



NOV & DEC 2017

# *Spire & Tower*

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Church Magazine

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## FRONT COVER



Image taken from:  
[www.rustusovka.com](http://www.rustusovka.com)

I very much regret that in the last edition we inserted the incorrect names for Audrey & Ken Peay on pages 32 & 33.

The online version of the magazine has been corrected.

Editor

As I write this, today's newspapers are full of lurid stories about Harvey Weinstein, the hitherto respected Hollywood producer who, it turns out, got sexual kicks from inviting young actresses to his hotel room and asking them to give him sexual favours of one kind or another.

In the coverage, there is also puzzlement from a host of colleagues, including other actresses, who found him utterly charming, kind and generally supportive. How could this man be both? How strange to observe such a Jekyll and Hyde character.

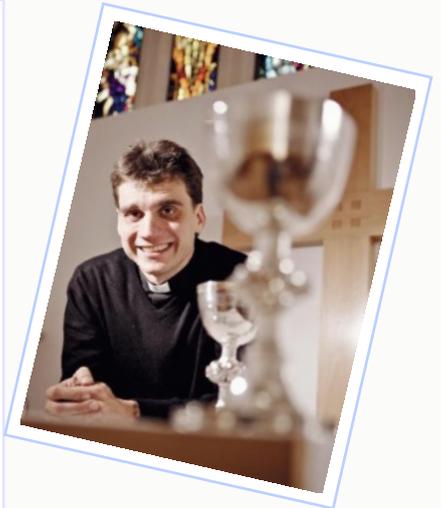
On a local scale, also this morning, I met an ex-colleague by chance on the train. He happened to be arranging the funeral of his brother, who had just died from cancer. He explained that part of the challenge of the service was the different expectations from different groups of people who had known him. For his brother had been brilliant at his trade, widely respected and given commissions from royalty; the turnout from the guild would be large. Yet his brother had also been an extremely difficult family man, whose marriage had failed, whose only daughter had broken off contact for twenty years, and who placed great demands on his mother, brother and sister. How could a person be so respected and respectable in one half of his life, when he was so difficult in the other?

On the one hand, these are extreme examples, but as I get more experienced in ministry, I am beginning to understand that this is more common than you might think. Human beings are complicated, confusing mixtures of good and bad. Even the finest of us has aspects of their life of which they are far from proud. As St Paul said, as Christians we carry our treasure 'in clay jars'. He knew human weakness.

In this season of remembrance, with All Souls and Remembrance Sunday, it is important to remember those we have loved with all their faults as well as their virtues. This is not so we dwell on the bad. Rather, I believe it is only in acknowledging the whole person that we end up seeing the virtues more clearly. The cover-up of people's faults, often from the well-meant aim 'not to speak ill of the dead,' can lead to an unsatisfactory half-remembrance. We cannot remember them truly before God because we are only remembering half the person.

God can forgive us all, even Harvey Weinstein.

*By: Robert Stanier*



## REMEMBRANCE OF THE GREAT WAR, PART 5

This is the fifth article on individuals remembered on either or both of the St Mark's and St Andrew's war memorials. Having previously considered an RAMC senior officer in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Home Counties (HC) Field Ambulance (FA), Royal Army Medical Corps (RAMC) of the Territorial Force (TF), which was based in Surbiton before the war, in this article, Neither of the people described below died in combat. I will be looking first at an NCO who remained in England for the duration, and then at a Private who served in one of the unit's overseas incarnations.

### **William Thomas Brine (1887-1918).**

William was born in 1887, the third child and first son of William Edward, a fly proprietor<sup>1</sup> and Amelia Ann Brine. Another son and daughter were born by 1892. William and his siblings were baptized at St. Mark's. The family lived in Victoria Road, and had a domestic servant.

After leaving school William officially started work for his father. In March 1909 William enlisted in the 3<sup>rd</sup> HC FA Unit RAMC for four years. Aged 22, he was 5' 7" (1.70 metres) in height, and lived in the Livery Yard in Maple Road where he was a job master for his father. William married Mabel Annie Ratledge in late 1911 at St. Mark's, and their two sons, William (born 1912) and Colin (born 1917) were baptised there too. In 1913 his father's business was located at Grove Lodge, Grove Road and 120 Maple Road but it is not known where William and his family were living. As was his father, he was a sidesman at St. Andrew's pre-war.

Given his background and experience with horses and horse-drawn vehicles it is perhaps inevitable that he was involved in the transport element of the FA. Within the RAMC, he was promoted to Corporal on 14<sup>th</sup> August 1909, to Sergeant on the 1<sup>st</sup> May 1910, and to Staff Sergeant on 1st September 1910. He attended not only the weekly training sessions in Surbiton, but also the annual training camps.

At the outset of war he was called up and appears to have been mainly based in Surbiton, providing basic training for recruits to the transport section of what had been renamed as the 309<sup>th</sup> FA (Home Service) at their HQ at 24 Claremont Avenue. Initially the Home Service element of this particular FA were mainly based in Kent, training its men at various military hospitals before they were sent to the Front. William was promoted to Sergeant Major on 29 May 1915, and attended courses at Colchester and Bordon in mid-1917 in Physical Training and Bayonet Fighting. After June 1917 all basic training for Field Ambulance service was consolidated at Blackpool, and it is assumed he moved there then. Although at the beginning of the war he was category A fitness, by the end of 1917 he was re-categorised as B.III (only suitable for sedentary work), which was raised to B.II (able to walk five miles to and from work, see and hear sufficiently for ordinary purposes) in March 1918. The reason for this decline in health is not known – possibly an injury.



*1 A fly was a light one-horse covered carriage let out on hire. By 1908 William E Brine was a Job and Riding Master, hiring out 'Landaus, Broughams and Victorias with rubber tyres; a Private Bus and Brake; with Horses and Carriages let by the month or year'; and 'Wedding orders personally attended to'.*



On 17 November 1918 William, suffering from severe influenza, was admitted to the Seafield Auxiliary Hospital, Station Road, Blackpool. He died there at the age of 32 from pneumonia on the 24<sup>th</sup> November 1918, thirteen days after the Armistice was signed. Following a service at St Andrews, his Union Flag draped coffin was buried with military ceremony in Bonnor Hill cemetery on the 30<sup>th</sup> November 1918, three volleys being provided by a firing party from the East Surrey Regiment. He lies in a private grave (sadly vandalized) which contains a CWGC grave stone (see photograph). He was survived by his widow and sons who in 1920 lived in Canbury Avenue, Kingston. William's will was proved in 1919 with effects valued at £456 6s 8d (£456.34).

William is commemorated on the Surbiton public war memorial by the library, was on the St. Mark's war memorial, and is erroneously shown as William E Brine (i.e. his father's name) on the St. Andrew's war memorial.

As an aside, it appears Douglas Walter Belcher, V.C., who was born in Surbiton and was a former choir boy at St. Mark's (where he had been baptised and subsequently married his first wife), married William's sister, Gertude Elizabeth Brine in 1941. She was his second wife, and the Belchers and Brines would have known each other pre-1914 through various church and other activities, so they possibly kept in contact.

### **George Frank Hatchett (1895-1916).**

George was born in 1895, and was baptised at St Mark's Battersea in 1896 to John, a grocer, and Ada Hatchett, of 44 St John's Road, Battersea. In 1901 the family was living in Railway Road, Chertsey where his father was a grocer's assistant, and George had an older brother and a younger brother and sister. As a young boy he attended the Sir William Perkins' Church of England Infant School. By 1911 the family had moved to 16 Grove Lane, Kingston, where he attended Tiffin School. His father was now a "Tea traveller".

