

MAY & JUNE 2019

Spire & Tower

REFLECTING GOD'S LOVE IN OUR COMMUNITY

St Andrew's & St Mark's Church Magazine

£1.00

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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May & June 2019

QUESTION HOUR

What is your name and what family do you have?
Tim Brown, I was born in Dorling in 1961 and have two daughters Saffron & Jasmine. My Mum lives in Reading and my Dad in Galway (Ireland).

What is your occupation?
I'm a Chartered Accountant and worked for 24 years in a London Practice. My clients included an Easter Egg and chocolate Advent Calendar Manufacturer and the RMT Trade Union. Thereafter, I became Finance Director of an Independent Record Label. I now run my own private practice which initially started as a result of the Church audit.

How long have you been in attending St Andrew's and St Mark's?
I got married at St Marks in 1992 and have attended on an irregular basis since then but in last couple of years I have been a regular at the 11 o'clock at St Andrews except the first Sunday when I go to the 9.15 at St Marks. I like the different contrasting but complementary styles of worship at the two churches and in particular services with incense and of course the Parish Breakfast! Canon Jackson asked me to be the Honorary Auditor a short while after my wedding. I didn't really feel I could say no and I'm proud to have done 26 years now!

What are your favourite Bible Verses?
I found the story of Joseph and his brothers from Genesis which was covered in the Readings and Sermons in Church over Lent most thought provoking. My favourite Hymn is "I Danced in the Morning" (Lord of the Dance). The upbeat tune with the dark words in the verses is very compelling and I think it is really poignant as it is written in the first person.



"I danced in the morning when the world was begun
I danced in the moon, the stars & the sun"



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ST ANDREW'S & ST MARK'S CHORUS & EASTER CELEBRATIONS



Pg 5-7 Easter Workshop & Celebrations

Pg 27-29 Memory Cafe

SASM Helped People Living With Dementia through the Memory Cafe



On 16 December 2018, SASM kindly allowed me to hold a fundraising concert and talk in support of people with dementia living in Westminster. Not only that, SASM Members and friends have attended in large numbers and supported the cause through generous financial donations, which allowed us to enjoy one of the most special Christmas Memory Cafes ever!

According to Alzheimer's Research, dementia affects around 850,000 people across the UK and these numbers are set to rise in the decades to come. Dementia is a condition that many people already know very well – according to statistics, 1 in 6 people over 80 have it, and many people have a loved one in their family, or know someone who either lives with dementia or is a carer. Not many people may know, however, that there are various services available for people living with dementia, and that most areas have either a Dementia Adviser, or Memory Cafes for those affected, or both. For information about dementia services locally, please see end of this article.



Even though currently living in Surbiton, I have been working as the Westminster Dementia Adviser since 2014. My role is commissioned by City of Westminster and the purpose of my job is not just to organise the Memory Cafes, but also to provide information, advice and support to people in Westminster who have just been diagnosed with the disease. My work in Westminster allowed me to get to know one of the most demographically fascinating parts of the UK. When City of Westminster is mentioned, many people

imagine Mayfair, Belgrave and other luxurious neighborhoods. The truth is that Westminster is home not just to some of the richest, but also to some of the poorest inhabitants of this country, of an incredible ethnically mixed background. Also, many of my clients are very isolated and for some of them, the Christmas Memory Cafe may be their only Christmas social occasion!

FRONT COVER

Sunflowers taken at St Mark's last year.

Grown by Michael Smith.



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A VIEW FROM THE VICAR

By: Robert Stanier



I write this in Holy Week, in the aftermath of the fire at Notre Dame in Paris, having just had the privilege of spending the morning praying in St Andrew's. The fire in Paris definitely made me more conscious of the building by which I was surrounded.

Of course, St Andrew's isn't the oldest church you've ever been to. Just up the road, St Mary's Long Ditton features in Domesday Book; going into town, All Saints, Kingston has an astonishing history, including the coronation of two Saxon kings of all England. By those standards, 1872 isn't much to be making a deal out of; nor is St Andrew's the civilisation-defining icon that Notre Dame can claim to be. It does, though, have its own beauty. Its intricate brickwork is constantly arresting, its organ is magnificent, but most of all it is simply a mighty space. Just think what a developer would do if they got hold of St Andrew's; they could probably squeeze four storeys worth of apartments into its interior. Which is all very functional, but just think what you would lose.

For the space that lends itself to contemplation, and marks the building out as a place that is not just built for temporal advantage today, but which stakes a claim if not to timelessness, then to a different kind of dimension. Next time you are in, take time to let your eyes go upwards, up and up until they reach the great wooden beams, like a great upturned ship that have offered a century and a half of support and show no sign of giving up.

We don't face a crisis like Notre Dame, but we do have our own roofing issues. There are patches of tiles that need replacing and, while it is not as acute as we anticipated, it will need serious engagement; you may see in the next few weeks a boom lift at work, positioned in St Andrew's Road, carrying builders to different parts of the tower and roof. Broadly speaking, the more we can do like this, the more we can avoid scaffolding, which is the most expensive part of a job where the roof is as tall as this. That said, it is not just about cost; the boom lift may actually offer a better workpoint.

A VIEW FROM THE VICAR

Now nobody, and I mean nobody, gets ordained in order to chair a discussion about louvres, flashing and brickwork and yet I end up chairing a few. What I need to remember is that buildings do facilitate things. Partly, they facilitate community. There aren't many spaces, for example, which can hold the same number in the audience for a concert as St Andrew's can. But more than that, they foster a sense that the church brings a challenge to a fickle and time-pressed society.

This is, as Larkin put it, 'a serious house on serious earth', and it encourages people to live their lives at a new pace entirely. In the aftermath of Notre Dame, the quality of workmanship of its 14th Century stone masons has been noted; even that horrendous fire could not destroy it. Can you imagine doing *anything* where your work would only truly be put to the test seven centuries later, and would come through that test with flying colours?

We were starting a new phase of work on the heritage value of our two churches anyway. The terrible disaster at Notre Dame may paradoxically invigorate that work.



CHRISTIAN AID

We stand together.

For dignity.

For equality.

For justice.



A BIG WARM WELCOME

Hello, I am Michael, your Curate-to-be. I very much look forward to joining you after my Deaconing on 29th June. My wife, Claire, and daughters, Isla (3 years) and Penny (20 months) are also looking forward to the move to Surbiton. By the time I arrive I will have finished my three years of studying at Westcott House in Cambridge. By way of introduction: I was born and raised in South Devon. My first job, whilst in primary school, was as an extra in the film version of *Sense and Sensibility*. My second job was on a farm where, among other tasks, I was paid to stone pick by hand. I went on to study History and Politics at the University of York and Politics at the University of Edinburgh. Immediately before I started training, I was a civil servant. I held a number of posts with HM Prison Service, the Judicial Appointments Commission and the Judicial Appointments Board for Scotland. It was while working with chaplains in the Prison Service that I was first inspired to act on my call to ordained ministry.

