

FEAST FOR LIFE

What makes for a good party? Planning, inviting the right mix of people, decorations, choice of food and drink, music, atmosphere? I suspect a careful balance of all these ingredients. A party is more than just a meeting, it should raise the spirits and break down barriers; it should heighten people's sharing with one another and bring out people's talents. A good party is something that certainly needs preparation and which has a long term effect - no doubt we can all remember that truly great party, or at least part of it!

Some of the most memorable images that Jesus gives us are those of a party, feast or a banquet. Each such occasion involves a coming together to celebrate with food and joy the kind of party to which all are invited - the Feast for Life. Jesus first 'sign' was at a Wedding Party in Cana; he talked of the feast for the return of the Prodigal; the banquet to which some would not come, even though invited, they made their excuses. His act of giving to the Church his own self is most poignantly demonstrated in the Last Supper with all the disciples. Eating, drinking, sharing the Feast of Life is at the core of the pictures we have to describe God's Kingdom.

At the end of September Christian Aid is celebrating it's 50th Birthday. Christian Aid is the official agency of the British and Irish Churches to strengthen the poor. It was set up in response to the devastation caused by war in Europe and, sadly and ironically, in its 50th year it's once again giving aid to refugee communities in war-torn Europe, as well as far beyond. In Africa, Asia, South America and Europe, Christian Aid is the Church's caring arm, caring for individuals and communities among the poorest of the poor.

Preaching in Westminster Abbey in the presence of the Queen and eighteen hundred supporters, Christian Aid's Director, Michael Taylor, asked "What is there to celebrate?" He reminded his hearers that there are more desperately poor people in the world than when Christian Aid began, that there are emergencies on a scale hardly known before, that enormous debt burdens break the backs of Third World countries and the riches of the earth flow faster than ever from the poorest countries to the richest.

"What is there to celebrate?" - We celebrate that we are a Gospel people, born of the Good News, we celebrate the reality of human compassion, we celebrate fifty years of struggle and commitment with partners in the poorest communities of the world who wring their survival from dry and thirsty land, who organise and keep up their courage to overcome seemingly impossible odds.

So this year at Harvest Festival (September 30th and October 1st) we are celebrating a Feast for Life and the Feast of Life. We are having a Flower Festival in Church as well as our usual Harvest Supper. At our Harvest Parish Communion we will be offering 50p's for 50 years of faithful service. Come and keep the Feast! You will be very welcome.

50p
COINS



SAVE THEM !

50 yrs - 50p's

for our HARVEST FESTIVAL GIFTS this year.

As we celebrate Christian Aid's 50th Birthday

instead of bringing gifts of food

please bring 50 pence pieces

(LOTS OF THEM)

so we can make a trail down the aisle

during the Offertory.

The more we offer,

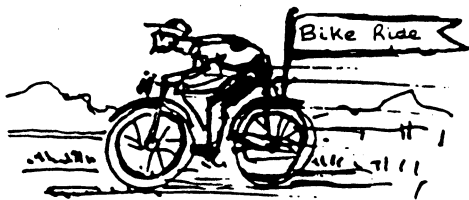
the more we can celebrate

the Feast of Life.

St. James's

Patronal Festival

Saturday's Happenings



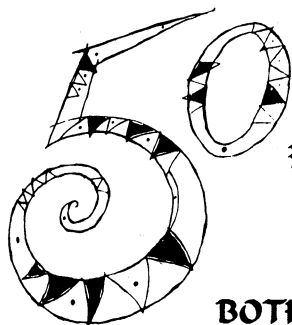
H.G. Wells once said, 'Whenever I see an adult on a bicycle, I feel that there is hope for the world'. Had he been able to be in Hampton Hill on the afternoon of Saturday 23rd July he would have had cause to be very hopeful. 40 or 50 of us, children and adults, were 'beating the bounds' of the parish by bike!

Led by Brian and Ramani, on a magnificent tandem (courtesy of Burts in the High Street), and many sporting St. James's T-shirts, we followed as nearly as practicable the boundary of the parish. Starting from the church in glorious weather and with quite a crowd to see us off, we set off down Burtons Road, took in 'our' part of Bushy Park (the gates presenting a slight problem for the tandem in particular), went up Hanworth Road, over the footbridge from Dean Road across the Longford River and back along the upper part of Burtons Road - about four miles in all.