Although he initially joined the 1<sup>st</sup> Kingston Boy Scouts, George subsequently transferred to the 1<sup>st</sup> Surbiton (St Mark's) Boy Scouts on Dec 20 1909; at which church he was also a member of the choir. A keen Boy Scout, George became a Patrol Leader, taking amongst other badges his Ambulance Badge, and obtained his King's Scout badge in 1911. He also took a lively interest in sports of all kinds. After leaving school George received an appointment on the staff of Messrs. Parr's Bank, Kingston and Surbiton, and was held in the highest esteem by all.



## REMEMBRANCE OF THE GREAT WAR

In 1913 George enlisted as a private in the 3<sup>rd</sup> HC FA RAMC. At the outbreak of war he was aged 19 and was mobilized with his unit – at this point he made an Honorary Boy Scout. He was sent to Gibraltar as a member of the 83<sup>rd</sup> Field Ambulance, where he was attached to the sanitary staff of the Rock. Volunteering for duty on a hospital ship, George proceeded to Malta and thence to Salonika, returning to England in April. Subsequently ordered to Salonika again, he contracted enteric fever shortly after leaving there and was taken to Malta; where he died at St. Ignatius Hospital, Malta. His family were then living at “Jesmond”, 55 Gloucester Road, Kingston Hill. George left £196/9/2 (£192.46) in his will to a spinster, May Hamer.

George’s name is recorded on the Pieta Military Memorial, North Harbour, Malta; on the Surbiton panel of the Boy Scouts’ war memorial at Polyapes, Cobham; on both the Kingston and Surbiton public war memorials; and was recorded on the (now destroyed) St Mark’s church memorial.

As happened to many in the war (perhaps more frequently in support roles), neither of the above died in combat, but their death would have been felt just as keenly by family and friends. *Jon Moore, 2017*

By: *Jon Moore*

“Even though I walk  
through the valley of the shadow of  
death,

I will fear no evil,  
For you are with me,  
Your rod & your staff,  
They comfort me”

**PSALM 23:4**



In September, Janice Price gave an enjoyable and informative talk called 'Reflections from Sierra Leone and Guinea'. Included with her talk was a presentation of pictures. Branch members and visitors enjoyed asking questions and contributing to the discussion.

The October meeting was an evening social with 'pot luck' refreshments. We had a very chatty and pleasurable evening raising money from the raffle for Branch funds. Thank you to everyone for their varied savoury and sweet contributions.

The Mothers' Union is a Worldwide Christian Organisation that is concerned with all aspects of marriage and family life. It is primarily a movement of volunteers who take part in worship, prayer and fellowship.

We have meetings on the third Wednesday of the month, usually in St Mark's Church, and all are welcome. If you would like more information, please telephone Christine on 01372 373 024.

Our branch is one of over 85 branches in Southwark Diocese. If you would like to know more look on the following websites:-

[www.themothersunion.org](http://www.themothersunion.org)

[www.southwark.anglican.org/mu](http://www.southwark.anglican.org/mu)

## **Forthcoming meetings:-**

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> November 2017, at 2.30pm – A talk by Revd. Helen Hancock about the Iona trip.

**Please note that this meeting will be held in St Matthew's Church.**

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2017, at 8.00pm – Christmas Service in St Mark's Church



### St Martin's Home For Boys, Surbiton

Cadogan Road (off Maple Road), Surbiton, Surrey  
(1898-1916)

In 1887 in memorial to Queen Victoria's Golden Jubilee, Edward Rudolf set up the Church of England Waifs & Strays Society (later to become The Childrens Society).

At the time there was very little funding for the poorest families to support medical treatment.

In 1898, St Martin's Home For Boys was opened, accommodating 21 boys, aged 8-14.

During their stay, the boys were trained as Tailors to help them seek out employment in future life.

A Primary teacher was walking around observing her classroom of children while they were drawing pictures. As she got to one girl who was working diligently, she asked what the drawing was.

The girl replied, "I'm drawing God."

The teacher paused & said , "But no one knows what God looks like."

Without looking up from her drawing, the girl replied, "They will in a minute."

[www.swapmeetdave.com](http://www.swapmeetdave.com)

*"For beautiful eyes, look for the good in other;*

*For beautiful lips, speak only words of kindness;*

*And for poise, walk with the knowledge that you are never alone"*

**Audrey Heburn 1929-1993**





It is sometimes difficult to remember that there is a church life outside the boundaries of St Andrews and St Marks. We have so much going on ourselves that our focus tends sometimes to be a little inward.

To remind ourselves of what goes on in the wider church world, let's have a quick peek at what Church Urban Fund (CUF) is busy with at present. By the way, CUF is the Anglican Church's outreach face—many of the things the church does in the wider world outside the church come through CUF.

To start, it has its annual [Advent Sleepout](#) in the planning stages, and I am proud to announce that I have prompted a new section in this year's event. You will remember last year I did a one-person sleepout on a very hard floor to raise funds. Well, this year there is a special section called "Ditch Your Duvet", prompted by my personal sleepout. According to CUF,

[Because not everyone can join in or organise a group event, you can raise sponsorship money by spending a night on the sofa or sleeping without pillows or perhaps even your duvet.](#)



Naturally I shall do so again. I'll announce in a pew sheet later when I'm doing it.

With winter—and Christmas—ahead of us, it is horrible to learn that last year nearly one million people (one in 50) used a foodbank, and one out of 20 missed meals because they could not afford food.

This shows that [food poverty](#) reaches far beyond food bank use and into the homes of millions of people who have had to miss meals without reaching out for help.

In many cases, CUF came to the rescue, especially with children.

The Archbishop of Canterbury launched the [Mustard Seed Appeal](#) last year, which launched the Just Finance Foundation, to help people manage their finances and to get out of debt. This year CUF is asking everyone to support the appeal again. At present, nearly one third of English adults face financial distress—that's a lot of people. Surely we can help.

Now this is an interesting one—small grants between £250 and £5000 from the Near Neighbours programme as seed funding for local groups and organisations who are working to bring together neighbours, to develop relationships across diverse faiths and ethnicities in order to improve their communities.

Grants have offered funding to a broad range of work; environmental, social, cultural, artistic, and sporting, that furthers the programme's aims of encouraging social interaction and social action. It is important that any project brings together peoples of two or more different faiths and/or ethnicities. Decisions on applications will be made within 14 days of receiving information. Deadline is November 17.

For general enquiries, please contact [near.neighbours@cuf.org.uk](mailto:near.neighbours@cuf.org.uk)

Would you like to organize an [Inter Faith Week event](#)? It will be held between 12<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> November, and aims to strengthen good inter faith relationships and increase awareness of the different faith communities in England and our local community.

There is a helpful toolkit available on the Inter Faith Week's website.



**We can't say the church is not involved, can we? Can we join in somewhere?**



## FLYING CIRCUS TOOK ONE OF ITS SHORTEST JOURNEYS



*Dorich House, Kingston Upon Thames*

In September, Flying Circus took one of its shortest journeys, on a crowded K3 to Kingston Hill, to visit a building which is now a museum (part of Kingston University), but was once the working home of a couple named Dora and Richard.

To start with the house: they were going to live “over the shop”. He was writing about Russian art and Literature. She was sculptor with a European reputation, needing space for a working studio (with good light), plus another area in which to show examples of her work to prospective clients. As her studio was on the first floor, there was a large lift for moving pieces down to road level. Above her studio was their flat, and above that a flat roof where they could entertain friends, looking across into Richmond Park. The time was 1935/6. The “idiosyncratic creation” (Pevsner) used Welsh brick on the exterior, had central heating and metal framed windows, and special woods from Malaysia for its floors, whilst sitting in the bath, you could look out of the window. Part of the roof terrace was covered so you could sleep “outdoors” without feeling the dew. The guide book reminds us that some of the original trees were destroyed in the great gale of 1987. So, it’s quite some house – if you can cope with all those curving stairs.

