

ST. MARTIN'S MONTHLY

April 2016

50p



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

(Registered charity no. 1132976)

www.stmartinswestacton.co.uk

Email: stmartins@stmartinswestacton.com

The Vicar	The Rev'd Dr Nicholas Henderson (also Surrogate and Chaplain to Acton Care Centre) 020 8992 2333
SSM Assistant Priest	The Rev'd Brandy Pearson (c/o Parish Office)
Permission to Officiate	The Rev'd Robert Pearson
Commissioned Lay Minister to Japanese Anglican Church UK	Mrs Yuki Johnson (07572 324107) yukifunakawa@btinternet.com
Parish Administrator (weekdays: 9.30am – 1.30pm)	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)
Commissioned Lay Minister	Mrs Jacqueline Nicholls (c/o Parish Office)
Churchwardens	Mrs Liza Ambridge (020 8992 3029) Mr Jeremy Thorpe-Woods
Deputy Churchwarden	Mr John Wilson (c/o Parish Office)
Director of Music	Mr Kenneth Bartram (c/o Parish 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 12th April.

The May magazine will be on sale by 24th April

Whatever happened to Easter?



Easter was on 27th March this year so April which is so often dominated by Easter has a stand alone feel about it.

The Romans gave this month the Latin name *Aprilis* but the derivation of this name is uncertain. The traditional etymology is from the verb *aperire*, 'to open', an allusion to its being the season when trees and flowers begin to 'open'. Climate change has rather altered the certainties of the season but April is also known for its 'showers'. These come as the still cold seas around the British Isles and the rapidly warming land man that the atmosphere retains more of its moisture.

Now all this is very interesting but in liturgical terms it leaves us in a kind of 'no man's land' of Sunday's after Easter. However our readings Sunday by Sunday will take us through the pattern of resurrection appearances as portrayed in the four Gospels. In this we might realize that in one sense it is always April by which I mean we are always post-Easter and we are in turn people of the resurrection. For as the acclamation in the Eucharistic Prayer in our service of Holy Communion goes 'Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again!' In other words Jesus lives and is with us now, there are no periods when he is absent.



Bearing this theological fact in mind, St Martin's is rather special in that we never stop having flowers in church. Jesus suggested that we "consider the lilies of the field which even Solomon in all his glory could not match" (*Luke 12 & Matthew 6*). Why not then have such beautiful things as flowers, which have always lifted the human spirit, in church at all times to celebrate Christ's resurrection? Many thanks then to our loyal flower team who never stop their work.

Of course flowers do not come without showers and given the way things are going we may well have a

few metaphorical rain storms in terms of political, social and international circumstances this coming month. There is much to pray for and to be concerned about, but the Easter message remains with us.

Alleluia, Christ is risen, he is risen indeed, Alleluia!

Nicholas



St. Martin's Reflection Group

The Group has met four times so far. We have had interesting informal discussions on Discipleship, Fear, Joy and Patience.

We resume after Easter on **Thursday 14 April** (subject: Worldliness) and plan to meet on alternate Thursdays after that. The meetings are at 8 p.m. at Bryony Franklin's house: 4 King Edwards Gardens, W3. All are most welcome.

If you would like to know more please contact John Beastall on jsbeastall@hotmail.com or 020 8998 6315.



Just a thought

There are large ships
And there are small ships
But the best ships must surely be
FRIENDSHIPS

As seen in a church magazine

Next Sunday the choir will give a recital, after which the church will be closed for repairs.

And in a Somerset church

Whenever I see a little church, I always pay a visit.
So when at last I'm carried in, the Lord won't say 'Who is it?'

St Martin's Foundation

Lectures take place at **8pm on Thursdays** in the Parish Room
(entrance via Parish Office, to rear of Church Hall)



The Christian on the psychoanalyst's couch – reflection on religion and psychology.

21st April

The Rev'd Dr. Keven Hall studied the natural sciences in New Zealand, theology in NZ and the UK, and Jungian psychology in the UK. He has worked in research, as a priest, including at St. Martin's and All Saints, Ealing Common. He works at present in private practice as a Jungian psychoanalyst in London Bridge.



