

Yesterday HMS Ark Royal sailed out of Portsmouth 'to an unknown destination' and today the first British front-line and logistical troops have arrived in Kuwait City to join something in the region of 100,000 American forces already there. We are told that there just happens to be a major build up of US and UK forces within striking distance of Iraq, as part of a long standing agreement in manoeuvres, or more realistically as a show of strength and a 21st century version of gunboat diplomacy. For the argument runs, if Saddam Hussein sees how powerful and how overwhelming we are then he will comply with United Nations requirements.

But what are those requirements? At the time of writing we don't yet know whether UN weapons inspectors consider there to have been a 'material breach'. But I, and surely I'm not alone, cannot but believe that the die is already cast. Iraq is condemned as a liar and a cheat if UN weapons inspectors find nothing, and it is condemned as a rogue state if UN weapons inspectors find anything.

But surely if Saddam Hussein were to be influenced by the superiority of western firepower then he would have learnt this lesson in the last Gulf War, surely he isn't going to be converted now. Equally one can ask why is it that the USA is prepared to negotiate energy aid with the appallingly oppressive North Korea, or blatantly ignore Israel's abominable record of flouting UN Security resolutions, but when it comes to Iraq might is right.

For me, and again I can only speak personally, it doesn't take too much thinking about to realise that the US and the UK, as all western countries, are desperate to preserve strategic control over states in the Middle East producing vast oil reserves. In addition the US and to a degree, alas, the UK needs to be seen to be busy in a macho response to the threat of international terrorism. But am I particularly stupid? For I have heard nothing which connects Iraq (and I am no defender of dictatorships) with the terror activities of Al Qaida. Am I losing the plot here? I cannot help but feel that this is about oil, unchecked superpower, and the deflection of attention from a failure to engage honestly about the reasons for the spread of terror.

You may well disagree, and I realise that I may be naive and superficial. But any war with Iraq will only increase resentment and anger with the west, destabilise the region into massive global danger and further punish the weakest members of Iraq's society, the poor, the old and the young and wreak personal pain through injury and death.

For me, with or without further UN resolutions, this impending war is wrong.

Jesus says 'Blessed are the peacemakers for they shall be called the children of God'. I ask you to act, speak and pray that peace may grow.

Brian Leathard

MPONDAS COMMUNITY DAY SECONDARY SCHOOL

In October I was contacted by Angela Mullens, a former teaching colleague and now USPG missionary in the Anglican diocese of Upper Shire, Malawi. She has links with Mpondas Community Day Secondary School, sited near the river Shire, in southern Malawi, outside the town of Mangochi. This is a poor area and parents/guardians struggle to pay the fees for pupils to attend the school.

Over the past few months the school had been trying to complete its first science laboratory before the onset of the rains in November/December. The parents had raised most of the money to date and the pupils had been helping in the construction of the building in their free time to save the costs of labour. Unfortunately funds dried up before the laboratory was finished and Angela appealed for help.

The cost of completing the building and furnishing and equipping the laboratory was estimated in October 2002 as £880. The Charities Committee decided to commit its £100 contingency money to the project and the PCC agreed to donate the collection taken at the Harvest Festival service and the Advent Sunday evening service. Carlisle Infant School contributed £97 raised at their Harvest celebration. Together with donations from individual parishioners we have been able to send Angela more than £987.

A few days before Advent Sunday I received an e-mail from Angela and a letter from the school's headteacher reporting that the vuma - a cyclonic wind - had blown off the temporary roof of the laboratory and another classroom. Although the corrugated iron had been saved, the timbers would have to be replaced at an approximate cost of £400. Could we help? Through the generosity of one family in the parish, the headteacher's prayers have been answered.

Angela writes graphically of her struggles in the classroom and her work in a community riven with malaria, TB, cholera, Aids and famine. In next month's Spire I will put together some excerpts which describe the highs and lows of her daily life.

