

Some years ago I met an Accountant at a party whom I did not know and have never met since. He was not a Christian. When he discovered what I did for a living (I was wearing collar and tie) he said: 'We need people like you in society to tell us when we are going wrong, what is going wrong - in short to challenge our behaviour.' I found that fascinating. It was what the prophets of the Old Testament repeatedly did, it is certainly what Jesus did - indeed it was why he met his death. Jesus challenged the establishment of his day and it was more than it could take. In June the church remembers especially John the Baptist who, just before Jesus, challenged King Herod's moral behaviour and lost his head, literally, in prison. It is odd how we often admire those who challenge society in countries far away but seldom find the courage to stand alongside those who challenge our own society.

Over the last few years I have attempted, mildly, and from time to time, to challenge the church and the government of the day. Some have reacted by calling me very left-wing in my politics! I think the left-wingers would be very insulted by that - they would consider me mildly to the right! however that may be, Susan and I leave Hampton Hill with many happy memories of many kind and understanding people. We hope we have challenged a few sacred cows in both church and community. Thank you for being so tolerant.

Nicholas Chubb



Nicholas has now started his new ministry
as a hospital Chaplain in Peterborough.

We wish him and Susan well.



'Where do we go from here?'

A report of the visit of the Archdeacon on 9th May

The appointment of a vicar is, at the best of times, a complex and antiquated process. In our own case it is further complicated by the presence of a Patron in the person of the Rev. Robin Rogers of St. Mary's, Hampton. In his hands, not the Bishop's, is the initial selection of suitable candidates for presentation to the churchwardens. In the last resort his choice of priest - and not ours - may prevail. It was therefore not without some misgivings that the P.C.C. welcomed Timothy Raphael, the Archdeacon of Middlesex and the Bishop's representative, to discuss the impending interregnum on the evening of 9th May.

The Archdeacon first laid down the responsibilities of the churchwardens in the selection procedure. They act on behalf of the P.C.C. in the appointment of a new

priest and may claim the right to turn down a candidate presented to them by the Patron by writing in advance to the Bishop. (This we shall, of course, do!) Secondly, the churchwardens must send a Letter of Representation to the Patron, and copy to the Bishop, requesting the type of man the parish wants.

The major part of the evening was spent discussing with the Archdeacon - in the presence of the Patron - the sort of qualities and characteristics the new vicar of St. James's would ideally possess. The P.C.C. had held a preliminary discussion on this subject the previous week and so not only did a clear and fairly unanimous view emerge, but everyone felt able to express their opinions with confidence. It was interesting to hear that the Archdeacon felt we would 'have a younger man for breakfast'! Do we present such a fearsome image to outsiders?

And that led on to the subject of how a prospective incumbent might get to know something about us. Firstly, the Archdeacon and Area Dean, Timothy Higgins of St. Augustine's, Whitton, draw up an unofficial job description to send to likely candidates. This not only specifies the day-to-day tasks to be done in the parish, but also paints a portrait of what the parish is like - warts and all! If this does not put off an interested party, he may ask to meet the P.C.C. - something we would like actively to encourage, but may not request!

Where will the patron find possible candidates to fill the vacancy? Hopefully, from the register of priests requesting a transfer which is produced monthly by the Clergy Appointments Board. Using this method credentials may be scanned and matched to our requirements. The Patron will then interview likely candidates, one at a time, and send them to meet the churchwardens who will either give or withhold their consent to an appointment.

It may take some time for the vacancy to be filled. Perhaps a year. As the Archdeacon said, it is right for there to be 'a period of mourning' after the departure of one priest and before the induction of his successor. We shall do all we can to maintain the life and worship of the parish during the interregnum and in this task we shall be greatly indebted over the coming months to Gordon Wilson and our four Readers. Please pray for all who are involved in this great venture, especially the Patron, Archdeacon and Area Dean, that the right man may be found to lead St. James's forward in faith and hope.

