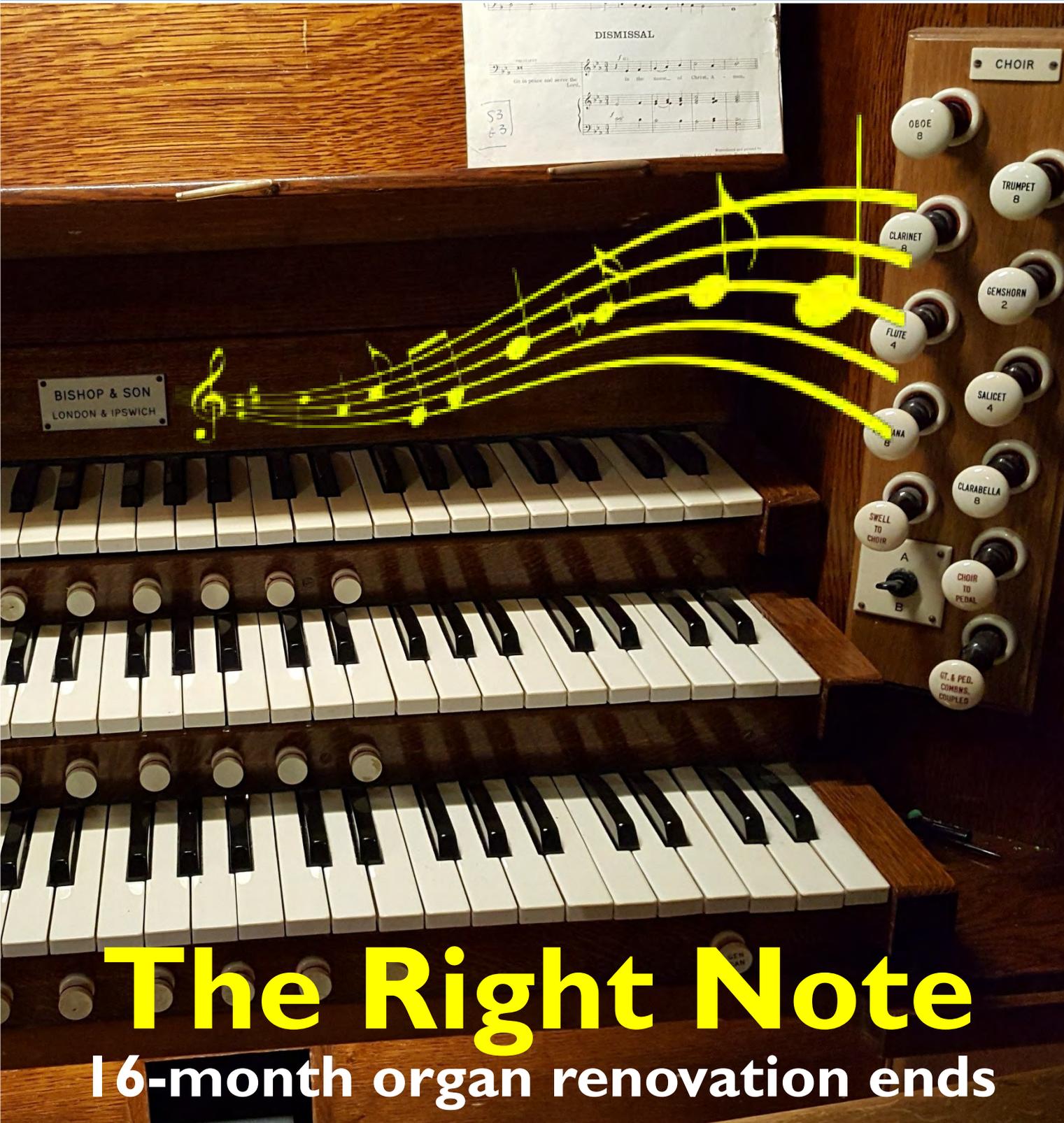


MAY 2018

SPIRE



HAMPTON HILL'S PARISH MAGAZINE YOUR FREE COPY



The Right Note

16-month organ renovation ends

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-hamptonhill.org.uk

CURATE Rev Jacky Cammidge

Jacky was born in Abertillery, South Wales, and ordained in 2015. 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 with her family, based in the church hall.

Tel: 074 9677 0505

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.

Tel: 020 8614 6800

Email: julianreindorp@hotmail.co.uk



Other contacts...



CHURCH OFFICE

Nick Bagge

The administrator deals with enquiries, and manages all church hall bookings.

Opening hours: Mon, Wed, Fri 0930-1230; and Tue, Thu 1230-1530.

Tel: 020 8941 6003

Email: office@stjames-hamptonhill.org.uk

Address: Church Office, 46 St James's Road, Hampton Hill TW12 1DQ.



