

ST. MARTIN'S MONTHLY

October 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 John Wilson
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 17th October.

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

No reaping without sowing



According to the Gospel of John Chapter 4, Jesus says to his disciples, "Don't you have a saying, 'It's still four months until harvest'? I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest."

Although modern farming techniques have the wheat

coming in from our fields as early as late August, by tradition it is the month of October that is in the poet Keat's ode *To Autumn* the 'season of mists and mellow fruitfulness'. First published in 1820 it has become one of the nation's favourite poems describing the delights of this maturing time of year. As a result St Martin's always has its Harvest Festival on the first Sunday in October.

That being said, as Jesus posits we still have to consider both where the harvest comes from and what we are going to do with it? Jesus is of course speaking of a spiritual harvest of souls, which has been laboured for by all those who have sought to spread the good news or Gospel. That certainly applies to us as the latter day stewards and inheritors of all that has happened at St Martin's over the past 110 years and more*.

The question then becomes what are we going to do with the harvest or inheritance that we have come into?

During October members of the Parochial Church Council and others from the congregation will attend their yearly 'Awayday' at St Peter's Bourne Retreat Centre in North London. This is a day conference when we consider our life, work and ministry and it helps to set the programme for the coming year. As ever there will be a lot to discuss and your thoughts and prayers would be appreciated.

Of course, St Martin's and our work for the Christ Faith isn't confined to what the Church Council thinks or decides. The work of reaping the harvest of what others have laboured for involves all of us. As Jesus goes on the Gospel reading: "Thus the saying, 'One sows and another

reaps' is true. I sent you to reap what you have not worked for.

Others have done the hard work, and you have reaped the benefits of their labour."

So we have come into an inheritance and another Harvest Festival, this year on Sunday 2nd October, followed by a harvest lunch is a happy reminder of the task ahead that we must sow the good news of Jesus Christ.

Nicholas

* St Martin's was first a kind of tin church from 1903 and was consecrated more or less in its present form in 1906.



Change of date for your diary

Please can you note that the St Martin's Foundation talk on **Thursday 17th November** has had to be postponed until February next year as the speaker can't come in November.

However, your disappointment will be short-lived because

On Thursday 17th November

There will be the famous

QUIZ NIGHT

Organised by Paul Ambridge.



Confirmation 2016

The Bishop of Willesden will be Confirming our candidates
on Sunday 16th October at 10am

Fund Raising News

All sponsorship most welcome.

Why not visit the site either on our website home page or at:
<http://stmartinswestacton.co.uk/donate-to-st-martins/just-giving-fundraising/>

Catering for the Community



Just Giving cyclists – Tom Horrox and George Koutas have been on a sponsored cycling trip helping to raise about £500 so far towards our new kitchen for the Church Hall.

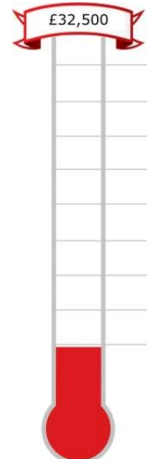
Also fundraising for the Hall Community Kitchen Rosemary Milne has helped us to get a £10,000 lottery grant as well as cycling for sponsorship and raising about £400 so far.



The 32.5K Fund



Ellen West is heading up our new 32.5K fund for roof and electrical repairs she's having a 'Dry October' on our 'Just Giving' site. Ellen has so far raised around £400.