Who were Dora and Richard? He was the Hon Richard Hare (1907-66), the second son of an Earl of Rugby, Balliol, the Sorbonne and Berlin Universities; the Diplomatic Service, travels to SE Asia, the Ministry of Information during the war. Concentration on Russian art and literature led to academic posts in London and at Stanford University. Today, you can see some of his collection of Russian art, including several Icons. A piece from his collection is currently on loan to one of the exhibitions marking seventy years since the Russian Revolution.



The point of the house was to provide a studio for Dora Gordine. Probably born in 1898, in Latvia. She took up sculpture in Paris in the 1920's where she was encouraged by Maillol. An early success was a bronze head of a **Chinese Philosopher** (1926). The first cast was bought by the owner of a Swiss sanatorium, to bring "an aura of calm and peace". Forty years later, her **Mother and Child** (1963) was commissioned for the Royal Marsden Hospital, to suggest "welcome, comfort relief and care". The house is full of examples of her work, sculpture and painting. Those of us used to thinking of Edith Evans in her later years as an incomparable Lady Bracknell may be surprised by the slim **Standing Female Nude** which was Edith in 1938. Visually, Dora Gordine was unmistakable with hugely arched eyebrows and large kiss-curls. There were some contemporary pieces on show- a mistake, surely, when Dorich House already offers so much to think about; the house itself, the times through which the couple lived and which brought them to Kingston; the Russian pieces, and the way her work related to other artists. Well worth a short ride on K3.



By: *Colsten Hartley*

The day was not without its irony. Flying Circus met, as usual in Coronation Hall. Then, from a pub owned by a strident Brexiter, it visited the home of an immigrant – Dora Gordine was a refugee from both the Russian Revolution and from Fascist Europe. Her work was unveiled by both the Duke of Edinburgh and by Queen Mum. Not bad for a foreigner.



## COVENT GARDEN COMES TO ST ANDREW'S

To mark the end of Surbiton Festival Week, we held our own flower festival at St Andrew's Church on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> September. The theme was "Celebration". The quality of the exhibits was outstanding across the board, with several contributions from local flower clubs. Huge thanks to Jackie Page for arranging the event. A total of £365 was raised for Fircroft Trust, a charity which supports adults living locally with mental health issues. A list of exhibitors can be found on page 16.



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# FLOWER FESTIVAL AT ST ANDREW'S



17



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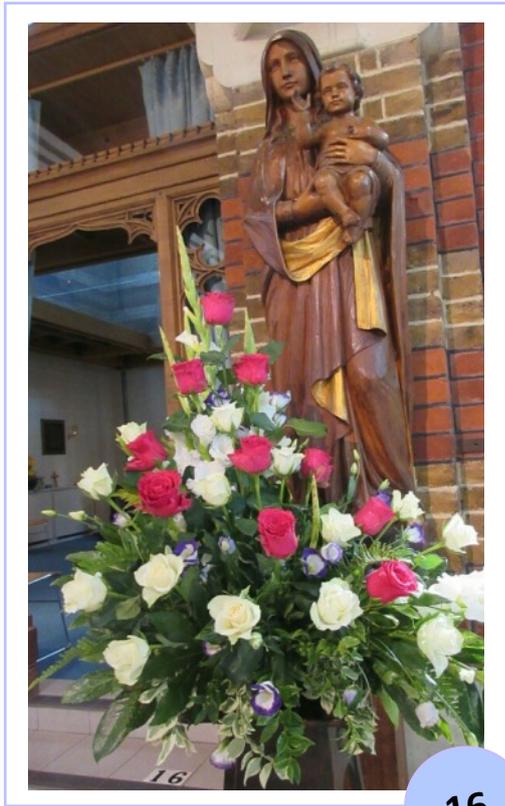


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# FLOWER FESTIVAL AT ST ANDREW'S



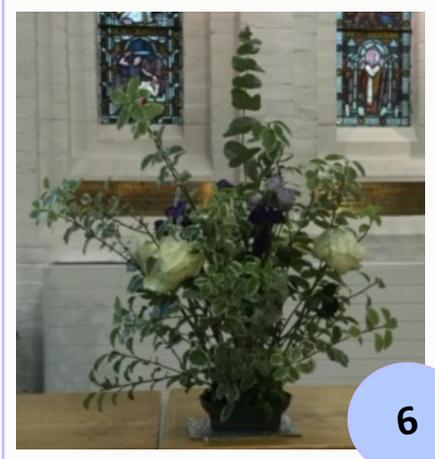
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# FLOWER FESTIVAL AT ST ANDREW'S



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13



12



9

# A VERY WARM THANK YOU



We would like to thank the following for their help in making the "Flower Festival" such a success:

- 1) Martha Barnes
- 2) Fir Croft Trust – celebrating 50 years
- 3) Surbiton Floral Club – Pauline Blackmore – Golden Celebrations
- 4) Sponsored by Friday coffee – Christening –boy – Judith and Angie Jones
- 5) Malden & Coombe Flower Decoration Society – Alison Honor – Christening - girl
- 6) Martha Barnes
- 7) Anonymous – pyrotechnics
- 8) Marilyn Leach – St Matthew’s Church – Celebrate with Fireworks
- 9) Diana Dowson – St Matthew’s Church – Winning Gold
- 10) Carol Bainbridge – St Matthew’s Church – Celebration of a Wedding
- 11) Cynthia Hall – St Matthew’s Church – Celebration of Athletics
- 12) Margaret Hearn – Celebration of Love
- 13) Anne Mannall – St Michael and all Angels
- 14) Margaret Hearn – Season of Mists & Mellow Fruit
- 15) Mother’s Union – Ann Pannett & Irene Proutt – Green sleeves Whitton
- 16) Friday Coffee – Peggy Howell-Jones – Our Lady Queen of Heaven
- 17) Anne Barker- Celebrating 169 years of Education in the Parish, St. Andrew’s & St.Mark’s School



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## CHRISTMAS FLOWERS



It's the time of year to ask if you would like to make a donation towards the cost of decorating both churches with flowers for the Christmas celebrations. Contributions should be given to Anne Barker/Jackie Page or any of the church wardens.

Thank you all for continuing to support the decorating of both churches.



## The Christmas Day Party

The 25<sup>th</sup> of December is a special day for very many people. We tend to think of presents, Christmas Dinner, silly movies and endless games of Monopoly! But for very many people in Surbiton, Christmas is a less than happy day. For very many elderly people, who live alone or who have relatives too far away to visit, they might face a lonely and often cold Christmas. St Andrews and St Marks have been hosting a Christmas day lunch for a very long time, certainly it was long established when I came to live in the parish back in 1982. Time was we hosted the lunch at the old St Andrew's church hall, but latterly it has been held at the Surbiton YMCA.

Last Christmas we had 70 guests, and we were supported by a band of jolly volunteers. We had 20 or so people helping with supporting guests as they arrive, running the cloakroom, giving out the food and sharing a table with the guests to help them get to know their fellow diners. The dinner was opened by Robert, saying grace, and then everybody tucked in to a fine Christmas meal, cooked and prepared by Jan the chef and his band of kitchen helpers. Like the previous year, all of the food was supplied through a very generous donation from Bill's restaurant. Later in the proceedings we were visited by the Mayor who calls in on the 'Y' as part of a round of visits throughout the Royal Borough.



