

SEPT&OCT 2018

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St Andrew's & St Mark's
Church Magazine

Church Community
View from the Vicar
Charity Work
Children's Page
And more.....

A CHURCH MAGAZINE BRINGING YOU ALL OUR NEWS & WORK FROM AROUND SURBITON

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SEPT & OCT

CONTENTS

2 CONTENTS

3 A VIEW FROM THE VICAR

4 A FOND FAREWELL TO DAVID
CANDLIN

5-6 ADVERTS/ NOTICES/FORTHCOMING
EVENTS

7 GUESS THE CHURCH COMPETITION

8-9 THE TEMPERATE HOUSE AT KEW

10 CHURCH HOUSE GROUPS

11-12 MOTHERS' UNION

13- JOKES & QUOTES

14-19 MEMORIES OF A FULL LIFE

20-22 QUESTION HOUR WITH JO
NORMAN

23 MR.A.H.PACKWOOD OF SURBITON

24-25 THE ASSOCIATION OF CHURCH
EDITORS

26-28 SASM CHILDREN'S CORNER

29-31 2018 PILGRIMAGE TO
WESTMINSTER ABBEY

32- NOD

33- MINISTRY STAFF TEAM

34-36 SERVICE CALENDAR

37-40 ADVERTISEMENTS



3 A view from the Vicar



*Question Hour with Jo
Norman 20-22*



Memories of a full life 14-19

FRONT COVER

*Photograph
taken at St
Andrew's
Church,
Surbiton by
Katie Smith*



A VIEW FROM THE VICAR



One of the significant developments happening to our church is that we are now actively seeking to employ a second stipendiary priest to assist in our mission. The PCC have agreed it and the Bishop is behind the idea; we have done the financial calculations and we are confident it is possible for us to fund this post.

Why a second priest? This is not because there is anything wrong at the moment. In fact, attendance at church on Sundays is higher in 2018 than any other time this century. Rather, it is that we believe we need more personnel in order to do more of the things that God may be calling us to: from baptising and marrying people to assisting at the Joel Community project and running the Nightshelter: in general, presenting the Gospel to the people of Surbiton.

A word now to explain financially how the Church of England works 90% of the time. Vicars (like me) are paid through a central fund. Our basic salary is £26,000 a year, but actually the 'extras' make it worth a lot more than that: that figure doesn't include employer/ employee pension contributions; it doesn't include housing (and the vicarage is a 4 bedroom detached house); it doesn't include Council tax. In terms of how much the C of E puts in to a vicar's living, the figure is realistically more like £50something-000 a year.

Individual parishes are financially independent but are encouraged to make a gift to the central diocese of a certain amount; richer parishes help fund ministry in poorer areas, even when a congregation could not afford to pay a priest, so that ministry can happen there. Our parish, for example, currently gives £107,000 a year to the central diocese. This additional priest would not, though, be paid centrally. We would be attempting to do something that only a small minority of parishes do, which is to pay someone out of our own funds rather than relying on the diocese for it. So it's a really significant financial commitment. (NB This priest would not be someone in training, 'a curate', but someone who has already been in ministry for at least three years.)

We can do this partly because we get income from letting our halls, partly through financial reserves but a crucial section of giving comes through giving by individuals and families within the congregation, most commonly by a monthly direct debit. This is something we haven't addressed for the last few years: in fact, even as attendance has gone up, giving has actually decreased. Not, I think, because people aren't feeling as generous; rather, we haven't been proactive about asking people in the first place, and also explaining to people what we would seek to do with money they give. So, across the autumn and the winter, that is going to change. We don't want to guilt-trip people, or hassle them about money; we do, though, want to explain what we will be doing with that money and make it as easy as possible to give, be that through cashless terminals or online. So look out for this happening in the next few months.

A FOND FAREWELL TO DAVID CANDLIN



David Candlin attended his last Eucharist at St Andrew's on the 24th June. To mark his appointment as Curate at St Martin's Church, Epsom, Janet Jones presented David with a beautiful Stole which she hand made.

We wish David our best wishes and blessings.

WISH YOU WERE HERE.....

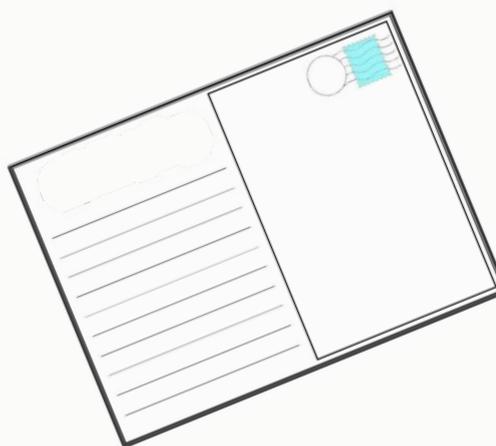
COMPETITION



This summer we ran a postcard competition, asking to see a postcard of your exciting summer travels & a short descriptive piece on where you had been & what you did. We particularly wanted to welcome contributions from the younger writers.

This may well have been while you were exploring the countryside, a day trip to London, a holiday abroad or even in your own local town.

Just a reminder the closing date is the 30th September.



LUCAS WIND ENSEMBLE

Conductor: Jonathan Grover
Autumn Concert
Saturday 27th October at 7.30 pm
Soloist: Simon Harvey (Organ)
In aid of church roof repairs
Admission: £10 – including interval refreshment

LILLIAN DRING EXHIBITION OF VESTMENTS

St Mark's

25th to 29th September

10am to 4pm except Thursday 27th
which is 12 noon to 4pm

Admission free



FORTHCOMING EVENTS

November

All Souls' Service - Sunday 4th November
at 6pm St.Andrew's Church



Christmas Fair- Saturday 16th November 11am to 2pm St Andrew's Church
St Andrew's Day Service- Friday 30th November 7pm St Andrew's Church

December

Advent Carol Service: Sunday 2nd
December at 6pm St. Andrew's Church

Christmas Carol Concert: Sunday 16th
December at 6pm St.Mark's Church



Highlights from the Christmas Fair 2017



GUESS THE CHURCH & MONUMENT GAME

PORTSMOUTH ROAD

How well do you know your geography, churches & monuments from around the Surbiton area?

Take a look at the following photographs & see if you can identify all the churches & locations correctly!

There are one or two tricky ones to challenge you slightly out of the Surbiton area!

Answers on page 35.