*Lesley Mortimer, Alan Taylor,
Churchwardens*

Easter Workshop

On Saturday 26th March, we gathered in the church for a fun-filled day of games, art, singing and drama. To start with we played a game of Treasure Hunt in which we followed clues hidden in the graveyard. Then we painted pictures to do with Easter. After that we all sat down and, with Pam Atkinson and Bridget Fairbairn leading us, we had a sing-song. Lunch was next on the agenda. During the afternoon we practised a play about The Light of the World which we performed on Good Friday. And I would like to say thankyou very much to the people who made the Eater workshop possible.

Julia Revis

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

About 50 people attended the APCM on 20th April. It was most notable for the Vicar's report which will be outlined in the next issue.

At the Meeting of Parishioners, it was announced that Eila Severn would be retiring from the post of Churchwarden, and she was thanked for her five years of hard and devoted work in that role. It was agreed that Lesley Mortimer should continue as Churchwarden and that Alan Taylor should be the new Churchwarden.

Jennifer Lloyd told us that the Electoral Roll stood at 143, of whom 95 were residents in the parish, then Hal Severn led us through the very clear accounts he had prepared, and was thanked very sincerely for this work over a quarter of a century in this field. Following last year's Stewardship programme, pledged giving was up by almost £3,500 on 1986. Expenses were up at £30,900, including a £20,000 payment to the Common Fund of the diocese, and exceeded income by £3,000. Donations to charities were almost £3,000. Both the Parish Hall and Wayside accounts showed substantial surpluses and the magazine had broken even.

The election for the P.C.C. was followed by reports on Stewardship and on the fabric of the church and church properties. In the former, Moya Smith drew attention to the fact that the further drop in basic rate tax will mean that proportionately less tax will be recovered on covenanted giving. In the latter, Jack Gostling spoke of the repairs and improvements carried out in the church. Dry rot in the vestry roof had cost over £1,000 to attend to, and the drainage had been improved on both the south and north sides of the church. The church, churchyard and Wayside had all suffered storm damage, but the cost of repairs to the buildings had been met by our insurers. A new heating plant had been installed in the Hall. Jack was thanked for all the time and effort he devotes to our properties.

Various other reports were made on different activities in which our church is involved and, after a look forward to our farewell to Nicholas and Susan, and to the interregnum, Nicholas's last APCM with us ended soon after 10pm.

The elected members of the P.C.C. for the coming year are: Mesdames M. Gow, M. Heaford, M. Leatherdale, R. Meyerowitz, M. Nevill, M. Orton, M. Smith and H. Taylor; Misses A. Davis and R. Mills; and Messrs. T. Baldwin, R. Bridges, J. Gostling, D. Lloyd, R. Metcalfe, P. Revis, W. Rowett, H. Severn, D. Taylor and R. Wilde.

Ron Bridges

Brief Notes

The Austerity Lunch on 30th March raised £54 for Christian Aid. The final total collected by Margaret Revis through sponsorship of the 24-hour Fast was a magnificent £1,029! World Vision is delighted!

The annual Children's Society box-opening will be on Tuesday 28th June between 7pm and 10pm at 68 Park Road. We need more supporters.

A Parish Ramble is planned for early in September in the Virginia Water area.

Rock Gospel in St. James's

It was good to be back in Hampton Hill, renewing old friendships, on Saturday 7th May, which saw a new enterprise in St. James's Church, where Mick Trueman and his band were performing and presenting the Gospel in a particularly vibrant folk-rock style. His group comprised himself, singing and playing guitar, with two other young men on keyboards, bass and backing vocals, with a very able girl on the drums. This was one of their first such events, playing some of Mick's songs which he had previously recorded as a solo artist. They are a group of active Roman Catholics, from churches in Hampton, Banstead and as far away as Portsmouth. They were very professional in their musical presentation, but I would have liked to have heard a little more from them between the songs, especially as the amplification system sometimes blurred the message they were trying to put across.

