

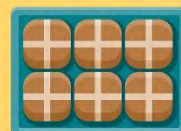
APRIL / MAY 2020 EASTER ISSUE

SPIRE



HAMPTON HILL'S PARISH MAGAZINE

YOUR FREE COPY



Meet the clergy



VICAR Rev Derek Winterburn

Derek was born in Orpington, Kent, and ordained in 1986. He served in several diverse London parishes before becoming vicar here in 2016. He is married to Sandra, a teacher, and has two children. A keen photographer, he posts a picture online every day, combining it with a daily walk or cycle ride. He can be contacted at any time other than on Mondays (his day off).

Tel: 020 8241 5904
Email: vicar@stjames-

ASSOCIATE PRIEST Rev Jacky Cammidge

Jacky was born in Abertillery, South Wales, and ordained in 1954. She is a self-supporting minister and has been at St James's since starting her ordination training. Jacky is married to Alan, and has three children. During term-time she runs Hampton Hill Nursery School, based in the church hall, with her family.

Tel: 079 5012 2294

Email: curate@stjames-hamptonhill.org.uk



ASSISTANT PRIEST Canon Julian Reindorp

Julian was born in Durban, South Africa, and ordained in 1969. He has worked in parishes in East London, Chatham and Milton Keynes, and was Team Rector in Richmond until retirement in 2009. He continues to lead a busy life, often out and about on his trademark red scooter. Julian is married to Louise and has four children, three stepchildren and nine grandchildren.

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Connections Coryn Robinson 020 8979 6786

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Eco-Church Derek 020 8241 5904

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Servers Lesley Mortimer 020 8941 2345

Shell Seekers / Youth Group Dani Robertson 074 7110 1487

Social Team / Sunday Kitchen Team 020 8941 6003

St James's Players Martin Hinckley 020 8979 0528

Traidcraft Stall Ann Peterken 020 8891 5862

TWAM Janet Nunn 020 8979 6325

Welcome Team Janet Taylor 020 8979 0046

Letter from the Editor

It is difficult to write about Easter when most of the UK is focused on coronavirus, but even if we cannot attend services to celebrate on Easter Day it remains an important date in the church's calendar. This year we have chosen a contemporary cover design for our double issue.

Our main feature takes a nostalgic look at this magazine, which started in 1884. Until recently we stored the issues in the office, but with little space left we were delighted when the London Metropolitan Archives offered to take them. Now they are available to anyone as well as being on our website.

We are so grateful to Prill Hinckley for scanning every issue, as well as packing them for the journey. The photo on page 5 shows how big a job it was.

Dani Robertson came to England from America two-and-a-half years ago with her husband Scott. She has since become our Children and Families' Worker and on page 8 writes about little-known American places.

A happy and safe Easter to all of you.

Best Wishes

Janet

Janet Nunn



Cover photo: Some of the many symbols of spring and Easter

SPIRE

The Spire is published nine times a year for the Parochial Church Council of St James. We make no charge for this magazine, but if you are a regular reader we hope that you will contribute towards printing costs to enable us to expand our outreach across the parish. Cheques should be made payable to the PCC of St James, Hampton Hill and sent to Spire Appeal c/o the church office.

STORIES FOR THE SPIRE

If you have a story idea or would like to make a comment, contact Janet Nunn, the editor.

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Email: janunnhh@btinternet.com

E-SPIRE / WEBSITE

To receive the magazine by email, please contact Prill Hinckley.

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

CIRCULATION

The Spire is available in church and shops. It is also delivered across the parish and posted further afield. Further information from Susan Horner, 5 St James's Avenue, TW12 1HH.

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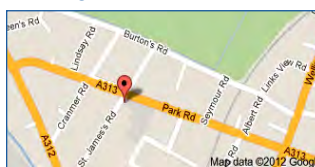
The Spire is printed on paper that is sourced from well-managed forests.

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Please recycle this magazine after use



Finding us



The church is on the corner of St James's Road and Park Road. The hall is between the church and vicarage. There is ample unrestricted parking. Buses stopping nearby include the R68, R70 and 285.

Follow us

For the very latest news go to our website or follow us on social media:

stjames-hamptonhill.org.uk

f @stjames-hamptonhill

t @stjameshamphill

i @stjameshamphill

Clerical Capers



'The organist isn't too sure about your latest idea, vicar. He says he can't play that fast!'