When all has been eaten, the TV was set-up to hear the Queen's Christmas Day message. After a cup of tea and a mince pie, it was present giving time. The guests were very well supplied with wonderful presents, many of which were donated by the congregation and very many were supplied by Jo, one of our helpers, who shopped for and carefully wrapped over 60 presents. The guests began to collect their coats from the cloakroom. We had one resident insisting he had come in a brown coat, although his ticket was attached to a navy blue one! When eventually his transport arrived, he was reminded his coat was in fact navy blue. Phew! There is always one elderly person who loses something; last year we had a resident who claimed to have lost her false teeth! It was a mystery to us, but eventually they were found in her bag, where they had been put owing to the fact they were rubbing on her gums!

Some of the stories you couldn't make-up! One story I know to be true, and that is the story of Mary and Joseph, their epic journey and the baby born in a stable. And so we welcomed people to our stable, where we hope to show the love of our Lord Jesus Christ to a group of people who are in the twilight of their years, with only memories for comfort.

So, here we are again, planning another event for Christmas Day 2017! If you feel you would like to donate some gifts or help on the day either at the YMCA or with transport, please contact Clare Chesterman at the SASM Office on [sasms@btinternet.com](mailto:sasms@btinternet.com) or 02083909129

### *Sarah Stokes discusses the role of a Kingston Street Pastor*

“So who are Street Pastors?” It is just after midnight. I and my three other companions are walking past Kingston railway station and we have just been questioned by a passer-by. The four of us are in our uniform with Street Pastor written clearly on the back of our jackets and on our caps. We explain that we are trained volunteers from many of the local churches who walk the streets of Kingston between 10pm and 4am on a Friday and Saturday night.

There are 48 Street Pastors in Kingston so this means we are on duty about once a month; and we are there to offer support to our local community in a practical way. We explain that as we walk about the town we are on the lookout for anyone who might be in difficulty and need our help. In rucksacks we carry with us basic first aid equipment, bottles of water, and flip-flops to offer to girls who sometimes take off their high heeled shoes and endanger their feet by walking barefoot. Our new acquaintance is impressed with our brief explanation. We suggest he finds out more about Street Pastors on our web-site [www.streetpastors.org](http://www.streetpastors.org). He promises to do this and also make a donation Hurrah!



There have been Street Pastors working in Kingston for over ten years. They are based at the United Reformed Church in the centre of the town. Each team consists of four Street Pastors and two Prayer Pastors, so there will always be two people back at base to pray for the people in Kingston, and especially those with whom we come in contact. If there is a particular concern out on the streets then the Prayer Pastors will be contacted. The four Street Pastors are ideally two men and two women, and the ‘senior’ in the group has direct contact with the police. If we see trouble on the streets or feel it might be brewing then we can alert them immediately. The police will also contact us if there is someone in distress whom they think we could help.

I have been involved with the organisation for only eighteen months and completed the excellent eight day training (spread over several months) last November. From the moment I first went out with my fellow volunteers I knew this job was for me. Kingston night life is an eye opener. There is an exciting ‘buzz’ about the town with lots of young people about, mostly having a good time - but the atmosphere is volatile. There are also rough sleepers living on our streets, some of whom have been homeless for some time.



## “WE LOVE YOU STREET PASTORS”!



We make a special point of checking on these vulnerable people, listening to their stories, and offering practical help with sleeping bags, food and hot drinks. Because Street Pastors have been a presence in Kingston for a long time, most young people we meet know who we are, or will have come across the organisation in other towns or cities. As we walk about we are often greeted with hugs, and shouts of “We love you Street Pastors”. We have lollipops to hand out, which are supplied by the local night clubs, and this is often a great way to start up a conversation with a stranger. Our supplies of water and flip-flops are more in demand in the early hours of the morning.

It is a great privilege to be a Christian representative on the streets of Kingston, and to be part of an organisation that offers ‘reassurance, safety and support through listening, caring and helping to keep our community safe.’ I have learnt so much on my nights out from my fellow Street Pastors, and I have met some great people. The experience I have had so far has both challenged and strengthened my faith.

One of the easiest plants to propagate must be the range of Orchids that are sold as houseplants. Most of the species do everything for you by producing 'plantlets' and aerial roots which quickly establish. This is a great way to introduce children to gardening and growing things as it's so straightforward and the plantlets are big enough for small, inexperienced hands to manage. It's also an infallible way to regenerate an exhausted or dying specimen. The best time to propagate is during the active growing phase from May to September.

First, select a healthy plantlet and separate it from the main plant or stem. If you can, cut it off with a small section of the old stem; this will help to anchor the cutting as it establishes. Pot the plantlet up in an opaque orchid pot with orchid compost. It's important to use a pot that allows some light through as orchid roots need it to properly grow and function. Place the pot in a light position, but not in direct sunlight. Water once or twice a week and do not allow it to sit in water as it will rot off. Specialists always advise that you use soft water but we have never had any problems using our tap water and a regular mist of orchid feed: many of our orchids have been flowering for years like this.



This picture of a miniature orchid cutting was taken after just a week of potting up; the plant had already increased in size by a third and you will see that the aerial roots have plumped up and are growing into the compost. The plant will begin to flower after about 9 months to a year.

The sunflowers at St Mark's have done their stuff and will be left to allow the birds to collect their harvest: they are absolutely packed with seed this year. I'll give the bed three bags of rotted stable manure before the winter sets in. The soil is pure sand but at least it's not filled with compacted rubble like the rest of the church garden. I'm currently growing on 45 self-seeded Foxgloves which I potted up in late August. I'll plant them in the sunflower border with some self-seeded Forget me Not's. They should have gone over before the next round of Sunflower planting next June.



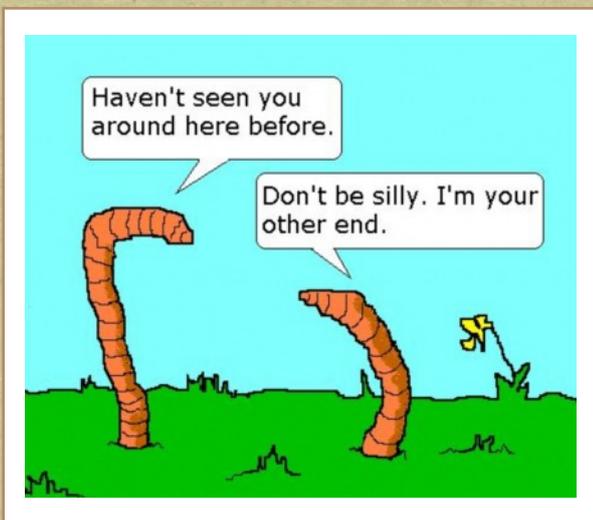
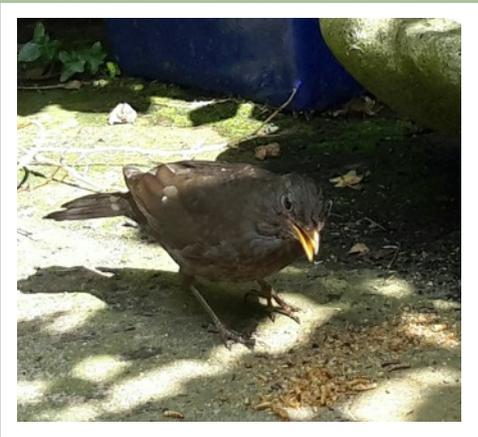
## GARDENERS CORNER

I made a good friend this year in the form of a juvenile Blackbird which started visiting and taking the mealworms which I left out. I thought at first that 'he' was a 'she' as his plumage was brown, but after a few months his feathers started to turn black. The internet tells me that all Blackbirds start off as brown!. It was fascinating to watch my young friend grow in size and confidence. To start with, his tail was just a comical, stubby little thing, but it slowly grew into an elegant fan.

