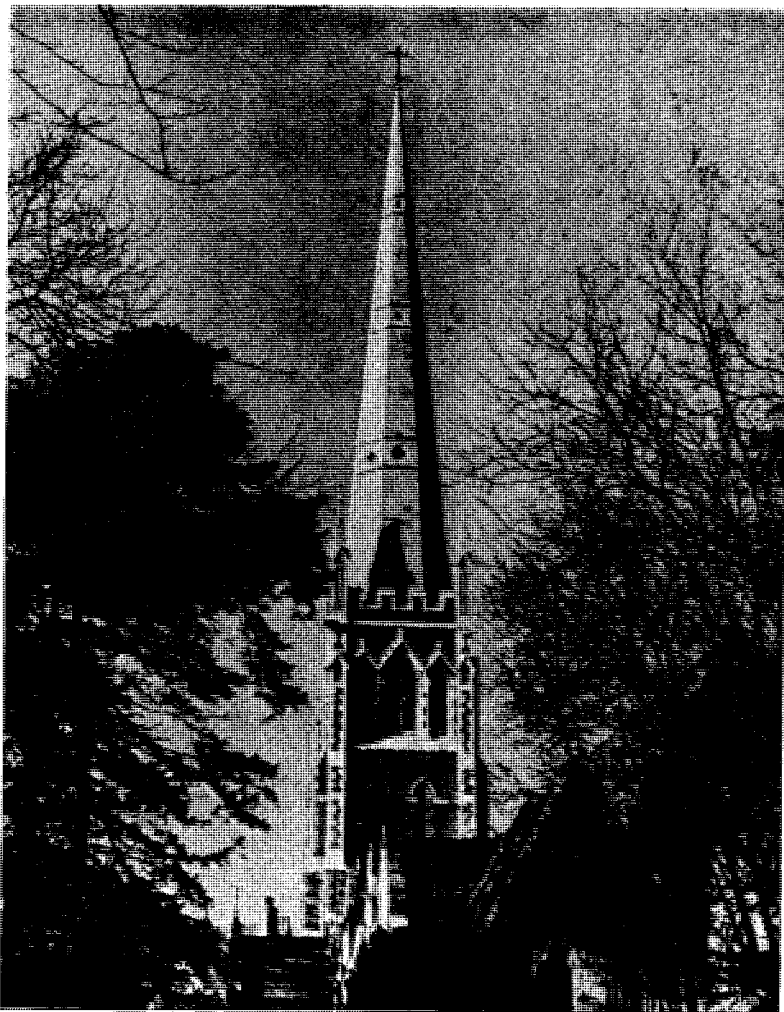


THE SPIRE



THE MAGAZINE OF ST. JAMES'S CHURCH

HAMPTON HILL, MIDDLESEX

JANUARY 1965

St. James's Church, Hampton Hill.

Church Officers

VICAR

The Rev. R. H. Brunt, B.A., A.K.C., The Vicarage, St. James's Rd. Mol. 2069.

CHURCHWARDENS

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

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

ORGANIST & CHOIRMASTER

Mr. R. J. C. Dafforne, 7, Blandford Road, Teddington. TED. Lock 3439.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Secretary: Miss P. M. Stanley, 41, St. James's Avenue. Mol. 4917.

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

RECORDER OF PLANNED GIVING SCHEME

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

CHURCH OFFICER FOR BOOKINGS OF HALL AND WAYSIDE

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

SUPERVISORS OF WAYSIDE

Mr. J. W. Gostling, 21, St. James's Road. Mol. 3748.

Mr. M. R. Jackson, Flat B, Oxford Court, Anlaby Road, Teddington.

MAGAZINE SECRETARY

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

ORGANISER FOR CHURCH FLOWERS

Mrs. L. Mills, 40, Oldfield Road, Hampton. Mol. 6626, who will be pleased to hear from people willing to arrange flowers on any particular Sunday.

CHURCHYARD GUARDIANS

Mr. D. W. K. Leatherdale, 18, St. James's Road. Mol. 6999.

Mr. R. M. Brooks, 10, Links View Road. TED. Lock 2593.

SOCIAL COMMITTEE SECRETARY

Mr. R. M. Brooks, 10, Links View Road. TED. Lock 2593.

DEANERY WEL-CARE WORKER

Miss D. M. Kemp, 15, Bulstrode Road, Hounslow. HOU. 3594.

