

ST. MARTIN'S MONTHLY

November 2018

50p



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

(Registered charity no. 1132976)

www.stmartinswestacton.co.uk

Email: stmartins@stmartinswestacton.com

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 Lizzy Edgington

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
The Parish Office (email: stmartins@stmartinswestacton.com)
Please title the email "magazine item"

They should reach the Editor by 16th November.

The December magazine will be on sale by 25th November.



Reflections for November

There is a well-known poem by Thomas Hood, part of which goes "No sun, no moon, No morn no noon, No dawn, no dusk, no proper time of day. No warmth, no cheerfulness no healthful ease, No comfortable feel in any member". That sums up how I feel about November. It is the greyness of it all that makes me dislike the weather so much.

This November is special, though, because it is the 100th anniversary of the end of WW1. I first heard of WW1 and the conditions under which the troops fought and lived at school, when we went to the Imperial War Museum in Lambeth. It is in Lady Geraldine Harmsworth Park, which was the site of the famous mental hospital, Bedlam, or the Bethlehem Hospital, to give it its proper name.

I have always thought that was very appropriate. If there is anything more mad than war I don't know about it.

WW1 was supposed to be the war to end wars. There were millions of people killed, wounded or missing, some rough stats are below.

- France: 1.4 million dead, 4.2 million injured.
- Germany: 1.8 million dead, 4.2 million injured
- Austria-Hungary: 1.4 million dead, 3.6 million injured.
- Russia: 1.8 million dead, 5 million injured.
- Britain and British Empire: 900,000 dead, 2 million injured.
- Italy: 600,000 dead, 1 million injured.
- Ottoman Empire: 800,000 dead.
- Serbia suffered the greatest losses to their military. Nearly three quarters of their soldiers were either killed (130,000) or wounded (135,000).

- The battles of Verdun and the Somme in 1916 left 770,000 and 1.2 million (respectively) missing, wounded or dead from both sides.
- Some of the most devastating losses were caused in the beginning weeks of the world war. In one day, August 22, 1914, nearly 27,000 French soldiers were killed. That day remains to be the deadliest day in France's history in regards to military men killed.

The trenches were responsible for much of the disease and collateral suffering the men suffered, trench foot and TB being just two of the illnesses which ran through the lines.

It is hard to read the books and articles about the warfare, I am particularly upset by the tales of seas of mud and people and animals being lost in the deep holes on the landscape.

Tom Pym was a chaplain in World War One. He was one of over 5,000 men of God who left their pulpits to serve alongside the soldiers. Tom and his fellow chaplains were totally unprepared for what they were about to experience. It transformed how they saw their role during war. They went from holding services far from the battlefield, to risking their lives on or near the front line - 168 chaplains lost their lives during the course of the war.

Their actions not only changed the way that Army commanders and ordinary soldiers thought about them, it also defined a new role for chaplains in the British Army. Some chaplains were sent straight from their parishes to join the soldiers. Others, like Tom, received a few months training. But most were unprepared for the challenges that lay ahead. They were told to keep well back from the front line.

As time passed, chaplains felt compelled to go to the battlefield, where they faced the brutal reality of war. Meanwhile the British Army's Commander-in-Chief, General Haig, was devising a frontline role for the chaplains. The horrors of the Western Front were hard to stomach for many chaplains. Tom faced his greatest test when he had to stay up all night, ministering to a young man sentenced to be shot at dawn for desertion.

As fighting intensified on the Western Front, soldiers struggled with the scale of death on the battlefields. Chaplains played a crucial role in organising the burial of the dead. It was a difficult task. Sometimes it took weeks to reach the corpses of the fallen men.

However, it was very important to the morale of the surviving soldiers that their comrades received a decent funeral.

Every second spent on the battlefield was dangerous, so the chaplains conducted the shortest of services, such as this simple prayer, recited quickly by The Rev. Ernest Crosse:

"Blessed are the dead, who die in the Lord; even so saith the Spirit, for they rest from their labours".

After the war, one chaplain helped the whole nation to grieve.

Reverend David Railton had the idea for the grave of the Unknown Warrior, the tomb in Westminster Abbey that contains the remains of an unidentified soldier. It was a place that grieving families, especially those whose loved ones' bodies had never been found, could try to find some solace.

So, when you buy your poppy, try to think of the futility of war, the sorrow of those left behind, even more acute when they don't know what happened to the person they have lost.

May God have mercy on their souls.

Lynne Armstrong



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Confirmation Service:

On Sunday 7th October St. Martin's held a confirmation service with the Bishop Rt Revd Pete Broadbent.



The Confirmation candidates

Harvest Festival:

On Sunday 14th October, St. Martin's held its Harvest Festival which was an all-age service, followed by 'pop and poems' and the bouncy castle for Junior Church, and then a delicious Parish Lunch. A big thank you to everyone for their generous donations and support of the Women's Refuge.





Enjoying the Parish Lunch



Baptism:

On Sunday 23rd September Toby Eddy was baptised at St. Martin's.