Not a few motorists - and other parishioners also - were somewhat surprised to see this large and colourful group of cyclists! As for us, we were made well aware of the considerable extent of our parish. Hopefully, too, others were reminded of the existence of an active and friendly St. James's Church.

During the afternoon, all were welcome to visit the church and, as always, climbing the spire proved very popular. In the evening, we shared, with many friends from all around, a splendid barbecue (thanks to Ramani and her helpers) within the warm embrace of the summer evening between the church and the hall.

Ron Bridges



FLOWER FESTIVAL

to celebrate the

FIFTY YEARS of CHRISTIAN AID

SATURDAY 30th SEPTEMBER

SUNDAY 1st OCTOBER

BOTH DAYS 11am - 5pm

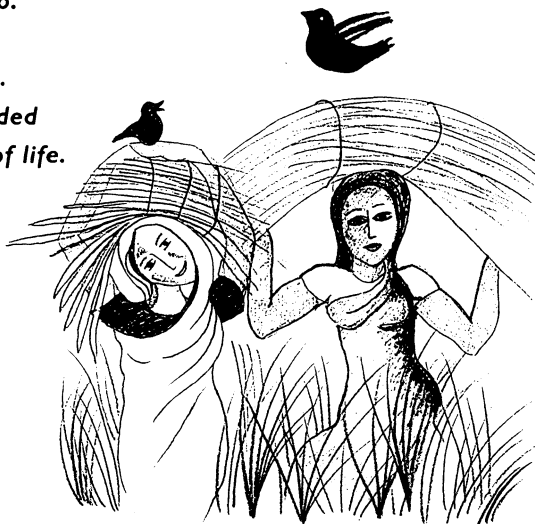
and to celebrate our own
HARVEST FESTIVAL

ChristianAid 

PRAYERS - OLD and NEW

Prayer is the vital ingredient in the Christian Life, without it we make no progress. Many of the prayers we use are well-known, or have fallen by the wayside as the pattern of our worship has changed. Some prayers are new and fresh and jog us out of our complacency, one such is quoted here.

*O God, you promise a world
where those who now weep shall laugh;
those who are hungry shall feast;
those who are poor now, and excluded,
shall have your kingdom for their own.
I want this world too.
I renounce despair.
I will act for change.
I choose to be included
in your great feast of life.
Amen*



Line drawing based on an original drawing by Nalini Jayasuriya

ChristianAid 

Registered charity no: 258003

A prayer often says in spiritual terms what we would like to be able to say but find difficult. Sometimes a particular prayer has helped us through a stressful time, one that we turn to again and again. If you have found a prayer that means something special to you there is no doubt that someone else might find it just as meaningful to them as it was to you. If there is such a prayer that you would like to share with other people please give me a copy and perhaps we can use the Magazine to publicise it more widely.

The Story of the Bible in English III

John Wycliffe (contd.)

Though he was driven out of Oxford, Wycliffe wasn't harmed physically for his beliefs. But 40 years after his death, by a decree of the Council of Constance, his bones were dug up from the churchyard at Lutterworth, and burnt. The ashes were then thrown into the river Swift. All done in the name of Christ!

It was the set policy of the dignitaries at Rome to keep the key of spiritual knowledge in their own hands, and by holding the scriptures under the veil of Latin, made sure that spiritual authority remained solely in the control of the priests. Translations of the Bible were met with a furious chorus of hatred, and were denounced as works of the devil.

Much of the translation of the 'Wycliffe Bible' was done by Nicholas of Hereford, who'd preached a sermon declaring that Archbishop Sudbury, Chancellor of England, had rightly been beheaded by Wat Tyler's followers in 1381. He fled to Rome to appeal, because of attacks made on him, but was unsuccessful. When he returned to England he was thrown into a dungeon at Saltwood Castle, where John Purvey, Wycliffe's secretary, was also being held.

