

MAY 2021 CHRISTIAN AID WEEK

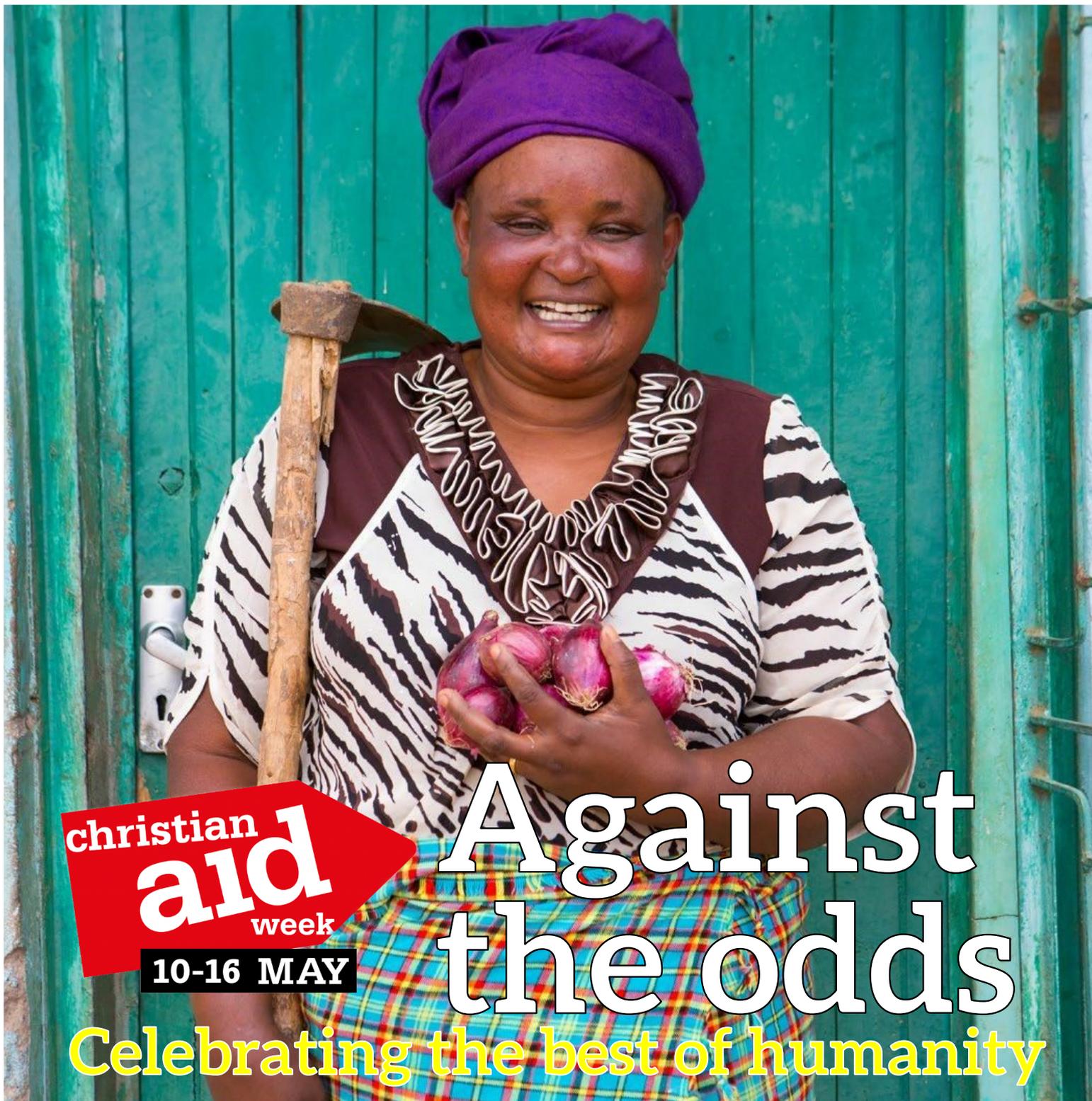
SPIRE



HAMPTON HILL'S PARISH MAGAZINE

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christian
aid
week

10-16 MAY

Against the odds

Celebrating the best of humanity

stjames-hamptonhill.org.uk or find us on



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

Meet the clergy



VICAR Rev Derek Winterburn

Derek was born in Orpington, Kent, and ordained in 1986. He served in several diverse London parishes before becoming vicar here in 2016. He is married to Sandra, a teacher, and has two children. A keen photographer, he posts a picture online every day, combining it with a daily walk or cycle ride. He can be contacted at any time other than on Wednesdays (his day off).

