

APRIL & MAY 2019 EASTER ISSUE

SPIRE



HAMPTON HILL'S PARISH MAGAZINE

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Happy Easter



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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, based in the church hall, with her family.

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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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Letter from the Editor

Spring is my favourite time of the year with lighter evenings and all the flowers and trees bursting back into life. This year everything has had a bit of a shock with the sharp contrasts in the weather, but nevertheless it raises our spirits when we see things beginning to grow.

The centrespread this month is written by Gwynneth Lloyd, our churchwarden, who fulfilled a lifetime ambition of seeing polar bears in the Arctic.

David Taylor has written about his 10 favourite paintings in the National Gallery – a mix of well-known paintings and several religious ones. David's passion for the arts really comes through in this article.

Easter will soon be with us and we are planning the usual Holy Week and Easter services, leading up to the celebrations on Easter Day (details on Page 3).

Music plays a big part in the Easter services and the choir are looking forward to working with Thom, our new organist. You will be most welcome at any of our services in Holy Week and on Easter Sunday.

Best Wishes

Janet



Cover photo: The Easter message brings the joyful news of the resurrection of Jesus

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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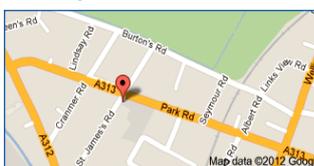


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Finding us



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.

Follow us

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

stjames-hamptonhill.org.uk

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Clerical Capers



The vicar had assured the administrator that the clock repairers were coming as soon as possible

Turning hate into love is a powerful message



DEREK WINTERBURN

Sadly antisemitism is too often in the news. Most recently the focus has been on Westminster. But last year the UN reported that 28% of Jews had experienced some form of harassment for being Jewish. One would have thought that, with the horrors of the Holocaust familiar to the majority (witness the number of novels and films recently) there would be no place for hatred on the base of race or faith.

Of course the political tangle that is the conflict between Israel and Palestine in the Middle East fuels the hatreds. I have seen and felt both sides. I have wept in a Palestinian orphanage, and I have rejoiced on a Sabbath with a Jewish family. In a coach, I have been shouted at by ultra-orthodox Jews and had stones thrown at us by Palestinians. I have visited the Holocaust memorials at Yad Vashem and witnessed the refugee camps and 'Security Wall.' Surely neither side is without sin.

Church is not without fault

Britons need to tread carefully. There is no doubt that the way our government acted a century ago contributed to the current situation. And Christians need to be humble for the Church's record is not unblemished. We are not without fault either.

However I was heartened that Rabbi Jonathan Sacks, while describing centuries of antisemitism, writes that Christianity itself is not antisemitic, evidencing that Christians have on many occasions been friends and defenders of Jews, and that in fact Christians are the greatest victims of religious violence. (*Not In My Name*, Hodder & Stoughton).

"We are all children of Abraham. And whether we are Isaac or Ishmael, Jacob or Esau, Leah or Rachel, Joseph or his brothers, we are precious in the sight of God. We are blessed. And to be blessed, no one has to be cursed. God's love does not work that way. Today God is calling us, Jew, Christian and Muslim, to let go of hate and the preaching of hate, and live at last as brothers and sisters, true to our faith and a blessing to others regardless of their faith, honouring God's name by honouring his image, humankind."

Rabbi Jonathan Sacks



To the distaste of many, 'religious violence' is at the centre of Holy Week and Easter. Many churches in the West have at their focal point a tortured man on a cross: a painting, a window, a statue. Some find this rather ghoulish. I think believers should cope with this, not by

pretending that this never happened to a flesh and blood man, but by remembering that this was not the end of the story. As the Orthodox Church teaches so firmly, it is the King who is triumphing over death that is on the cross. Good Friday — apparent defeat — is followed by Easter — evident victory. In Protestant churches the same truth is represented by the cross being plain and empty - he is risen!

But there are people *around* the cross: some have conspired to put Jesus there, some have abused him physically and some insult him even when he is cruelly dying. It is a mistake to call them 'the Jews' and see them as 'the other'. It is true there were people who were natives of Judea and Samaria, but then at least there were Romans — probably Europeans, even possibly Britons and there were Africans too. The truth of that scene is that it was not one people who turned against God's Son, but the whole world.

Our sin put Jesus on the cross

A song has a line, *It was my sin that held him there*. That seems to me partly right. I am one of the human race, represented by the crowd around the cross, letting the horror happen. But I think it was also his love that held him there. Jesus, a Jew as God planned it, endured the worst that the world could do to him, died forgiving us all — and then entering the darkness, overcame death and rose to new life on Easter Day.

