

**Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> February**

Closed. Shut. Fermé. St. James's was most definitely not open for business. That is St. James's Cathedral in the Armenian quarter of the old city of Jerusalem. Yes, I admit I wasn't enough of an early bird to attend the divine liturgy, or what we would call Parish Communion. Instead we went round the corner to the Church Of the Holy Sepulchre and lit a candle to mark our prayers for the peace of Jerusalem. After traditional lunch of mezze and Mussakhan (Spiced chicken with lashings of onion on a bed of local bread), we visited the new Sabeel Centre. Sabeel is a centre of Palestinian Liberation Theology working with women, men and youth to do theology, not in universities, but in the everyday experience of their lives.

**Monday 9<sup>th</sup> February**

Jericho - the oldest continuously inhabited city of the world. And the rains came tumbling down. Wow, can it rain in the désert! Now I understand the parable of the man who built his house upon the sand. Trying to drive along the Jordan valley road torrents of mud swept down from the mountains. Glad I didn't have to wash the car. We had been to visit a Christian Aid partner, the Palestinian Agricultural Relief Committees at work. We saw women at work in jam production and the preparing of dried herbs. Because of the continued closures Palestinians have no long term security for buying and selling food products. Hence the importance of these small-scale income generating enterprises involving women and giving whole families self-reliance and a consistent income.

**Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> February**

Visiting the Holy Land one is quickly aware of stones. Stones which make buildings and, more importantly, the living stones which build communities. So today we drove north out of Jerusalem to Ramallah. Its only about 7 miles from Jerusalem but those we wanted to see, like most of the inhabitants of Ramallah, are prevented by the Israeli authorities from entering their own capital. Spent the day with another Christian Aid partner, Union of Palestinian Medical Relief Committees, who undertake a huge range of community healthcare. This includes mobile clinics, training of village health workers and health education. Always very impressive and humbling when we complain about our beloved NHS.

**Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> February**

O Little Town of Bethlehem - and becoming even tinier as the Israeli government continues to confiscate land from its rightful owners to build settlements. The conference we were attending took place at Bethlehem University. 1998 is a year of Jubilee - 50 years since the creation of the State of Israel and the consequent dispossession of the Palestinians - al Nakbah (the catastrophe). The theme of the conference taken from Micah ch 6 v 8 is "What does the Lord require? But do justice, love mercy and walk humbly with God".

### **Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> February**

The Holy Land, like all land, belongs to God. That has to be the message from the book of Leviticus ch 25 vv 23-24 'For the land is mine says the Lord and you are resident aliens under my authority'. So today the conference addressed the issue of land, asking what the biblical tradition of Jubilee has to say for Israelis and Palestinians and indeed for every corner of the earth. Prestigious scholars from the Jewish, Christian and Muslim faiths presented their views with total unanimity in one principle, "The earth is the Lord's", not ours.

### **Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February**

We all know what we mean by a 'hole in the wall'. It's a place to get money. Today we saw a hole in the wall with a difference. The Tantur Ecumenical Institute sits astride the check point between Bethlehem and Jerusalem. Here the literal hole in the wall offers relatively safe passage for hundreds of Palestinian workers who are denied permits to cross into Jerusalem to earn a daily wage. Next in our smart bus we drove to see Mohanna, a Palestinian farmer whose home was now a converted bus. His crime? He owned olive groves where a new Jewish settlement was to be built. His land was confiscated and his house demolished. But he refused to leave his land and now has to make do with a battered old bus. The bus is not going anywhere and neither is he!

The highlight of the week was the keynote lecture delivered by Edward Said, an eminent literary scholar. He had travelled from New York just days after chemotherapy to keep this appointment in his native Palestine. At heart his message was simple. "History is what we make it and every action, or failure to act, counts". Fitting words for us all echoing the prophet Micah "do justice, love mercy and walk humbly with God".

### **Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> February**

The alarm rings at 3.00 a.m. Homeward bound.