(L to R) Mike Reynolds, Takako Okino, Toby, Bruce Eddy, Hugo, Revd. Brandy Pearson.

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Japanese Community Café

On Saturday 6th October the first Japanese Community Café was held at St. Martin's. It was a great event to which all were welcome and there was beautiful music performed throughout.



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The Great War – 100 years on

Clive Davis continues looking at the names on our War Memorial.

Born on 9th December 1890, **George Reginald Dudley Prince** was the only son of George and Grace Prince. His parents George and Grace were married in 1889. They started their married life in Balham where George junior was born. In 1892 they also had a daughter, Ivy. Our George was baptised in St Mary's Church, Balham on 4th May, 1891. The family were living in Bedford Hill Road.

George was educated at Streatham Hill College from 1900 to 1906. By 1901 the family home was 24 Tierney Road, Streatham. While at Streatham Hill College, George passed the Cambridge Local, the College of Preceptors and the South Kensington Science Examinations.

In October 1906 he entered the City and Guilds Technical College at Finsbury, studying electrical and mechanical engineering. George gained Certificates in Electrical Engineering (1908) and Mechanical Engineering (1909). He left College with a Diploma of Associate of the

College. In 1908 he won a Prize in Mathematics which was presented to him at the Mansion House.

George became an Apprentice with Callender's Cable & Construction Company in 1909. He spent two years at their Works in Erith, Kent. While working in Kent he lodged at 84 Bexley Road North, Belvedere, Kent. When he finished his Apprenticeship in 1911, George was appointed a Draughtsman within the Company at Erith. In September 1912 he started work with Henley's Telegraph Works Company. He worked at their Gravesend Works as an Assistant Electrical Engineer.



By 1914 his parents and sister were living at 21 Hale Gardens. 1914 was an important year for George. In the autumn of 1914 he left Henley's to join the Army. He married Lena Winifred Woodbine on October 14th 1914 in Gravesend. On 20th October George was commissioned in the Royal Engineers (Territorial Force) as Second Lieutenant. He was attached to the Headquarters of the Kent (Fortress) Engineers in Gillingham, near Chatham.

George was assigned duties on the Searchlights defending the Thames and Medway. In January 1915 he was attached to the No.5 Electric Light Company of the Kent Engineers and stationed at Gravesend. On 28th May 1915 he was promoted to Lieutenant and transferred to No.4 Electric Light Company serving on the Isle of Grain and at Sheerness. Promotion to Temporary Captain followed on 6th July 1915 when he was appointed Staff Officer to the Chief Engineer, Thames and Medway Garrison, being stationed at Chatham for two years. During this time, on 1st June 1916, he became an Associate Member of the Institute of Electrical Engineers.

In 1916 George and Lena became parents. Geoffrey Dudley Prince was born on 9th November. Their home was 262 Canterbury Road, Gillingham. However, they chose to have Geoffrey baptised in St Martin's Church on 5th January 1917.

On 7th October 1917 he relinquished his Temporary Captain and was sent to Carnarvon, Wales for a course on pontoon and heavy bridging; returning to Chatham on January 4th 1918. Subsequently he was attached to the Salonika Force which sailed to Macedonia on 9th May. On arrival he was attached to the 33rd Base Park, Royal Engineers. On 12th September 1918 he was transferred to the XII Corps Searchlight Company, Royal Engineers. He was placed in command of a Detachment of this Company and took part in the Dorian Offensive.

As the British troops advanced, George and his Detachment were left behind. According to later family recollections his Detachment was no longer near the new lines of communications and was left with no transport and only "iron rations". What is not in question is that the weather became hot and this resulted in cases of malaria and Spanish Influenza.

On October 5th his Searchlight Detachment was ordered to Janes. For reasons unknown – perhaps due to lack of transport – George remained where he was for at least a fortnight. Again, through family recollections, it was due to the privations the men suffered, that he now fell ill with malaria. Eventually, his Detachment made their way to Janes where he could receive medical attention. George was sent to the Base hospital at Salonika. Due to his weakness, whilst at the hospital, he succumbed to Spanish Influenza.

He was due to be placed on a Hospital Ship and to be sent back to the UK. Unfortunately, before embarkation, **Lt George Reginald Dudley Prince** died on Sunday 24th November 1918. He was buried in the Mikra British Cemetery, Kalamaria (Grave 924). His parents and widow paid for the following subscription on his headstone:

WE LOVED HIM IN LIFE
IN DEATH WE FORGET NOT
GOD LOVED HIM TOO
AND CALLED HIM HOME

A fellow Officer of George wrote the following to his father:
"My old friend, your son, was a most promising and excellent officer. .
. . He never spared himself to do a fellow a good turn."

His parents and sister were still living in 21 Hale Gardens in 1919. By 1922 they had moved 20 West Lodge Avenue. His mother died in 1933 and his father in 1944. His sister never married and died in Worthing in 1972.

Lena, his widow never remarried and after the war moved to 54 Stokenchurch Street, Fulham (with their son) where she lived until her death in 1958.