Under threat of torture and death, he changed sides, and submitted to the Church Authorities. As a result, in due course he gained high promotion in the Church, and delighted in preaching against his previous friends. Followers of Wycliffe, who went about the country preaching, were contemptuously known as 'Lollards', from a dutch word meaning 'drone'.

John Purvey made it his first duty to correct various versions of the *Latin* Bible, rightly arguing that there would be no point in carefully translating something which was itself corrupt.

Here's an extract from Purvey's version of St. John's Gospel:

'But whanne the myddil feeste dai cam, Jhesus wente up in to the temple, and taugte. And the Jews wondriden, and seiden, how can this man lettris, si the he hath nor learned? Jhesus answerde to hem, and seide, my doctryne is not myun, but his that sente me.'

Brownies' Open Evening

On the evening of Tuesday 18th July, the last Brownie meeting of the summer, everyone was invited. It was a hive of activity, the "hive" impression carried through by a general hum of Brownies chatting excitedly, and Mums and Dads just as excited. The Brownies, in their brown and yellow uniforms, buzzed around serving cups of tea to all visitors and between the hall and the churchyard as they showed us what they had been doing this year.

The study of the churchyard as an ecological area was not, by any means the only thing the Brownies had been up to this year, but it was a project that had involved everyone and had produced visible and tangible records in the form of books and paintings. (These were very kindly loaned to the church for its own open day. I hope many took the opportunity to look at these remarkable, informative and interesting pieces of work).

Several Brownies had become very interested in the owl's nesting box in the churchyard, and the pack have given the church a robin's nesting box which will give a lot of pleasure to all - not least, we hope, many generations of robins.

Another book on display was the pack's photograph album. It was a delight to see that, not only the activities of the Brownies were recorded in this, but also some of "Brown Owl". It served as a reminder that Lesley Brough, like all good Guiders has a commitment beyond the hour of two every week of the meetings.

With all the experience the Brownies had taking photos for their books, they have decided to work on their photographer's badge next year. They should do well!

In the shade of the tree planted by Brenda Oliver, a previous Brown Owl, the enrolment of six new Brownies took place. Jessica, Lyndsay, Karina, Sara, Louise and Morwenna were starting on the adventure of Guiding, taking their threefold promise as members of the movement do all over the world. What a wonderful start they have with 3rd Hampton Hill Brownies.

Ruth Mills

Farewell to Bishop David

As you know the Bishop of London will shortly become the Archbishop of York and we have had a letter from the Archdeacon in which he says -

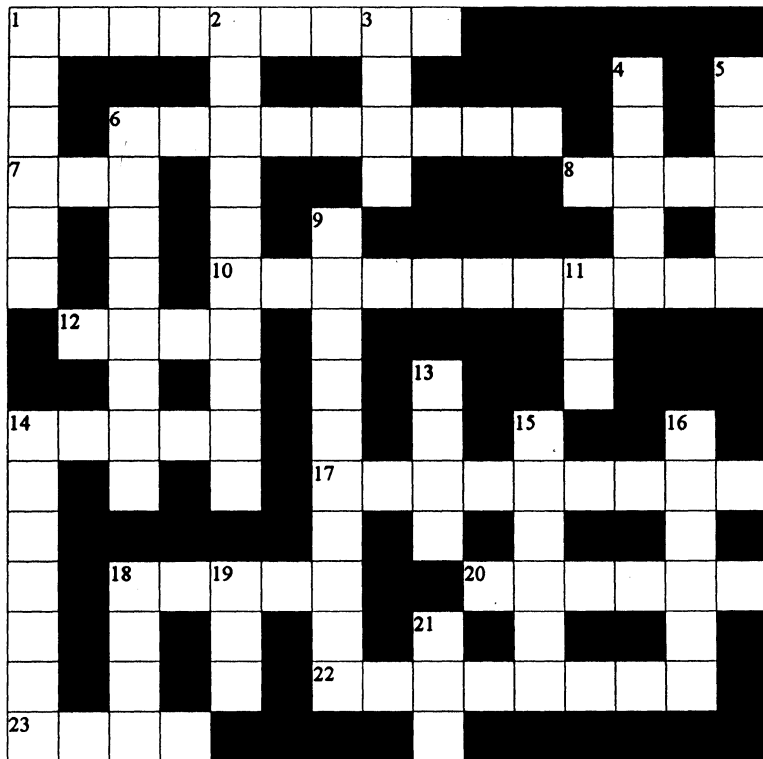
"As the time of the Bishop of London's departure draws near, a Presentation Fund has been opened to enable the Diocese to express in tangible form our thanks for all that has been achieved, to wish Bishop David happiness in his new home, and to assure him of our prayers as he becomes Archbishop of York.