A history lesson in keeping our faith



DEREK WINTERBURN

Before Christmas Lucy Worsley, pictured above, the Chief Curator at Historic Royal Palaces, including Hampton Court Palace, visited St James's

Church. Sadly she wasn't with us to investigate the wonderful history of the church, but merely to record an interview and some filler shots between other locations for her latest BBC Four series *Royal History's Biggest Fibs*.

The concept of the series is that the 'history that we have been taught' has tied up the facts and repackaged them to suit later generations.

Putting a spin on history

So, for example, the defeat of the 'invincible' Spanish Armada in 1588 was not really a victory of war but of weather, and at the time was overshadowed by the destruction of the counter (English) Armada a year later, when twice as many men were lost by the English than by the Spanish.

However it suited the English to play up the defeat of the Spanish Armada, and Elizabeth I and her ministers suppressed accounts of the later reverse.

Of course 'revisionist history' is always popular as a new generation likes to undo received wisdom.

This happens with 'religious history' too, whether it is a 'new evidence' television documentary at Christmas or Easter, or even the Sunday preacher trying to find a new angle.

Then there are times when a fresh approach 'uncovers' the contribution of, for example, women or people with an ethnic background in 'British History'.

When facts become fiction

One of the other 'fib' Lucy Worsley uncovers concerns the Queen's speech at Tilbury. History books have Elizabeth saying: 'I know I have the body of a weak, feeble woman; but I have the heart and stomach of a king, and of a king of England too.'

Now, we learn, this may well have not been written until decades after the Armada,

'The resurrection of Jesus is not ancient history that can be rewritten, but a truth that can be tested in our own lives.'

but that in any case the Queen did not address the troops until well *after* the Spanish fleet had been blown into the North Sea. The speech, then, is less a rallying cry than claiming a victory that others have won.

But what happens to 'our history' if an event didn't happen? Jenni Murray (of BBC *Women's Hour*) was asked by Lucy Worsley about how the example of Elizabeth I had influenced her.

She spoke about how she had been inspired by the Tilbury speech and then about how Lady Thatcher had also styled herself on the victor of the Armada.

But when pressed 'does it matter if it is a myth (i.e. it did not happen)?' she replied, 'Well, it is a very good myth!' and Lucy Worsley summed up the point with: 'Take that, History!'

Myth is a slippery word and seems to imply fiction — sometimes theologians use it to describe an account that is 'more poetry, than prose' without necessarily raising the question 'did it happen?'

There are many people who read the Gospel accounts of Jesus's resurrection as the same kind of myth of Elizabeth's speech — it tells a truth, even if it did not actually occur.

However the Easter accounts were not written as full-blown myth (read the so-called apocryphal gospel of Peter as a contrast), and the earliest accounts we have of the resurrection assert their historicity. Paul writes to the church in Corinth within 20 years of Jesus's life about how he was crucified, buried and raised, and then goes on to say, 'If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins... If only for this life we have hope in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.'

Although he is not saying he knows how it happened, nor describing the exact detail of the future life, he is quite clear that we can be hopeful as Christians, but *only* if it was the case that Christ was raised in history. As Lucy Worsley might have said, 'Hooray for History!'

Backwards and forwards

But our Easter services are more than commemorations of historical events. They are celebrations. The resurrection of Christ assures us that, looking back, Jesus's work on the cross is complete so that we may have peace with God, and that, looking forward, his Kingdom is advancing and that Sin, Death and Satan are fatally defeated.

Whether at dawn, or later on Sunday morning, we will sing 'Christ is risen - he is risen indeed. Alleluia!' This is not ancient history that can be rewritten, but a truth that can be tested in our own lives.



Service and events details are subject to change. Go to our website for the latest information.

Sundays **CANCELLED**

Holy Communion (said) 8-8:30am

Parish Communion 9:30-10:30am

Together at Eleven 11-11:35am

Perfect for young families. Followed by crafts.