CHILDREN & FAMILIES

Karen Roach

Tel: 074 7110 1487

Email: Karen.roach@stjames-hamptonhill.org.uk



CHURCHWARDEN

Gwynneth Lloyd

Tel: 020 8943 0709

Email:

gwyndy215@gmail.com



TREASURER

Nick Harris

Tel: 020 8943 2025

Email:

nicholasjkharris@gmail.com



ACTING CHOIRMASTER

Martin Hinckley

Tel: 020 8979 0528

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

ALMA Laurence Sewell 020 8977 2844

Ark Playgroup

Debbie Nunn 020 8979 3078

Bell Ringers

Susan Horner 020 8979 9380

Book of Remembrance Recorder

Janet Nunn 020 8979 6325

Brownies and Guides 0800 1 69 59 01

Charity Support Team

Dennis Wilmot 020 8977 9434

Children's Champion

Linda Webb 020 8783 1515

Church Cleaning Team

Debbie Nunn 020 8979 3078

Churches Together Around Hampton

Ann Peterken 020 8891 5862

Churchyard Records

Janet Nunn 020 8979 6325

CMS Mission Partner Link

Liz Wilmot 020 8977 9434

Deanery Synod Representatives

Clive Beaumont 020 8943 4336

Eco-Church Derek 020 8241 5904

Electoral Roll 020 8941 6003

Flower Arranging Team

Coryn Robinson 020 8979 6786

Hall Bookings 020 8941 6003

PCC Secretary Nick Bagge 020 8941 6003

Planned Giving / Finance Team

Carol Bailey 020 8783 0633

Properties Team

Bryan Basdell 020 8979 2040

Safeguarding Officer

Jane Newman 020 8979 6154

Scouts Richard Moody 020 8286 6918

Servers Lesley Mortimer 020 8941 2345

Shell Seekers Linda Webb 020 8783 1515

Social Team 020 8941 6003

St James's Hospitality / Parish Breakfast

Clare Ryan and Kirstie Craig 079 6413 1135

St James's Players

Martin Hinckley 020 8979 0528

Traidcraft Ann Peterken 020 8891 5862

TWAM Janet Nunn 020 8979 6325

Visitors' Team

Liz Wilmot 020 8977 9434

Welcome Team

Janet Taylor 020 8979 0046

From the Editor

After the very disappointing weather this winter and over Easter, we are hoping for better things to come. Our churchyard is already looking lovely with spring flowers and it will soon be full of bluebells. The new planting took place recently around the south and west areas of the church, and we look forward to watching it develop (see page 4). The next task is to sow the wild flower meadow. If you are interested in helping to maintain the churchyard why not join the gardening team.

This edition highlights the history of our organ and the renovations that have taken place over the past 16 months. We have really missed having the organ for services recently. We are also in the process of recruiting a new organist as Mark Blackwell has moved on after three years at St James's.

May includes Christian Aid Week. This year's campaign features on Page 7 and the team would welcome more collectors.

I am sure you will enjoy Page 8 this month.



When I approached Julian to write it he suggested prime ministers, purely factual rather than political, and it has made an excellent article.

Best Wishes

Janet

Janet Nunn,
Editor

Cover photo: the organ after the first major renovation work in more than a hundred years

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.

Telephone: 020 8979 6325

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.

Telephone: 020 8979 9380

Email: smhorner5@yahoo.co.uk

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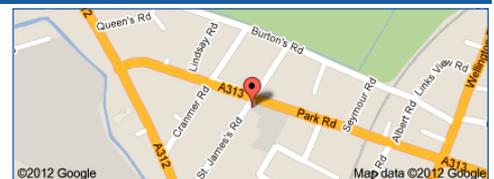
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Please recycle this magazine after use



Finding us

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



Clerical Capers



The vicar was a big fan of new technology!

Shockwaves of Paul's life-after-death story



Athens

Recently I was in Athens preparing to lead a pilgrimage *In the Footsteps of St Paul*, next year. Our group stood on a rocky outcrop where, in Biblical times, the senior members of the city met to make legal decisions, and where the apostle Paul was asked to explain the message he was preaching.

As we listened to a summary of his defence from the Acts of the Apostles, it struck me that all was going well until he mentioned the resurrection of the dead 'and then some of them sneered' and the meeting was adjourned. The events of Easter were controversial.

This was amongst Greek 'pagans', but the same was true in the first-century Jewish world - on one occasion Paul provoked internal wrangling between his accusers by suggesting that he was on trial 'because of the hope of the resurrection of the dead'. That set his opponents at each other's throats, and soldiers had to break up the fight!

Mystery of life after death

Personally I am glad that the mention of 'resurrection' is not so incendiary any more, but perhaps it is worth pausing to consider what was so astonishing then.

Although the Ancient Egyptians showed considerable interest in an afterlife, the dominant culture of the first century had turned away from looking forward to life after death. Stoics believed that the soul

was immortal, but nothing could be said of its future; Epicureans taught that nothing could survive physical death. Jews believed that the dead went to a shadowy underworld, called Sheol or Hades.

When Paul preaches he is saying much more than our soul survives. He teaches that Jesus has been raised - and that people had seen him in *this* world.

I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive.

(1 Cor 15:6-6)

Paul explains in other places that Jesus when raised was 'embodied'. Only some strands of Judaism thought that was possible, and then for all God's people in the *future*, and non-Jews thought it was impossible. No-one expected it to happen to one person 'here and now'.

Paul clearly did not believe that Jesus had returned exactly as he had gone - he expressly says that is it a metamorphosis to a 'spiritual body' from a 'physical body'. To be simply reanimated would be as one Bishop of Durham said merely 'a conjuring trick with bones'. Rather, as another Bishop of Durham says, it is the transformation of 'an embodiment of ordinary nature' to an 'embodiment of the spirit.'

Or as the former Archbishop Rowan Williams wrote, the resurrection of Jesus is like a second Big Bang releasing a new power, recreating the world.

