

JUNE 2018

# SPIRE



HAMPTON HILL'S PARISH MAGAZINE

YOUR FREE COPY



## Marathon Man

Feeling the heat on London's streets

[stjames-hamptonhill.org.uk](http://stjames-hamptonhill.org.uk) or find us on



## 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).

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### CURATE Rev Jacky Cammidge

Jacky was born in Aberdare, 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.

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### 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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## From the Editor

**T**he organ renovation featured in our last issue did come to an end, albeit a bit later than planned, and it is so good to have the organ for our main services again.

It is a splendid instrument and adds greatly to our worship. We now look forward to the appointment of a new organist.

This month sees the first of three centre-spreads featuring members of the congregation who have taken on challenges.

We really felt for Jon Holloway tackling the London Marathon on the hottest day on record for this event. His article on the Sailors' Society and his running experience make very interesting reading.

We continue our popular series on the back page with David Taylor's favourite sculptures. As people who write these features usually say, they enjoyed revisiting and researching one of their favourite subjects. David enjoyed a productive day in London doing his research.



Thank you to everyone who has so far responded to the Spire Appeal and helped to support the production of the magazine.

Best Wishes

*Janet*

Janet Nunn,  
Editor

Cover photo: Jon Holloway before the start of the gruelling London Marathon

## 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.

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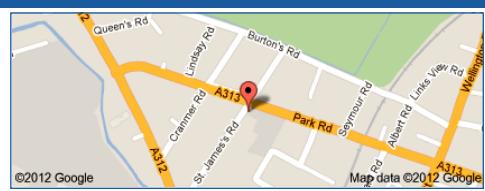
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## Clerical Capers



*The new flower lady went for impact*

# Reputations won and lost in age-old battle



**M**any organisations (including charities and churches) have been working hard to comply with the General Data Protection Regulation, which comes into force on 25 May.

You may have been asked by many organisations to give consent for them to continue to contact you and 'handle your data'. They will also have invited you to read a 'Privacy Statement'.

This is fairly dry stuff, but Facebook's Cambridge Analytics scandal has reminded us all that there are people 'out there' who are very keen to collect information about us.

So GDPR is welcome in offering us 'world-class' protection.

## Saving reputations

Our identity is very important to us. For 500 years there have been defamation laws in England (slander and libel) to protect our reputations.

But, of course, there is an older law: the third of the Ten Commandments reads, 'You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain'.

There, in one of the most ancient law codes, is a recognition that God's name is not to be misused.

The same theme is picked up by Jesus in the prayer he taught his followers, 'Hallowed be your name'.

**Just as we should treat God and his identity with respect, believers are encouraged to trust that God holds our name dear.**

**In our world there would be data protection issues if we wrote confidential information on our hands, but Isaiah is given a lovely picture, 'I have inscribed your name on my palms'. Isa 49:19.**

## Biblical slander

Of course, there were people in Biblical times who suffered from slander — people passing on untruths.

The psalmist had cruel experience of this, 'When one (of my enemies) comes to see me, he speaks falsely, while his heart gathers slander; then he goes out and spreads it around.' Ps 41:5-7.

Jesus in his turn experienced people besmirching his reputation, and finally making false accusations.

It is notable, then, that both when Jesus makes a list of things that people do he includes slander, and also when he says

every kind of sin is forgivable he adds in 'and slander'. (Mk 3:28, 7:22).

## Pain where there is gain

It is a sad thing that people feel that they can gain by putting others down, or can make money (or win elections) by selling other people's details. GDPR has been brought in because the digital revolution has multiplied the ways in which who we are can be traded for other's advantage.

We have seen that the Bible contains illuminating parallels - an awareness that our identity is precious to God, that slander damages friends and churches (Romans 3:8) and even that we have a responsibility to safeguard God's 'good name.'

## God's not-so-easy opt-out

**B**ut while the focus of GDPR seems to be on others (organisations prone to misuse personal data), God's word does not allow 'private people' to escape easily. Psalm 101:5 applies to the easy but nasty comments on social media or in public, 'Anyone who spreads gossip will be silenced; no one who is conceited will be my friend.'

Rather like honouring God's name, we can use our words to build others up.