In my spare time, I enjoy reading, writing partially-completed novels (one day I might finish one) and linocut printing. I also like walking and I know I will appreciate being so close to the Thames footpath. Like Robert, I am into my cricket. I have always enjoyed playing cricket. I played for my school, for the youth and second teams of my home town of Totnes, as well as for work (Ministry of Justice) and college sides (Westcott House and Selwyn College). I am a Somerset supporter. I hope one day they will finally win the County Championship – not just come second (again) – and I pray that it may happen before Marcus Trescothick retires! Football-wise, I follow Plymouth Argyle – oh, if only they were “just” coming second in the top tier of their game! My most recent hobby, taken up while at Cambridge, is astronomy. I joined the Astronomical Society and have trained to operate two historic telescopes!

My faith has been a present reality in my life for longer than I can remember. There is no one moment of dramatic epiphany I can point to and say “that’s when I first believed”. I was raised Anglican, but I did not worship regularly until I went to university. In 2010, I moved to London and worshipped at All Saints, Blackheath (which was to become my sending parish).

I am excited by the prospect of getting involved in all aspects of life with you at St Andrew and St Mark. As we approach Easter, I am ever mindful of Christ’s self-giving love. The knowledge of this love is something that I want to help you share with one another and with the wider parish communities. I feel very blessed to be coming to St Andrew and St Mark, to serve God and grow as a disciple of Christ, alongside you.

Please pray for me and my family as we begin the process of leaving Cambridge to join you, and as I approach Ordination. You will all be in our prayers.



Michael



Claire



Isla



Penny

CHILDREN'S EASTER WORKSHOP AT ST ANDREW'S



EASTER CELEBRATIONS



On Good Friday the children attended an Easter workshop at St Andrew's held by Robert, Diana, Celia and music by Simon.

This was a wonderful time to celebrate the story of Easter with the children. So many fun & exciting activities were put on for them.

As you can see from the lovely photographs drama, story telling, singing, props, painting & of course followed by some delicious hot cross buns to finish the morning off.



ST ANDREW'S & ST MARK'S CHORUS & EASTER CELEBRATIONS



THE JESSE TREE

Beautiful tree created by the
children at Sunday Club.

Photographs by John Kelly.



THE LEPROSY MISSION & HEAL NEPAL



My trip to Nepal – July 2016

Report by Vicki Davison (Partnership Advisor)

My first time visiting Anandaban Hospital was an incredible experience – both eye-opening and encouraging. I've been working at The Leprosy Mission England and Wales as the Trusts Relationship Officer for six months now and have heard many inspiring stories of people who have been treated at Anandaban Hospital, a specialist Leprosy centre. I have also heard many reports about the staff at the hospital – their skill, expertise and genuine care and compassion for their patients.

As I climbed the 365 steps – at close to 30°C and 90% humidity – from the centre where I was staying to the hospital building itself, I thought about the stories I'd been told and felt excited to visit such an amazing place. But I had no idea how touched I would be by this 'home from home' for patients and the incredible people who work there.

KYRAH'S STORY

While visiting one of the wards, I met a girl called Kyrah. She stood out to me straight away. Aged 14, she is a small girl with a big, beaming smile and a compassion for others that radiates from her and shows itself in everything she does.

Sat on a balcony that overlooks the lush, green rolling hills that characterise Nepal, I chatted to Kyrah – and her father – while she played with two younger children and decorated a colouring book.

It quickly became clear that Kyrah's time at Anandaban has truly changed her life; not only has she found healing and restoration, she has discovered new dreams for her future.



Kyrah & her father

Kyrah lives with her mother and father, Binsa, who is a crop farmer. Binsa was diagnosed with leprosy 14 years ago and was given multi-drug therapy (a combination of 3 antibiotics) for 2 years to cure him, but the treatment came too late. Leprosy had already damaged the nerves to his left hand and he lost all feeling in it. His hand became clawed as his fingers and thumb bent back and pointed towards his palms. When his family found out he had been diagnosed with leprosy, his sister-in-law refused to eat in the same room as him – she was scared she would catch it.

Sadly, his daughter Kyras also developed leprosy; she was diagnosed 6 years ago when she was 8 years old. Like her father, leprosy caused Kyras's right hand to lose feeling and become clawed.

At Anandaban, both Binsa and Kyras were given tendon transfer operations to correct their clawed hands, just days apart. Binsa can now straighten his fingers and grip objects with his whole hand again – his work as a farmer will be so much easier and safer now. The mobility in Kyras's thumb has been restored and, when she has healed, she will have a second operation, which should give her back the movement in her fingers. Before the operation, Kyras struggled to do every day things and pick up objects. Now, she can hold a pen and write – imagine how much better her hand will be when she's had the second operation.

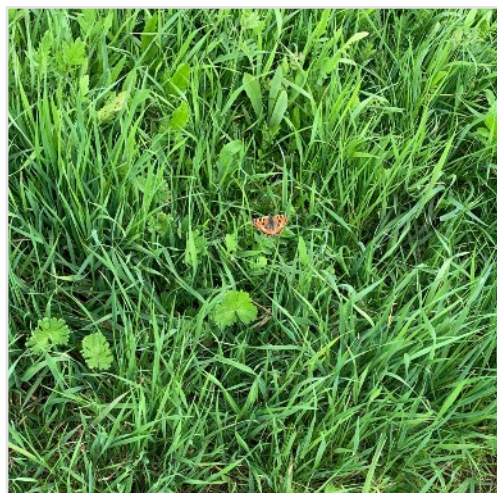


Kyras

Kyras's experience at Anandaban has given her so much more than the joy of being able to use her hand again – it has given her new aspirations for her future. When I asked Kyras whether she has plans for after school, she lit up excited to tell me. She explained how she now wants to become a social worker so she can help leprosy-affected people! After spending just a few minutes with her, I'm sure this is the perfect choice. The care and kindness she shows the other patients warms everyone around her, and I know she will bring this same joy to the people she works with in the future.

The day I met Kyras was her last on the ward as she was discharged with Binsa for a few weeks before returning for her final operation. When she told me this her smile faded – she didn't want to leave Anandaban. She said that she will really miss the staff and she feels she has found a home here. As sad as this was for Kyras, I'm excited for her next steps.

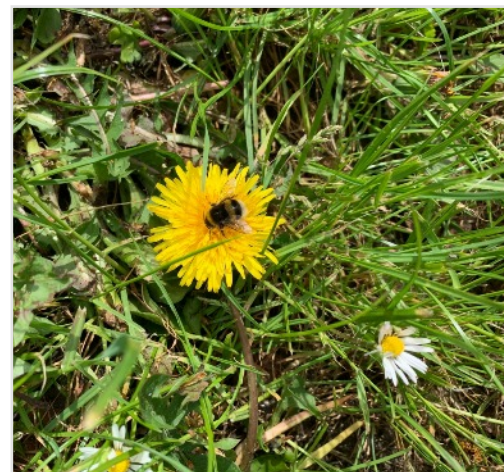
**THE FUNDRAISING FOR THE LEPROSY MISSION WILL BE ON
SUNDAY 23rd JUNE AT ST ANDREW'S.**



Can you spot who is in the grass?