Old news is good news

Should preaching and teaching the resurrection be as provocative as it was in the First Century? Maybe. Has the *new* element of the Good News become so stale now? Perhaps. But these things at least should make us stop and think:

Death is defeated. Usually we reckon death defeats *us* - one day it will get us. Paul describes it as the last enemy - if we beat everything else in life, there will always be death. But Jesus won at Easter; dying is not followed by being dead.

Jesus is alive. Unlike any other individual in history Jesus can be present in our lives. Certainly there are rational proofs of the emptiness of the tomb, but alongside those we can experience the presence of Jesus. We can test his promise 'I will be with you always.'

Our hope is well-founded. We live in an anxious world. But the future is not altogether uncertain. The resurrection of Jesus is the decisive next step in God's plan to make the world new - it is like first light at dawn, a promise of a new day.

Easter is not over and done in 24 hours - we celebrate the liturgical season for seven weeks! But really Easter never ends, after all the world will never be the same again.



Sundays

Holy Communion (said) 0800-0830
Parish Communion 0930-1030
Together at Eleven 1100-1140
followed by crafts and refreshments

Mon-Fri

(but not Tuesdays)
Morning Prayer 9:15-9:40am

Tuesdays

1, 15, 22, 29 May
Holy Communion 9:30-10:15am
8 May
Holy Communion and Coffee 10:00-11:30am
(2nd Tuesday of month)

Connections

Tuesday 1 May 11:00am-12:30pm
(1st Tuesday of month)
Our monthly session for older people returns with refreshments, games, crafts and exercises

Life Groups 8:00 pm

Tuesdays 8, 22 May, 5, 19 Jun, 3 Jul
Thursdays 3, 17 May, 7, 21 Jun, 5 Jul

Fairtrade Stall

Sunday 6 May 10:30am

Ark Playgroup

Mondays 14, 21 May 10:30am-12:15pm
Our weekly playgroup for toddlers and carers continues. £2 per family

Wine Tasting for Charity

Saturday 12 May 7:30pm
Wine expert Christopher Carson takes us on a journey through wine. You will taste nine wines - finishing with a 'guess the wine' competition. Tickets £15 from church on Sunday or through the church office

Day of Prayer

Saturday 19 May 9am-1pm
As part of the CofE's *My Kingdom Come* mission, St James's provides a quiet day

Pop-up Cinema (FREE ENTRY)

Saturday 19 May 6:30pm
The Greatest Showman (U rating)
Hugh Jackman stars in a musical about the man who invented show business

6 June 3:00pm

The Secret Life of Pets (U rating)
As part of Hampton Hill's Summer Fair, we provide the final clue in a children's quiz and show the hit film

NEWS IN BRIEF

Church growth begins with our churchyard



HARD LABOUR won the day as the gardening club's members began re-planting the south and west-facing sides of the church.

The shrubs have been selected to provide all-year colour and ample supplies of foliage for the church flower team. They won't grow too big either, thereby keeping maintenance to a minimum.

The area at the front of the church had to be cleared last year when the toilets were installed in the west porch.

The bare ground behind the bench has been transformed

and future plans include developing the ground in the north-west corner by the notice board.

The next stage in an ambitious plan to turn the churchyard into a wildlife haven is to sow a wildflower meadow, encouraging many more moths and butterflies to the area. Club members dug over the ground, removed old roots, broke up clods and raked the soil in preparation for this.

If you would like to join the gardening club and help please contact the office.

New look to church office completed

THE CHURCH OFFICE has undergone a refit to provide accommodation for two people. Two desks have been gifted to the church by Trio Systems, the Twickenham-based company that leases and maintains our copier. The office was completed in March with the donation of two chairs. We thank Trio for their generosity.

Mark's swansong as organist



AMID THE celebrations of Easter Day there was also sadness as Mark Blackwell, our organist and choirmaster for the past three years, said goodbye.

During his time with us, Mark re-introduced Harvest choral evensong. He also

celebrated 40 years as an organist with a concert.

Derek, our vicar, presented Mark with a card, signed by the congregation, and money from a collection. Mark is moving to a church in Sunbury, closer to home. We send him our best wishes.

FEATURE: ORGAN RENOVATION

Pulling out

The organ is one of the oldest instruments ever invented and has a range of power unmatched by any other instrument. Music is, and always has

been, a very important aspect of church worship, particularly in accompanying congregational singing and playing sacred music during the Liturgy.

The organ is generally considered to be the best way of providing this. However, because of its amazing sound quality, depth, and variety, the organ's repertoire can also span most music genres.

Our recently retired organist, Mark Blackwell, said: 'The organ at St James's is one of the finest in the area, is a great asset to the church and one commented on by many visiting musicians.'



