

# ST. MARTIN'S MONTHLY

July 2013

50p

**If on St Swithun's day it really pours  
You're better off to stay indoors!**

*Buckinghamshire rhyme for  
St Swithun's Day – 15<sup>th</sup> July*



# **St Martin's Church, Hale Gardens, Acton W3 9SQ**

(Registered charity no. 1132976)

[www.stmartinswestacton.org](http://www.stmartinswestacton.org)

Email: [stmartinswestacton@btinternet.com](mailto:stmartinswestacton@btinternet.com)

## **Vicar**

The Revd Dr Nicholas Henderson  
(also Chaplain to Acton Care Centre)  
020 8992 2333

## **SS Associate Priest**

The Revd Bruce Barnett-Cowan  
020 8896 3065

## **Assistant Priest**

The Revd Canon Dr Alyson Barnett-Cowan

## **Commissioned Lay Minister to the Japanese Anglican Church UK**

Mrs Yuki Johnson (07572 324107)  
[yukifunakawa@btinternet.com](mailto:yukifunakawa@btinternet.com)

## **Parishes Secretary (9.30am – 1.30pm weekdays)**

Parishes Office, 25 Birch Grove, W3 9SP  
020 8992 2333 (Fax: 020 8932 1951)

## **Reader**

## **Reader Emeritus**

Dr Margaret Jones (020 8997 1418)  
Mrs Lynne Armstrong (020 8992 8341)

## **Churchwardens**

Lisa Ambridge (020 8992 3029)  
John Trussler (020 8992 4549)

## **Director of Music**

Kenneth Bartram (c/o Parishes Office)

## **Youth Group**

Chris Kennedy (c/o Parishes Office)

## **Magazine Editor**

Clive Davis ([clive.a.g.davis@btinternet.com](mailto:clive.a.g.davis@btinternet.com))

The Vicar is available for consultation and enquiries by appointment.  
Please ring the Parishes Office.

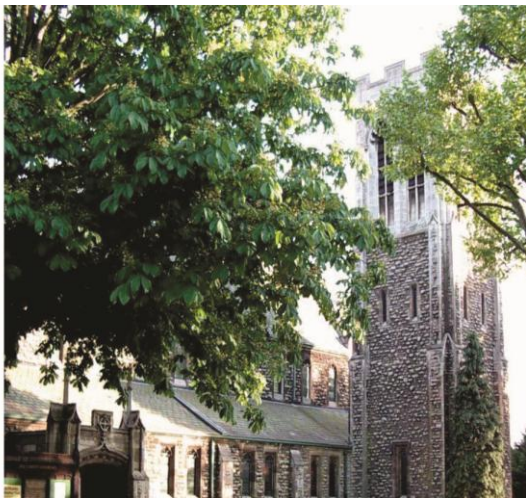
Articles for the next month's magazine should be sent to

Clive Davis (email: [clive.a.g.davis@btinternet.com](mailto:clive.a.g.davis@btinternet.com))

They should reach the Editor by **17<sup>th</sup> July**.

The August magazine will be on sale by 28<sup>th</sup> July.

## A new start.



As most of you will know by now we have decided that our longstanding (since 1989) shared relationship with All Saints, Ealing is to end.

It has been a long and happy period of working together for our mutual benefit especially back in the days when both parishes were at a low ebb. We've had a lot of fun along the way and by keeping the two parishes distinct whilst sharing our clergy and our resources the joint enterprise has worked well. We've shared not only clergy, but also special services and activities such as confirmations, the Churches Players (who can forget the pantomimes!), carol services, musical events and anniversaries also the Youth Groups, Balls, soirées, coffee mornings, fairs and bazaars. We've also been able to save by pooling our administration in the Parishes' Office as well as our IT for our websites and communications. All of this has been complimented by the building up of strong friendships and mutual support.

Now the Bishop of Willesden has told us that he would like us to separate. He asked us to do so about four years ago, although on that occasion the two parishes both voted to stay together. However, this time I have advised that we acquiesce to his request and both churches have agreed to do so. We are part of an episcopally ordered church

under the bishop’s authority and should respect his wishes. Hence, from Friday 13<sup>th</sup> September this year I will resign the living of All Saints, Ealing but I shall stay on as vicar of St Martin’s. Thereafter all our joint activities will cease.

