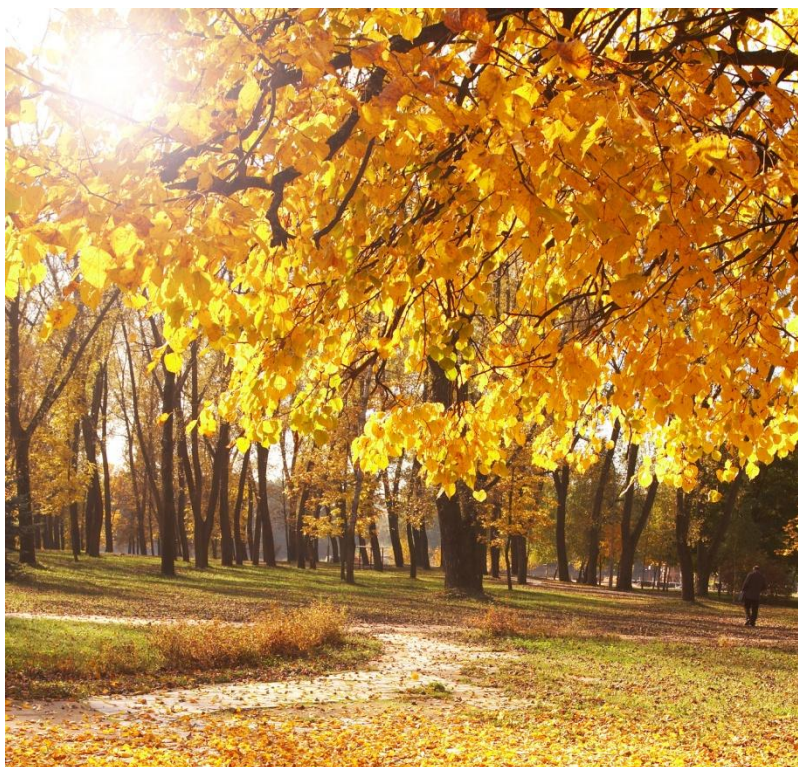


ST. MARTIN'S MONTHLY

November 2014

50p



As autumn turns to winter
Why not come to the following events

Wednesday 5th November: Bonfire Night
Details on page 4

Sunday 30th November: Advent Sunday
Christingle Service
Followed by our Christmas Bazaar
Details on page 9

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

(Registered charity no. 1132976)

www.stmartinswestacton.co.uk

www.stmartinswestacton.com

Email: stmartins@stmartinswestacton.com

Skype: smartins.westacton

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 Japanese Anglican Church UK

Mrs Yuki Johnson (07572 324107)
yukifunakawa@btinternet.com

Parish Administrator (9.30am – 1.30pm weekdays)

Parish Office, rear of Church Hall,
Hale Gardens, W3 9SQ
020 8992 2333

Reader

Dr Margaret Jones (020 8997 1418)

Reader Emeritus

Mrs Lynne Armstrong (020 8992 8341)

Licensed Lay Minister

Mrs Jacqueline Nicholls (c/o Parish Office)

Churchwardens

Mrs Liza Ambridge (020 8992 3029)
Mr John Trussler (020 8992 4549)

Deputy Churchwarden

Mr John Wilson (c/o Parish Office)

Director of Music

Mr Kenneth Bartram (c/o Parish Office)

Magazine Editor

Mr 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 November.

The December magazine will be on sale by 30th November.

November:

I always find it amusing that the name of the month of November is derived from the Latin meaning 'ninth month' when in our calendar it is in fact the eleventh.

Nevertheless, the very name November seems to conjure up fogs, frost, and Dickensian scenes. Of course the truth nowadays is often quite different and sometimes we are still all in T-shirts and Bermuda shorts due to the unseasonal warmth!

This November has however a particular poignancy and remembrance. When we undertake our customary 'Act of Remembrance', which is on Sunday 9th November, that is the nearest to the old Armistice Day, we will be doing so on the one hundredth anniversary of the year that the First World War commenced.