The first part of the evening was spent with 'The Travellers', the home based group who normally lead the Sunday night Prayer 'n' Praise services, and who led us in singing some of the better known praise songs we have in our churches, as well as some new songs, of which 'We'll build a highway for the King' is one of the catchiest tunes I've heard. They also sang some of their own material, from a collage of songs which they've entitled 'He's alive!'. Their enthusiasm shone, making up for the sad fact that the amplification did not do justice to their magnificent effort. The purpose of the evening was to present both new and better known Christian music in a concert format, which everyone there seemed to enjoy, and it was a pity that more weren't able to come.

Ann Douglas

Christian Aid Week

As usual the week of prayer and effort for Christian Aid commenced with a United Service, this year in All Saints' Church, Hampton.

This was my first visit to All Saints' Church; first I admired the pretty, well-tended garden on this beautiful sunny afternoon of Sunday 15th May and then the interesting, peaceful, though rather austere, interior. We arrived so early because the bus was punctual so there was time to exchange greetings with the busy ladies in the porch and then to make a quiet tour noticing the absence of stained glass windows until we came upon the one in the beautiful Lady Chapel. I always enjoy the colours in stained glass windows but on this lovely afternoon the sunlight flooded in as an added blessing to the congregation.

Before starting the service the Rev. David Vanstone called on Hannah to convey a kind message to Nicholas on his approaching change of ministry.

The theme this year was 'sharing' led by Mr. Tom Minney, African Group journalist for Christian Aid, and it was kept before us in all parts of the service.

Afterwards we moved back to the porch where tea and biscuits were passed and the greetings of strangers to me and far more of the St. James's family than I had expected to see.

Alison Thompson

Festival of Flowers at Teddington Hospital

What a party and what beautiful and clever floral arrangements! It was billed as 'Jubilation' because there was a wonderful spirit of happiness in achievement at Teddington Memorial Hospital. Having escaped the threatened axe, the hospital is going from strength to strength, thanks to the ever active Mrs. Pam Bryant and the League of Friends.

The Festival opened with the preview on Friday 6th May at 7.30pm and the new large Waiting Hall was soon full of happy chatting people come to meet their friends and to admire the flowers and praise the many groups and individuals who had spent time, imagination and effort to demonstrate how much this hospital is held in affection by the local people.

There were nineteen groups giving floral tributes but it seemed far more, as one was greeted just inside the front door by flowers everywhere. I particularly liked those decorating the stairs. The Waiting Hall was a bower of flowers and the doorway into the corridor had delightful arrangements by our own Roma and Ruth, and so on down to the wards with dainty little hanging baskets all the way.

At the Preview we were regaled with wine and canapés in the company of the Mayor, Toby Jessel, Dr. Neal-Smith, Nicholas and Susan and many others. General viewing was on Saturday and Sunday, and I expect that it was just as crowded.

Alison Thompson

Mrs. Flora Boyle Frisch

News has reached me of the death in February of Mrs. Flora Boyle Frisch at her Long Island home, at the age of 94. Until last Christmas she had kept in touch with me ever since Leonard and I met her when we represented St. James's Church at the Interment of her Father, Lt. Col. Joseph Whiteside Boyle, in Woodstock, Ontario, with full military honours. He died at Wayside and was buried in our churchyard on 14th April 1923. Flora was anxious to see her Father honoured in Canada before she died. On April 14th 1983, his remains were exhumed. Four years later a memorial stone, provided by the Joe Boyle Committee of Woodstock, was placed where the grave had been and was dedicated by the Rev. Chubb in the presence of the Chairman of this committee Edwin Bennett, his wife, two British representatives, Ron Bridges, Bill Robinson and myself. The cross and urn which Queen Marie of Romania had provided are now fully restored and in place in Woodstock Cemetery. I telephoned Flora that evening to tell her about the ceremony; she was very delighted that this had been done in her life time.

She was an amazing person with a great sense of fun, who had a full and interesting life and had many tales to tell of life in the Klondike (her Father was known as the 'King of the Klondike'). In 1984, at the invitation of the Yukon government, she flew to Dawson City and took a great part in all the ceremonies, unveiling several plaques to her Father's memory. She even climbed to the top of one of the dredgers which her Father had introduced when prospecting for gold.

