, served in the hall. There will be hot chilli-con-came and jacket potatoes, together with cold dishes. Beer, wine and soft drinks will be available by donation. **We ask that if able you bring along salads and desserts. Please see Liz Wilmot or sign up for one of the items listed on the Events notice board.**

We will again be collecting items for the **Upper Room**, a



Pot Luck Supper and Poetry

Saturday 19 November, time to be confirmed,

St James's Church, Hampton Hill

Please join us for an evening of poetry. Bring along a favourite poem to read; it could be serious or comic. After the words comes the food — something from 'the pot'.

Tickets are available from the Parish Office or from Liz Wilmot in church on Sundays in November.

St James's Theatre Group

Tuesday 15 November, 7.30pm, **An Inspector Calls**,

Richmond Theatre, The Green, Richmond TW9 1QJ

When Inspector Goole arrives unexpectedly at the prosperous Birling family home, their peaceful dinner party is shattered by his investigations into the death of a young woman.

This landmark production from the National Theatre has thrilled audiences throughout the world. We have the best seats for £20.50 (saving £8 on the normal price).

There are also tickets for:

Friday 2 December, 7.30pm, **Calendar Girls**

The show's final tour. Tickets are £24 (saving £5.50).

To join us for any of these shows please add your name to the list on the church events notice board or telephone

Ria Beaumont 020 8943 4336. Transport can be arranged.



Churches Together

Around Hampton

Service and AGM

Sunday 16 October, 6.30pm, All Saints, The Avenue, Hampton TW12 3RS

Come and worship with other local Christians. The service will be preceded by the annual general meeting at 5pm, to which all are welcome.



Cantanti Camerati Concert

Saturday 29th October, 7.30pm, **Autumn Concert**,

St Anne's Church, Kew Green, Richmond TW9 2JB

Tickets and further information from 020 8898 8020

All Souls' Service

Sunday 30 October, 6pm, St James's Church

All are welcome at this service, held to remember friends and loved ones who have passed away. Names may be added to a list in church for inclusion in the service.

Teddington Choral Society Concert

Saturday 8 October, 7.30pm, St James's Church

Voices for Hospices concert in aid of the Princess Alice

Hospice, Esher. Come and sing *Fauré's Requiem* and

Geoffrey Bowyer's *A Pilgrim's Requiem*. Tickets £10

(singers and audience) on door, from Albert's Music,

Twickenham, or by telephoning 020 8977 5986.



23-30 October 2011

Sunday 23 October, 4pm, **Living for**

One World, St Frances de Sales

Church, 16 Wellington Road,

Hampton Hill, TW12 1JR

Our lives can change the world as we choose what we eat, what we buy, how we travel, how we use our money and

time. Churches Together Around Teddington are holding a joint service reflecting on this year's theme. For more information telephone Elizabeth Hicks 020 8977 8406

Charity Christmas Card Sale

Sunday 30 October in Church and

Sunday 6 November in the Church Hall

Cards supporting several charities will be on sale after Parish Communion.

Concordia Voices Concert

Saturday 26 November, 7.30pm,

Advent Concert, St Luke's Church, Sydney Street, Chelsea SW3 6NH

Details nearer the time, or by telephoning 020 7351 7365

Vicar's View



'Of course, Vicar, you are most welcome to some Harvest milk. Would you like homogenised, whole fat, semi-skimmed, skimmed, flavoured...'



Your Voice

David and Shelley Stokes report on the challenges of mission work

The Gospel truth in Argentina



Beginnings

Resolution taken from a meeting of the South American Missionary Society: *that a mission be started along the lines recommended by Mr W.B. Grubb in his letter dated 15 September 1910.*

These words gave the go-ahead to a bold project that would over time lead to the formation of the Anglican Diocese of Northern Argentina. William Barbrooke Grubb had already been working among indigenous groups in Paraguay for almost 20 years, and had the vision for reaching similar nomadic groups living in Northern Argentina.

In an exploratory visit there he had found nearly 6,000 indigenous people gathered to work the sugar cane harvest of the Leach Brothers in La Esperanza, Jujuy.

So it was that Barbrooke Grubb, along with Richard Hunt and Edward Bernau, arrived at the sugar plantation of the Leach Brothers on 9 April 1911.

For almost three years they lived alongside these seasonal workers, gradually learning their languages and cultures. They concentrated on the Wichí, rather than the Tobas, at this stage.

In December 1914 the three missionaries founded a mission station in Misión Chaqueña, and in 1922 eight people were baptised. From there the work gradually spread out across the Chaco, this vast expanse of semi-arid scrub forest.

