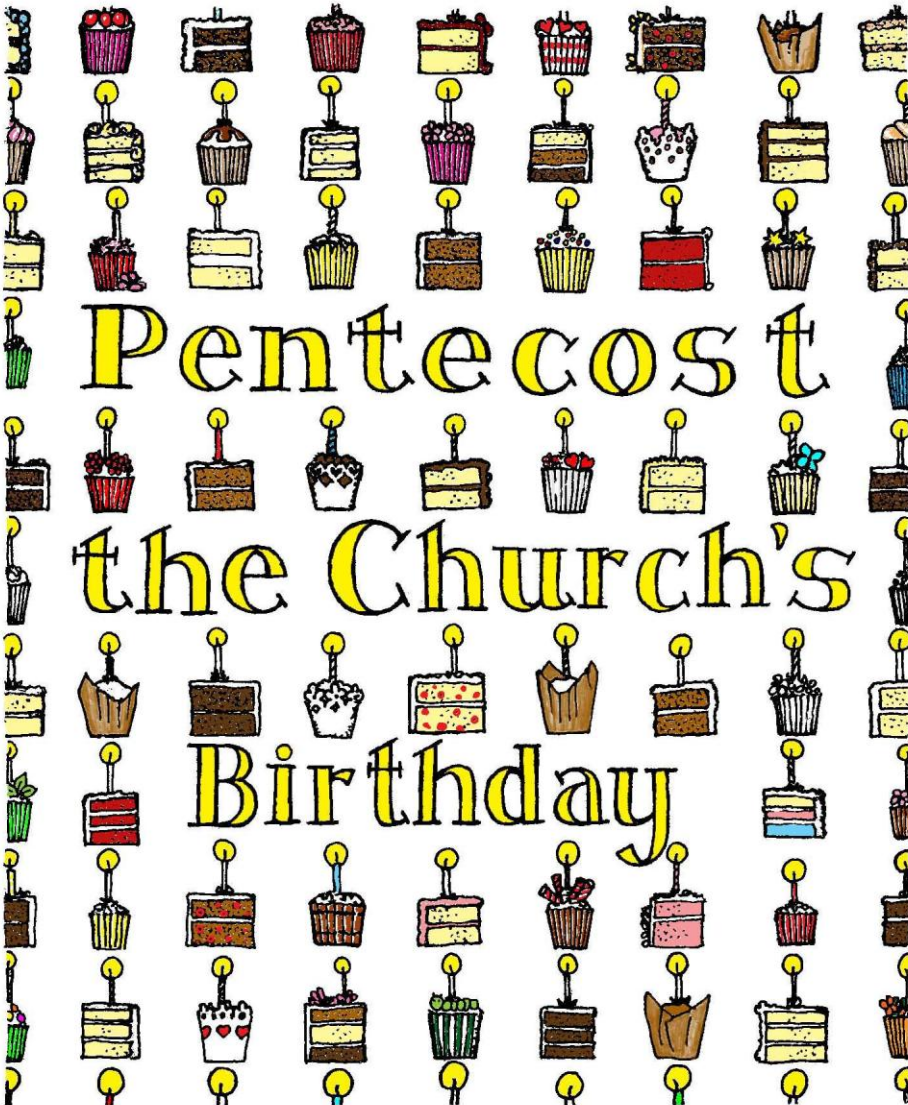


ST. MARTIN'S MONTHLY

June 2014

50p



Pentecost the Church's Birthday

**The Bishop of Willesden will be Confirming
our candidates on Sunday 8th June at 10am**

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

(Registered charity no. 1132976)

www.stmartinswestacton.co.uk

www.stmartinswestacton.com

Email: stmartins@stmartinswestacton.com

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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

Parish Secretary (9.30am – 1.30pm weekdays)

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

Reader

Dr Margaret Jones (020 8997 1418)

Reader Emeritus

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)

Magazine Editor

Clive Davis (clive.a.g.davis@btinternet.com)

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

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

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

They should reach the Editor by 16th June.

The July magazine will be on sale by 29th June.

Why not wear something red?

Flaming June is not yet upon us and, as this is being written in anticipation, Shakespeare's sonnet 18 'Rough winds do shake the darling buds of May' is where we are so far. Nevertheless, I'm optimistic that June may yet live up to its reputation.