1



2



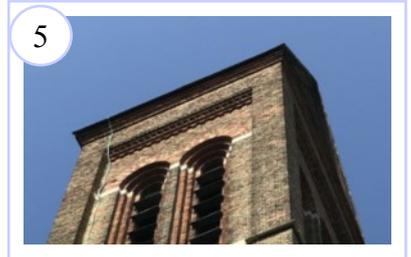
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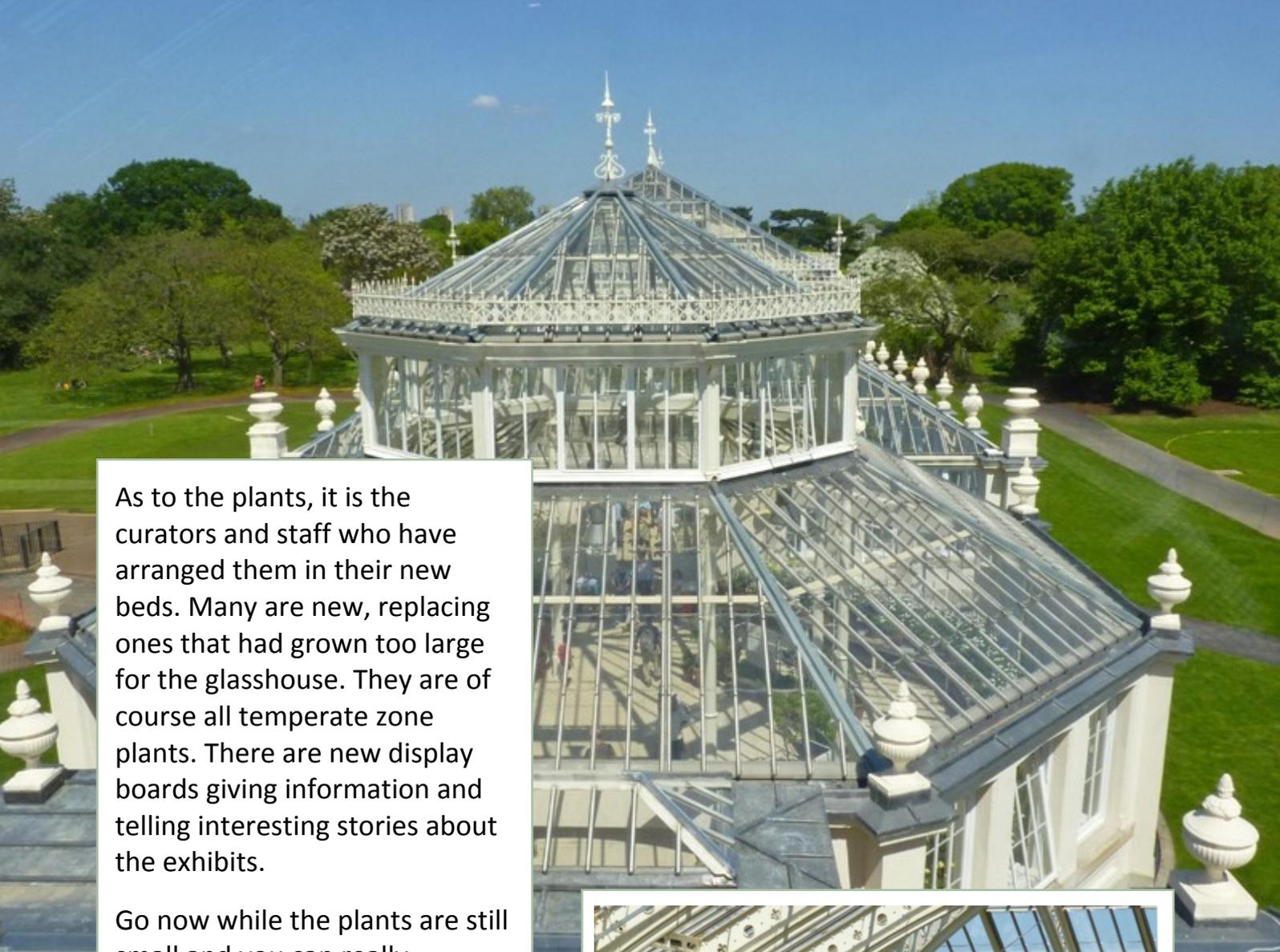
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THE TEMPERATE HOUSE AT KEW

Decimus Burton's Temperate House was opened in 1863, 15 years after his Palm House. The north and south wings were added in the 1890s. Restored many times over the years it was closed in 2013 and reopened in May this year. This iron and glass building has been transformed, you might say re-born. Many coats of paint have been removed (15 coats were applied by the original builders) and all the glass has been replaced, 15,000 pieces. Now the many architectural features look crisp and new. At 200 metres long and 4880 square metres it is the largest Victorian glasshouse in the world, twice the size of the Palm House, This latest restoration has cost £41m.





As to the plants, it is the curators and staff who have arranged them in their new beds. Many are new, replacing ones that had grown too large for the glasshouse. They are of course all temperate zone plants. There are new display boards giving information and telling interesting stories about the exhibits.

Go now while the plants are still small and you can really appreciate the wonder of this Victorian structure, full of light and especially on a sunny day. Climb the stairs to the upper level gallery which gives you an entirely new set of views, inside and out. And now there are loos!



What is a House Group?

A House Group is a group of people from the church who get together midweek and enjoy fellowship, prayer and Bible study. Some of the groups meet in the leader's home, some of the groups meet in one of the Church meeting rooms.

How often do they meet?

Most of the groups meet every other week and the dates and times vary according to the group.

What do you do in them?

On the whole, we have a cup of tea and cake or biscuits, to get us started. Then we open in prayer, read a passage from the Bible, and discuss and share amongst ourselves what that passage is trying to teach us in order to strengthen and deepen our Christian lives and relationship with God. We usually close in prayer.

Why would I want to come to a House Group?

To study the Bible, to pray with other like-minded Christians, to get to know people better in our Christian family & to deepen our faith in God.

When do they happen?

At present there are 3 different House Groups happening in the Church.

1. Every other Tuesday – 10.30am-12.30pm. Berrylands. Leaders – John & Olga Wickenden. (Discussion using Bible Reading Fellowship Notes)
2. 2nd & 4th Tuesday evenings of the month, 7.45pm for an 8pm start, till 9.30pm. Tolworth area. Leader – Clare Mannall (In-depth Bible study and Fellowship)
3. Every other Friday, from 1.30pm to 3pm. St Mark's Church. Leader – Jackie Robbs (In-depth Bible study and Fellowship)

What if I can't make any of those?

There are other short Bible study and discussion courses that happen during the year – do look out for them on the Church newsletter.

If you would like some more information, do pick up a leaflet on House Groups from the back of church. Alternatively, please speak to Rev Robert Stanier, one of the House Group leaders, or contact Clare Chesterman in the Church Office.

Email: sasms@btinternet.com

Telephone: 020 8390 9129

'I gain a deeper knowledge of the Bible, which I would not achieve on my own.'

'It helps me to grow in my faith.'

'I value the fellowship and support of my fellow Christians.'

'I really like House Group. It helps answer a lot of questions and encourages me to reflect more...'

'I always enjoy the Friday Bible study because you learn so many surprising things.'

ST ANDREW'S & ST MARK'S MOTHERS' UNION

Carole Bourne visited the Mothers' Union to talk about the three months she had been away doing charity work. Where had she been? The answer was that she was a volunteer with E.A.P.P.I. What is E.A.P.P.I.? It is the Ecumenical Accompaniment Programme in Palestine and Israel. The programme was set up as a response to a call by leaders of the local Churches for a proactive response.



Over 20 countries sent Ecumenical Accompaniers (E.A.) which is a joint venture of Churches Together in the U.K. and Ireland and other agencies, for example, The Red Cross, and managed by the Quaker Peace and Social Witness Programme. Carole gave an illustrated talk and used maps to enable the audience to understand how her voluntary work as an observer & monitoring was undertaken. E.A.s presence was invited by local churches to witness and accompany vulnerable communities and individuals as well as giving voice to local groups working non-violently for peace. E.A. monitors human right abuses within the West Bank and at the gates of the Separation Barriers. Carole's presence as an Observer was important to reduce the abuse of Palestine rights and help people gain access to their land, jobs, education and medical facilities. Carole gives this talk to other societies to encourage understanding of what is happening in the Middle East.

Contribution from Joan Young

In June Mothers' Union members and friends met in St Mark's Church to celebrate the 125th birthday of the branch. We were delighted to welcome Heather and Brian Elphick, visiting us from Somerset for the occasion. Heather was our branch leader at the end of the last century and the main organiser of our centenary celebrations in 1993. After a cup of tea Robert led an excellent informal service of thanksgiving, in which everyone was asked, after a few minutes of discussion in small groups, to share memories of Mothers' Union over the years.



