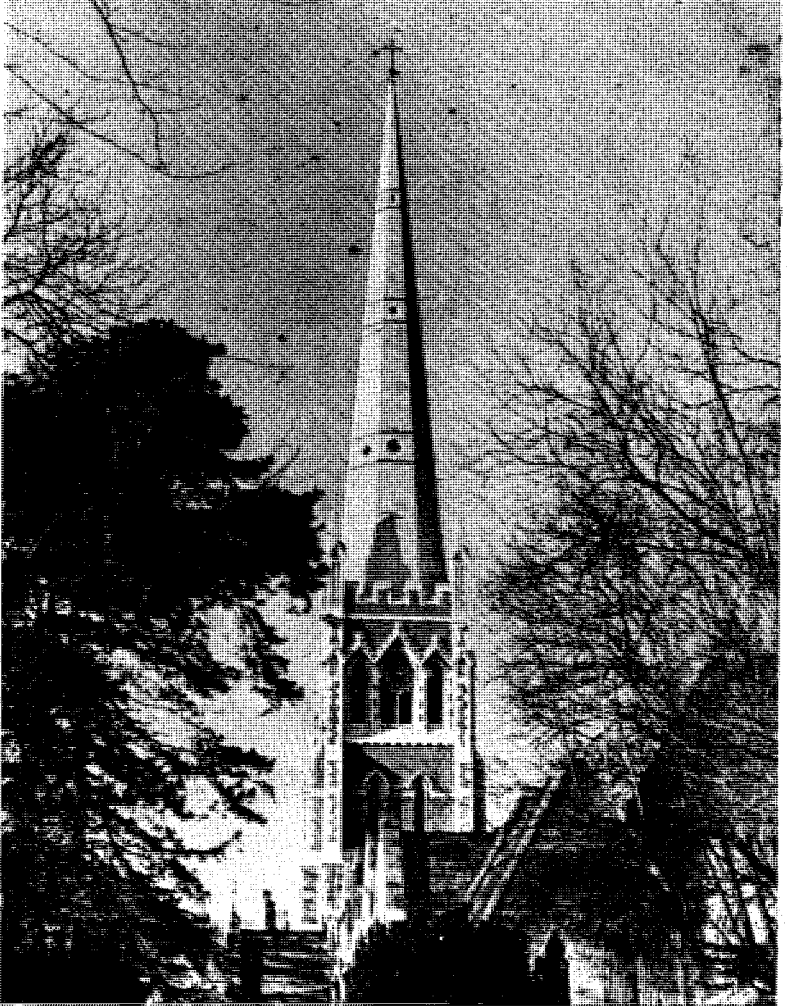


# THE SPIRE



THE MAGAZINE OF ST. JAMES'S CHURCH  
HAMPTON HILL, MIDDLESEX  
JANUARY 1964

# St. James's Church, Hampton Hill, Middx.

## CHURCH OFFICERS

### Vicar

The Rev. R. H. Brunt, B.A.,  
A.K.C., The Vicarage, St. James's  
Road. Tel. Molesey 2069.

### Churchwardens

Mr. G. I. Robinson, 36, St. James's  
Road, Tel. Mol. 2426.

Mr. L. Rockliffe, 40, Gloucester  
Road, Tel. TED Lock 4909.

### Organist and Choirmaster

Mr. G. D. Butterworth,  
35, St. Mark's Road, Teddington.

### Secretary of Parochial Church Council

Miss P. M. Stanley, 54a, St. James's  
Avenue. Tel. Mol. 6065.

### Treasurer of Parochial Church Council

Mr. G. I. Robinson, 36, St. James's  
Road. Tel. Mol. 2426.

### Recorder of Planned Giving Scheme

Mr. L. Rockliffe, 40, Gloucester  
Road, Teddington. Tel. Ted. Lock  
4909.

### Church Officer for Bookings of Hall and Wayside

Mr. W. F. Wigginton, 18, Cranmer  
Road. Tel. Mol. 4596.

### Supervisors of Wayside

Mr. S. D. Harris, 82, Park Road.  
Tel. Mol. 1283.

Mrs. D. E. Warwick, 52, Park  
Road. Tel. Mol. 7004.

### Magazine Secretary

Mr. C. W. Smith, 9, Carlisle Road,  
Hampton. Tel. Mol. 1956.

### Organiser for Church Flowers

Mrs. L. Mills, 40, Oldfield Road,  
Hampton. Tel. Mol. 6626.

Mrs. Mills would be pleased to  
hear from people willing to arrange  
flowers on any particular Sunday.