Which brings me to my theme for what is often called 'flaming June', why not wear something red for Pentecost? This year Pentecost (the word is Greek and means 50 days after Easter) or Whitsun as we traditionally call it is early and falls on Sunday 8th June. It will be a significant Sunday for us, as we shall be joined by the Bishop of Willesden for our annual Confirmation service when candidates older and younger will renew their baptismal vows and be confirmed.

Whether the bishop is there or not in our link parish of St Mary's, Arlington in Virginia, the Rector Fr Andrew Merrow always asks people to 'wear something red on the day'. This isn't just to be cheerful, it's because red is the colour of the Holy Spirit. We get the story of this when we read the account of the first Pentecost (Acts Chapter 2) where what appears to be tongues of flame appear over the Apostles heads and precipitate a great outpouring of the Spirit and a subsequent preaching of the Gospel. It is said by some that the Western churches' bishops' mitres or hats with their rather strange shape also represent those same flames.

There is actually good precedent for the colour red in St Martin's. As long ago as the 1920's a Church Council motion was passed to the effect that red flowers should be brought to the church at Whitsun. Accordingly, when I first came to the parish I was asked if we were going to celebrate 'geranium Sunday', the meaning of which had me quite perplexed at the time. Eventually I learned that it had been our local custom, initiated by that Church Council motion, of bringing red geraniums into the church for the same kind of purpose as wearing red on the day.

So there you are and what are we to make of it? A red item of clothing can be worn to signify something special. Any outward signs must always be indications of a deeper inner spiritual understanding. Apart from the tongues of fire we must try and understand that the power of

God is expressed in what is called the Holy Spirit and the Holy Spirit is the transformative and life giving part of God that Jesus variously described as the 'Comforter' and 'Advocate' who will lead us 'into all truth' (John 16 v 13).

If that's the case then it is a reminder to us that our faith isn't just something for Sundays, it's powerful and like fire consuming, transforming and life changing. This is something that phlegmatic C of E Anglicans who are not usually given to excess or outward displays of emotion can nevertheless take to heart.

So, leave your grey suit or blue jeans at home on Sunday 12th, wear something red instead. In deference to the old custom why not bring some red geraniums that we can sell later at the Summer Fair? In any case surprise any onlookers and by God's grace surprise yourselves too with what he can do in your life.

Nicholas



Sunday 8th June, Whitsunday (Pentecost)
10am **Confirmation Service**
with the Bishop of Willesden

The Candidates are
Jin Hyun Lee, Ben Mason, Angelo Palmer,
Appolonia Palmer, Joanna Reid, Rebecca Stiff,
Jake Stokes, Lucy Sweetman and Simon Warden.

Please remember them in your prayers.



Jackie Nicholls Commissioning

Jackie Nicholls will be commissioned as Commissioned Pastoral Assistant to St Martin's on Monday, July 21st. The commissioning will take place at St Mellitus College, St Jude's Church, Earls Court.

The Bishop of Kensington will commission Jackie on behalf of the Bishop of Willesden. The Commissioning will take place within a Eucharist service which will start at 7.30pm. All are welcome to attend.



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Summer Fair

Sunday 13th July

12noon – 3pm

in the Church Hall and Grounds

Organised by Jackie Nicholls

Please could helpers sign up
on the Stall Holders Poster

at back of Church as soon as possible



New Chasubles for St Martin's



The Vicar is seen here in one of two new chasubles bought for St Martin's by Bruce and Alyson Barnett-Cowan.

This is the white Eastertide one and there is a green general season one as well.

We are very grateful to Bruce and Alyson for this generous gift.

It's ... Midsummer Madness!



Includes two-course dinner, entertainment,
a chance to dance, bar & great raffle.
All proceeds to St Martin's Church

Tickets: £15.00 each (£10.00 concessions)
Raffle Tickets: £1.00 each

Starts: 8pm Carriages: 11pm
Dress code: Smart – Big Night Out!

Cheques payable to: 'St Martin's Church'
Tickets available from: St Martin's Parish Office
25 Birch Grove, London W3 9SP

Last month's Baptism



The Christening of Chloe Elizabeth Edwards took place on Sunday 11th May. Here she is pictured with the vicar and her parents Gareth and Elzanne.