SECRETARY OF BIBLE READING FELLOWSHIP

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

Church Services

Apart from Holy Communion at 8 a.m. and Evensong at 6.30 p.m. every Sunday, and Holy Baptism (after due notice) at 4 p.m. on the Fourth Sunday in the month, the times and forms of the other services are under review, and liable to alteration at short notice. They will therefore be listed month by month in the body of the magazine (other alterations and additions will also be noted there, as the information on this page has to stand without correction until April, 1965).

Church Organisations

THE YOUNG WIVES' GROUP meets last Wednesday evening in each month. (Chairman: Mrs. M. Saunders, 82, St. James's Avenue. Mol. 4938).

THE MOTHERS' UNION meets first Wednesday afternoon in each month. (Enrolling Member: Mrs. I. V. Rockliffe, 40, Gloucester Road, Teddington. TED. Lock 4909).

THE YOUNG PEOPLE'S FELLOWSHIP meets after Evensong on Sundays.

SCOUTS: 3rd Hampton Hill Scout Group. (Group Scoutmaster: Mr. S. R. Childs, 60b, French Street, Sunbury. SUN. 4182).

GUIDES: 1st Hampton Hill Company. (Lieutenant-Acting Captain: Miss Ruth Mills, 40, Oldfield Road, Hampton. Mol. 6626). (Brown Owl: Mrs. D. M. Casey, 89, Connaught Road, Teddington. TED. Lock 5041).

THE YOUTH CLUB meets at Windmill Road School on Friday evenings.

THE HISTORY SOCIETY: Mrs. M. Orton, 30, St. James's Road. Mol. 5868, will be pleased to have your enquiries in connection with the Society and the Centenary Booklet.

VICAR'S NOTES

Stewardship should in time become a normal feature of parish life, an essential part of the familiar framework. But until it is thus firmly embedded and growing steadily by reason of its own inner vitality, we need from time to time periods when we concentrate intensively and almost exclusively upon this concept and its implications, and press them home in as many ways as we can.

We are entering upon such a period now, and it should prove most exhilarating — as well as challenging. Many of you will have already received an invitation — or will shortly be receiving one — to the Parish Dinner on January 25, when the broad outlines of the programme will be put before you. If you do not receive such an invitation by January 9, and would like one, please do not hesitate to let me or the Churchwardens know, and we will be only too glad to remedy the omission. We do not want anyone who is at all interested to be left out; nor do we want to press anyone to come against his will. But there may well be some who at present feel opposed to the whole idea yet are prepared to give it a fresh hearing, and we would welcome these.

“There are more important things in Christian experience than can be described in terms of stewardship” (James Mark: *The Question of Christian Stewardship*, SCM Press 7/6, p. 90). Yes indeed: James Mark is undoubtedly right, and it would do us all good to read his thoughtful book. The trouble is that arguments like this are often used as smoke-screens by people who seek to excuse their own apathy or inaction, and we all have to watch ourselves in this respect. What we need to do in the next five weeks is to use our own minds to the full and think honestly and prayerfully about what is presented to us — and then make our own free and responsible decision. A great deal will depend on this.

CENTENARY FINALE

A special service was held in church on Friday, December 11, 1964, at 7.15 p.m., to bring Centenary Year to a close. The Bishop of Kensington was Preacher, and in spite of fog the service was well-attended.

During the first hymn the Bishop dedicated the new altar table, and from then on we felt that we were taking part in a service of thanksgiving for all that has been done in the past, and being given inspiration for the future.

For his text the Bishop took the well-known passage from Revelation, Chapter 21, Verse 21, and his sermon explained how the Church should have an important part in shaping the lives of men and women, and enable its members to go out and lead christian lives. The choir gave an effective rendering of the beautiful anthem by Purcell “Rejoice in the Lord alway.”

Tribute must be paid to the band of helpers who worked so hard clearing the debris left by the builders and making the church clean in time for the service. The beautiful flowers used to decorate the church had been given as tributes to the late Mrs. Peel, and were kindly given by Mr. Peel and his family after her funeral service.

After Evensong we adjourned to the church hall where we were welcomed with refreshments provided and served by willing helpers.

A mixed programme of song and drama followed. This was refreshingly different in that the material was original and of great local interest. The Youth Fellowship choir gave us a solemn warning against the evils of drink in two heart-rending ballads — one of them written by a Curate of St. James's 60 years ago. This was followed by a sketch written by Mrs. Orton and produced by Mrs. Rockliffe in which the actors were a gallant band of gentlemen, so well known to us all as to need no further introduction. Illness unfortunately prevented Mr. Robinson from taking part, but Mr. Rockliffe nobly stepped into the breach and ably took his part. This sketch was an authentic reproduction of a Vestry meeting of past years. We are glad to learn from the sketch that the amenities of Hampton Hill have improved since those days.

