

I am in rather reflective mood as I write this, for it is exactly six years since I began my ministry here as Vicar of St. James. In many ways the time has flown past, but in other ways it seems like a very long time since we took up residence. I took to looking again at T.S. Eliot's play "The Rock" which contains the line 'I journeyed to London'. It is spoken by an anonymous individual with an enquiring mind, eyes and ears open, who arrives in London and looks around.

'I journeyed to London' seems very appropriate to me this week, as I am by no means a Londoner, born and bred. I suspect many parishioners at some stage in their lives journeyed to London - for study, for work, for training, for marrying - and have remained. Many, many of our parishioners journey to London every week day for work. All of us for a variety of reasons journey up to London more or less frequently - perhaps to a hospital, to go to the theatre or an exhibition, even to shop!

Last week the name of our new Bishop of London was announced. It is to be Richard Chartres, currently Bishop of Stepney, whose short journey will now be from one part of London to another. It will also be a journey of greatly increased responsibility and pressure, in which we assure him of our support.

Last week too, I journeyed across London, from Hampton Hill to Limehouse, in order to attend a Diocesan meeting. It was a wet, miserable day and I thought how highly inappropriate were the 16th Century poet Dunbar's words

"London, thou art the flower of cities all."

nothing could have been further from the truth.

To get to Limehouse I took the train from Fulwell to Waterloo, the drain from Waterloo to Bank, and the Docklands Light Railway to Limehouse. About sixteen miles divides Hampton Hill and Limehouse, but they appear such different worlds that they could be on separate planets. Yet we are connected as members of the diocesan family with our sisters and brothers there; we are connected as residents of London, and with a stake in the life of our city.

But on the train, in the drain, on the Docklands Light Railway nobody spoke; on the streets people passed one another without a smile. There seemed to be no feeling that we are all in it together. We are now even separate local authorities so that even less seems to bind the people of Richmond to the people of Tower Hamlets. But new Bishop, parishioners of Hampton Hill or Limehouse, we do belong together.

"I journeyed to London" needs to be balanced with St. Paul's words "We are members one of another" as we live with enquiring minds, eyes and ears open to each other.

## Courses, Courses & Courses

The Autumn brings with it details of several different courses, some of which we have already mentioned in previous magazines. This is a summary of what is on offer, if you would like any more details please speak to me or Brian.

First of all there is a course being run in our own Church Hall by Stuart Ward:-

**MEDITATION CLASSES** with Crystals, Colour and Sound.

Commencing on Thursday October 5th 8.00 - 9.30pm.

The fees are £45 for ten sessions.

Stuart says true meditation concentrates the mind and helps us to deal with the stresses and strains of everyday living. Speak to Stuart for more information.

Now something for those who would like to know more about the Old Testament.

The Revd. Dr Angus Stuart, Curate of St. Mary's, Twickenham, is giving a course of six lectures on the Old Testament starting on Monday October 9th at St. Mary's Parish Centre. The title of the first talk is - MONOTHEISM - The Lord our God is one. These talks are not just academic, but aim to make the Old Testament relevant to the present day. The course fee is £6.00, it is advisable to book in advance and send the full fee.



The "Listen to Asia" course we have mentioned before. This course of six talks begin on September 26th and is being held at three different venues. Each talk focuses on a different Asian country, the first being The Philippines. Others to be highlighted are India, Burma, Korea, Sri Lanka and Hong Kong and China. A donation of £2.50 is suggested for each evening to cover the cost.

The well-known annual Bible School at St.Giles-in-the-Fields, is also on a Monday evening starting on October 2nd and consists of eight lectures to be given by Canon Ray Adams, Rector of Ipsley in Worcestershire. The overall title of the lectures is "Precepts of God Incarnate - Divine insights for Human Comprehension". Each lecture is based on a well-known parable and the first talk is called "Good News for All - The Lost Son". This course is free.

Now for details of courses that aim to help people in certain situations - bereavement and caring for the sick.

The Chaplain at the Princess Alice Hospice in Esher is running three courses in the new future.

**WHAT IS SPIRITUALITY?** Three two and a half hour sessions on Wednesday mornings at 10.00 am starting on September 27th - "How am I made?", "What am I worth?" and "How can I find?". The cost of this course is fifty pounds.

**SPIRITUAL CARE OF THE DYING.** Four two and a half hour sessions on Friday mornings - helpful for people visiting the sick. This course starts on Friday October 13th at 10.00am and the fee is sixty pounds.

**INTERPRETING THE STORIES.** Two two and a half hour sessions on Wednesday mornings aimed at helping pastoral visitors interpret 'fear', 'anger' and 'denial'. This course doesn't begin until February 7th but people may like to know in advance. The fee for this course is thirty-five pounds.