There is inevitably a sense of regret about ending such a long established relationship but we can also give thanks - for the many clergy colleagues who have helped us on our journey as well as the substantial numbers of you the laity who have worked together so hard in the cause of the Gospel in our time.

So ... this is an opportunity for St Martin’s to make a fresh start, to look again at what we are doing in our ministry and to develop fresh ideas and thinking. One great advantage will be that I will have more time to spend in the parish, which frankly I am looking forward to.

We have come to a watershed event in our history, not without regrets, but nevertheless with determination to make this a positive occasion for growth, new life and a great future.

With many blessings,

*Nicholas*



***A message from the Dean of St Paul’s Cathedral...***

St Paul's is your cathedral, and we want you to feel involved with us, as we seek to pray for and work with you.

To encourage that, I'm writing with a web link to the Cathedral's Year Book, our glossy annual report, which sets out some of the detail of what's been happening here in the context of pictures of some of the year's activities. You may spot some people you know in the photos!

The wonders of technology mean that we can make this available over the web at no cost - follow the link:  
<http://www.stpauls.co.uk/documents/2012%20yearbook.pdf>

With our prayers and good wishes,

*David*

The Very Revd Dr David Ison

# **Grimshaw and Co Estate Agents for Ealing, Acton and surrounding areas**

**[www.grimshawhomes.co.uk](http://www.grimshawhomes.co.uk)**

The estate agents for all types  
of residential property.

Independent, professionally qualified with  
extensive experience of property sales  
for over 45 years

For a free property appraisal contact

Derek Grimshaw FRICS  
or  
John Pridham RD FRICS



**5 Station Parade, Ealing Common,  
London W5 3LD**

**Tel 020 8992 5661**

**E: [sales@grimshawhomes.co.uk](mailto:sales@grimshawhomes.co.uk)**

## New babies in the parish....



Congratulations to Donna and Garry on the birth of their new daughter Donna Bella, pictured here just two weeks old.



Congratulations to Simon and Shelley Merrick on the birth of baby Annabel a sister for Emily. Annabel pictured here with here parents and grandparents Les and Marilyn.



During Christian Aid Week, St Martin's collected £485 this year. I am pleased to report that £429 was 'Gift-Aided'. Thank you to everyone who helped.

*Margaret Jones*



## News of a former parishioner.....



Sue Parks, former member of St Martin's who went on to work at Lambeth Palace and was a principal organiser of the last Lambeth Conference of worldwide Anglican bishops. The new Archbishop of Canterbury was there as a guest at Sue's retirement party on 23<sup>rd</sup> May in Lambeth Palace main reception room, as was the vicar pictured here with Sue.



# PRINT PLUS

+ Design + Digital Printing + Stationary

2 Grosvenor Parade • Uxbridge Road  
Ealing Common • W5 3NN



## PRINTING SERVICES

- |                                      |                              |                        |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|
| • Artwork Design                     | • B/W & Colour Photocopies   | • 135mm/APS Processing |
| • Business Cards                     | • Banners – Indoor & Outdoor | • CD/DVD Duplication   |
| • MoneyGram <small>MoneyGram</small> | • Invitation Cards           | • Wide Format Posters  |
| • Mobile Phone top-up services       | • Greeting Cards             | • Men & Women          |
|                                      | • Leaflets                   | Fragrances             |



**Tel: 020 8992 0208**

**Fax: 020 8992 0208**

**Email: [print.plus@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:print.plus@hotmail.co.uk)**

## Church Flower Rota

21<sup>st</sup> June – 3<sup>rd</sup> July Lisa Ambridge

5<sup>th</sup> July – 17<sup>th</sup> July Sara Miller

19<sup>th</sup> July – 31<sup>st</sup> July Bryony Franklin

Please call the next person on the list to remind them it is their turn once your fortnight is over.

Don't forget to water your flowers every 3-4 days.