SUMMER IS COMING...



The Ionian Singers

Musical Director: Timothy Salter

Media release

The Ionian Singers

The Ionian Singers with conductor and organist Timothy Salter will be joined by Luba Tunnicliffe (viola and violin) in a concert of music from across Europe.

Choral music by Stanford, Verdi, Brahms and Grieg forms the programme together with sonatas for violin and continuo by J.S.Bach and solo viola by Hindemith, who is also represented by a selection of his French *chansons* for chorus. A duet from Bach's Cantata no. 78 and two of Salter's folk song arrangements complete this intriguing selection of wide-ranging repertoire.

St Andrew's Church, Surbiton, KT6 4DT
Saturday 1 June 2019 at 7.30pm

Tickets at the door or in advance from 020 8693 1051, 07950 143 916 or info@ioniansingers.co.uk

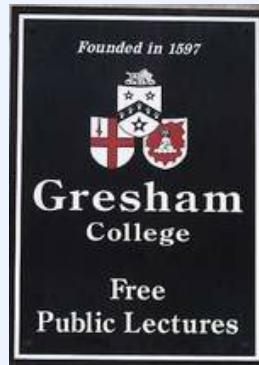
£14.00 (free for under 16s and full time students)

Ulla Gray 020 8693 1051 or 07950 143 916
info@ioniansingers.co.uk
www.ioniansingers.co.uk



Timothy Salter





GRESHAM COLLEGE LECTURES

(Video recordings of lectures delivered by Professor Alister McGrath)

St. Mark's Church, Surbiton

Sundays at 6.30pm

May 26th: Science and Faith at War

June 23rd: If Humans are so great, why is the world such a mess?

July 28th: Facts matter, but they aren't enough



ARE SCIENCE AND FAITH AT WAR?

ARE SCIENCE AND FAITH AT WAR?

**A series of 3 Gresham College
Lectures
to be shown in St. Mark's Church
on Sunday
evenings following Evening Prayer
at 6pm on:
May 26th
June 23rd
July 28th**

All lectures are video recordings of those
delivered by Professor Alister McGrath in
Gresham College in 2017/18.

May 26th: Science and Faith at War

June 23rd: If Humans are so great,
why is the world such a mess?

July 28th: Facts matter, but they
aren't enough.

For more information please see Tim Lavis.

HYMN FOR THE SEASON

CHOSEN THIS MONTH BY ROBERT STANIER

Lead, kindly Light,
amid the encircling gloom,
lead thou me on;
the night is dark,
and I am far from home;
lead thou me on.
Keep thou my feet;
I do not ask to see
the distant scene;
one step enough for me.

I was not ever thus,
nor prayed that thou
shouldst lead me on;
I loved to choose
and see my path; but now
lead thou me on.
I loved the garish day,
and, spite of fears,
pride ruled my will:
remember not past years.

So long thy power
hath blest me, sure it still
will lead me on,
o'er moor and fen,
o'er crag and torrent, till
the night is gone;
and with the morn
those angel faces smile
which I have loved long since,
and lost awhile.

MY FAVOURITE HYMN

Lead, Kindly, Light

There's a problem with this hymn that I'll come to later, but it is a classic nonetheless.

The words come from the pen of John Henry Newman, the mighty figure of the Victorian Church; it was written as a poem when he was still a young Anglican priest. Always a man of delicate constitution, while away in Italy, Newman had some kind of a breakdown, and he decided he urgently needed to get home. When, however, he had finally got on a boat from Italy that would take him to Marseilles and then on to England, the boat itself got becalmed and stood listlessly in a fog, unmoving, for about a week. It was a huge relief to Newman when they finally found port again, and he could continue his journey home; these verses were written while the boat was stranded and could not move.

The hymn takes this image of searching for home while lost in a mist as a metaphor for the Christian journey. As such, it works both at times when you can't see the way to go on, and can only hope that God will guide us in the end, ("Keep thou my feet; I do not ask to see the distant scene..."), and also in times of confidence in God's presence with you: "So long thy power hath blest me, sure it still will lead me on." The imagery is captivating from start to finish.

But what I really love is the tune, composed by an organist called William Harris in the early 20th century. In it lies both the hymn's greatness and its problem. It is great in that the cadences build up in unpredictable but inexorable growth before coming home with a gasp at the end of each verse. It is problematic in that it is too complicated for most congregations to get their head round, especially if you haven't heard it before. I tried it once during the 11am eucharist at St Andrew's and, while the choir were fine, the congregation gave up long before the end, scratching their heads, struggling how to go about singing this seemingly impossible tune.

Not only is it complex, bouncing up and down an octave or more, with accidentals strewn around like confetti, but the lines are long: by the end of each one, you are gasping for breath. But that very struggle is also utterly appropriate for the Christian journey, when times come and you are desperately searching for God's presence, and just when you feel you can't go on, you get to gasp for breath, and go on for one more time. I also remember that he wrote this at sea; the atmosphere is that of mighty sea waves, breaking in on the seashore, finally reaching their destination.

I am not a subtle man when it comes to music, and I like it best when the hymn is played slowly, and given mighty dynamic shifts, with a gradual crescendo leading up to a fortissimo third line, before finishing – in the fourth line- on a delicate restrained pianissimo finish when you're barely whispering the words. We still do it sometimes at Evensong, but I'd love to do it more often at the main eucharist. If there's interest, then maybe we could practise it a bit before a service to give everyone a chance.

It's my favourite hymn.

By: *Robert Stanier*

ADVERTS & NOTICES



**Dave Dorrington
Presents**

MUSIC FROM MY TRAVELS
A programme of recorded classical music



Venue
St. Mark's Church Hall
Surbiton

On
Saturday 25th May 2019 @ 7.30pm

Admission Free
But Donation to the Church's
Charity Of The Month Appreciated



Poster found in a Church in
France... (translated):

"When you enter this church
it may be possible that you
hear "the call of God".
However, it is unlikely that He
will call you on your mobile.
Thank you for turning off
your phones. If you want to
talk to God, enter, choose a
quiet place and talk to Him.
If you want to see Him, send
Him a text while driving."

It's obviously a veiled compliment.

.....
One last one, perhaps, for our lost
in translation series. Philip King
says that a colleague received a
letter from a Chinese Christian
friend that ended: "May the Lord
pickle you." It took a while to realise
that this was an online translator's
effort at wanting the Lord to
preserve and keep her.
.....

*Thanks to Jackie Robbs and Sadie Beasley for
sharing these witty pieces with us.*

GOD LOVE'S DRUNKS TOO

A man and his wife were woken at 3 am by a loud pounding on their door. The man got up and went to the door where a drunken stranger, standing in the rain, was asking for a push. "Not a chance, said the husband, "It's 3 in the morning!" He slammed the door and returned to bed.

"Who was that?" asked his wife.

"Just some drunk guy asking for a push" he answered.

"did you help him?" she asked.

