

St James's curates through the years



Revd Phillips



Revd Betty Stewart

Revd Studholme Wilson was curate for the last three years of Revd Fitz Wygram's incumbency. From 1890 Revd de Ritchie was curate for three years. Revd H Clarkson was licensed as curate of Hampton Hill by the Bishop of London in 1894. While Revd Job was away *"fresh cases of sickness should be reported to Mr Clarkson who will also witness any signatures to pension papers that may be required and issue Hospital Orders"*. In 1897 he moved to Lancashire and was replaced by Revd ES Phillips, who had already been reading the lessons in church for about three years. A man of varied

talents, he helped with aspects of parish life varying from the Church Lads' Brigade to carving at the various *"Supper Do's"*. After fourteen years of service as curate, he moved to Devonshire.

Revd F St Clair Goldie, who was a BA of the University of Wales, was ordained at the Lenten Ordination in 1914. He left in 1916 during the war and nobody replaced him. The *"necessary work cannot be properly carried out without such assistance"*, so in 1920 the Finance Committee unanimously decided to restart the subscription list for the Assistant Clergy Fund. Revd FG Nelson accepted the post and stayed until 1922 when Revd JF Laughton became 'part-time' curate until Revd NCR Campbell took over the post. In November 1924 Revd Harvey announced: *"The Rev B Kitchin is taking up his residence amongst us, and is going to take his share in the services and organisations. To the Revd FJ Laughton, Curate-in-charge, I owe a great debt of gratitude for his kind help."* Revd Laughton helped out again when Revd Kitchin became ill, then Revd Ernest Richard Milton was ordained and became curate in 1926. However only two years later, he was asked to find work elsewhere as the Parochial Church Council were faced with a financial deficit and were unable to raise the necessary stipend (£250 per annum) for a full time assistant priest. Seymour Harris was made a Deacon in St Paul's Cathedral on 21 September 1975. A year later he was ordained and completed his three year 'title-period' as assistant curate. Christopher Swift was welcomed to the parish during July 1990 as an ordinand, a person training for the ordained ministry of the church. He was ordained deacon in Blackburn Cathedral on 29th June 1991.

Betty Stewart became a deacon in 1993. Betty was a Sunday School teacher from the time of her confirmation until July 1984, 45 years later. For the majority of those years Betty was in charge of the Sunday School and she voluntarily went on a training course after a few years, treating those responsibilities as she did her professional ones in hospital management. As a result she brought to her teaching a wealth of interest and understanding previously little known in voluntary teaching. It became an expression of God's calling which she had long felt was to ordination, not then considered open to women. The dedication which Betty put into her Sunday School teaching carried her through until other openings occurred, first helping the Hospital Chaplain at Springfield and then, after taking a lay readers' course, being licensed to the Chaplain in October 1990. Betty then took the next step towards ordination after the decision that the ministry could accept women. This was not without a struggle, as she was nearer to retiring age than was usual for candidates. Her ordination as deacon in October 1993 and as priest in October 1994, followed in the Diocese of Southwark, where she was licensed to the parish of St Mary Magdalene, Wandsworth Common. Happily for us in Hampton Hill it wasn't too long before Betty's licence was transferred to St James's Church, where she had first felt called to her Christian ministry. She undertook her work with tact and sympathy and was instrumental in bringing about a change of heart in several people who had originally been

opposed to the ordination of women. The unexpected deterioration of her eyesight and the onset of arthritis unfortunately hastened her retirement.

The Bishop of Kensington formally offered St James's another Deacon from June 1999 for three years, which was "a project with great potential for outreach and for strengthening our commitment to our parish". Freda Evans accepted the position as a stipendiary curate, which was a training appointment and then was ordained priest in 2000. Prior to this Freda had worked full-time at All Saints, Fulham, during her training. While she was at St James's one of the projects she worked on was leading workshops for the children of the parish at key points in the Christian year. Freda's strong organising skills were of great help to the parish. In October 2002 she moved to be Vicar of St Barnabas Church, Kingshurst, on the outskirts of Birmingham. In December 2007, Freda was invited to be Team Rector of St Barnabas, Erdington.