Tel: 020 8241 5904

Email: vicar@stjames-hamptonhill.org.uk

ASSOCIATE PRIEST Rev Jacky Cammidge

Jacky was born in Abertillery, South Wales, and ordained in 2015. She is a self-supporting minister and has been at St James's since starting her ordination training. Jacky is married to Alan, and has three children. During term-time she runs Hampton Hill Nursery School, based in the church hall, with her family.

Tel: 079 5012 2294

Email: jackycammidge@stjames-hamptonhill.org.uk

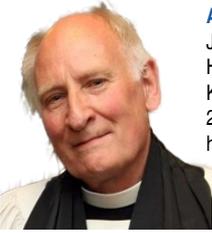


ASSISTANT PRIEST Canon Julian Reindorp

Julian was born in Durban, South Africa, and ordained in 1969. He has worked in parishes in East London, Chatham and Milton Keynes, and was Team Rector in Richmond until retirement in 2009. He continues to lead a busy life, often out and about on his trademark red scooter. Julian is married to Louise and has four children, three stepchildren and nine grandchildren.

Tel: 020 8614 6800

Email: julianreindorp@outlook.com



CHURCH OFFICE Church & hall bookings

Nick Bagge

Nick is currently on furlough and working restricted hours, mainly from home. You can still phone or email.

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Email: office@stjames-hamptonhill.org.uk

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Chair Laurence Sewell 020 8977 2844

Gardening Team Ros Daly 020 8979 3687

Parish Visitors' Team

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 Email Susan Horner: smhorner5@yahoo.co.uk — and start saving paper!

FROM THE EDITOR...

Despite very challenging times, we have had a spectacular spring with exceptional blossoms to lift our spirits. The icing on the cake was to be able to return to church for the Easter services, albeit with social distancing and no live singing.

Thom Stanbury, our Choir Director and Organist, gives us an insight on page 6 of the work involved to record the choir for our services. By the summer we should be able to join in! It is only when you can't join in that you realise how much a part of the service the hymns and responses are.

Our centrespread focusses on Christian Aid Week. This year's appeal, *Climate Chaos*, joins the growing voices for a plan to stop global warming. Charities have had a hard time during the pandemic as very little fundraising has taken place, so do support this worthy cause.

On page 8 you will find a very interesting selection of London parks that Liz Wilmot has visited. I have been to just one, Postman's Park, so am looking forward to getting to the others.

Best Wishes

Janet

Janet Nunn



Cover photo: Christian Aid helped Florence build a dam for water to grow food © Tom Pilston/CA

SPIRE

The Spire is published nine times a year for the Parochial Church Council of St James. We make no charge for this magazine, but if

you are a regular reader we hope that you will contribute towards printing costs to enable us to expand our outreach across the parish. Cheques should be made payable to the PCC of St James, Hampton Hill and sent to Spire Appeal c/o the Church Office (see below).

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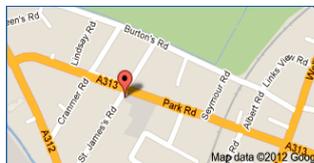
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Finding us



The church is on the corner of St James's Road and Park Road. The hall is between the church and vicarage. There is ample unrestricted parking. Buses stopping nearby include the R68, R70 and 285.

Follow us

For the very latest news go to our website or follow us on social media:

stjames-hamptonhill.org.uk

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Clerical Capers



'After a year of working from home, Tony is using every opportunity to put on a suit.'

Surprising benefits of going to church



DEREK WINTERBURN

against 'What is your religion?' will have risen. Similarly, it is probable that the number who described themselves as 'Christian' will have fallen under 50%. However it is also likely that other faiths will have risen, and further investigation tends to show that only a minority of the 'nones' would consider themselves atheists, and that percentage increases with age. The younger the cohort the smaller the proportion of atheists.

Two years ago I suggested that there were six reasons why someone might join a church (a safe harbour and training water, to meet God and to meet people, for this world and the next). But those might be reasons for those who belong. How does the church justify itself to the unbelieving world?

'Come to church; it will be good for your body and soul!'

Here are three reasons:

- The church is often a pioneer in remedying social ills: hospitals, schools and hospices are now part of our public services. But their roots are in the churches. Over half the food banks in Britain are hosted and managed by churches. It is true that religious people are more likely to give and volunteer, even to secular causes.

- The church has an important part in community cohesion. Healthy human societies need social glue to become stable. There is every reason for us to pool our efforts for our own benefit or for the good of our children. But society needs greater cohesion than a temporary coalition of nuclear families. Churches (and other local groupings) weave together the mini-

tribes. I think churches at their best often are the places where there is the most mixing of people.

- Whether it's your mental health or your physical health — there are proven advantages to belonging to a church. Reflecting on his experience of the covid year, the journalist John Harris wrote: 'For many of us, life without God has turned out to be life without fellowship and shared meaning.'