A surprise item — "This is your life, Mr. Brunt" — gave much enjoyment, and reminded us of the very busy life of our Vicar.

A very pleasant evening's entertainment was brought to a close by a rousing rendering of "The Centenary Ballad" composed by Mr. Ford and listing amusingly and cleverly events of the past year. This was sung by the popular Fitz Wygram Four (signature tune, "The old apple tree.").

Mrs. Orton introduced the items and thanks to the combined efforts of the singers, pianist and actors we enjoyed a delightful evening's entertainment.

The Vicar moved a vote of thanks to the Social and Centenary Committees for their work during the past year, and for providing such a wonderful evening's entertainment.

N.J.M.L.

THE YOUNG WIVES' GROUP

The November meeting proved most instructive for those of our members who like knitting for Miss Hollas from Sirdar Wools gave us a very interesting talk. Putting first things first she asked us to use the materials recommended in the printed patterns, and to check tension carefully, as a mistake of half a stitch to an inch could make a difference of as much as four inches in the garment; disappointing for the knitter and disastrous for the wearer. Miss Hollas then dealt consecutively with all steps of knitting a garment from the casting on to the sewing up, giving us many helpful hints and showing the various points on demonstration garments. We saw knitted samples of new textured Sirdar wools and some delightful new patterns.

During a lively question time members own problems, from making button-holes to grafting, were explained, so we may expect a really professional finish to winter woollens of the Young Wives' Group.

At our next meeting, January 27, 1965, Mr. and Mrs. Rockliffe will show slides of their Canadian holiday.

K.B.

DR. BARNADO'S HOUSE-TO-HOUSE COLLECTION

Mollie Ford wishes to thank all the kind people who supported and helped with the above collection. The total amount obtained was just over £48.

THE MOTHERS' UNION

Members of three other M.U. branches in the Deanery — St. Mark's, Teddington, St. Mary's and All Saints, Hampton, joined us in the Parish Hall on December 2, to hear Mrs. Trapp speak with great knowledge and experience of Overseas Work. With her husband,

Bishop Trapp of S.P.G., she seems to have travelled in most countries East of Suez, and in most parts of Africa. Her vivid powers of description made us feel as if we had visited these places too. To conclude, Mrs. Trapp showed many colourful transparencies of the people and places she had talked about.

I have received many expressions of appreciation from those present, several of the visitors hope that we can arrange another joint meeting in the future. Perhaps if I had not attended the Overseas Conference in Durham last July we should not have had the chance to hear the Vice-Chairman of the Overseas Committee. It just goes to show what can be accomplished over a cup of tea! Incidentally, all our visitors were most appreciative of the cakes provided by so many of our own members. Thank you all.

At our January meeting in the Hall, members of St. Mary's Young Wives' Group are performing an unusual Nativity Play — "Prelude." There will be Carols as well. Please make this meeting known to your friends and neighbours, and, what is more to the point, bring them with you to the Hall. We want to show how much we value this gesture from younger people in the Deanery by having a large audience. Offers of mince-pies, the traditional food for this Epiphany meeting, will be welcomed by our Catering Officer, Mrs. Edmonds.

I am sorry to report the death of Mrs. Brooking in Ashford Hospital, she was a faithful member of this branch for many years, latterly she had belonged to the Invalid Members Prayer Circle. We extend our sympathy to her husband and daughter.

By the time these notes reach you Christmas will probably be over, I hope that the Festival has been a happy time in your household and that you will enter the New Year with courage and hope in your hearts.

I.V.R.

MAGAZINE DISTRIBUTION

Since this was last organised, for one reason or another our number of distributors has been reduced — people moving from the district, ill-health or some other adequate cause. No charge is made for the magazine now, as you know, and we do appeal to anyone who can spend a short time each month to deliver the magazines — the more volunteers we get the fewer will have to be distributed per person. Many of those who at present do this job help in many ways on other church committees — if you can spare a little time each month to help DO PLEASE contact Mrs. Melville, at 106, Park Road, or tell any member of the Magazine Board — Mrs. Warwick, 52, Park Road; Mrs. Orton, 30, St. James's Road; Mrs. Leatherdale, 18, St. James's Road or the Vicar. Are there any retired gentlemen who feel they could manage to do this? — they would be warmly welcomed; or if any gentlemen feel they could spare time in the evening once a month — there is no "time of day" restriction for delivery, but it is important that the magazines are delivered promptly on receipt from the main distributors at your door.