Mon-Fri

Morning Prayer 9:15-9:45am

Tue-Fri **NEW**

Evening Prayer 5:00-5:30pm

Messy Church **CANCELLED**

Saturday 4 April, 2 May, 6 Jun, 3-5 pm

Crafts, games, singing, worship and food

Traidcraft Stall **CANCELLED**

5 April 10:30-11:30am

If you have ordered Easter eggs we will contact you concerning delivery / collection

Compline

Sunday-Friday 5-10 Apr 8pm

Night prayer for Holy Week

Connections **CANCELLED**

Tuesday 7 April; 5 May 10:30am-12:30pm

Games, refreshments, plus NHS hearing aid clinic

Palm Sunday **CANCELLED**

Parish Communion with the parade of palms 9:30am

Maundy Thursday

Holy Communion 8pm **CANCELLED**

followed by *The Watch*, an hour's vigil to mark Jesus's time in the garden of Gethsemane

Good Friday **CANCELLED**

All Age Service 9:30am

Service for Good Friday 2pm



Easter Day **CANCELLED**

Dawn Service 6am

Parish Communion 9:30am

Pop-up Cinema

Judy (2019) **CANCELLED**

Saturday 25 April 6 for 6:30 pm

Renée Zellweger's Oscar-winning performance as Judy Garland, performing in London in 1968

Annual Meeting TBC

Sunday 27 April 11am-12:30pm

The year reviewed plus PCC elections

Ark Playgroup **CANCELLED**

Mondays 27 April; 4, 11, 18 May 10:15am-12:15pm

Weekly playgroup for under 5s and their parents or carers. £2 per family

Table-top Sale **CANCELLED**

Saturday 9 May 12-4pm

Snap up bargains and support Christian Aid

Recording parish life



**PRILL
HINCKLEY**

The Hampton Hill Parish Magazine was launched in November 1884. Its stated aims were: 'To place on record the various little events of parochial life; to give statistics and financial statements of the various institutions of the parish; to give notice of the services and parochial events; and to give the vicar an opportunity of communicating with his parishioners as occasion may require.'

These were set out in the first editorial and have not changed much over the years. However, the way in which they are achieved has changed a great deal with the times and will, of course, continue to do so.

The magazines up to January 1931 are preserved bound together as hard-backed books, one or two years in a book. Parish material was published in association with a nationally produced inset called *The Church Monthly*.

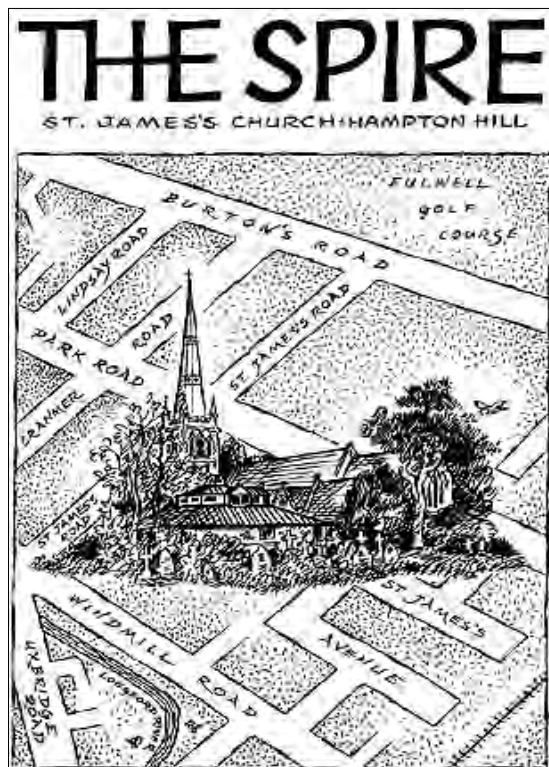
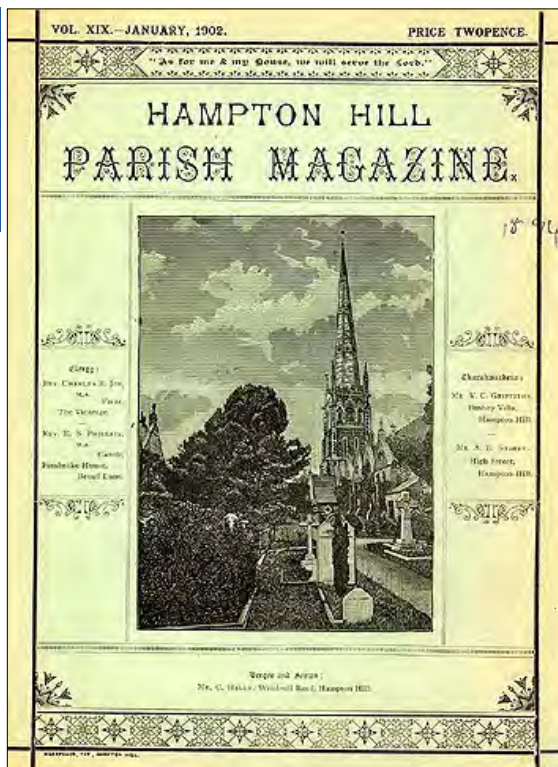
All the early magazines contained the offertories, extracts from parish registers, individual articles and the church calendar. Most also included school reports and church accounts.

