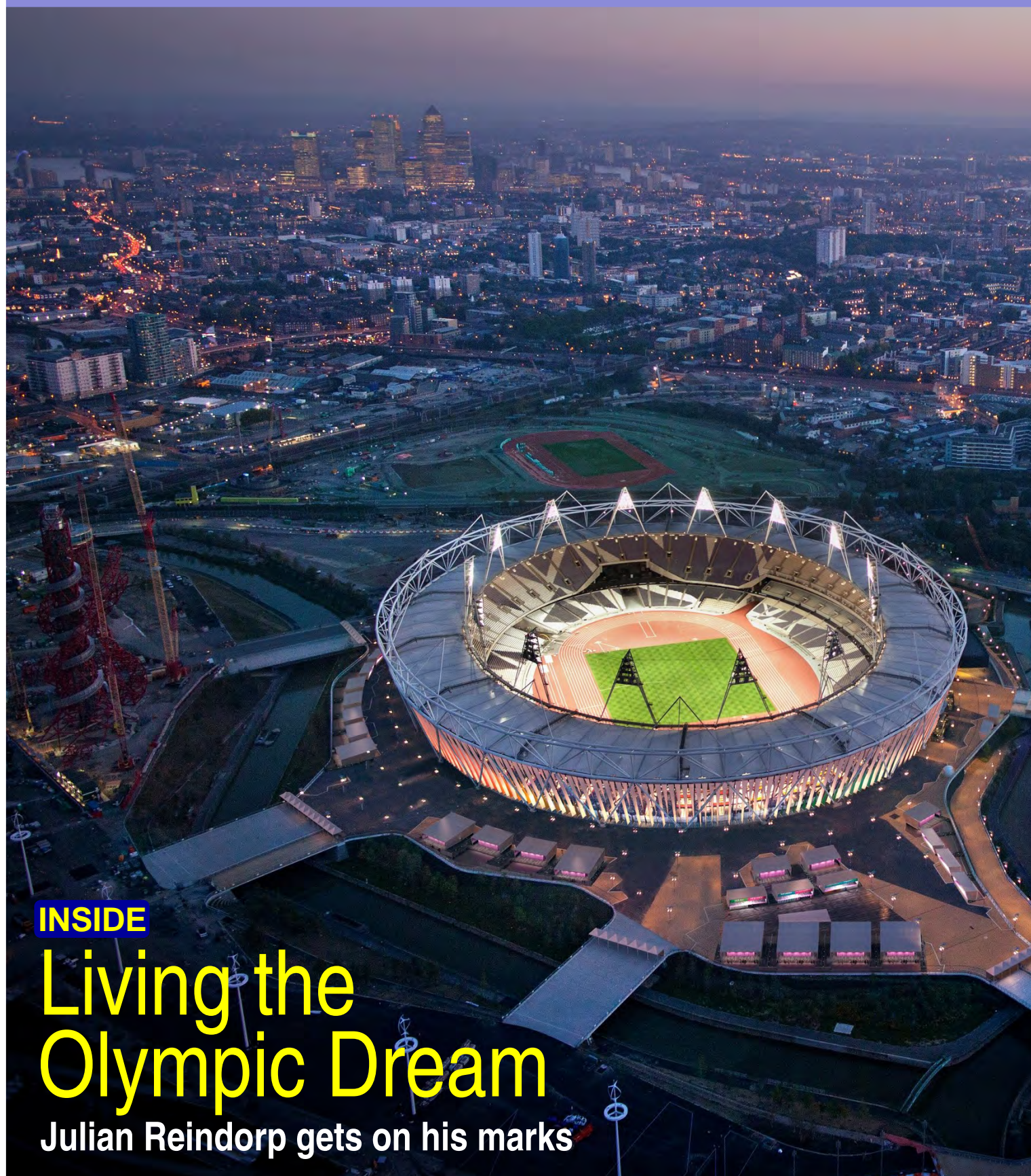


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thespire

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Living the Olympic Dream

Julian Reindorp gets on his marks

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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

Janet Nunn is our editor. If you have any ideas or news, or would like to write an article for the magazine, please contact her:

☎ 020 8979 6325

✉ janunh@btinternet.com or

✉ spire@stjames-hamptonhill.org.uk

AROUND THE SPIRE

Susan Horner writes Around the Spire. If you have any news to be considered, please email: ✉ smhorner5@yahoo.co.uk

WHAT'S ON

Griselda Barrett is listings editor. If you have an event to be considered for inclusion, please email: ✉ griseldabarrett@blueyonder.co.uk

WEBSITE / YOUNG SPIRE

Prill Hinckley is the church webmaster. She also compiles the monthly Young Spire page. Please email: ✉ p.m.hinckley@blueyonder.co.uk

CIRCULATION

thespire is available free from church and other outlets. It is also delivered across the parish or posted further afield. To receive a regular copy these last two ways, contact Susan Horner:

☎ 020 8979 9380

✉ smhorner5@yahoo.co.uk

✉ 5 St James's Avenue, Hampton Hill, Middlesex TW12 1HH.

NEXT ISSUE / COPY DEADLINE

The July issue is published on 1 July.
All copy must be with us by **Mon 28 May**.

CREDITS

PRODUCTION

Design/Chief Sub-editor Nick Bagge

Sub-editor Prill Hinckley

Proofreaders Susan Horner and Dick Wilde

PUBLISHING

Printer Justin Hollingsworth 020 8686 4481

thespire magazine is printed on paper that is sourced from well-managed forests, as laid down by the Forest Stewardship Council. This magazine may be recycled for use in newspapers or packaging.



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St James's Church is proud to be a Fairtrade church. We use Fairtrade communion wine and Fairtrade tea and coffee after services. We also promote and sell Fairtrade products.



When you have finished with this magazine, please recycle it.

Welcome

June 2012



The churchyard looks very attractive at this time of year with all the bluebells and other wild flowers. It was so sad to see the diseased tree which fell near the Garden of Remembrance. There is more about this under the News Bulletin.

A very big thank you to everyone who responded so generously to the Spire Appeal this year. In one month we have already received over £1,000. This is very encouraging to the Spire Committee, as we are in the process of planning very special editions of **thespire** for our 150th anniversary in 2013 which will obviously be more costly.