Lesley Mortimer

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

Friday 7th March at St. James's Church

The service this year has been created by the women of Lebanon

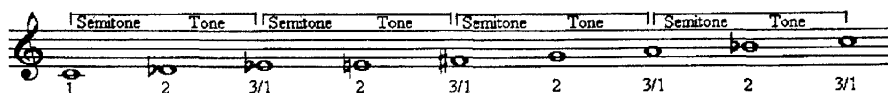
Speakers:	2p. m.	Rev. Brian Leathard
	8p.m.	Claire Amos from USPG

A NEW MUSICAL SETTING OF THE LITURGY (PART 2)

Last month I gave the background to this project and outlined some of the composing challenges that I had to face. This article will start to explain the musical process of composing the new setting.

Two of the main elements of western music, melody and harmony, are both underpinned by the scale system on which they are based. To give myself maximum flexibility to encompass the huge expressive range of the liturgical text, I decided to use a scale invented during the last century that is a mixture of the familiar major and minor scales.

This scale is deeply symbolic. Firstly, of the Trinity, being made up of a series of cells of three notes, each cell covering the interval of a minor third. Moreover, the whole scale can only be transposed (shifted) three times by a semitone before it arrives at the same series of notes as the first version.



The triad (three-note chord) that can be formed on the first note of each cell can be major or minor so that the music can appear to move rapidly through 8 different keys (C, Eb, F# and A in both



major and minor forms). The usually dominant interval of the perfect 5th (e.g. C - G) is balanced in this scale by the diminished 5th/augmented 4th (e.g. C - F#). This interval was from early times labelled as the *diabolus (devil) in musica*. Thus there is a further symbolism that mirrors life itself for believers - the struggle between human weakness and God's perfection.

Other notes from the scale can be added to any of these chords to give varying degrees of dissonance (the musical tension caused when notes 'clash' with each other). One of the most important threads in the development of western music through the last thousand or so years is the way dissonance is used. Dissonance plays a large part in giving music its emotional impact and can evoke a variety of sentiments such as longing, sadness, pathos, pain, anger and mystery. I have employed a moderate level of dissonance in my setting, saving its more powerful use for particularly significant moments, such as in *Christ Has Died*.

The melodies that can be created from this scale are equally varied, ranging from the widely leaping and strongly major-keyed opening of the *Gloria* to the more winding, stepwise and chromatic *Agnus Dei*. I have used a good deal of repetition and have

kept the rhythms deliberately straightforward in order to make the setting easier to learn and sing.

Next month I shall go into more detail about specific passages to try and take you right 'inside' the music. This is better done 'live' so that the musical examples can be heard in conjunction with the commentary. I expect to do this as part of the next St. James's music review in March - see you there!

Martin Hinckley

EXPLORING HAMPTON HILL HIGH STREET

28^B: "THE WORKBOX"

Mrs. Colleen Goddard opened "The Workbox" in September 1990, in one of the five new shopping units created when Singleton's woodyard was closed and the property redeveloped.

Mrs. Goddard and her husband have been residents of Hampton Hill since 1963. For several years before opening "The Workbox" she worked part-time in a bakers' shop in the High Street, liking to meet people, talking to them and helping them with their purchases. Often she heard people say how much they missed the old wool shop in the High Street after it closed.

"Yes, it is a pity . . ." thought Mrs. Goddard, herself the sort of person with interests and skills in knitting and embroidery. When the five new shopping units were created, Mrs. Goddard did more than just think - she decided that a wool-shop was just the thing the community needed and that she would enjoy providing in one of the new units. Her family commitments were now less demanding, and so she decided to lease what is now "The Workbox", at the entrance to "The Courtyard" formed when Singleton's closed.

Originally she intended to sell just wool and haberdashery. However, she has since diversified, selling soft toys, fancy goods and hand-crafted items, as well as doing minor repairs and alterations. Customers find that she takes a real interest in their needs and is always prepared to give careful advice. For many years she was accompanied by her two very well-behaved dogs who were very popular with most customers. It is always a pleasure to shop at "The Workbox".

QUIZ NIGHT: Saturday 1st February at 7.30p.m. in the Church Hall.
£20 for table of 4 or £6 per ticket. Details: Kim or Jon on 8979 2617.