*Brian & Ramani Leathard*



**The Lord's Prayer  
in Arabic**



**LENT · 1998**

## **FOUR GOSPELS BUT ONE JESUS?**

Sermons at Parish Communion

on four Sundays in Lent

8 March	Matthew	Anthony Ball
15 March	Mark	Betty Stewart
22 March	Luke	Alison Hampton
29 March	John	Brian Leathard

## **MY WORK AS AN INTERNATIONAL LAWYER**

I am a partner in the international law firm, Cameron McKenna. We have some 160 partners, 650 lawyers and 1300 total complement. Most are based in the City of London but we have offices all around the globe, including Moscow, Washington and Brussels. Everyone specialises in an area of corporate law: the members of my group are experts in the unusual field of the European and UK law relating to the regulation and safety of products and product liability.

We advise a wide range of manufacturers, distributors, trade associations and insurers, many of them based in USA and Japan as well as Europe. I travel to USA and Japan at least once a year as well as all over Europe (last year also South Africa and India) and have to speak at quite a few seminars. The fields are wide: pharmaceuticals, medical devices, cosmetics, pesticides, electronics, machines, cars, motorbikes, toys and so on. Almost all of the law is new or developing quickly: it is often based on EC Directives. I am currently spending a lot of time discussing proposed legislation in Brussels and London. There is a huge amount to keep on top of (we all do this by writing articles or books, which take a lot of time but mean that we end up knowing the subject and with the undeserved reputation of being leaders in the field). The job is intellectually fascinating, one meets a wide range of interesting people (some of the things I have had to eat in Japan would make you cringe) but above all we are able to contribute to the safety of products which are used by some 400 million people.

There is not much time to relax: a typical day in the office might run from 8.30 a.m. to 7.30 p.m. and often later. Saturdays also disappear under a never-diminishing pile of reading or writing. It would be nice if there were more time for the family, music and gardening. A great joy remains being a trustee of the charity supporting the choir "The Sixteen" and its orchestra "The Symphony of Harmony and Invention": do try and hear their performances; they are terrific!

*Christopher Hodges*

**Churches Together Around Hampton Ecumenical Lent Groups**

**HOPE IN THE TIME OF CHANGE**

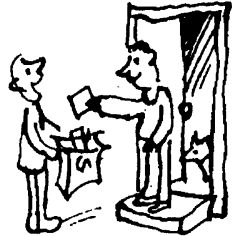
Details from Steve Dolley 977 4521 or Richard Felstead 01932 789750

# Christian Aid NEWS



On the morning of Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> April, there will be a meeting with our Area Organiser, Grey Featherstone, in the Church Hall to talk about the Jubilee 2000 debt cancellation project. Details to follow.

Christian Aid Week is May 10<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup>. Collectors always needed! We want to make 1998 a really bumper year in Hampton and to collect £2000 at St. James's would be a great achievement. We shall be organising a collectors' meeting soon; watch the weekly notices.



In addition to the house-to-house collections, three other events will benefit Christian Aid:



An AUSTERITY LUNCH on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> April. Home-made soups will be served in the Church Hall. Enjoy the soups and chat whilst making your contribution to Christian Aid.

SING-IT-YOURSELF MESSIAH at 7.30 p.m. on Good Friday, 10<sup>th</sup> April. An associate director of the charity will be with us to share the evening.



The second sponsored "WALK THE CITY" on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May. Visit as many of the beautiful 44 City churches as possible on a lovely May Sunday afternoon. Sponsorship forms will be available in March and Young Church members will be asking for your support.

*Margaret Taylor*

## YOUNG CHURCH CREEDS

We believe that all shall  
be included in the feast of life;  
No one shall go hungry;  
We shall use our share  
of life to the full.

*Elizabeth Hodges, Jo Highley, Cressida Barrett*

We believe in helping others,  
So that they don't have to work  
to live.

And can start to live life to  
the full,

And instead of frowning they can  
smile.

*Helen Hodges, Venetia Barrett, Sarah Clay*

We believe in fair treatment of all people,  
and the suffering and pain should come  
to an end.  
We believe that God should come to those  
who work hard and give generously.  
We believe that one day there will  
be peace throughout the world.

*Anusha Leathard, Francesca Cronney, Lucy Newman*

### AREA CONFERENCE

Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> March

BEING TRULY THE CHURCH - PUTTING EVANGELISM ON THE AGENDA

Guest speaker: Rev. Stephen Cottrell

St. Michael's, Bedford Park, Chiswick 7.30 for 8 p.m.