In 1928 a mission station called San Andrés was opened on the banks of the River Pilcomayo, which acts as the border with Bolivia/Paraguay. In 1930 came an invitation to start work among the Tobas and Misión El Toba was founded. Then in 1938 came another mission station at Pozo Yacaré (Alligator's Well).

Each of these mission stations gave rise to a number of satellite congregations, usually started by local evangelists. As the church and its mission grew, the Diocese of Northern Argentina was eventually formed. It is now part of the Province of the Southern Cone, which in 2007 reported 22,000 members.

The Diocese presently has a number of Spanish-speaking congregations in towns and cities, and over 120 rural, indigenous congregations scattered around the Chaco region.

These rural congregations have their own indigenous leaders, and they are grouped in 15 zones. Travel for the pastors who oversee these zones is difficult because of poor roads.

In some cases motorbikes have taken the place of bicycles, but dust and mud still make travel eventful and arduous!

Celebrations

We returned as a couple to serve in the Anglican Diocese of Northern Argentina in November last year. We have been living in a small town, Juárez, which is conveniently situated in the centre of the Diocese.

During this centenary year there have been weekend celebrations in many of these old mission centres, most of which we have been able to attend. Each event is organised locally and each one has its own character.

The one at Pozo Yacaré included several older people talking about the impact the gospel had made on their community. They had made a poster with an impressively long list of those who had been the early evangelists and church leaders.

The one at San Andrés saw local communities come together — many had been scattered when the Pilcomayo washed away the original mission in the 1970s.

A number of music groups had written songs especially for the occasion, including one remembering Alberto, one of the first and much-loved Wichí pastors.

Seeing the way ahead

This year of celebration has been important for the 120 or so indigenous churches that make up the Diocese. Looking back and remembering has also had the effect of helping the Diocese look at the present challenges more clearly, and begin to plot the course for the future.

The challenges for communities are immense: the pace of change these indigenous cultures have faced recently has been staggering (from hunter-gather to modern technology), the consequent generation gap, and the pressure economic development has put on old ways of relating.

The challenges for the church are immense: the selection and equipping of a new generation of leaders, the renewal of forms of services, the letting go of some inherited traditions (including those brought by the missionary founders!) so that the gospel can be allowed to reach and transform individuals and society as it is now.

This is an exciting time for Shelley and me to be here. It is not an easy time though — either for us or for the churches. The challenge is to discern the way God wants to lead his church forward so that the gospel is embodied more faithfully in Wichí, Toba, Chorote and European Argentine culture.

We wonder whether members of St James's are aware of the history of the arrival of the gospel and the founding of your congregation. From our recent years spent in England we know the church there is facing different, but equally difficult, decisions about the way to be faithful to the gospel in our generation!



The story behind the hymn

God, we praise you, God, we bless you



God, we praise you, God, we bless you,
God, we name you sovereign Lord!
Mighty king whom angels worship,
Father, by your Church adored:
All creation shows your glory,
Heaven and earth draw near your throne
Singing 'Holy, holy, holy,'
Lord of hosts, and God alone.

True apostles, faithful prophets,
Saints who set their world ablaze,
Martyrs, once unknown, unheeded,
Join one growing song of praise,
While your Church on earth confesses

One majestic Trinity:
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
God, our hope eternally.

Jesus Christ, the King of glory,
Everlasting Son of God,
Humble was your virgin mother,
Hard the lonely path you trod:
By your cross is sin defeated,
Hell confronted face to face,
Heaven opened to believers,
Sinners justified by grace.

Christ, at God's right hand victorious,
You will judge the world you made;
Lord, in mercy help your servants
For whose freedom you have paid:
Raise us up from dust to glory,
Guard us from all sin today;
King enthroned above all praises,
Save your people, God, we pray.

A hymn's primary purpose is to lead its singer to worship and prayer. From the earliest days of the Christian Church there have been hymns and these words are based on one of the oldest. The *Te Deum* takes its title from the opening words of the hymn *Te Deum laudamus* (*We praise you, O God*). Dating from the 3rd or 4th century, it has found a place within Christian worship ever since. It is part of the *Book of Common Prayer* and of the *Office of Readings* of the Roman Catholic Church.

The version of it above was written by Michael Perry, an Anglican priest (1942-1996). Perry was a prolific writer of hymns with a great interest in liturgy. He was from an evangelical background. Typical of his writing, the ancient words of the *Te Deum* are rendered in an accessible form, easily sung to a large number of tunes. Perry is true to the *Te Deum*, beginning with praise of God. This is set in the context of the Church in heaven, and the Church on earth. The emphasis then shifts to Christ. The *Te Deum* is almost a creed as well as a hymn.

It will be sung at St. James's on **Sunday 30 October**, All Saints' Day. This is a day when all God's faithful people are recalled and celebrated.