'Be gracious in your speech. The goal is to bring out the best in others in a conversation, not put them down, not cut them out.' Col 4:6



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

5, 19, 26 Jun

Holy Communion 9:30-10:15am

12 Jun

Holy Communion and Coffee 10:00-11:30am  
(2nd Tuesday of month)

## Fairtrade Stall

Sunday 3 Jun 10:30-11:30am

## Ark Playgroup

Mondays 4,11, 18, 25 June 10:30am-12:15pm

Our weekly playgroup for toddlers and carers continues. £2 per family

## Connections

Tuesday 5 Jun 11:00am-12:30pm

(1st Tuesday of month)

Our monthly session for older people with refreshments, games, crafts and exercises

## Life Groups

8:00 pm

Tuesdays 5, 19 Jun, 3 Jul

Thursdays 7, 21 Jun, 5 Jul

## Pop-up Cinema (FREE ENTRY)

Saturday 16 June 3:00pm

*The Secret Life of Pets* (U rating)

As part of the Hampton Hill Summer Fair, St James's will hold the final answer in the Hilly the Dog competition. The winning entry will be drawn in the interval to the hit film. There will be plenty of pet-themed snacks, as well as the chance to meet our own lovable dog!

## Open to View

Saturday 30 June 2:00-5:30pm

We invite the whole community to discover what we offer. There will be flower displays, an organ recital, a chance to climb the spire and ring the bells, take a church tour, and enjoy

tea and cakes. There will also be a bottle tombola, a Traidcraft stall, and crafts for the children. Then at 4:00pm sit back and enjoy the film *Swallows and Amazons* (U rating)

## St James's Day

Sunday 1 July 11:00am-4:00pm

Our patron, the Revd Ben Lovell, vicar of St Mary's, Hampton, will preach at our service. This will be followed by a churchyard treasure hunt, a barbecue lunch and drinks. Then work off lunch on our inflatable obstacle course!

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### New and old faces join PCC at annual meeting



A GOODLY number of members came to the Annual Parochial Church Meeting on Sunday 29 April. There was some formal business to conduct, such as accepting the audited accounts and election of church officers.

Gwynneth Lloyd was re-elected to serve as churchwarden, and Ria Beaumont, Mary Gray, Laurence Sewell and Dennis Wilmott joined the PCC, with Dawn Miller serving a second three-year term.

The meeting carefully considered our financial situation and thanked Nick

Harris for his sterling work as treasurer; Dawn Miller takes over from him.

Derek spoke about the 2017 initiatives aimed at stimulating growth, including work on the building, extending distribution of the *Spire*, and appointing a Children's Worker. Projects for this year include Connections, refurbishing the hall, and an after-school club at Hampton Hill Juniors.

■ **St James's Day**, pictured in 2017 above, will this year focus on the church, with an open day on the Saturday (see page 7) and a service and barbecue on the Sunday.

### Cashless option for the Sunday collection!

**IF YOU FORGET** to bring cash for the Sunday collection, don't despair — you can now make contactless, virtual terminal, and SMS mobile payments!

In an increasingly cashless era, we are now able to offer cashless payment options for events, including weddings and hall bookings, as well as one-off donations. See Derek if you would like to pay this way.

### Summer fair leads to church

**HAMPTON HILL'S** annual Summer Fair begins at midday on Saturday 16 June in the High Street and Bushy Park — and this year St James's Church is taking part.

The dog show remains a popular event in the park, which is also the place to go for pony rides.

Meanwhile, there will be a petting zoo in the High Street, a craft fair and barbecue at the United Reformed Church, and traders will have their own exclusive offers on the day. Food and drink will be on sale, and there will be live music.



Final clue and a free film

Children can enter a Spot Hilly the Dog competition, with clues in the various shop windows. The final question will lead you to St James's Church, where at 3pm there will also be a free showing of the hit film *The Secret Life of Pets*. During the interval we will draw a prize winner, and there will be a free treat for all!

## FEATURE: MY FIRST MARATHON

# Agony, then

**T**he Sailors' Society is an international Christian charity working in ports across the world. Its chaplains help seafarers and their families, from all faiths and none, with welfare and practical support.