Flora was a truly remarkable woman.

Vera Rockliffe

Race Relations in New Zealand

During my visit to New Zealand in December and January last I spent some days with friends who had stayed with me in Hampton Hill, Ted and Dorothy Martin. Their home is in Russell, in the Bay of Islands; it is in the far north of North Island, and near where the first missionaries landed. Captain Cook moored his boat Endeavour in the lovely bay looking out over the Pacific. It is one of the most beautiful parts of New Zealand.

Ted Martin is part Maori, though he doesn't look it; he took me round the little town of Russell pointing out the house where he had spent his boyhood with his grandparents. He is the senior member of his clan and is entitled to speak in the Marae, the meeting place, and when carrying his speaking stick no one can interrupt him. I was shown the graveyard where Ted's forebears were buried: some Maori, some Pakeha (white); also the tombstone of Chief Tamati Waka Neue, who advised co-operation with the British rather than a take-over by the French, and who was loyal to the British during the early years of settlement. Ted pointed out the flagstaff at Waitangi across the Bay where in 1840 the Treaty of Waitangi was signed on behalf of the British Administration and a number Maori chiefs. Great attention is now being paid to the Treaty; its wording in the two versions, the English and the Maori, show variations, and each signing party had a different understanding of some key aspects of the Treaty. Trust and co-operation were the aims in 1840; it did not work out.

Now 147 years later the Waitangi Tribunal is being required to work on social policy, and claims on land and fishing rights are being submitted and considered; there are definite aims at bi-cultural development and the traditions, culture and customs of the Maori people are being studied. Dorothy Brown, my Wellington hostess, took me to see Dame Joan Metge, who, more than anyone else, has made an exhaustive study of the Marae, the traditional meeting place; the procedures according to which discussion of difficulties are carried on in the Hui or gathering, the courtesies, the manner of talking, the cultural patterns, the unhurried methods of working and so forth. Dame Joan has written an admirable book, 'Talking Past Each Other: Problems of Cross-Cultural Communication'. Reading it is a delight and it would make good sense in other parts of the world.

I met many New Zealand friends who felt that there was a good chance of a peaceful future in that country for the two communities. There is much inter-marriage already. The Maoris coming in their long canoes, capable of carrying 100 warriors, arrived first in New Zealand around 900 AD bringing a knowledge of agriculture, weaving and beautiful wood carving with them. My brother Tom wrote that at one time he had met Paul Reeves in Rosettenville, at the CR Provincial House in Johannesburg; had I met him? I had met many people I said vaguely to Dorothy Brown, had we met Paul Reeves? Her response was 'Well, he is the Governor General!' He was an Archbishop, is part Maori, and gave an inspiring address on television on New Year's Eve. I feel that New Zealand will go well with all these plans of co-operation. There is white backlash of course and I came across it, but I feel that New Zealand, as before in her history, may well pave the way for progressive thinking and planning on good race relations.

Hannah Stanton

Church Flowers

There are many tasks undertaken throughout life where the end result belies the amount of preparation that has gone into it - a beautiful garden, a well-cooked meal or, in this particular case, the flower arrangements in the church.

For the last seventeen years the flowers have been the responsibility of Roma Bridges, with a great deal of support from Ruth Gostling and various other people. The results we know have been beautiful, and the behind-the-scenes activity great - cutting greenery, buying the flowers, cleaning the vases - all unseen preparations. Now, very regretfully, Roma feels she must give up this task, and as no one person wishes to be responsible in the same way, alternative arrangements will have to be made.

Eila Severn, Helen Taylor, Kath Brooks and Ruth Gostling met together and various suggestions were brought forward as to how we should continue in future. It seemed sensible and appropriate that we should follow the example of many other churches in this matter and draw up a rota of people willing to do the flowers from time to time. Eila is organising this and anyone who wishes to help in this way should give their name to her.