One academic paper is titled 'Is investing in religious institutions a viable pathway to reduce mortality in the population?' and lists a string of conditions that are reduced with increasing frequency of worship.

Last year I picked up a Forestry Commission leaflet that describes five steps of wellbeing: be aware, give to others, connect with people, be active and keep learning. I would maintain: come to church; it will be good for your body and soul!

Feeding spiritual hunger

But here's the rub — soul. At Pentecost (23 May) we often say we celebrate the birthday of the church. But what caused the church was not a plan to meet a social need, or a strategy to placate the civil authority — it was the deluge of the Spirit that came upon the believers.

They would have to develop a defence of their beliefs — they would rise to the challenge of hungry brothers and sisters and stand against immorality and corruption — but on 'Day One' it was an experience of God (worship) that started it all.

Recently a *Guardian* editorial said 'spiritual hunger is part of the human condition'. There are multiple ways to satisfy a spiritual hunger, but worship in the local parish church takes some beating.

Christians fall below 50%

The previous issue of the *Spire* introduced the national census. One result that is likely to be found is that the number of people who ticked 'none'



Sundays

Holy Communion (said) 8am

Parish Communion 9:30am

Come to church or watch live or later on our Facebook and YouTube pages. If you come to church, please remember to wear a mask.

To attend this service you must book. There is a link in the weekly eFlyer, or go to: stjamesh.churchsuite.co.uk and follow the links to the calendar.

You do not need an account to watch the service on Facebook, just go to: facebook.com/StJamesHamptonHill

Coffee and Chat 10:30am

Join us 'at the vicarage' for this virtual coffee morning where you supply the coffee and chat! There's a link in the weekly e-Flyer.

Together at 11 11:15am

Our shorter, All-Age Service. Until 30 May: by [zoom](mailto:vicar@stjames-hamptonhill.org.uk) For the link email: vicar@stjames-hamptonhill.org.uk From 13 June: back in church

Mon-Fri (but not Thu)

Morning Prayer 9am

A short service of daily prayer in church

Thursdays

Holy Communion (said) 9:30am

If you would like to come to church (booking not required) please remember to wear a mask.

Ascension Day

Thursday 13 May

Holy Communion (said) 9:30am

If you would like to come to church (booking not required) please remember to wear a mask.

Charity Quiz Night

Friday 14 May 8pm

Help us to raise money for Christian Aid Week by joining us online for a fun night's quizzing. Sign-up details in Weekly News (see below).

Time to Pray Mon-Fri

If you would like to receive the weekday podcasts please email: vicar@stjames-hamptonhill.org.uk

Weekly News

If you would like to receive the weekly eFlyers, with details of services and events, email: vicar@stjames-hamptonhill.org.uk

Help us to mend our



LINDA WEBB



Florence has reasons to smile. An earth dam now provides water for crops. © Tom Pilston / Christian Aid

Florence sings a deep, joyful tune. Her song lifts the spirits of the other women on the farm. She is full of life, love and laughter. The women in her farming group look up to her. She's courageous, kind and a survivor, but it wasn't always this way.

A few years ago, her husband died, leaving her a widow. At that time she had no water to grow crops. Her children were hungry. She had to walk for hours on a dangerous journey to collect water. 'Life was miserable,' she said.

Florence could easily have been defeated, but she is a fighter, and she shows the women in her farming group that they can be fighters too.

Next to her farm, Florence is proud to show us something remarkable – a dam, full of fresh water. It's thanks to Christian Aid Week donations like yours last year that Florence and her community have built this water dam, just a short walk away from her village.

'I have been sustained by the earth dam,' she explained. 'My life has changed. I am very happy. You can see it in my face: my face is shining. I have strength and power.'

With this dam, Florence can grow tomatoes, onions, papayas and chillies on her farm. Her children can eat healthy, nutritious vegetables. It's her source of life and joy.

Florence also uses the water from the dam to keep honey bees. She sells the honey for cash at the market. Now, Florence is reaping a good life for herself and her family.

The dam helps Florence withstand even the most unpredictable weather. It's a reliable water source, whether

Christian Aid is celebrating its 75th anniversary. Ending apartheid seemed a distant dream. Not to Christian Aid supporters. Fairtrade looked like an impossibility. You didn't believe it. Our broken climate? It's almost as if everything we have achieved together over the past 75 years has been preparing us for the greatest of challenges. A gift from you will help us to face the climate crisis.

she faces a long period of drought or relentless rainstorms.

'I am thankful to the people who have donated to build this dam. I am praying God will increase their giving.' Florence

Florence is generous, and she

knows other people are struggling to cope without a reliable water source. 'There is a village nearby – they don't have a dam. They travel a long way to come to this water point. They are suffering.'

By giving to this year's appeal you could help more people like Florence to overcome climate crisis with earth dams of their own.