Sadly (for us) the Edwards family are moving to Australia so we shall miss them.



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The late George Hooper

The church has very generously received a legacy of £1,000 from the estate of the late George Hooper. George was a regular member of St Martin's and we are grateful for this legacy left to the parish.



Your PCC members and Officers

At the Annual Parochial Church Meeting held recently John Trussler and Liza Ambridge were elected to serve as Churchwardens for the next twelve months.

Your Deanery Synod Representatives for the next three years are: Sam Boundy, Clive Davis, Bryony Frankin and John Wilson.

Your representatives on the Parochial Church Council for the coming year are: Chinua Anderson, Tara Bramwell, Elise Brugues, Mary Cook, Maureen Fenton, James Hyde, Jonathan Jones, Ben Mason, Shelly Merrick, Angela North, Lyndon Plant and Emma Stehlin.

Lynne Armstrong has been appointment as Secretary to the Council. Dr Margaret Jones sits on the PCC as Reader and Jackie Nicholls will sit on the PCC as Commissioned Pastoral Assistant.

At its first PCC meeting the Council have elected John Wilson as the Deputy Churchwarden, John Trussler as its Lay Vice Chair, Clive Davis as your Treasurer and Michael Franks as the Parish's Electoral Roll Officer.

The Standing Committee comprises of the Vicar and Officers (the two Churchwardens and the Treasurer) with Chinua Anderson and Sam Boundy representing the PCC.



Some Puns for Educated Minds

When you get a bladder infection you know urine trouble.

Broken pencils are pretty much pointless.

What do you call a dinosaur with an extensive vocabulary? A thesaurus.

Bible Society's free *Bible Bedtime* app for iPad

Help your children connect with Bible stories this summer – download the Bible Society's unique new app, giving imaginative and humorous slants on classic Bible stories, with beautiful illustrations and the option to illustrate the stories yourself.

Written by children's author, Martin Coleman, the app gives his unique take on five Bible stories with many cheeky asides which will surprise traditionalists: Jonah is credited with inventing sushi because he eats raw fish in the whale's belly; the prodigal son is described as smelling of 'pig poo'; and God gets 'ribbed' about the creation of Eve.

As part of its 'Pass it On' campaign, the Society is challenging parents to help keep the Bible alive for future generations by telling these stories each night. The importance of the challenge is highlighted in research conducted by YouGov for Bible Society that shows children are bewildered by even the major Bible stories; confusing Easter with Aesop's fables and even fairy tales.

"The *Bible Bedtime* app is part of our challenge to parents to help children connect with Bible stories," says Bible society. "It's perfect for children and adults alike, to read together or on your own." So - visit the app store on your iPad and download *Bible Bedtime* today.

Just how much *do* children know about the Bible? Children aged eight to 15 were asked a series of questions to test their knowledge. The results include:


- One in four (28%) think God may tell the tale of the hare and the tortoise
- One in four (26%) think a couple may kill a goose that lays golden eggs
- Almost a third (29%) don't know that God raises Jesus from the dead
- One in eight (13%) think Jesus tells his followers the Ten Commandments
- One in five (20%) don't know that Judas was the friend that betrayed Jesus
- Almost half (48%) don't know that Jesus shows love by washing the feet of his followers

Bible Society’s earlier ‘Pass it On’ report found that 43% of eight to 15 year-olds admitted they had never read about the Crucifixion of Jesus. Similarly, 71% of parents with children aged three to 15 said they didn’t think their child had ever read, seen or heard the story.

Plan to double number of UK Minority Ethnic clergy in senior positions

The Church of England has launched an initiative to address the imbalance in UK Minority Ethnic (ME) clergy in senior positions, with a plan to double numbers within 10 years. The initiative, called Turning Up the Volume, has been set up by the House of Bishops, and is working on a clear plan to address any issues which may be hindering the appointment of UK ME clergy to senior posts. At present, there are fewer than 10 UK minority ethnic people holding senior positions, including the Archbishop of York, one dean and three archdeacons. Official figures for UK ME clergy still only represent 3% of all stipendiary clergy.