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Harvest Festival

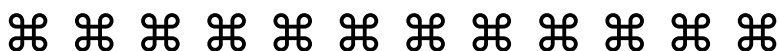
Sunday 2nd October

10am Harvest Festival

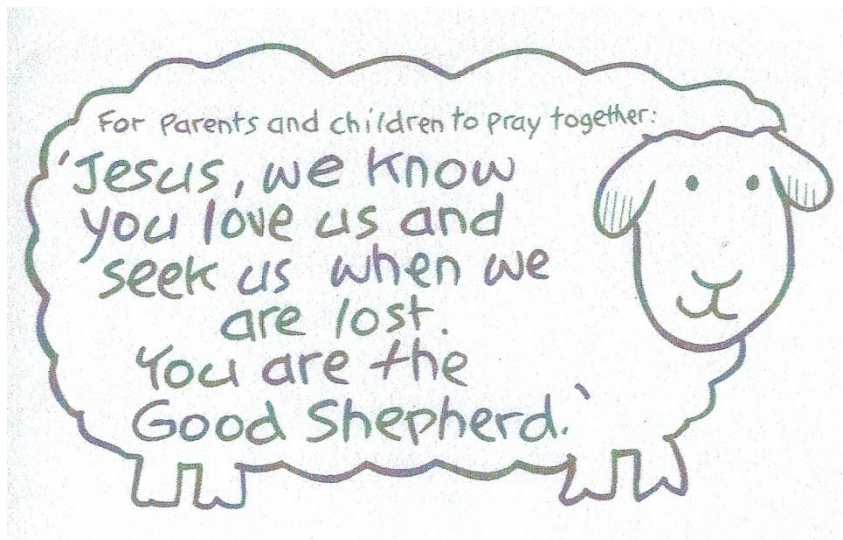
Followed by the Harvest Lunch at 12 noon.

Details at the back of the church.

All the items donated at the Harvest Festival
will be given to the women's refuge.



A Prayer from our Junior Church



Our Junior Church produced this prayer reminder for parents and children at the 10am service on Sunday 12th September.

Be like a pumpkin

A lady had recently become a Christian and been baptised. Curious, one of her colleagues at work asked her what it was like to be a Christian.

The lady was caught off guard and didn't know how to answer. Then she saw the office 'jack-o'-lantern' on a nearby desk and blurted: "Well, it's like being a pumpkin."

Her colleague asked her to explain that one. And so she said: "Well, God picks you from the patch and brings you in and washes off all the dirt on the outside that you got from being around all the other pumpkins.

"Then He cuts off the top and takes all the yucky stuff out from inside you. He removes all those seeds of doubt, hate, greed, etc."

"Then He carves you a new smiling face and puts His light inside of you to shine for all to see."



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Annual Bonfire Party

will be at 6pm

in the Vicarage Garden

on Saturday 5th
November



Sunday 4th December

10am: Annual Christingle Service
followed by the Christmas Bazaar

+ + + + + STOP PRESS + + + + +

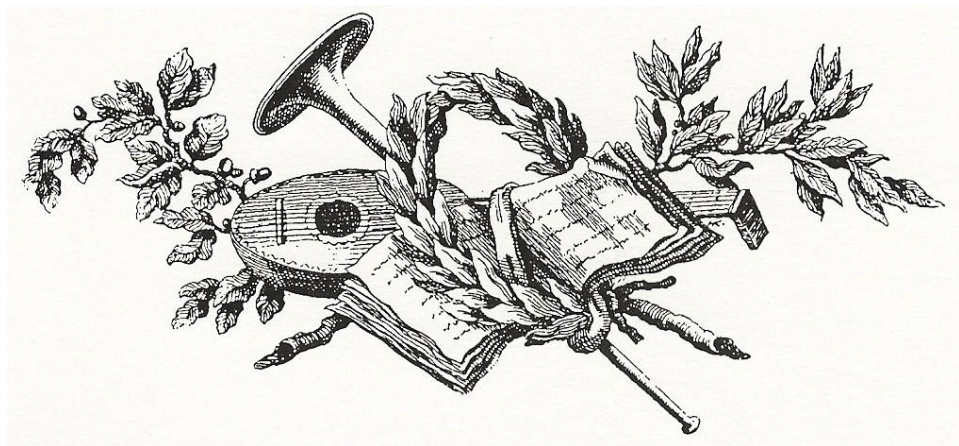
St Martin's War Memorial Awarded Listed Building Status

The Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport has decided to add St Martin's War Memorial, West Acton to the List of Buildings of Special Architectural or Historic Interest. **The memorial is now listed at Grade II.** See the link below.

Thanks to Liza for her hard work in regards to this listing.