The Olympic Games are being talked about almost daily in the media now as we are getting very close to them. Our centrespread this month is written by Julian Reindorp who looks forward to the event. We shall also be covering more local news about the Olympic Torch and the cycling races in our July edition.

Best wishes

Janet

Janet Nunn,
Editor

You can now find us on facebook:
[facebook.com/Saintjameshamptonhill](https://www.facebook.com/Saintjameshamptonhill)



CHURCH AND OTHER CONTACTS

• **Bell Ringing** Susan Horner 020 8979 9380

• **Book of Remembrance Recorder**

• Margaret Hobbs 020 8979 2320

• **Brownies** Sarah Beer 075 0135 4225

• **Charities and Links Committee**

• Ann Peterken 020 8891 5862

• **Children's Advocate**

• Jane Newman 020 8979 6154

• **Church Cleaning Rota**

• Margaret Taylor 020 8979 3961

• **Church Flowers**

• Coryn Robinson 020 8979 6786

• **Churches Together Around Hampton**

• Ann Peterken 020 8891 5862

• **Deanery Synod** Lesley Mortimer 020 8941 2345

• **Electoral Roll** Nickie Jones 020 8941 6003

• **Eco-Group** Catherine Gash 020 8783 0563

• **Finance Committee** Don Barrett 020 8979 3331

• **Guides** Sarah Reed 020 8241 0499

• **Hall Bookings** Nickie Jones 020 8941 6003

• **Hall Coffee Rotas** Clare Ryan 079 7234 7956

• **Mission Partner Link** Liz Wilmot 020 8977 9434

• **Mozambique/Angola Link**

• Gwynneth Lloyd 020 8943 0709

• **Music and Worship Committee**

• Peter Vannozzi 020 8979 2069

• **Organist / Choirmaster**

• Sam Draper 020 8892 4957

• **Organist Emeritus**

• Geoffrey Bowyer 020 8894 3773

• **PCC Secretary** Jane Gibson, by email:

• janeal.gibson@hotmail.co.uk

• **Planned Giving Committee**

• Gwynneth Lloyd 020 8943 0709

• **Properties Committee**

• Bryan Basdell 020 8979 2040

• **Scout Group** Paul Fitchett 020 8941 7186

• **Servers** Lesley Mortimer 020 8941 2345

• **Sidespersons**

• Janet Taylor 020 8979 0046

• **Social Committee** Liz Wilmot 020 8977 9434

• **St James's Ark** Debbie Nunn 020 8979 3078

• **St James's Players**

• Martin Hinckley 020 8979 0528

• **Sunday School** Catherine Gash 020 8783 0563

• **Tools with a Mission (TWAM)**

• Janet Nunn 020 8979 6325

• **Treasurer** Don Barrett 020 8979 3331

• **Theatre Club** Peter Hale 020 979 9287

• **Visitors' Group** Liz Butler 020 8977 4227

• **Weekly Notices/Pew Sheet**

• Nickie Jones 020 8941 6003

OUR CLERGY

VICAR



Revd Peter Vannozzi

Peter was born in Hanwell in 1962, but owes his surname to his Italian great-grandfather

who came to the UK in the late 19th century. Peter was ordained in 1987 and prior to joining St James's he was Vice Dean and Canon Pastor at Wakefield Cathedral. Peter is Chair of Governors of Hampton Hill Junior School and a Trustee of the Hampton and Hampton Hill Voluntary Care Group.

☎ 020 8979 2069

✉ vicar@stjames-hamptonhill.org.uk

✉ The Vicarage, 46 St James's Road, Hampton Hill, Middlesex TW12 1DQ.

BAPTISM AND WEDDING ENQUIRIES

These should be made in person in church on a Saturday morning from 10-10.30am.

PARISH OFFICE

PARISH ADMINISTRATOR



Nickie Jones

For enquiries and hall bookings.

The office is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday am.

☎ 020 8941 6003

✉ office@stjames-hamptonhill.org.uk

✉ St James's Church, 46 St James's Road, Hampton Hill TW12 1DQ.

CHURCHWARDENS



Carole Greville-Giddings

☎ 020 8979 6592

✉ carole.g-g@hotmail.co.uk



Nick Bagge

☎ 020 8783 0871

✉ Nickbagge1@aol.com

SERVICES FOR JUNE

Sundays

• 8am Holy Communion

• 9.30am Parish Communion



• 3 June — Trinity Sunday and Celebration of Queen's Jubilee

• Proverbs 8. 1-16;

• Romans 13. 1-10;

• Luke 22. 24-30

• 10 June — 1st Sunday after Trinity

• Genesis 3.8-15;

• 2 Corinthians 4.13-5.1;

• Mark 3.20-35

• 17 June — 2nd Sunday after Trinity

• Ezekiel 17.22-24;

• 2 Corinthians 5.6-17;

• Mark 4.26-34

• 24 June — Birth of John the Baptist

• Isaiah 40.1-11;

• Galatians 3.23-end;

• Luke 1.57-66, 80

• 1st Sunday after Trinity

• Luke 1.57-66, 80

• 1st Sunday after Trinity

• Luke 1.57-66, 80

Mondays-Fridays

(but not Tuesdays)

• 9.15am Morning Prayer

Tuesdays

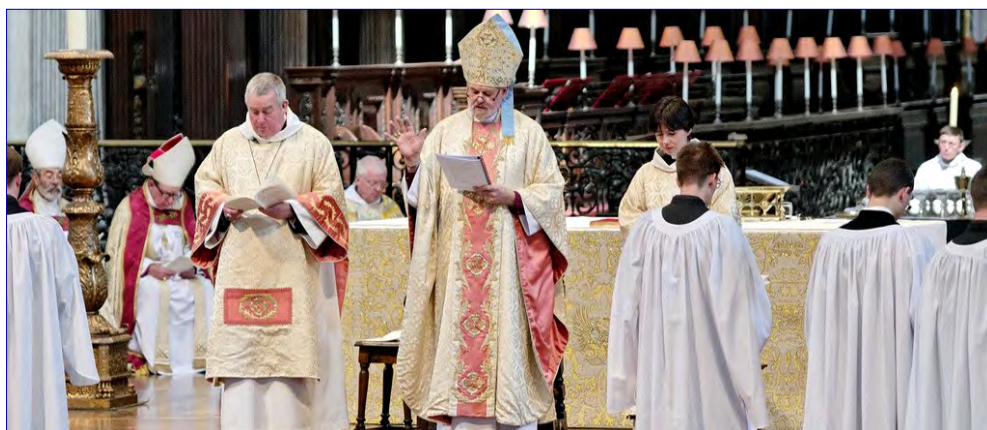
• 9.30am Holy Communion

1st Thursday in month

• 7 June 2pm Holy Communion

Leader Column

Serving God and leading the nation



June seems to have a lot to say about 'service.' This will doubtless be a theme as The Queen celebrates her Diamond Jubilee through a weekend of events, including a service of thanksgiving on Tuesday 5 June at St. Paul's Cathedral. I believe that we should be intensely thankful for The Queen's service of 60 years.