They visit ships in ports and talk with seafarers who are away from home for up to a year at a time; they help them get in touch with much

missed loved ones and access medical treatment; they liaise with frightened families when seafarers are kidnapped by terrorists or imprisoned, mostly through no fault of their own; and they build homes, schools and provide grants to bring hope and security to seafaring communities.

As the society asks, why should we care? Simply put, almost everything we own or use comes by sea — our cars, computers, phones, fuel. We all rely on seafarers and there are 1.6 million around the world, largely unseen, who work tirelessly, often in tough physical environments and for long periods at a time, especially when in port.

#### Support when most needed

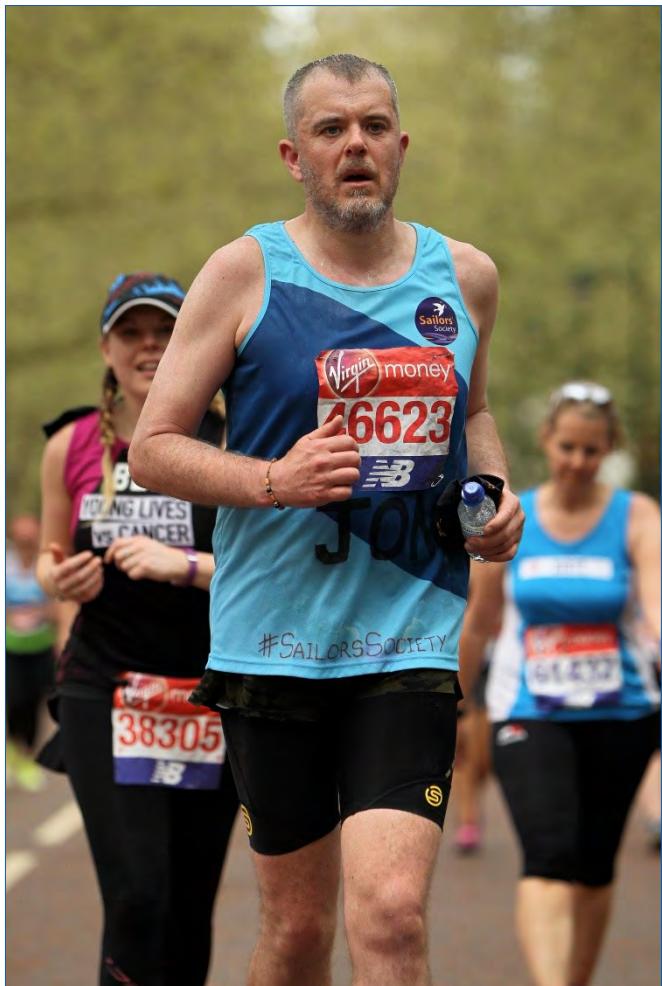
My own association with the Society stems from 1993, when I lost a great friend and shipmate who was among nine crew killed when the *British Trent*, loaded with petrol, was hit by a containership off the coast of Holland. (I was on the *British Resource* at the time, many thousands of miles away.)

The British and International Sailors' Society (as the Sailors' Society was then known), provided direct support to the families and friends of those who perished; making a real difference to their lives and helping them to come to terms with their grief.

Memories like those stick with you and I am proud to say I have been a



**JON HOLLOWAY**



**In 1993 the BP oil tanker British Trent erupted in a fireball when it was struck by a containership in the North Sea. It claimed the lives of nine sailors, including one of Jon's close friends. So began his association with the Sailors' Society, a Christian charity that helps seafarers in ports worldwide, and the reason he ran the London Marathon**



**A record 41,003 runners set off, but the heat was too much for 748 who didn't complete the iconic 26.2 miles**

# the ecstasy



Nine people died in a huge explosion when the BP oil tanker *British Trent* was hit by a bulk-carrier on 3 June 1993

supporter of the charity's work for nearly a quarter of a century. In 2007 an opportunity arose to become an ambassador for the charity, basically helping to promote their work and events. In 2014 a space on the Board of the charity became available and following an interview and assessment I was accepted as a trustee.

#### Challenging fundraising

As well as these more administrative roles, I've also taken on increasingly challenging events to fundraise in support of the Sailors' Society.