It is sad to think that there is no-one left alive today who fought in that War although there are a very few who were born during that period who are still alive. The First World War is not remembered favourably in the sense that it is generally seen as a profound act of human folly triggered by the rise of European nationalism, the growth of imperialism and the colossal loss of life as men struggle and fought in the ghastly conditions of the trenches.

Indisputably despite all the horror, the War was epoch changing and helped to shape and form the modern world in which we live, from the development of the internal combustion engine, the advent of air travel to the international settlements and boundaries with us to the day in the Middle East that continue to wreck havoc.

One could go on but perhaps the only way to deal with this legacy is by satire and humour. Hence on the evening of Sunday 9th November we will be showing the film 'Oh what a lovely War' directed by the late Richard Attenborough with a stellar cast in song and dance it traces the tragedy from beginning to end.

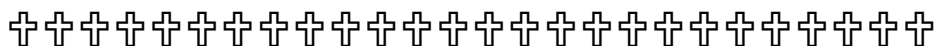
OH, WHAT A VELY WAR!

That being done we shall not forget in our time the sacrifice of so many who in the name of what they saw as a better future fought and gave their lives for their country.

So we should note that the past always advises the present or "Life can only be understood backwards; but it must be lived forwards." —
Søren Kierkegaard

This is why the new 'St Martin's Foundation' is gathering together all our educational programmes and is featured later in the magazine. I hope you'll be able to join us and learn from the past to enrich the present.

Nicholas



Wednesday 5th November

6pm Annual Bonfire Party

in the Vicarage Gardens

Admission: adults £2; children £1

Includes refreshments



George William Davis R.I.P.

George Davis, a long standing member of the parish,
died peacefully on Wednesday 15th October.

His funeral will take place on Thursday 30th October.

A tribute will be printed in next month's magazine.

THANK YOU!

St Martin's, West Acton

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Faith Words Action



ChurchArmy
www.churcharmy.org.uk

Following the sermon given by our guest preacher Captain Paul Fitzpatrick on Sunday 21st September we gave the Church Army (an evangelistic wing of the Church of England founded in 1882) £200.



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ST MARTIN'S FOUNDATION

ST MARTIN'S FOUNDATION DESCRIBES ALL OUR
EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE NEW CHURCH
YEAR, WHICH BEGINS
ADVENT SUNDAY 30TH NOVEMBER 2014

Foundation launch - 10am Sunday 23rd November 2014 (Feast of Christ the King)



Guest preacher: The Rt Rev'd Trevor Mwamba, former
Bishop of Botswana, Assistant Bishop, Diocese of
Chelmsford, Rector of Barking Abbey

Christmas re-visited – 8pm Thursday 4th December 2014



What's it all about, where did it come from, can we
trust the Bible narrative, how can we make the
coming Christmas a meaningful one?
The Rev'd Dr. Nicholas Henderson

Making sense of Radical Islam - 8pm Thurs 21st May 2015



Mayhem, madness, does this reflect or resemble
real Islam, where do Christians stand?

Canon Dr. Anne Davison
Former Vice-Moderator, World Council of Churches



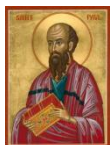
The English Reformation – a brief introduction 8pm Thursday 18th June 2015

Surely it's more than King Henry and his wives? A must
hear lecture to brush up on your knowledge of how the
modern Church of England got started
The Rev'd Dr. Nicholas Henderson

Preparation for Confirmation for adults
A short course of 5 sessions on Sundays 8pm – 9.30pm, Sept – Oct
(Confirmation Service – Sunday 18th October 2015)



If you would like to be confirmed or would like to brush up your knowledge with our adult confirmation course please contact the Parish Office



Paul of Tarsus: a First Century Radical?
8pm Thursday 22nd October

A fresh look at Christianity's most important theological influence

Canon Dr. Anne Davison
Former Vice-Moderator, World Council of Churches

St Martin's Foundation describes all our educational activities for the new church year, which begins Advent Sunday 30th November 2014

LIVING

LECTURES

CONFIRMATION

REFLECTION

FAITH

INFORMATION

LEARNING

THE BIBLE

HISTORY

BRIEFINGS

**Please visit our website for further details:
www.stmartinswestacton.co.uk**

Some photographs from our recent Harvest Festival



The flower arrangers.