It is envisaged that people would do two consecutive weeks, each time with a different person, in order to give the job continuity. A minimum of two people are needed each week and more when preparing for festivals.

Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	
AB	BC	CD	DE	etc.

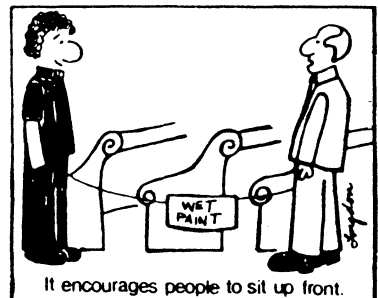
By doing two weeks at a time people will know what flowers are available in church and what will be needed to be supplied fresh.

As far as the flowers themselves are concerned, we hope that when possible people will provide these from their own gardens. There is a fund available to buy flowers when necessary which is provided by donations collected in the box at the back of the church.

We do want to involve as many people as possible in this service and realise that Friday morning, which is when the flowers had usually been arranged, is not possible for many people. If you are at work or cannot manage Fridays, there is still room for you on the rota as you can choose a time to suit yourself. There will be a short meeting for anyone who is interested after the morning service on 5th June and again on 12th June. The most important requisites for this job are enthusiasm and love.

Helen Taylor

Churchyard maintenance is becoming increasingly difficult and it will be appreciated if parishioners will cut the grass around their own graves.



Churches Urban Fund - Pilgrimage to St. Paul's

The setting up of this fund has been announced in the media and in a letter from the Archbishops read recently in church. The aim is to create a fund sufficiently large to enable many projects to go forward in the inner cities and workers to be financed for years ahead. It is to be 'an investment for Our Lord and His Mission with the dividend being found in the lives of people and the transformation of communities'. We are all asked to share in this venture with vision, prayer and generosity.

In our diocese the Fund is to be launched by a Pilgrimage of Commitment, led by the Bishops, to St. Paul's Cathedral on the evening of Sunday 19th June. We have been given ten sponsorship forms for those prepared to join in a five-mile walk to the cathedral. Money raised is, of course, to go to the Fund. Others can meet at an assembly point near the cathedral and the service will be relayed to them. A lucky few may receive tickets beforehand for admission to the cathedral itself! Please enquire in church about the final arrangements.

Each parish is to be given £100 soon. This is to be returned, suitably increased, by May of next year. Any ideas? Watch this space for our own plans.

Ron Bridges

Mars Mini-marathon

It all started one day at school. It was in P.E. that I saw a notice about the London mini-marathon. I rang up and asked for an entry form. I had to go to Barn Elms playing field for a race. There were 19 girls in my race from my age group. The first 12 from each race could enter the Mars mini-marathon. When my race started I thought I wouldn't get through, but in the end I came 12th. After that I had to fill in another form for the actual thing. When I received my letter I was really pleased. It said 'Dear competitor, I have the pleasure of informing you that you will be running in the London mini-marathon on Sunday 17th April'. I was really glad so I thought of collecting money for the church. I was to be picked up by coach and brought back.

On the Sunday morning I woke up at 6am, got dressed and had breakfast and then I was ready to go. My Dad took me to Twickenham. We set off in our coaches at 7.20am and arrived there at about 8.20am. We all got off and we were told to stay in our group. There were more than 1,000 people there, all from different backgrounds. We went into a big playground and waited for our race to start. I was put into a group for girls from 14 to 15 years old. When it was our turn we went to the bridge to get ready for the race. We were to run 3 miles, from Tower Bridge to Westminster Bridge. The race started and we were off. All the people cheered us on. There were about 350 just in our race. Finally I finished in 133rd place in a time of 24 mins 40 secs. I got a medal round my neck and a T-shirt. On it was: 'Richmond Mars '88 Mini-marathon'.

It was a very exciting day for me and I hope to compete next year in the 1989 marathon. I wish to thank all the people who sponsored me. I raised £30 altogether for St. James's Church.