Holy Week and Easter encompasses a wide range of tones — triumph, opposition, friendship, betrayal, judicial murder and victory. Join us as we spend the week with Christ, and most wonderfully celebrate the Resurrection Day.



Sundays

Holy Communion (said) 8-8:30am (not 21 Apr)
 Parish Communion 9:30-10:30am
 Together at Eleven 11-11:35am (not 14, 21, 28 Apr)
 followed by crafts and refreshments
 Compline (Night Prayer) 8-8:15pm
 10, 17, 24, 31 March; 7, 14 April

Easter

Palm Sunday 14 Apr 9:30am
Compline in Holy Week
 Monday-Wednesday 15-17 Apr 8-8:15pm
Maudy Thursday 18 Apr
 8pm Holy Communion, including the Washing of the Feet, followed by The Watch
Good Friday 19 Apr
 9:30am All Age Service
 11am Open Air Service near Clarence House Preparatory School, Hampton Hill High Street
 2pm An Hour at the Cross

Easter Day Sunday 21 Apr

6am Dawn Service, followed by breakfast
 9:30am Parish Communion, followed by an Easter Egg Hunt in the vicarage garden

Mon-Fri

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

Tuesdays

2, 16, 23, 30 Apr; 7, 21, 28 May
 Holy Communion 9:30-10:15am
 9 Apr, 14 May
 Holy Communion and Coffee 10-11:30am

Ark Playgroup

Mondays 1, 29 Apr; 13, 20 May 10:15am-12:15pm
 Weekly playgroup for toddlers. £2 per family

Christian Icons

Thursdays 4, 11 Apr at 7:30pm
 Preceded by soup, bread and cheese at 7pm

Fairtrade Stall

Sundays 7 Apr & 5 May 10.30am
 Stock up on Traidcraft goods

Connections

Tuesdays 2 April, 7 May 11am-12:30pm
 Our drop-in session with games and exercises

Life Groups

Tuesdays 7, 21 May, Thursdays 9, 23 May, 8pm
 The fortnightly home groups resume

Alistair Griffin in Concert

Saturday 18 May 8pm
 The York-based singer returns. Book your tickets online at: alistairgriffin.eventbrite.co.uk

CINEMA LISTINGS ARE ON PAGE SEVEN

This icy wilderness is



GWYNNETH LLOYD



The Arctic skyline was constantly changing

I found myself getting itchy feet in September 2017 – it had been some time since I had travelled somewhere remote! My destination was going to be Svalbard. This is an archipelago belonging to Norway and situated 70° North. The largest island is Spitsbergen and it is the only one permanently inhabited. My journey began there when I joined the ship *Ocean Nova*.

Spitsbergen was named by the Dutch after all the peaks they could see from their ship when sailing around it in 1596. It was uninhabited but became a stopping point to collect water and later to kill whales for oil. Their numbers dropped drastically as whaling increased and it is only now that whale numbers are recovering. This archipelago became part of Norway in 1920. There are three towns on the island: one a port, Longyearbyen, Ny Alesund, a scientific centre, and Barentsburg, built by the Russians for coal mining.

There is also a global seed vault, built into the side of a mountain to store seeds from all over the world. This will protect against natural and human disasters destroying the seeds we use.

Time aboard or exploring

Some of the other islands in the archipelago have research huts, but these are only visited in the summer. It is illegal to remove any mementos from the island, including flowers and animal remains.

The *Ocean Nova* was home for the next 13 days. Days were spent on board or going ashore in inflatable

boats, called Zodiacs, to explore some part of the island. We saw many migrating birds, polar bears, reindeer, arctic fox, seals and walrus as well as the flowers of the island.

History was also important and we visited islands with battle sites, mines and evidence of whaling. It was the Arctic summer so was light most of the time except for the middle of the night.

Spitsbergen has a large icecap

and there are glaciers spilling into the sea in almost every bay.

We were to see many of these, but did not actually walk on a glacier. We were all surprised at how little ice there was in the sea.

I spoke to Laurence Sewell about my trip as he had been there in 1968. At that time it was not possible to sail around Spitsbergen because of the ice. We had no such difficulties and the crew said

they could definitely see the effects of global warming.

Temperature records from Svalbard show the largest average seasonal rises of anywhere on the planet, 4 degrees over the past 50 years.

It should be remembered that the West Spitsbergen Current, a branch of the Gulf Stream, brings warm water north helping to keep the western shores relatively

The Arctic occupies one sixth of the Earth's surface, extending across eight countries. It is almost entirely covered by water, much of it frozen, yet below the ice is an abundance of sea life, which in turn supports mammals, many unique to the region. But global warming is now threatening its very existence. Gwynneth Lloyd went to explore it



ice free. We went north-east as far as 80°, but were in open seas.

