

A few years ago the Church of England produced a report called "Children in the Way". Its choice of such an ambiguous title was deliberate. The purpose of the report was to look at the place of children in the Church. The report was addressed to every parish in the Church of England and asked the question, how can children come into the way of faith alongside teenagers, adults and senior citizens? Equally the compilers of the report were aware that sadly, some parishes regarded children as being simply 'in the way' of adults.

I am thrilled that every week at St. James's we have in our worship the unborn, babies, toddlers, children, adolescents and adults. I am delighted that we are able to welcome about 50 children a year into Christ's church by Baptism. We are packed to the window ledges for school services, special services for Mothering Sunday, Christingle, Christmas and Harvest Festival. The church and hall are alive with children and youngsters week after week through the dedication and commitment of leaders in Sunday School, Young Church, Music Group, Bellringers, Brownies and our Scout Group.

At the same time, I am also deeply aware that other members of the congregation find it hard to engage themselves in worship when the noise generated by our children reaches a certain level. The church is of course for God's children of all ages, and is made up of God's children of all ages. We are a pilgrim people. Faith is certainly not related to age! We need to listen to and learn from each other. That is achieved when we worship together sensitively and when we spend time together to learn about the faith and to join together in social activities.

At our last parish weekend lots of us went for a walk on Saturday afternoon. As we progressed, sometimes the children dashed ahead to discover new things, sometimes they lagged behind, sometimes people bunched up in conversation, sometimes they spread out individually or in pairs, talking to different people, sometimes we entered dead-ends, sometimes we took the right way. That is what being a 'pilgrim people' is about. Diverse people engaged in reaching a common goal. I think it is quite an appropriate model for the church, for we are a people and ours is a pilgrimage - a journey of faith and in faith. But it is a pilgrimage we can only undertake together.

The Parochial Church Council, the Churchwardens and I would very much like to hear from you as to how we can improve our pilgrimage in worship and in living out our faith. We are looking again at the physical arrangements in church to enable us to worship together sensitively - allowing space and time both for being separate and being together. We all need to learn and to learn anew, how to praise and pray, how to enter into the mystery at the heart of our worship. Children of the church family, every bit as much as adults, need to be known and cherished as members of the Body of Christ - sharing in activities when appropriate, provided with separate groups when helpful to them. Every

member of the Body of Christ needs to be taught encouragement in the acts and gestures of worship - singing, listening to stories, sharing the peace, quietness, going forward for the blessing or to receive communion, chatting or playing at parish breakfast. These building blocks are indeed crucial to the development of regular worship and deepening of faith - whatever our age. Being together to worship is not about being a member of a club or a playschool, but being a dynamic body of pilgrim people, each as loved as the other.

So this August, please give this some thought, in order that when we return refreshed in September we can indeed make progress together in charity, compromise and compassion.

Brian Leathard

PARISH OUTING TO NORTON

On Saturday 12 July twenty-five of us went to visit Helen and Alan Taylor at their lovely new home near Norton in Suffolk. The sun was shining as our small coach pulled into their drive and we received a wonderful welcome. Their house, called Cranmers, is full of character and marvellous for entertaining. We all enjoyed exploring the rooms and admiring the beautiful garden that Alan and Helen are creating. They have obviously been very busy this year, but that is no surprise!

After an excellent buffet lunch, Helen kindly asked if we would like to visit their parish church, St. Andrew's in Norton. Our friendly coach driver made no fuss about taking the coach up some rather narrow roads to the church, situated just outside the village. St. Andrew's has been around a good deal longer than St. James's and inside we saw a bible chest and some magnificent misericords from the fourteenth century. We were also intrigued by a very sensible modern touch - strip electric heaters fitted inside each pew, just right for warming your hands whilst sitting or kneeling.

Returning to Cranmers, there was ample time for tea and cake before our homeward journey. Thank you so much for your hospitality Alan and Helen and thank you to David and Jennifer for organising the trip so well. I shall not forget Alan and Helen waving to us across the fields, the perfect farewell after a very happy day together.

Ann Peterken

THE GRAND HIGHWAY?



SOUND
THEOLOGY



PRONE TO
HERESY

3rd HAMPTON HILL BROWNIES

"Sponsored Sing" in aid of the Organ Appeal

On 6th May this year the Brownies sang for a total of 50 minutes and were sponsored by friends and family. The grand total of £253.57 was raised and a cheque for this amount was presented to the congregation at the Family Service on the 6th July. Brown Owl would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who supported this event and made the final total so incredible!