### Secretary of Bible Reading Fellowship

Mrs. G. A. Mellor, 52, St. James's  
Road. Tel. Mol. 2757.

### Deanery Well-Care Worker

Miss. D. M. Kemp, All Saints  
Vicarage, Hanworth, Tel. Fel. 5741.

## CHURCH SERVICES

### Sundays :

8.0 a.m. Holy Communion.

9.0 a.m. (Second & Fourth Sundays  
in month). Holy Communion.

11.0 a.m. Matins and Sermon.

12.15 p.m. (First & Third Sundays).  
Holy Communion.

6.30 p.m. Evensong and Sermon.

Holy Baptism is administered after  
notice on the Fourth Sunday at 4.0  
p.m.

### Week-days :

**Holy Communion :** Wednesdays  
7.15 a.m.; Holy Days as announced;  
Thursdays 10.30 a.m.

This Church is maintained, and  
good causes supported, by direct  
Christian giving. Those who have  
not made a pledge to give a regular  
amount, and who wish to do so,  
are invited to ask the Treasurer or  
Recorder for details of the scheme.

No collections are taken at Sunday  
or week-day services. Planned Giving  
envelopes and other offerings should  
be placed in the receptacles provided  
before the service begins—also the  
oblation of bread on the paten be-  
fore the early services of Holy  
Communion on Sundays.

Various arrangements are made for  
Religious Education. Sunday Schools  
and Bible Classes are held at 9.45  
a.m. in the Church and Wayside,  
and at 2.30 p.m. at Rectory School,  
except on the Fourth Sunday in the  
month, when a Family Service is  
held in Church at 11.0 a.m. Confir-  
mation Classes for adults and young  
people are formed from time to  
time, and Study, Prayer and Dis-  
cussion Groups arranged.

There are various societies and  
organisations sponsored by the  
Church. The Vicar would be pleased  
to supply information about these  
and any other matters and to be of  
service in whatever ways he can. He  
is anxious that no newcomers should  
move into the parish without a  
welcome, and would appreciate it if  
they would make themselves known  
to him as soon as possible after  
their arrival.

There is no charge for this magazine.  
N.B. The information on this page  
has to stand as it is for a year, and any  
alterations will be listed as they occur  
in the body of the magazine.

## VICAR'S NOTES

The Centenary has just started in striking fashion, and left a deep impression on us all. Services in church; a wonderful evening in the Hall, when the past of Hampton Hill became vivid for us by means of well-arranged exhibits and interesting slides of local history. Our enjoyment on this occasion was intensified by Mrs. Orton's lucid and enthralling lecture and commentary, which was a veritable tour de force, holding everyone spellbound. For the sake of those who were not able to see this first viewing, and especially the older folk for whom evening meetings are trying, the slides will be shown again on January 15, at 2 p.m., at Wayside.

It was good to have the Bishop of London with us on December 15, the first time Diocesan has visited us for many years (how long ago and when the last occasion was our historians will soon be finding out).

The confirmation was administered within the setting of the Communion, between the Creed and the Offertory, and those who received the Laying on of Hands were:

Bernard Brunt, Andrew Cliff, Richard Cox, Raymond Draper, Martin Edmonds, Peter Edmonds, Michael Farnsworth, Andrew Fisher, Richard Melville, David Saunders, Michael Severn, Jane Bessey, Janet Brooks, Clare Brunt, Yvonne Ellis, Gillian Gostling, Susan Harper, Gillian Howard, Frances McGlennon, Rosalind Melville, Jennifer Makepeace, Mary Plumbley, Ceridwen Roberts, Sian Roberts, Coryn Severn, Patience Sherwood, Ann Stuart, Anne Warwick.

In the past breakfasts have been held in Wayside, but for this Centenary Parish Breakfast a large number of people gathered in the Hall, where the Exhibition was again on view, providing much lively conversation.

I am grateful to all those who have worked so hard—in church, in the Hall, arranging decorations, preparing refreshments, putting exhibits together, practising music—to give our Centenary this joyous and excellent start.

### CENTENARY SERVICE AND LOCAL HISTORY

On December 11, 1863, St. James's Church, New Hampton was dedicated to the Glory of God. Exactly one hundred years later a large congregation gathered together for a service of thanksgiving for a century of worship and prayer.

During the service which laid emphasis on the bond between Church and Parish our Vicar, Mr. Brunt, in his inspiring sermon, traced the development of St. James, both spiritually and physically, over the last century. He pointed out the courage and foresight the founders of our church showed in building St. James' out in the fields, thus providing for the spiritual needs of future generations. Mr. Brunt reminded us that the next 100 years would be an exciting challenge, but we were starting off on a more secure basis than ever before, and only with God's help would we find the strength to meet this challenge.