On Saturday 30 June a group of women and men will go to the same great cathedral church to begin a new form of service for them. David Bell will be one of those ordained deacon at St. Paul's Cathedral.

For three years David has been training for ordination through the South-East Institute for Theological Education (SEITE.) This is a non-residential course with David studying at home and through weekly classes, study weekends and practical placements.

Placements have not just meant local churches (and David has preached, led worship and led study groups at St. James's) but also included spending time with a hospital chaplaincy team. (See David's *Your Voice* on Page Eight.)

After ordination David will join us as St. Paul's on Sunday 1 July as our new curate. At St. Paul's Cathedral David will be set apart through prayer and the laying on of hands by the Bishop of London to be a deacon within the Church – part of the historic three-fold ordained ministry of bishop, priest and deacon.

God (and the bishop!) willing, David will be ordained priest in a year's time. What David will *become* later this month is a deacon; what he will *do* is to carry out the tasks of a curate, the assistant ordained minister within a church and parish.

He is not able to preside at the eucharist until he is ordained priest, but David will become 'The Reverend', will robe in a particular way, and exercise a specific role within the eucharist. David will be 'self-supporting', which means that he will not be paid by the Church, but will give freely of his time in this ministry while continuing to work in publishing, combining sacred and secular, as he has done throughout his training. I am delighted that David will remain with us after ordination.

What is a deacon? The word literally means *servant*. In the Acts of the Apostles Chapter 6, seven men are chosen to be servants to ensure that gentile widows receive their fair



Peter Vannozzi

share of support. This servant ministry is seen as part of the inspiration for the deacon's ministry today. Like any Christian, deacons are ultimately to take Christ as their model.

The ordination service puts it this way: *Deacons are ordained so that the people of God may be better equipped to make Christ known. Theirs is a life of visible self-giving. Christ is the pattern of their calling and their commission; as he washed the feet of his disciples, so they must wash the feet of others.*

The full ordination service is well worth looking at <http://churchofengland.org/prayerworship/worship/texts/ordinal/deacons.aspx>

The whole Church is called to serve, and deacons help to remind us of this. At a local level, men and women will go out from St. Paul's Cathedral to their parishes. They go to give, but most importantly, to receive: specifically to receive training and formation as newly ordained ministers.

David has already demonstrated competence in a variety of ways, but now he must learn how to baptise, officiate at weddings and funerals, and very importantly be a deacon and then a priest. St. James's will have a crucially important role in forming David. Unrealistic expectations are unhelpful for a newly ordained person. I urge our congregation to be, in the first instance, accepting, welcoming, generous and gentle to our new curate.

Accepting: David will bring gifts, but also faults. Let him be human!

Welcoming: David does not have to prove himself worthy of our warmth. Let it just be given.

Generous: David will be in a vulnerable position as a newly ordained person. Let us be generous spirited, assuming the best and always looking for it.

Gentle: David remains human despite ordination! Let us be quick to encourage.

This month then is a month of celebration: nationally, as The Queen celebrates with her people her long reign; locally, for churches welcoming a new deacon. Both remind us of the vocation to serve.

In Thought and Prayer

A section of the Prayer of Ordination said after the bishop has laid hands on those being ordained deacon:



Through your Spirit, heavenly Father, give these your servants grace and power to fulfil their ministry. Make them faithful to serve and constant in advancing your gospel in the world.

May they follow the example of Jesus Christ your Son, who washed the feet of his disciples, and set the needs of others before his own.

May their life be disciplined and holy, their words declare your love and their actions reveal your glory, that your people may walk with them in the way of truth and be made ready for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ;

to whom, with you and your Holy Spirit, belong glory and honour, worship and praise, now and for ever



The following Prayer, written at The Queen's direction by the Chapter of St Paul's Cathedral for Her Majesty's Diamond Jubilee, will be used in the Jubilee Thanksgiving Service in St Paul's Cathedral on Tuesday 5 June

God of time and eternity, whose Son reigns as servant, not master; we give you thanks and praise that you have blessed this Nation, the Realms and Territories with Elizabeth our beloved and glorious Queen.

In this year of Jubilee, grant her your gifts of love and joy and peace as she continues in faithful obedience to you, her Lord and God and in devoted service to her lands and peoples, and those of the Commonwealth, now and all the days of her life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



Council face repair bill for fallen tree

A **TREE** that fell in the Churchyard overnight on 17 April caused extensive damage to the Garden of Remembrance. A bench was smashed, as were several gravestones. The boundary wall with our neighbours in Park Road was also part-demolished.



The beech, close to the Lynch Gate, was one of five diseased trees due to be felled by the borough council. The council has almost completed the work and repairs were ongoing as we went to

press. The churchyard has been the responsibility of the London Borough of Richmond Upon Thames since October 1990.

St James's Church won't have to pay for the repairs.



Meat Free Mondays We all need to consume less meat and dairy products for the sake of our health and that of the planet – and it will save money too! Try one day a week without meat. See www.bbc.co.uk/food/recipes and www.ciwf.org.uk/eatlessmeat for some great menu ideas and for lots more information.

Annual meeting reports steady income and a fall in costs The PCC welcomes three new members

THE NEW PCC has been announced following the Annual Parish Council Meeting on 29 April. Churchwardens Carole Greville-Giddings and Nick Bagge were returned to serve another year.