Brownies Fund Raiser

On Tuesday 24th June the Brownies held their annual fund raiser. With music provided by rehearsals for a concert due to be held in the church that evening and the weather holding off long enough for us to have the stall outside - the evening was a great success. We raised £101 pounds which the Brownies gave to the Church Hall Committee for the use of the church hall throughout the year and £15 to MENCAP being the total of donations received for refreshments served throughout the evening. As usual parents supported this event and once again Brown Owl is grateful for their help in making this another success. During the evening Rebecca, Mickey and Francesca made their promise to "Do their Best" and "Do their Duty to God" - and didn't all the Brownies do just that!



CHILDREN'S CORNER

Last month my Mum wrote about St. James, when I was looking at the "Dictionary of Saints" I noticed my name and discovered that there is a Saint named Alexander.

St. Alexander Nevsky was the son of the grand duke Jaroslav of Nögorod and was born in 1219 (what a long time ago!). In 1240 Alexander won a battle against the Swedes on the River Neva (which he is named after). He took over from his father in 1247 and stood against the church leaders who were trying to reunite (get them back together) the Greek and Roman churches.

Towards the end of his life he was known as a good prince and Peter the Great built a convent to remember him. He died in 1263 and became "canonized" by the Russian Orthodox church in 1547.

There is a famous Russian film about him that was made in 1938, I think I'd like to see it! My mum says I'm no saint but it was fun reading about "me" all the same. If you get bored in the summer holidays have a look in the library for the book on Saints and see if you can find your name, you may have to look up where your name came from first in a book about names. If you like you could tell my Mum Sally and she'll write about your name next month.

Alex Highley

Are you going on holiday in Europe, or travelling for business?
There may well be an Anglican Church closer than you think.

The Diocese in Europe has, since 1980, been the 44th diocese of the Church of England. Previously English churches and congregations, some of which trace their origins to before the Reformation, were under the jurisdiction of the Bishop of London. The Diocese of Gibraltar was formed in 1842 to oversee pastoral care of the Anglican churches in Southern Europe, and a suffragan Bishop of Fulham, under the direction of the Bishop of London, had pastoral care of the northern European congregations. The Anglican Communion is represented in Europe by about 260 congregations, made up of members of the Church of England and almost every other Anglican province. Ecumenical relations are good and varying degrees of communion exist with other churches, particularly the Old Catholic Church, the Lusitanian Church, and the Lutheran churches of Germany and the Baltic.

So if you are anywhere between Northern Norway and Morocco, the Canary Islands and Mongolia, the Church of England is there too! You will be very welcome at services and all events hosted by these churches. More information can be found in local telephone directories and hotels, from the office of **The Diocese in Europe, 14 Tufton Street, Westminster, SW1P 3QZ** (tel: 0171 976 8001 fax: 0171 976 8002) or from the Vicar.

AND STILL IN EUROPE.

On a recent visit to the Dordogne, Margaret Taylor found a leaflet describing the major reorganisation of the parishes in that area which was to take place on 30 June. On that date, 500 parishes were to be re-grouped to form only 30, each with about 10,000 inhabitants! This decision, which has been reached after much reflection and discussion, was necessitated largely by the severe shortage of priests. One area had 34 parishes but only 5 priests, 3 of whom were over 75 years old. The other aim of the reorganisation was to enable the parishioners to take a greater part in the life of the Church. In each parish there will be a team of lay people who will help to stimulate the life and mission of the Church, co-ordinate pastoral action and administer parish finances. As one priest said: "There has not been such an upheaval for 15 centuries".



**ORGAN REQUIRES
TUNING**



**BEWARE -
LIVELY WORSHIP**

AUTUMN COURSES

DEANERY TRAINING COMMITTEE COURSE: CONTAGIOUS CHRISTIANITY

at St. Mary's Church, Twickenham
on Thursdays 30th October, 6th November, 13th November
and 20th November at 8p.m.

1. Why become a contagious Christian?
2. Orthodox Christianity in the unorthodox place.
3. Learning to communicate clearly.
4. Bridges to Faith.

Leader: David McDougall

This course is designed to help individuals and parishes make the most of the diocesan-wide mission initiative, London Bridges.

The cost of the four week course is £5, including refreshments.

CRUSE BEREAVEMENT CARE (RICHMOND UPON THAMES BRANCH)

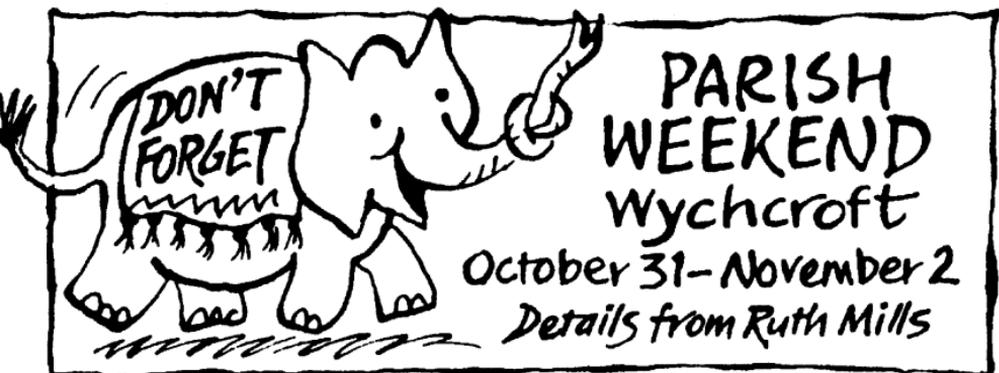
is offering a ten session evening course on the theme