Christianity and The Law

16th June

Laurence Target M.A. is a practising solicitor, parish clerk and churchwarden of St. Mary-at-Hill, London. He is a member of the Ecclesiastical Law Society; and of the Worshipful Company of Scriveners and the Worshipful Company of Parish Clerks, and currently Senior Warden of the Billingsgate Ward Club, where St. Mary-at-Hill is the Ward Church. Laurence has published legal precedents, a book about commonhold, and articles about law in the legal process; also articles about poetry, and about or of theology, in *The Spectator*, *The Independent* and *The Heythrop Journal*.



Who do you say I am? Explorations into Christianity

15th September

The Rev'd Rob Pearson, Resident Priest at St Martin's asks:
How should the church represent Christ to the world in the 21st century, with especial reference to the Church of England and the wider Anglican Communion?

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News of a Guest Preacher in June



There will be a guest preacher at the 10am Parish Communion on Sunday 5th June. The preacher will be Josephine Hart of Hope UK which is a charity that helps young people to avoid drug and other addictions by raising awareness and educational development.



Hope UK is a Christian Charity which initially started as the Band of Hope. Josephine Hart (pictured here) has been a voluntary Drugs Educator for Hope UK for over 10 years. Previously she worked with young and adult offenders in prisons and with youth offending teams. She became an educator because she felt that the

knowledge would help with her voluntary work with offenders. This interest grew and she went on to study substance misuse care and counselling.

Today Josephine values the important work of prevention when delivering sessions to a wide variety of groups, including young people in the Prince's Trust projects, colleagues at work, church youth groups, local offending teams and parenting groups. She speaks to a wide range from those that have been users themselves, to those who are discovering the basics. Not only does she use her training in sessions, but in everyday conversation. Hope UK works with parents, young people, and children.

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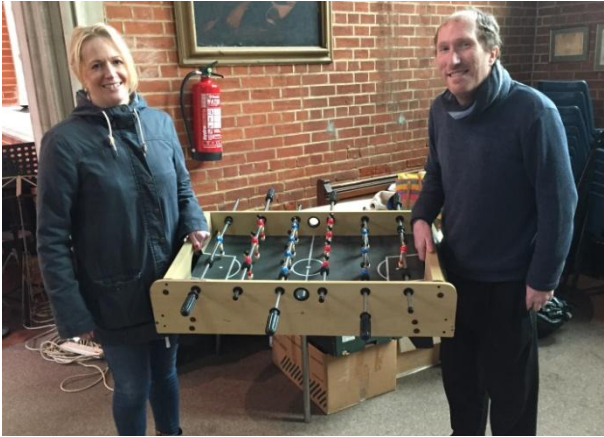
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Our Youth Group



Pictured here Zoe Bartholomew and Steve Jerham carry a table top miniature football machine. The table top football was kindly donated by George Koutas for use by members of the Youth Group after morning services.

It looks like the Youth Group are not the only ones who might enjoy the new table top football game – here the Evensong congregation try their hand at the game after the service!

We hope also to have a table tennis table available soon.



The Youth Group also meets on Tuesday evenings in the Parish Room at 8pm.



Seen in a parish magazine:

"We shall be meeting on Wednesday when the subject will be
'Heaven - how do we get there?'

Transport by bus is available at 6.45pm opposite the King's Arms.

Mothering Sunday photographs



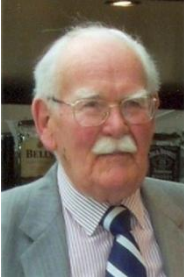
Photos of our intrepid preparation team, braving the cold to decorate cakes

and put together bunches of daffodils...!



Jackie Nicholls organised our MiniMart after the Family Service on Mothering Sunday raising about £147 towards the diocesan Lenten appeal for persecuted Christians in the Middle East.

Peter Coldwell R.I.P.



Dr. Peter Coldwell, father of Camilla and grandfather of Isobel and Joanna Reid, died in February aged 93.

Our sympathy and best wishes go to his family.

Nicholas



'Poems and Pints'

8pm, Thursday 26th May

in the Parish Room (Rear of Church Hall)

Refreshments and culture

A fundraising evening.

Details coming next month



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The Great War – 100 years on

Continuing to tell the story behind the names on our War Memorial.