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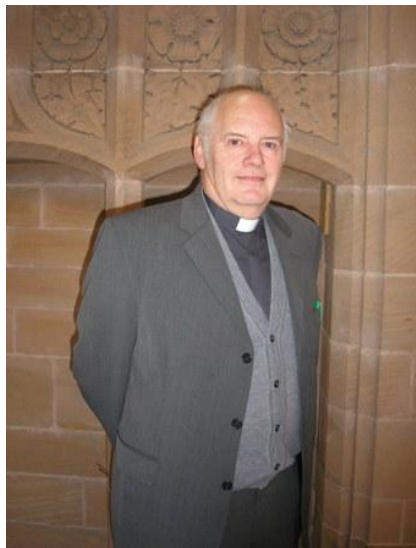
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 Near Acton Town Tube Stn

 Tradycyjne Polskie Pogrzeby

Support and dignity

The Rev'd Canon Dr. Robert Buckley



It was with great sadness that we heard of the death of Robert Buckley our onetime clergy Associate and colleague. Robert died peaceful on Friday 16th May after a long and brave struggle with cancer.

I first got to know Robert when he was headmaster at Twyford School. As an excellent, wise and focused leader he was not only responsible for laying the foundations for much of what is Twyford today, but he taught me a thing or two about how to govern and lead a large organization, often it seemed effortlessly.

However, Twyford actually required a lot of really hard work and Robert sensibly took early retirement to pursue his vocation to holy orders. His great interest in photo-voltaics it always felt to me was matched by his calling from the Holy Spirit and two stayed together. He was a member of the Society of Ordained Scientists, an essential interface between science and the Church.

Robert started as a Non Stipendiary Minister at All hallows, Greenford but then came to us as an Associate colleague with special responsibility for All Saints. He came as a breath of fresh air with his interest in acting and amateur dramatics. Who can forget his pantomime performance as Captain Bilge in Dick Whittington or his production of summer farces 'Post Horn Gallop' and the 'Children Hundreds'. He also started the long-running children's services at All Saints with 'Barney and Bounce'.

Robert had a great aptitude for leadership and after his time with us he then went on to be Team Rector of the Wembley Park Team of Churches and Area Dean of Brent.

Robert's heart was in the north where he came from and he returned to Manchester Diocese and various team leadership jobs including in Atherton. He was involved in the Diocese as an education advisor and made honorary canon the Cathedral. Sadly his illness led him into early retirement although he continued typically for Robert to work in an emeritus position.

As a great honour and a testimony to the esteem in which he was held he latterly had a Sixth Form Centre named after him, see: www.athertoncommunityschool.com/acs-officially-opens-robert-buckley-sixth-form-centre/

Robert and I kept up our friendship and we would always meet up when he was in London. Over the years I found his can do approach to life and then to his sickness inspirational. His dry sense of humour will also be much missed as an antidote to all life's vicissitudes.

Robert's old friend and former deputy head, Hilary Belden shared this poem:

*They came, the brothers, and took two chairs
In their usual quiet way;
And for a time we did not think
They had much to say.
And they began and talked awhile
Of ordinary things,
Till spread that silence in the room
A pent thought brings.
And then they said: "The end has come.
Yes: it has come at last."
And we looked down, and knew that day
A spirit had passed.*

We shall all miss him very much and our thoughts and prayers go to his wife Helen and Susan his daughter.

May he rest in peace and rise in glory.

Nicholas

Pray for 33 North Korean Christians facing execution

The Barnabas Fund is asking UK Christians to pray for 33 North Koreans who face execution for allegedly helping a detained South Korean missionary to set up 500 house churches in North Korea. The South Korean evangelist, Kim Jung-wook, has 'confessed' to spying, attempting to establish house churches, and having distributed Bibles. Dozens of people were arrested after the 'confession', and the 33, who had become Christians or allegedly received money from Jung-wook, now face execution in a secret cell at the State Security Department.

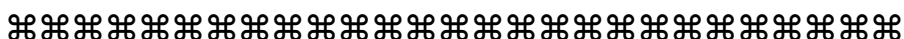


Crisis in West Africa: Samaritan's Purse responding to deadly Ebola outbreak

International relief organization Samaritan's Purse has been responding to what has been called the worst Ebola outbreak in seven years. In the West African countries of Guinea, Sierra Leone and Liberia, there have been at least 157 reported cases with 96 Ebola-related deaths. Ebola is one of the most lethal viruses known. There is no cure or vaccine.