PRILL HINCKLEY

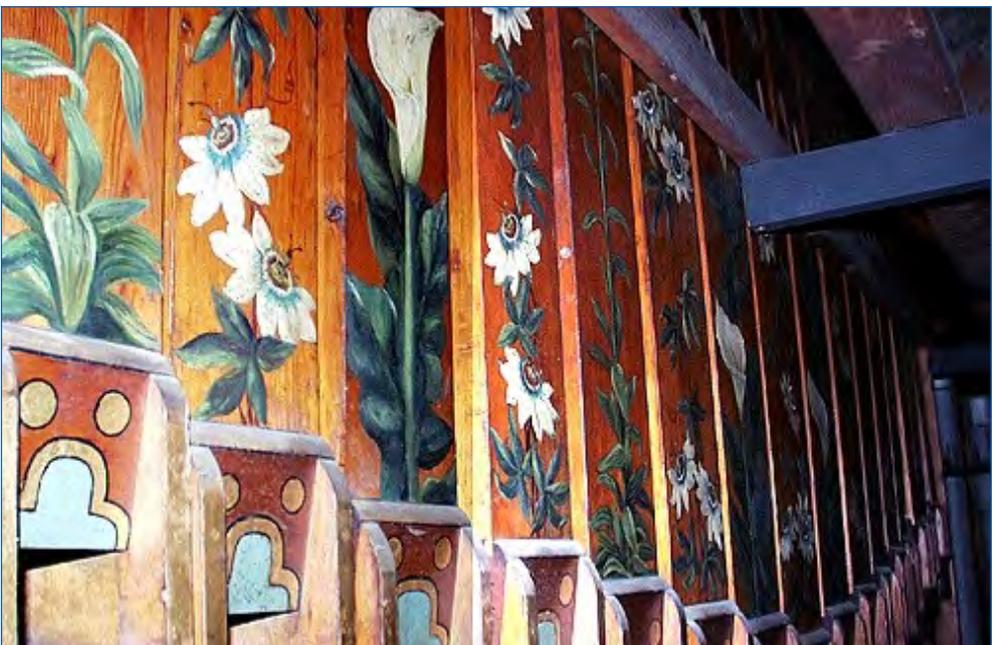


It has taken 16 months to renovate our organ — the largest project of its type in 100 years — but then music has always played an essential part in the life of the church. Sadly many churches have foregone pipe organs because of the cost of upkeep, which makes ours all the more precious and prized by organists who play it.

A brief history

St James's organ, originally built by the firm of Bishop for St Peter's, Eaton Square, in the 1830s, was bought for £150 by our first vicar, the Revd Fitzroy Fitz Wygram in 1874. A year later an organ-blower was appointed at a salary of £6 a year. He carried out this work for about 36 years until a later refurbishment substituted an electric blower for the old hand-blowing mechanism.

Lilies and foliage were painted in cream and gold on the pedal pipes in 1894, with the real gold leaf used being specially supplied by the Admiralty.



Lilies were painted on the original organ pipes in 1894, using gold leaf supplied by the Admiralty

all the stops

These pipes were originally visible to the congregation, but were moved to the rear of the organ chamber and substituted with the silvered metal pipes that now fill the arch.

Through the years the organ has undergone many repairs, refurbishments, modernisations, additions and improvements. It was rebuilt as a three manual instrument with a pedal organ and new pneumatic actions in 1912.

The organ has been cleaned and thoroughly overhauled several times. In 1972, the original organ builders incorporated a new electric action replacing the old pneumatic mechanism.

In 1997 the organ was modernised and 162 pipes of varying sizes were added. Some of the new pipes were salvaged from a neighbouring church while others were paid for by sponsors who were dubbed 'organ donors'.

Why have an organ renovation?

The organ is an extremely complex instrument. Ours has had regular maintenance over the years but even this cannot prevent deterioration.

Various irregularities had also been noticed, including a whistling and hissing sound and some notes being weaker and more 'fuzzy' than others.

An inspection by our organ restorer, Bernie, revealed many technical faults causing these problems. These included warped and cracked sound boards, perished leather and air-leaks from broken air reservoirs and pipe-work. Wiring and relays had rusted, much of the wood was split, there was vermin damage and a general accumulation of dust. Quite a list!

What has happened?

Bernie spent about 16 months deep in the organ chamber, meticulously repairing or replacing the parts of the instrument that were broken or showing their age, and also moving some pipes to their correct positions.

If you sit in the north aisle the trumpet pipes now sound less powerful as they have been moved to the back of the organ chamber. This allows more air to flow around the pipes (they need this to work) and also enables the sound from pipes nearer the front to push through into the church.

Previously some notes were weaker than others because the air pressure was not consistent for each pipe. This has been corrected and the improved air pressure now gives a more even and pure sound. The organists will also be warmer now that there is no cold draught coming from the leaking air!

The old computer that controlled the organ has been replaced using 'switch

Bernie, our organ restorer



Bernard Whitmill started working for JW Walker, one of the biggest organ builders in the country, and later for two of the other giants, Manders, and Bishop - who made our own original organ.

His 44 years in the industry make him exceptionally experienced and he has worked on some of our most famous organs in St Pauls Cathedral, Charterhouse and St Bartholomew's Hospital.

stacks', which Bernie has carefully wired up, replacing much of the old wiring, seen in the picture on the previous page.



The only time the organ was totally out of use was for three months at the beginning of 2018. This was because many pipes had to be removed while the sound boards and wind chests were taken out, repaired and restored (as seen above).

An interesting 'note' when Bernie was taking out some of the pipes was that he discovered old newspapers

carefully placed between and around pipes, some dating back over a hundred years.

Not the look but 'the feel'...

The restoration has been complicated and extremely technical. Mark uses a car analogy. 'Imagine the refurbished car engine - you can't see what the difference is, but you can feel it'. Our organ now gives a brighter, better balanced and more consistent sound altogether across its whole range, without the hissing of escaping air. It will continue to give pleasure to all who hear and play it for many years to come.

Mark said playing 'will be like driving a car with a replacement engine where the old one was misfiring and leaking.

