

MARCH 2017

# SPIRE

HAMPTON HILL'S PARISH MAGAZINE YOUR FREE COPY

INSIDE

Out of Africa: A  
message of hope

[stjames-hamptonhill.org.uk](http://stjames-hamptonhill.org.uk)

## VICAR

### The Revd Derek Winterburn

Derek, pictured right, was born in Orpington, Kent, and ordained in 1986. He has served in several London parishes. He aims to grow the church by reaching out to the community, and in particular to young families. Derek is a keen photographer, which he combines with a daily walk. He is happy to be contacted at any time other than on Fridays (his day off).

Telephone: 020 8241 5904

Email: vicar@stjames-hamptonhill.org.uk



## CURATE

### The Revd Jacky Cammidge

Jacky was born in Abertillery, South Wales. She is a self-supporting minister, ordained in July 2015. During term time she runs one of two Hampton Hill nursery schools owned by her family. Jacky is a trustee of the charity running the Greenwood Centre.

Telephone: 074 9677 0505

Email: curate@stjames-hamptonhill.org.uk



## PARISH OFFICE

### Nick Bagge

The administrator deals with all enquiries, including baptisms, weddings and funerals, as well as hall bookings. The office is open every weekday.

Mon, Wed and Fri: 9.30am-12.30pm

Tue and Thu: 12.30pm-3.30pm

Telephone: 020 8941 6003

Email: office@stjames-hamptonhill.org.uk

Address: St James's Church, 46

St James's Road, Hampton Hill TW12 1DQ



## CHURCHWARDENS

### Nick Bagge

Nick is a former television journalist, now working at St James's Church. He is married with a daughter.

Telephone: 020 8783 0871

Email: nickbagge1@aol.com



### Nick Harris

Nick is an executive director of the bank Credit Suisse, based in the heart of the City of London.

He is married with a son.

Telephone: 020 8943 2025

Email: nicholasjharris@gmail.com



## TREASURER

### Nick Harris

Contact details as above

## ORGANIST/CHOIRMASTER

### Mark Blackwell

Mark is an accomplished parish organist with 40 years of experience of playing in churches, cathedrals and also puts on concerts and recitals. During the week he runs his own accountancy company.

Telephone: 077 6814 6879

Email: organist@stjames-hamptonhill.org.uk



Bell Ringing Susan Horner 020 8979 9380

Book of Remembrance Recorder Janet Nunn 020 8979 6325

Brownies and Guides 0800 1 69 59 01

Charities and Links Committee Ann Peterken 020 8891 5862

Children's Champion Stuart Richardson 020 8890 4854

Church Cleaning Debbie Nunn 020 8979 3078

Church Flowers Coryn Robinson 020 8979 6786

Church Growth Working Group Derek Winterburn 020 8943 2025

Churches Together Around Hampton Ann Peterken 020 8891 5862

Churchyard Records Janet Nunn 020 8979 6325

Deanery Synod Clive Beaumont 020 8943 4336

Electoral Roll Parish Office 020 8941 6003

Eco Group Catherine Gash 020 8783 0563

Hall Bookings Parish Office 020 8941 6003

Mission Partner Link Liz Wilmot 020 8977 9434

Mozambique/Angola Link Laurence Sewell 020 8977 2844

Music and Worship Committee Martin Hinckley 020 8979 0528

PCC Secretary Nick Bagge 020 8941 6003

Planned Giving Gwynneth Lloyd 020 8943 0709

Properties Committee Bryan Basdell 020 8979 2040

Safeguarding Officer Jane Newman 020 8979 6154

Scout Group Richard Moody 020 8286 6918

Servers Lesley Mortimer 020 8941 2345

Sidespersons Janet Taylor 020 8979 0046

St James's Ark Debbie Nunn 020 8979 3078

St James's Hospitality / Parish Breakfast Clare Ryan and Kirstie Craig 079 6413 1135

St James's Players Martin Hinckley 020 8979 0528

The Shell Seekers (Sunday School) (Term-time, except when there is an all-age service) Stuart Richardson 020 8890 4854

Tools with a Mission Janet Nunn 020 8979 6325

Theatre Club Peter Hale 020 979 9287

Visitors' Group Liz Wilmot 020 8977 9434

Weekly Pew Sheet 020 8941 6003

Spring is on the way, and with more daylight it won't be long before the churchyard looks splendid again with all the snowdrops and primroses.

The tree surgeons have been busy! They have removed the copper beech tree near the front of the church, and also pruned both the oak tree near the church hall and the sweet chestnut in the car park.

This month's issue focuses on the Diocese of London's link with Angola and Mozambique (ALMA). Whilst at St Mary's, Derek and several parishioners visited Mozambique and he has first-hand knowledge of the area and the situation there.

Derek is also a keen photographer and has some excellent pictures to illustrate his article, including the cover image.

The feature links in with the Diocese's Lent Appeal (full details are on page 7), which will go towards projects connected to the ALMA link.