Every morning at about the same time, the Blackbird would appear on the fence outside my kitchen door: his impatient "chuck" "chuck" "chuck" signalled that he was waiting to be fed. Each time this triggered a ridiculous 'reverse Pavlovian response' in me as I flew around the kitchen looking for my bucket of mealworms, worried that he might disappear before being fed. We quickly became friends. Languages are not my strongest point and my 'Blackbirdese' is more Pigeon than anything else. Our conversations were always very cordial and pleasant, but they never went much beyond "Your tail looks good", "Lovely weather", "How are the mealworms?". That type of thing. Nothing too 'in depth'. My Blackbird friend's visits are less frequent now, although I regularly see him in the garden with a young female. It would be lovely to see them with a new family next year.

All the best

Michael Smith



*What did the Alien Dandelion say to the Earth Dandelion?*

*Take me to your Weeder!!*

*What did the Bee say to the flower?*

*Hi Honey!!*

## Focus on: The Nativity

As we near the end of the year, we start thinking about one of the most important festivals in the Christian Calendar: Christmas, when we celebrate Christ's birth. Christmas takes place on 25 December each year. The word 'Nativity' is used to refer to Christmas and to Christ's birth. It can also be used to refer to pictures, models, carvings and scenes representing the birth of Jesus Christ. Do you have a nativity scene at home? There is one at church and if you are part of this year's Posada you may even host Mary and Joseph on their way to take their places in the nativity scene there.

### WHAT'S THE HYMN?

Below are the first lines to some favourite Christmas Hymns. The only problem is that some words in capital letters have got a bit mixed up. Can you unscramble them in time for the Christmas pew sheets?!

1. While DASHER CHEW DEPTHS their flocks;
2. Away in AMEN RAG;
3. Hark HEART HELD angels sing;
4. TINSEL THING;
5. SET FIRTH Nowell;
6. SMILE YE NIGH in a bed of straw;
7. In the bleak WEIRD MINT.

**INTERESTING FACT:** The word nativity originates from the Middle English, which comes from the Old French *nativite*, which itself stems from the Latin *nativus* 'arisen by birth'. Another word from the same stem is '*native*'. Why don't you go and look them both up.

### THE NATIVITY WORD SEARCH

You may be in a Nativity Play at school or you may have been in one in the past. Below is a word search containing 10 characters that you might play in a Nativity Play. To make this word search harder than usual, we have not given you the words to find... but, as it's Christmas, we have given you some clues as to what they might be. Good luck!

1. Whose birth do we celebrate at Christmas?
2. Who were his parents? (Two names)
3. Who said there was no room at the inn, but let them stay in a stable?
4. On what did his mother travel to Bethlehem?



## SASM CHILDREN'S CORNER

1. Who was watching sheep in the fields?
2. Who appeared to those men and told them not to be afraid?
3. Who arrived following a star? (Two different names for them)
4. What is another name for the cows who were also in the stable?

M A R Y H A P P Y K  
 S U S E J C H R I I  
 S S T M O A S N T O  
 E H V E S R G Y O N  
 E A E T E S T Y A N  
 D R E P P W S E A N  
 D S T M H L A K R N  
 K C S A N E D N H A  
 A A P P Y G R O N M  
 E T W Y E N A D R E  
 T T O Y O A U A L S  
 L L F R O N C N X I  
 R E P E E K N N I W

### THE SASM POSADA 2017 – Connecting families around the Parish at Christmas

Are you part of the SASM Posada 2017 this year? Each year, small knitted figures of Mary and Joseph travel around the SASM parish in December – this is known as the Posada, remembering the journey of Mary, Joseph and their unborn child, travelling to Bethlehem and seeking lodgings. They move from family to family and arrive at church on Christmas Eve for the Christingle. Even if you are not part of the Posada this year, do come to church on Christmas Eve for one of the two Christingle services and see them arrive. If your family has Infant School age children or younger and would like to be part of this next year, please do keep an eye out from October 2018 for how to take part. It's a lovely tradition to be part of and a chance to meet other families in the parish.

#### CHRISTMAS JOKES

What did Adam say the day before Christmas? It's Christmas, Eve.  
 Why are Christmas trees so bad at sewing? They always drop their needles!  
 Who delivers presents to cats? Santa Paws.

Happy Christmas! Charlotte New.

Answers: What's the Hymn? 1. Shepherds; 2. A Manger; 3. The Herald; 4. Silent Night; 5. The First, 6. See Him Lying 7. Midwinter.

What's the Connection: (from the September/October Magazine). We asked you how Abel, Noah, Abraham and Melchisedek are connected in our parish – it's the four stained glass windows at the back of St Andrew's. Did you know?

Apologies: The last word search was a little harder than usual owing to a few typos: Testameny should, of course, have been Testament and Adah, Adam.



“Hark the Herald Angels Sing, Glory to the newborn King”



I doubt it! Sorry to be so negative but I cannot honestly see any of you going from door to door with a large Wassail Cup which was filled with an ale based drink, seasoned with spices, pieces of toast floating on top that made the drink look like lamb's wool. The greeting, “wæs hael”, meaning “be well” was made and the reply “drink hael” (meaning “drink and be healthy”) was returned. It was often used by those who could collect money and food for the poor as Christmas drew near. A different form of ‘Wassailing’ often happens nowadays.

We call it Carol Singing when church choirs on a cold, dark night, with the moon and stars twinkling down, frost/snow underfoot, venture forth to visit houses within their Parish to sing Christmas Carols. Their aim, as of old, would be to collect money for various Charities.

As a teenager I was as member of the choir at St. George's, Tolworth. Chris Hall, our choirmaster, would gather us for three outings around various parts of our area. One choir member fitted battery driven coloured lights on to broom handles and these added a great touch. However, we still needed torches, or lamp posts, to read the music!

Two youngsters took the collecting boxes and we sang a full carol at each stopping point so that folk could hear us. We believed in giving a proper return for donations. At some houses we used to stop so that little ones could hear us sing ‘Away in a Manger’. Our revenue was always made up at these places. After about an hour and a half, with thoughts of getting the youngsters back to bed (school in the morning) we would be entertained with hot drinks, sausage rolls, mince pies, at the house of a church member. How they put up with about thirty folk crowding their rooms is a mystery.

So, what did we sing apart from, 'Away in a manger?' would you believe me if I said 'Carols'?. All different ones!' One we all know was a Christmas present from her Dad to a little girl named Dolly. He had asked what she would like as a present and she, knowing how he liked to write verse, asked him to write a piece for her: the promised poem started with 'Christians awake, salute the happy morn'. With Dolly asking for a poem from her father, Dr John Byron gave us a carol that was originally written in 1749.

E.H Sears was in the American Unitarian ministry and penned 'It came upon a midnight clear' it is a carol that with the words.....' and man at war with man' which have a special appeal to the victims of a war-torn world. Going back to the 1700s 'While Shepherds watched' arrived. I should add that Chris Hall would always promise immediate execution if anyone was unwise to sing, 'bar of Sunlight soap came down and all began to scrub'. Well, I ask you, what a temptation? When I was organist at St. John's, Kingston, I was introduced to the song with gusto in country churches.

Our choir were invited to sing to corporate diners at Hotel Antoinette and it was great to have them pick up the chorus and have them sing with us. 'Sweet Bells', sweet chiming Christmas bells, sweet bells, sweet chiming Christmas bells'. 'Hark the Herald Angels' came along in 1782. Poor old Neale's 'Good King Wenceslas' was deemed as doggerel in 1853 and was really sat upon by critics of the day. We didn't mind what they thought for we all loved to sing it. It is easy to imagine the poor page battling against the wind and the bitter cold. It was a kind master who encouraged him onwards. The 1800s were a source for carols and Christina Rossetti produced 'In the bleak mid-winter' and the tune, by Holst, was a favourite to sing. Depending upon how cold it was as we stood and sang, the words had a true meaning. There were some evenings when we did actually encounter a fall of snow, fortunately light and soon over, which meant a lot to 'See amid the winter's snow'. The words came from E. Caswell and John Goss provided the tune that we sing nowadays.