Nearest Tube Turnham Green



## ANY QUESTIONS?

Women's Forum 8 p.m. Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March

Panel: Janet Taylor, Dick Wilde, Coun. Liz Quelch  
and Graham Marriner (Head of Archdeacon  
Cambridge School)

**ALL WELCOME**

## IMPROVING OUR PARENTING SKILLS

Last October and November, Margaret Ansell and I attended a parenting course along with other parents from various local churches. The course was run by the Family Caring Trust and took place over eight evenings.

The principal aim of the course was to encourage us, as parents, to improve the way in which we communicate with our children. This involved learning to respect our children and their rights and using positive actions and words in our daily lives. Many parents have found that through improved communication, problems of discipline and co-operation have been resolved without conflict and children have developed a greater responsibility for themselves.

Each evening we used group discussion, videos and case studies to explore a different problem or approach. Topics included: Communicating Positively, Listening, Encouragement, Discipline and Taking Time to Talk. We also decided how we were going to put into practice what we had been discussing. At the beginning of each session we reviewed together how effective our new methods had been during the previous week.

I found the course both interesting and useful. It gave me confidence to use some different approaches in dealing with my children - some have been extremely successful and others not so. It was particularly useful to have the support and input from other parents who were dealing with similar issues and could give real examples of what did (or didn't) work for them. The course stresses that we are none of us perfect parents all of the time. However, by stepping back from a problem and giving yourself time to think of another way of handling it, we may be able to help both ourselves and our children and remove some of the conflict and stress from our lives.

Margaret and I are hoping that we may be able to facilitate another course after Easter. If you think you may be interested, please speak to us for more information so that we will be able to decide if there is sufficient demand.

P.S. No promises that our children will be any better behaved in church!

## THE REVEREND RAYMOND DRAPER



If you have lived in Hampton Hill for some years you may remember Raymond Draper. Raymond is now Rector at Wickerley in Yorkshire and has recently been in the news because of Ed The Crow! Ed succeeds Miriam the Mouse and Cornelius the Woodworm as the star of Raymond's family services. When in Church, Ed sits cross-legged next to the Rector, who uses him to tell stories or illustrate points, and Ed's behaviour is not always exemplary - he stole an apple from the harvest display and a brooch from a woman's coat. However, on Christmas Day he was more restrained and

joined a hand bell-ringing group. Such is Ed's popularity that some of the women in the congregation baked cakes for his first birthday!

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## HAMPTON PAROCHIAL CHARITY

The trustees of the Hampton Parochial Charity have limited funds available for persons resident in Hampton and Hampton Hill who are in conditions of need, hardship or distress by making grants or providing or paying for items, services or facilities calculated to reduce the need, hardship or distress of such persons.

Application forms can be obtained from :-

*R. E.G. FARRER - CLERK TO THE TRUSTEES*

*35 ASHLEY ROAD, HAMPTON, MIDDLESEX. TW12 2JA*

**The Royal School of Church Music  
invites you to Come and Sing**

### **THE CRUCIFIXION** by Sir John Stainer

At St Paul's Cathedral on Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> March

Doors open at 6.30 pm / Rehearsal at 7.00 pm / Performance at 8.30 pm

Minimum donation £12 for singers, £6.00 for listeners

with reductions of £1 each for groups of six or more singers.

Supply your own music.

Tickets can be ordered from RSCM, Cleveland Lodge, Westhumble,  
Dorking, Surrey RH5 6BW

Cheques made payable to 'RSCM'

## WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER: FRIDAY 6<sup>th</sup> MARCH

St. Francis de Sales Church, Wellington Road, Hampton Hill  
2.30 p.m. and 8 p.m.

Theme: "Who is my neighbour?"

prepared by the Christian women of Madagascar

### What is Success?

To laugh often and much;  
To win the respect of intelligent people  
and the affection of children;  
To earn the appreciation of honest critics  
and endure the betrayal of false friends;  
To appreciate beauty;  
To find the best in others;  
To leave the world a bit better,  
whether by a healthy child, a garden patch  
or a redeemed social condition;  
To know even one life has breathed easier  
because you have lived;  
This is to have succeeded.