*Camilla Reid*

300 years ago, on 13<sup>th</sup> July 1713 that Georg Frideric Handel's choral work 'Utrecht Te Deum and Jubilate' was first performed, at St Paul's Cathedral, London.


65 years ago, on 5<sup>th</sup> July 1948 that Britain's National Health Service began operating.

Also 65 years ago, on 25<sup>th</sup> July 1948 that bread and flour rationing ended in Britain.

### Phil Barnes

Architect, Accomplished Handyman and Computer Programmer/ Engineer

Offers his skills at very reasonable rates

Anything from  to, well, windows! And more!

#### Outside stuff

Over thirty years experienced Handyman and DIYer

- Window repairs, re-glazing, sash window repairs
- Gardening
- Power washing drives & patios
- Rubbish removal
- Painting and decorating
- Flat roof repairs
- Gutter clearing
- Lock changing

#### Inside stuff

- **Hanging things:** blinds, curtains, curtain rails, doors, pictures, mirrors, shelves, wallpaper, TV brackets
- **Fixing things:** toilet and cistern repairs, unblocking sinks/ drains, tap washer replacement, reseal shower tray, reseal kitchen drainer. Window repairs
- **New things:** replacement taps, showers, baths, extractor fans
- **Hiding things:** boxing in pipe work, pipes, wires and cables. Cupboards and storage. Painting and decorating
- **Making things:** flat pack furniture assembly, carpentry, kitchen fitting, bathroom fitting

#### Computer stuff

Over twenty years experience troubleshooting, building and installing Mac and PC and acting as software helpdesk, over ten years experience administering servers

- Anti-virus
- Hardware & software upgrades
- Hardware & software maintenance
- Software & OS installs/ rebuilds
- Tuition
- Networks
- Backups/ Archiving

Call or text Phil on 077-88-66-1791

References available



## **'Men and Women in Marriage'**

### **A new document from Faith and Order Commission**

The Church of England's view of the long-established meaning of marriage has been outlined in a new report – 'Men and Women in Marriage' – published this Spring by the Church's Faith and Order Commission.

The report sets out the continued importance and rationale for the Church's understanding of marriage, as reflected in the 1,000 marriage services conducted by the Church of England every week.

The document also seeks to provide "a more positive background on how Christians have understood and valued marriage" arguing that marriage "continues to provide the best context for the raising of children".

The report begins with the Church's basic premise that "marriage is a creation ordinance, a gift of God in creation and means of His grace". It seeks to enlarge the understanding of marriage defined as "a faithful, committed, permanent and legally sanctioned relationship between a man and a woman, central to the stability and health of human society."

Recognising the ongoing debate around marriage in society, the report acknowledges that marriage, "like most important undertakings in life, can be lived more successfully or less successfully... Public discussion at this juncture needs a clear view of why Christians believe and act in relation to marriage as they do and this document is offered as a resource for that."

The Bishop of Coventry Dr Christopher Cocksworth, Chair of the Commission said: "There is a danger in the current debate of picking apart the institution of marriage which is part of the social fabric of human society.

"This report seeks to celebrate all that is good about marriage in its ability to bring together biological difference and the generative power of marriage to bring forth life. It also recognises that there are forms of human relationships which fall short of marriage in the form God has given us.

"This report also underlines the role of the Church in seeking to provide

care, prayer and compassion for those who for whatever reason are unable to receive the gift of marriage in the form that the Church has understood it and continues to uphold. Whilst it is right that priests and church communities continue to seek to provide and devise pastoral care accommodation for those in such situations, the document is clear that public forms of blessing belong to marriage alone.”



**Summer Fair photos.....**

At the time of going to print the Treasurer was awaiting some claims for expenses. However, it is estimated the profit for the Summer Fair will be in the region of £1,700. This is a really good result.



Thanks to those who helped before, during and after the event. While the final result is awaited here are some photos of this year’s wonderful Summer Fair.



The BBQ is well under way... which did you have – burger or hot dog?

The Gospel Choir sings..



Everyone is spending money to make this a very successful Summer Fair.

Once again Thank You for your support.