Birds and polar bears

I am fairly sure that most of us went on this trip because we wanted to see polar bears, but many others were 'birders'. At an introductory talk on our first full day on board we were assured we would see migrating birds, but we were not guaranteed whales, dolphins or polar bears. The possibility of bears was taken very seriously and staff on the bridge were always on the lookout.

Crew members went ashore to check out the wildlife before we even boarded the boats. Ashore, we were always accompanied by a lookout carrying a gun. Shooting a polar bear is a last resort and has to be investigated by the police.

Lucky 13 sightings

It wasn't always easy to see the polar bears, but I was fortunate to see 13 in all, with three of the mothers having cubs with them. We watched them from boats, with



The *Ocean Nova* was home, but we made frequent trips in Zodiacs, inflatables that took us to shore or closer to animals

under threat

everyone's cameras clicking away.

Sometimes we were looking at them through binoculars, at other times they were close by. We mostly saw them on land, but one afternoon the boat stopped and we watched three sets of bears on the only stretch of sea ice we saw. One of the bears was eating a seal, but it was too far away to photograph.

The crew saw far more than most of the passengers because of their strong binoculars. In all they spotted 30 bears during the cruise! Many of these were quite far away. Once we saw a bear swimming across a large area of open water.



My wish was granted when I saw this mother and baby polar bear

Sunbathing walrus

We also saw walrus and spent one beautiful morning watching them as they enjoyed the sunshine on the 'beach'. This is an example of the barren polar desert. There were also walrus in the water. We counted at least 110 altogether.

The birdlife was prolific. Most of the birds were summer visitors and they came to nest and hatch their eggs. We sailed past cliffs full of guillemots with glaucous gulls and great skuas waiting to eat any chicks or eggs that fell from nests.

There were little auks nesting on scree slopes and arctic terns and eider ducks on grassy slopes. The arctic terns fly from the Antarctic to the Arctic and spend the summer at each end of the world. Having seen them in the Antarctic too that was a special moment. We also saw puffins, kittiwakes, sandpipers and glaucous gull chicks.

The flora on these islands is minimal. This is because there is only a thin layer of soil above the permafrost. It is like walking on a miniature garden. No trees, but maybe a couple of stunted bushes.

The growing season is very short. Purple saxifrage is very beautiful as is the Svalbard poppy. Reindeer survive on the short grass which grows everywhere, as does moss.

There are a lot of areas of scree and others resemble desert, where stones have been crumbled by ice. Large areas look like jigsaw puzzle pieces where the ground has frozen and thawed and then frozen again.

We had one day of total mist, but there was plenty to do on board and excellent lectures to attend. We visited several old research huts as well as a disused mine.

Huge frozen waterfalls

I have left glaciers till last. We saw them from the ship or the boats daily. We also saw, or rather, heard, one calving; that is when a huge chunk of ice breaks off a glacier.

We took to the Zodiacs to get close to the Hambergreen glacier. It is like looking at a huge frozen waterfall and the colours of the ice change all the time, depending on the amount of light and sun.

We cruised along the ice cliffs of

the Brasvellbreen glacier one sunny afternoon. It is on the island of Nordaustlandet and the sun was warm enough for the ice to be melting, with waterfalls tumbling off the ice, seen below. At 190km long this glacier was a breath-taking experience that no one wanted to end.



On our last morning we had a champagne breakfast before going ashore at Alkhornet. We walked on the tundra and saw kittiwakes and guillemots, reindeer and two arctic foxes. We admired the flowers and saw walrus and seals in the water.

The end to a wonderful trip.



We watched walrus sleepily sunbathing on this Arctic 'beach'

Around the Spire

Have your say about our church's future

THIS YEAR'S Annual Parochial Church Meeting will be on **Sunday 28 April** at 11am in the church hall.

Similar to a company AGM, there will be reports from the various groups responsible for running the church.

The main address will come from Derek, our vicar, who will review our successes in 2018 as well as looking to the future.

This will be a key year as the church begins to decide on options to modernise the building to meet our changing needs as we look to grow.

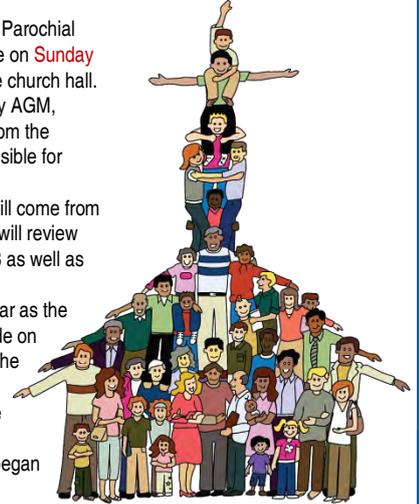
Those discussions began in February when we consulted the whole church.