In 2012, I entered their bi-annual Three Peaks Race, climbing Ben Nevis, Helvellyn and Snowdon within 24 hours. Then came a 165-metre abseil down the side of the thirty-three storey Broadgate Tower in the City of London.

These were both tough in their own ways, especially as I'm not great with heights, but having always told myself I'd never do it, the London Marathon finally beckoned — I think, secretly, it's always been a desire.

What probably tipped the balance was that in March the Society celebrated its 200th birthday; quite an achievement, but one the charity has taken in its stride. If I was going to be part of those celebrations then maybe this was the best opportunity to tick the London Marathon off my wish list and test myself at the same time.

#### The marathon is no fun run

Momentarily skipping to the end, my experience on the day was not what I'd call fun. Mentally and physically spent, with nothing left in the tank, I honestly don't know how folk manage to put that last spurt on and sprint for the line.

However, the day itself is the smallest part of the story. It is an amazing time, the crowds are immense, and their non-stop cheering and encouragement certainly lifts your

spirits, even in the toughest times — and for me this was essentially the final nine miles.

The real story, I discovered, is in the training and the commitment required to ensure you have a chance of finishing on the day. There are plenty of guides out there with hints and tips, some give you a year to build up, others just 16 weeks, and it naturally depends on your starting point. Life is not easy or straightforward at the best of times — distractions of family, work, holidays, illness, weather and unexpected curveballs — so potential marathon runners beware, this is no synch, especially if, like me, you're a frequent couch-potato!

#### Short, short, longer, long...

Training meant running two or three times a week for 5-6 miles, then progressively longer runs at the weekend, gradually building up to the 20-mile mark. This is the point at which you're promised, 'Don't worry, on the day you'll pull the last six miles out of the bag, no problems.'

This adds up to a lot of time, a lot of missed weekends and events, and my own attendance at St James's has been nothing less than dire as a result!

#### Economical with the truth

I won't say I was lied to, but maybe some folk are economical with the truth; that last six miles is tough, really tough. And the only way to prepare is to train and train, and then train some more. On the day we were unlucky to have a heat wave (a few weeks earlier I'd been training during the Beast from the East. Not fun).

Still, as I pounded the course I was reminded of why I was doing it and the vital role the Sailors' Society plays in supporting seafarers.

As well as traditional in-port chaplaincy, the Society has more recently been active in the digital

arena, recognising the opportunity to improve its welfare offering in a more coordinated and structured way.

Two state-of-the-art apps have recently been launched. The first, the Ship Visitor-ICMA (International Christian Maritime Association), has revolutionised the way services are delivered by allowing chaplains to connect as well as report on how they are helping seafarers. It means chaplains in other ports can ensure sailors get ongoing care. Such has been its success that the app has been adopted by other groups that are part of the ICMA.

The Sailors' Society has also developed a highly-prized wellness programme to make content available to seafarers everywhere through their mobile phones. This puts physical, mental, emotional and spiritual welfare in each seafarer's hands and connects them to valuable support networks.

#### Would I do it again?

Running for a charity and having the encouragement of so many friends and family, plus their exceedingly generous donations nearing £3000, is a great driving force and certainly reminded me of why I was doing it. I'm glad I did it, and I'd recommend it to anyone looking for an epic challenge. But would I do it again? Well, let's see!

- To learn more about the charity go to their website: [sailors-society.org](http://sailors-society.org).



## Around the Spire

### Tree planted for Gordon and Jean

**THE FAMILY OF** Gordon and Jean Wilson planted a tree in their memory in our churchyard on 6 May.

Gordon and Jean were members of our congregation after Gordon's retirement from full-time ministry. He died in 1991 and Jean later moved into a care home. She died last October and the tree was planted on what would have been her 95th birthday.



Pictured, from left, are their granddaughter Georgina, daughter Rosalind, son-in-law Fraser, son Lawrence and his partner Clare.

### James takes grandfathers' names

#### JAMES RONALD

Philip, son of Simon and Michelle Linsley, who many of you will know from our *Together at Eleven* service, was baptised on Sunday 22 May, surrounded by friends and family from as far away as Australia.



Both grandfathers, from whom James takes his middle names, were present. One had travelled from Cape Town and felt quite at home with the sunny weather. Everyone enjoyed the service and the celebration afterwards.