"No I didn't. it's 3 am in the morning and it's pouring with rain out there.

"Well, you have a short memory, said his wife. "Can't you remember about three months ago when we broke down and those two guys helped. God loves drunk people too you know.

The man did as he was told, got dressed and went out into the pounding rain. He called out in the dark, "Hello, are you still there?"

'Yes" came back the answer.

"Do you still need a push?" called out the husband.

"Yes please" came the reply from the dark.

"Where are you?" asked the husband.

"Over here on the swing" replied the drunk.



Submitted by Andrew Innes



Fridays

Drop in for a coffee or tea on a Friday morning at St Andrew's Glass Room

Any time between 10.30—12.noon.

Coffee and Cake £2.00 Tea and Cake £1.50 Just tea or coffee £1.00

All profit goes to the Charity of the month.



QUESTION HOUR

What is your name and what family do you have?

Tim Brown, I was born in Dorking in 1961 and have two daughters Saffron & Jasmine. My Mum lives in Reading and my Dad in Cahir (Ireland).

What is your occupation?

I'm a Chartered Accountant and worked for 24 years in a London Practice. My clients included an Easter Egg and chocolate Advent Calendar Manufacturer and the RMT Trade Union.

Thereafter, I became Finance Director of an Independent Record Label. I now run my own private practice which initially started as a result of the Church audit.

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

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Canon Jackson asked me to be the Honorary Auditor a short while after my wedding. I didn't really feel I could say no and I'm proud to have done 26 years now!

What are your favourite Bible Verses?

I found the Story of Joseph and his brothers from Genesis which was covered in the Readings and Sermons in Church over Lent most thought provoking.

My favourite Hymn is "I Danced in the Morning" (Lord of the Dance). The upbeat tune with the dark words in the verses is very compelling and I think it is really poignant as it is written in the first person.



"I danced in the morning when the world was begun"

I danced in the moon, the stars & the sun"



QUESTION HOUR

What is your most treasured possession?

My grandmother's Vase and a picture of the Girl with the Cat that used to be in my Grandparent's Dining Room when I was a Kid.

How do you relax?

I'm bad at relaxing but I enjoy watching films. Difficult to name a favourite but those in the top 10 include: The 39 Steps – the 1935 Hitchcock Version, Stand by Me and Billy Elliott. Recently I've been watching films with Jasmine starring Asa Butterfield who is a brilliant actor - The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas, Hugo and The Space between Us.

I also have a love for Buses (particularly Reading Transport) and Volvo 244/264 cars with the Big Bumpers and my favourite band is Elliott Minor.

What is your favourite meal?

Spicy Poppadoms, Lamb Jalfrezi, Pilau Rice and a bottle of Cobra with friends discussing politics.

Most Enjoyable Book?

I have been collecting Children's School Stories since I was 11 – particularly those by RAH Goodyear. He wrote 49 between 1920 and 1940. I've managed to track down 45 so far.

The best story from the genre through is "The Fifth Form at St Dominics" by Talbot Baines Reed (1881)

Where do you like to go on holiday?

I love the Highlands of Scotland and Ireland, in 1985 I travelled from John O'Groats to Land's End by Stage Carriage Bus. Particularly enjoyable was trip on the Hurtigruten up the Norway coast, the Artic Cathedral in Tromso is particularly wonderful and inspiring.



WINTER NIGHT SHELTER 2019

Welcome to St Mark's Hall – sleeping accommodation for 12

It has become almost a stock (and rather glib) exhortation: Jesus was homeless and had to seek shelter, so we should be “nicer” “more welcoming” to the homeless.

Well, if you want to get a better understanding of what being homeless means in 2019 and in Kingston/Surbiton, the roaming night shelter, where St Mark's hosted up to 12 homeless people over eight weeks, is a good place to start. Following on from a sermon where Robert was (I hope) joking about “going to hell if you did not volunteer for the night shelter (in context, it made sense as a motivational technique used by John the Baptist), I did. Volunteering was, I thought, a good way to take me way out of my comfort zone and perhaps give me a better insight into homelessness and my own reactions to people living on the streets.

What I usually did when seeing anyone sleeping on the streets was mostly panic. What if they speak to me? Avoid eye contact. Keep moving. Pass on the other side of the pavement if spotted early enough.

But tugging at my heart was doubt. What could I, should I do to help them? Why were they there? Did they want “help”.

There was also a bit of anger. What had society, the government, the system even collective religions not done (or done) to bring these people to this desperate place?

Yes, some of them probably did have mental health, drink or drug problems. But all of them? And even if they did, sleeping on the street was hardly a sensible plan to help them.



That is where Kingston Churches Action on Homelessness enters the frame. KCAH over 8 weeks in February and March this year organised and ran a roaming night shelter for homeless people at one church scattered around the borough each night. St Mark's had the shelter on Sunday into Monday morning. Up to 12 “guests” (pre-selected by KCAH) arrived to a warm and welcoming church hall where they were served a hearty meal prepared by Jackie Page and her “army of chefs”. These home cooked meals were probably one of the high points of the day for many coming to the shelter. When they arrived there were volunteers to talk to people as well as play board games or other activities and serve the meal. By the time I arrived for the night shift, things were quiet. The meal eaten and cleared away. All that was left was to sit quietly in the kitchen as people slept on airbeds with the sleeping bags and pillows provided. My job along with two other volunteers for the night, was to offer tea/coffee/water if asked for and generally make sure nothing happened.

The morning shift began arriving just before 6am to provide a breakfast before everyone left and cleaning began before the hall resumed its usual activities for the week.

I am at heart a coward and so I chose the 10pm 6am shift as I thought it was the one most likely to ensure minimal interaction with the overnight guests. After the training (more like a crash course on what's going on with homelessness in Kingston borough plus what to expect from a roaming night shelter at the church plus some tips on things you should do and things you really should not do), I was even more apprehensive.

What could I possibly talk to these people about? What if they wanted to pour out their hearts to me? What could I give except a listening ear and possibly a sympathetic face?

So, I huddled in the kitchen, hoping no one would approach. And I almost got my wish. Over the eight weeks, I was doing my bit five nights and spoke to a few of the people taking advantage of the safe place St Mark's provided. From what I gleaned from other volunteers and the minimal details about each person staying overnight in the hall, I began to get a better picture of just who some of these people were.



They had names and stories. They had hopes and ambitions. Knowing even a snippet about their lives filled me with equal measures of overwhelming sadness and thankfulness. Sadness because these people were trying to get back on their feet or still struggling with living a life where the next meal, the next bed was never secure.

My thankfulness came from the certainty that if I were suddenly left homeless my friends would not desert me. But would I ask them for help or would I hide the problem and was that how some of the people staying at St Mark's became homeless? Part of me can't imagine being homeless while another part is terrified that it could so easily happen and if it did, how would I recover? Where would I go?

Over the five nights I was volunteering, I stared into the darkness of St Mark's hall, wondering how these people coped. Some seemed genuinely happy (or at least they were with us) while others would break your heart as you could almost feel their pain and insecurity yet were unable to do anything more concrete than offer a cup of tea, coffee, a glass of water, a listening ear.