Samaritan's Purse has partnered with the Government of Liberia's Ministry of Health to contain the outbreak, along with the World Health Organization and the Centres for Disease Control and Prevention. The aim is to conduct public education and awareness campaigns, to provide emergency medical supplies, and to transport medical personnel and supplies.

Samaritan's Purse has been working in Liberia since 2003, when the country's civil war came to an end. Currently Samaritan's Purse has 35 ongoing projects in six counties in the country, employing more than 300 Liberians.



For your diary.....

St Martin's Players' Pantomime
Thursday 29th – 31st January 2015

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The Vicar's old garage



The last picture.

It is cleared and demolished



And now gone.

Some photos of events from last month.....



Happy birthday to Jane Kelly at the Wednesday Coffee Club (7th May)



And here is a photo of Bishop Linda Nicholls (Area Bishop of Trent-Durham and Bishop Suffragan of Toronto) visit on 11th May. She is photographed here with Nicholas and our Churchwardens, John Trussler and Liza Ambridge.

Commemoration of the Centenary of WW1


Prayers, music, literature and art are part of a pack of resources recently released by the Church of England's Liturgical Commission for parishes and groups to use to commemorate the centenary of World War One. Specifically, it includes: a selection of suitable readings from the Bible; appropriate hymns, songs, music, literature and art; a selection of different kinds of prayer (including a Litany of remembrance); an outline for a service around a War Memorial; an outline for a Vigil Service on 3 or 4 August 2014 (marking the centenary of the Declaration of War); and material for use in a Requiem Eucharist. Further material will be made available throughout the years of commemoration up to 2018.

Chair of the Commission, Bishop Stephen Platten said: "It is hard to underestimate the significance of the First World War for our national life." As well as the national events such as the Vigil Service in Westminster Abbey on the evening of Monday 4 August, it is thought that many people will want to hold local commemorations in a range of contexts. It is with these in mind that the Commission has prepared these resources. Download the resources at www.churchofengland.org and click on 'World War One' box

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- **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

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

References available

## **Church plans for a 1,000 poppies to bloom for the Great War Centenary**

Poppies will be grown in the grounds of parish churches and Church of England schools across the country as an act of remembrance for the centenary of World War 1 by the Church of England.

The Archbishops of Canterbury and York have both urged church schools and churches to plant poppy seeds with them this Spring, to commemorate the centenary of World War I and help make the country awash with poppies.

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, in an Instagram message, urges people to plant the seeds 'to remember the terrible events of the First World War and as a sign of our hope in Jesus Christ for peace in the future.'

The Archbishop of York, Dr John Sentamu welcomed the poppy planting initiative and said: "I encourage parishes and church schools across the country to join together to make many thousand flowers bloom as a tribute to the sacrifice of past generations Here in the grounds of Bishopthorpe, we too, are getting behind this community initiative. I have been inspired by the parishes of the new Diocese of Leeds (West Yorkshire and the Dales) and their shared efforts to mark the 100th anniversary of the Great War."

Some dioceses – like Oxford, Exeter, Manchester and the new Diocese of West Yorkshire and the Dales - have sent packets of poppy seeds to all their churches and/or church schools to create their own memorial gardens or flower pots.

The Rt Revd Nick Baines, the new bishop designate for the new Diocese of West Yorkshire and the Dales said: "Only 100 years ago the world fell apart in the most violent way. This simple act of growing poppies reminds us of our past and is a very visual way of pledging ourselves to serve together in the future."

Packs of Flanders poppies are on sale and can be bought at B&Q for £2 with a pound being donated to the Royal British Legion.

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

(Registered charity no. 1132976)

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## **Usual Sunday Services**

8am: Holy Communion

10am: Parish Communion

6.30pm: Evensong

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

The next non-Eucharistic Family Service will be held on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> June.

## **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 **Wednesday** at 25 Birch Grove, W3

11am: Informal Eucharist

Followed at 11.30am by the Coffee Club