In 1939 records show that his son, Geoffrey, worked as a carpenter. During World War II he also served in the Royal Engineers where he reached the rank of Lance Corporal. He was also "Mentioned in Despatches". He married Joan Hardcastle in 1948, setting up home in Southall. He died on 8th September 1981.

100 years after his sacrifice:

We remember him.



Dates for the diary:

Sunday 11th November – 10am Remembrance Sunday

Followed by Act of Remembrance at our War Memorial at 11am

The 100th Anniversary of the end of the First World War with Real People, a display about some of the names on the memorial.

Sunday 18th November 3-5pm Japanese Anglican Church's Evening Prayer Service

Sunday 2nd December

10am Advent Sunday – All Age Christingle Service

In aid of the Children's Society, followed by St. Martin's Christmas Fair Gifts, refreshments, crafts and fun!

£2.00 adults

£1.00 concessions

Bible Cake recipe

1. 200g Judges 5:25 last clause (butter)
2. 200g Jeremiah 6:20 (sugar)
3. 1 level tablespoon (15ml) 1 Samuel 14:25 (honey)
4. 3 (beaten) Jeremiah 17:11 (eggs)
5. 200g 1 Samuel 30:12 (raisins)
6. 200g Nahum 3:12, chopped (figs)
7. 50g Numbers 17:8, chopped (almonds)
8. 400g 1 Kings 4:22 (flour)
9. 1 level teaspoon (5ml) 2 Chronicles 9:9 (spices try cinnamon, nutmeg and/or ginger)
10. 1 pinch Leviticus 2:13 (salt)
11. 1 level teaspoon (5ml) Amos 4:5 (baking powder)
12. 3 tablespoons (45ml) Judges 4:19 last sentence (milk)

Method

Beat *1*, *2* and *3* to a cream.

Add *4* one at a time.

Beat in *5*, *6* and *7*.

Mix *8*, *9*, *10* and *11* and add to mixture then add *12*.

Bake in a slow oven 150°C, Gas Mark 2 for 1-1½ hours, until cooked: check after 1 hour if making a 'tray bake'.

Many thanks to Liza Ambridge for the recipe and for baking a Bible Cake for everyone to enjoy after the service on 27th October, which was Bible Sunday. It was very tasty!



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POSITIONS VACANT: Safeguarding officer

A very important role in any parish is the role of Safeguarding Officer. The Safeguarding Officer plays an essential role in fulfilling the Church's commitment to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and adults at risk. This involves working with the Parochial Church Council and the vicar (when we appoint one) to ensure the Diocesan Safeguarding policy is followed, that a brief annual safeguarding audit is completed, and that all volunteers and paid staff have all relevant checks and references. Most importantly, it also involves being the first point of contact for children, adults at risk and other members of the congregation regarding any suspicions of abuse or other safeguarding concerns, and responding to these in line with the Diocesan Safeguarding Policy.

Having done this voluntary role for about five years, Bryony will need to step down before June 2019. This is because only a lay member of the parish can to fill the role, and she will be ordained as a deacon at the end of June.

The role is not unduly time consuming. It does require good attention to detail, basic IT skills to complete the required records, and a mature and sensitive approach to address any concerns drawn to their attention. If we can find someone to start fairly soon, Bryony will be able to provide a full briefing and work alongside the new role holder to facilitate a gradual handover.

If this is something you might consider, or just would like a bit more information about what is involved, please do contact Bryony Franklin on bryony@davidandbryony.co.uk for an informal discussion.

With many thanks!

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POSITIONS VACANT

Coffee rota co-ordinator

After five years of doing a fantastic job of ensuring that we have coffee and biscuits, and most importantly friendly faces serving it each week, Fiona Stuart is now stepping down as coffee rota co-ordinator.

So we are looking for someone to take this over! The role involves drawing up a rota so that a pair of people are available each Sunday 10am service to set up and serve the tea and coffee afterwards, inviting new people to join the rota as needed, and being one of the people on the rota yourself. It's a great way of getting to know people in the church and not a lot of work.

If you would like more information about what this involves, or if you may be interested in taking this on, please do talk to Fiona, or our churchwardens Liza and John.

St. Martin's Church Who's Who:

SSM Assistant Priest
The Rev'd Brandy
Pearson



PTO Priest
The Rev'd Robert
Pearson



Churchwarden
Liza Ambridge



Churchwarden
John Willson



Deputy Churchwarden
Ben Mason



Reader Emeritus
PCC Secretary
Lynne Armstrong



Reader
Dr. Margaret Jones



Commissioned Lay Minister to
the Japanese Anglican Church
Yuki Johnson



Commissioned Lay
Minister
Jackie Nicholls



Safeguarding Officer
and Ordinand
Professor Bryony Franklin



Youth Ministry
Maria Jones



Lay Vice Chair
Shelley Merrick



Treasurer
Kenneth Chan



Administrator
Michael Franks



Some of the Choir



Organist & Director
of Music
Kenneth Bartram



Some of the Music Group



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 an All-Age or Parade Service.

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** in the Parish Room

11am: Informal Eucharist followed by the Coffee Club at 11.30am

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