### A boat ride on the Avon

#### CONGRATULATIONS

to Nick and Genevieve Bagge on their silver wedding anniversary. They were married at Shakespeare's church, Holy Trinity, Stratford-upon-Avon, on 1 May 1993, and have lived in Hampton Hill ever since. They are pictured about to take a boat ride with their guests from the church to the reception. They will be continuing the celebrations with a holiday in Rome later in the year.





**I**t has been a busy few weeks at St James's. This term we have started an after-school club at Hampton Hill Junior School called JAM. It's not about making jam, however, but an acronym for Jesus and Me.

We had a great start with 15 children signing up — and a waiting list of others keen to enrol!

The club runs every Wednesday for an hour from 3.30pm. We meet for a Bible story, as well as crafts and games and we keep the children energised with healthy snacks.



KAREN ROACH

In June we have another great family film. *The Secret Life of Pets*, above, will be shown as part of the Hampton Hill Summer Fair on Saturday 16 June at 3pm. Admission is free — and visiting the church will provide the final clue in the Hilly the Dog competition.

Youngsters will be kept busy discovering clues in the High Street, but the final clue can only be found at the church.

It's an ideal chance for parents to put their feet up and enjoy some refreshments while watching the hit film.

Then, during an interval, we will draw the winner of the competition. There's a great dog-themed prize, courtesy of Lodge Brothers, and everyone will get a small, but delicious treat!

#### Hampton Hill Rocks with the Brownies!

Another of my joys on a Tuesday evening from 6-7.15pm (term times only) is volunteering at the 3rd Hampton Hill Brownies, held in our church hall.

I enjoy spending time with the girls and Brown Owl Sarah Beer, as well as learning new skills like painting rocks with eye-catching designs and then placing them somewhere they will get noticed — or perhaps not. We left two in the vicarage garden, but eagle-eyed Derek spotted them the next day!

Recently, the Brownies were busy making fashionable clothes using paper. It is a great way of recycling and makes the point that too many clothes are thrown away after little use.

#### Stop press

On Saturday 30 June we are holding an Open to View day, when we hope many of you will come and look around the church. For the energetic among you, the view from the spire is worth the climb. We will also be showing *Swallows and Amazons* on the big screen. Full details on the page opposite.

I hope to see you soon!



The Bible stories are centred around how Jesus valued children even though his disciples tried to turn them away. My plan is to include stories and fun activities that draw on themes that the children can identify with.

#### Hampton Hill Summer Fair comes to us

Our Pop-up Cinema has fitted in three films this Spring on our big screen. Some adults and children came to see *Paddington 2*. We have also shown *Risen* and *The Greatest Showman*.



Brownies' eco-fashion, from re-used paper, left, and painting the Hampton rocks



LAURENCE SEWELL

at the Vatican, but at the Lateran Palace on the other side of Rome and, after their return from exile in Avignon in France in the 14th century they moved to the Quirinal Palace (now the residence of the Italian President).

It was not until the 1870 unification of Italy that the popes settled in the Vatican, when the new government seized the lands of the Papal States, except for the Vatican itself.

This heralded a period of tense relationship between Church and State, with popes refusing to recognise the secular authority of the Italian government.

It was only in 1929 with the signing of the Lateran Treaty that the Vatican City's independent sovereignty was recognised by the Fascist Italian government which paid a large financial indemnity to the pope for taking over his pre-1870 lands, and a concordat granted the church many privileges in Italy.

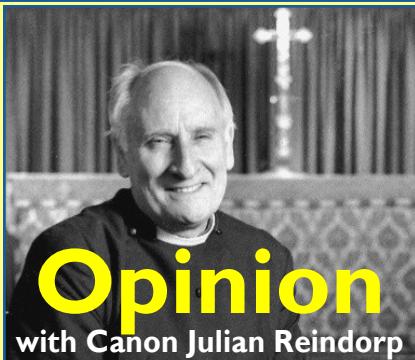
This had much to do with the Vatican's controversial implicit support of Mussolini. The 1929 concordat was the legal basis for continued church dominance of Italian society and remained in force until 1984 when there was a major reshuffle of administration of the Vatican City to a pontifically appointed commission of five cardinals headed by the Secretariat of State.