Next the Parochial Church Council (PCC) will ask three architects to produce plans based on our requirements.

Further consultations with the wider church will follow, but final decisions will be taken by the PCC.

Will you stand for the PCC?

There are also three positions on the PCC to fill as well as finding a second churchwarden to support Gwynneth.



PCC members can serve up to two consecutive three-year terms. They meet eight times a year.

Derek said, 'St James's is only as strong as its members. I urge all of you to consider standing for the PCC or serving in some other capacity, such as part of a group.'

'We can only grow if we all play our part in welcoming and encouraging others to find or strengthen their faith.'

Nomination papers are in church.

Easter story retold

CHILDREN FROM Carlisle Infant School will be told the Easter story anew when they visit St James's for an **Easter Experience** in April. Through hands-on storytelling, visual displays and prayer stations, children from Carlisle will learn about Jesus's last week and be given opportunities to respond creatively. Year 1 are visiting St James's one class at a time at the beginning of April. The Experience will be laid out again in Holy Week (Mon 15-Fri 19 April) for anyone in the community to visit and explore for themselves during office hours (see p2).

New parish for former vicar

PETER VANNOZZI, vicar of St James's from 2007-2015, is moving parishes. After 3½ years at St Augustine's, Highgate, Peter will become vicar of St Francis of Assisi, Isleworth, at a service on **Tuesday 2 April** at 7.30pm.

Alistair back for concert

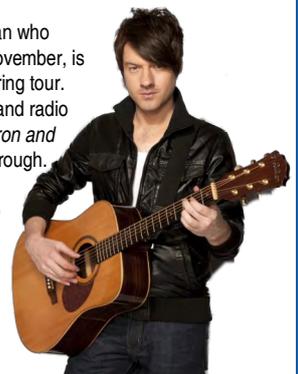
ALISTAIR GRIFFIN, the York musician who performed at St James's Church last November, is making a return visit as part of his Spring tour.

His music regularly features on TV and radio and this year he wrote the music for *Iron and Steel*, a stage musical about Middlesbrough.

The concert, on **Saturday 18 May** at 8pm, promises new material, some covers and a few surprises.

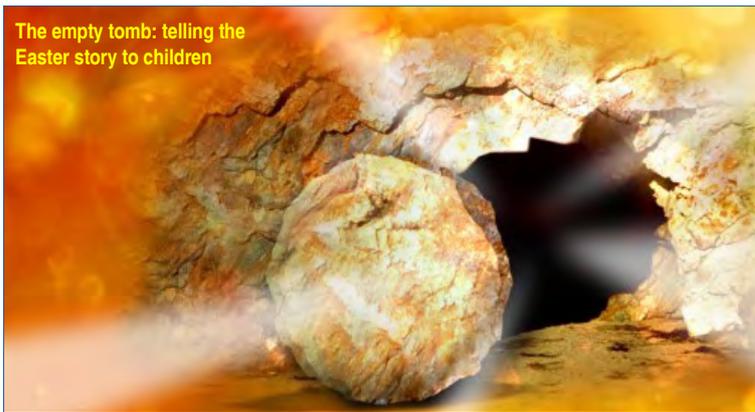
There will also be a fresh batch of Alistair's prize-winning lemon curd on sale (it sold out last year!)

Tickets £18 can be bought online from: alistairgriffin.eventbrite.co.uk



A life-changing message!

The empty tomb: telling the Easter story to children



DANI ROBERTSON

entrance and guards placed outside. Three days later two women found an empty tomb and the Angel of the Lord told them that Jesus had risen, and they should tell everyone!

Jesus appeared to his disciples and many more people before he was taken up to heaven. He urged his followers to tell everyone in all nations that he loves them, died to pay the price for their sin, and is very much alive in heaven and active in their lives today.

It is this love and amazing truth that we have the opportunity to share with children and families this Easter season.

Easter Experience for schools

St James's Church will convey the true meaning of Easter in a variety of ways this year. Before Easter, we'll be hosting local schools in our church for an **Easter Experience**.

Children will go back in time as they travel through the church, stopping to experience different scenes from Jesus' final days. They will hear the story of Jesus's ministry, death, and resurrection from our volunteers.

St James's will have a **Good Friday** service at 9:30am and on **Easter Day** families can hear the story at our Sunday morning services. The 9:30am service will be followed by an Easter Egg Hunt and photo booth.