Before coming to the night shelter, I thought the majority of the homeless were there because they had substantial problems due to alcohol and/or drugs. That doesn't seem to be the case at all. People who would not be out of place at one of my dinner parties were at the hall. Yes, some did have alcohol or drug problems but that only applied to two people coming to the shelter. Some had jobs, one was saving up to afford rented accommodation, one had come back to the UK after an overseas job and fell on hard times as his money had gone on what turned out to be slum accommodation.

I never found out the full story of any one person. But wherever I turned over those eight weeks, I kept coming across stories about the homeless citing the number of deaths, looking at the root causes, the introduction of mobile showers to help them feel more human, the introduction of contactless donations by some homeless charities and others highlighting the precarious existence people on the street faced.

home

Kingston Churches Action on Homelessness
2016/17 - A year in review



I realised that wherever the homeless are, most people do not see them. They are invisible, painful reminders of a failing of society or just a source of irritation blocking doorways, begging or showing the contrast between the haves and have nots a bit too graphically.

I can't help but feel I did not embrace the spirit of the night shelter properly by hiding in the kitchen. But I don't think going around and waking people up to talk to them would have been a good strategy.

The question most on my mind now is what happened to everyone once the churches stopped providing a safe haven for the night? The whole problem of homelessness and rough sleeping is still not high on the agenda for most people and certainly doesn't seem to be in the top list of things to do by politicians.

Will I go back to forgetting about the homeless and ignoring people on the street after my experience? I hope not. I hope I have a chance to volunteer next year. It was a sobering and emotional experience that challenged my perceptions and has now made my comfort zone a little bit broader.

By: Margie Lindsay



The longest lane

must have a turning;

The darkest night

gives place to day,

Somewhere bright stars

are always burning,

Hope's rainbow

spans the future way;

The dreariest winter

heralds spring,

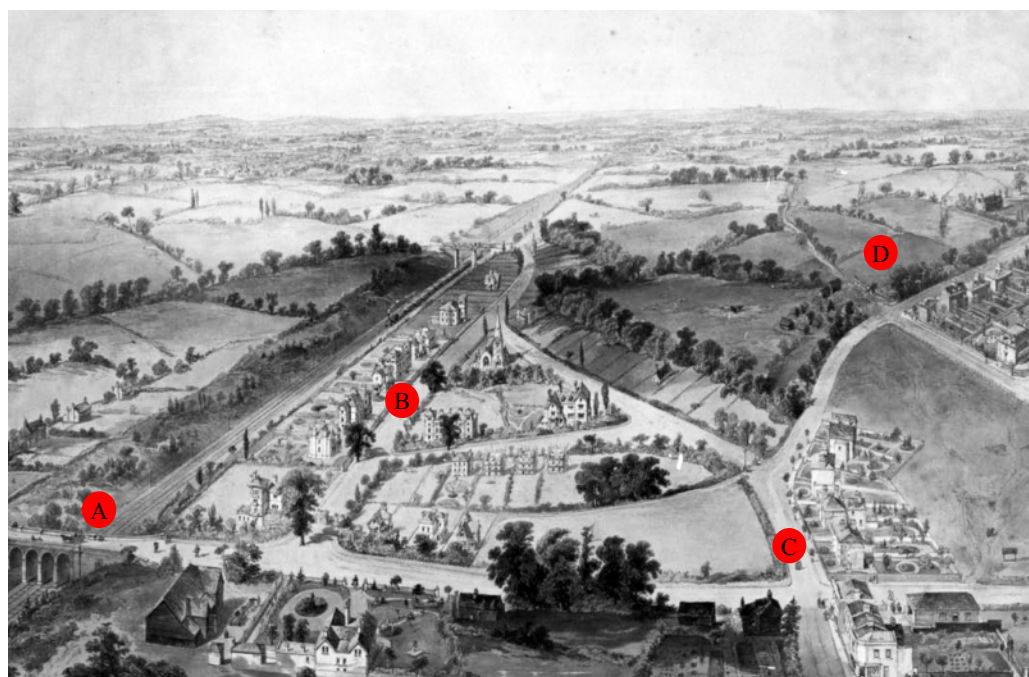
With sunshine, blossom,

fragrance, blending-

To bring new joy to everything.

ANON (Submitted by Sadie Beasley).

LOOK FORWARD



The ariel drawing of Surbiton Hill Park in the 1860's may have foxed some people as the church in the centre of the picture no longer stands. We've added a key this time to make it clearer.

Sorry for any confusion!

I've been unable to identify the name & history of the church in the drawing; can anyone help?

A: Iron bridge at King Charles Road.

B: Surbiton Hill Park, note the two trees still growing in the middle of the road.

C: Berrylands

D: Surbiton Tennis Club

JOKES & QUOTES

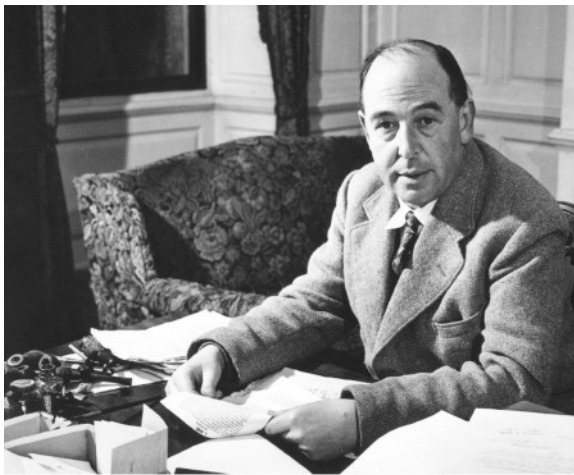


**Why couldn't
Jonah trust
the ocean?**

**HE JUST KNEW THERE
WAS SOMETHING
FISHY ABOUT IT**

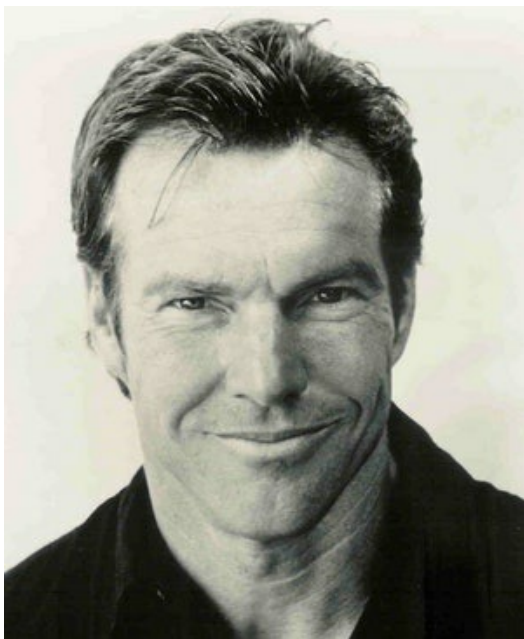
**Why didn't
they play
cards on the
Ark?**

**BECAUSE NOAH WAS
ALWAYS STANDING
ON THE DECK**



I BELIEVE IN CHRISTIANITY AS I BELIEVE THAT THE SUN HAS
RISEN: NOT ONLY BECAUSE I SEE IT, BUT BECAUSE BY IT I
SEE EVERYTHING ELSE.