CHARITIES AND OVERSEAS LINKS

2002 DONATIONS

At St. James' the Parochial Church Council have, for many years, adopted the policy of good stewardship of its resources. We believe it is right to donate to charitable purposes 10% of all the income we receive. This is based upon the words of Jesus: "Whatever you do for the least of one of these members of my family you do also for me". We hope that it also encourages individual members of the parish to think very carefully about the stewardship of their own resources and appropriate levels of giving. The PCC would like to inform members of our parish just where this 10% of our income has been spent in the past year.

LOCAL GIVING (sub-total of £2835)

Welcare	£935
A Christian charity working with parents and young children in need, to achieve a better quality of life for family members.	
Hampton Hill Play Centre	£500
A drop-in centre for children under 5 with their parents or carers. Most users are unable to afford nursery school provision.	
Bishop Wand School	£250
Our local Church of England secondary school.	
The Vicar's Emergency Fund	£950
Used at the vicar's discretion for immediate relief in the provision of small items, for example, food and clothing.	
South West London Refugee Support Project	£200
Supports refugees in the Boroughs of Richmond, Kingston and Sutton.	

NATIONAL GIVING (sub-total of £2000)

CARA	£500
A Kensington based project that offers spiritual care and a community of friendship to all affected by Aids and HIV.	
Church Urban Fund	£500
Helps to answer the needs of impoverished urban communities.	
CHICKS (Camping Holidays for Inner City Kids)	£250
Provides holidays in Devon for children from poor urban environments and low income families.	
Church Army	£750
Church Army evangelists share the Christian faith through words and service and equip others to do the same.	

OVERSEAS GIVING (sub-total of £4300)

SPCK (The Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge)	£500
Helps to provide resources for education, worship and the training of church leaders in the developing world.	
Church Mission Society	£800
Works with churches and other agencies in over 30 countries and supports about 150 mission partners, including our partner out in Sudan - Joanna Udal.	
USPG (United Society for the Propagation of the Gospel)	£800
Works in partnership with churches in more than 50 countries, exchanging people, resources and training. Our donation helps to support St. Luke's mission hospital at Milo in rural Tanzania.	
Vila Maninga	£500
A community in western Mozambique with foster homes for orphans and destitute children, a primary school, a bible college, adult literacy and vocational training, and a farm.	
Alma's Children	£600
A fund operated by the London Diocese for projects that help the children of Angola and Mozambique, especially the urban poor.	
Community HEART	£500
Helps to fund community development projects in South Africa.	
The Rainbow Fund for South Africa	£500
A Richmond based charity that helps to meet teacher costs at the Rainbow School in Guguletu township outside Cape Town.	
Mpondasi Secondary School, Malawi	£100
You can read about this school elsewhere in the magazine.	

The **grand total of £9135** is our parish giving for 2002 from our annual income. In addition we were able to give £1000 to St. Katherine Westway, a parish in North Hammersmith which is unable to meet its contributions to the Common Fund, and so helped, in a small way, to sustain the mission and ministry of that parish in its vital work in an area of urban deprivation.

Special collections and events throughout the year raise further money for The Children's Society, Christian Aid and other charities. We also take part in local street collecting during Christian Aid Week in May and our Young Church raise money each year for a charity of their choice.

Thank you for your contributions to our giving and please do remember all these agencies of care, mission and service in your prayers, your stewardship and your daily living in 2003.

FREDA'S INDUCTION

"Wouldn't have missed it for the world!" was our verdict at the conclusion of the Reverend Freda Evans' Induction Service as Vicar of St. Barnabas, Kingshurst, Birmingham on the evening of 19th December. Yet miss it we nearly did!

Travelling to the service at the start of a three-day visit to the city, we found ourselves in Sutton Coldfield, several miles north of Kingshurst rather than south, with only minutes to go. "Want any help mate" said a man emerging from a takeaway which Betty had approached seeking assistance. He knew *exactly* how to get us where we wanted to be. A messenger from the Lord indeed!

Arriving with just minutes to spare we were greeted by Birmingham friends who had been so impressed by our report about the Vicar who was shortly to be part of the pastoral care of their city (though not their actual parish) that they wanted to be there. They had taken the trouble to trace their own route to the church beforehand and save seats for us. They also wished to see how Bishop John Sentamu would fare at his first Institution Service in his new Diocese. They found him, as we did, warm-hearted, full of humour, reminding Freda that she as Priest had been given charge of the whole parish, not just church-goers, requiring love for all. She might feel it easy going in the first year but (to much laughter) "wait until the second, you could find that very hard!"