*Ralph Waldo Emerson*

## CHURCH SPRING CLEAN - APRIL 3<sup>RD</sup> AND 4<sup>TH</sup>



We need two days for this job in order to allow time for the more time-consuming part, the high-level bits: the aisle roof trusses, gable windows, chandeliers, column caps, (not to mention the East and West windows) which should, ideally, be done before we do the things at floor level. There, all the chairs have to be dusted, the pews polished, the floors hoovered, washed, sealed: in short, a thorough Spring-clean!

We intend to start immediately after Morning Prayer and continue until late evening on the Friday, resuming at about 0900 on the Saturday with the aim of finishing in time to join the Women's Forum Soup Lunch for re-fuelling and refreshment!

The more people who come to help with this rather mundane but very necessary job, the easier becomes the task for each individual. If you are prepared to help for however short a time on either day, - or both! - please add your name to the list which will be in the Church from 15<sup>th</sup> March.





One of the brighter moments of the month has to be the party in the Church Hall to celebrate the Chinese New Year. The evening was a great success, with appropriate dress and food on a Chinese theme. Many thanks to all who were concerned with organising the party or contributed in any way to the evening.

Congratulations to the Brownies who raised £45 with their Blue Peter Bring and Buy Sale - well done! Thanks also to our Sunday School for their very striking Nativity Picture entitled "Where is

Jesus now?" "In the hearts of those who love him."

Sadly, we were not able to acknowledge the death of Margaret Revis's father in last month's issue. Denis Boyle's funeral was on 20<sup>th</sup> January. Our deepest sympathy to Margaret and her family on their sad loss.

Violet Shell is in Roehampton Hospital recovering from an operation. It was most unfortunate that after visiting Violet her husband, Walter, had a bad fall and severely bruised his face. He is now much better and Violet is also gaining strength quite well.

Joanna Sunnatamby, a neighbour of Mona Gow, has returned home after a hip replacement operation. Our best wishes to all these invalids for a speedy recovery.

On the last day of January the new Scout headquarters at the recreation ground in School Road was officially opened. Among the many people present were Mike and Yvonne Childs, former Cub leaders, who moved to Devon 10 years ago, and we were pleased to see them in Church the following day. Yvonne is in her first year of training for ordination.

We have had news of Connie Brunt, Rupert's widow. Despite her advancing years, she is very well and has begun to attend classes on computing and technology services at adult college. It is very admirable that these folk have the courage and ambition to make their later years fulfilling and rewarding.

Just a word to remind you all that the new lectionaries have arrived and are in the vestry. Copies can be bought at £12 each.

Finally, Helen and Alan Taylor have extended another invitation for the parish to visit them in Suffolk. They have a lovely home and garden and would welcome visitors in July. Please speak to Margaret Taylor if you would be interested.

## FROM THE JANUARY REGISTERS

### Baptisms

4 Abigail May Lawson, 90 Hollybush Lane, Hampton

### Funerals

9	Nellie Trenter, Sunbury Nursing Home	96
12	Rosa Smith, Marling Court	89
20	Denis Boyle, 7 Faraday House, Queenswood Ave., Hampton	80
23	Bertram Galler, 91 Park Road	86
28	Bill Withers, 46 St. James's Avenue	71
28	At St. Nicholas, Thames Ditton, Rev. Bill Rowett of Thames Ditton Island, who ministered to this parish on several occasions.	88

## DATES TO NOTE IN MARCH

1	Lent 1	0930 Informal Service; RNLI Annual Service 2100 Compline
2		Chad, Bishop of Lichfield, Missionary 672
4		1430 Women's Forum: Aspects of Lent
6		1430 and 2000 Women's World Day of Prayer: St. Francis de Sales
8	Lent 2	2100 Compline
15	Lent 3	2100 Compline
17		Patrick, Patron Saint of Ireland, c460
18		2000 Women's Forum: Any Questions?
19		St. Joseph of Nazareth
20		Cuthbert, Bishop of Lindisfarne, 687
21		Thomas Cranmer, Archbishop of Canterbury, Martyr, 1556
22	Lent 4	Mothering Sunday 2100 Compline
25		The Annunciation of Our Lord to Mary
28		1500 Tea Dance, Church Hall 1930 Teddington Choral Society Concert in Church
29		Passion Sunday 2100 Compline

**ADVANCE NOTICE:**  
**QUIZ NIGHT: Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> April**  
**by popular request**

**COPY DATE FOR APRIL MAGAZINE: 12<sup>th</sup> MARCH**