Three new faces on the Parochial Church Council (PCC) were Natalie Kadkol, Clare Ryan and Liz Wilmot. Alan Cammidge switched from PCC member to become one of St James's representatives on the Deanery Synod, while Deanery members Gwynneth Lloyd and Jacky Cammidge, and PCC members David and Nicky Hetling, retired with our thanks.

The annual accounts for 2011, presented by Treasurer Don Barrett, revealed a cash surplus of £2,102 after revaluation. The principal source of income remains donations from the congregation, a large proportion of this was via Gift Aid, totalling £85,328, slightly up on 2010. Donations and appeals raised £9,470. Hall income was slightly down on 2010 at £22,589. Total expenditure was £140,510, £8,236 less than in 2010.

A NEW REGULAR FOCUS ON OUR GIVING

Charity Box



Supporting England's Christian Community heroes

THE CHURCH Urban Fund is the Church of England's response to poverty in this country, working in partnership with Christians who feel called to put their faith into action. St James's has supported its work for most of the charity's 25 year history, since it was established in 1987 following the publication of the landmark report, *Faith in the City*.

Each year the Church Urban Fund supports over 300 church and Christian projects tackling poverty and it constantly seeks to increase passion within the Church for the poor and marginalised. Its vision is for every church, in every community, to be tackling poverty together by giving what they can of time, money, action and prayer.

Good leadership is an essential ingredient for any project to succeed. The charity ensures the right people are in the right place to work with families, the



unemployed, the homeless, refugees and young people. These community heroes are the people that our support helps to fund. Their painstaking work gives people hope and often turns lives around.

On 17 June, Kerry McMenamin, from the Church Urban Fund, will be the guest preacher at our 9.30am service. She will be able to convey so much more than these few words, so please make a special effort to be there.

The next day (Monday 18 June) there will be a service of rededication at 5pm in St Paul's Cathedral to mark the charity's 25th anniversary, with the Most Revd Rowan Williams as preacher. Please talk with Ann Peterken if you would like to attend.

Yes, cheer on Team GB — but spare a thought for the others!

I was swimming in the pool at Teddington, and I noticed a dark shadow swimming up and down. After a few lengths I plucked up courage and spoke to the dark shadow. 'Would I normally see you on a running track?' He grinned. 'Yes,'

he replied. It was **Mo Farah**, our Olympic hope for the 5000 and 10,000 metres, swimming with his wife Tania (expecting twins in September) and his step-daughter, Rihanna, before going to America for his year-long final training for this year's Olympics.

He must weigh well under nine stones, but what really stuns me is the time he will have to run to win a gold medal at one of these races. As a schoolboy I ran for my county and I could do the 400 metres in 51 seconds. But that is the time Mo Farah will have to run for the last of his 25 laps of the track if he is to win the 10,000 metres. This shows the difference between a club athlete and the best in the world.

THE CHURCHES — HOSTS AND GUESTS

Some 25,000 athletes will be arriving in London in July, and they will bring with them 25,000 journalists.

The churches have combined in Britain to embrace the games through *More than Gold*, an organization offering chaplaincy to all who will come. Local churches are housing the families of athletes who could not otherwise afford to come.

Evangelical outreach is being organized in a variety of ways, and we can hope that with sensitivity people may be touched in what could become an unexpected pilgrimage.

People's experience will so depend on our welcome. Clearly, hundreds of thousands of people will be coming to watch the games and London will be very full. We are proud of our capital with its over 300 languages, but perhaps August may test our patience — not least our travelling plans!

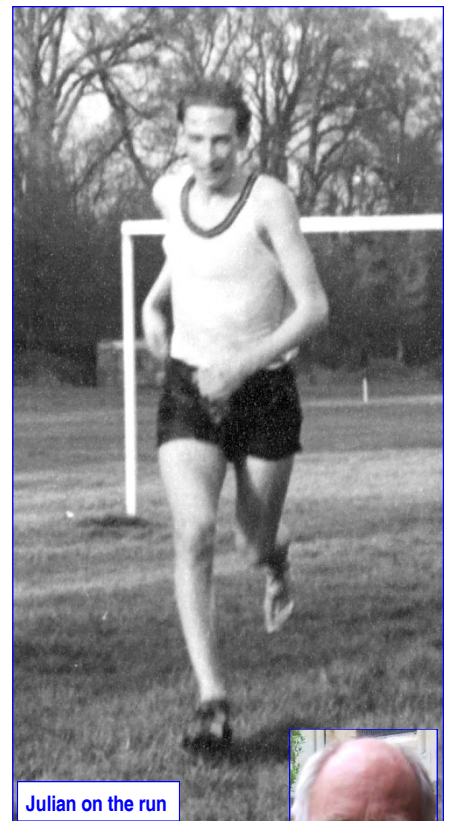
I hope we will be as welcoming as other people are to us when we travel abroad; we take for granted that so much of the world can understand English.

WHICH OLYMPICS?

Like so many people I did not get the tickets I had hoped for the Olympics, but I have got tickets for the Paralympics. I wanted to share the *Olympic Experience* in whatever way was possible.

My wife and I visited the site some months ago. I remember that whole section of London was underdeveloped when I was a curate in the early 70s in Poplar (the parish setting for the hit BBC One drama series *Call the Midwife*) and I would take a walk along parts of the River Lea.

The Olympic legacy will have been to develop another lung of London, just as the Dome enabled the development of the whole of the Greenwich



Julian on the run



London is almost ready to welcome the greatest show on earth — the Olympic and Paralympic Games. Canon Julian Reindorp, a former county club runner, looks forward to the competition and explains how he came face-to-face with Mo Farah, one of Team GB's most promising Gold medal hopefuls, in Teddington



Mo Farah will be going for gold for Team GB at London 2012

Peninsula. I hope those of us living in other parts of London will not begrudge the money spent on one of the most neglected parts of the capital.

I have so often admired how people respond to their disabilities, and the Paralympics are a supreme example of this. In the past entrance for the Paralympics was free to fill up the stands, but I am glad we now have to pay as so many people want to be there. Both the extraordinary courage and dedication of these athletes and the way so many of our buildings have now been adjusted are small signs that we have made real progress in including people who already have enough to cope with.