We covered a wide spread of time from memories of seeing the old St Mark's church burning after it was hit by a WW2 bomb, to more recent events such as a Scout telling us about her visit to Malaysia and an excellent talk about Kingston Welcare. We heard about our members doing catering for events at Southwark Cathedral and Mary Sumner House, and an outing by minibus to Old Alresford in Hampshire, where Mary Sumner started the Mothers' Union. We also shared fond memories of former leaders of our branch who have died. After the service we continued our reminiscences while enjoying a celebration cake, kindly donated by two of our members, and delicious puddings and bubbly to which we all contributed. It was a very happy occasion and we are grateful to all who came and took part.

Contribution from Margaret Palmer

At our July meeting we welcomed a member from Kingston Street Pastors. A Street Pastor is a trained and uniformed member of a local church who wants to help the community. The Kingston branch first operated in 2006. On a Friday and Saturday evening between 10pm and 4am Street Pastors patrol the centre of Kingston in a group of 4 or 5 people recognisable by their blue jackets and caps. A Street Pastor can be either sex from age 18 years old upwards. They have a training which includes Drug Awareness, Listening Skills, Mental Health and Youth Culture. The Street Pastors hand out flip flops and bottles of water to vulnerable revellers. While the team are patrolling the streets, 2 or 3 other volunteers are in their home base, at the United Reform Church building, praying for peaceful solutions from volatile situations which are phoned in by the patrolling team. An extremely interesting and informative talk.

Contribution from Joan Higgs-Smith

In August the Branch had an exciting outing to the Branch Secretary's home in Fetcham. Our thanks go to Valerie Baxter who organised drivers to collect members and friends and drive them to Fetcham. The weather was dry and sunny, unlike last year, and we were able to have our Ploughman's Lunch in the garden.

Forthcoming meetings:-

Wednesday 19th September 2018, 20:00 in St Mark's Church – REFLECTIONS FROM WORLD CHURCHES - A talk by Janice Price

Saturday 6th October 2018 – DEANERY BARN DANCE, ST JAMES CHURCH HALL, NEW MALDEN

Wednesday 17th October 2018, 20:00 in St Mark's Church – A TALK BY MARIA BAILEY ABOUT DEAFNESS

The N.H.S. Big 7Tea

On the 5th July 2018 the National Health Service celebrated its 70th birthday. As this day was a Thursday and the first Thursday of the month it was decided to follow the usual 10.30am Holy Communion Service at St Mark's Church with a N.H.S. Big 7Tea. In the service Robert included thanksgiving prayers for the N.H.S. During the celebration tea and cakes there was much reminiscences of access to medical care pre N.H.S. Donations totalling £30 were sent to The Kingston Hospital Charity.



JOKES & QUOTES



“DARKNESS CANNOT DRIVE OUT
DARKNESS;

ONLY LIGHT CAN DO THAT.

HATE CANNOT DRIVE OUT HATE;
ONLY LOVE CAN DO THAT”

MARTIN LUTHER KING JR 1929-1968



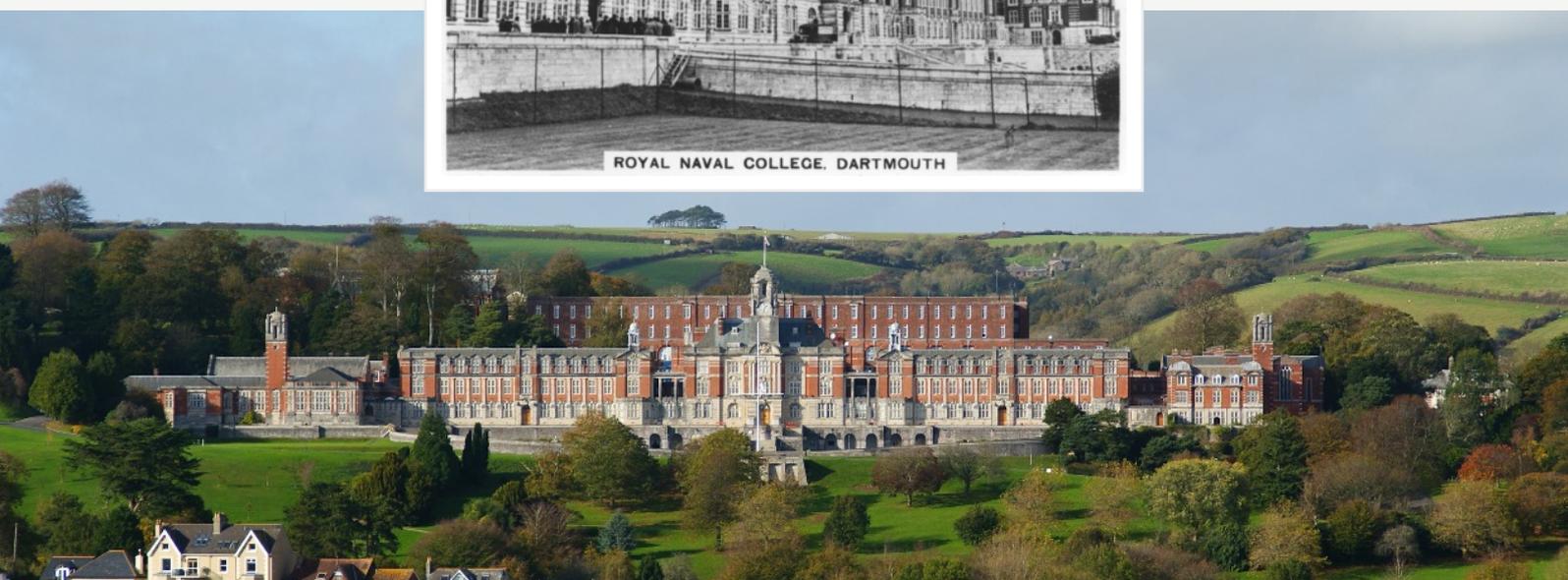
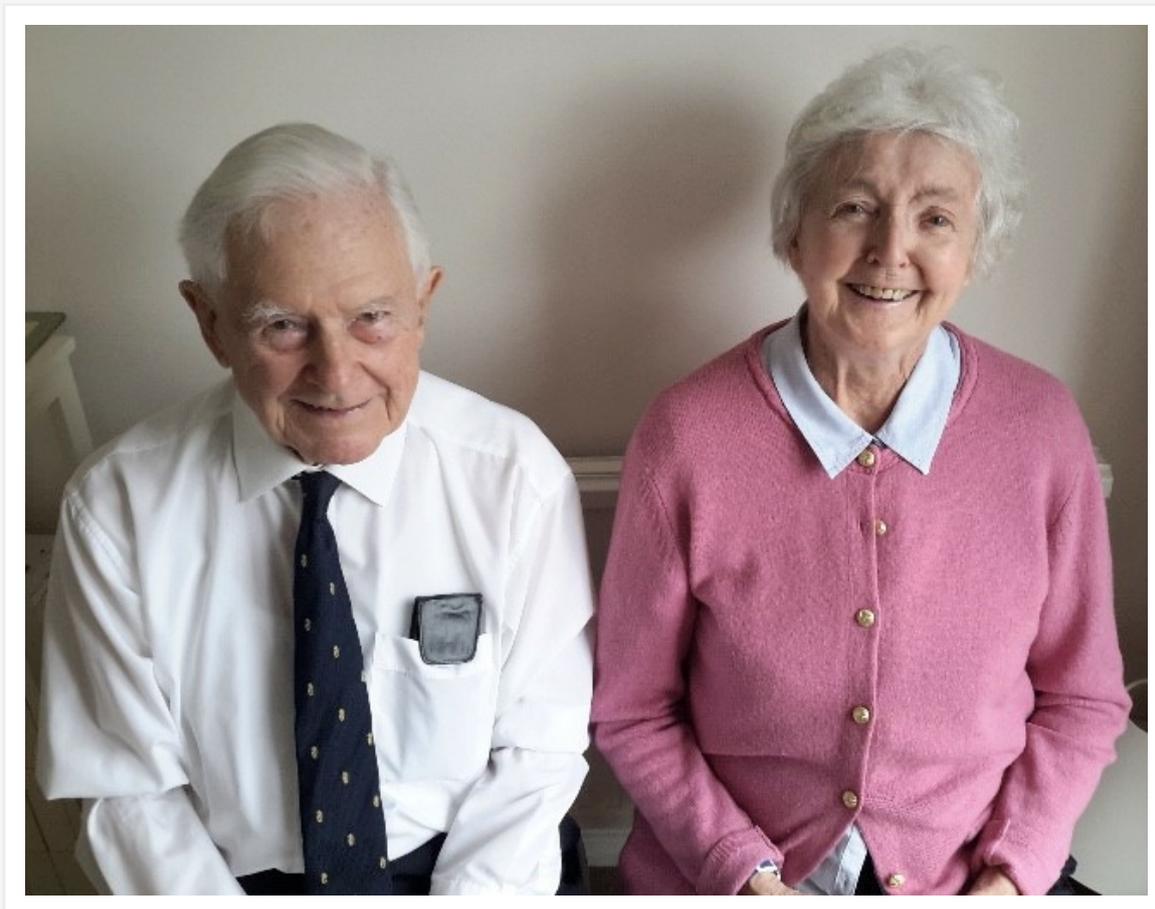
“IN THE LONG RUN, THE SHARPEST
WEAPON OF ALL IS A KIND &
GENTLE SPIRIT”