No further words of ours could adequately reflect the richness of the whole service in nurturing faith in Almighty God, from the introductory opening hymn "Come Down O Love Divine", through the Presentation, The Declaration, The Solemn Commission, The Installation, the Prayer, Holy Communion, Ministry of the Word and finally the Induction, preceded by yet another hymn "Lo, He comes with Clouds Descending" - sung with such verve and passion that few could doubt that the witness of partnership thus demonstrated between the ordained ministry and lay members of congregation would soon make itself effective for God's mission in the life of the whole community.

Freda's own prayers offered with such clarity and conviction during the service will long stay markedly in the memory. As we celebrated the Peace with many of the local congregation we also exchanged waves with the sizeable party from St. James seated across the aisle. Brian had driven a full minibus and other friends had come by car. At the closure of the service Freda was escorted to the door of the church where she was given the keys. The door was flung open and the bells pealed forth!

We all joined in afterwards at a superb meal which the parish community had provided - especially nourishing for those with a long journey back home. Freda, standing on a chair to ensure being seen and heard by all, spoke of her hopes and prayers for the future in Kingshurst and appreciation of the warm welcome she had received there. In conversation she told us that she looked forward to the experience

of working in such a multi-faith city and the opportunity for fruitful dialogue which this would provide. Violent events since in another area of Birmingham - though on the same side of the city - have brought home to everyone concerned the need for God's guiding hand and direction on these issues. We shall not be lacking in prayer with her concerning them.

John and Betty Rainbow

ALMA

Angola, London and Mozambique Association

Firstly, I am pleased to let you know that the people and clergy of the Diocese of Niassa have elected Mark van Koevering as their new Bishop. Mark and his wife, Helen, had been missionaries in Mozambique for ten years before coming to Britain, and though they intended to return they were unable to do so, and in 1999 Archbishop Rowan Williams invited them to Monmouth Diocese, where they have been since with their three young children. The Diocese of Niassa is twice the size of the UK, has over 200 congregations, more than 40,000 communicants, and only 22 priests! It is also one of the most isolated and poorest areas of the world. Mark's consecration is scheduled for 3rd May 2003 in Pietermaritzburg, South Africa. Although Mark and Helen know the country and area well, this appointment will be a very challenging one for them. Please remember them in your prayers.

Lent Appeal 2003

The focus of the Lent Appeal is the crisis faced by our partner dioceses in Angola and Mozambique in the their fight against HIV/AIDS.

In November 2002 Bishop Michael spent two weeks in Mozambique where he witnessed some of the devastating effects of the spread of HIV/AIDS in this already severely disadvantaged country. According to statistics 1 in 10 people have the virus in Angola and Mozambique, and in the next three years 30% of schoolteachers will die from AIDS. This presents enormous problems for these areas in both economic terms and to those individuals affected. They lack hospitals and clinics and adequate education about the virus. The Diocese of Lebombo wants to make orphaned children its focus and to build an orphanage near to the cathedral, and in Angola there are plans for a project to educate prostitutes and street children about AIDS prevention. As Nelson Mandela said: "AIDS today is claiming more lives than the sum of all wars, famines, floods and the ravages of such deadly diseases as Malaria. It is devastating communities and families, overwhelming and depleting health care services and robbing schools of both students and teachers."

In February we will be receiving posters and leaflets explaining what we are raising money for, prayer cards and envelopes for giving, to support this very worthwhile cause both financially and in prayer.

Elizabeth Wilmot



Congratulations to Gill Gostling who has been awarded a degree in Social Science with Sociology by the Open University.

We were pleased to hear from Margery Orton on a recent visit that she feels very happy and settled in Benson.

Bill Robinson has had a stroke but we are very glad to know that he is making an excellent recovery.

Two members of our community died in December. Deryke Rosten was a well-known and respected local G.P. His father was also a doctor with a practice on the corner of Park Road and St. James's Avenue, and Deryke went into partnership with him after serving in the Air Force in the war. Deryke had a surgery near the Hope and Anchor in which his wife Greta was a partner. He was a very caring and committed doctor, willing to go to patients at any time of day or night. When he finally retired at the age of 75, he and Greta went to France, returning a few years later. Greta says a big thank you for all the cards and letters she received when Deryke died and to all the people who gave her such loving support by attending his funeral.