'Without this maintenance the organ would have developed serious problems. Parts of it would have started to fail which would have been noticeable to everyone. The restored organ will now give years of trouble-free playing before major maintenance is needed.'

■ For more information about the organ do take a look at the photo albums on the church website: stjames-hamptonhill.org.uk, one showing the inside of the organ chamber and the other illustrating the progress of the renovation.

Around the Spire

Suffragettes for day 'arrested'

IN MARCH Penny Sewell and Debbie Nunn walked in the shoes of suffragettes and experienced what it was like for those campaigning for women to be given the vote.

It was all part of a programme established by the National Trust, National Archives and Aziz Foundation to commemorate the century since the 1918 Representation of the People Act granted some women the right to vote.

Part of Piccadilly Circus was transformed into a replica of the headquarters of the WSPU (The Women's Social and Political Union), a prison cell and a meeting place for campaigners for suffrage.

Penny and Debbie attended the event not knowing quite what they were letting themselves in for. The 'suffragettes' marched around carrying banners for the cause whilst singing the Suffragette anthem. Some had stones ready to throw at shop windows (but not used thankfully), while others wrote slogans on the pavement. 'To our surprise,' said Debbie, 'we were arrested, verbally abused, and handed over to a prison warder who threw us into a prison cell!'

Penny added, 'We were threatened with a forced-feeding tube if we didn't confess and own up to our militant action and give true names. It was amazing how role play becomes very realistic in such situations; so much so that when one person's name was called out to come forward, everyone in unison and unplanned claimed to be that person - a Spartacus moment!'

Both said how much they valued the experience, and only hoped that through such events women today appreciated the sacrifices made by those suffragettes on their behalf all those years ago and always used their right to vote.



Janette's confirmation touches others

JANETTE THORNLEY, from St James's, was confirmed by Bishop Pete Broadbent, the Acting Bishop of London, on Easter Eve at St Paul's Cathedral. The service, which included elements of the Easter Vigil and the lighting of the new Paschal candle, saw

over 70 people baptised and/or confirmed. Janette said she was both surprised and grateful for the response of others, 'people I never thought would be touched by this spiritual journey that I was taking'.



Sniffing out the best in wine

CHRISTOPHER CARSON is hosting a wine evening in the church hall on **Saturday 12 May at 7.30pm** in aid of some of our charities.

Christopher has worked in the drinks trade for over 40 years and now runs his own company with his son Jonathan. During the event you will get to taste nine



wines and get advice about appreciating the fruit of the vine. Everyone will enjoy the occasion, whatever their knowledge. Tickets £15 from church on Sundays or from the church office.



Some of our youngsters taking part in the Kick London session

Over the past few months we have been exploring ways of making our Shell Seekers sessions more creative. One Sunday in February we went to Holly Road Recreation Ground for sports led by Kick London.



KAREN ROACH



This is a sports ministry that works with young people, combining sport and life skills, underpinned by Christian values. Our topic was sacrifice and we had fun experiencing some games, football and teaching on the sacrifice Jesus made for us and how we too can make sacrifices to help others. The children not only enjoyed the games but the idea of taking the church into the community.

I'm not only passionate about looking at creative ways to tell the stories in the Bible but reaching out to the community as well.

New storytelling technique

Recently, I've been on a Godly Play training day. This is a storytelling technique that uses objects and artefacts, with an opportunity for open discussion and a free response using a variety of craft materials.

When I was invited by Nick Hitchen, Headteacher of Clarence House School, I had the opportunity to use Godly Play to retell the Easter story. It was a great session and I enjoyed being with the girls, and their participation and response via the craft session.

We never want the word of God to be boring or stale because it is quite the opposite. By adding some creativity and variety to our storytelling we can keep the Bible engaging for both our children and for us as leaders.



The Easter story retold at Clarence House Preparatory School, Hampton Hill

Friday night is music night!



Two of our older Shell Seekers, pictured, attended a gig night hosted by The Unity Project at the Basement Door, the Vineyard Life Church, Richmond. We had a great night listening to live music, spoken word and meeting people. The project was started by St Stephen's, Twickenham, to connect with other church youth groups, and happens every half-term, hosted by different groups.

I want to extend our spiritual presence beyond our church by taking worship, prayer, and blessings into our community in novel and creative ways. My desire is to build relationships with our neighbours. That's a small sacrifice we can make - to keep our eyes and ears open to the people around us and show them love in whatever way we can: that is loving our neighbours as ourselves.

Let's take church to our community.



Uluru is a massive sandstone monolith, probably better known to many as Ayers Rock and one of Australia's most recognisable landmarks.

It is located in the centre of the country in the Northern Territory's arid 'red centre', and lies some 300 miles southwest of Alice Springs, the nearest large town. It is much more than just a famous rock; it is a living cultural landscape that is sacred to the *Anangu* Yankunytjatjara and Pitjantjatjara Aboriginal people who believe the spirits of their ancestral beings continue to reside in such revered places, making this area a deeply important part of Aboriginal cultural heritage.



LAURENCE SEWELL

board managing the National Park is comprised of eight traditional owners and four government officials.

Importance in Aboriginal belief systems

From a distance, Uluru looks smooth and featureless, but close up the rocks are heavily eroded by the weather, pitted with holes and fissures, valleys and caves. To the *Anangu*, Uluru was formed by ancestral beings during 'Dreamtime' and the land is still inhabited by the spirits of dozens of these ancestral creator beings. For the local *Anangu* people, it is a place of great power and considered the centre of the universe and the home of the Earth Mother.