Thank you in anticipation of a response to this appeal!

BIBLE READING FELLOWSHIP

We are sorry that we shall soon be parting with Mrs. Mellor and her husband to their new home in the Cotswolds, and take this opportunity of wishing them well. Mrs. Mellor, has ably carried out the distribution

of the Bible Readings in the Parish over a long period. Can we please have a volunteer to take over the distribution from her in the New Year? Please get in touch with Mrs. Rockliffe or the Vicar in this connection.

VISIT TO HIGH LEIGH

“What the Church believes,” was the theme at a recent weekend spent at High Leigh, Hoddesdon, in Hertfordshire. This was the second training weekend run by the Lee Abbey Community this year, and, like all their ventures, was extremely popular.

This was not, as we had supposed, “What the Church of England believes,” but something much broader; what the Church believes . . . about its purpose, its power, its ministry, its authority and its fellowship, to name only the most important topics under discussion. Each study time was packed with many powerful facts that we had perhaps ignored in the past.

One of the most tremendous things about these weekends is the wonderful sense of fellowship and when we came to consider this subject in our study we were particularly interested. Several people from a new church in Cheam told us about their efforts, frustrated at first, to found a new church in a large housing estate. How, when the time was right, they had been sent a minister; how services, including Communion, were held in one another's houses; how when the church building was finally erected they had no less than 21 people wanting to be Sunday School teachers.

The way these people felt and spoke was an inspiration to us all and made us long for the fellowship that they so obviously enjoyed in their parish!

A.T.

PERSONALIA ET CETERA

The Hampton Hill Association has got off to a good start, and in the months and years ahead should exercise an increasing influence in the district and borough. Three members of the Church Council worked on the steering committee responsible for drawing up the constitution, and they have now been elected to the executive—Mrs. M. Orton, Mr. J. W. Gostling and the Vicar. Other members of the church are pulling their weight on the various activity committees that have been set up.

Only two members of St. James's—Mr. Gostling and Bernard Brunt—took part in the Nativity Tableau which toured Hampton and Hampton Hill in a lorry, though on the last evening five or six others followed behind to sing carols. Should we have done better than this? Or are we so inundated by the various calls made upon us that we simply cannot manage any more?

Gordon Stowell, of St. James's Avenue, has sent us a copy of his paper-back “Going with the Crowd” (Hodder, 6/-). It is a mild (?) satire on our day, and ruthlessly exposes the pretences and barriers behind which we try to hide from others and life, illustrated by the artist's own drawings and cartoons, as well as by topical photographs. Just one criticism: the positive point to which it all leads is rather too wishy-washy and humanistic—living for others is the keynote, rather than living for God and His Kingdom. As the little boy said to his father after he had been told that this was the aim of life—“What then are the others for?”

Hannah Stanton writes in her Christmas letter from Makerere: "What can one say about Uganda? — this lovely country where race relations are very easy on the whole, but which is bordering on the N.E. Congo where chaos prevails. I remember that at this same time last year I was writing my Christmas letter, and was saying how good it was that Uganda was keeping out of the news; a few days later we burst into the headlines and my letter was so out of date that I lost heart and only sent out a few. We have also had our anxious moments this year, but law and order have been maintained, and at the moment all seems to be settling down well."