WEALTH AND THE MEDAL TABLE

A friend was writing a piece about the 100 metre superstar **Usain Bolt**, pictured above, from Jamaica. He found an article which showed that if you knew the Gross Domestic Product of a country you could estimate fairly accurately how many Olympic medals they would win.

The Chinese were well aware of this and they poured resources into preparing for the Beijing Games, and perhaps not surprisingly they came top of the medal table. We have done the same except the credit crunch has forced cutbacks, and athletes have been advertising for individual sponsors. So, as we watch the performance of the athletes from some of the world's poorest countries, we need to be aware of what almost superhuman effort they have had to make just to get to the Olympics.

WHY ARE SO MANY GREAT ATHLETES FROM THE VILLAGES OF AFRICA?

There are two countries which seem to defy the odds and produce a stream of outstanding medal winners and world champions, Ethiopia and Kenya.

Why and how? Inevitably, it's a combination of factors. One reason could be that they have to run considerable distances to get to school. As one Ethiopian official said: 'I was lucky I only had to run half-an-hour a day to school, but **Haile Gebrselassie** (probably the greatest distance runner of our time) had to run six miles to school. 'Maybe our distance runners won't be so good when they don't have to run great distances to school.'

Many of Ethiopia's greatest runners have come from one tiny town (nicknamed 'the fastest place on earth'): Bekoji. And one man is credited with making all the difference. **Sentayehu Eshetu**, known to everybody as 'Coach', works out of a small office that could almost be called a rundown garden shed. He says of his athletes and their many medal winning achievements: 'They listen well and work hard. And eat well. You know barley? They eat barley.'

Then he goes on to describe 'their determination, their physical strength from working the land, huge lungs, role models, and perfect body shape'. And running is a means of escape from their poverty for them and their families.

THE KENYAN INFLUENCE ON MO FARAH

It is some of these factors that Mo Farah (originally from Somalia) commented on when he first began to train with the Kenyans. As in Ethiopia, the phenomenal success of Kenya's long distance runners is put down to sprinting to school and hunger for success. It was only when Mo began to train with the Kenyans that he became a world class runner. 'To see them just eat, sleep and train and nothing else was a big shock for me,' he said. The level of dedication he saw from the Kenyans was a revelation.



Kenyan runners Paul Kipkoech and Charles Cheruiyot triumph despite their country's poverty.

Of course I want Team GB to win as many medals as possible, but the achievements of athletes from some of the world's poorest countries surely deserve our admiration as they overcome huge odds to win medals at the greatest show on earth — the Olympic Games.

Local residents are being encouraged to get involved in the borough's Olympic events. The London Borough of Richmond Upon Thames needs 1000 volunteers to help provide assistance to visitors. The role would suit people who live locally. For more information go to www.richmond.gov.uk

If you have some news to share, please contact Susan Horner: smhorner5@yahoo.co.uk



Around the Spire

NEWS FROM HAMPTON HILL AND BEYOND

Recalling long-time friend of St James's

WE WERE sorry to hear the news of the death of **Joan Pyne**, at the age of 91, in April. Joan lived in

St James's Road for 30 years, from when she married at the end of the 1940s. She served on the PCC, and was an enthusiastic member of the Young Wives' Group.

Joan was also a Sunday School teacher, at Wayside, and played the eccentric harmonium — if you pedalled hard enough it would make its way slowly across the room. On one occasion she gave dance lessons to '50 twinkle-toed members of the youth club'!

Her husband, Ron, was leader of the 2nd Hampton (Grammar



School) Scouts and Joan made costumes for Gang Shows. When they asked if their daughter, Rosalind, could join the 1st Hampton Hill Brownies, Brown Owl said there would only be a space if Joan helped! She agreed.

When they moved to Ringwood in Hampshire, they kept a flat in The Wildemess, Park Road, where they stayed whenever visiting Rosalind and their grandchildren. Ron died in 1997 and Joan returned to The Wildemess two years ago.

She always associated the sound of the church bells and the sight of the spire with being home. Despite time away, Hampton Hill and the church were always in her thoughts.

Julie arrives in Guildford

WE SEND our congratulations to the **Revd Dr Julie Gittos**, a curate at St James's from 2003-6, who was installed as residentiary canon at **Guildford Cathedral** during evensong on Sunday 6 May. She will also be responsible for education and pastoral care. We wish her well.



Counting the money...

■ Thank you to all who collected door-to-door and counted the money during **Christian Aid Week**, and particularly to Liz Wilmot and Linda Webb for the overall administration. We will publish the total in the July issue.

■ We raised £750 for the **Lent Appeal** to help to provide much-needed transport for our ALMA link diocese. Thank you.

■ Well done to the **Shell Seekers**, who held a cake sale on Mothering Sunday, raising £91.45 for the Greenwood Centre.

Registers for March and April

MARCH

Baptisms

4 Alfred Peter Charles Newell, Hampton

10 Osian Gower Holt, Teddington

25 Jack Timothy Thomas Dashwood, Hanworth

Funerals

15 Kathleen Lorraine O'Sullivan, 69, Hampton Hill

21 Graham Lawrence Parkins, 72, Hounslow

23 Gladys Georgina Ypres Semmens, 94, Teddington

27 Eric Austin Newton (Gerry), 89, Hanworth

APRIL

Baptisms

15 James Eric Francis, Ashford

Funerals

10 Colin George Goddard, 87, Hampton Hill

11 Jasmine Dawn Frost, 3, Hanworth



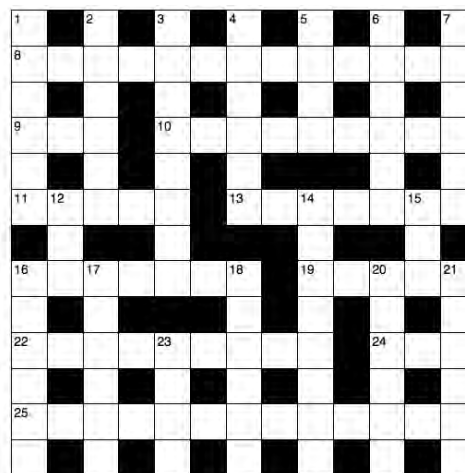
Join our Sunday School and explore the world!