#### The legacy of the Renaissance

No mention can be made of the Vatican without reference to fabulous cultural life at the time of the Renaissance when the popes were among Italy's foremost patrons of the arts. It has left us with a wonderful cultural heritage, including: St. Peter's Basilica, the Vatican Museums and Galleries, the frescoes by Michelangelo in the Sistine Chapel, the frescoes by Pinturicchio in the Borgia Apartments, and Raphael's *stanze* ('rooms'). They remain inspirations to this day for Catholics and general public alike.



An aerial view of St Peter's Square shows the vast scale



## Opinion with Canon Julian Reindorp

### WINDRUSH SCANDAL

I am writing this two weeks after the Prime Minister initially refused to meet the leaders of the Caribbean countries affected by the Windrush scandal in the week of the Commonwealth Conference; and just after the Home Secretary, Amber Rudd, has resigned. Sajid Javid, formerly the Communities Secretary, now Home Secretary, has written that his family coming from Pakistan could easily have been caught up in a Windrush-type situation. Some people suggest that as many as 50,000 potential legal residents might be caught up in the 'hostile environment agenda' of the Home Office.

Acclaimed poet Linton Kwesi Johnson, who came to this country from Jamaica in 1963, said, 'I'll be crucified for saying this, but I believe racism is in the DNA of this country, and probably has been since imperial times.' Fifty years after Enoch Powell's 'rivers of blood' speech and 25 years after the murder of Stephen Lawrence, we now have to face the long-term implications of the Windrush scandal, and compensation for the suffering people have experienced for so long. The parliamentary response from people across the House of Commons suggests little trust in the policies and administration of the Home Office.

### LABOUR'S LEGACY

There is much to criticise in the Government's policies: unrealistic targets such as attempting to reduce immigration to 'tens of thousands', and including student numbers in the figures when the evidence suggests the vast majority return home after their studies. But the last Labour Government's lack of a clear policy allowed in hundreds of thousands of immigrants in the early years of this century. The Brexit vote was surely influenced by this.

### MANAGED MIGRATION

The phrase 'managed migration' is widely used. It is clear that our borders are not effectively administered; about 40,000 people a year are being deported in various ways. It is assumed that we should only let in people with the right skills for our economy. We seem to take for granted that we can draw on some of the most able citizens of other countries to meet our needs. We are 40,000 nurses short, yet we now charge nurses for their training. There is a skills shortage, but why are we not investing in UK citizens rather than trying to attract people from all over the world?

### AMBULANCE STAFF ABUSED

Assaults on public sector workers are on the increase. Sexual assaults and harassments of paramedics are rising every year – 145 recorded last year. Some female paramedics are now reluctant to respond to a call about a male patient if they are working alone. Attacks on all types of NHS staff rose sharply last year. The police and fire service reported similar trends.

### FAITHS BUILD TOGETHER

Kingston Mosque will say they could not have become established without the support of local Christians and a Jewish solicitor. Further afield, last year in Mosul, Christian and Muslim neighbours restored a Catholic church damaged by ISIS; in Texas, when a mosque was burnt down, churches and a synagogue raised £1m for a new mosque; after the 2015 Charleston shooting, Muslim groups raised \$100,000 to repair several historically black churches that had been burnt.

### GLADSTONE v DISRAELI

Jennie Jerome, the wife of Lord Randolph Churchill, the mother of Winston Churchill, summed up the difference between the two great prime ministers of Victorian times. 'When I left the dining room after sitting next to Gladstone, I thought he was the cleverest man in England,' she said, 'but when I sat next to Disraeli I left feeling I was the cleverest one.'

## CHARITIES WE SUPPORT TWO BENEFICIARIES

# Compassion for fleeing refugees

In this issue we focus on two of the organisations to which St James's makes an annual donation, but which perhaps don't get the same publicity as the higher-profile charities or groups.

#### London Churches Refugees Fund

The 'Windrush Generation' scandal has brought everyone's attention back to immigration, legal and illegal. But running alongside that supposedly sharp divide there is the ongoing suffering of refugees who come into Britain seeking a new life, one of safety and freedom.