"Come let us sing to the  
Lord.

Let us shout joyfully to the rock  
of our salvation"

PSALM 95:1

# BRING YOUR VOICES TO REJOICE IN OUR LORD'S BIRTH

Of course there were those who were miserable enough to ban the singing of carols – the church service should be solemn in character’ moaned John Bunyan. ‘Twelve Days of Christmas’. From 1558 to 1829 Roman Catholics were not permitted to practice their faith openly. And so this became a catechism song for young Catholics. Each day had a hidden religious meaning, very briefly for it would take too much space to do the lot, the two turtle doves were the Old and New Testaments. (If anyone is interested I can let you have the full version.)

‘Silent Night’ was not, as generally believed, written to take the place of a broken down organ. The six stanzas were written by the young priest Joseph Mohr in 1816 when he was a priest at a pilgrimage Church in Marlaparr, Austria. What inspired his writing is not known. On December 24<sup>th</sup> 1818 Mohr visited his friend Franz Gruber, a school master in Arnsdorf. Gruber was asked to write a melody that would fit the poem and which could be performed at Midnight Mass with guitar to accompany. With the choir the two men sang and played the start of a wonderful journey through time.

Finally, ‘O come all ye faithful’, the extra last verse sung only on Christmas day. However, the French version in the English Hymnal is used as a processional hymn. This version had extra verses which read, ‘See how the shepherds’, Lo! Star led chieftains’, ‘O come let us adore him.....’ An original Latin copy of ‘Adeste Fidelis has been found dated as 1751. The translation we now use was by the Reverend Frederick Oakley in 1841 when he was at the church we know as All Saints, Margaret Street in London. He later moved to the Roman Catholic Church.

So, all of you even if you haven’t Wassailed, bring your voices to rejoice in Our Lord’s birth on Christmas Day and make it be a happy, holy one.

*Written by K.*



Sheet music from Rev. Charles Lewis Hutchings, *Carols Old & Carols New*, Boston Parish Choir 1916



## PERSONAL THOUGHTS ON OUR IONIAN PILGRIMAGE:

BY CELIA O'NEIL, SADIE BEASLEY & DELYTH GADD

Fourteen pilgrims from St. Matthew, St. George and St. Andrew and St. Mark churches, including the Revd. Helen Hancock, vicar of St. Matthew's, and our own Janice Price along with Sadie Beasley, Diana Lewis, Moria Greenfield, Del Gadd and me, Celia O'Neil journeyed to the beautiful Hebridean island of Iona, situated off the south west tip of Mull.

Pilgrimage and Iona are linked irrevocably with Saint Columba, a 6th century Irish monk who established a monastic settlement on the Island and evangelised large parts of Scotland and Northern England. In 1938 the Revd. George MacLeod, a minister from Govan in Glasgow, inspired the rebuilding of the medieval Benedictine Abbey of Iona and founded the Iona Community. Today it is an ecumenical Christian organisation committed to personal and social transformation that spring from the vision and values of the Gospels. You can find out a lot more at <https://iona.org.uk/>



For one week we were guests of the Iona Community and over forty of us, from many parts of the UK, Europe and from Canada, and the USA, along with staff and volunteers, worshipped, ate, worked, walked, laughed, learnt and discussed together, living in community within the Abbey and worshipping daily in the Abbey church.

Below are some special memories and reflections from Sadie and me. These are taken from our contribution to Janice's sermon in September about the pilgrimage.

### **Welcome**

*Celia - The wonderful welcome and feeling of being an honoured guest - from being met as we stepped off the boat to the moment of our departure, when all the staff came to the quayside to wave, sing and dance us farewell.*

### **Weather**

*Sadie - Six rainbows, one after another, on our journey to Iona! First glimpse of the Abbey while waiting for the ferry to take us across from Mull, bathed in sunshine, the sea an incredible Mediterranean blue, to the contrast of wind and horizontal rain a few days later - confirming what I had heard about the vagaries of Scottish weather.*

Accessing the church from our accommodation was as simple as crossing the cloisters, or opening a door and descending a staircase, a staircase that represented the original 'night' stairs, from which the Benedictine monks, aroused from their slumber, would have entered the church to sing one of the night offices.

## SO MUCH TO SEE & DO BUT SO LITTLE TIME TO FIT IT ALL IN



### **WORSHIP**

*Sadie - Feeling of privilege experiencing the simple, meaningful and encompassing morning and evening worship with the Community, guests, staff and volunteers, with special memories of the 'healing' and 'Agape' services.*

*Celia - Worshipping in the Abbey using the profound and poetic Iona Community liturgy really spoke to the heart and many times jolted me into a new awareness of the relevance of the Gospel today.*

### **ON OFFER**

Between the structure of daily services, meals, house and kitchen duties, there was a programme of activities including a long (or a short) guided pilgrimage across the Island, an energetic cediadh in the local Community hall, an evening of entertainment with the children and families staying at the MacLeod Centre, talks, discussions, slide shows on pollution and art, seaweed collecting and afternoon craft workshops. Even a boat trip to Staffa to see Fingal's cave. And this was just what the Community offered! The Island itself was beautiful and presented so many attractions (and distractions).

### **CHALLENGED**

It was certainly a case of "so much to see and do but so little time to fit it all in" quoting Sadie and one of the common challenges we found within our Surbiton churches group as the week progressed was the pressure of time. But we met and talked about this and I realised it was okay just to stop and be rather than do things incessantly. Strange how that prompt was necessary when away from home, work and family responsibilities.

## LEARNING & REFLECTION

*Sadie – Kenneth C. Steven says, talking of Iona, “sometimes in all the rush and hurry of our lives, we need so much, just now and then, to find an island – this is that island”. I went to Iona with an open mind, and returned a week later with a feeling of calm and enrichment – with so many experiences and memories to treasure and on which to reflect.*

*Through St. Columba, God has used, and is using this place very powerfully, over the centuries, to teach us that we can live together, yet be individuals. Let us learn to respect each other and work together for peace – to preserve this world and everything in it as God intended.*

*Celia - From living in community with over forty others I learnt humility – that none of us has any right to feel we are better than another – we are all so valued*

*That the heart of the Iona Community is living out the Gospel every moment of your life*

*And, most important of all and a very hard lesson for me, to let go and not take charge of myself so intensely – because it is God who is in charge*

Since our return our pilgrim group has met. There is talk of another pilgrimage next year – Lindisfarne was proposed. Where would you like to go?

By: *Celia & Sadie*



Be, Lord Jesus, a bright flame  
before me,

a guiding star above me,

a smooth path below me,

a kind Shepherd behind me:

today, tonight & forever.