## **HAMPTON DEANERY SYNOD TRAINING DAY**

### **MAKING CONTACT**

How well do we communicate? What about Publicity?

Rev. Rob Marshall

Publicity Officer for the Bishop of London

**SATURDAY OCTOBER 14th 1995**

St. Stephen's Church, East Twickenham

9.30am - 12.30pm

Cost £2.00 per person.

There are plenty of courses here to choose from, I hope people will be able to attend at least some of them. Don't forget our own Bible Study Groups, one on alternate Wednesday mornings at Jean Western's house, or one on alternate Tuesday evenings in the Church Hall at 8pm.

# WEEK OF PRAYER FOR WORLD PEACE

15 - 22 OCTOBER 1995



A WEEK OF PRAYER LEADING INTO  
ONE WORLD WEEK

A SERVICE OF  
PRAYER  
will be held  
at the  
WEST LONDON  
SYNAGOGUE  
33 SEYMOUR  
PLACE  
11.00am  
on  
WEDNESDAY  
OCTOBER 18th

***PLEASE PRAY FOR BOSNIA***

For all those who came before us,  
for all those who gave from their hearts,  
who gave from their lives,  
that there might be a better world,  
a safer world, a kinder world,  
we pray for peace, in their name.  
That all their dreams,  
that all their struggles,  
would not end like this -  
in this great sadness,  
we pray for peace, in their name.

And for the children,  
that the children may live,  
that they may have children of their own  
and that it will go on -  
that they would have a world  
worth being born into,  
a future worth dreaming about -  
we pray for peace, in their name.

*From Praying for Peace, Ed. Michael Hare Duke*

## V J Day Celebrations

It was an extremely hot day on Saturday 19th August when Hal and I made our way up to town to take part in the VJ 50 year Commemoration. Even as we got into the train to start our journey the great atmosphere started! For the first time, being a little older seemed to be an advantage.

On arriving at St. James's Park, I made my way to my seat to join in the service outside Buckingham Palace, while Hal made his way to Birdcage Walk to join up with his old regiment in the Indian Army to take part in the march. Unfortunately it was necessary for marchers to stand for two and a half hours in the hot sun before the march past started, but they made it! (Just)

I saw it all, and I have to say I really found the whole thing extremely moving. These "elderly men" were the "boys" that came back. This brought a lump to my throat and made me think of my grandsons! None of these men was under 70 years old, and most a great deal more, but they were all proud to be there, and it showed.

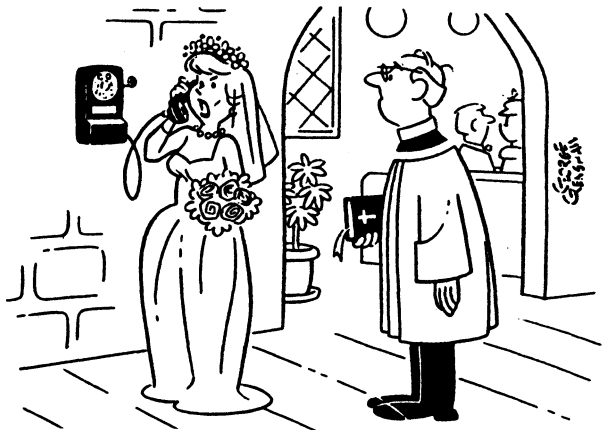
The organisation and care taken was superb, cold water was being dispensed by the police, first aiders, the army etc., to all who requested it, and tea, coffee and toilets were freely available, and I mean "free".

There was really too much happening for me to relate, but the atmosphere was such that I am sure I will never forget it. It was not so much a celebration, as a thanksgiving.

In the evening we were amongst the few privileged people to be invited to the Tower of London (no idea why!) to see the fireworks. Another unforgettable experience. Champagne flowed free, food, wine and coffee were all on offer and a visit to see the Crown Jewels at our leisure! Then the fireworks which were absolutely magnificent and unbelievable. It was all very friendly - a perfect end to a really memorable day.

*Eila Severn*

**"Well wake him."**



# Letter from Zimbabwe

Thursday 24th August.

Mary and I had a splendid three week holiday back with you all in the UK. Beating the bounds on a bicycle for starters! Thank you all for your welcome - we'll be back next July again, DV.

We returned two weeks ago; once again, we are enjoying Zimbabwe's almost perfect weather. Golden sun, blue skies and trees that defy the drought with their green leaves. We can eat a leisurely supper in our porch, watching the sun go down, the temperature staying above 20°C until bedtime. Our garden is mostly brown apart from the trees, but Mary has made some plots with little banks of earth round them and grows an assortment of vegetables, beans, lettuce, spinach, tomatoes, onions and marrows.