After the service the congregation adjourned to the Parish Hall for the Local History Exhibition and slides. Before the showing of the slides commenced we were able to glimpse something of the prodigious amount of work undertaken by the History Group in arranging photographs and other interesting documents around the walls of the Hall.

We are very grateful to Mr. March for preparing the slides and operating the projector, and assisting Mrs. Orton on the more obscure details. The first set of slides showed Old Hampton Hill, and from Mrs. Orton's excellent commentary everyone learnt many interesting facts and we were all most impressed by the tremendous amount of work she put into this project, and left us eager for the forthcoming publication on this subject. The slides showed us the past Vicars of St. James, their elegant Vicarage, the famous windmill, and various other aspects of village life including several pictures of Prewett's milk float, without which the village scene seemed incomplete.

The second set of slides which were kindly presented by Mr. Salisbury were in colour and showed Hampton Hill as it is today. The biggest stir in the audience was caused by the disclosure that Hampton Hill possesses its own mill race on the Longford River. Other slides included several that showed us the modern counterpart of some we had seen earlier.

After the slides we were treated to some excellent refreshments by the Social Committee. Whilst we enjoyed these we were able to examine more closely the many interesting exhibits, but hardly able to do them justice in the time available. We are assured however that the exhibition will be on display again in the near future, and it is hoped to show the slides again at Wayside on January 15, at 2 p.m.

The general consensus of opinion was that the evening had been a tremendous success both spiritually and socially.

H. & A.T.

## **THE MOTHERS' UNION**

Mrs. Cameron of Hampton Court ended our 1963 session with a thought provoking talk on "Keeping Sunday." It was a pity that so many had to miss this for various reasons, but we hope that all those who are on the sick list will soon be quite fit again.

We shall meet again on the second Wednesday in the New Year, January 8, at 2.30 p.m. in the Small Hall (Parish Hall). The Guild Singers will render Carols and we should like a large audience to hear them. Do come and bring your children with you. Offers of mincepies will be welcomed.

On Tuesday, January 14, we shall meet in Wayside to hold our Wave of Prayer Intercessions from 2.30 p.m. until 2.45 p.m. when we shall remember especially the Diocese of Sierra Leone with which the London Diocese is linked. Will all members please make a special effort to attend, but if you are prevented from being present please use the Overseas prayers in the Service Book, or those which Mrs. Stevens has included in the Christmas edition of "Home and Family."

We were all sorry to learn of the death of Mrs. Godwin, a very old member of the Branch and extend our sympathy to her daughter, Mrs. Hutton.

May Christmas and New Year be happy times for all our members, and may we take a full part in the coming Centenary celebrations.

## **YOUNG WIVES' GROUP**

The Annual General Meeting was held on November 13. Our President, Mrs. Brunt, in the Chair, and she thanked the Committee for the hard work they had done during the year. The Group Chairman,

Mrs. M. Saunders, added her thanks to the committee, in particular those who were retiring, for the way they had helped to carry out the year's programme. We are sorry to lose the services of Mrs. Irene Hodges as Secretary after only one year, as she has been very efficient and conscientious, but she is shortly moving to Whitton. Mrs. Hodges reviewed the year's events, and Treasurer Mrs. Ann Robins reported the state of our finances, which was satisfactory. Six members of the committee were retiring, but only five nominations were received, there being no nomination for the office of Chairman. Mrs. Saunders agreed to serve for another year, and the committee is now as follows:—

Chairman: Mrs. M. Saunders.

Vice-Chairman: Mrs. B. Harrison.

Secretary: Mrs. P. Dumper.

Treasurer: Mrs. K. Brooks.

Registrar: Mrs. M. Pyatt.

Entertainments: Mrs. R. Allen.

Catering: Mrs. A. Hunt and Mrs. J. Keogh.

On November 27, we met at Wayside for a chat about Recipes and Decorations for Christmas. A competition for the most original idea was won by Mrs. Mellor, whose fat candle made from last year's candle stubs looked very expensive, and attractive. An entry of gift wrappings in the shape of candles earned considerable praise for a new member, Mrs. Sutcliffe of Cranmer Road. We later discussed our contribution to the entertainment by the Church groups to be put on in April, and a number of ideas were put forward.

The Children's party is on January 3, at 3 p.m., in the Parish Hall, and tickets are available from Mrs. Allen, 'phone Molesey 1069.

Our next meeting on January 29 brings a speaker from the Organisation for the Advancement of State Education.