## St Swithun's Day – 15<sup>th</sup> July

The name of Swithun is best known today for a British weather lore proverb, which says that if it rains on Saint Swithun's day, 15 July, it will rain for 40 days.

*St Swithun's day if thou dost rain  
For forty days it will remain  
St Swithun's day if thou be fair  
For forty days 'twill rain nae mare*

A Buckinghamshire variation has

*If on St Swithun's day it really pours  
You're better off to stay indoors.*

Swithun was initially buried out of doors, rather than in his cathedral, apparently at his own request. William of Malmesbury recorded that the bishop left instructions that his body should be buried outside the church, *ubi et pedibus praetereuntium et stillicidiis ex alto rorantibus esset obnoxius* [where it might be subject to the feet of passers-by and to the raindrops pouring from on high], which has been taken as indicating that the legend was already well known in the 12th century.

In 971 it was decided to move his body to a new indoor shrine, and one theory traces the origin of the legend to a heavy shower by which, on the day of the move, the saint marked his displeasure towards those who were removing his remains.

This story, however, cannot be traced further back than the 17th or 18th century at most. Also, it is at variance with the 10th century writers, who all agreed that the move took place in accordance with the saint's desire expressed in a vision. James Raine suggested that the legend was derived from the tremendous downpour of rain that occurred, according to the Durham chroniclers, on Saint Swithun's Day, 1315.

More probable is John Earle's suggestion that the legend comes from a pagan or possibly prehistoric day of augury. In France, Saint Medard (8 June), Urban of Langres, and Saint Gervase and Saint Protais (19 June) are credited with an influence on the weather almost identical with that attributed to St Swithun in England. In Flanders, there is St Godelieve (6 July) and in Germany the Seven Sleepers' Day (27 June).

There is a scientific basis to the legend of St Swithun's day. Around the middle of July, the jet stream settles into a pattern which, in the majority of years, holds reasonably steady until the end of August. When the jet stream lies north of the British Isles then continental high pressure is able to move in; when it lies across or south of the British Isles, Arctic air and Atlantic weather systems predominate.


+++++

The puppies

A client brought a litter of Golden Retriever puppies to the local veterinary clinic for inoculations and worming. As the look-alike pups tumbled over and under one another in their box, the experienced vet realized it would be difficult to tell which had been treated and which hadn't. So the vet turned on the water tap, wet her fingers and gently moistened each dog's head as she finished giving it the necessary shots.