ANNE FRANK 1929-1945

MEMORIES OF A FULL LIFE

BY COMMANDER MICHAEL VAUGHAN RN (Retd.) MBE, Legion d'Honneur.

Some months ago, Michael Vaughan was approached by Channel 5 as they had heard that he had a naval connection with Prince Philip during and after WW2. Channel 5 were producing a series called 'Elizabeth Our Queen' and wished to include his recollections of the Prince. The following are the notes which he prepared for his interview with the production team. They have been deliberately left largely unchanged.



In early May 1939 (3rd I think) I joined the Royal Naval College, Dartmouth with about 45 other cadets to undergo nearly 4 years of training. I was 13 1/2 years old. The training was academic, physical and professional and would prepare us to become naval officers after a further two terms of sea training.

Most of us arrived by train (the train service then ran from Paddington to Kingsweare with some stops en route). We were in uniform and were mustered somehow onto the ferry to Dartmouth on the other side of the River Dart. The ferry was called The Mew and was to remain in service throughout my time at the college (11 terms).

We had arrived 24 hours before the rest of the cadets in order for the new entry to shake down. We joined Drake House, which was the induction house. Our House Officer was Lt. Peter Gretton who was to have a brilliant record as 1st Lieutenant of a destroyer in the Norwegian campaign, then as a convoy escort group commander in the Atlantic.

We soon became aware of another group of cadets, some 18 years old, living in their own building in the college grounds. These were the Special Entry cadets called The Frobishers after the name of their training ship HMS Frobisher, then out of service because of the threat of war. The Frobishers trained ashore at Dartmouth and then went directly to sea in the fleet.

We also became aware that one of these cadets, who was conspicuous by his blonde hair and generally active and energetic appearance, was Prince Philip of Greece and Denmark, who seemed to have the ability to be everywhere at once, as long as it was in the lead.



Lt. Peter Gretton 1912-1992

In late June or early July, the Royal Yacht Victoria and Albert visited Dartmouth with King George VI, Queen Elizabeth and Princess Elizabeth and Princess Margaret on board. The royal yacht remained for a few days and various events took place. The royal party looked round the college, trees were planted, divisions were inspected and one evening a selection of senior cadets (both Dart and Frobisher including Prince Philip) were dined on board Victoria and Albert. This is said to be the introductory meeting of Princess Elizabeth and Prince Philip.

The next day Victoria and Albert sailed and all the college boats, manned by as many cadets as could scramble into them, accompanied her out of harbour (luckily it was a fine day!). The King ordered an extra week's leave to be given to all cadets in the coming summer leave period. The college boats were Cutters, Whalers and Giggs, all designed to be propelled by oar or sail. They were used at the college for training in boat handling: similar craft were used in H.M. ships at sea for the transfer of goods and personnel.

WAR CLOUDS GATHER



HMS Offa in Valletta harbour.

When we returned in early September, war had been declared. Prince Philip and his term had been ordered to join the Fleet. My term remained under shore training until the end of the Christmas term 1942 when we joined the Fleet.

Prince Philip was serving in HMS Warspite in the Mediterranean. She was fleet flagship. His action station was officer in charge of searchlights in which capacity he was Mentioned In Dispatches at the Battle of Matapan.

I went to sea in January 1943, trooping from Glasgow to Mombasa to join HMS Revenge. After about 3 months we returned to the UK. Revenge was paid off and the crew released to man landing craft for the expected invasion of the continent.

I joined HMS Enterprise, an elderly cruiser with a Royal Canadian Navy Captain called Grant in command. We completed post refit trials in and around the Firth of Clyde and worked up in Scapa Flow. At the end of 1943 we were ordered south to intercept a German bauxite carrying ship. The Germans sent out eleven destroyers to protect this ship. We were joined by HMS Glasgow. We had a spirited engagement in heavy weather and sank three of the destroyers and the rest withdrew.

Glasgow was hit and sustained casualties. Enterprise was not hit. We suffered low casualties because of the bad weather which limited the destroyers capabilities and caused their withdrawal. This action was reported in the Daily Telegraph at the time.

Returned to Devonport.

Started working up for D Day (bombardment practice etc).

I left HMS Enterprise about February 1944 and joined HMS OFFA for destroyer duties, patrolling in the Channel. We were hit by a bomb in early April. 5 Killed and 5 wounded. The dead were buried at sea. OFFA put in to Portsmouth for repairs. Ready to sail about 5th June with invasion fleet. Parolling in Channel to cover invasion route from the west.

Left OFFA in late August and did 4 months Sub Lieutenant's Course in technical subjects.

Joined H.M. Motor Torpedo Boat 474 about January 1944. Operated from Ostend until the end of the war. Mainly patrolling off the Dutch coast.

About July joined HMS Chiddingfold as Navigation Officer to Far Eastern fleet.

Appointed to Landing Ship 3504 about November 1945. Trooping Indian Army soldiers to Indonesia.

Appointed to HMS Carron about April 1946. Returned to UK. About 2 years minesweeping.

NEXT ENCOUNTER WITH PRINCE PHILLIP

In 1949 I was serving in HMS Chieftan, a destroyer in 1st Destroyer Flotilla in the Mediterranean. About that time Prince Philip joined HMS Caesar as 1st Lieutenant. He played hockey for his ship (as did I). For the record he was a fine player!

The flotilla was based in Malta. Princess Elizabeth and Prince Philip (now married) shared the house called Villa Guardamangia with Lord Mountbatten and his wife . All of the officers in each ship in 1st DF were entertained for evening drinks and were presented to Princess Elizabeth.



The Duke of Edinburgh with the then Princess Elizabeth at Villa Guardmangia, taken during the time they stayed there between 1949-1951.



Michael with Gay and their children at Buckingham Palace for his MBE presentation.



THE LAST ENCOUNTER

Michael is directly behind Prince Phillip , 3rd row from bottom 4th from right.

Many years later, my term and the one above us with which we were paired for academic work, decided to celebrate the 60th anniversary of our joining the Royal Navy at Britannia Royal Naval College.

Lt Commander John Golds who was serving as an Aide to Buckingham Palace organised the event. The story is that Prince Philip spotted an invitation to the gathering on 27th July on someone's mantelpiece, sent for Golds and asked why he hadn't been invited! This was hastily rectified and Prince Philip duly joined us at BRNC for tea, a church service and dinner. He was excellent company and we were all very pleased to have him with us: he spoke individually to each of about 40 elderly officers.