Easter Holiday Club for INSET day

St James's will also be hosting an Easter-themed INSET day Holiday Club for the first time. It will run for Years 1-6 from 10:30am-12:30pm on **Tuesday 23 April** in church.

Easter egg hunts, photo booths and crafts are great fun, but the important thing is that they are only tools to share an amazing story that many children may not have heard or realised the significance of in their own lives.

It's exciting to share the story of the resurrection in creative ways but the how isn't more important than the what.

What we share is the love of Jesus through the story of His sacrifice and what that means for each person today.

It means that we are all given freedom from the sin that separates us from God. In the sight of God, we don't have to pay a price for the wrong things we do because Jesus paid it for us.

All that's left is for us to accept the free gift of forgiveness that God offers us.

Left: Eager collectors at last year's egg hunt



Rich pickings for some



LAURENCE SEWELL

money is made only when the product is processed and marketed.

Three international companies dominate the cocoa chain, with almost 40 per cent of the world cocoa market. They are Cargill, Archer Daniels Midland (ADM) and Barry Callebaut. Chocolate companies have largely phased out cocoa processing by using sub-contractors, thereby strengthening the major suppliers. The world's largest producers of chocolate, in order of size, are: Mars, Mondelez (originally part of Kraft Foods which bought Cadburys in 2010), Nestle, Ferrero and Hershey. All will be well-known to chocolate lovers in Europe and the US.

Cocoa is much in the news at this time of year, not just because of the peak demand for our chocolate Easter eggs (highlighted in the *Spire* article last month urging us to purchase the Fairtrade *Real Easter Egg*), but also because of the campaign launched by the Fairtrade Foundation for a living wage for millions of cocoa farmers in the developing world.

Ann Peterken drew our attention to this as part of the Fairtrade Fortnight in the February issue of the *Spire*. So what is the background to all this?

What is it and where does it come from?

Cocoa originates from the Amazon and the Orinoco river basins in South America where the indigenous people used it as a beverage. Its botanical name, *Theobroma cocoa*, meaning 'food of the gods', was given to the tree by Carl Linnaeus in the 18th century.

It is a small evergreen tree growing in equatorial regions to some 12-26 feet high that produces flowers and a fruit called the *cacao pod*. The seeds within this pod, usually known as 'beans', are used to produce chocolate, and also, given their significant fat content, cocoa butter, used in production of cosmetics and pharmaceuticals.

Cocoa was introduced into Europe in the 15th century as an exotic drink consumed by the wealthy. Cadbury's launch of the chocolate bar in 1842 sparked greater demand for chocolate, which led to the gradual expansion of cocoa production, especially when it was introduced into Africa in 1870. Today West Africa is the largest supplier of cocoa, with Ivory Coast (33%) and Ghana (19%) accounting for over half of global production of around 4.5 million tons of cocoa beans per year.

The cocoa and chocolate supply chain

Cocoa trees are overwhelmingly grown by smallholder farmers and for many it is their primary source of income, especially in West Africa. However, in a largely unregulated production system, farmers and workers are beset by problems of low prices and wages, child labour, poor health and safety measures, and exploitation by governments and buyers which has tended to blight the industry. As with many global commodities much of the added value and therefore

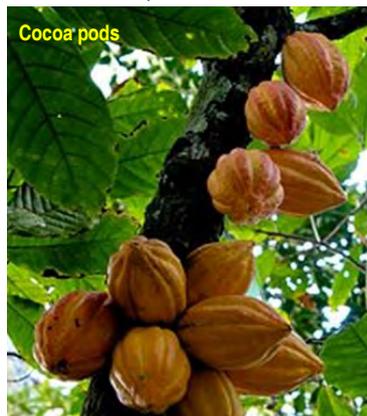
Addressing issues in the cocoa sector

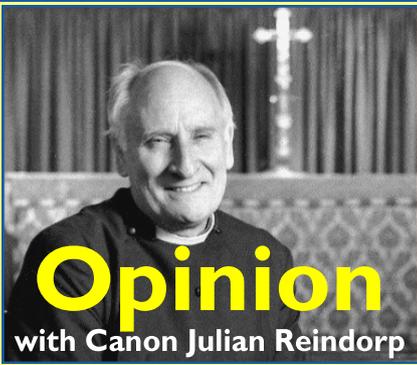
There are many agencies and non-governmental organisations working to address the injustices in the sector to ensure the sustainability of cocoa, e.g. work in Ghana on a traceability system; improving the prosperity of cocoa farmers around the world; and to maintain viable ecosystems.