Rose's story

Take Rose, who is caught in a cycle of climate chaos. From severe drought to flooding, extreme weather robs her of what she needs to survive: a reliable source of water.

When she was a child, Rose remembers how often the rains would fall, giving fruit to the trees

and providing plenty of food to eat.

The climate crisis has produced ever-more extreme weather and Rose's community is suffering.

Rose strives to provide for her grandchildren who live with her. She does all she can to give them happy childhoods, like the times she remembers when there was plenty of food. But the climate crisis is driving her to the brink.

'When I was a young girl there was plenty of food. Now, the rains are totally unreliable.' Rose

In times of drought, Rose sets out on a long and dangerous journey every morning to collect water. She walks on an empty stomach.

'Because I am old, I can't walk very fast. When I get home I just rest in the evening. I have no energy to do anything else.'

Even when the rains do come, relief for Rose is often short-lived.

There is a nearby earth dam just minutes away from Rose's home. It should be a lifeline, but it's not wide enough or deep enough for everyone's needs. It runs out of water too quickly.

Imagine how dispirited Rose must feel watching the rain fall for days, only to find the dam empty just a short while later. What's more, the rains are much heavier than they should be, putting her community at risk of flooding.

Rose is over 60 years old and simply won't have the strength to fetch water from further afield for much longer.



Rose is living through climate chaos, robbed of a reliable source of water. © Adam Finch / Christian Aid

broken planet

People like Rose need every last drop to survive this climate crisis. Please give this Christian Aid Week.

£20 could buy four taps for a water point at a dam where families can collect water

£60 could buy 10 bags of cement to help a community build an earth dam

£335 could train an earth dam committee to keep a dam in good repair and run it effectively



Fighting the climate crisis

We need to fight this climate crisis together. With a reliable source of water, people like Rose would be free from long, painful journeys.

They would be able to grow fresh vegetables to eat. Clean water for handwashing would help to protect them from the dangers of coronavirus. With such dire need, every last drop of water that falls in Rose's community is precious.

This Christian Aid Week, will you stand with people like Rose and help them fight the climate crisis?

Your gifts could help communities build better earth dams to harvest more water; sow drought-tolerant crops that grow even with the fewest of drops; or set up an advocacy group to demand change at the highest level and put a stop to this climate crisis.

Your gifts will help people like Rose to survive this.

Give today and help ensure people like Rose have the water they need to live.

There are plenty of ideas of how to fundraise on the Christian Aid website: christianaid.org.uk.



OUR CHRISTIAN AID WEEK APPEAL

Use the QR code, left, or go to:

<https://givealittle.co/campaigns/2ba07242-7b69-4e42-a271-b7384ec37a68>

You can pay by credit/debit card and Gift Aid your donation



St James's Church has set a target to raise £2500. You can donate online at the above address — where you can say 'yes to Gift Aid'. To give cash or cheques (made payable to the PCC of

St James's Church) please use one of the CA envelopes in church. We will also be holding a fun quiz night on 14 May to raise funds. Details of how to sign up are on page three.



Christian Aid will tirelessly campaign until climate justice is top of the agenda.

Around the Spire

Faith was Michael's anchor

MICHAEL FUTTER'S confirmation book is inscribed: 'Stand firm in the faith'. Well, he certainly kept to Rev Frederick Harvey's words.

Michael died on 20 May 2020, aged 87, but only close family were able to attend his funeral due to Covid. As we did not mark his life in print then, we are using the first anniversary for the tribute.

Michael was born in Norwich in 1932 and was baptised in the cathedral. His involvement with our church began when he and his parents moved to St James's Avenue in 1939 with his elder brother Ivan.

The brothers attended Hampton Hill Junior School and Kingston Grammar School and both became members of the church choir.

Michael was in church when Rev Harvey announced that World War Two had been declared before rapidly sending everyone home.

Michael recalled a dramatic incident in November 1940 when the wing of a Wellington bomber caught a pinnacle on the base of our spire. The crew bailed out and the bomber destroyed Lady Stanton's House (Hannah's home) in Park Road.

In December 1946, Michael became a server, attending four services every Sunday. Michael joined the RAF in 1950 for five years of National Service, but he was able to get home most weekends to continue serving and ringing the bells for the 11am service.

In 1955 he joined Martins Bank (later to become Barclays) and stayed there until he retired due to ill-health in 1984.



Michael met Pat at St James's Parish Hall in 1951 and they were married in 1957 at St Mary's Church, Hampton. When he and Pat moved to Hampton Hill they came back to St James's.

Pat and Michael were married for 63 years. They had two sons, Anthony and Nicholas, and three grandchildren, Timothy, Dominic and Sophie.