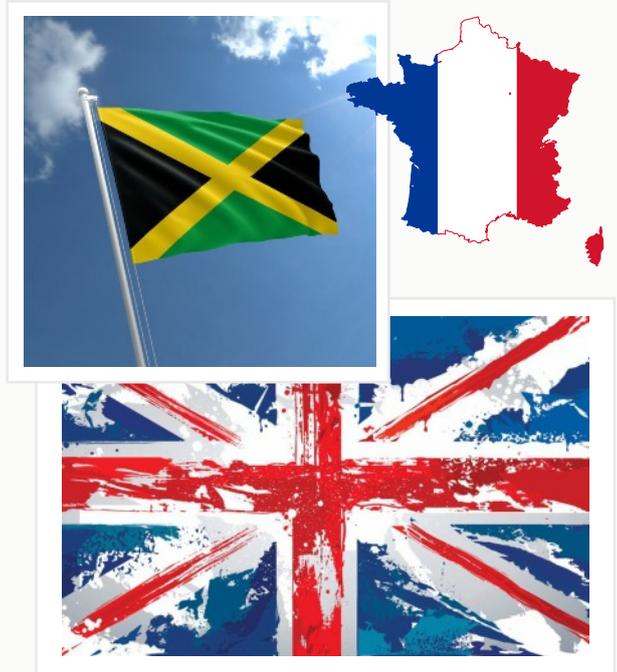
We are extremely grateful to Michael Vaughan for this fascinating account. We are also delighted to celebrate his recent award of the Legion d'Honneur, France's highest order of merit for excellent civil or military conduct.

It was established in 1802 by Napoleon Bonaparte.



QUESTION HOUR

BY JO NORMAN



Describe yourself. –Name Where were you born?

Hi I'm Jo Norman born in Jamaica with a very varied ex pat childhood. Most of my adult life has been spent in the UK with a couple of stints in France. I struggle with British weather!

What family do you have?

I have a wonderful husband, David and two gorgeous boys, Matt and Sam both in their 20s.

What is your job/ retired?

I have always worked with perfumes and smells in general - I am fascinated by the creation of odours and am interested in researching the social and cultural links of smells. It's always a conversation starter.

I have been suffering from head and neck cancer in the last couple of years which has affected the amount of work I can do. Time now is spent coming to terms with cancer in all aspects of my life - work wise, socially, family-wise and personally. I have been blessed with amazing family and friends who give me tremendous support and I am grateful.

How long you have been attending St Andrew's & St Mark's?

I've been coming to St Andrew's for 3 or 4 years now and have met some wonderful, caring friends and fellowship.

What is your idea of perfect happiness?

Surrounded by my family preferably on a beach definitely in sunshine.





QUESTION HOUR

'The Lord is my strength and my might, he has become my salvation.'

How do you relax?

Armchair yoga - good for relaxed breathing.

Which character in the Bible, after Jesus, inspires or interests you most?

I am inspired by Martha and Mary - I feel my roles have reversed over time. I used to be a Martha - a 'doer' and I now have been forced by circumstance to be a Mary, or 'a be-er'. I now benefit from and see the joys of listening and being. I am a slow learner!

What are your favourite Bible verses?

I love Psalm 118 which encourages gratitude, promises the Lord's enduring love and gives the gift of His strength:

'The Lord is my strength and my might, he has become my salvation.'

What do you think is the hardest thing about being a Christian?

One of the hardest parts is constant and complete forgiveness. It's hard not to bear a grudge whatever the size.

What single thing would improve the quality of your life?

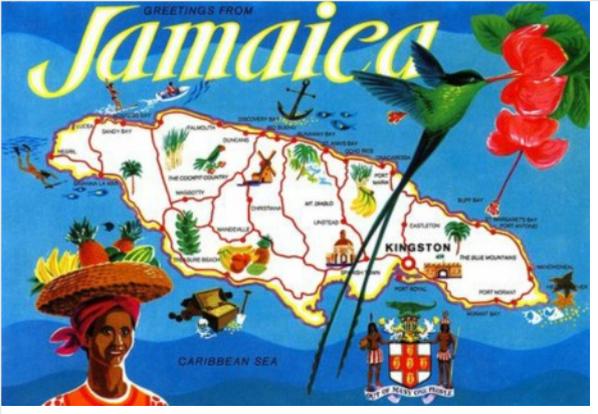
Good health



'Christ in the house of Martha & Mary'

depicted by Johannes Vermeer 1655





THANK YOU JO

'Kindness is the most important trait to have.'

What is your favourite journey?

I took David and the boys back to Jamaica and went back over my roots. It was fun to see the places I had heard so much about, see the changes and enjoy the colour. I rang my parents on my mobile to get some directions and they couldn't believe it - they were there in days of infrequent telegrams not mobiles!

What is your favourite meal?

I am currently reviving my love of jelly - all flavours.

Most enjoyable book?

I am attracted to 'The Language of Kindness - A Nurse's Story' by Christie Watson. She's been an A&E nurse for 20 years and takes us through stories of compassion and kindness on her memoir of nursing. They are amazing people.

Where do you like to go for holidays?

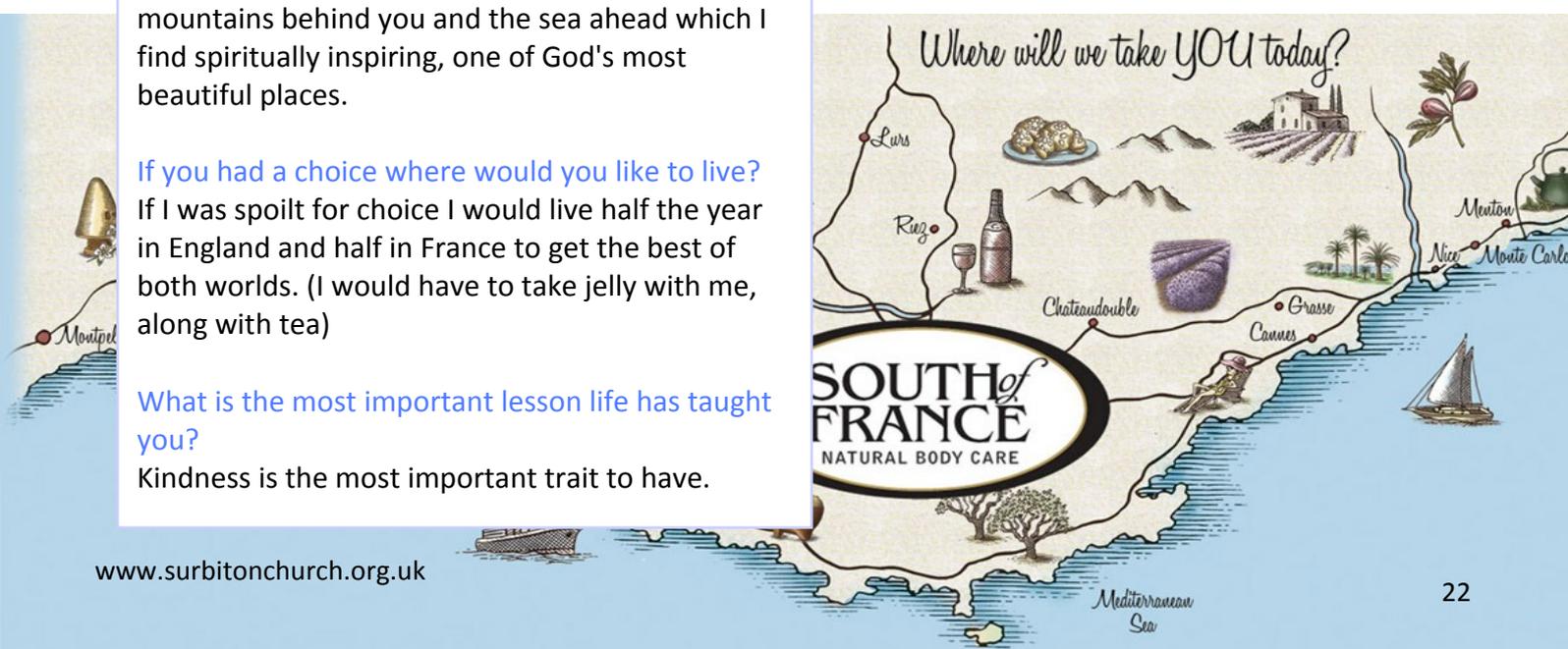
We lived in the South of France for a couple of years and made some good friends. We love going back there - to enjoy the beauty of the place and catch up with old friends. There is a view with the mountains behind you and the sea ahead which I find spiritually inspiring, one of God's most beautiful places.