The Mothers' Union Carol Concert will be held in the Parish Hall at 2.30 p.m., on Wednesday, January 8, 1964. All Young Wives and their children are invited. Please do not worry if you have to pop out to collect children from school, but bring them back with you. They will be very welcome.

#### **FILMS:**

### **THE WONDERFUL WORLD OF THE BROTHERS GRIMM at the Royalty, Kingsway**

This delightful film in cinerama gives entertainment to old and young. It is a film in which the ancient Christian virtues are not mocked.

Historically the story is that of the two brothers, Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm in the early nineteenth century. Both are scholars, but Wilhelm is also a dreamer, his head full of fantasy. The two brothers are refreshingly human with simple weaknesses and virtues. Jacob is willing to sacrifice his career and to forego marriage for the sake of what he believes to be right. Yet in the end both brothers are honoured in the way that gratifies each the most, Jacob by being appointed to the Berlin Royal Academy and Wilhelm by the acclaim of the hundreds of children who love his fairy stories. Laurence Harvey plays the part of Jacob.

Geographically the story takes place in the Bavarian Alps. The photography of the historic castles of Weikensheim and Neuschwanstein, the medieval city of Rothenburg, the Rhine Valley and the

Black Forest are beautiful and fantastically vivid in the cinerama medium.

Woven into the history is the intriguing transportation into the world of the fairy stories themselves, stories that have been enjoyed by children for 150 years.

"The Dancing Princess," Yvette Mimieux, makes everything that one ever imagined about a fairy princess come to life. The court scenes in the castle, the gorgeous clothes of the princess, the gypsy dancing and the wild drive through the Forest and the fact that "they all lived happily ever after," are convincingly depicted.

"The Cobbler and the Elves," is the familiar story of the old cobbler who spends his time making toy elves for orphanage children instead of mending shoes for his clients. He is rewarded at midnight on Christmas Eve by the elves who miraculously come alive and mend all the shoes for him. The puppets are the creation of George Pal, the producer, and were responsible for winning him his first of six Academy Awards.

"The Singing Bone," contains all that a good fairy story should contain—the huge green dragon in a dark cave breathing fire and fear, a wicked squire and his faithful servant, honesty and bravery rewarded in the most fantastic turn of events, and justice done to all according to their deserts.

This film could be a happy choice for every family who take themselves to London for a Christmas treat.

R.T.M.

## BOOKS:

### ESCAPE TO LIVE

By Wing-Commandr Howell, O.B.E., D.S.C.

Longman's, Green and Co. Price 6/-.

The Vicar preached a very memorable sermon some weeks ago which dealt with the miracle of Peter's release from prison; the opening of the gates, the passing through the guards and his safe return through the midst of his enemies to the circle of his friends. Mr. Brunt spoke of the various interpretations of this miracle, but affirmed his belief in the miracles as such, with no need to re-course to the various interpretations and explanations on which so many scholars have spent so much time and ingenuity. Mr. Brunt affirmed his belief in miracles, saying that they happen in every age and citing various instances.

Wing-Commander Edward Howell, O.B.E., D.F.S., in his book, "Escape to Live" affirms his belief also, since he was a modern Peter, released in much the same way, to continue and pursue the work of God. Terribly wounded, starving, low in spirit he lay one night in the prison hospital in Salonika and came face to face with his utter need for help—but from whence would it come? What if there really was an all powerful God? Who else could set him free, bring him home, or bring home to him? As he lay there in the darkness and despair, he gave himself to God and committed himself to choose what was right to do and to be, from then on, to the best of his ability.

"At that moment of decision," he writes, "God spoke to me. It was as though, by that simple act of the will, I had switched on the light in a dark room. I saw the meaning of things for the first time. With an intense thrill my mind told me, "God is love." I began to see what that meant to me. My heart filled and over-flowed. This was home at last, where you loved and were loved and were loved beyond

all knowing. Nothing could ever separate me from it, so long as I chose to stay there. I was free at last, and no walls or sentries could take my freedom from me, so long as I chose to be free.

"I found myself praying, a thing I had not done for ten years or more. Words came quite naturally to me and as I spoke, the answer came to me. The Lord's Prayer came to my lips. It came not as a form of words but an expression of thought and feeling. I was ecstatically happy and tears of joy flowed down my face. The experience continued for some time. Later I lay in utter peace and quiet. I was sure and secure in the belief that now I knew the secret of living."

The next day—"Everybody seemed particularly delightful this day. Even people who had irritated me in the past seemed somehow to be different. I liked them, it was easy to like them, they were nice people. It was some time before it occurred to me that it was I who was different."