DEREK WINTERBURN

However people while they seek asylum are excluded from mainstream benefits and barred from working. If their claim is rejected (3933 in Q4 2017, about 3 in 4) they must leave the country - unless they appeal, which most do.

In that case at best they will have only subsistence help.

We support the London Churches Refugees Fund, which makes grants to different frontline organisations helping destitute refugees and asylum seekers in London.



A Syrian family seeking a better life in the West

school, as outstanding; for example 'the highly effective chaplaincy enables the students and staff to play a valuable Christian role in wider local and worldwide communities.'

Our donation helps the school to provide its chaplaincy services and to develop its unique Christian ethos. Bishop Wand said they would be delighted to show any members of St James's around the school.

#### Bishop Wand Secondary School

Based in Sunbury, Bishop Wand is a popular choice for those who are looking for a Church of England Secondary school. It was founded in 1969 on land given by St Paul's Cathedral, and was named after William Wand who was Bishop of London 1945-55.

The school has a sixth form, and a total of 1000 students. Ofsted judged the school to be 'Good' in 2017. The inspectors praised the welcome and inclusive culture, the improvement in the quality of teaching and the behaviour of the students.

The church's inspecting body (SIAMS) have described the distinctiveness and effectiveness of the school, as a church



Bishop Wand's Christian ethos is supported by our donation

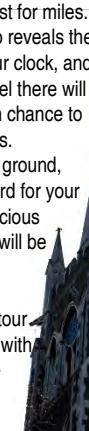
## COMING SOON

### Open to View - explore the church

**TOWER TOURS** and bell-ringing are among the attractions at our open day on **Saturday 30 June** from 2pm. The view from the spire is the best for miles. The climb also reveals the workings of our clock, and on the first level there will be a hands-on chance to sound the bells.

Back on the ground, and as a reward for your labours, a delicious afternoon tea will be served.

This can be followed by a tour of the church, with time to admire the flowers as well as the



stained glass windows that can only be appreciated from the inside.

The afternoon will begin with music. Our organ has recently returned to use following a 16-month renovation, and is sounding better than ever. There will be a bottle tombola to support some of our charities and a Traidcraft stall with gifts and food.

At 4pm we invite you to take your seats for a family film on our big screen pop-up cinema. The 2016 *Swallows and Amazons* (U) was a box office hit with an added spy storyline.

## REGISTERS

### APRIL

### BAPTISMS

**22** Daisy Belle Glover, Hampton Hill

**22** James Ronald Philip Linsley, Hampton Hill

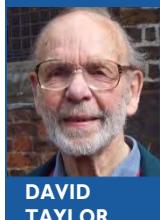
### FUNERAL

**3** Ian Leslie Highley, 74, Hampton



# Shaking hands with art

The great advantage of a sculpture over a painting is that you can look at it in the round and almost shake it by the hand. We are fortunate to live in London where so many fine sculptures can be seen. In fact six of my favourites, including Epstein's *Madonna and Child*, could be viewed in the course of a day, covering a period of nearly 2500 years.



DAVID TAYLOR

## Elgin Marbles, British Museum, London

They came from the Parthenon, the Greek temple in Athens, and were bought by Lord Elgin from the Ottomans in the early 19 century. They can be seen in the British Museum, and though much battered they are still beautiful; they were made during the best period for Greek sculptures (5 century BC). The section above represents a fight between a centaur (half man, half horse) and a lapith (a member of a Greek tribe). Many people think the sculptures should be returned to Greece.

## Venus De Milo, The Louvre, Paris

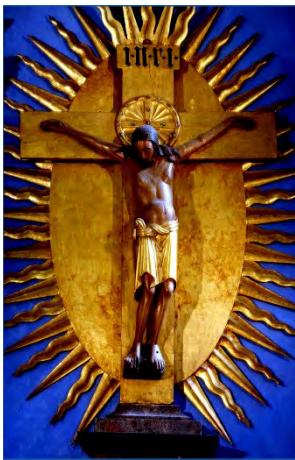


It was dug up in pieces on the Aegean island of Milos in 1820 (the arms were never found), purchased by France and now resides in the Louvre. The sculpture was originally stated to be from the heroic 5th century BC, but subsequently drawings of the lost base showed it was in fact made in 100-130 BC. It has always been held in the highest esteem; the slightly twisted body and the drapes give the figure a noble beauty.