The World Cocoa Foundation, with over 100 members - covering farmer co-operatives, farm-level input providers, financial institutions, cocoa processors, chocolate makers and manufacturers, cocoa trading companies and retailers - represents 80% of the global cocoa and chocolate market, and provides a uniquely informed perspective on the interconnected nature and needs of the cocoa industry.

It seeks to work for the prosperity of all in the sector supporting sustainable livelihoods to raise farmers out of poverty, to increase production, and business alignment with all players in the industry.

There is still much to be done, and as we indulge our passion for chocolate (hopefully wrapped with the Fairtrade accredited symbol!) let us remember all those less fortunate than ourselves who have grown the beans in the first place.





Opinion
with Canon Julian Reindorp

THE POPE AND ISLAM

Earlier this year Pope Francis visited the United Arab Emirates, his first visit to the Arabian Peninsula, the birthplace of Islam. In a joint declaration with the Grand Imam of Al-Azhar, the senior religious authority in Sunni Islam, they declared, 'Faith leads a believer to see in the other a brother or sister to be supported and loved.' And more controversially, 'The pluralism and the diversity of religions, colour, sex, race and language are willed by God in his wisdom through which he created human beings.'

The joint statement also supported human rights and rights for women. Pope Francis is building on the 1990 encyclical of Pope John Paul II, 'The Holy Spirit while manifested in a special way in the church and her members, its presence and activity are universal... and affects not only individuals but also society, history, people, cultures and religions.'

COMMANDMENTS CUT

Members of a registered Three-Self church in China's Henan province were ordered to erase the First Commandment from display during an inspection by government officials. In an unusual intervention in a state-approved church, an official ordered the First Commandment, 'You shall have no other Gods before me', be removed from the Ten Commandments displayed in front of the pulpit, saying it was 'national policy'. Later that day, the church took down all of them under pressure from the authorities.

Earlier last year the communist government's White Paper on religion announced new policies on 'sinicisation' (making Chinese), with the intention of selectively reinterpreting Christianity and Scripture. (Source: Barnabas Aid).

WESTMINSTER & HOMELESS

Westminster's wealthy households paid £603,000 in voluntary Council Tax to help people off the street. The capital's wealthiest borough has the country's lowest Council Tax, but also the most rough sleepers of any London borough. The council asked the most expensive Band H homes to pay double their Council Tax, an extra £833. Since last year, 604 Band H homes have given to the scheme, with some offering up to £10,000. But this voluntary tax illustrates the growing gap between rich and poor, with Council Tax bands last revised more than 30 years ago.

BUSHY PARK RUNS

Last January's poll by London National Park City voted Bushy Park as the favourite green space in London. The park runs, started here in Bushy Park in 2004, must have contributed to this choice. On Christmas Day over 2,000 people ran in a huge variety of outfits. The 5k runs are now held in 587 locations worldwide in 20 countries, with about 200 people on average taking part. Worldwide it attracts nearly two million people. The average time for running 5k is 28 minutes. The whole enterprise is free and run entirely by volunteers. The coloured T-shirts also come free: red for 50 runs, black for 100, green for 250, and blue for 500.

At a recent run the oldest runner was 84, the youngest 4. In 2017 the first run was held in a Cumbrian prison, and prison runs are spreading round the UK. Now the Government, through Sport England, is putting in money to create 200 further park runs. Started with 13 runners and 4 volunteers, as one commentator says, 'Everyday lives are being changed by park runs.'

BUBBLE WRAP FOR STRESS

Students at Bristol University are being offered bubble wrap to help soothe their nerves before exams. The wrap is included in 'stress-relief' packs. The packets come with instructions saying, 'For immediate stress relief, pop three capsules every 4-6 hours, or as needed.' The Students' Union said, 'We thought the bubble wrap packs would catch people's attention, encourage them to take a break or brighten their day.'

Help put an end to avoidable deaths



christian aid week
12-18 MAY
LINDA WEBB

Tenneh plays with her precious baby Ansumana. He's a happy, bouncy baby who brings her joy. But Tenneh lost another baby. When Tenneh's labour started during her first pregnancy, there was no health centre in the village. Her mum took her to a traditional birth attendant. During two days of agonising labour, Tenneh fell unconscious and was bleeding heavily. With very little medical training, the birth attendant was way out of her depth. In the days and months after her labour, Tenneh felt very weak and her baby wouldn't breastfeed. Tragically, he died when he was three months old.

New hope

Christian Aid saw how difficult the situation in Sawula village was. The charity's aid partner Rehabilitation and Development Agency has been helping vulnerable women access healthcare and improve hygiene with simple interventions like handwashing.

Thankfully, when Tenneh was pregnant a second time, things had changed. This time, she had nurse Judith by her side to deliver her baby safely.