<https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1437849>

St Martin's Music Society
Music for the feast of St Cecilia
patron saint of music



Sunday 20th November at 6.30pm



With Gina Kruger

St Martin's Foundation

An educational programme for contemporary Christians

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



Icons of the Nativity 15th December

The Rev'd Brandy Pearson,
Assistant Priest at St Martin's.

An illustrated lecture on the significance and
importance of icons especially during the
Christmas season.



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Could you be a volunteer

Our volunteers give spiritual and pastoral support to patients, staff and relatives within the hospital setting; listening and walking through difficult times with them.

The Chaplaincy service covering Ealing Hospital is looking to recruit new volunteers from all faith and belief groups to help with their visiting patients



You would need to:

- Be willing to be trained and to participate in ongoing training.
- Available at least 2-3 hrs a week
- Over 16 yrs of age
- Affiliated to a faith community that will support and providing a reference for you.

For further information please contact the Chaplaincy on
Office number 0208 321 5447
Email chaplaincy.office@wmuh.nhs.uk

Chelsea and Westminster Hospital 
NHS Foundation Trust

Patronal Festival 6th November

This year we shall celebrate our Patronal service with a special St Martinside All-age service on Sunday 6th November at 10am.

Annual Gift Day

We will also be having our annual Gift Day on 6th November. This is the day when parishioners are invited to make a special one-off donation to the work of St Martin's. Further information on how you can make a donation will be available soon.



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Remembrance Sunday

Our Annual Act of Remembrance
will take place on Sunday 13th November



Winnie the Pooh – a much loved bear

Winnie-the-Pooh was born 90 years ago this month, on 14 October, 1926 – in the sense that this was the date on which the world-famous children's book by A. A. Milne was first published.

Technically, Winnie-the-Pooh, also called Pooh Bear, is a fictional anthropomorphic teddy bear hero of a number of books, always illustrated by E H Shepard, who therefore gave Pooh his distinctive shape in the mind of the reader.

To his many admirers, Pooh is the wise, kind and loving companion they always wanted – a bear of very little brain and with many faults, but whose heart is always in the right place.

The Pooh stories, written originally for the author's only son, Christopher Robin, and set in an area recognisable as Ashdown Forest in Sussex, have been translated into many languages, including a Latin version, *Winnie ille Pu*.

Though naive and somewhat literal-minded, honey-loving Pooh composes songs and hums and comes up with unexpected solutions to problems. He also invents the game Poohsticks.

He has been recommended to Christians for his love toward his friends, such as Piglet, Tigger, Kanga and Rabbit – all modelled on Christopher Robin's soft toys. Examples of Pooh's wisdom are widely quoted. His refusal to let Piglet worry him can be seen as deeply Christian:

"Supposing a tree fell down, Pooh, while we were underneath it?"
"Supposing it didn't," said Pooh after careful thought.



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C O M M U N I T Y

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.

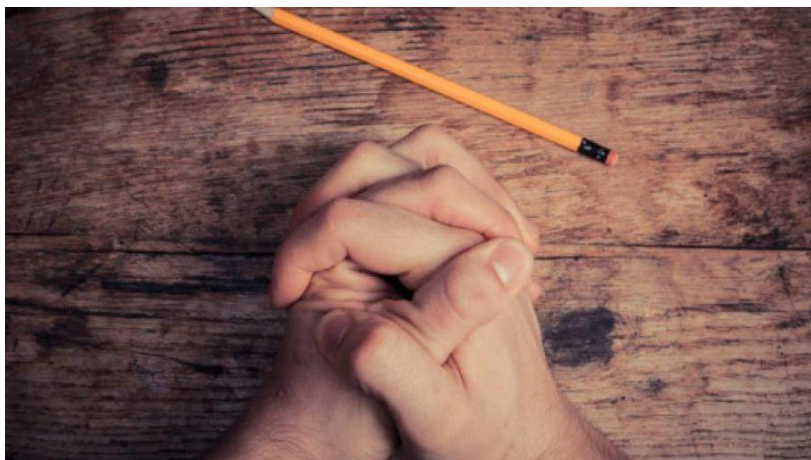
(Terms apply – please speak to our office).