Michael happily returned to serving at the invitation of Rev Brian Leathard. He remained a faithful server at the Sunday 8am



Holy Communion service until 2016.

I only got to know Michael well in the last few years. He was a real gentleman, quietly spoken and loved having company and talking about his life.

He was dedicated to everything he did and certainly kept 'firm in the faith' with his devotion to the church, his family and friends.

Janet Nunn

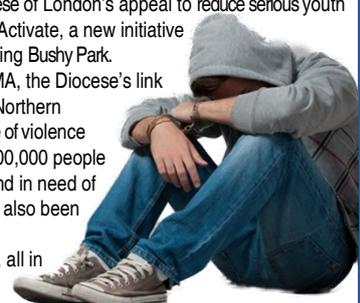
Helping fight youth crime

THE TOTAL collected for our Lent Appeal has reached **£3,890** — £1200 more than last year. Besides online giving, money came from three quiz nights on Zoom. The money will go to three good causes.

We are supporting the Diocese of London's appeal to reduce serious youth violence. Money also goes to Activate, a new initiative to take the church to people using Bushy Park.

The final third will go to ALMA, the Diocese's link to Angola and Mozambique. Northern Mozambique has seen a wave of violence by Islamic extremists. Over 500,000 people have been made homeless and in need of food and water. The area has also been hit hard by Covid.

Three very different causes, all in need of support. Thank you.





Our parable windows have messages that run deep



PRILL HINKLEY

surrounded by a marble border, at the east end of the south aisle. One, *The Mother and Child*, is in memory of Mrs Isdell and the other is of St Michael in memory of Captain Isdell. On the wall by the vestry door hangs a stone tablet of a black cross in memory of Rev Charles Job. The inscription reads: 'This tablet, together with North Window in the chancel is erected in memory of Charles Robert Job, vicar 1893-1914.' The stone sculpture at the west end of the south aisle, above the south door, is inscribed: 'Ask and it shall be given you'. The stone sculpture at the east end of the south aisle, above the vestry door, is inscribed: 'Alleluia'.

The Book of Remembrance

The Book of Remembrance is kept in a glass topped table cabinet at the east end (pictured). In it, on request, are recorded the names of parishioners who have died. The book is divided into the months, and a page from the current month is always left open. Names are also included in the weekly prayers on Sunday.



Down the south aisle is a series of beautiful stained glass windows based on the Parables, given in memory of the first vicar, Fitzroy John Fitz Wygram, by his wife and her mother, Lady Ward.

The choice of the parables *The Sower and the Seed*, *The Good Samaritan* and *The Good Shepherd* (with the inscription: 'I have found my sheep which was lost. He shall gather the lambs with his arm') are particularly apt memorials to the man and his work. The other parables represented here are *The Prodigal Son* and *The Wise and Foolish Virgins*.

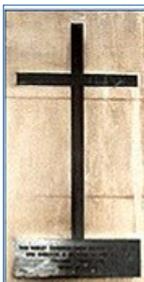
Windows added

In 1911 the churchwardens decided to put a new upper window in the south side of the church to correspond to the north side, the improve both light and ventilation. More were added later.

Years of sunlight on these beautiful south-facing windows took their toll and rainwater damaged the lead surround. In 2005 they were removed and taken to the Chapel Studio in King's Langley, near Hemel Hempstead, to be repaired and restored.

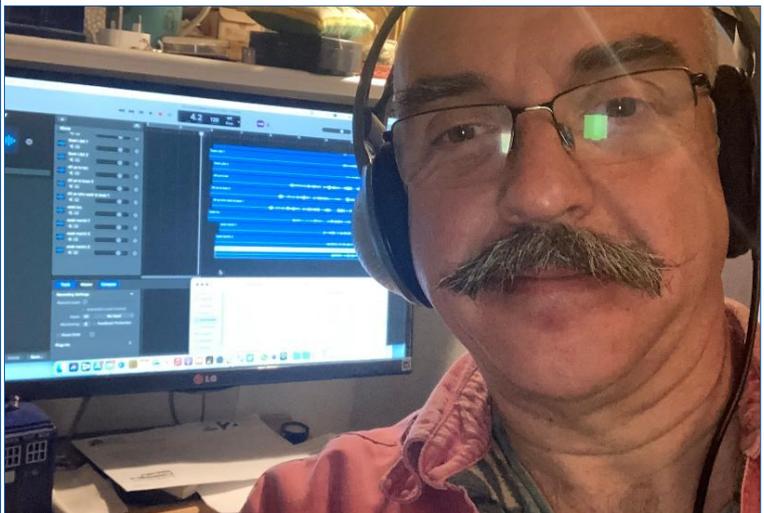
The Isdell 'Mosaics'

There are two beautifully worked mosaics (strictly speaking opera sectile) (pictured, right), each



LEFT: Stone tablet in memory of Rev Charles Job. CENTRE: 'Alleluia' at the east end of the south aisle. RIGHT: 'Suffer little children to come unto me' relief above the South Porch on the inside.