SOME DATES TO NOTE

- Jan. 3.—2nd Sunday after Christmas: Holy Communion at 8.0 a.m. **2**
 12.15 **NATIVITY TABLEAUX AND MIMES**, presented by the Sunday Schools 11.0 am. (in church); Evensong 6.30 p.m.; Young People's Fellowship 8.0 p.m. (W.).
- CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME BEGINS.**
- 4.—8.0 p.m. Church Council (W.); 9.15 p.m. Stewardship Steering Committee (W.).
- 5.—8.0 p.m. Stewardship: Meeting of Lady Visitors (W.).
- 6.—**THE EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD**: 7.15 and 10.0 a.m. Holy Communion; 2.30 pm. Mothers' Union: Carols, and Nativity Play, "Prelude," presented by St. Mary's Young Wives' Group (H.).
- 7.—8.0 p.m. Stewardship: Men's Meeting (W.).
- 10.—1st Sunday after the Epiphany: Holy Communion at 8.0 a.m.; Matins 8.40 a.m.; **PARISH COMMUNION** 9.30 a.m., followed by **BREAKFAST** 10.40 a.m. (W.); Evensong 6.30 p.m. **SUNDAY SCHOOLS**: Infants' 9.45 a.m. (W.); Junior and Senior 11.0 a.m. (in church); Rectory 2.30 p.m. (in Rectory School). Young People's Fellowship 8.0 p.m. (W.).
- 11.—8.0 p.m. Hampton Council of Churches: United Prayer and Discussion Group—"The Congregational Viewpoint on Unity" (Vestry); 8.0 p.m. Stewardship: Men's Meeting (W.).
- 12.—8.0 p.m. Hampton Hill Association: Executive Committee (School).
- 13.—10.0 a.m. Editorial Board (52, Park Road).
- 14.—Mothers' Union Wave of Prayer: Intercessions in church for Diocese of Sierra Leone 9.45—10.0 a.m. **8-10 a.m. C.I.U.M.C.**
- 16.—7.45 p.m. Parish Christmas Social: The One-O-One Party, Admission by ticket 5/- (H.).
- 17.—2nd Sunday after the Epiphany: Services and other arrangements as on January 10, with the addition of a service at Laurel Dene at 5.15 p.m., conducted by the Young People's Fellowship.
- 18-25.—**WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY**:—
 Some events arranged in connection with this:
- 18.—Hampton Council of Churches: Open Meeting at St. Mary's, Hampton. It is hoped to have a special speaker about the Vatican Council or the Nottingham Conference.
- 19.—7.15 a.m. Holy Communion, with Special Intention for Unity.
- 20.—10.30 a.m. Coffee Morning at All Saints' Hall.

Hampton. Film about the Feed The Minds Campaign.

21.—10.0 a.m. Holy Communion, with Special Intention for Unity.

22.—8.0 p.m. United Meeting and Social Gathering at St. Margaret's Hall, Princes Road, with a Report on Vatican Council.

25.—The Conversion of St. Paul: 9.0 a.m. Holy Communion, with Special Intention for Unity, and for the Stewardship programme in our own parish.

.. 18.—8.0 p.m. Stewardship: Men's Meeting (W.).

.. 21.—8.0 p.m. Stewardship: Men's Meeting (W.).

.. 24.—3rd Sunday after the Epiphany: Services and other arrangements as on January 10, with the addition of the monthly Family and Parade Service at 11.0 a.m., and Holy Baptism at 4.0 p.m. The only Sunday School to meet is Rectory at 2.30 p.m. The Commissioning of the Stewardship Visitors will take place during the Parish Communion at 9.30 a.m.

.. 25.—Mothers' Union: Overseas Meeting at Mary Sumner House 11.30 a.m. — 2.30 pm.; 7.30 for 8.0 p.m. PARISH DINNER.

.. 27.—7.15 a.m. Holy Communion, with Special Intention for Stewardship programme; 8.0 p.m. Young Wives' Group — "A Canadian Holiday" (W.).

.. 28.—10.0 a.m. Holy Communion, with Special Intention for Stewardship programme.

.. 29.—9.0 p.m. Stewardship: Report Meeting (W.).

.. 31.—4th Sunday after the Epiphany: Service and other arrangements as on January 10, with addition of Service at Laurel Dene at 5.15 p.m., which members of the congregation are asked to support.

Feb. 2.—THE PRESENTATION OF CHRIST IN THE TEMPLE: CANDLEMAS. End of the Forty Days of Christmas. 7.15 a.m. Holy Communion; 4.30 p.m. Children's Candlemas Service.

.. 4.—2.30 p.m. Mothers' Union. Speaker: Mrs. Stevens — "Work at Mary Sumner House" (W.); 9.0 p.m. Stewardship: Final Report Meeting (W.).

.. 6.—10.0 a.m. — 4.0 p.m. "No Small Change" Training Course (St. Gabriel's Parish House, S.W.1).

.. 7.—5th Sunday after the Epiphany: Services and other arrangements as on January 10, with the addition of Holy Communion at 12.10 p.m.

BAPTISMS

Nov. 22.—Steven George Bull, 7, Albert Road.

.. 22.—David Francis Garcia, 18, Uxbridge Road.

BURIALS AND CREMATIONS

Dec. 2.—Harriett Anne Young, 19, Wolsey Road, aged 73 years (at S.W. Middlesex Crematorium).

.. 9.—Margaret Sarah Tuffin, Laurel Dene, aged 84 years (at Hampton).

.. 10.—Frances Mary Peel, 34, Burton's Road, aged 59 years.

.. 11.—William Thomas Wells, 12, Cross Street, aged 79 years.

.. 19.—Alice Clara Tarrant, 31, Anlaby Road, aged 65 years (at S.W. Middlesex Crematorium).