Nearly all our washing up water is tipped into buckets and goes on to the vegetables. It is surprising how often we trot into the garden with buckets, and surprising also how well the vegetables grow. Today I took lettuces into work to give to my colleagues. Daily we read or hear of the continuing effects of the drought. In some areas the effects are awful. We begin to feel guilty as we splash in a quick morning shower. I have not yet found a way of saving water from the bathroom, though Mary looks at it gurgling down the drain with some frustration. Today our water meter tells me that we have used more than our daily ration of 440 litres, we shall have to be careful this month.

Our teaching semester is now finishing its second week. The usual juddering starts with imperfect initial attempts to get lecturers and students together in the same place at the same time. I am too old to keep getting cross about poor administration, but I feel disappointed that our thin resources are further wasted in this silly way.

However, as yet we have not got the desperate difficulties that our older sister institution, the University of Zimbabwe, or UZ, in Harare seems to be having. Trouble started when the students did not receive their full grants promptly. Demonstrations turned into riots, and then into street battles. Tear gas has been used, and the situation is not improving. Today the paper headlines are "Government annuls UZ Council". President Mugabe personally discharged the Council members, and will appoint a completely new one. This is dramatic stuff.

My university, NUST, has had some student demonstrations recently. I believe that our militant student president would like to be manning the barricades too. I hope our students have the sense to make their protests without damaging their own interests. We shall see - I'll let you know if they do how we weather the storm. STOP PRESS: student grants have just been increased by 25% - that should do the trick.

Kindest wishes to you all.

*Dick Wilde.*

# Children's Corner

On Sunday 1st October it is Harvest Festival when we thank God for all he provides for us. Here in Hampton Hill we are very fortunate. We also think of those that are not as lucky as ourselves and pray that their lives may be made easier.

This year the 50th anniversary of Christian Aid is also being celebrated on the 1st October. Christian Aid is a charity that provides help to those that need it anywhere in the world, particularly the poor countries of the third world in places like Africa.

During Harvest Festival at St. James's we will be helping Christian Aid by collecting as many 50p's as possible during the weekend and especially at our morning Church service. 50p will represent the 50 years that Christian Aid has been working for.

Our 50p's will help to buy many things for people that greatly need our help. Things such as:

- Immunisations to stop children getting dreadful illnesses like Measles and Polio.
- Special drinks to stop babies dying of dehydration, that is not having enough water, when they are ill.
- Helping to provide clean water for people to drink by building wells and other water supplies.
- Providing seed so that people can plant crops for their own harvest in years to come.

So this month try to pray especially for the work done by all charities to help others and thank God for all that we are lucky enough to have in our lives - food, clothes, our schools and homes and much, much more.

## Carers Support Project

The Carers Support Project now has a new Support Worker. Her name is Jean Templeton and she can be contacted at 51 Sheen Road, Richmond, telephone number 0181 940 6235. She contacted Brian after seeing a copy of his article in the Parish Magazine about Carers a little while ago.

The Carers Support Project aims to give information, advice and support to any person, of any age, who looks after someone too ill or disabled to look after themselves. There are several Carers Support Groups meeting in the Borough, details of these and any other information you may need is available at the above address.

# Around The Spire

As you will have read in Brian's leader the new Bishop of London is to be Richard Chartres, the present Bishop of Stepney. Bishop Chartres is married and has four young children, his wife, Caroline often writes for the Church Times. In a letter from David Hope, the new Bishop is commended to us as someone who has a good sense of humour and an acute awareness of the problems faced by the Diocese of London. He asks us to pray for our new Bishop as he grapples with his new tasks.

Following the retirement of David Palmer as Vicar of St. Peter and St. Paul's, Teddington, the present Curate, the Rev. Paul Lock has been appointed in his place. We wish him well in his new office.

Margaret and Len Hobbs have recently returned from a month in Burma, in conjunction with Len's work for the British Council. Since their return Len has been suffering from a form of malaria, we hope he will soon recover and we look forward to hearing more about their visit.

Peter Horner is about to go to Germany for a year as part of his degree course. Bon Voyage, Peter.

Iva Ross has now gone to live in Gifford Lodge, Twickenham, after a spell in hospital. Roy Brookes has had an operation but is now home making good progress. Olive Wright has been celebrating her 91st Birthday, and has also had a short stay in hospital.

Congratulations to Helena Jeffries who has passed her Law School examinations with Distinction and who is now looking for a job.