The purpose of this letter is to bring to the attention of your PCC the existence of this fund and to encourage your generosity. I think that Kensington Anglicans owe Bishop David a special debt for his care for us all this last year."

If you would like to contribute to this fund please give your donation to Margaret Taylor as soon as possible.

Children's Crossword

(with perhaps some help from Mum and Dad)



ACROSS

1. Holy City of Religions (9)
6. A 'good' person who offers help (9)
7. Adam's wife (3)
8. The garden where the world began (4)
10. He returned to a joyous father (8,3)
- 12 & 22 Across. How many were fed (4,8)
14. A Greek island (5)
17. Jewish Hypocrites (9)
18. It was turned into 18 down (5)
20. Often found on pictures of St. James (6)
22. See 12 Across
23. Look for (4)

DOWN

1. He had a multi-coloured coat (6)
2. A disciple, brother of James (5,5)
3. The opposite of good (4)
4. Betrayer of Jesus (5)
5. Type of priest in RC Church (5)
6. We have them at 8am and 9.30am (8)
9. One of the trinity (4,5)
11. Type of un-ordained preacher (3)
13. He floated for forty days (4)
14. These are lit in church (7)
15. See 19 Down
16. Miracles did this for the sick (6)
18. We drink it at Communion (4)
- 19 & 15. What was fed to 12 & 22 (3,6)
21. Promise at Baptism (3)

*Solutions to the Crossword
will be found in next months issue.*

News from Morocco

We had a letter a few weeks ago from Jeanette Lawson now living in Rabat in Morocco. This is part of her letter -

Although I am settled now, it took sometime and a trip home to my mother after three months here. My parents were very worried I wasn't going to settle. So, Andrew went to Pakistan for a conference and I came home, with a short visit to London (one night). After ten days in Liverpool, which isn't really my home anymore, I was ready to come back. I think the reason I couldn't settle was that I had never been so close to real poverty and this upset me very much. It also seemed as if you couldn't get anything here, but I was wrong. If you shop where the locals shop, you can get nearly everything - and what an adventure! I try and go to the orphanage here when I don't have any visitors. When I first went I found it very distressing and thought surely they could do better than this. But after a few months, I realised what a fantastic job they do with the money that is available. I tried not to have any favourites, but it was impossible. I am very fond of a little boy called Jalil. He is eleven months old and, do you know what attracted him to me? He has a chest problem similar to the one Oliver had. I have only visited one orphanage and they are numerous in Rabat. One for babies - they currently have one hundred and ten babies, approximately 95% are boys. The girls are snapped up. Some say this is so they can work in the house. Separate orphanages for boys and girls over three, where they then stay until they are eighteen. Others for deaf and handicapped children. I'm told that they receive a nominal amount of money from the ministry, but generally rely on donations. One thing I've realised here, is that we don't know how lucky we are.

Oliver is going to a French Nursery that he loves. He is bilingual. It's funny, I tell him to say goodbye and he says "au revoir"! Every time I think of how ill he was, I thank God he pulled through. They both give us a lot of heartache but lots of joy!

Andrew has settled into his work. He enjoys visiting other areas of Morocco and he has had a few results. I feel that there must be something more I can do. I have enquired about doing a Montessori Correspondence Course so that when I come back, I can still be with the children.

I haven't been to church here yet, but I have some friends who go regularly. There is one Holy Communion Service a month. So this is my next objective.

Can you please send everyone my love and tell them they are always in my thoughts.