Young Spire

Go online for even more

T H E P U Z Z L E R

Crossword



Across

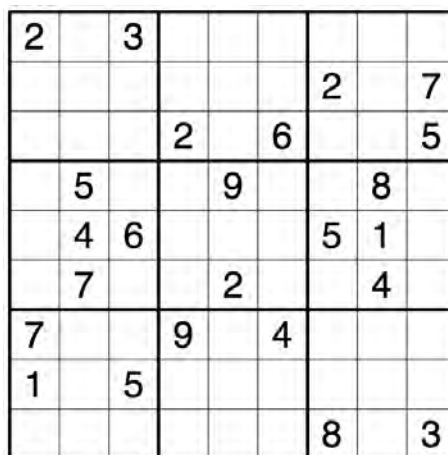
- 8 Laban complained he had not been allowed to kiss them when Jacob fled with his family (Genesis 31:28) (13)
- 9 In favour of (3)
- 10 'The child's father and mother — at what was said about him' (Luke 2:33) (9)
- 11 Swagger (Psalm 12:8) (5)
- 13 'Terrors — him on every side and dog his every step' (Job 18:11) (7)
- 16 Bay bits (anag.) (7)
- 19 Preach, address an audience, speak in public (5)
- 22 Holy Communion (9)
- 24 'On their way to — out the land, Joshua instructed them, "Go and make a survey of the land"' (Joshua 18:8) (3)
- 25 Joseph advised Pharaoh to appoint these to administer his grain storage plan (Genesis 41:34) (13)

- 4 The components of the crown that Jesus was made to wear before his crucifixion (John 19:2) (6)
- 5 Colour of cloth which was to cover holy objects in the tabernacle when moving camp (Numbers 4:6-12) (4)
- 6 One of the gold articles plundered from the Midianites offered to the Lord by the Israelite army 'to make atonement' (Numbers 31:50) (6)
- 7 'The fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set —' (Jeremiah 31:29) (2,4)
- 12 Ate (anag.) (3)
- 14 'We ourselves... groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our — as sons' (Romans 8:23) (8)
- 15 Abram's nephew (Genesis 14:12) (3)
- 16 Rupture (Job 30:14) (6)
- 17 'Yet to all who received him... he gave the right to — children of God' (John 1:12) (6)
- 18 'I... asked him the true meaning of all — . — he told me and gave me the interpretation of these things' (Daniel 7:16) (4,2)
- 20 Military units (Exodus 14:20) (6)
- 21 'Joseph her husband was a righteous man and did not want to — her to public disgrace' (Matthew 1:19) (6)
- 23 Diva (anag.) (4)

Down

- 1 'Assyria's pride will be brought down and — sceptre will pass away' (Zechariah 10:11) (6)
- 2 'And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in — with God and men' (Luke 2:52) (6)
- 3 Descendants of Esau (Genesis 36:9) (8)

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 April / May's puzzles



Fairtrade status confirmed for St James's Church

What it means to buy fairly



By William Nettleton

Ann Peterken, the Richmond Fairtrade representative whom I help to run a Fairtrade stall at St James's Church, invited me to go with her and her husband, Paul, one of Hampton Hill Junior School's Governors, to collect a Fairtrade status certificate for the parish of Hampton Hill.

On Sunday 11 March, I went to Teddington railway station to get on the train to take us to London Waterloo. When we arrived at Waterloo we jumped on to the 76 bus to take us on a lovely journey over Waterloo Bridge with the stunning sunset on the horizon.

The minute we got off the bus we were directly outside St Paul's Cathedral. We entered the gargantuan, famous cathedral and people were there handing out flags and programmes for the service. The atmosphere was vibrant, if a little chaotic!

After half-an-hour the service started. All of the bishops processed in their cassocks and gowns, whilst we were singing hymns.

Then we listened to an interview with a woman who farms in Malawi. She said she had to work really hard to produce peanuts, which grow underground, so that she was

able to feed her family. She also wants **ALL OF US TO LOOK FOR THE FAIRTRADE SIGN** when shopping because Fairtrade helps people like her to get food on the table.

Then the Bishop of London, the Rt Revd Richard Chartres, was presented with a certificate declaring the Diocese of London a Fairtrade Diocese and St Paul's was given a certificate for being a Fairtrade Cathedral.

These certificates were presented by Dr Harriet Lamb CBE, Executive Director of the Fairtrade Foundation.

After a few more songs I went to collect a certificate from the Archdeacon of Middlesex, the Venerable Stephen Welch, stating that St James is a Fairtrade church within the Diocese of London. **WELL DONE** everyone!



All eyes on the largest Fairtrade city in the world

WHEN LONDON became a Fairtrade City in October 2008, — not just any

Fairtrade City, but the largest Fairtrade City in the world — many of us celebrated the years of campaigning by committed people across the London boroughs.

This year, the Diocese of London achieved the Fairtrade goals, culminating with steel bands in St Paul's Cathedral. Now this summer we'll have the chance to showcase Fairtrade London during what aims to be the most sustainable Olympics ever. Cheering all round for the London Organising Committee's Food Vision strategy which has ensured that there'll be Fairtrade tea, coffee, bananas, sugar, chocolate, wine and

oranges in the Olympic Park.

It is estimated that people will enjoy 14 million cups of Fairtrade coffee, 7.5 million cups of Fairtrade tea, 10 million Fairtrade bananas and 10 million sachets of Fairtrade sugar! The benefits for producers round the globe will be huge. Estimated Fairtrade premiums from the bananas will top £52,000, which will go back to communities for projects.

Fairtrade is all about creating a level playing field for smallholders and workers in global trade — so the Olympics is the perfect opportunity to welcome the world to Fairtrade Britain, top of the global Fairtrade sales league table.

■ The Richmond Fairtrade Group will be giving out window stickers to qualifying outlets in the borough's high streets over the coming months.

Our Sunday School welcomes newcomers. Meet in the hall, term time (not first in month), 9.25am



opinion

Canon Julian Reindorp

BENEFITS TOO GENEROUS?

In a recent poll, 94% of Tory voters, 74 % of Lib Dems and 59% of Labour supporters thought the Government pays too much in benefits. When asked about 'scroungers', just 28% thought the problem was confined to a 'small minority'. When asked about welfare dependency in general there was a harsh view, but when confronted with specific groups and specific cases there was a more generous view. I wonder how many of those consulted had ever had to live on benefits, or had a disabled family member who was dependent on them?