Later—"I became extremely interested in the New Testament . . . I found on every page something which seemed to be directly intended for me to read. The passages were so striking that I marked them with pencil. I had the idea that I would collect all these "Vital" passages together in a small book which would present the secret of living to everyone in a short and easy form. I read eagerly and it was not long before I had read through my pocket New Testament from cover to cover. It was full of pencil marks. I then had the idea that I might have missed one or two important passages from my collection, so I started to read the book again. This time I marked with blue pencil as my black lead one had disappeared. Blue and black pencil marks appeared with increasing frequency. I was astonished that I had missed so much on my first reading. Then I realised that I should have to mark everything I read."

Wing Commander Howell says that he used to regard the New Testament as a fine story told in lovely old English, but now it was his own experience, interpreted and foretold for him with daily instructions as to what to do next. His daily routine changed and he became full of purpose; the German guards could not understand the change in him or the new joy which filled him.

He reconnoitred the hospital grounds, noting possible avenues of escape and when the time came he committed himself to the effort as an act of faith and immediately found himself treading in the steps of St. Peter's experience.

"I opened the door—it was quarter past eight in the morning. Normally at that hour the corridors would have been crowded with Germans. I was astonished to find no-one in sight. I walked down to the main stairs. I met no-body—no-one in the lower corridors either. I felt this was a miracle, but I knew that I could not succeed without miracles, so I went on hopefully."

Later—"The moon was shining and the sentry stood at the gate about thirty yards away—my inner voice told me to have no fear and to walk quite naturally . . . the sentry made no move—my boots crunched like thunder at each step . . . but the sentry continued to gaze impassively ahead."

This was only a beginning. Every step of the way Howell was shown the path to go, protected from danger and led to salvation. He passed through German-infested Greece to the sea, through the patrols

by boat to Turkey and so to Cairo and all the time protected from the many perils of the journey.

"My first Sunday in Cairo I went eagerly to the little Scots church of St. Andrew . . . In that service an experience begun as a child and taken up again as a prisoner became integrated. The old psalms kindled the memory. The words were amazingly appropriate. "O give thanks unto the Lord for he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever. Let the redeemed of the Lord say so, whom he hath redeemed from the Land of the enemy; and gathered them out of the lands, from the East and the West, from the North and from the South. They wandered in the wilderness in a solitary way, they found no city to dwell in. Hungry and thirsty, their souls fainted in them. Then they cried unto the Lord in their trouble, and he delivered them out of their distresses. He brought them out of darkness and the shadow of death and brake their bonds asunder."

M.O.

### OBITUARY

Mrs. Godwin, a very old member of the M.U., and regular worshipper at St. James' until she moved away to live with her daughter at Brightlingsea, Essex, several years ago, has died at the age of 91. At Brightlingsea, Mrs. Godwin joined the M.U. and Church of St. James where she regularly attended.

### SOME DATES TO NOTE

- Jan. 2.—2 p.m. Sunday School Outing to, "Around the World in 80 Days."  
.. 3.—3 p.m. Young Wives' Group: Children's Party (Hall).  
.. 8.—2.30 p.m. Mothers' Union: Carols (Small Hall).  
.. 10.—11 a.m. Editorial Board (52 Park Road).  
.. 15.—2 p.m. Slides of Local History: "Hampton Hill Past and Present." (W).  
.. 18-26.—Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.  
.. 18.—7.30 p.m. Parish Centenary Party (Hall).  
.. 20.—8 p.m. Hampton Council of Churches: Prayer for Christian Unity in St. Mary's, Hampton, followed by meeting "The Unity we Seek" in the Public Hall.  
.. 27.—8 p.m. Hampton Council of Churches: Quarterly Meeting (Methodist Church).  
.. 29.—8 p.m. Young Wives' Group: "The Advancement of State Education" (W).  
.. 30.—8 p.m. Church Council (W).

### BAPTISMS

- Nov. 24.—Graham David Cook, 61, Myrtle Road.  
.. 24.—Kevin John Greening, 90, Stanley Road.  
.. 24.—Susan Rush, 33, Winifred Road.  
.. 24.—Lawrence James Spencer, 8, Ringwood Way.  
.. 24.—Kim Wallis, 5 Lindsay Road.  
Dec. 8.—Jonathan Paul Wadlow, 63, Park Road.

### BURIALS

- Nov. 19.—Ernest George Gwynn, 52, Uxbridge Road, aged 74 years.  
.. 24.—William Henry Wallis, 12, Warwick Road, Hampton Wick, aged 85 years.  
Dec. 3.—Caroline Wigginton, 9, Oxford Road, aged 96 years.  
.. 9.—Edith Marion Blackmore, 151, Burtons Road, aged 80 years.