Revd Freda Evans
1999 - 2002



Revd Julie Gittoes
2003 - 2006



Revd Debbie Oades
2008 - 2011



Revd David Bell
2012 - 2015



Revd Jacky Cammidge
2015 - ????

In his role of Director of Ordinands, Revd Leathard encouraged Julie Gittoes to become the new curate straight from her training at Westcott College, Cambridge in July 2003 and she was ordained as a deacon in the same year. During her time with us Brian Leathard took a three-month sabbatical and left Julie in charge of the parish.

Julie gained her PhD in 2004. "There cannot be many parishes in the country with two reverend Doctors as their clergy!" In 2006 Julie was invited to be the vicar of our neighbouring church, All Saints, Hampton, and she stayed for five years before becoming a residentiary canon at Guildford Cathedral, where she was installed and inducted on 6 May 2012.

Debbie Oades came to St James's in October 2008 as a self-supporting curate. She had been ordained deacon in 2006, priest in 2007, and served as curate of the Good Shepherd, Hounslow. Debbie showed particular interest in mothers and young children and among other things, she instigated the formation of St James's Ark, a Carers' and Toddlers' Group, in September 2010. She left St James's in February 2011 to take on a full-time, paid post as Assistant Vicar of the the Benefice of Maybush with St Jude, Southampton, in the Diocese of Winchester.

David Bell trained at the South East Institute for Theological Education, which is a collaborative partner of Canterbury Christ Church University and came to St James's in September 2009 during his ordination training. David was ordained deacon by the Bishop of London at St Paul's Cathedral on Saturday 30 June, 2012 and was welcomed as curate at St James's the following day. He was ordained a priest in June 2013 at St Mary's, Osterley, Isleworth. David worked during the week in events sponsorship management, combining his job with his work at St James's. He took up a new post as assistant priest at Kingston Parish Church in September 2015.

Jacky Cammidge was selected to train for ordination as a self-supporting minister in 2012 when she wrote back a Spire magazine article: "Throughout my life my faith has been important to me and it has sustained and strengthened me during both difficult and happy times. It was over 15 years ago that I began to believe that God was calling me to serve him as an ordained minister." It was in September 2012 that she began her studies for a three-year BA degree

course at St Mellitus College. She covered a wide range of modules, including Church and Mission; Discover-ing the Christian Tradition; Theology and Spirituality; Biblical Theology; Systematic Theology; The Church in the World; and Leadership. She was asked, What is most important in your journey? *"People. The people I have met along the way in my faith journey, including my family, remind me what my journey is all about - love. The love of God for his people here on earth and to be able to walk a path which allows me to serve God, his Church and his people is a great privilege and calling; one for which I continue to give thanks to God daily."*

On Saturday July 4th 2015 St Paul's Cathedral was full to overflowing as Jacky, together with others, joined the Bishop of London for their ordination as deacons. The key moment was the laying on of the bishop's hands with the words: *"Send down the Holy Spirit upon your servant for the office and work of a deacon in your Church"*. Jacky was then able to exercise the deacon's role at Holy Communion for the following year while she also learned about the different aspects of an ordained minister's office and world.



Jacky was ordained priest by the Bishop of Kensington, The Rt Revd Dr Graham Tomlin, in St Mary Abbots, Kensington, on June 26th 2016. Then three days later, on the festival day for St Peter and St Paul, she presided at the Eucharist at St James's for the first time. Revd Debbie Oades acted as deacon beside Jacky and Revd Peter Vannozi preached the sermon. Towards the end of the service most of the congregation went up to the altar rail and each received the laying on of hands and a blessing from Jacky. Then Nick Bagge, a churchwarden, presented Jacky with a signed card and a beautiful wool stole from the congregation. After the service everyone went into the Fitz Wygram Hall to celebrate with Jacky and Alan, her husband. There was food, bubbly and a wonderful cake. Have a look at the ordination and Jacky's first service on the photo album [Jacky's Ordination as a Priest](#).

The above information covers the period from when any records could be found until November 2016. This was when Revd Derek Winterburn became St James's tenth vicar and from this time onwards any new information can be found on the main site.