C.S. LEWIS 1898-1963



THE DOOR IS ALWAYS OPEN TO THE LORD. ALL
ONE HAS TO DO IS OPEN ONE'S HEART & ASK, AND
HE'LL BE THERE. IT'S CERTAINLY BEEN A COMFORT IN MY
LIFE.

DENNIS QUaid B. 1954

When you listen to or sing music in church, do you ever wonder when it all started? Of course we simply don't know when music began, except that it happened deep in prehistory. Singing, chanting and beating rhythms are probably as old as the human voice itself. The oldest known musical instruments are a set of flutes, one made with mammoth ivory and two from the wings of birds, found in South West Germany and dating from an amazing 40,000 years ago. We cannot say how music was used but the amazing cave paintings of prehistory suggest a spiritual life where singing and music may well have formed part.



42,000 to 43,000 year old flutes.

Leaping forward to the early civilisations, evidence for singing and musical instruments has been found in archaeology dating back two or three thousand years before Christ. From your Bible readings, you will know that music is a theme throughout the Old Testament. Singing and musical instruments were part of life, both secular and religious. When Moses and the Israelites escape from the Egyptians, Moses declares: "I will sing to the Lord for He is highly exalted." The Psalms have many references to singing and instruments. For example Psalm 150 calls on the reader to praise God, "*...with the sound of the trumpet...with the psaltery and harp...with the timbrel and dance... with stringed instruments and organs...upon the loud cymbals... Come let us sing with joy to the Lord*". Music continues into the New Testament, for example, St Paul's letter to the Ephesians calls on them to "*Sing and make music from your heart to the Lord.*" We continue this ancient tradition when we sing the Psalms (except that we don't have timbrels etc).

MUSIC & WORSHIP: AN EXTREMELY SHORT HISTORY.

PART 1: WRITING IT DOWN

By: Katrina Lidbetter



The Divje Babe Flute, a bone flute which is over 41,000 years old.

Yet although reconstructions of ancient instruments are possible from written descriptions, carvings and pictures, ultimately we do not know what the music of the Hebrew people and the early Christians sounded like, particularly sung music. This is because no-one had a way of writing the sound down. Music was probably mostly composed on the spot and if passed on, it was passed on by oral tradition, in the same way that poetry was passed on before the age of writing. Singing in the early Christian church probably consisted of chanting. They developed a way of marking blobs and squiggles above and below words to be chanted so that you knew whether your voice went up or down: this dates back to Jewish tradition and continued into the Christian era. However it did not tell you how high or low you should sing, or the size of the gap between notes: it was no more than an aide memoire for a chant already known. Gradually this led to a crisis: across Christian Europe, different monasteries were all developing their own way of chanting sacred texts. How shocking. Various popes felt it had to stop. We should all be singing from the same hymn tune.

In the 11th century an answer was found. An Italian called Guido D'Arrezzo came up with a system for an 8 note scale, or ladder, that set out the intervals between notes. This is the origin of the sol-fa scale that begins with doh re mi – think of Julie Andrews and the Sound of Music. He then added first one and then several horizontal lines to the blobs. These lines designated specific notes so that you knew where your scale was starting. From this emerged modern musical notation – in essence a map of musical notes: how high or low, long or short each note was to be. This created the same amazing breakthrough for music that the written word had done much earlier: now music could be written down, passed across continents and generations and be preserved for the future. So next time you look at a hymn book with printed music, thank Guido. (Of course the arrival of printed music was to take another four centuries but that is for another day).



King David playing The Harp by Gerrit Van Honthorst. 1622.



Musical Angel or Angel Musician by Melozzo da Forli. 1480.

Sources:

- *Ice Age Art: the arrival of the modern mind*, Jill Cook, publ British Museum
- *The Bible*
- *Howard Goodall: Big Bangs: the story of five discoveries that changed musical history.*

Member editor 2019

TIME FOR A SMILE

A little girl was sitting on her grandfather's lap as he read her a bedtime story. From time to time, she would take her eyes off the book and reach up to touch his wrinkled cheek. She was alternately stroking her own cheek, then his again. Finally she spoke up, "Grandpa, did God make you?" He answered, "Yes, sweetheart, God made me a long time ago." She paused, then said, "Grandpa, did God make me too?" Grandpa told her that God made her just a little while ago. The little girl looked up and said, "God's getting better at it, isn't he?"

After the christening of his baby brother in church, little Johnny started sobbing in the back seat of the car on the way home. His father asked him what was wrong and through his tears the boy said, "That priest man said he wanted us brought up in a Christian home, and I want to stay with the family I have now!"

After a worship service, a mother with a fidgety seven-year old boy told the preacher how she finally got her son to sit still and be quiet. She said, "About halfway through your sermon, I leaned over and whispered, 'If you don't be quiet, the preacher is going to lose his place and he will have to start his sermon all over again' and I am glad to say it worked."

Seen on the door of a Methodist minister's office:

Another day has gone

All targets met

All the visits done

All the congregation happy

All problems solved

All pigs fed and ready to fly



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



Mothers' Union members have been involved in a variety of meetings in Southwark Diocese, our area Deanery, as well as our own Parish. On 16th March Branch members were at Southwark Cathedral when Bishop Christopher commissioned Comfort Idowu-Fearon as the new Diocesan Mothers' Union President. Comfort came to one of our branch meetings in 2017 to talk about Faith in Action. Comfort was then the Southwark Mothers' Union Action & Outreach Co-ordinator, and is wife of Bishop Josiah Idowu-Fearon, Secretary General of the Anglican Communion.

Also in March Mothers' Union members in the Kingston and Richmond Deanery met together at St James' Church, New Malden for a Lady Day Service. This was followed by the sharing of a wonderful pot luck lunch. Special thanks to Valerie Baxter for making some scrumptious desserts.

In April Christ Church, East Sheen hosted a Deanery Quiet Day, led by Revd. David Guest. The theme 'Faces of Christ' was introduced by looking at a collection of pictures of Jesus from paintings, sculptures etc, followed by periods of silence, reflection and sharing of thoughts. There was time of peace and stillness with God. At the end of the day there was a short service of thanksgiving. We took home handouts to remind us of the day together and to look back on in times of quiet.

Our branch meetings were Lent Reflections and attending the Wednesday Holy Week Compline Service.

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS:-

Wednesday 15th May 2019, at 20:00 – A talk about The Night Shelter by Jane Kosa, in St Mark's Church

Wednesday 19th June 2019, at 14:30 – 'Listen, observe, act – in step with God', Mothers' Union theme for 2019 – sharing ideas, in St Mark's Church

The Mothers' Union 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.