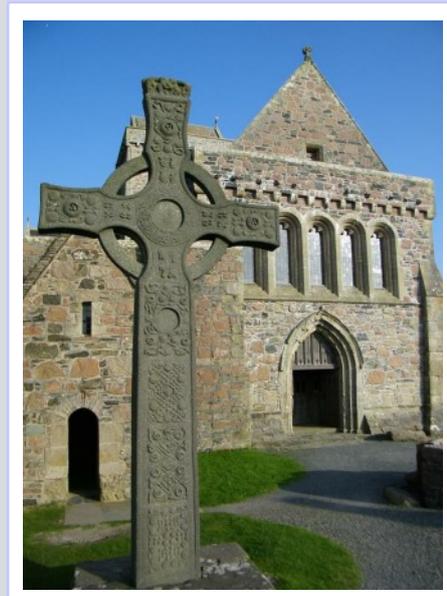
Prayer of St Columba

## *My Iona Experience.....*

Going to Iona was about pushing myself out of my comfort zone, doing something that firstly felt attractive but something that I actually followed through with. Leaving my family felt selfish and indulgent and it was hard as my daughter and I both got very upset saying goodbye. However, what Iona did for me was to strip back the layers to be just me: not a mother, or a wife or employee, but to be just me.

Being surrounded by people, sharing meals, rooms and bathrooms meant I had to accept my fellow pilgrims from whatever walk of life and hopefully they accepted me. Sharing conversations as we mopped out toilets and washing cutlery was soothing and also fascinating. Listening to snoring was not so comforting.

As we left Mull on the ferry and approached Iona and I got the first glimpse of the Abbey, I felt an overwhelming sense of privilege to be staying in a place and building so steeped in history. Iona is such a special place that it has propelled many people to do something active to live out the Gospel. St Columbus, building the monastery, George McLeod rebuilding it and starting the Iona community.



*St John's Cross*



*“When I give God time & space, I can feel the healing strength of his love.”*

What I did learn from my experience is that life doesn't need to be complicated, that living in community is challenging and also supportive. By giving myself space on Iona, it allowed me to give God space in my life and when I give God time and space, I can feel the healing strength of his love. I find time to do many things in a day and I realized I need to find time for God the same way as I do for other things like washing my face and checking social media. I don't always have to travel for 12 hours to reach “thin places”, to feel close to God: however, the subtleness of the services in the abbey, the gentle piano music that invited pilgrims to feel God's presence and the simple yet beautiful language of the Iona community worship moved me every time.

The Iona Community worship style felt to me like the future of the modern church: simple, paired back worship style yet keeping the focus on active campaigning for peace, justice and the environment and learning to live together.

It was a delight to get to know my fellow pilgrims and make new friends from all over the globe. Iona is a place of amazing beauty, not just in the surrounding sea and hills, but also in the calm that it stirs up in us and memories that I have from that week. When my life becomes busy and overwhelming, I try to close my eyes and feel the peace of the Abbey and Island and although this is calming it leaves me with a feeling of nostalgia and longing for the simplistic peace of Iona.

By: *Delyth Gadd*



## Part 3 KEITH KIRBY: MEMORIES OF AN OLD SURBITONIAN: THE NEXT CHAPTER

As a trainee manager at a luxury cosmetic company I learnt to drive a fork lift truck. This was to take ingredients of a hair removing cream to another part of the factory for assembly. At sales time, we bruised bars of soap by throwing them against the wall so that stores could sell them at a reduced price in their sales. The company also used to import bales of silk which were processed then micronized, for its face powders. It was when working in one department that I was asked to make a false declaration. I understand now the rationale behind this short cut. However, this was against my conscience. I was told to do it my way.

This led to my most serious nervous breakdown. I spent the best part of a summer in a long stay mental hospital. There was an industrial workshop where I learnt basic carpentry and stool weaving skills. There was also a cricket team. We toured other mental hospitals enjoying the cricket teas. These were a welcome change from the usual bland hospital fare. We reached the final of the cricket cup. I didn't bat or bowl just fielded. I still have the engraved pewter mug and medal from that day.



Part of my illness in hospital was a deep depression which neither medication or ECT (shock therapy) could shift. I had more or less given up my Christian faith. I rarely prayed or read my Bible.

One day a young lady visited me. She said a group would pray for me that evening. The next morning the black cloud of depression had lifted. I didn't need nurses to eject me from bed to wax and polish the ward floors. My depression had miraculously gone. This was the start of ten years of perfect mental health.



Around this time, I was baptised in the Holy Spirit. Some churches teach that this gift was limited to the early Church. I can only speak from experience that this is not the case for me. Speaking in tongues either silently or aloud is a communication between my spirit and God, bypassing my mind. For someone like myself who suffers from bipolar disorder this has great benefits particularly at times of early morning awakening. Occasionally this gift may be used in corporate worship if I know someone with the gift of interpretation is present.

Back to the football pitch and particularly the four at the Fairfield in Kingston. I was a utility player for a local church. There were no changing or showering facilities in my day. After watching a couple of nondescript games my wife suggested she stay at home and run me a hot bath: a win-win solution.



*Keith in contemplative mood!*



## AS A MAN THINKETH BY JAMES ALLEN

*"I found myself nodding & saying 'yes' throughout this masterpiece"*

Simply put, a wonderful book. This is one of those reads that you wish you would have discovered many years ago as there is so much truth and wisdom packed into this short and simple book. I found myself nodding and saying "yes" throughout this masterpiece.

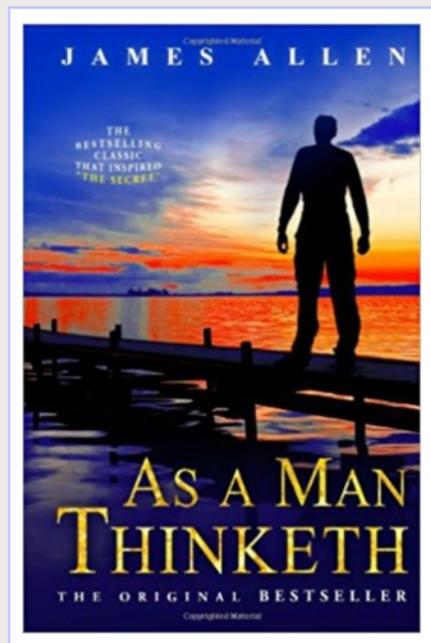
The premise of this book is that our thoughts ultimately determine all aspects of our inner and outer being. In the seven chapters, the author explains how our thoughts affect our character, our circumstances, our body and our health, our purpose, our achievement, our visions and ideals, and ultimately our serenity.

The foreword of the book is as follows:

"This little volume (the result of meditation and experience) is not intended as an exhaustive treatise on the much-written upon subject of the power of thought. It is suggestive rather than explanatory, its object being to stimulate men and women to the discovery and perception of the truth that - 'They themselves are makers of themselves' by virtue of the thoughts which they choose and encourage; that mind is the master weaver, both of the inner garment of character and the outer garment of circumstance, and that, as they may have hitherto woven in ignorance and pain they may now weave in enlightenment and happiness."

This was the first James Allen book I read, and since then I have read many more of his books. Each one has proven to be well worth the investment in time and his writings have had a very profound impact on my life and how I think about and approach each day.

To summarise, the key message I learned from this gem of a book is that everything starts with a thought. Good, kind, positive thoughts will ultimately result in a happy, meaningful life. Negative thoughts will ultimately result in a a sad, negative existence.



By: *Jeff Jones*



## Malden & Coombe Flower Decoration Society

Meets at St James Church Hall,  
Bodley Road, New Malden at  
7:30pm

3rd Thursday of the  
Month

Contact Chairman  
0208 949 8036

## SURBITON FLORAL CLUB

Affiliated to the National Association of Flower Arrangement Societies & Surrey Area of NAFAS

We meet on the first Wednesday of the month at The Tolworth United Reformed Church, Raeburn Avenue, Tolworth, KT5 9JR.

Meetings start at 7:45pm & usually finish by 10pm.

Parking is available in the church car park (off Raeburn Avenue) & in adjoining streets.

Bus Service K2 stops outside. Other buses at Tolworth Broadway- about a 10 minute walk.