Not the unsung singers



THOM STANBURY

conducting video. And now it's lucky I'm saying the words, because I won't get lost and play too many, or too few, verses. The next bit happens at home. I upload the audio and video recordings onto my desktop, and line them up so that *playing-Thom* is synchronised with *conducting-Thom*. Then I strip out the spoken word soundtrack to the original video.

This column has a doubly misleading title this month! Firstly, singing is very much what we do in the choir. And secondly, we feel pretty much appreciated at the moment.

That said, I know that many of you have asked how we manage to bring the choir together to sing all the hymns in our services, online and in person, when choirs like ours have been discouraged, if not actually forbidden.

It starts with 'air conducting'. For each hymn, I video myself (onto my iPad) conducting all the way through every verse. I speak the words out loud as I go, more or less tunelessly.

Then, using my trusty phone on the front pew as a recording studio; and with headphones plugged into the iPad on the organ music stand, I play along to the

This new video (conductor, and organist), is emailed to the whole choir, and a few guests from further afield (including Clapham, Cardiff, and West Ealing), and me.

Each singer then has to juggle something to watch the video on, something to record their voice on (probably another phone), and the hymn book. After all that, they email their recording (or recordings) back to me, and I upload them all and line them up with the organ track. And mix it and balance it all together until it sounds pretty much decent.

Finally, I listen all the way through, and clean up any coughs, giggles (you know who you are), and other extraneous noises.

And then I email it to Derek and to Nick, to play back on a Sunday morning.

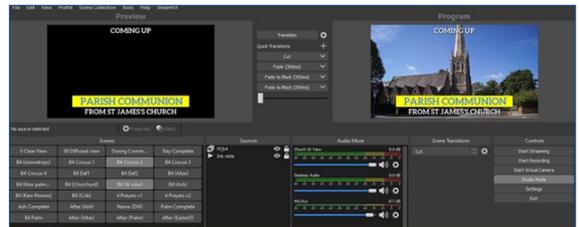
And this is how we make sure that the hymns are very much *not* unsung!

Lights, cameras, action!

Nick Bagge writes: I am not sure I qualify for unsung either, as Derek often gives me a name-check towards the end of the service!

Nevertheless, I am happy to complete the story of how we bring the services to the small screen (though I know of at least one person who watches it on a giant TV!)

From the Stream Desk I start the livestream, control the camera, operate the captions, and cut between the live and pre-recorded sequences (including Thom's wonderful hymns).



It can get quite busy when several operations happen at once. To help, the camera positions are pre-set, plus a joystick for other shots. We use a phone or tablet as a second camera, relaying it back via Zoom. I create and load a complete set of captions for each service, updating where necessary.

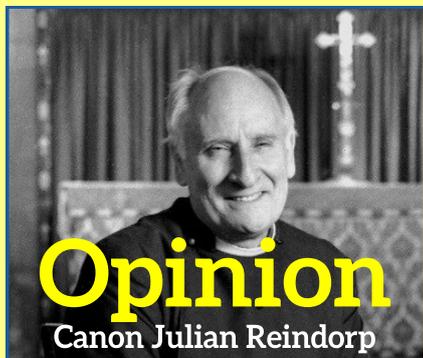
The software we use to stream enables me to cut between cameras, videos, and graphics. For complex events it is best to have someone else on sound.

The streams have proved popular, with up to 400 views each week (not everyone watches live). It's a delicate balance to make the service work for both those in church and those at home, but I think we do okay.



and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. Amen.

More than 20 years of spiritual teaching



Opinion

Canon Julian Reindorp

VACCINES FOR THE WORLD?

There is growing awareness in our Covid-19 affected, inter-connected world that none of us is immune until all of us are immune. Many of the world's poorest countries may only be reached by the vaccines by 2024. In June 2020 AstraZeneca promised 'we will ensure broad and equitable access to Oxford's vaccine across the globe and at no cost.' It now appears the EU will pay £2 per vaccine to cover costs, while South Africa pays c £5, Uganda c £7 (Global Justice Feb '21).

It seems the University has made an exclusive deal with AstraZeneca and handed full control of the vaccine to the company to decide its pricing structure.

In February, 75% of the vaccines were going to just 10 countries, and some 130 countries with 2.5 billion people had received no vaccines. Meanwhile, Russia and China were already getting vaccines to some of the world's poorest countries.