By: *Christine Waller*

SASM Helped People Living With Dementia through the Memory Cafe



On 16 December 2018, SASM kindly allowed me to hold a fundraising concert and talk in support of people with dementia living in Westminster. Not only that, SASM Members and friends have attended in large numbers and supported the cause through generous financial donations, which allowed us to enjoy one of the most special Christmas Memory Cafes ever!

According to Alzheimer's Research, dementia affects around 850,000 people across the UK and these numbers are set to rise in the decades to come. Dementia is a condition that many people already know very well – according to statistics, 1 in 6 people over 80 have it, and many people have a loved one in their family, or know someone who either lives with dementia or is a carer. Not many people may know, however, that there are various services available for people living with dementia, and that most areas have either a Dementia Adviser, or Memory Cafes for those affected, or both. For information about dementia services locally, please see end of this article.



Even though currently living in Surbiton, I have been working as the Westminster Dementia Adviser since 2014. My role is commissioned by City of Westminster and the purpose of my job is not just to organise the Memory Cafes, but also to provide information, advice and support to people in Westminster who have just been diagnosed with the disease. My work in Westminster allowed me to get to know one of the most demographically fascinating parts of the UK. When City of Westminster is mentioned, many people

imagine Mayfair, Belgravia and other luxurious neighborhoods. The truth is that Westminster is home not just to some of the richest, but also to some of the poorest inhabitants of this country, of an incredible ethnically mixed background. Also, many of my clients are very isolated and for some of them, the Christmas Memory Cafe may be their only Christmas social occasion!



The idea of a Memory Cafe in general originated in Netherlands in 1997 and it soon became very popular; the model has been replicated in other places in Europe and the world. The Memory Cafes in Westminster started in 2011. There are two monthly Cafes in Westminster, one in Westbourne Park Road in Paddington area, another one in Victoria Medical Centre in Pimlico. The underlying vision of Memory Cafes in general, as well as the one in Westminster, is an intervention with aspects of education and support.



People in early stages of dementia, as well as carers and family members, come for a cup of tea and chat with other people in a similar situation; there are also professionals available to provide information and advice on all different aspects of living well with dementia. It is very reassuring for anyone with dementia or a carer to meet other people 'in the same boat'. Also, as symptoms of dementia may still sometimes be frowned upon in the public space, the Cafes provide a safe and non-judgmental environment where people can share their experiences, feel accepted, but also have fun and engage in stimulating activities.



The Christmas Memory Cafe on 19th December was not an exception! With a record attendance of 42 service users, people had lots of fun. The Cafe was visited by a choir of people living with dementia run by a wonderful local dementia and arts charity called Resonate Arts who offer a range of projects to support people to live well with dementia, including the Singing with Friends choir they run with Wigmore Hall. The choir performed various songs as well as led the carols sing-along, which made everyone sing or at least swing in their chairs. The choir was led by soprano Suzi Saperia, whose magical voice was resonating in our heads long after the event. Tim Keasley, a professional oboe player and a wonderful pianist, accompanied Suzi, the choir, and the whole room of people singing!

Last but not least, Santa Claus arrived just in time to give out presents. Thanks to SASM and other donors' generosity, Santa was able to give out presents to everyone in the room! This is especially important as some of my especially isolated clients may not otherwise receive any Christmas presents at all.

The purpose of my role and also of the Memory Cafes, is to allow local people with dementia to live well and to the fullest of their potential. There is a lot of stigma around dementia, but if people are well supported, they can often enjoy good quality of life for many years, as dementia usually progresses slowly. If you don't believe it, you need to take a trip to the next Memory Cafe in Westminster!

Written by Terezie Wickenden, Westminster
Dementia Adviser,
terezie.wickenden@londoncare.co.uk, Tel.
07540 502 379



To contact Dementia Adviser for Kingston area (including Surbiton) please call 07720 947 448, email kingstonoffice@alzheimers.org.uk or visit drop-in clinic in Surbiton Health Centre (First floor, Surbiton Health Centre, Ewell Road, KT6 6EZ) that runs weekly on Thursday between 10am-5pm.



Daffodil's at Hampton Court Palace, taken by Olga Wickenden.

Cherry tree at St Mark's church, taken by Shelia Ennis.



DID YOU KNOW.....



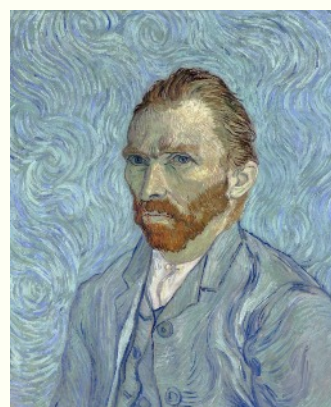
The tallest sunflower measures 9.17m (30 ft 1in) and was grown by Hans-Peter Schiffer in Karst, Nordrhein Westfalen, Germany.

Verified on 28th August 2014.

Hans-Peter is a true fan of the sunflower & has held the Guinness World Record three times before.



VINCENT VAN GOGH



*Sunflowers-
(original title, in
French:
Tournesols)*

Vincent Van Gogh worked on two series of still life paintings over the summer of 1888, first painting in Paris & later in Arles,

with the intention of decorating Gauguin's Yellow room which he was renting at the time in the South of France.

During the summer Van Gogh wrote to his brother "I am working at it every morning from sunrise on, for the flowers fade so quickly."

Van Gogh was known for his Impasto technique (Italian word for "paste" or "mixture") where oil paint is applied in thick layers to create texture & depth & to clearly see the brush marks & palette knife.

There have been many versions of the sunflowers painted since the original four by Van Gogh & replicas, which remain debated among academics.

PAST TIMES



21st November 1931. Vera White at Surbiton Golf Club with her dog 'Barney' acting as her loyal caddie.



10th March 1945. Nurses cutting Savoy cabbages in the garden of the Royal Eye Hospital, Surbiton.



8th July 1938. Camels from Chessington zoo emerging from the Air Raid Precautions Department office in Surbiton.



14th July 1938. A camel at Chessington zoo is measured for a respirator at the Air Raid Precautions Department in Surbiton.

Focus on: Music

This time we are thinking about the integral part of music within the church. You may be in or have seen the Children's Choir at SASM, seen the church choir, sung hymns, heard the organ or sung responses at services. Music is all around us at church.

Missing letter music anagram

What letters are missing from the alphabet below? If you rearrange them, you get something that is very important to help us sing hymns.

C H J T X W D F
V E Q B I Z L S U M K P Y

Hymns for all Seasons

There some general hymns that we can sing at any time of the year, but there are also some other hymns that we only sing at different times in the Church year. Can you link the hymn to the correct time that we would sing it?

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------|
| a) We plough the fields and scatter | 1) Easter |
| b) Lo he comes with clouds descending | 2) Christmas |
| c) Joy to the World | 3) Advent |
| d) Christ the Lord is Risen Today | 4) Harvest |

Musical Jokes:

Why did the pianist keep hitting his head on the keys? He was playing by ear!

Why are pirates great singers? They can hit the high Cs!