A health centre for all

The community in Sawula dream of having a health centre that can meet their needs. The current building is the size of a small bedroom. Operations, deliveries and check-ups all happen there with just two delivery beds.

Nurse Judith works around the clock, but the need is great, and sometimes she's forced to send people away. Judith sees diseases like malaria and typhoid, especially in children, yet the clinic often runs out of medicines.



Tenneh and baby Ansumana with nurse Judith at the clinic

'I need help,' she says. 'Women are dying from childbirth, children are dying because of poverty. Please help us.' With your support during Christian Aid Week, a bigger, better health centre could be built.

Doorstep collections end, but you can still help

After many years of envelope delivering, St James's has decided to end house-to-house collections. We are extremely grateful to our many collectors who have given their time over the years to Christian Aid Week. This year we'd like everyone to take some envelopes from church and give them to immediate neighbours, friends and family.

We will also be hosting a **Talent Auction** on **Saturday 11 May**, where you will be able to bid for a variety of lots, including birthday cake-making, dishwasher cleaning or maybe some decorating!

On **Sunday 12 May**, Brian Marin and Justice Onwuka from Christian Aid will be speaking during the 9:30am service. Brian is an experienced former Christian Aid staff member who has worked overseas. Please come along and hear his inspiring message for yourselves.

Pop-up Cinema presents



The April-June season of films on the big screen in the church has been announced.

Saturday 27 April Ralph Breaks the Internet (PG) 3.30pm Ralph and Vanellope travel to save Sugar Rush Arcade.

Sunday 5 May Paul, Apostle of Christ (15) 4.30pm Paul and his friend Luke struggle against Nero in order to live out the Gospel of Jesus and tell the world.

Saturday 25 May A Private War (15) 6.30pm The true story of Marie Colvin, one of the most celebrated war correspondents.

Saturday 22 June Christopher Robin (PG) 3.30pm (pictured) The adult Christopher helps Winnie find all his old friends.

Free entry — no need to book. Doors open 30 mins before film starts. Snacks available to buy.

REGISTERS

FEBRUARY

FUNERALS

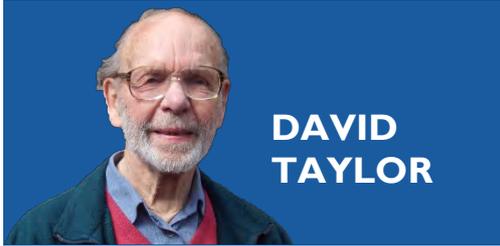
- 4 Yvonne Joy de Silva, 65, Whitton
- 12 Madeline Joan Sykes, 94, Hampton Hill
- 15 Roger Geoffrey Godwin, 71, Hampton
- 19 Peter William Ives, 90, Whitton
- 28 Beryl Violet Ravenscroft, 93, Hampton

INTERMENT OF ASHES

- 15 Bernard William Wigginton, 73, Hampton Hill



Portraits of a gallery



DAVID TAYLOR

We are fortunate that The National Gallery is easy to reach from Hampton Hill — and with no entry fee. It houses an outstanding collection of European paintings dating from the 13th century to the 19th century. The building was opened in 1838 and over the years it has been extended to house the growing collection, the most recent extension being the opening of the Sainsbury Wing in 1991. New pictures are acquired by a mixture of gifts, bequests and government grants.

The Arnolfini Portrait, 1434, Jan van Eyck (1422-1441)



This is a wedding portrait of Giovanni Arnolfini, a merchant from Lucca, living in Bruges. His wife, Giovanna, was religious, and the mirror behind them has scenes of Christ's Passion on the rim. In the mirror are two men standing in the doorway, one perhaps is the painter. It was painted in 1434 using newly introduced oils, which is why the colours have not faded. It was owned by one or two European royal families and eventually sold to the National Gallery in 1842.

Virgin and Child, 1426, Masaccio (1401-1428)

The Virgin and Child are seated on an architectural throne with two angels playing lutes. What is remarkable is that both the Virgin and Child look solid and we feel that the Virgin could stand up and walk towards us. Up until then pictures had been beautiful but like cardboard cut-outs.

Masaccio was a genius, but his output was small because of his early death, probably from the plague. The painting was bought in 1916.



The Baptism of Christ, 1437, Piero della Francesca (1420-1492)



The picture shows the majestic and solemn figure of Christ, with John the Baptist anointing him, and a dove above his head (the Holy Spirit). Next to him are three down-to-earth angels. The water represents the River Jordan. There are other figures and the foliage is realistically painted. The artist carefully uses perspective (he was also a mathematician) to give believable figures. He was influential in the Early Renaissance. Bought in 1860.