An employer came to me about one of his workers whom he had had to make redundant. He had discovered how little the man and his family would have to live on if he was out of work for any length of time. He was deeply shocked. Have we become a meaner society in recent years?

RADICAL IRISH CATHOLICS

We assume that the Roman Catholic Church in Ireland is very conservative, but in a recent poll of over 1,000 lay worshipping members 87% believed that priests should be allowed to marry, 77% believed that women should be ordained to the priesthood, and over 60% disagreed with the teaching that any sexual expression of love between gay couples is immoral.

In another survey 70% of Roman Catholic priests favoured the ordination of women. This is in a church where Mass attendance is among the highest in Europe.

RESPONSES TO BANK CRISIS

The great economist Walter Bagehot remarked of the bank crash in 1866 that 'the losses were made in a manner so reckless and foolish that you would think a child who had lent money in the City of London would have lent it better'. The writer Ferdinand Mount recently responded to this, 'The only consolation, then and now, is that the practical remedies are pretty much child's play too: break up the big banks and other damaging monopolies, give shareholders an explicit power to veto outrageous pay rises, restore the financial independence of local government, stop taxing the poor, bring in a living wage for the lowest earners, to name but a few.'

LONDON HOUSING CRISIS

The housing minister, responding to claims that people are being moved out of London, suggested that rents in London are declining. The director of the housing charity Shelter responded by saying that their Rent Watch shows that private rents in London rose by 7% in 2011, almost double the rate of inflation on the average London wage. He also pointed out that six in ten landlords specifically state 'No one on housing benefits' in their advertisements.

One correspondent pointed out that a year after the coalition failed to save 1,400 jobs at the Bombardier train factory in Derby by awarding the Thameslink contract to an overseas rival, a Tory Council, Westminster, is considering moving its people on its housing list to Derby!

MEDITATION IN SCHOOLS

Over 100 schools have decided to introduce meditation. The sponsors describe how 'a child has a natural capacity to experience God as boundless and unconditional love, Christian meditation enables them to keep in touch with their early experiences of God, ...and meet the challenges they face every day'.

What's On

NEW LISTING

Hampton and Hampton Hill Carnival

Saturday 9 June, Nursery Green, The Avenue, Hampton
The parade leaves Ormond Drive at 12.30pm going to Nursery Fields, where there are stalls and activities, music and a barbecue. Don't forget to visit the **St James's Church Adopt-a-Teddy stall**. Carnival profits go to The White House Community Association and the stallholders' individual causes. The White House Centre will be open for light refreshments and displays.

NEW LISTING

Greencoat Forum

Leading in a High-Risk

Environment, Tuesday 12 June,

7pm, 24 Greencoat Place, London SW1P 1RD



Joe Garner, Head of UK Bank and Deputy Chief Executive, HSBC Bank, will speak on the theme of *Courageous Integrity*, the leadership approach to which the bank aspires in guiding behaviour and decision-making at every level of the organisation. Despite the current focus on rules and outcomes in reaction to the financial crisis, Joe believes in the importance of values and trust in business, and not just in financial services.

Light refreshments from 6.30pm. The event will end at 8.30pm. The event is free, with a collection taken towards expenses. Spaces are limited; to book please email reception@london.ifo.org or telephone 020 7798 6000.

NEW LISTING

Rio — Whose Earth?

Thursday 14 June, 7.30pm, All Souls Church, 2 All Souls Place, London W1B 3DA

Also: Wednesday 20 June, 7.30pm, St Stephen's Church, Richmond Road, Twickenham TW1 2PD

In 1992, the world's biggest ever political gathering — the Rio Earth Summit — marked one of the first times that world leaders met to discuss the environment.

Twenty years later, they are meeting again to see how well they have done — and how much more they need to do. Tearfund, along with A Rocha and New Frontiers, are running two events locally to act and pray for change towards a sustainable and safe future. The events are free and there's no need to book. Tea and cake available.

NEW LISTING

Concordia Voices

Songs of Heaven and Earth, Saturday 16 June, 7.30pm, St Mary Magdalene Church, Paradise Road, Richmond TW9 1SN (or via Church Walk)



The programme features the *Poulenc Gloria* and music by Mahler, Paul Spicer, Paul Ayres, Grainger, Sondheim and Bernstein. Tickets are the usual price: £12 (or £10 in advance from Concordia Members) £10 concession (£8). For information email: secretary@concordiavoices.org

NEW LISTING

Concordia Voices

Summer Evening by the River, Wednesday 27 June, 6pm, St Mary's Church, Church Street, Hampton

Part of the Teddington and Hampton Music Festival, in aid of the Shooting Star Children's Hospice. Tickets are £15, including pre-concert drinks at Garrick's Temple and buffet supper at Hampton Sailing Club. Contact Hilary Dodman 020 8979 4015 hilarydodman@hotmail.com

NEW LISTING

ARHouse Open Studios Festival

Saturday 23 and Sunday 24 June, 11am-6pm, The White House, 45 The Avenue, Hampton TW12 3RN

As part of a borough-wide celebration of creative talent, the White House Community Art Groups are displaying painting, embroidery, knitting and other craftwork.

NEW LISTING

Musical Showcase

Saturday 23 June, 7.30pm, The White House, 45 The Avenue, Hampton TW12 3RN

Featuring Magna Carta Chorus, Thameside Harmony Ladies Chorus, Middlesex Yeomanry Clarinet Quartet, Swinge! and Star Shine Quartet. Bar and refreshments available. Tickets £5 (children under 11 free), telephone 020 8287 3244, email Billcamaby@blueyonder.co.uk.

NEW LISTING

Teddington Choral Society

Invitation to the Dance, Saturday 30 June, 7.30pm, Waldegrave School for Girls, Main Hall, Fifth Cross Road, Twickenham TW2 5LH

A programme on the theme of dance, including music from Brahms and Borodin. Tickets: £10 (concessions £8); Accompanied children under 14 free. Tel 020 8977 5986

NEW LISTING

Car-free Sunday!

Sunday 1 July, St James's Church

Can you walk or ride a bicycle to church, or perhaps car share? We hope to cut our carbon footprint.