The landscape features are said to represent ancestral spirits and their journeys across the land. These stories, known as *Tjukurpa*, tell about the travels and actions of Kuniya (Woma python), Liru (poisonous snake), Mala (rufous hare-wallaby) and Lungkata (Centralian blue-tongue lizard). These myths and legends are strongly bound up with traditions to this day, and the petroglyphs they have created on the rocks are now considered national cultural treasures.

Tourism at Uluru

This iconic site has become a tourist magnet over the years and now receives half a million visitors a year coming to see this sacred rock with its ability to appear to change colour based on the time of year and the time of day, particularly at sunrise and sunset when it seems to glow an unearthly reddish hue. Over the years much of the tourist infrastructure has been located away from the park to reduce environmental damage, and climbing Uluru has long been controversial given objections of the *Anangu* Aboriginal people to visitors wandering around and despoiling their sacred site.

After much debate, and 34 years after reclaiming their rights to the land, a climbing ban is to be instituted from October 2019 so that the spectacular views from the top will no longer be possible.

Aboriginal settlements for 10,000 years

Uluru lies 2,830 feet above sea level and rises 1,140 feet above the surrounding plain; the circumference at its base is a length of about 5.8 miles, and geologically is known as an 'inselberg' which was formed some 550 million years ago.

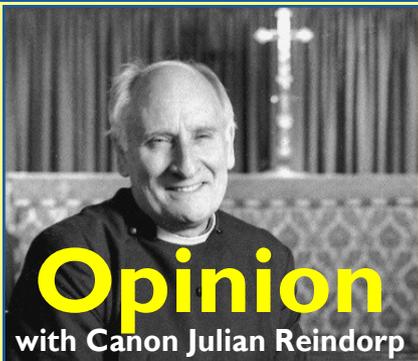
On the basis of archaeological findings in the area there is evidence of Aboriginal settlement from some 10,000 years ago, although it was not until the 1870s that European explorers came to the area whilst mapping the route for the construction of the Australian Overland Telegraph Line. In 1872 William Gosse saw the rock and named it after Sir Henry Ayers, the then Chief Secretary of South Australia.

It is situated within the Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park, which also includes the 36 red-rock domes of the Kata Tjuta or Mount Olga formation. This national park was originally excised from an Aboriginal reserve in 1958, although Ayers Rock itself had been declared a national park in 1950.

It took many years of campaigning for the *Anangu* to be recognised as the park's historical owners and to be given the deeds to their land. This was finally achieved in October 1985 when Uluru's land title was transferred to its traditional owners. However, it was immediately leased back to the Australian federal government to be jointly managed as a national park for 99 years, whilst the



Cave paintings at Uluru tell the Aboriginal stories of Dreamtime



Opinion
with Canon Julian Reindorp
NATIONALISATION

Many people claim that the private sector can run services better, while others suggest that the private sector is failing to deliver. According to recent research by the Legatum Institute, the majority of Britons want energy (77%), water (83%) and trains (76%) nationalised.

The East Coast rail franchise was re-privatised in April 2015 despite having returned nearly £1billion to HM Treasury and delivering record passenger satisfaction and punctuality while in public ownership from 2009 to 2015. Government subsidy to the railways is three times what it was when British Railways was operating. Key performance indicators, such as passenger satisfaction and punctuality, are only now matching the last year of British Rail in 1993/94. And Britain now subsidises its railways to roughly the same extent as France and Germany, but its fares are up to 50% higher.

A recent review of water companies' profits revealed that out of £18.8 billion, £18.1 went to the shareholders, almost all the investment for new infrastructure was borrowed.

THE COMMON GOOD

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, says in his new book *Reimagining Britain*, that austerity is not merely an economic term. 'It almost invariably conceals the crushing of the weak, the unlucky, the ill, and a million others. Austerity is theory for the rich and a reality of suffering for the poor.'

Welby seeks to develop an ethic around Catholic social teaching on the Common Good and a Guardian leader commended his realistic approach. Michael Gove has suggested that the Prime Minister was moving towards Catholic social teaching in her development of Tory Policy.

Meanwhile, the roll-out of Universal Credit continues in four London boroughs and already 75% of those in social housing are in rent arrears. It is astonishing that while most of us are paid monthly and some of the poorest people weekly, the Government still insists on waiting for five weeks before the new benefits are paid out, and in some cases it takes even longer. The rate of evictions continues to rise by more than 100 a day. Most of us will have savings to tide us over, the poorest have nothing in reserve and may already be in debt.

COUNCIL TAX PUZZLE

The council tax for a seven bedroom house of 'ambassadorial proportions' in Westminster, worth about £17m, is £1,376. Meanwhile a pensioner in Nottingham, living in a small bungalow, worth £150,000, faces a bill of £1,645. Council tax should surely be fair and progressive, ours is neither

RECEIVING COMMUNION

How people receive the bread in communion often indicates their Christian tradition. Catholics usually receive in the mouth, Anglicans in their hands and Free Church people in their fingers. The Roman Catholic weekly, *The Tablet*, quoted the guidance of fourth century bishop Cyril of Jerusalem: 'When you come forward for Holy Communion, do not draw near with your hands wide open, or with fingers spread apart; instead, with your left hand make a throne for the right hand. Receive the body of Christ in the hollow of your hand and give the response *Amen*'

I suspect many of us have been taught this. Imagine the outcry recently when Cardinal Robert Sarah, head of the Vatican's Congregation for Divine Worship, suggested this way constitutes 'the most insidious diabolic attack' on the Blessed sacrament. As *The Tablet* says, 'Probably the kindest thing to say about this is that it is just plain silly.'