Monthly hymns were added later and lists of subscriptions and the number of district nurse visits were included periodically.

In June 1885 the magazine reported: 'The cost of publication is considerable, one penny and two fifths per copy, exclusive of the trouble of delivery.' Despite this, by 1892 the magazine had a circulation of 200.

Changes through the years

The magazine underwent a change in January 1894, becoming larger and with most of it being a letter from



Church magazines hold unique records of parish life, attracting scholars investigating such topics as the First World War or the secularisation debate. But as Prill Hinckley explains, although the look of the magazines has changed, its main objective remains the same.

the vicar to his parishioners, always beginning with 'My Dear Friends' and ending with 'I am, my dear friends, Yours very sincerely, Charles R. Job'.

From September 1923 advertisements for local firms appeared at the top and bottom of some pages, and advertisements continued until 2006. From January 1931 the magazines are preserved separately with their covers.

The printer reported that there must be a drastic cut in the size of the magazine from January 1944 'as a war-time necessity'.

There are no magazines in the archives between January 1937 and March 1950, apart from all issues from 1943 and January 1948. It is not known whether this is because they were not produced or were not saved. During these years rising printing costs had nearly

killed the magazine, even after raising the price from 3d to 4d.

The Spire is born

The Spire was introduced in January 1952, replacing the Hampton Hill Parish Magazine. The first cover showed a print of the church with its spire, and succeeding issues continued that idea with the design changing many times over the years.

From the first issue of the new Spire the whole of the front inside cover became an information page and nearly every magazine until 1967 started with *Vicar's Notes*.

A section called *Around the Spire* was introduced in the first issue to communicate things going on in the parish — as it still does to this day. Various new sections, including *Children's Corner* and *View from the Pew*, came and went during this period.

In 1962 the Christian Stewardship Campaign enabled free distribution of the magazine 'to all who are sufficiently interested to ask for it'. It continues to be free of charge to this day, now funded by the PCC, with the balance coming from an annual appeal.

Editorial team takes over

Later an editorial team was formed to produce the magazine, freeing the vicar from this responsibility.

From 1983 a few simple images, but no photographs, were occasionally added. December 1984 issue saw the first deviation of the cover image from the spire to a Christmas design. From then on there was nearly always a special cover for Christmas and Easter, either in the design or the paper colour. Various continuing features started in June 1995, each running for a year.

Photographs added

In April 2006 the magazine was brought 'in-house', changing from A5 to A4 in size, and printed in black and white on a photocopier in the new church office. Photographs were added for the first time.

Around the Spire continued, as did the contacts and *From the Registers*. The following June saw several new items introduced, including a permanent children's page, the *Young Spire*, and a regular *Special Feature* in the centre spread.

The first magazine produced in-house, but professionally printed, was published in October 2008 with full colour covers. Information about the church, services, clergy, churchwardens, dates, contacts, and a *Welcome* letter from the Editor, were brought together on page two.



The Spire Team planning the next issue

for 136 years

Around the Spire



Church life amid coronavirus crisis

ALL CHURCH SERVICES have been suspended in the battle to stem the spread of coronavirus.

In announcing the decision, the Archbishops of Canterbury and York said that far from 'shutting up shop', however, the Church must become radically different, 'rooted in prayer and serving others'.

The decision to largely end worship came after the government announced unprecedented peacetime measures to control the spread of the virus, including restrictions on public gatherings, transport and working.

The Health Secretary, Matt Hancock, said: 'We have seen from elsewhere in the world how sometimes it is through religious gatherings that the virus can spread', adding that it was 'with the deepest regret and the heaviest of heart' that faith gatherings were included.



At St James's we will end public worship, particularly Sunday services, including Holy Week and Easter, but we will keep the building open through the week for individual prayer. We have added Evening Prayer to Morning Prayer, with worshippers observing physical distance. There will be Compline in the run-up to Easter.

We will also be 'live streaming' an act of worship at 9:30 on Sunday morning on Facebook and our website and share news, items for children and prayer requests.