NEW LISTING

Thameside Clarinet Choir

Popular Classics, Thursday 5 July, 8pm, Greenwood Centre, 1a School Road, Hampton Hill TW12 1QL

Back by popular demand and under the baton of Martin Hinckley. All proceeds from the concert will go to the Greenwood Centre. Tickets £8, available from the Greenwood Centre, or Martin, telephone 020 8979 0528.



NEW LISTING

Cantanti Camerati

Summer Concert, Saturday 7 July, 7.30pm, Normansfield Theatre, 2a Langdown Park, Teddington TW11 9PS
For tickets telephone please telephone 020 8898 8020

NEW LISTING

St James's Day

Sunday 15 July, 11am, St James's Church

The Rt Revd John Salt, retired Anglican Bishop of St Helena, will preach. The service will be followed by a bring and share lunch in the vicarage gardens. **The spire will be open from 1-3pm** giving you the chance to ring the bells and see the wonderful view.



Vicar's View



'We missed the fireworks display you organised for the Diamond Jubilee celebration, vicar. How did it go?'



Your Voice

David Bell prepares to be ordained deacon and become our new curate

Begin at the very beginning

Class of 2012 at St Augustine's Abbey, Canterbury



Three years ago I joined 25 other mature students at Southwark Cathedral to commence a three-year course in ministerial formation which includes a foundation degree in Theology for Christian Ministry.

We had all been selected following an extended interview and discernment process and we were now under the instruction of the South East Institute of Theological Education (SEITE), which specialises in the provision of part-time education for those who are working in secular employment and are planning to be ordained as priests or deacons in the church – either full-time, or part-time, as volunteers, like me.

Those first evening classes and residential weekends seem a long way off now but they do remind me of an enduring benefit of my time at college, which was getting to know the fellow classmates in my year and sharing all the ups and downs of the journey with them.

Many are working in the public sector – in education, health, social work or government; some are self employed, psychologist, barrister, pest control operator; and only a couple of us were working for commercial organisations. Sometimes the college gave us project work to complete, as a team, and this really encouraged us to work collaboratively together.

One of the most important skills that I learnt over the whole course was the ability to step back after a piece of work, or initiative, and take stock on how effective it had been and how much, if any, my involvement had helped or hindered what had been done. This practise of reflection, linked with regular prayer, has made me much more aware of myself and how God is enabling the Holy Spirit to be my inspiration, as I look forward to the finishing post of this first half of my training. That is being ordained by the Bishop of London, the Rt Revd Richard Chartres, with other ordinands, or trainee priests, in the London diocese.

During the course I have shadowed a hospital chaplain at University College Hospital in London and met many patients at their bedside, including celebrating the eucharist with them. This was a humbling experience and made me realise what a wonderful job these priests, who are employed by the NHS, undertake.

They are also role models for different denominations and traditions of faith working closely together. They were always putting the needs of the people ahead of

any other consideration and yet each religion was distinctive in its worship and patient care.

Earlier in the course a team of us had attempted to assist a vicar in a London suburb as he attempted to engage with the young professionals who passed his church on their journey to and from the train station. This involved us talking to people in the pub and discovering what they thought about life and spirituality. Naturally we had to have a drink or two just to be sociable!

One unexpected aspect of my training is that I have been constantly called away from St James's in order to complete different projects and last summer I spent three months leading worship and preaching at St Faith's Church in Brentford. This is an evangelical church which is generally less formal in its services and usually has quite a large band to support their singing of worship songs. Having come from a 'higher' tradition of worship before joining St James's, this was very good for me in showing the wide range of styles that encompass the Church of England.

During all my college training, I cannot express my gratitude enough to Peter, our vicar, who has regularly and gently enabled me to learn and practise different skills. He has always been available with ready words of advice and encouragement and has, as it were, set me on the path with a good pair of boots ready for any terrain.

I am looking forward to being at St James's now as Assistant Curate and starting the next phase of my training. I hope not to test your patience too much as I discover all the different aspects of the church and grow in the role over the next three years.

I have enjoyed being involved in our sessions about scripture that have been held during Advent and Lent each year and I would like to be involved in this informal study in future (especially as I have several new books!). Also, I have some experience in all-age services.

I will be involved in the exciting plans for the 150th anniversary of the consecration of our church that will run from Advent this year right through 2013 and culminating with the Bishop of London coming to Hampton Hill for a very special 'end of year' service.

Never underestimate the power of the Holy Spirit!

■ David will be ordained deacon by the Bishop of London at **St Paul's Cathedral at 3pm on Saturday 30 June**. Please include David in your prayers as he prepares for this important step in his life.



This sculpture 'floats' above the site of Becket's tomb in the crypt at Canterbury Cathedral. During each residential week we worshipped regularly there.



Songs of praise

The story behind the hymn

God Save The Queen



God save our gracious Queen,
Long live our noble Queen,
God save the Queen:
Send her victorious,
Happy and glorious,
Long to reign over us:
God save the Queen.

Thy choicest gifts in store,
On her be pleased to pour;
Long may she reign:
May she defend our laws,
And ever give us cause
To sing with heart and voice
God save the Queen.

It might not be totally accurate to describe the above as a hymn, but it is a song although the 'praise' is directed towards the sovereign rather than God!

The national anthem is not strictly speaking a 'national' anthem at all – it does not mention the nation and its attributes unlike other country's national anthems – but is perhaps better described as a royal anthem. This is how it is referred to in, for example, Canada, and it is used alongside the national anthem, *O Canada*.

Within the United Kingdom, Scotland and Wales have separate national anthems for political, national and sporting events. Nonetheless, the anthem is sung frequently when the sovereign is present or other members of the Royal Family, and at occasions of significance to the national life of the UK, such as Remembrance events.

The words above seem to have first been used in 1745. Other verses have been written, and discarded, over time, being variously anti-French, anti-Roman Catholic, and anti-Scottish.

The words are really a prayer to God to safeguard the sovereign and make them successful in their reign. The tune has been used for the national anthem of various other countries, and as a hymn tune in the US.

It is still the tune for the royal anthem of Norway and the national anthem of Lichtenstein. Its origins, though, like the words themselves, are obscure. The national anthem will be sung at St. James's on **Sunday 3 June** during the Parish Communion, when the Diamond Jubilee of The Queen will be celebrated.