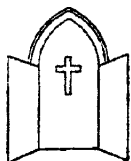
Billie Williams died at the end of December, aged 88. She had a long association with Hampton Hill and for 21 years was a most reliable volunteer in the Community Care Bookshop. Many people who did not know Billie by name would recognise her as the very stooped lady, accompanied until the last year or two by her little dog Chiqua. Billie had two great interests in her life, animals and the love of language and books. She got much pleasure from each of her dogs and regularly donated to many animal charities. She was fluent in French and German and had a wide taste in reading, which led to a broad general knowledge. Until her final illness in August last year, Billie fought hard to retain her independence. And over the last year or so she was very grateful to her friends (especially Maureen, Caroline and Ted and Brenda) and to the shopkeepers in Hampton Hill, whose kindness and thoughtfulness enabled her to stay at home. We at St. James add our gratitude to hers.

MUSICAL EVENTS IN FEBRUARY

Wednesday 12th February at 8p.m.
ORGAN RECITAL by **CHRISTOPHER CROMAR**
Mendelssohn - Liszt - Durufle
£6 (£3 concessions)

Friday 21st February at 8.30p.m.
A NIGHT AT THE OPERA
with **CHRISTOPHER HODGES** (baritone)
and **CHRISTOPHER CROMAR** (piano)
Wallow in Tchaikovsky, Mozart, Gounod, Wagner
£6 (£3 concessions)

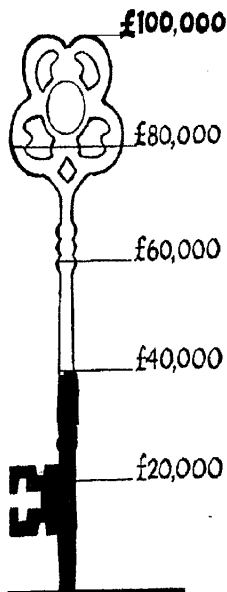
Friday 28th February at 8p.m.
RECITAL by **DAVID BRODOWSKI** (violin)
and **CHRISTOPHER CROMAR** (piano)
Beethoven (Spring Sonata), Franck (Sonata), Ravel, Wieniawski
David Brodowski is already acclaimed as one of the finest violinists of his generation. He has performed with several of Europe's finest orchestras and given recitals throughout the world. Don't miss him on your doorstep!
£10 (£5 concessions)



THE KEY

to Opening Our Doors

Our Key shows that we have raised over £40,000 of the £100,000 needed to fund the redevelopment of the West Porch. Our next fundraising event is a **ROVING SUPPER on Sat 5th April**. Groups of about 6 - 8 people will eat a starter in one house, moving on to another house for the main course and back to the church hall for a sweet. We will need volunteers to be the hosts and lots of hungry diners! Get the date in your diary and look out for further information in the coming weeks. If you would like any information on the "Opening Our Door" project, please contact Kim or Jon Smith on 020 8979 2617 or look on the website: www.stjames-hamptonhill.org.uk Please wear a Key lapel badge to help spread the message about the project and its aims to our wider community.



FROM THE DECEMBER REGISTERS

Funeral

20 Dr Deryke Rosten, 160 Twickenham Road

90

Weddings

7 Gordon Leonard Chambers and Lois Edwina Jeal

28 Daniel Anthony Benson and Olivia Joan Freeman

DATES TO NOTE IN FEBRUARY

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| 1 | 1930 | Quiz Night in Church Hall in aid of Opening Our Doors |
| 2 | | Presentation of Christ in the Temple - Candlemas |
| | 1830 | Choral Evensong for Candlemas |
| 9 | | 4th Sunday before Lent |
| 16 | | 3rd Sunday before Lent |
| 23 | | 2nd Sunday before Lent |
| 28 | 2000 | Concert in Church - David Brodowski, Violin. All very welcome. |

COPY DATE FOR MARCH MAGAZINE: 10TH FEBRUARY