To grow the church we need to work together

OUR ANNUAL MEETING is due to take place on **Sunday 26 April**, but this may now have to be postponed. The meeting is the equivalent of a company's AGM, when we look at our achievements — and future challenges.

There are several vacancies on the Parochial Church Council, and we would love to see new faces.

We also need to appoint two churchwardens and three members of the Deanery Synod.

You can volunteer in other ways by joining one of the many teams,



including Properties, Flowers, Messy Church and Connections.

We have some exciting plans, but we can only reach out more to our community if we have enough willing hands to help us.

New Archdeacon begins work

RICHARD FRANK is starting work as Archdeacon of Middlesex — and one of his first jobs will be to visit St James's to consider our plans for developing the church.

Richard was previously the vicar at All Souls, St Margarets, where he had overseen significant growth, and Area Dean for Hounslow. He replaces Stephan Welch, who retired last year.

He said the Archdeaconry represented 'a vibrant and diverse range of communities with a unique set of advantages and challenges'.

Archdeacons take particular responsibility for buildings. As a member of the London Diocesan Advisory Committee he will visit St James's to begin considering our ideas to develop the building for future growth.



Outreach expanded

The church website was launched in 2000 and soon after the *Spire* was uploaded to it every month. Between 2010 and 2013 every surviving printed issue of the magazine was scanned and uploaded so becoming available to anybody at any time. The link to every new issue was emailed to those on the mailing list.

From January 2008 the magazine was published nine times a year,

with three issues covering two months: December and January, the two months at Lent and Easter, and August and September. The magazine covers did not change often until 2010 when a different cover was used each month.

Distribution was reviewed in 2010 and more copies were put in High Street shops, including the Post Office, where take-up quickly grew.

In 2011 the printer, Justin Hollingsworth, was able to produce

issues in full colour at no extra cost.

In 2013 the church celebrated its 150th anniversary and in July the team produced a packed 18-page souvenir edition.

Over the past two years the outreach has expanded and a copy of the magazine was delivered to every house in the parish.

Changing, but still the same...

The Spire Team meets every month and continues to develop the magazine, ensuring it remains at the heart of the community and appeals to the whole parish.

The magazine's ethos holds true: 'We want anyone, of any belief, who respects our church, to feel welcome within it and to understand what we are trying to do. Beyond the facts about groups and people, we hope our articles and features say something about how our faith influences our lives. We hope that they show also that we are a broad church with room for everyone who is seeking new or further understanding of themselves and the world around us.'

■ Archive copies of our parish magazines are kept at the London Metropolitan Archives. Go to: <https://search.lma.gov.uk>



One of the many cartoons drawn for us between 1991 and 2003 by local resident Gordon Stowell, a professional cartoonist who also worked for magazines including *Punch* and *The Oldie*

Crafting Biblical truths



DANI ROBERTSON

They are free to move around the room with shakers as they encounter singing and worship with their whole bodies.

During our story time they often have speaking parts, dress up in costumes or get to answer questions aloud. They get to walk in the shoes of the Bible characters, experiencing how it might feel to be the King sending a servant to jail, or Moses leading the people through the parted sea.

Playtime in the vestry

Twice a month after our story time in the vestry, usually using Godly Play, children are asked to respond to the story in some way using art and craft materials. They choose if they'd like to sculpt Noah's ark out of playdough, draw a sower sewing seeds on paper with chunky, colourful crayons, or use a number of other materials available to them. They respond to scripture by using their hands, minds, and words. If you ask them what they've sculpted, they can tell you how it relates to the story.

After our service on Sundays, children continue their spiritual growth through craft time while parents enjoy a cup of coffee and a chat with other parents.

The craft always relates to and reflects the scripture passage read and discussed through the service. The children set off crafting the biblical truths they've just learned, with their hands and hearts.

That week's Word of God

Children gently stick colours of paper together to make a rainbow and are continually reminded of God's promise. They colour in a bookmark that fans out to show them what God created on each day. They colour and glue grapes on a barrel to remember what Jesus taught in his parable about the workers in the vineyard.

This work helps children experience biblical truths visually, and physically and gives them choices like which colour their grapes should be, which helps them take ownership of the story for themselves.

The result of this craft time is that they have something tangible to take home with them and remind them what they've learned from God's Word that week. Hopefully God uses these little crafted treasures to continue to write His Word on their hearts in the weeks to come.

It's through these crafts that children can bring God's truth into their homes and be continually reminded of it as it hangs in their window, on their door handle, or sits next to their bed.