He also advocates priests saying Mass facing East with their backs to the congregation. Very few agree with him.

'Another hurricane would kill us all'

Imagine going to sleep tonight, seemingly safe in your home, and by morning having nothing. That was the fate of thousands of people in Haiti who were in the path of the devastating Hurricane Matthew. What makes this story so much worse

is that the hurricane struck over 18 months ago — and these people are still without a home, and still at the mercy of the elements. Statistics may shock us, but they are impersonal, making it easier for the world to look the other way.

I want you to read about an ordinary family; people like you or me, who had ambitions for their children, hopes and dreams. Now they struggle to see beyond the end of the week.

Take Marcelin, who lost his home and livelihood in the storm. 'I lost pigs, goats, everything in the house. I have nothing left. If another hurricane came, we'd just die.'

He now lives in a shower block, a tiny space he shares with his teenage daughters. There are no windows or doors, and the only furniture is a bed the girls sleep on.



LINDA WEBB

The effects extend way beyond the loss of a home

Marcelin is struggling to raise his children alone. Every day he gets up at dawn to work the land, but the changing weather frequently destroys the food he grows and his family often go hungry.

He can no longer afford to send all his children to school and is unable to save any money for a new home. So, this Christian Aid Week, will you build hope in Haiti?

The charity knows how to make it happen — of the 700 houses they built after the 2010 earthquake, just one needed repairing after Hurricane Matthew. But they are relying on the kindness of people like you to be able to do more, and reach more people in their hour of need.

Marcelin and his family are the 'luckier' ones. Others are forced to live in the mud, with only tarpaulin for protection.

We need your help, both collecting and giving

For more than 60 years, tens of thousands of dedicated volunteers have come together across the UK for Christian



Marcelin and his family's 'home' — a shower block

Aid Week each May to raise vital money for those in need.

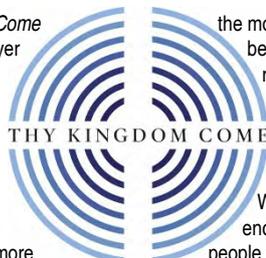
We are always grateful to our collectors who helped us raise £2300 last year. If you would like to join them please contact Liz Wilmot or me in church. Do give generously when you receive your Christian Aid envelope through the door, or leave your donation in the church office.

■ **This year's Lent Appeal has raised £2,733**, to be split between Welcare and David and Shelley Stokes in Argentina. With the PCC unable to give money to charity from its 2018 budget, it is heartening that the appeal and events, including the Quiz Night and the Shell Seekers' cake sale, have almost matched what we gave to these two charities last year. Please keep up your support.

COMING SOON

Day of Prayer at St James's Church

Thy Kingdom Come is a global prayer movement, which invites Christians around the world to pray between Ascension and Pentecost for more people to come to know Jesus Christ.



the morning (there will be short reflections / meditations on the hour at 10, 11 and 12.

We are also encouraging people to attend the Diocesan event at St Paul's Cathedral on **Saturday 19 May** at 7.30pm. It will be a great occasion.

Make a date in your diary

As well as publicising resources for use during the time of prayer, St James's will hold a morning of prayer on **Saturday 19 May** from 9am-1pm. Come for Morning Prayer at 9am, Communion at 12.45pm, or at any time during

Tickets are free, but *must* be pre-booked — see the poster in church or go to the London Diocese website for more details: london.anglican.org/event/2018/05/19/thy-kingdom-come-st-pauls-2018/

REGISTERS

FEBRUARY

NONE

MARCH

FUNERAL

23 Frank Richard Kemp, 70, Hampton Hill

INTERMENT OF ASHES

24 Winifred Marian Sievelle, 92, Whitton



Our greatest leaders?

Being born in South Africa and following events there alerted me early on to the importance of politics. Apartheid meant only white people could vote. Genuine democracy really matters. Do individuals or movements change history? Both, but it is individuals whom we remember and often identify with. I have taken the long view and so Harold Macmillan's 'wind of change', and Harold Wilson's 'white heat of technology' speech miss out.



JULIAN REINDORP

Sir Robert Walpole (PM 1721-1742)

Sir Robert was the first man to be called a PM. A Whig as opposed to a Tory, he was described as 'astute, a good parliamentary performer, and corrupt'. He was shrewd in his use of patronage: he wined and dined his friends and allies, and doled out seats and sinecures. He sought moderation, worked for peace, lower taxes and growing exports, was able to attract both Whig and Tory politicians, and established an effective working relationship between the Crown and Parliament.



William Pitt the Younger (PM 1783-1801 and 1804-06)



Aged 24, he became our youngest PM. (His father 'the elder' had been PM 1768-70.)

Dubbed a 'new Tory', he called himself an 'independent Whig'. He was an outstanding administrator.

His time was dominated by the French Revolution, the Napoleonic

Wars, and the madness of George III. He introduced paper money, and the first income tax in 1799 to pay for war. A loof, and a shy bachelor, he died in office, aged 46, and is remembered as 'the pilot who weathered the storm'.