Virgin of the Rocks, 1491-1507, Leonardo da Vinci (1452-1519)

The Virgin is seen with Jesus and John the Baptist (both as small children) and an angel. The picture is in a dark room in the gallery with one of his cartoons. Its impact is enhanced by the strong contrast between the figures in light against the dark background. Also delicate painting of the shadows defines the figures.



Originally part of an altarpiece in a Milanese church, it was finally finished by 1507. It was bought by the Gallery in 1880.

The Tribute Money, 1560-8, Titian (1473-1576)



This illustrates a scene in the New Testament (Matthew 22: 15) and shows Christ answering a Pharisee's question about paying taxes to the Romans in a serene and authoritative manner. The superb use of colour (often expensive) was a hallmark of the Venetian style of which Titian was

the most well-known. His portraits were famous throughout Europe and his output was large over his long life. The painting was sent to Philip II of Spain and acquired for the Gallery in 1852.

Le Chapeau de Paille, 1622-25, Peter Paul Rubens (1577-1640)

Rubens was an heir of the Italian Renaissance and as a young man spent eight years in Italy. He was an outstanding artist with an enormous output, though with so many paintings he employed assistants and would only paint the sensitive parts. He was also a man of learning and a diplomat. This painting is of Susanna Fourment, the sister of his second wife. It shows brilliance and subtlety of tone, catching the sunlight on the figure. It was bought in 1871, originally in the collection of former prime minister Sir Robert Peel.



Self Portrait at the age of 63, 1669, Rembrandt (1606-1669)



Rembrandt produced two self-portraits a year over his working life. They bear close examination and show his personal evolution, with a certain defiance of the world. His works were much in demand and he produced hundreds of paintings, etchings and drawings. This portrait, painted in the year he died, shows vitality. It was bought for £430 in 1851.

Stratford Mill, 1820, John Constable (1776-1837)



Most of Constable's paintings centred on the River Stour in Suffolk, showing everyday life with mills, locks and barges. He was interested in the effect of light, the weather and clouds. Historical paintings were in vogue so it took time for him to become established. He sold pictures in France and influenced the Impressionists, especially Monet.

The Fighting Temeraire, 1839, J W M Turner (1775-1851)



Here, a ship that was prominent at the Battle of Trafalgar is being towed to the breakers' yard. It shows a glorious sunset, a ghostly image of the ship and a dirty and unattractive tug towing her away, harbinger of the era of steam. Turner first exhibited at The Royal Academy at the age of 15. He painted scenes, especially those at sea, and recorded the moods of nature, such that subject is only seen vaguely. He worked in the UK, France and Italy, notably Venice. The painting was acquired as part of the Turner bequest in 1856.

Snow Scene at Argenteuil, 1875, Claude Monet (1840-1926)



The scene is of a road with trees and buildings each side and a few pedestrians. Details are sacrificed for the atmosphere of a grey winter's day. The Frenchman paints exactly what he sees which gives the painting great immediacy. Monet was a leading Impressionist, a movement which broke away from historical paintings favoured by the Salon, as happened earlier with Constable. This school became very popular. The painting was bequeathed in 2006 by Simon Sainsbury.



SPIRE APPEAL

April / May 2019

Dear Reader

With this issue we are launching our 2019 Spire Appeal. Due to your generosity last year we raised £1,800 with Gift Aid, nearly half the cost of printing the magazine.

We were printing 650 copies per issue, but the Spire has proved so popular, particularly in shops on Hampton Hill High Street, that we have increased our regular printing to 700 copies. The church has also approved another 100 copies per issue to complete the Parochial Church Council's aim of delivering one copy to every house in the parish, with an invitation to receive it regularly.

The Spire is free to anyone who would like it, but the increase to 800 copies per issue has meant quite a rise in our printing costs. We hope that, if you enjoy reading it, you will be able to contribute to the production costs. We value your support and generosity.

Best wishes

Janet

Janet Nunn, Editor

2 WAYS TO PAY: 1 BANK TRANSFER 2 CHEQUE/CASH

BANK TRANSFER (SOMETIMES CALLED BACS)

To enable us to allocate the money to the Spire Appeal please use the word SPIRE as the reference.

Sort Code: 09-01-55
Account No: 23968604

It would help if you could email the Church Office to say you have made the donation:
office@stjames-hamptonhill.org.uk

CHEQUE OR CASH

Please make cheques payable to PCC OF ST JAMES'S CHURCH

Please post or deliver donations made this way to: Spire Appeal 2019, The Church Office, St James's Church, St James's Road, Hampton Hill, TW12 1DQ.

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