St Martin's Prayer Support Group

A short monthly reflection group,
looking at our lives as Christians in terms of

Prayer Study & Action

to enable us to grow as Christian disciples.
We will meet together for about half an hour in
church after the Sunday service,
generally on the third Sunday of the month,
to share as much or as little as we wish.



Future dates:

Oct. 16th – Nov. 20th - Dec. 18th

after the 10am service.

If you are interested,
I have put together a useful leaflet.

Brandy Pearson



6th September 2016

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Thy Kingdom Come
25th May – 4th June 2017

**Joining with the family of God the Father to pray ‘Come Holy Spirit’,
that we may be effective witnesses to Jesus Christ.**

“May they be one... that the world might believe.” (John 17, 21)

We are writing in the hope that you and those whom you serve in Christ’s name might share with us in prayer between Ascension Day and Pentecost 2017 for the witness of Christians in this country. The aim is simple and threefold:

- **To join in prayer with the whole family of God the Father**
- **To pray for the empowering of God the Holy Spirit**
- **That we may be effective witnesses to God the Son, Jesus Christ.**

We show our faith and trust in God in prayer. It is in prayer that God takes hold of our lives and works through us in ways we can barely imagine possible. Our praying is particularly transformative when it is done in the company of others. Jesus prayed at the Last Supper that we, those who follow him, might ‘be one that the world might believe.’ There is an invitation then, to make a lasting difference in our nation and in our world, by responding to his call to find a deep unity of purpose in prayer.

Earlier this year we were truly encouraged as so many shared in ‘Thy Kingdom Come’. It is estimated more than 100,000 Christians were involved, with over 3,000 events and services. The flagship ‘Beacon Events’ in a number of Cathedrals were packed (with over 300,000 people watching online) and there is no knowing how many individuals played their part with prayer at home. There was commitment from churches across the full diversity of Anglican parishes.

As we look to 2017 there is a remarkable and beautiful desire across denominations and countries to share in this great work of prayer. The Presidents of Churches Together in England are jointly supporting this initiative. The Catholic Bishops Conference of England and Wales has committed to playing a full part and this will be high on the agenda when Archbishop

Justin and Pope Francis meet later this year. The Free Churches Group is actively encouraging all its member churches to get involved and the Methodist Church and the Baptist Union are promoting the initiative among their people. A large number of the Pentecostal churches and new churches will be participating and several of the Eastern and Oriental Orthodox churches in the UK have signalled their support. Provinces across the Anglican Communion have been invited to join in this great work of prayer and the World Methodist Council is encouraging all Methodists to warmly receive and actively participate in it. We also hope there will be a 'Beacon Event' in many of the capital cities in Europe.

At the heart of 'Thy Kingdom Come' is the commitment to corporate and individual prayer; in local churches, chaplaincies, missional and religious communities, fresh expressions of Church, schools and retreat houses.

As we utter the words that Jesus himself put on our lips, we pray 'Thy Kingdom Come' because we long for God's Kingdom to come on earth as in heaven. In the Kingdom of God the hungry are fed, the poor hear good news and the oppressed find justice. In that Kingdom the broken are made whole, the sick are healed and the sinner is set free. In that Kingdom all can know right relationship with the Father, through Jesus, the Son, and so find the goal and purpose of their lives. In praying 'Thy Kingdom Come' we all commit to playing our part in the renewal of the nations and the transformation of communities.

Once again we invite you to share with us in this great, global movement so that all may come to know Christ. There will be a wide range of resources and opportunities available for Christians of all traditions and of many different contexts. These will include:

- A large selection of prayer resources and ideas for events, prayer rooms, liturgy for groups and individuals at www.thykingdom.co.uk
- Beacon Events at various Cathedrals, Walsingham, Big Church Day Out and some larger churches.