An example of their hard work.



Before the service.

The gifts given at our
Harvest Festival.



Everyone enjoying the Harvest Lunch
which followed the service.

The Lunch raised around £200.

Our next event... not to be missed!
Sunday 30th November
10am Advent Sunday
Christingle Family Service
followed by Christmas Bazaar
12 noon – 3pm

The Great War – 100 years on

There are 36 names on our War Memorial. 100 years later I will attempt to bring you each of their stories of how they lost their life.

On the afternoon of Thursday November 26th 1914, Winston Churchill made the following statement to the House of Commons :

"I regret to say I have some bad news for the house. The Bulwark battleship, which was lying in Sheerness this morning, blew up at 7.35 o'clock. The Vice and Rear Admiral, who were present, have reported their conviction that it was an internal magazine explosion which rent the ship asunder. I regret to say the loss of life is very severe. Only 12 men are saved. All the officers and the rest of the crew, who, I suppose, amounted to between 700 and 800, have perished."

HMS Bulwark, a battleship of 15,000 tons, was moored in Kethole Reach on the River Medway, opposite the town of Sheerness, Isle of Sheppey, Kent. It was one of the ships of the 5th Battle Squadron. She had been moored there for some days, and many of her crew had been given leave the previous day. They had returned to the ship at 7 o'clock that morning and the full complement was onboard. The usual ship's routine was taking place. Officers and men were having breakfast below deck, others were going about their normal duties. Then disaster struck. A roaring and rumbling sound was heard and a huge sheet of flame and debris shot upwards. There was a thick cloud of grey smoke and further explosions. When the smoke eventually cleared, HMS Bulwark had sunk without trace.

The scene was described by an eye witness, who was on board a ship nearby, to a local newspaper: *"I was at breakfast when I heard an explosion, and I went on deck. ... The water and sky were obscured by dense volumes of smoke. We were at once ordered to the scene of the disaster to render what assistance we could. At first we could see nothing, but when the smoke cleared a bit we were horrified to find the battleship Bulwark had gone. She seemed to have entirely vanished from sight, but a little later we detected a portion of the huge vessel showing about 4ft above water. We kept a vigilant look-out for the unfortunate crew, but only saw two men."*

The explosion was heard 20 miles away in Whitstable and in Southend

where the pier was shaken by the explosion but not damaged. Ships anchored off Southend holding German civilian prisoners also reported hearing the explosion. Residents in Westcliffe-on-Sea claimed they saw "a dense volume of greenish smoke which lasted for about 10 minutes". The nearby areas of Sheerness and Rainham took the brunt of the blast with reports of damage to property being made. Rumour began to run wild amongst the residents. Some claimed it was the feared Zeppelin raids commencing, others said that a periscope had been sighted and the Bulwark had been sunk by a submarine. Others thought that espionage had taken place and were on the lookout for suspicious people in town. All these rumours were later discounted.

Boats of all kinds were launched from the nearby ships and shore to pick up survivors and the dead. Work was hampered by the amount of debris which included hammocks, furniture, boxes and hundreds of mutilated bodies. Fragments of personal items showered down in the



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streets of Sheerness. Initially 14 men survived the disaster, but some died later from their injuries. None of the Bulwark's officers survived; although 11 of them were recovered for eventual burial. By Saturday November 28th only 30 bodies had been recovered and 14 could be identified. These bodies were identified by Cooks Mate William Frederick Cooper who was on sick leave on shore at the time of the explosion.

On Monday, November 30th, the funerals of 21 of the victims took place in the Naval Burial Ground at Woodlands Cemetery, Gillingham. The bodies were conveyed in five lorries. During January 1915 many more bodies of the Bulwark's crew were washed up on the Kent shoreline.

One of those men who died in this disaster was a parishioner of St Martin. Paymaster **William Gordon Stainer** was 33 when he lost his life on that Thursday morning of 26th November, 1914. He was the son of William Stainer (Capt RN), and A E Stainer, of 22 Twyford Avenue.

100 years after his sacrifice:

We remember William Stainer.



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The PCC on their Awayday.....