Further details are available on our website [www.surbitonfloralclub.co.uk](http://www.surbitonfloralclub.co.uk) or phone Pauline on

0208 391 1116.

For details of other clubs in Surrey NAFAS go to their website- [www.surreynafas.org.uk](http://www.surreynafas.org.uk)



## ADVERTS & NOTICE PAGE



Our very own 'Supersleuth', Peggy Howell-Jones didn't waste any time identifying the mystery plant which appeared in the last issue of Spire and Tower. If you remember, it was Peggy who cracked the last case and identified the elusive Tuberose as the prime suspect. Peggy's diligent detective work has established that the plant growing in Isabella Plantation this summer is a *Dictamnus Albus*, or 'Burning Bush'.

A good result Peggy. On the QT, I hear that 'Robert Galbraith' is currently writing a new mini series, based around your undercover capers on the mean streets of downtown Surbiton!.



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We want to thank all those who took part in the celebration of our 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary in July. Thank you to those who were present at our Blessing after the Choral Eucharist, and who were able to stay and enjoy refreshments afterwards while watching the original film of our wedding. We especially appreciated the help of those who rearranged the space at the back of the church and organised and served the food and drink. We are very grateful to you all.

Thank you each and everyone from both of us and our family.

Ruth & Harry Gilmore

nb We regret that this note was inadvertently omitted from our last edition.



## ADVERTS & NOTICES PAGE

### *MUSIC & SONG ON OUR DOORSTEP*

A new season of concerts in St Andrew's Church will start towards the end of October. There is a wonderful line-up of orchestral and choral music ahead with something for everyone, so do think about coming along and supporting our local musicians. Tickets can be bought on the door or usually cheaper if booked online on the individual websites .

The season starts with the first of Ben Costello's Thames Concerts series on 23<sup>rd</sup> October with The Westcombe Brass quintet playing music from across the British Isles. This is followed by further Thames Concert events with The Ducasse Trio (clarinet, piano and violin) playing Mozart, Stravinsky and Gershwin in November and then Claire Martin and Ian Shaw, two very popular and well-known singers presenting their Christmas Cracker in December.

Also in November we will host Kingston Philharmonia playing Holst, Mozart and Vaughn Williams and in December, The Kingston Orpheus Choir with Bach's Christmas Oratorio and Kingston Choral Society with a Christmas concert.

All this before the end of the year (plenty more to come next year) and for a fraction of the price of a night out in London.

In addition, Thames Concerts do a series of Coffee Concerts which coincide with the Farmers' Market days. These are at 10.30 on the Saturday morning, free to attend and coffee available with funds going to the church. These are short pieces which offer our young musicians a showcase. The first one was held on the 21<sup>st</sup> October and was performed by pupils of Coombe Boy's School . This will be followed by Kingston Music Service on 16<sup>th</sup> December.

If any of this inspires you, please come and if it further inspires you to lend a hand in hosting/learning about the staging, contact me : Anne Knowles

## COMING UP IN THE NEXT EDITION

*'View From a New Pew'*

*The remarkable story of a 151 year old Bible*

*Colsten Hartley's fascinating insight on Caravaggio*

*'My Life' by Dan Nmadu*

*'The Ginger Twins Go Forth'*



### St Andrew's Day Supper after the 7pm Eucharist on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> November



All profits from the supper will be donated to

**"Firs Court Amenity Fund"**

This year Richard and Paul have offered to do the following:

#### **Menu**

Nibbles (Olives/crisps/dip)

Haggis, Nips and Tatties (vegetarian Haggis will be available)

Dessert

Glass of Wine

A suggested donation of £10 would be appreciated please sign the list at  
back of each church or see Jackie Page



In Flanders' fields the poppies blow,  
Between the crosses, row on row,  
That mark our place; and in the sky,  
The larks, still bravely singing, fly,  
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the dead. Short days ago,  
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,  
Loved, and were loved, and now we lie,  
In Flanders' field.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:  
To you from failing hands we throw,  
The torch, be yours to hold it high.  
If ye break faith with us who die,  
We shall not sleep, through poppies grow,  
In Flanders fields.

*Written by Major John McCrae, a field surgeon in the Canadian artillery. During the Second Battle of Ypres, in Belgium, in May 1915.*



*An illustrated pen & ink copy of Flanders' Fields  
Displayed at the Canadian War Museum.*

# St Andrew and St Mark



## Nov Dec 2017

RS 11<sup>th</sup> October

Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> November

8am BCP Communion, St Andrew's

9.15am All Together Eucharist, St Mark's

11am Morning Worship with Baptisms, St Andrew's

6pm All Souls service with choir, St Andrew's

Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> November: Remembrance Sunday

8am BCP Communion, St Mark's

9.15am Worship for young families, St Mark's

10.55am Choral Eucharist including Act of Remembrance with Sunday Club, St Andrew's

6pm Compline, St Andrew's

Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> November: 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday before Advent

8am BCP Communion, St Andrew's

9.15am Morning Worship, St Mark's

11am Choral Eucharist with Sunday Club, St Andrew's

6pm, Service of wholeness and healing, St Andrew's

Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> November (Christ the King)

8am BCP Communion, St Mark's

9.15am Worship for young families, St Mark's

11am Choral Eucharist with Sunday Club and Baptism, St Andrew's

6pm, Advent Carols, St Andrew's

## Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> November

7 for 7.15pm, Agape Eucharist for St Andrew's Day, St Andrew's

Christmas fair - Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2017 at St Andrew's 11am - 2pm

Advent Carol service- Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> Dec at 6pm at St Andrew's

Christmas Carol service - Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December at 6pm at St Mark's

Christingle services at St Andrew's on Christmas Eve 3.30pm and 5pm

Midnight Mass at St Mark's on Christmas Eve from 11.30pm

Christmas day All Age Eucharist at St Andrew's at 10am



## MINISTRY STAFF TEAM

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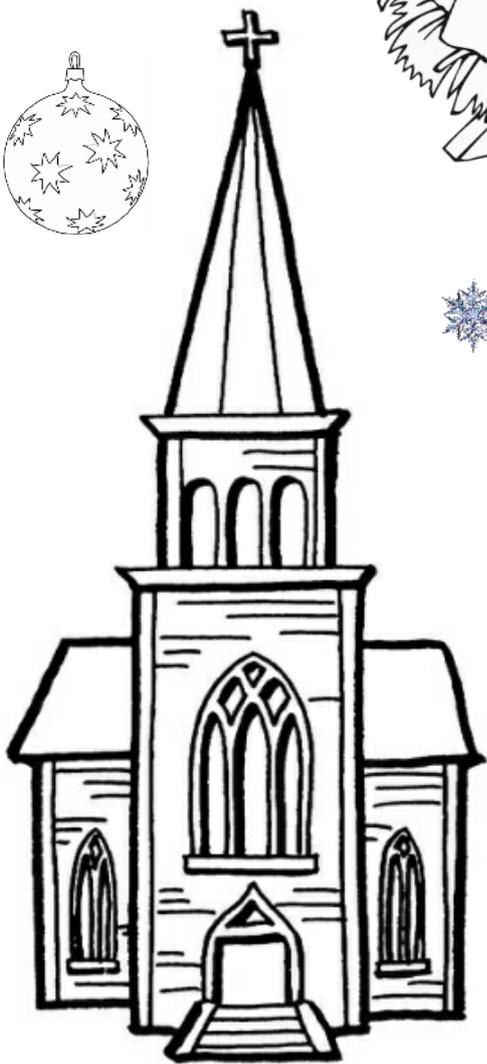
## OPENING TIMES

Tuesday-Thursday 9:30am-12:30pm & 1:30pm - 3:30pm & Friday 9:30am-12.30pm.





MERRY CHRISTMAS



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