If you had a choice where would you like to live?

If I was spoilt for choice I would live half the year in England and half in France to get the best of both worlds. (I would have to take jelly with me, along with tea)

What is the most important lesson life has taught you?

Kindness is the most important trait to have.





This watercolour by Mr A H Packwood of Surbiton Hill Park originally sold for £30.00.

You will see it includes the little school which stood next to St Andrew's church.

Vera Palmer was a pupil there!



HANDS OFF OUR SUNDAY SCHOOLS

Plans which could have seen Sunday schools and other church groups inspected by Ofsted have been abandoned by the government. Ministers had wanted to gain greater control of "out-of-school education settings" in a bid to tackle extremism. It would have seen groups that teach children for more than 6-8 hours a week having to register. The plans were widely criticised by Christian groups who feared they amounted to state regulation of church. The government put the plans to consultation but around three quarters who took part disagreed with them. Announcing the U-turn, the Department for Education said: "We want to ensure any future system of regulation that we may introduce appropriately targets the small minority of settings which may be exposing children to harmful practices, without causing undue burdens on the sector as a whole. We believe it is equally important that we ensure any future system carefully takes into account the differences within such a diverse sector, where settings vary considerably in terms of their characteristics and types of activity and education they offer."

Welcoming the government's response, the Evangelical Alliance (EA), which lobbied against the plans said it was a victory for religious freedom. Dr David Landrum, director of advocacy at the EA, said: "As we expected, the report shows how strongly faith groups, parents and others feel about proposals to register and regulate out-of-school settings, and in particular about the role of Ofsted. "These proposals would have had a profound effect on religious freedom and fundamental human rights, and consequently we welcome the news that the Government is listening to the concerns of those who responded."

STRAPLINES

Prayer is important when things get hard and you find it difficult to keep going. It's also worth remembering it's often the last key in the bunch that opens the lock.

There are worse things than getting a call at 4am when it turns out to be a 'wrong number' call. It could be a right number.

The smallest action is better than the greatest intention.

The person who risks nothing is usually the one who does nothing, sees nothing, has nothing and is nothing. To love is to risk.

John Wesley was once asked how he managed to attract the crowds when he was preaching. He replied, "I set myself on fire with the Gospel and the people come to see me burn."

Regrettably, life for many people is like their photography used to be – developing from the negatives.

TIME FOR A SMILE

An orthopaedic surgeon was moving his equipment to a new office and he asked his secretary to move a display skeleton with great care. She managed to lift it on to the front seat of her car and drove carefully across town. Stopping at some traffic lights, she noticed a driver in the car next to her was staring in disbelief. She wound down the window and shouted across, "I'm delivering him to my doctor's office." The other driver shouted back, "I think it's too late."

* * * * *

Seeing the moon in the sky during daytime for the first time, a little girl said in her prayers that evening, "Dear God, I think you made a big mistake today."

* * * * *

During discussion at a church supper which consisted of a sumptuous meal, the conversation turned to the subject of losing weight and the benefit of attending Weight Watchers. The minister's wife said she had found her own excellent solution. She said, "I try to avoid things that make me fat, like scales, mirrors, and photographs."

* * * * *

Patrick and Michael had been obsessed with golf for many years, playing together regularly. They promised that the one who died first, and went to heaven, would come back to earth and tell the other if golf was played in heaven. One day, Patrick died and Michael waited patiently with the news. Finally Patrick returned and said to his friend, "I have good news and bad news. I'll tell you the good news first. There is a great golf course in heaven." Michael said, "That is really good news." Then Patrick said, "Now for the bad news – you'll be teeing off first tomorrow night."

"He will yet fill your mouth
with laughter & your lips with
shouts of joy"

Job 5:21

"God has made laughter for
me; everyone who heard will
laugh with me."

GENESIS 21:6



Focus on: The Sea

With the Summer Holidays at an end, many of us may have happy memories of the seaside with buckets & spades and eating ice cream! Alternatively, someone might have sent you a postcard of their trip to the sea. The seaside is a wonderful place: with amazing wildlife and so many things to do – swimming in the sea or building sandcastles. There are many important seas for Christians. This Children's Corner focuses on the sea and the Bible.

In the beginning

In Genesis, the first book of the Bible, the Spirit of God is said to move upon the face of the waters before he begins to create the world. He divides the waters on the Second Day, creating land on the Third Day. On the Fifth Day, He creates sea creatures quite distinctly from other living things. Different texts of the Bible refer to these sea creatures in various ways – some referring simply to whales, but others referring to great sea monsters ... it comes down to a question of translation. The Hebrew word used is 'tannin' which can be translated as serpents or monsters.

DEAD SEA SCROLLS

What are the Dead Sea scrolls? They date from the 4th Century BC and contain the oldest copies of many biblical texts, including texts from the Book of Leviticus, and some secular writings about life at the time. They were found in caves near to the Dead Sea. There are over 800 different records – mostly written on animal skin and papyrus. As our digital technologies improve, it is becoming possible to read some of the records that we have been unable to understand before or even read because they are too fragile to unwrap!

PARTING OF THE RED SEA

One of the most famous biblical sea stories involved Moses in the Old Testament. He was leading the Israelites out of slavery, after the Pharaoh was persuaded to let them go. However, the Pharaoh changed his mind and chased Moses to the Red Sea. Famously, the Red Sea parted so Moses and the Israelites could pass through safely, but then the waters returned and destroyed the Pharaoh's army. The Red Sea is also sometimes referred to as the Reed Sea. Many artists, such as Nicolas Poussin, have been inspired by this story and painted pictures of it– it's even painted in the Sistine Chapel. Can you draw it?

SEA OF GALILEE

The Sea of Galilee often features in the New Testament, such as when Jesus recruits some of his disciples there. It is also where Jesus calmed a storm as he and his disciples are travelling across it. However, do you know, only one of the below is actually a sea and two are lakes? Can you work which one is the real sea?

- a) Sea of Galilee b) the Great Sea c) the Dead Sea**



DEAD SEA WORD SEARCH

The Dead Sea is the name of a salt lake, bordered by Israel, Palestine and Jordan. It is at the lowest point on Earth and there are current concerns that it is shrinking. Can you find the below words associated with the Dead Sea?

ISRAEL-PALESTINE-SCROLLS-SALT-CAVES-HOLY-LAND-FLOAT-LAKE-SEA

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

INTERESTING FACTS – GRAINS OF SAND

At Christmas, one reading you may have heard is about Abraham when God promises him that he will be blessed and have a son.

God tells Abraham he will have offspring as numerous as the stars in heaven and the sand that is on the sea shore. But how many descendants is that? Have a guess: _____

Scientists have recently said that they calculate that there are more stars than grains of sand on the earth – by ten times.

Scientists worked on the basis of sand not just at the seaside, but also in deserts (including the vast expanse of the Sahara) and calculated there are 7,000,000,000,000,000,000 grains of sand on the Earth and 70,000,000,000,000,000,000 observable stars from Earth.