After the fourth puppy, the vet noticed her hitherto talkative client had grown silent and was looking rather reverent. As the animal doctor sprinkled the last pup's head, the owner leaned forward and whispered, "Thank you so much. I hadn't realised you baptised them, too."

~~~~~



**HAVEN**  
Funeral Services

13 The Broadway  
Gunnersbury Lane  
London W3 8HR


Near Acton Town Tube Stn

- Funerals arranged with sympathy and dignity at reasonable prices
- Repatriation service to all overseas countries
  - Monumental masonry
  - Prepaid funeral plans

Available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week

Please call Christopher Wickenden on

**020 8993 8040**



**HAVEN**  
Funeral Services

Tradycyjne Polskie Pogrzeby

Support and dignity



## Guest preacher from CMS for Sunday 4th August

On Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> August Faith Gordon from the Church Missionary Society will be our Guest Preacher.

Faith Gordon is a CMS mission partner in training, preparing to work in Brazil. She is hoping to work with local churches developing business and training programmes that meet the spiritual, social, educational and employment needs of the various slum communities in a holistic and sustainable way.



It is a calling that she has felt since the age of 14, but the Lord had plans to firstly develop her skills and talents in other areas. She completed a degree in Biological Sciences and went on to obtain a PhD in Management.

Although the original calling to Brazil remained strong, in 2002 Faith felt compelled to work in China.

In 2005, Faith spent a period of five years in various provinces of the country where she worked amongst undergraduate and MBA students. She mentored many of them, some of whom came to Christ whilst others grew deeper in their walk with the Lord.

Faith particularly loves children and throughout her time in China also worked voluntarily with disabled and poor children, in schools and children's homes. At the end of 2009, while still serving in China, she again felt the call to Brazil and undertook an exploratory fact finding mission, which confirmed her desire to work with vulnerable and marginalised communities.

Since returning to the UK in 2010, Faith became the guardian of a little girl. God worked a miracle in opening the door for Faith to take her to Brazil.

Currently, Faith works and worships at the Chinese Church in London.

2 Queens Drive, West Acton, London W3 0HA



**JAPAN SERVICES**  
SALES, LETTINGS & MANAGEMENT  
Tel: 020 8752 0445  
[www.japanservices.co.uk](http://www.japanservices.co.uk)



**YOUR LOCAL ESTATE AGENT  
WEST ACTON, EALING**



For a free Valuation contact Miss Kato or Mr Lai  
**0208 752 0445**

**Congratulations to.....**

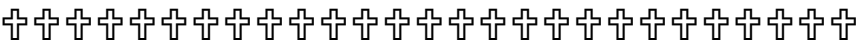


Jill Scott churchwarden at All Saints who has been accepted for ordination training to the diaconate.

And congratulations also to Antonio Garcia Fuerte former member of St Martin's who has been accepted for training for the priesthood.



*Nicholas*



**Sea Sunday – 14<sup>th</sup> July**



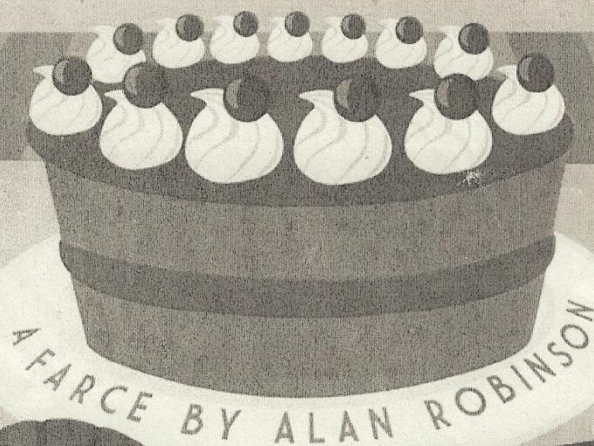
90% of world trade is carried by the sea, providing work to more than a million seafarers. 30 million people make a living by fishing. Shipping is a truly international industry: in today's global market you might

have a Greek-owned vessel, registered in Malta, with officers from India and a mixed crew from Thailand, Indonesia, Vanuatu, and the Philippines. Piracy hit an all-time high in the first six months of 2011, with 266 attacks worldwide, up from 196 a year earlier, according to statistics from the International Maritime Bureau. Of the 266 attacks, 60% were carried out by Somalia-based pirates. Please remember the work of *The Mission to Seafarers* in your prayers.



BEAUFORT PLAYERS PRESENT:

# TEMPTING FÊTE



25<sup>TH</sup>  
26<sup>TH</sup> 27<sup>TH</sup>  
JULY

EVENINGS 8PM

SATURDAY  
MATINEE 2PM

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION HALL, BEAUFORT RD, EALING W5 3EB

TICKETS £9 CONCESSIONS £8  
OVER 60S/12S & UNDER

Cathy Droop is trapped in an idyllic country nightmare. Her husband's gone native and she's been taken hostage by the ladies from the local 'Cake Club', who only want her for her macaroons. Forced to run their cake stall at the village fête, Cathy decides to make a daring escape, only to find her getaway thwarted by a melange of squashed confections, tangled bunting, rampaging bullocks and irresistible temptation. As misunderstandings lead to misdemeanours, Cathy soon realises that you can't always have your cake and eat it.

*A calamitous comedy that pastiches everything from classic farce to 'Carry On'*

## **New legislative proposals to enable women to become bishops published . . .**

The Church of England has published new legislative proposals to enable women to become bishops which will be debated by the General Synod in July. This will be the first occasion that Synod members have met since November 2012, when the previous legislation narrowly failed to secure the requisite majority in all three Houses, despite a 73% majority overall.