Is the time spent colouring, cutting, sticking and gluing really spiritually beneficial for children? We rightfully place a high value on teaching children the Bible through stories, memorising scripture, and music with scripture dispersed throughout. But perhaps this time of arts, crafts, and other activities is also playing a large part in building up our children spiritually and reinforcing Biblical truths in an important way.

I'm sure a great deal of research has been carried out on these topics, but I've made some observations throughout my time here at St James's that I'd like to share.

What is most important?

It is an age-old discussion between preachers and musicians as to which part of the service is most important for the congregation.

The preacher argues that it is the spoken Word of God and the teaching based on it that is imperative to spiritual growth. Musicians will argue that it is the prayerful nature of worshipping God together through music that really brings us closest to God.

These are great questions to ask, but are there more pieces of the puzzle to helping children grow spiritually that we should give thought to?

We all know children who have a difficult time sitting still and quietly listening. They have a beautiful desire to move, speak, and experience. Over the past 15 months I've witnessed the joy and spiritual growth of the children who attend our 11am service on Sundays and I can't help but think that it is in a large part because they are encouraged to move, speak and experience biblical truths for themselves.



The costly allure of gold



LAURENCE SEWELL

The sustainable supply of minerals is becoming of increasing concern to policy makers and public opinion alike as climate and environmental issues continue to dominate our headlines, especially as it is often an industry with a dirty, dangerous, and damaging reputation.

Supplies are often heavily monopolised by one or two countries (for example, South Africa supplies 70% of the world's platinum), confronted by social and environmental conflict, or concentrated in poorly functioning markets.

The challenge is limiting the environmental and public health damage of their extraction and processing, supporting social benefits, and also ensuring the benefits are shared more universally and equitably. Gold mining provides a good example of both the negative consequences and the opportunities to address these concerns.

Gold production

Gold is something that society has valued throughout history, using the precious metal for jewellery, money and technology, and is inextricably bound up with our economy. Today, global production is around 3,150 tonnes per year, worth some £130 billion depending on cyclical prices! China is currently the world's largest producer with 14% of global production, followed by Australia, Russia and the USA.

South Africa, often considered the 'home' of gold production, is only the eighth largest producer today, although it has some of the largest mines, including the largest gold deposits at South Deep mine located in the western Rand.

There are many ways of sourcing gold from sluicing or dredging to hard rock mining, as well as different methods of processing the ore.



Unregulated mining can be dangerous

Whilst most production comes from major companies such as Rio Tinto, Newmont Goldcorp or Barrick Gold, there are also tens of thousands of small-scale miners at work. These 'gold mines,' often illegally worked, can be hazardous places, with structurally insecure pits, workers without protective gear and using harmful chemicals such as mercury to recover gold, which can contribute to health problems and contaminate local water supplies.

Better environmental management

Large gold-mining companies are today rightly held to account more rigorously for the impacts they have on the environment and local communities, and the way workers are treated and remunerated.

It is not just the right thing to do, it makes sound business sense; poor environmental management can cause long-term damage to community relations, incur legal penalties and erode a company's reputation.

Nevertheless, gold mining remains a high risk business and has its detractors, despite schemes like the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) and attempts to improve business practices.

This is especially the case in the informal sector with artisanal and small-scale mines where, because of lack of regulation and safety, tragedy often strikes, affecting the poor, including child labour. There have been notorious incidences, such as in the Ashanti region in Ghana where men and women were killed in a mining disaster and, more recently, in Zimbabwe where miners died in a flooded gold mine being illegally worked.

There are also conflicts between mining companies and local villagers, such as in northern Tanzania, all contributing to negative sentiments around gold mining.

Buying ethically sourced gold

Mined in dangerous conditions with devastating environmental impacts, gold is plagued with ethical concerns. However, this need not dissuade you from buying gold jewellery for a loved one, the largest use of gold in the world today. Fairtrade gold is sourced exclusively from mines which meet the Fairtrade Gold Standard, an internationally recognised mark of best practice. This includes strict requirements on working conditions, health and safety, handling chemicals, women's rights, child labour and protection of the environment.

Fairtrade certified mines are audited by the global certification body for fair trade, FLOCERT, to check they meet the Standard, so you can purchase with confidence.