At the moment, our population is 7.6 billion (7,600,000,000). Mind boggling figures: what can you remember and was your guess near?

1. Who did God promise would have more descendants than grains of sand?
2. Are there believed to be more observable stars from Earth or grains of sand?
3. What is the world population? A) 760,000 B) 7.6 million or C) 7.6 billion.

Sea jokes: Why didn't the oyster give to charity? Because it was shellfish!
 What did the sea say to the shore? Nothing, it just waved.
 What shakes and shivers at the bottom of the seabed? A nervous wreck!

Take care until next time. Charlotte New.

Answers: b) The Great Sea (also called the Mediterranean). Interesting facts: 1. Abraham. 2. Stars. 3. C).

THE SASM POSADA 2018

Connecting families around the Parish at Christmas

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.

If your family has Infant School age children or younger and would like to be part of this, please could a parent/carer email me via the Parish Office no later than 9 November with a preferred email address, your children's names, a mobile number and address so I can plan their route round the Parish*.

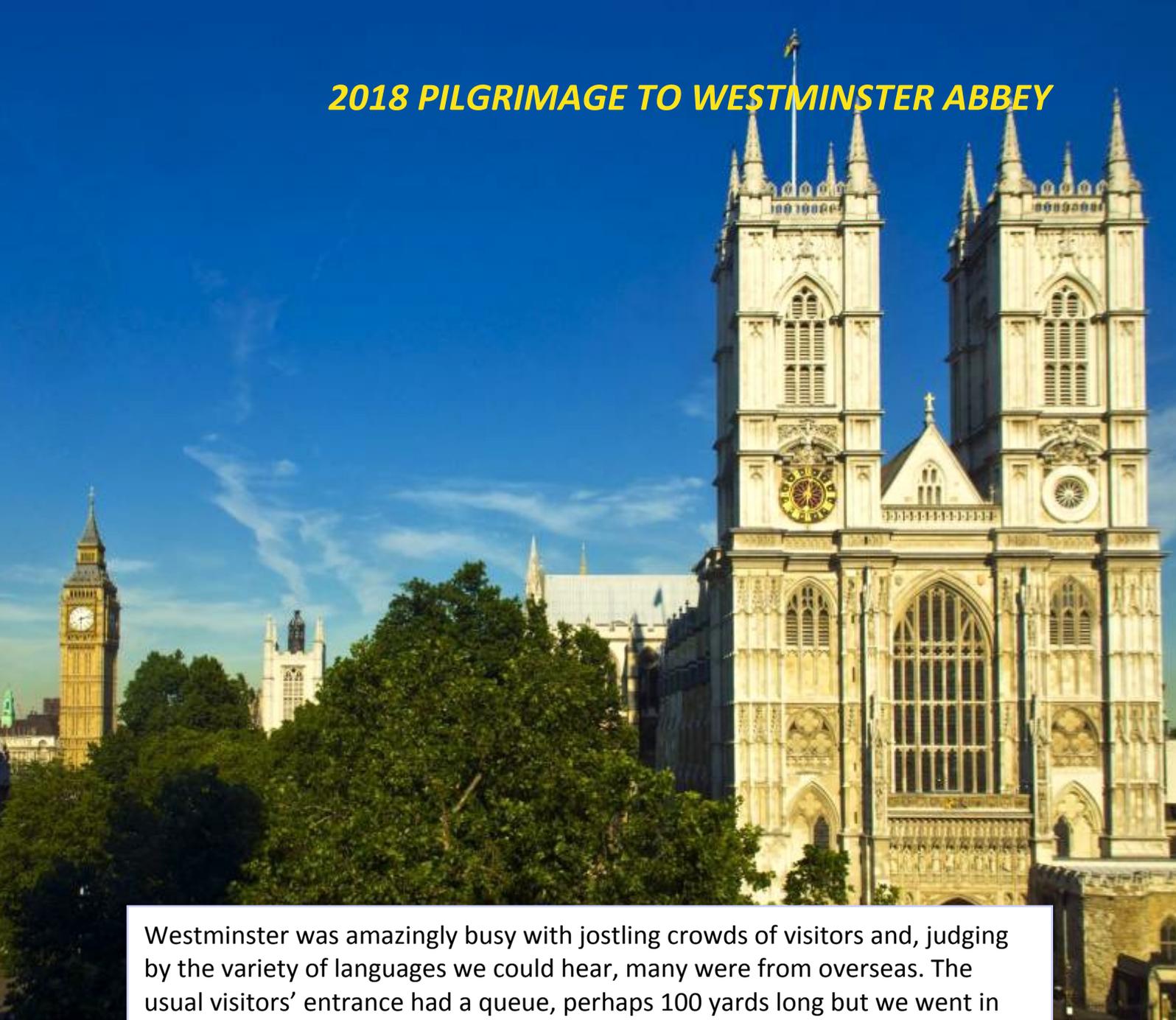
The idea is for Mary and Joseph to be delivered to you by the family that had them the night before; there are a few words/prayers said as you hand them over (and sometimes you may be asked into a house to see where Mary and Joseph will stay for the night); they then stay at your house and the next day you take them to their next family. It is a lovely tradition to be part of, leading up to Christmas, and a chance to meet other families in the parish.

Thank you. Charlotte New

*These details will be held by me, used to plot a route and will be shared with the Parish Office and the other Posada participants to help the figures' journey and give instructions about the Posada and will be passed to whoever organises the Posada next year). Details would be held until the following year to ask if you wanted to be part of the 2019 Posada.



2018 PILGRIMAGE TO WESTMINSTER ABBEY



Westminster was amazingly busy with jostling crowds of visitors and, judging by the variety of languages we could hear, many were from overseas. The usual visitors' entrance had a queue, perhaps 100 yards long but we went in through the west door. We were met outside by our guides and led in to the relative quiet of the Abbey and immediately in front of us was the Tomb of the Unknown Warrior. Warrior because he might have been soldier, sailor yes, there were a few in Flanders) or airman.