1 IN 4 'OVER-INDEBTED'

We are all aware that while many have saved money through the pandemic, others are getting steadily poorer. Barclays says savings increased by £200bn last year, an increase of £134bn on the year before. Meanwhile, the Financial Conduct Authority says the number of people 'over-indebted' had jumped by a third to more than 14 million by October last year, a quarter of the adult population. The FCA expect nearly six million to use a Food Bank; the Joseph Rowntree Foundation estimates more than two million families will struggle to feed themselves, stay warm or keep clean as the Covid-19 recession continues.

VOLUNTARY SECTOR LOSSES

The Charity Commission of England and Wales regulates all charities which claim tax exemptions. Its turnover was £80bn a year before the pandemic — twice the size of the defence budget. Last year a shortfall of more than 10% was estimated; this year it will be far more. So far the Government has offered £750m.

Edmund Burke, the 18th century conservative philosopher, wrote: 'To be attached to the subdivision, to love the little platoon we belong to in society, is the first principle (the germ as it were) of public affections. It is the first link in the series by which we proceed towards a love to our country and to mankind.'

So many of us have depended on these 'little platoons', these local and national charities in our lives. Many of us have helped as trustees and as volunteers; this year they will need our generosity and commitment as never before.

ASH FOR HASH?

A Roman Catholic priest was questioned by police after officers' suspicions were aroused by clear bags in his car — the type of bags often used by drug dealers! Father John Campbell, from Cumbernauld, in Lanarkshire, used the bags to hand out Lenten ashes to parishioners for Ash Wednesday. Covid restrictions meant that the tradition of placing ashes on a Christian's forehead was replaced by people sprinkling them on their own heads. He tweeted: 'Got pulled over and asked why I was out of the house. The officer didn't quite believe or understand what I meant when I said these were ashes for Ash Wednesday.'

THANKS TO DEREK & NICK

If there is a more competent and technically-equipped parish priest than Derek, I have not come across him.

With lockdown restrictions lifting we are grateful to Derek and to Nick, our parish administrator for their expertise. Nick has operated the streamed services, added the captions, and printed the booklets. Derek has quizzed us, preached for us, with others cared for us, and helped 70 of us with his daily *Time to Pray* podcasts. His humour, insight into the scriptures, and command of New Testament Greek are an added bonus. He takes all his own photos too!



DENNIS WILMOT

After working in northern Argentina for more than 20 years — half with the Anglican Church — David and Shelley Stokes are finally coming home to the UK.

David had a background in teaching and Shelley was a violinist before marrying and serving with the South American Mission Society in Chile and then in Argentina from 1988-1999. They lived in an indigenous Wichí community as a family, and David was involved in leadership training across the diocese.

After a decade back in England, they were invited to return to northern Argentina with Church Mission Society in 2010, which is when St James's began to support them.

Throughout, they have worked to bring the Christian message to the Wichí and Toba people, some 1,000 miles north west of Buenos Aires.

The Stokes had planned to come back to England last September, but Covid-19 prevented the handovers, training courses, and visits to far-flung communities to say goodbye. The region coped well when the pandemic first reached South America, but the virus is now rampant in the Salta and Juarez provinces where the Stokes operate.

Covid has highlighted cultural differences. The Wichí's culture does not cope with rigid controls and there have been clashes with the police over measures including enforced quarantine and the wearing of face masks.

David's main role has been in helping to bring the message of Christ to Wichí and Toba congregations through church visits, conferences and also developing sustainable training courses for Church leaders.



Farewell visit A family get-together in Argentina. From left: David, daughter Sarah, Shelley, daughter-in-law AJ, and son Jonathan.

Shelley started a woman's group, AMARE, pictured below, which is still growing, including through a large WhatsApp group and using local radio to broadcast Christian content.

A legacy to build on

Like elsewhere, Covid restrictions have put much of life on hold, but in time new leaders will hopefully take this work forward, perhaps with new patterns, but remaining attuned to Wichí and Toba cultural understanding.

We wish David and Shelley a happy and well-earned retirement.



A nation remembers

ST JAMES'S CHURCH joined the nation in marking the death of the Duke of Edinburgh, who died at Windsor Castle on Friday 9 April, just two months short of his 100th birthday.

In unison with churches across the UK, we tolled a church bell at 12 noon on the Saturday.

At our Sunday services we joined the nation in giving thanks for his life, commending him to his Lord, and praying for the Queen and their family.

We held a service to mark his life on Friday 16 April, the day before his ceremonial royal funeral at St George's Chapel, in the grounds of Windsor Castle.



In common with all funerals, only 30 people were permitted to attend because of Covid-19 regulations. Books of Condolence were not allowed. Instead, an online version was created.