## Gero Cross, Cologne Cathedral

This depiction of the Crucifixion is from the 10th century and is the earliest representation of Christ emphasising his suffering, with bowed head, lifeless body and closed eyes; earlier examples show him with head erect, looking straight ahead. It is also the earliest life-size image of the subject in Western art.

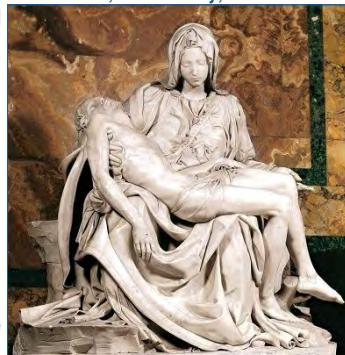
I was moved by its realism, passing on the pathos of Christ before one's eyes.



## The Pieta, St Peter's Basilica, Vatican City, Rome

This was created in 1498-99 by Michelangelo, then aged 24.

*The Pieta* (or *The Pity*) is of the dead Christ on his mother's lap, a legendary incident. Earlier representations were more angular, but here both the body of Christ and the face of his mother are beautiful, from personal observation, reflecting the Renaissance ideal and the beauty of God. It was immediately popular and helped build up the reputation of the artist.



## Samson Slaying a Philistine, V&A Museum, London

This exciting piece is by Giambologna (1529-1608), a Flemish sculptor based in Italy. It can be seen in the Renaissance Gallery and is a masterpiece of technical virtuosity. Seven feet high, it was made in Florence in 1562. It shows Samson slaying a Philistine (one of many) with the jaw-bone of an ass, duly recorded in Judges 15: 15. It reached England via Spain, being given as a diplomatic gift to Charles I when Prince of Wales. It is a wonderful work to view from all angles.



## Ecstasy of St Teresa, Santa Maria della Vittoria, Rome

Dazzlingly precocious as a sculptor and architect, Gian Lorenzo Bernini (1598-1680), designed the interior of St Peter's, Rome, and the colonnades in front. He was a prime example of the emotive and populist Baroque style and produced sculptures over a period of nearly 70 years.



In this piece, we see an angel piercing the ecstatic St Teresa with a golden arrow. The pretty young women shown in this stunning work differed from the older, plainer, real person.

## Carvings, Hampton Court Palace



Grinling Gibbons (1648-1721) was English, but was brought up in Holland, moving back here as a young man. He was a wood carver, largely using limewood, making astonishingly realistic floral arrangements and plaques. His neighbour, John Evelyn, introduced him to Charles II and he became known as the *King's Carver*. His work can be seen at Hampton Court Palace, left, St Paul's Cathedral, St James's Piccadilly, and many other churches and houses.

## The Burghers of Calais, Victoria Tower Gardens, London



This is one of the most famous sculptures by Auguste Rodin (1840-1917). One of the casts of the original can be seen in the Victoria Tower Gardens, next to the Houses of Parliament. The original sculpture was made in the 1890s and shows six sombre Calais citizens (with nooses round their necks), who were hostages of the English besiegers during the 100 Years' War. Later, in fact, they were reprieved. The V&A Museum also has a fine collection of his sculptures.

## St Michael's Victory over the Devil, Coventry Cathedral

Jacob Epstein (1880-1959) helped pioneer modern sculpture and his work is characterised by a vigorous rough-hewn realism; it shows great individuality and power. He was born in America, but worked in England. Among his works are portrait sculptures of Churchill and Einstein, but the photo shows an arresting piece on Coventry Cathedral. In London his *Madonna and Child* can be seen in Cavendish Square, off Oxford Street. He also produced a statue of the former South African Prime Minister Jan Smuts, which is in Parliament Square.



## Family Group, 1944, Tate Britain, London

Sir Henry Moore (1898-1986) produced semi-abstract monumental bronze sculptures, which are located round the world, making him internationally famous by the late 1940s.



He trained in the UK, France and Italy. He was profoundly influenced by ethnic art, especially the reclining figures in Mayan (an ancient American) art. In the 1950s he produced some family

groups after the birth of his daughter and one of these, from the Tate Britain, is illustrated above.