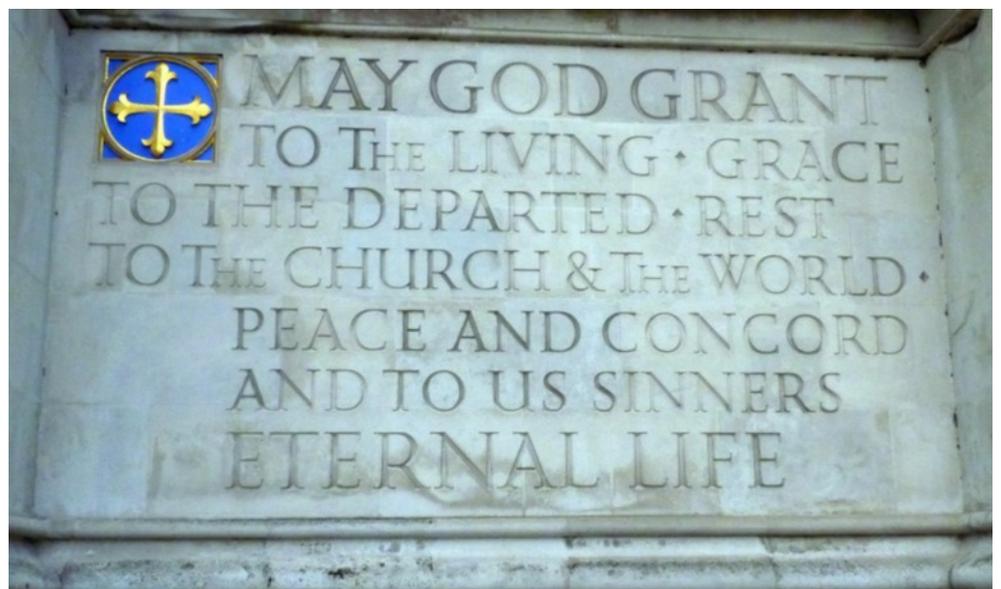
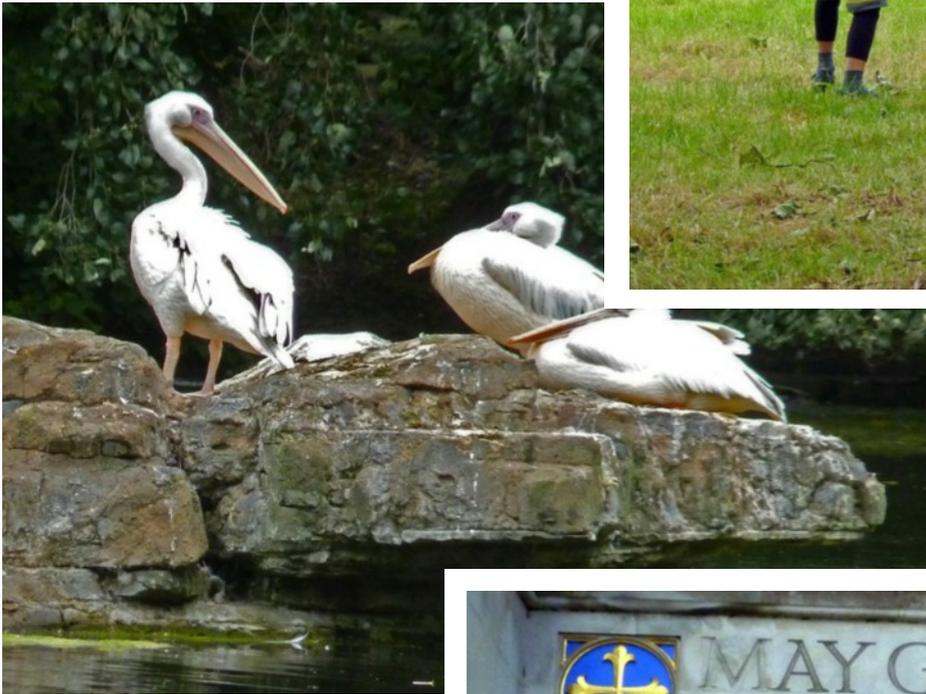
We went on round the many tombs and commemorative plaques, led by our very informative guide. There were surprises: for instance we did not expect to find that, at her own request Queen Elizabeth I shares a tomb with her cousin Mary Queen of Scots whose death warrant she'd signed. Later, we all met up and most went to St James's Park for a picnic. The pelicans were there and, of course the wonderful views from the bridge, Whitehall and the London Eye in one direction and Buckingham Palace in the other. A memorable day, thanks to Diana, Celia and Moira.

By: *John Kelly*

WESTMINSTER ABBEY GALLERY



WESTMINSTER ABBEY GALLERY



NOD

Softly along the road of evening,
In a twilight dim with rose,
Wrinkled with age, and drenched with dew,
Old Nod, the shepherd, goes.

His drowsy flock streams on before him,
Their fleeces charged with gold,
To where the sun's last beam leans low
On Nod the shepherd's fold.

The hedge is quick and green with brier,
From their sand the conies creep;
And all the birds that fly in heaven
Flock singing home to sleep.

His lambs outnumber a noon's roses,
Yet, when night's shadows fall,
His blind old sheep-dog, Slumber-soon,
Misses not one of all.

His are the quiet steps of dreamland,
The waters of no-more-pain,
His ram's bell rings 'neath an arch of stars,
"Rest, rest and rest again."



Walter de la Mare

25th April 1873- 22nd June 1956



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OPENING TIMES

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

SERVICE CALENDAR

September 2018

Sunday 2nd September – 14th Sunday after Trinity

8am St Andrew's - BCP Holy Communion
9.15am St Marks – All Age Eucharist
11am St Andrew's – Morning Worship with baptism
6pm St Mark's – Evening prayer with silence

Sunday 9th September – 15th Sunday after Trinity

8am St Mark's - BCP Holy Communion
9.15am St Mark's – Family Worship
11am St Andrew's – Choral Eucharist with Sunday Club and baptism
6pm St Mark's – Compline

Sunday 16th September- 16th Sunday after Trinity

8am St Andrew's – BCP Holy Communion
9.15am St Mark's – Morning Worship with baptism
11am St Andrew's – Choral Eucharist with Sunday Club
4pm St Mark's – Pet Service
6pm St Mark's - Evening prayer

Sunday 23rd September- 17th Sunday after Trinity

8am St Mark's – BCP Holy Communion
9.15am St Mark's – Family Worship
11am St Andrew's – Choral Eucharist with Sunday Club
6pm St Mark's - Evening prayer

Sunday 30th September - 18th Sunday after Trinity

8am St Andrew's – BCP Holy Communion
9.15am St Mark's – Family Worship
11am St Andrew's – Choral Eucharist with Sunday Club
6pm St Mark's -Service of Wholeness & Healing



SERVICE CALENDAR

October 2018

Sunday 7th October – Harvest Festival - 19th Sunday after Trinity

8am St Andrew's - BCP Holy Communion

9.15am St Marks – All Age Eucharist celebrating Harvest; with parish breakfast

11am St Andrew's – Morning Worship with Baptism

6pm St Andrew's- Choral Evensong

Sunday 14th October – 20th Sunday after Trinity

8am St Mark's – BCP Holy Communion

9.15am St Mark's – Family Worship

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

6pm St Andrew's – Evening service

Sunday 21st October- 21st Sunday after Trinity

8am St Andrew's – BCP Holy Communion

9.15am St Mark's – Morning Worship with Baptism

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

6pm St Andrew's - Evening service

Sunday 28th October- Last Sunday after Trinity

8am St Mark's – BCP Holy Communion

9.15am St Mark's – Family Worship

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

6pm St Andrew's - Evening service

- 1 Holy Trinity, Claygate.
- 2 St. Nicholas Church, Thames Ditton.
- 3 St Matthew's, Surbiton.
- 4 St Raphael's, Surbiton.
- 5 St Andrew's. Surbiton.
- 6 Metropolitan Drinking Fountain & Cattle Trough Association, Victoria Recreation Ground, Surbiton.
- 7 Thames Ditton War Memorial, Giggs Hill Green, Thames Ditton.
- 8 All Saints Church, Kingston.





SERVICE CALENDAR

November 2018

Sunday 4th November- All Saints' Day

8am St Andrew's - BCP Holy Communion

9.15am St Marks – All Age Eucharist with parish breakfast

11am St Andrew's – Morning Worship with Baptism

6pm St Andrew's- All Souls' service

Sunday 11th November –Remembrance Sunday

8am St Mark's – BCP Holy Communion

9.15am St Mark's – Family Worship

10.55am St Andrew's – Time of Remembrance

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

6pm St Andrew's – Evening service

Sunday 18th November - 2nd Sunday before Advent

8am St Andrew's – BCP Holy Communion

9.15am St Mark's – Morning Worship with Baptism

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

6pm St Andrew's - Evening service

Sunday 25th November - Christ the King

8am St Mark's – BCP Holy Communion

9.15am St Mark's –Family Worship

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

6pm St Andrew's - Evening service

December 2018

6pm St Andrew's -2nd December Advent carol concert

6pm St Mark's – 16th December Christmas carol service

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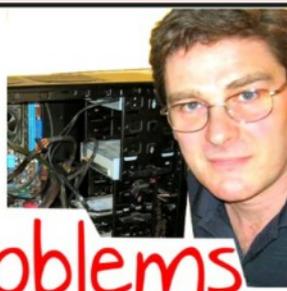
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