Sad news to finish this edition of 'Around The Spire'. Robin Rogers, for 17 years Vicar of St. Mary's, Hampton died on Wednesday, September 18th, a few weeks before he was to retire through ill-health. May he Rest in Peace. Amen.



## Parish Weekend

Don't forget the dates of the Parish Weekend next February.

Friday 2nd Feb. - Sunday 4th Feb. Fairmile Court, Cobham.

Details in the August Parish Magazine or from Brian and Ruth Mills.



## Dates to Note - October 1995

- 1st FLOWER FESTIVAL  
Harvest Festival celebrating 50 years of Christian Aid  
Preacher - Rev. Gray Featherstone - Area Secretary  
of Christian Aid.
- 4th St. Francis of Assisi - Friar 1226
- 6th William Tyndale - Bible Translator 1536
- 7th 3pm WATCH - Celebration Service of Women's Ministry in  
Diocese of London, St. Paul's, Hammersmith.
- 8th Women's Forum AGM in Church 11am.
- 10th Paulinus - Bishop, Missionary to N. of England 644
- 11th PCC
- 12th HCC AGM St. Mary's, Hampton 8pm.
- 13th Deanery Synod Standing Committee
- 14th Deanery Training Day - St. Stephen's, E. Twickenham  
MAKING CONTACT
- 19th Deanery Synod - St. Mary's, Twickenham.
- 22nd HCC United Service - Week of Prayer for World Peace  
St. Theodore's RC Church, Hampton, 6.30pm
- 28th Concert in Church by Cantanti Camerati and St. James's Church Choir.
- 31st Saints and Martyrs of the Reformation.

November 2nd ALL SOUL'S

8pm Service of Remembrance for all who have died.

## St. James's Church & Hampton Council of Churches

Invite you to a series of four AUTUMN CONVERSATIONS on Living issues on  
Sundays in November 1995 at 6.30pm in Church.

- 5th Money makes the world go round.  
Keith Robinson, Secretary of the Stock Exchange.
- 12th Life and Health.  
Janet Taylor, Consultant Obstetrician and Gynaecologist
- 19th Justice for All.  
Alan Baldwin. Chairman of the London Clerks to the Justices Assoc.
- 26th TV Rules, OK?  
Michael Bunce. Royal Television Society

## From the Registers.

### Baptisms - July 1995.

- 9th Lilly Kate COCKS - 16, Walton Lodge, St.James's Rd  
16th Susan Tierney JONUSAS - 47, Wolsey Rd. HH  
Chaney Matthew WOODLAND - 16 Hillbank, Stourbridge  
Jacob Joseph WOODLAND - 16 Hillbank, Stourbridge  
30th George Simon ETHELL - 161, Waldegrave Rd. Tedd.

### August 1995.

- 6th Georgina Snn Stewart CLARK - 128, Hanworth Rd. HH  
Rebecca Leigh McLAUGHLIN - 39, Gatfield Grove, Hanworth  
Oliver William Jardine ROSBOROUGH  
Sally ROSBOROUGH - Both 139, Wordsworth Road. HH  
Katy Ann TUCKER - 35, Cranmer Road.HH  
13th Charles Jonathan NEWTON-SAVAGE - 9, School Rd. HH  
27th Finlay Logan MURPHY - 21, St. James's Ave. HH

### Wedding - July 1995

- 15th Martin Douglas HUCKLESBY to Tania HUTCHINS

### Funerals - July 1995

- 18th Nellie Florence ROLLS - Deer Lodge Nursing Home 96  
19th Alma Pauline LEROY - 7, Parkgate Court, High St. 71  
20th Pearl Georgette BEARMAN - 52, Chelsea Close. 72  
August 1995  
7th Caroline RYALL - Laurel Dene 89

---

We should like to apologise to all those who attempted last month's Children's Crossword. The answer to 5 Down was Canon, found also in the Church of England, and James's brother was, of course, John, not Simon Peter, 2 Down. Here are the rest of the answers :-

Across: 1. Jerusalem, 6. Samaritan, 7. Eve, 8. Eden, 10. Prodigal Son,  
12. Five, 14. Crete, 17. Pharisees, 18. Water, 20. Shells, 22. Thousand, 23. Seek.

Down: 1. Joseph, 2. Simon Peter, 3. Evil, 4. Judas, 5. Canon, 6. Services,  
9. Holy Spirit, 11. Lay, 13. Noah, 14. Candles, 15. Fishes, 16. Healed, 18. Wine, 19.  
Two, 20. Vow

**COPY DATE FOR NOVEMBER ISSUE: 13 OCTOBER**