UNDERSTANDING BEREAVEMENT

Please note that this is not a counselling skills course. The course offered is an introduction for people wishing to understand more about bereavement either personally or in their professional lives.

Sessions will be held at St. Winefride's Church Hall, Leyborne Park, Kew on Tuesdays 6.45 p.m. - 9.30 p.m. from 7th October to 16th December 1997.
(no session 28th October)

Course Fee £125. (A limited number of concessionary places are available)
For further information please contact 0181 785 4415 (CRUSE Ansaphone)
or CRUSE, c/o CVS, 1 Princes Street, Richmond, Surrey TW9 1ED.



SCOUT GROUP NEWS

Twickeree, the district's three yearly camp at Marble Hill Park, was very nearly ruined when preceded by a week of constant, heavy rain. Twickeree is basically a massive advert for Scouting, giving the general public and the Mums and Dads of members, a better idea of what we do. Fortunately the site hadn't suffered too much from the poor conditions and the weekend's activities were able to go ahead. On the Saturday the Cubs performed an arena display on the theme of "Around the World in Eighty Days", a theme they have used to celebrate Cubs 80th Birthday, each of the different packs representing a different country. On the Sunday the Beavers had their turn in the arena, each colony representing different aspects of the Beaver Scout programme. Our Beavers were "trying new things". We chose to try Dragon Dancing, as Hong Kong was just about to revert to Chinese Ownership. We made two dragons at our Friday evening meetings and on the Sunday, these dragons danced around the arena to the accompaniment of enthusiastically played percussion instruments. Lots of other activities were constantly running on site and for me at least, the true spirit of Scouting shone through.



Saturday 12th July saw the culmination of a huge amount of effort in the Hampton Hill Fun Day. Superb weather heralded a day of fun, games, music, races, various stalls and of course the ubiquitous tea tent. It was quite hard work at times but rewarded with a profit of just over £700. This sum, of course, goes towards our new HQ which is projected to have running costs of £2-3000 per annum. This event is hopefully to become an annual event and will probably be our single greatest source of income.

As to our new HQ, latest news is that the builders are currently two weeks ahead of schedule, the biggest hurdle of drainage having been overcome. Considering the recent wet weather, the workmen seem to have worked miracles.

Paul Fitchett 0181 941 7186

P.S. Tube quiz sheets still available, all profits to the group.



**REAL CAMEL IN
NATIVITY PLAYS**



**BEWARE OF
LONG SERMONS**

FROM

Garis Network News

PAINT FOR PROJECTS

Each year Dulux gives £180,000 worth of paint away free to voluntary groups and others involved in the local community. Paint reaches successful groups in the summer - so if you plan to get painting, why not find out more by sending sae to Dulux Community Projects, PO Box 343, London WC2E 8RJ.



FAMILY HOLIDAYS

Family Holiday Association gives grants to enable needy families to go away together for a week.

Families must be referred by Social Services or other agencies, must be on a low income and must not have had a holiday for four years previously.

Applications should be made in November, December or January for next year's holidays.

Details from FHA, 16 Mortimer Street, London WIN 7RD. Tel: 0171 436 3304.

The board is also giving grants to help community organisations to become more efficient - the chance for a photocopier in the church centre...?

CHILDREN'S SOCIETY BOXES

Having collected and emptied the boxes and counted the money I have now sent off to the Society, on your behalf, a cheque for £459.77. Although £30 down on last year (which was a very large increase on 1995), this is nevertheless an excellent result. I would like to thank all those who have contributed to this very worthwhile cause. We currently have 28 boxes in circulation, including our Sunday School, who are one of our largest contributors. If you would like a receptacle to put in all that heavy loose change which weighs down your pockets or your handbags why don't you have a Children's Society box by your front door! Contact Pip or Anne Rowett either in Church or by phone (892 4736).

Pip Rowett

HAMPTON HILL ASSOCIATION BARBECUE

Saturday August 16th from 7.30p.m. onwards beside the river at 61, Windmill Road. Tickets £3.50 including the first drink from:- Joan Catt 979 9475, Vi Cudmore 979 5101 or Joyce Doughty 979 2939. There is room under cover if wet so do not delay as tickets are limited.