In 1890, Walter Birch (b.1864) married Emily Adams (b.1861) in St Paul's Church, Burslem, Stafford. He was a bank clerk and they started their married life in Stanley Road, Carshalton, Surrey. Here they started a family, John (born 1893) and Howard (born 1896). Records show Howard was baptised on 19th July that year. By 1901 the family were living at 18 Cavendish Road, Chorlton cum Hardy, Lancashire. The 1911 census shows that the family had moved to 19 Twyford Avenue. Like his brother, John (killed in action 1915 – see July 2015 issue of the magazine), Howard was educated at Ealing Grammar School, then in Düsseldorf, before enrolling at University College School, Hampstead. Howard left School in 1913.



Although our War Memorial records Howard as serving with the Royal Welch Fusiliers, he enlisted with the Coldstream Guards in September 1914. He obtained his second lieutenancy while in the Coldstream Guards in 1916. Howard, like his brother John, was sent to Gallipoli. Unlike his brother, Howard survived Gallipoli.

After evacuation from Gallipoli Howard's battalion was deployed to Tigris, Mesopotamia - modern day Iraq. The Ottoman (Turkish) forces swiftly followed them. In Kut, there were 10,000 British troops besieged by the Turks. The first Battle of Kut was an attempt to relieve these beleaguered troops. The British attacked at dawn on 5th April and were surprised to discover the Turkish first line unoccupied. They regrouped and launched a frontal assault upon Fallahiyeh that same evening. Fallahiyeh was duly taken following an advance across mud-soaked terrain, but at heavy cost. With Fallahiyeh secured, there was a follow-up attack against Sannaiyat. Casualties were high: 2,000 on the first day alone. Attack after attack upon Sannaiyat was repulsed over succeeding days. 1,200 British casualties were incurred on 6th April, with additional losses suffered the next day and on 9th April.

On April 9th Howard was reported "missing, believed killed". His body was never recovered from the battlefield. In 1918 his death was presumed.

His Commanding Officer wrote to Howard's parents: "He was a most useful and reliable officer. The Turks still hold the position we attacked and no proper search of the ground has ever been able to be made. The other officers of your son's company were all either killed or wounded, and I have been able to find none who saw him after the advance commenced."

In the end the attempt to relieve the besieged forces failed and the garrison ran out of supplies, surrendering to the Turks at the end of April, 1916.

Second Lieutenant (12204) **Howard Birch** died on 9th April 1916, aged 19. Along with over 40,500 others, he has no known grave and his name is inscribed on the Basra Memorial, Iraq (Panel 15).

The Register of Soldiers' Effects shows that monies forwarded to his father in February 1918 was £7 5s 11d. The War Gratuity paid to his father in November 1919 was £42. His parents retired to 1 Carlton Road, Ealing where his mother died in 1947 and his father in 1953.

100 years after his sacrifice:

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Support and dignity

11th March 2016 – We Won't Forget You

On Friday, March 11th St. Margaret's Church Westminster kindly gave the opportunity to remember victims of the 2011 Great Eastern Japan Earthquake and Tsunami, exactly 5 years after the disaster. As a



focus for remembrance and prayer an artificial cherry tree was set up and those visiting that day were invited to affix a paper cherry blossom as a sign of remembrance and of new life emerging from death. Each petal was inscribed with the name of a town, village or

community that had been affected by the disaster.

It was an unforgettable and moving experience to see so many people come to attach a petal, to pray, light a candle and leave a message for the survivors. The Japanese Ambassador, Mr



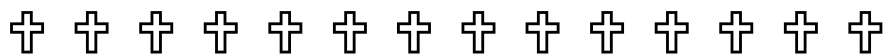
Keiichi Hayashi, with Rev Canon David Stanton from Westminster Abbey, was among many visitors. There were Londoners, tourists and visitors from Fukushima. Some people wept. Many expressed appreciation at the chance to take part.

One person wrote in the book of remembrance, 'I pray for all the

souls affected in this disaster. Thank you so much for offering this opportunity'. Another wrote, 'We will never forget this tragedy and hope all our prayers reach Japan.'

Through the day, at the hourly prayers and at Evensong in the Abbey, the victims and survivors were remembered. Yuki Johnson, commissioned lay minister to the Japanese Anglican Church in the Diocese of London, said, 'We were very glad that Westminster Abbey gave us a wonderful space at St. Margaret's to mark this day and the events of 5 years ago, and that so many visitors were able to be part of the remembrance as a result. It is so important that, as time goes by, those who continue to suffer are not forgotten.'

Japanese Anglican Church UK



Congratulations to Bryony



Congratulations to Bryony Franklin who has been accepted as a candidate for ordination training.