The Church Council went to St Peter's Bourne, the Edmonton Area Retreat Centre on Saturday 11th October to discuss and plan for the coming year.

Nicholas



The latest news from the recent Gift Day...

So far we have raised just over £4,300

Thank you all very much.

If you haven't yet made a contribution it is not too late to do so. You only need to send your donation to the Parish Office.

(Cheques should be made payable to St Martin's Church.)



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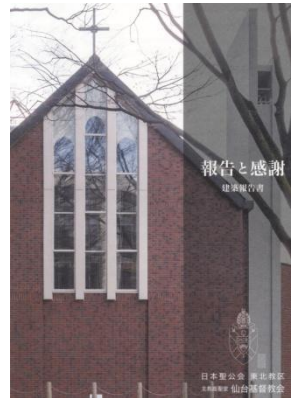
Christ Church Cathedral in Sendai



Lawrence Mitsumaya visited St Martin's on Sunday 20th September.

He brought greetings from our link Japanese Anglican friends at Christ Church Cathedral, Sendai.

They have just rebuilt their cathedral after the earthquake and Tsunami and wanted to thank St Martin's for our help and prayers.



We hosted a big concert for them in 2011.

Nicholas

THREE YEARS A PRIME MINISTER

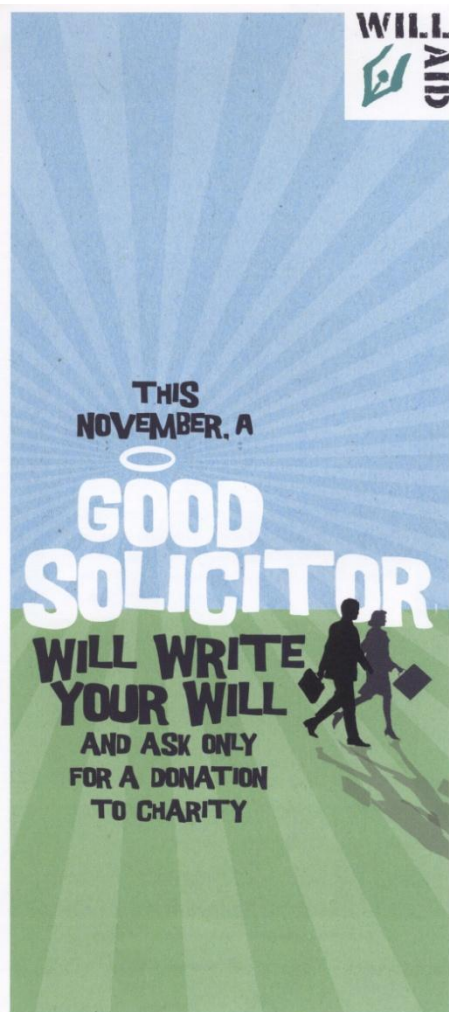


THE REMARKABLE TIMES OF SPENCER PERCEVAL

You are invited to become the audience for the production of a radio play.
Three years a Prime Minister follows the life and times of the man that
All Saints was built to commemorate.

By GEOFF BUCKINGHAM - recorded at All Saints Church, Ealing, W5 3JH.
Tours of the church and light bites from 7pm. The Production 8pm.

£12 on the door. £10 advanced tickets. Under 16s free.
Saturday November 1st 2014



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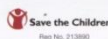
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Reg. No. 1108



Bios. bio. 215601



Flora No. 21389



Plan No. 5501



Page No. 207544



Rep No. 20810431



November..... when dieters will fall off the wagon

Some last minute news.....



Joseph and Ruth Boahene had their marriage blessed in St Martin's on Saturday 18th October – they are pictured after the ceremony with the Vicar, Michael Franks acting as vergers and Bishop James and the Revd Joan Larbi.

Also a picture of Joseph and Ruth at their reception with the vicar.



Jackie Nicholls was re-commissioned for preaching by the Revd Andrew Corsie, Area Director of Ministerial Training in the presence of the Bishop of Willesden and a very large congregation on Sunday evening 19th October at St Michael's Tokyngton. Seen here holding her certificate in

preaching with Derek her husband and the vicar.

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 our Christingle service on Sunday 30th November.

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 by the Coffee Club