MUSIC WORDSEARCH

Can you find the below words in the word search?

Hymn – Psalm – Verse – Ancient – Modern – Carol – Organ – Piano –
Instrument – Choir – Canticle – Response – Anthem – Crochet – Minim –
Semibreve

The letters left over spell out a famous hymn and the author's initials. What is the hymn and who wrote it?

H Y M N A M L A S P
M O D E R N L L T I
H R I N G S B A R N
R E L C I T N A C S
I S I C R O C H E T
O P G H T A N D C R
H O T N E I C N A U
C N B S E A U T R M
I S R F N A G R O E
U E L M I N I M L N
V C F M E H T N A T
A S E M I B R E V E

Charles Wesley – Hymn writer extraordinaire!

Have you heard any of the following hymns? Hark the Herald Angels Sing, Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus, Love Divine, All Love Excelling? These are just 3 hymns written by Charles Wesley who lived in the 18th Century. His older brother, John Wesley, founded the Methodist Movement, but Charles Wesley wrote thousands of hymns. See if you can guess how many?

a) 3000 – 4000 b) 4000 – 5000 c) 5000 – 6000 d) 6000 – 7000

Have a wonderful Summer and see you in the Autumn! Charlotte New

Answers: Organ; a4, b3, c2 and d1; All things bright and beautiful by CFA (Cecil Frances Alexander); D) Over 6000!

THE EARTH SPEAKS

The turning earth spoke in a sombre voice.

“Four seasons I give you,” it’s deep voice said.

“I give you spring when the lilacs bloom,
I give you autumn when the maple is red.

“Summer I give you all crowned with
sunshine,

And winter of snow and icicle spears.

Four seasons I give you with all their joys!
And all their pleasures and all their fears!

Take my four gifts and use each one,
Use each wisely, kindly and well,
So that upon the year’s last hour
A worthy record you date to tell.”

The turning earth spoke but once again.

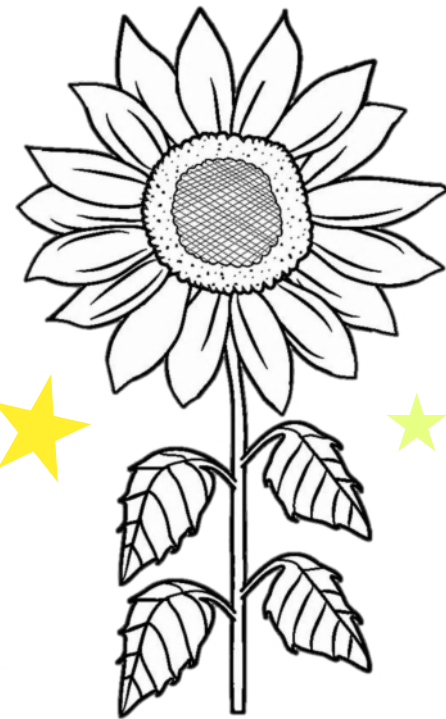
“Four season I give you,” its voice was low.

“The gifts are yours and yours is the task
To use my gifts as best you know.”

By: Lenore Hetrick

♥♥ GOD ♥♥
loves
♥♥♥ ME ♥♥♥
♥ ♥

COLOURING
PAGE



SERVICE CALENDAR

May to June 2019

Sun 5th May, 3rd Sunday of Easter
8am BCP Communion, St Andrew's
9.15am All Together Eucharist, St Mark's
11.00am Morning Worship with Baptisms, St Andrew's
6pm Choral Evensong, Joint with St Matthew's choir, **St Andrew's**
(note venue)

Sun 12th May, 4th Sunday of Easter
8am BCP Communion, St Mark's
9.15am Family Service, St Mark's
11.00am Choral Eucharist with Sunday Club, St Andrew's
6pm Compline, St Mark's

Sun 19th May, 5th Sunday of Easter
8am BCP Communion, St Andrew's
9.15am Café church, St Mark's
11.00am Choral Eucharist with Sunday Club, St Andrew's
6pm, Service of Wholeness and Healing, St Mark's

Sun 26th May, Sunday before Ascension
8am BCP Communion, St Mark's
9.15am Family Service, St Mark's
11.00am Choral Eucharist with Sunday Club, St Andrew's
6pm Evening prayer with silence, St Mark's followed by Gresham Lecture

Thurs 30th May, 7.30pm, Ascension, Choral Eucharist, St Andrew's

"If you feel this magazine has
been of interest or help to you,
please pass it on to a friend"





SERVICE CALENDAR

Sat June 1st, Awayday: EVENSONG at Winchester Cathedral

Sun 2nd June, Sunday between Ascension and Pentecost

8am BCP Communion, St Andrew's

9.15am All Age Eucharist with Children's Choir, St Mark's

11.00am Morning Worship with Baptisms, St Andrew's

6pm Evening Prayer with silence, St Mark's

Sun June 9th, Pentecost

8am BCP Communion, St Mark's

9.15am Family Worship, St Mark's

11.00am Choral Eucharist with Sunday Club, St Andrew's

6pm Compline, St Mark's

June 16th, Trinity Sunday

8am BCP Communion, St Andrew's

9.15am Café church or Holy Baptism (tbc), St Mark's

11.00am Choral Eucharist with Sunday Club, St Andrew's

6pm, Service of Wholeness and Healing, St Mark's

June 23rd, Corpus Christi

8am BCP Communion, St Mark's

9.15am Family worship, St Mark's

11.00am Choral Eucharist with Sunday Club, St Andrew's

6pm Evening Prayer followed by Gresham Lecture, St Mark's

June 30th, St Peter & Paul

8am BCP Communion, St Andrew's

9.15am Family Worship, St Mark's

11.00am Choral Eucharist with Sunday Club, St Andrew's

6pm, Compline, St Mark's

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY IN THE SUMMER

- Fancy a trip away? Our choir, together with the St Matthew's choir, will be singing Evensong at Winchester Cathedral on Saturday June 1st. Come and join us. Coach spaces available on sign-up sheet from Simon Harvey.
- On Pentecost, we will follow the 11am service by decamping entirely and going for a picnic in Victoria Park. If it's wet, we'll create a fantastic indoor picnic space in the church building at St Andrew's. There will be football and games for children and choc ices and other treats, but it's not just for children. Just come for a picnic and enjoy the sunshine (we hope!). That is Sunday 9th June.
- Going deeper in faith. For those who like challenging themselves intellectually, the Gresham Lectures could be just the thing. They are screenings of lectures given in 2017/18 by the brilliantly lucid theologian Alister McGrath, Profession of Science and Religion at Oxford University. They are at St Mark's after Evening Prayer on Sundays in the Summer. The first is on 26th May.

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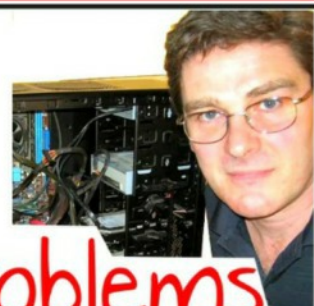
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