Sally Sazegar

Taizé Meetings

For the past year or two some members of St. Theodore's Roman Catholic Church in Hampton have been holding a short prayer meeting on a Monday evening in the style of Taizé, to which members of other denominations have been warmly welcomed.

After a visit to the international meeting in Rome last Christmas, new inspiration spurred the group to widen their activities to include a monthly meeting to be held in venues of the different members of the Hampton Council of Churches in turn. The June meeting will be on 29th at the Methodist Church, Percy Road, Hampton at 8pm and the July meeting will be at St. James's on 19th at 8pm.

The service takes a very simple form, as at Taizé, and includes some of the chants which are so beautiful, prayer and readings.. If you have heard of Taizé but are not sure what it is, come to either of these evenings and taste a little of what worship in the Taizé style is all about.

Helen Taylor

Parish Outing

This year we plan to visit the Courage Shire-Horse Centre just outside Maidenhead. A coach will leave St. James's at 11am on Saturday 2nd July. Please bring your own food. Drinks will be provided although you are welcome to bring your own. After a picnic lunch we will have a guided tour of the centre and then there will be plenty of time to go round at your own pace.

The return will be at about 6pm. All-inclusive cost is £5 per adult and £4.50 for Senior Citizens and children. Please see notices in the church and, if you have not already done so, add your name to the list. An enjoyable day should be had by all so book your place now.

David Lloyd

From the Registers

Baptisms

April 24	Amy Louise Brooks	57 Bramley Close, Whitton
	Lucy Rose Eva Hitchinson	123 Percy Road
	Shelley Rhian Kestle	1 Woodberry Close, Sunbury
May 8	Lucy Sarah Greening	3 Park Gate Court
	Matthew James Hide	16 Lindsay Road

Weddings

May 7	Andrew George French and Carol Ellen Badun
May 14	Kim Riddett and Lisa Jane Chidgzey

Funerals

April 19	Donald Ruty,	formerly of the parish	aged 59
May 4	Nellie Dorothy Thorpe	formerly of the parish	aged 94
May 6	Linda May Kennedy	16 Taylor Close	aged 44
May 19	Elisabeth Alice Lewis	11 Queens Road	aged 88

Services and Dates to Note

June	5	08.00	Holy Communion
		09.30	Informal Service, followed by Flowers Meeting
		18.30	Parish Communion
	7	09.30	Holy Communion
		20.15	Hall Management Committee, 251 Uxbridge Road
	8	20.00	P.C.C. with Area Dean
	9	19.15	Holy Communion
	12	08.00	Holy Communion
		09.30	Parish Communion, followed by Flowers Meeting
		16.30	Evensong
		18.30	Prayer 'n' Praise
	14	09.30	Holy Communion
		20.00	Properties Committee, 21 St. James's Road
	16	19.15	Holy Communion
	19		Services as on 12th June
			Pilgrimage to St. Paul's (Church Urban Fund)
	21	09.30	Holy Communion
	23	19.15	Holy Communion
	26		Services as on 12th June
	28	09.30	Holy Communion
		19.00	Children's Society Box Opening, 68 Park Road
29	20.00	Taizé Meeting, Methodist Church, Hampton	
30	19.15	Holy Communion	
July	2	11.00	Coach leaves for Parish Outing
	3	08.00	Holy Communion
		09.30	Informal Service
		18.30	Parish Communion with Healing Ministry
	5	09.30	Holy Communion
		20.00	P.C.C., Vestry
7	19.15	Holy Communion	
10		Services as on 12th June	

Advance Notices

July	19	20.00	Taizé Meeting, St. James's
	24		Celebration of St. James's Day
Sept.	15	20.00	P.C.C.
	30		Concert (HHA) in aid of Princess Alice Hospice
Oct.	9		Harvest Festival
	15		Harvest Supper

Please Note Will committees etc., please enter dates of meetings and events in the Parish Diary kept in the Vestry.

Copy Date for July issue: 12th June