The proposals from the House of Bishops accompany the publication of a report of a Working Group which it had established in December. The Working Group's report sets out four possible options for the shape of the new legislation. Of these the House of Bishops has recommended "the simplest possible legislation" (option one) which reads:

*"A measure and amending canon that made it lawful for women to become bishops; and*

*"The repeal of the statutory rights to pass Resolutions A and B under the 1993 Measure, plus the rescinding of the Episcopal Ministry Act of Synod."*

In addition, option one involves arrangements for those who, as a matter of theological conviction, are unable to receive the ministry of women bishops or priests being set out either in a declaration from the House of Bishops or in a new Act of Synod.

The short report from the Archbishops on behalf of the House sets out the text of a motion which invites the Synod to reaffirm its commitment to admitting women to the episcopate as a matter of urgency, require the legislative process to begin in November so that it can be concluded in 2015 and specify that the legislation should be in the simplest possible form.

The Business Committee of the General Synod has scheduled the debate for the morning of Monday, 8 July in York. In addition, Synod members will spend a substantial amount of time in York on the Saturday in facilitated conversations, in which the various options can be explored further.

The Chair of the Working Group, the Rt Revd Nigel Stock, Bishop of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich, said on behalf of the Group:



"The mandate given to the Working Group in December reflected the House of Bishops' view that new proposals would need both greater simplicity and a clear embodiment of the principle articulated by the 1998 Lambeth Conference that 'those who dissent from, as well as those who assent to, the ordination of women to the priesthood and episcopate are both loyal Anglicans'.

"This mandate did not simply reflect the House of Bishops' assessment of what was achievable, it also reflected its view of what was desirable - namely that the Church of England should retain its defining characteristic of being a broad Church, capable of accommodating a wide range of theological conviction."

Bishop Nigel continued: "Given this range of views it is essential to be clear on whether the Church of England is still willing to leave space for those who dissent from its decision. We have approached our task on the basis that the Church of England is so willing.

"To expect unanimity on where the limits of diversity should be drawn may be unrealistic, given the variety of strongly held views which exist and are maintained with integrity. Nevertheless it is necessary to see whether there might be an approach which could command a sufficiently wide measure of assent to enable progress to be made.

"We are perhaps at a moment when the only way forward is one which makes it difficult for anyone to claim outright victory."

Concluding his statement, Bishop Nigel said: "The Synod, guided by the recommendation that the House of Bishops has now made, needs in July to come to a clear decision about the proposals and options laid before it and give a mandate for the introduction of a draft measure and amending canon in November.

"That decision-making process will be greatly assisted by all Synod members having first the opportunity in York for facilitated listening and engagement of the kind that the group has found so helpful in producing this report. To that end, we are grateful to the Business Committee for making space for this to take place on the Saturday of our July meeting."

*The Report from the House of Bishops "Women in the Episcopate – New Legislative Proposals" (GS1886) can be found here:*

*<http://churchofengland.org/about-us/structure/general-synod/agendas-and-papers/july-2013-group-of-sessions.aspx>*

# **The Parish of St Martin Hale Gardens, Acton W3 9SQ**

(Registered charity no. 1132976)

[www.stmartinswestacton.org](http://www.stmartinswestacton.org)

Email: [stmartinswestacton@btinternet.com](mailto:stmartinswestacton@btinternet.com)

## **Usual Sunday Services**

8am: Holy Communion

10am: Parish Communion

6.30pm: Evensong

Our Sunday School meets in the Church Hall at 10am  
except when there is a Family Service.

A non-Eucharistic Family Service  
is held on most first Sundays of the month.

## **Japanese Anglican Church UK**

meets every third Sunday of the month:

(except July, August and December)

3pm Bible Study and Evening Worship in Japanese

Every Tuesday: 8am Holy Communion

Every Wednesday: 11.30am Coffee Club

at 25 Birch Grove, W3.

## **Youth Groups (run jointly with All Saints)**

*Growing Saints* School years 3-5 (aged 8-10)

meets on Wednesday evenings, 6.30pm – 7.45pm.

*Becoming Saints* School years 6-8 (aged 11-13)

meets on Wednesday evenings, 7.45pm – 9pm.

*The Saints* (aged 14 and over)

meets on Thursday evenings, 6pm – 7.30pm.

each in All Saints Church Hall, Elm Grove Road, W5.