Jeanette

Around the Spire

As people live longer Golden Weddings are becoming more common, so we are told. This month we have not one but two such events to celebrate, that of Ruth and Jack Gostling and Len and Dorothy Taylor.

Ruth and Jack were married at All Souls, Twickenham, on the fifteenth of September, 1945. Ruth's family had moved into the area a few years previously and when Ruth's younger sister joined the Brownies Jack's sister was Brown Owl and it was she who introduced Ruth to Jack and his brother. After they were married the newly-weds lived in Twickenham but moved to Hampton Hill a few years later. Since that time they have been involved with many local and Church activities, and of course Jack also worked with the family firm in Holly Road. Their own family of three, Heather, Jill and John, has now increased to include a son and daughter-in-law, and four grandchildren already nearly grown-up themselves.

Len and Dorothy Taylor also celebrating their Golden Wedding were married at St. James's on the sixth of October, 1945. They have lived for many years in Myrtle Road and have one son.

We send our love and warmest congratulations to both these couples and hope that they enjoy a very happy day with their friends and families, and many years of good health and fellowship in the future.

Rishan's Pharmacy in the High Street has recently changed hands. The new owners are David and Fariba Abinema. Their opening times are 9am - 7.30pm Daily, and 11am - 3pm on Sundays. As always we do ask you to support our Advertisers and the local shops generally. We wish the Abinema family every success in their new venture. Andrew Milbank, the owner of the carpet shop in the High Street also has something to celebrate - his recent wedding at Sunbury to Lorraine, best wishes to them.

From time to time people leave sums of money to the Church in their Wills, sometimes with a specific request on how they would like the money to be spent. One such recent legacy requested the purchase of some new seats to be placed in the courtyard. These have now arrived and been installed, and replace the old much vandalised ones. Needless to say the gift was made by someone who always thought of others before herself, Freda Moses, and although she is no longer with us in body she is very much with many people in spirit, thank you Freda. If you have already made a Will but would like to add a Codicil to it bequeathing some money to the Church, forms are available which are quite straightforward, please speak to the Vicar.

The Women's World Day of Prayer Committee Coffee Morning raised Seventy-seven pounds for Torch. Thank you to all those that came, the amount raised was much appreciated.

Dates to Note

3rd	Sept.	09.30	Informal Service
6th	Sept.	14.00	Magazine Committee
		14.30	Women's Forum - Hall
8th	Sept.	19.00	Parish Friday re-commences - Volunteers needed to help
10th	Sept.	09.15	The Jays - Sunday School (4-10yrs)
			Young Church (10-14yrs)
		19.00	The Youth Club
11th	Sept.	20.00	Confirmation Classes begin - Information from the Vicar
13th	Sept.		Cyprian - Bishop of Carthage
		20.00	PCC
14th	Sept.		Holy Cross Day
		20.00	Deanery Standing Committee
16th	Sept.	19.30	"LAST NIGHT OF THE PROMS" - Cheese, Wine and sing-along
20th	Sept.		Saints and Martyrs of Africa [Hall
21st			St. Matthew the Apostle
24th	Sept..		Baptism Party - Hall
25th	Sept.		Lancelot Andrewes - Bishop 1626
26th	Sept.	10.30	Deanery Chapter
27th	Sept.		Ember Day*
28th	Sept.	20.15	Stewardship Committee - 16 Cranmer Road
29th	Sept.		St. Michael and All Angels
30th	Sept.	16.00	Bishop of London's Farewell Service, St. Paul's Cathedral



30th September and 1st October - FLOWER FESTIVAL IN CHURCH

11am - 5pm each day, to mark the 50th Birthday of Christian Aid

The Preacher at the Service on Sunday morning will be:-

The Revd. Gray Featherstone, Area Secretary of Christian Aid

The HARVEST SUPPER will be on September 30th at 7.30pm in the Hall.

The Flower Festival is being organised for us by the Hampton and Hampton Hill Floral Art Club. Many thanks to them.

* Ember days are those days set aside by the Church as days of prayer for those about to be Ordained.

COPY DATE FOR OCTOBER ISSUE: 15 SEPTEMBER