Opinion
Canon Julian Reindorp

BEYOND BREXIT

Our bishop, Graham Tomlin, has written an excellent booklet called *Looking Beyond Brexit: bringing the country back together*. It is dedicated to all his friends who voted leave or remain. In its 39 pages he uses the 16th century Reformation period to contrast leavers and remainers, and then the tension between the local and the universal, then and now.

He describes how the four kinds of love in Christianity — of myself, my family and friends, my neighbours in the widest sense, and of my enemies — apply today. He lists five conclusions: a commitment to the long haul, recognising the grain of truth in the position we oppose, a commitment to truth-telling, a renewal of local democracy, a common story. At £4.99 (paperback) our Grenfell bishop speaks to our whole society.

DEFENDING AUNTIE

Bishop Graham's booklet (see above) mentions a 'commitment to truth'. For millions of us, the BBC has stood for this. The government is suggesting that our licence fee could be replaced with an optional subscription fee, as with other television networks such as Sky and Netflix, by 2027.

It has already made the BBC pay for free licences for those over 75 — soon to be restricted to those on Pension Credit after the cost was put at £750m a year, a third of the BBC's entire income. The BBC still has to save £250m to pay for it, and as part of that is making over 400 people redundant from the news department — in many ways its most crucial role. Government ministers are now forbidden to appear on Radio Four's *Today* programme. We need to defend and protect the role of the BBC, above all in its role of holding those in power to account.

UNSKILLED LABOUR?

I asked someone how unskilled labour should be defined. Their answer: anyone on low pay. As a new immigration policy is put into practice, with its determination to heavily limit the number of unskilled workers from abroad, I thought of our very good local care homes. I know how difficult many of the employees find it to live in London on their low wages, often not much above the £8-£9 an hour minimum wage. Do we realise how so many of our care workers would in effect be excluded under this new policy?

Being responsible for an elderly friend with memory problems, I have found it very difficult to cope with her range of strong feelings, as well as her needs. It has been from watching and listening to her care workers that I have learnt so much. As many care homes close, because of the economic pressures, I feel it is an insult to call them 'unskilled', and then to pay them such low wages. We may all need their 'unskilled labour' before we die.

DAUGHTER'S BOYFRIEND

In January 2000 Prime Minister Tony Blair appeared on the *Breakfast with Frost* TV programme and announced almost out of the blue that Labour would get NHS spending up to the European average. Afterwards he rang the key Whitehall expert to ask how much this would cost.

Later dubbed 'the most expensive breakfast in history,' the expert described how most of the complicated calculations were done by his daughter's boyfriend because he was the only one who knew how to work the compound interest function on his calculator.

COVERING HIS TRACKS!

In his early days in politics, Conservative Michael Portillo describes how he was sometimes too enthusiastic. One day he hurried up a garden path without noticing it was covered with wet concrete.

Only when he had knocked on the front door did he realise that he had left a trail of deep footprints. But he recovered his presence of mind as the door opened and said, 'Good morning sir, I am your Labour candidate!'

Every gift helps stop the climate crisis



LINDA WEBB

In Kenya, the rains haven't come. Again. For villagers who farm the land, that means life is getting even harder. Rivers are bone dry, and crops wither in the fields. The drought is starving people of food, water and the chance to earn a living.

At 67 years old, Rose walks for six hours to fetch water for her grandchildren. She tries hard to give them the life she remembers from when she was a girl: when the rivers flowed with water and the crops bore fruit.

Grandmother Rose shouldn't have to go hungry. A simple earth dam, built with the help of Christian Aid's partners and your donations, could completely change her life. This Christian Aid Week, you can be one of the hundreds of thousands of our supporters who give, act and pray to stop the climate crisis driving people like Rose to hunger. From collections to special events, Christian Aid Week brings people together



For Rose, the shortage of water is a matter of life or death

as one community against global poverty and injustice.

How you can make a difference

This Christian Aid Week (10-16 May), please:

- Give generously to help Rose and her community build a water dam, providing fresh water to help families survive the drought.
- Act to call for a new deal for climate justice to restore creation and build a world
- Pray for a radical change of heart for politicians, and that, as a global community, we will care for people living in poverty.

Together we can stop this climate crisis. For more information go to Christian Aid's website at: caweek.org



With water, food grows and people are self-supporting

Permission to thank you!

THE ARCHBISHOP of Canterbury has paid tribute to the Archbishop of York, John Sentamu, at what would have been his final General Synod.

Justin Welby praised the Archbishop, who was away travelling at the time. 'John Sentamu has gone to visit parts of the world which are suffering the effects of climate change right now. He has gone typically to be alongside those who are suffering: a pattern of his life.'