Bryony has been involved in many parts of our church activities over number of years and this represents a new stage in her life and service in the Church.

It is a great honour for us in St Martin's to have been the parish where Bryony's vocation has been nurtured.

We wish Bryony and her family, David and Katie, every blessing.

Nicholas



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As part of our community scheme, please mention St Martin's church and we will donate £100 for every fee generating instruction for sales or lettings.

(Terms apply – please speak to our office).

Confirmation 2016

The Confirmation Service will take place on

Sunday 16th October at 10am.

If you would like to be Confirmed please contact the Parish Office.

The adult preparation course will take place during
September and October.

There will be a course of 5 sessions on Sundays 11.15am – 12.30pm



NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN

At a **meeting of parishioners** in the Church Hall on

Sunday, 24th April 2016 at 11.15am

for the purpose of electing Churchwardens.

The **Annual Parochial Church Meeting** will take place in the

Church Hall on **Sunday, 24th April 2016 at 11.15am**

for the election of twelve parochial representatives
to serve on the Parochial Church Council.



A message from Maureen Fenton:

"I am still living with my sister and brother in law, Sheila and Geoff.

The bungalow is not yet ready. We are having a meeting with the owner tomorrow to discuss the way forward and set some time limits, otherwise I could be here for another few months!

You will be pleased to hear I have found another Church to attend, St. Nicholas, at Elm Park.

The Vicar is a very nice lady and her husband is the Associate Priest. The service is somewhat different but I'm getting used to it. The church building is new, dating from 1957, and is quite small. The congregation are very friendly and welcoming, and there is a good spread of ages.

I miss you all at St. Martin's and hope to visit soon.

Maureen".

Archdeacon of Northolt visit to PCC



The Archdeacon of Northolt, the Venerable Duncan Green visited St Martin's Church Council on Monday 29th February as part of his official triennial visitation. Here he is pictured meeting with members in the Parish Room.



Valerie Puri celebrates a special birthday



Valerie Puri (pictured on the right in pink cardigan) celebrated a special birthday with friends from the Wednesday Coffee Club at the beginning of March.

Fourth from right in red and green Jane Kelley previous member who has moved to Oxford returned to join us for the celebrations.

April Rotas for 10am service

3rd April Easter 2 Acts 5: 27-32 John 20: 19-end

Sidespeople: Margaret & Alan Jones

1st reading: Angela North Gospel: Lyndon

Intercessor: Sean Galpin

Our Junior Church

Our stewardship of God's creation

All who live or work in Twyford Crescent or Stanway Gardens

Chalice Administrators: Angela and James

After-service Coffee: Eze & Ngozi Daniels

10th April Easter 3 Acts 9: 1-6 John 21: 1-19

Sidespeople: Arden & Betty Anderson

1st reading: Michaela Gospel: Margaret

Intercessor: Jim Beastall

Our Churchwardens, Liza and Jeremy

Our local hospitals

All who live or work in Woodgrange Ave or West Lodge Ave

Chalice Administrators: Arden and Sam

After-service Coffee: Tara Bramwell & Fiona Stuart

17th April Easter 4 Acts 9: 36-end John 10: 22-30

Sidespeople: Michela Antonella & Brenda Ward

1st reading: Camilla Gospel: Jim

Chalice Administrators: Margaret and Gill

Junior Church: Zuzana & Michela

After-service Coffee: Rachel Weikel & Lyndon Plant

24th April Easter 5

Sidespeople: Mary Cook & John Holt

Chalice Administrators: Liza and Bryony

Junior Church: Nadine & Shelley

After-service Coffee: Sam Boundy and family



Flower Rota

1st April – 13th April

Jill Hull

15th April – 27th April

Liza Ambridge

29th April – 11th May

Liz Barnes

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

Camilla

St Martin's, West Acton, London



The Parish of St Martin Hale Gardens, London W3 9SQ

(Registered charity no. 1132976)



www.stmartinswestacton.co.uk

email: stmartins@stmartinswestacton.com

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 Family Service will be on Mothering Sunday: May 1st.

The 'On-Message' Group meets every second Sunday of the month.

Over coffee the group discusses various issues for Christians.

The next meeting will be April 10th at 11.15am

Our Youth Group meets every Tuesday at 7pm
in the Parish Room (rear of Church Hall)

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 at 11.30am

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