PRAISES IN THE PARK SATURDAY 13TH SEPTEMBER 10a.m. to 6p.m.

A Christian Celebration at LEGOLAND, Windsor
for families and Church groups.

A full day in the park with great additional activities.

Special Guests: Diane Louise Jordan
Steve Legg - TV escapologist
Footprints Theatre Company
Generation of Voices Gospel Choir
plus LEGO Building Events and a European Church Trail.

A special early evening praise and worship to round off the day.

Adults £15 Children £12 Seniors £11

Special rates for Church groups of 25 or more:

Adults £11.50 Children £9 Seniors £8.50

CHRISTIAN AID (final totals)

The total raised this year by the Hampton Council of Churches was
£7346, of which £2115 was raised by St. James's.

Open Gardens total: £90

Thanks to everybody!



**ROOF REPAIRS
IN PROGRESS**



**DISAGREEMENT
AMONG MEMBERS**



There were two weddings at St. James's on Saturday 5th July. Many of the congregation were present when Jill Denton married John Goddard and it was a lovely occasion. The second wedding was Eileen Williams and Brian Broadhurst. Eileen is a hairdresser on the High Street and many people in the parish know her because of her talents in her salon.

On 2nd July Ruth Mills gave a talk at the Women's Forum Invitation Service. The title of her talk was "We are all fit for the purpose for which we were made."

Maggie Revis ran in the Race For Life in aid of women's cancer charities on 27th July. This was a sponsored race and any further support would be very welcome.

We send our deepest sympathy and love to Sue Adams, the new secretary of the P.C.C. Her husband David died peacefully in his sleep at home, having returned from hospital after heart surgery.

Rosalie Meyerowitz

PRILL'S PAINTING

The winner of the raffle for Prill's painting of the Church was Frances Boyle, who lives in Hampton. If anyone wants to buy one of Prill's paintings or wishes her to paint a picture of the Church or other subject, they should contact her on 979 0528. She will donate 20% of the cost of the picture to Church funds.

FROM THE JUNE REGISTERS

Baptisms

- 1 Emily Lucy Hardy, 15 Seymour Road
- 8 Jennifer Louise Bailey, 75 St. James's Avenue
- 15 Tamsin Louise Probert-Lewis, 31 Chelsea Close
Charlotte Elizabeth Gudgeon Wash, 272 Hanworth Road
Jack Thomas Owden, 21 Bluefield Close
- 29 Georgina Abigail Stewart Mills, 12 Park Place

Weddings

- 14 Paul Anthony Bonsor and Lana Maria Grantham
- 21 Andy Rai and Brigitte Karin Girtha
- 28 Timothy David Tyrer and Claire Louise Clifford

Funerals

- 13 Alice Florence Coombs, Oketon Nursing Home, Teddington 91
- 19 Dorothy Lilian Bodle, St. John's House, Twickenham 77
- Marjorie Beryl Graves, 31 Gloucester Road, Hampton 88

DATES TO NOTE IN AUGUST

- 3 9.30a.m. Parish Communion (not Informal Service)
- 4 Dominic, Priest & Friar, 1221
- 5 Oswald, King of Northumbria, 642
- 6 The Transfiguration of Our Lord
- 11 Clare of Assisi, 1253
- 13 Jeremy Taylor, Bishop, Pastor & Teacher, 1667
- 20 Bernard, Abbot of Clairvaux
- 24 St. Bartholomew the Apostle
- 25 Bank Holiday - Have a good day!
- 28 Augustine of Hippo, Bishop & Teacher, 430

**ALSO
COMING SOON.**

SUNDAY 21st SEPTEMBER

History of Hampton Hill

Over the years Margery Orton has compiled a marvellous collection of photographs, cuttings and maps of Hampton Hill which have been displayed in church on several occasions. These photographs have now been beautifully mounted by John Birch with detailed captions. These and other records of the birth and growth of Hampton Hill will be on display in the Church Hall on Saturday 20th September in the afternoon, from 3p.m. to 6p.m. and again on Sunday morning after the morning service. In the evening there will be a reception for the Friends of St. James from 6p.m. to 8p.m. for them to view the material and have their questions answered by an informed expert. Put the dates in your diary now and watch for more details in the September magazine.

SUNDAY 28th SEPTEMBER following Parish Communion:

Sale of Charity Christmas Cards (yes, already! Only 12 weeks to Christmas!) If you want to sell Christmas cards for your favourite charity, contact Janet Nunn to be sure of a pitch.

CONFIRMATION

SUNDAY 7th DECEMBER 9.30a.m.

Anybody, any age, who would like to be confirmed or to review their Confirmation should contact Brian. Classes start in September.

COPY DATE FOR SEPTEMBER MAGAZINE: 11TH AUGUST



**WHOLE FAMILIES
BAPTISED**



**AVOID
PCCs**