Sir Robert Peel (PM 1834-35 and 1841-46)

Regarded as the founder of modern Conservatism, Peel boasted a double first in Classics and Maths. He created the Metropolitan Police force, known as 'Bobbies' or 'Peelers', worked for free trade, set up a modern banking system, passed the Mines Act 1842, banning women and children from working underground, the Factory Acts 1844, restricting



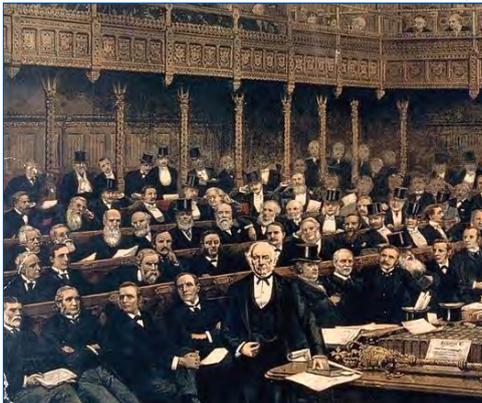
the working hours of women and children, and repealed the Corn Laws following the Great Irish Potato Famine.

Benjamin Disraeli (PM 1868, 1874-80)



Disraeli was a Conservative, and favourite of Queen Victoria. He wrote about two nations — rich and poor — in his novel *Sybil*, introducing 'one-nation conservatism'. He reformed factories, housing and public health, was a strong supporter of the British Empire, helped purchase the Suez Canal Company, worked for the Congress of Berlin (1878) and for peace in the Balkans. His diplomatic victory established him as one of Europe's leading statesmen.

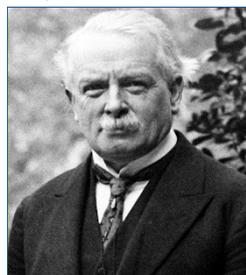
William Gladstone (PM 1868-74, 1880-85, 1886, 1892-94)



Known as the 'Grand Old Man' of Victorian politics, or the 'People's William' he started out as a High Tory, but was later part of the New Liberal Party of 1859. One constant in his life was his faith. 'Gladstonian Liberalism' emphasised equality of opportunity, free trade and laissez-faire economic policies. He created Post Office Savings Banks, dissolved the Church of Ireland and introduced secret voting. He was defeated on Home Rule for Ireland, splitting the Liberal party, but will be remembered as a great campaigner.

David Lloyd George (PM 1916-22)

A Liberal, Lloyd George led the coalition government war effort. He helped lay the foundations of the Welfare State with the National Insurance Acts of 1911 and 1920 and the Unemployment Insurance Act of 1920. In the 'Peoples Budget' of 1909 new taxes were introduced, including a 'supertax' on incomes over £3000. He was a major player in the Paris Peace Conference of 1919, reordering Europe after the First World War, and also in the 1920 partition of Ireland. In all, he was an MP for 55 years.



Sir Winston Churchill (PM 1940-45, 1945 and 1951-55)

Churchill was the most remarkable British politician of the century. He started as a Liberal, in Cabinet by 1909 and by 1924 Conservative Chancellor of the Exchequer. In the

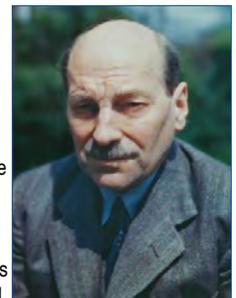
1930s he warned about Hitler, campaigned for rearmament and from 1940-45 was an outstanding wartime coalition leader.

His speeches inspired the people. In the late 1940s he cautioned about the 'Iron Curtain' and advocated European union. He represented five constituencies, won the Nobel Prize for Literature and held controversial views on race and imperialism.



Clement Attlee (PM 1945-51)

Attlee is the Labour Party's longest serving leader. In his 20 years he led it into a coalition government in 1940; with very effective relationship with Churchill, the first deputy PM. He was the first Labour PM in a majority government, and during his time the Welfare State and NHS were founded, public utilities and major industries nationalised, and India, Burma (Myanmar) and Ceylon (Sri Lanka) gained independence. He supported NATO's stand against Stalin and the Marshall plan to rebuild Europe. Modest in public, he is rated as one of the greatest PMs.



Margaret Thatcher (PM 1979-1990)

A Conservative, the longest-serving PM of 20th century and the first woman prime minister. She believed in 'making Britain great again'. A strong, but divisive leader; she battled with the miners, reformed trade union democracy, 'won' the Falklands war.



'Thatcherism' became synonymous with deregulation, flexible labour markets, privatising state-owned industries, and selling council homes. She had a huge capacity for hard work and detail, was known as the 'Iron Lady' by the Soviets; and with President Reagan (pictured) and Russian leader Mikhail Gorbachev she changed international relations.

Tony Blair (PM 1997-2007)

Blair was the first Labour leader to win three consecutive elections. With Gordon Brown, Chancellor of the Exchequer from 1997-07 and PM 2007-2010, he founded New Labour to 'modernise' the party and attract the middle classes. A gifted communicator, he played a major role in the Northern Ireland Good Friday Peace Agreement, but made a major mistake after 9/11, going into the Iraq War with US President Bush Jr, and no weapons of mass destruction found. He oversaw a huge schools and hospitals building programme, unemployment fell, the minimum wage and civil partnership acts were introduced and the lives of the poorest improved.