REGISTERS

FEBRUARY

WEDDINGS

- 23 Jerry Nolan & Kathleen Connors, Hampton
- 25 Henry James Purcell & Shannon Olivia Nolan, Hampton

FUNERALS

- 15 Irene Joan Jones, 104, Hanworth Park
- 19 Jemma Kate Gilbert, 46, Hampton
- 26 Olive May Stonehouse, 94, Hampton

MARCH

FUNERALS

- 2 (Charles) John Hubbard, 87, Hampton Hill
- 9 Scott Daniel North, 49, Winchelsea
- 15 June Elizabeth Cowper, 89, Sunbury



London's green lungs



LIZ WILMOT

Over the long months of lockdown our gardens and open spaces have become so much more important to us as places to exercise, relax and reflect. In normal times I like to wander around London discovering its gardens and parks. Around 40% of the city, or 35,000 acres, is dedicated to public parks and green spaces, making our city one of the greenest capitals in the world! These spaces are highly valued and offer an important resource for biodiversity.

St Dunstan's in the East

The medieval Gothic church was largely destroyed during the Blitz in 1941, leaving only the north and south walls of the church and the Wren tower intact.



During the early 1970s it was decided that the ruins should be made into a public garden. They laid grass and planted trees, installed a fountain in the middle of the former nave, and created one of the most beautiful public gardens in the City.

St Dunstan's Hill, Billingsgate, EC3R 5DD

Cleary Gardens

Following World War Two the gardens were created on a bomb site and later named after Fred Cleary, who was a keen advocate for open spaces in the city. There are several tree peonies, a gift from

Yatsuka in Japan, to bring 'peace of mind to the people of the United Kingdom'. The garden underwent major refurbishment which included planting of vines as a reminder of the Vintners Livery Company, who owned the space in medieval times. Queen Victoria Street, EC4V 2AR

Red Cross Garden

Now overlooked by the Shard, this park was originally built, along with its neighbouring cottages, in 1886. Designed by Octavia Hill, a social reformer and one of the founders of The National Trust, this park was her flagship project and at the



time demonstrated the importance of improving housing for the poor. The garden was restored to its original Victorian layout in 2005 and is maintained by a group of volunteers. 50 Redcross Way, London SE1 1HA

The Story Garden (formerly The Skip Garden)



Currently hidden behind the British Library after a recent move, it is 'an urban garden with a twist' — a portable garden in skips that moves to different locations

on the King's Cross site. It is an urban oasis full of wild flowers, herbs, vegetables, an orchard and even a small oak forest. Everything is made with recycled materials and it is run by the community. Ossulston Street, Somers Town, London NW1 1DF

Camley Street Natural Park

Camley Street Natural Park covers two acres along the banks of the Regent's Canal. Once the site of a coal yard, it



kick-started the regeneration of the whole area in 1984. The space offers peace and quiet primarily, but also seeks to educate and engage Londoners in how they can help nurture and protect wildlife alongside the bustle of city life.

12 Camley Street, Kings Cross, London N1C 4PW

St Alphege Garden



This urban garden was converted from the former churchyard of St Alphege, London Wall in 1872. The ruined 14th century tower is all that remains of the church with the modern walkway above. The north edge of the garden is defined by a section of the ancient Roman wall and a lower, paved extension to the garden lies to the west. The garden includes flowerbeds, trees and seating. Barbican, London EC2Y 5DE

St Mary Aldermanbury Gardens

This striking garden is next to London's Guildhall and includes the remains of the former church which was destroyed by



the Great Fire in 1666. Rebuilt by Christopher Wren, it was again gutted during the Blitz in 1940. In 1966 the remains of the church were shipped to the USA. The site was bought by the City of London in 1970 and laid out as a tranquil public garden. Love Lane, London EC2P 2NQ

Hill Gardens and Pergola



The Pergola is one of the hidden delights of Hampstead Heath. It overlooks West Heath, and was the dream of William H Lever, later Lord Leverhulme, a wealthy idealist; and Thomas Mawson, the celebrated landscape architect. The beautiful, landscaped garden was the private garden of a now demolished manor house. Inverforth Close, London NW3 7EX

Postman's Park



The park occupies a quiet space near St Paul's Cathedral, so named because it was used as a lunchtime garden by staff at the old General Post Office. It is best known for the Watts Memorial, a concept by artist George F Watts, who wanted to commemorate brave, selfless deeds. The result is a long wall on which are arranged rows of glazed Doulton tile plaques, each one commemorating a deed of heroism. King Edward Street, London EC1A 7BT



Gasholder Park

Built in the 1850s, Gasholder No.8 was part of the Pancras Gasworks. When the site closed in 2000 it was dismantled piece by piece, painstakingly restored, and moved to its new home. Today it provides the monumental framework to a lawned park bounded by a circular, mirrored pergola which magically reflects the light and plants. This is the perfect place to relax and watch the narrow boats at St Pancras Lock. Kings Cross, London N1C 4AB