He recalled his work with the Stephen Lawrence Inquiry, including being stopped eight times by the police. Reflecting on the Archbishop of York's impact nationally, the Archbishop of Canterbury said, "The Church of England will miss you, Sentamu, and the wider country will miss you. There aren't a lot of bishops who are so well known outside the church."



John, left, and Justin at a previous Synod

REGISTERS

FEBRUARY

FUNERALS

- 7 Francis Frederick Whittaker, 98, Richmond
- 12 John Trevor Goddard, 85, Ashford
- 13 Pamela Irene Behm, 72, Richmond



Off the beaten track



DANI ROBERTSON

Most people will be familiar with American destinations like the Grand Canyon in Arizona or the noteworthy Statue of Liberty in New York City, but through my travels as a child from a military family I've got to know some extraordinary lesser-known American places. Here are some you've probably never heard of.

Hurricane Ridge, Olympic National Park, Washington



During his 32 years in the US Coast Guard, my dad was stationed in Neah Bay, Washington, for a few years. This meant packing up the family of five along with the dog and driving across the country from Mississippi. While stationed here the whole family ventured up the icy, windy roads to see the snow-covered mountains of Hurricane Ridge where we also tried out snowboarding.

Cape Flattery, Neah Bay, Washington



While stationed in the tiny fishing village on the Makah Indian reservation, our favourite hiking trail was along Cape Flattery. Trekking through the vibrant green ferns in the beautiful rainforest would lead to breath-taking views of blue waters, jagged cliffs and a lighthouse on Tatoosh Island. Often, we would see bald eagles flying to nests made in the tall trees.

Diamond Head, Oahu, Hawaii



During the summer after my first year at university in Mississippi, I was selected by the North American Mission Board to work at a church on the

island of Oahu, Hawaii. Aged just 18, this was a summer of non-stop adventure. One day I hiked up Diamond Head mountain with some of the church youth. I took the photo of the mountain during a flight on a tiny plane to another island.

Hawaii Volcanos National Park, the Big Island

Another Hawaiian adventure was taking the young people to camp on the Big Island which was only a short hike from an active crater in Hawaii Volcanos National Park. I managed to capture some of the steam coming off the crater without getting too close.



Fort Worth Zoo, Fort Worth, Texas



As an avid animal lover, I've always enjoyed visiting zoos whenever possible. As a child I visited the zoo in New Orleans, Louisiana, but my favourite was while studying in Fort Worth, Texas. It is easy to spend all day marvelling at the wide variety of animals. My favourites were the giraffes, but this tiger had the right idea as in the summer the temperatures soar.

Stratford Point lighthouse, Stratford, Connecticut

I was 15 when my family moved from Mississippi to Connecticut, where we became lighthouse keepers at the Stratford Point lighthouse. Really, our only responsibility was telling the Coastguard when the light went out, but I managed to make the best of it abseiling down the lighthouse a time or two. *Flying Santa* visited us every year by helicopter to deliver essentials to the lighthouse keepers who might traditionally have been snowed in.



Stardust Diner, New York

One summer, while living in Connecticut, I went to New York City, only an hour by train, to visit my brother. Before seeing a



play on Broadway, he took me to Stardust Diner for a milkshake. This is where actors and singers, aspiring to make it on Broadway, work and perform, hoping for their big break. The talented servers take turns walking along the tops of the booths singing amazing showtunes.

Gulf Shores, Alabama



In 2009 Scott and I honeymooned in beautiful Gulf Shores. It's one of the lesser-known beach destinations as many would opt to go to Panama City or Destin, both in Florida. We stayed in a condo on the beach, picked up tiny seashells, and swam in the warm water — that is, until we thought we saw a shark!

Deer Island, Mississippi



While visiting my parents in Louisiana, my dad took Scott and me out for a day of kayaking around Deer Island. With calm waters, the 10.2-mile trek around the island provided beautiful views. We even came across a pod of dolphins that for a time swam alongside us.

Ship Island, Mississippi

While visiting Scott's mother in Ocean Springs, Mississippi, we caught a boat to the historic Ship Island. It is a barrier island off the Gulf Coast of Mississippi, part of Gulf Island's National Seashore, where you can see Fort Massachusetts. It was built just before the Civil War to protect the coastline from intruders. It is the perfect daytrip, combining a little history and a lot of sunning on the beach.