Please join with us and start thinking now about your participation in 'Thy Kingdom Come' 2017. It might be that you organise a special service, a vigil or a 24-7 prayer room. You may seek to work with other local churches ecumenically, in your Deanery or through your networks. You may want to take a group to a Beacon Event near you. You may choose to provide special resources for members of your congregation or others whom you serve for their own private prayers. As Pentecost falls at the end of half-term you might want to offer particular opportunities for children and young people to engage in this cry of prayer for the Kingdom to come. In whatever way, by every means we urge you to be as ambitious as you dare!

May we live to see his Kingdom come.

With thanks beyond telling for your continuing ministry in His service.

Yours



+Justin Cantuar



+Sentamu Eboracensis

The Great War – 100 years on

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

Eric Prockter's parents were from the West Country, being married in Totnes in 1888. They seemed to have travelled to New York. By 1890 they had returned and were living in the "Moss-side Township", Manchester. The Manchester Rate Books show they rented from a John Brookes. It was while they lived in Manchester that Frederic Jnr (Eric) was born in 1890 and his sister, Kate, 2 years later. They lived there until 1900, when they moved to 12 Birch Grove. By 1911 they had moved to 19 Hale Gardens.

It is unclear when Eric enlisted. By March 1915 he was a Sergeant with the 8th Battalion Middlesex (Duke of Cambridge Own) Regiment and was promoted to Second Lieutenant on 21st March 1915. The Regiment saw action on the Western Front. On 5th October 1915 he was promoted to Lieutenant. *The London Gazette* records state that Frederic was attached to the 7th Battalion of the Middlesex Regiment on 29th August 1916, relinquishing the rank of Lieutenant.

In October 1916 they were deployed on the Transloy Ridges. Capturing the Ridges was part of a grand plan to "straighten out" the trench line along the Somme. Although attacks along the ridges started in September, it was on the 1st October the battle along the entire ridge started.

The weather was bad. There had been a lot of rain during September but as the battle started the weather worsened. At 3.15pm on October 1st a seven-hour bombardment of the German lines started. Despite this, the German resistance was described as being fierce and the atrocious weather resulted in a delay with the follow-up attack. There were heavy casualties.

One of those killed in action was Lieutenant **Frederic Prockter**. Records state he was killed on 2nd October, though some Army records give 3rd October. The truth is that bodies could not be recovered immediately. When the regiment was able to look for casualties his body was not identified. In the midst of battles the dead are buried when there is time for such burials. At the time he was posted as "missing presumed killed".

Nearby, an "Unknown British Soldier" was buried at a place recorded as "Les Boeufs: 59c.N.34.b55.80".

After the Armistice, the decision was made to set up Cemeteries and Memorials. Frederic's name was included on the list of those to be inscribed on the Thiepval Memorial to those "who have no known grave". At this time his parents were still living in Hale Gardens as the Army Medal letter and medals were sent there in 1921.

In the 1930's the War Graves Commission took the decision to find all the isolated graves and rebury the remains in an extension to the "London Cemetery" in Longueval. The cemetery contained 101 burials in 1918. It was extended in order to bring together all the isolated graves from the area. This cemetery became the third largest containing around 7,000 burials.

By 1935 his parents had retired to 60 Browning Avenue, Boscombe.

As many of the soldier's "identity tags" were made of card, rather than metal, medical and other records were needed to identify some bodies. On 8th March 1935 the authorities exhumed a body at the isolated grave in "Les Boeufs".

They made a detailed record of the body. The description includes:
Officer's tunic with Middlesex collar badges and regimental buttons.
Height: 5'10"

Effects: Gloves marked 7Mx FP Boots: size 9

The dental records show in the upper mouth 12 teeth were intact and 4 had been stopped; the lower mouth had 9 teeth intact, 5 stopped and 2 back teeth were "just growing". With all this information the authorities were able now to identify the body as being that of Frederic (Eric) Prockter. Frederic was reburied in the extension of the London Cemetery, Longueval in Grave 4.A.6.

100 years after his sacrifice:

We remember him.

St Martin's, West Acton, London



The Parish of St Martin Hale Gardens, London 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 'On-Message' Group meets every second Sunday of the month.
Over coffee the group discusses various issues for Christians.

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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