If you happen to be reading this whilst enjoying a glass of wine, you are in good company. Christopher Carson has written about his 10 favourite vineyards on page 8. It is a fascinating insight into worldwide



wine production and we think you will find it as interesting as we did.

Best wishes

Janet

Editor

Cover picture: ALMA in action with the children of Mozambique (see page four)

The SPIRE is published nine times a year for the Parochial Church Council of St James.

We make no charge for this magazine, but we hope that you will contribute towards the production costs to enable us to expand our important outreach across the parish.

If you are a regular reader please consider making an annual donation. Cheques should be made payable to The PCC of St James and sent to Spire Appeal c/o the Parish Office.

## Vicar's View



A churchwarden was always on hand to stop the sermon overrunning...

## STORIES, FEATURES

If you have ideas, or would like to write for the magazine, contact the Editor, Janet Nunn. Telephone: 020 8979 6325

Email: janunnhh@btinternet.com

## AROUND THE SPIRE

If you have any news, contact Susan Horner: Email: smhorner5@yahoo.co.uk

## WHAT'S ON

If you have an event contact Nick Bagge. Email: Nickbagge1@aol.com

## WEBSITE / YOUNG SPIRE

If you would like to receive the magazine by email, please contact Prill Hinckley. She also manages the website and Young Spire page. Email: p.m.hinckley@blueyonder.co.uk

## CIRCULATION

The SPIRE is available free from church and local shops. It is also delivered across the parish and posted further afield. Further information from Susan Horner:

Telephone: 020 8979 9380

Email: smhorner5@yahoo.co.uk

## NEXT ISSUE / COPY DATE

The April issue is published on Fri 24 March. The copy deadline is **Thu 2 March**.

## CREDITS

### PRODUCTION

Design Nick Bagge  
Proofreaders Susan Horner and Dick Wilde

### PUBLISHING

Printer Justin Hollingsworth 020 8686 4481

The SPIRE magazine is printed on paper that is sourced from well-managed forests, as laid down by the Forest Stewardship Council.



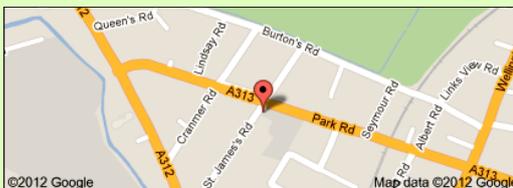
© St James's Church 2017. Unauthorised reproduction in whole or part is prohibited without written permission from the editor. Manuscripts, photographs and artwork are accepted on the basis that The Spire does not accept liability for loss or damage to them. We cannot print anything subject to copyright. Views expressed in The Spire are not necessarily those of the PCC of St James.

Please recycle this magazine after use



## FINDING US

St James's Church is on the corner of St James's Road and Park Road with ample parking in the road.



# Listen very carefully...



**A**re you listening? Are you speaking clearly? Every year we invite the couples being married to a preparation course and work through some key issues with them, as well as help them to plan their big day.

At the heart of the course is an emphasis on good communication. I find that many young people have talked about their life together, and the challenges ahead. But as well as making sure that they have considered how they will manage money or how their family backgrounds have shaped them, we attempt to train them in better listening and speaking.

### Paying attention

There are some simple skills involved in listening and speaking well that will greatly assist any relationship.

Most of us would think we are good listeners, but we are often busier planning the next thing we are going to say than paying attention.

Listening well demands concentration, empathy and time. Then again, expressing our opinions clearly sounds easy enough until we say hurtful things in the 'heat of the moment'.

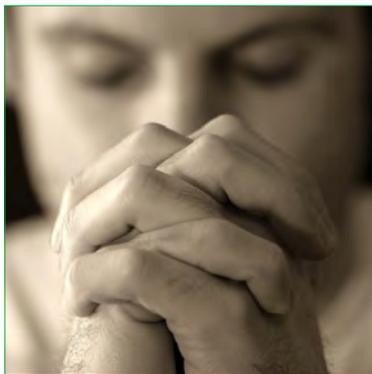
The course suggests that we need to learn to talk about more than 'facts' and share our feelings and deepest thoughts.

Taking time to refresh our communication skills, as well as making every effort to put them into practice in real life, is a great investment.

### Focus on prayer

In Lent, Christians often give more attention to prayer. We have probably been taught as children that 'prayer is talking to God'. So it is. But then we have often experienced prayer in a particular manner (hands-together, eyes-closed) and as merely 'asking God for things'.

A moment's thought will show us that a relationship based on one person asking for things is rather odd.



**The word *listen* contains the same letters as the word *silent***



The Marriage Preparation Course encourages couples to talk about what they are thinking and feeling; in the same way in prayer there is more to say than, 'Please...?'

To experience prayer as an adult, it makes sense to learn to be more fluent in other forms of 'talking to God'.

The Book of Psalms contains a wider variety of 'tones of voice' and we can learn from its range of prayers: praise, confession, lament, illumination, petition, thanksgiving, service and blessing.

### The Lord's Prayer

Many of these elements are present in Jesus's own model prayer ('Our Father in heaven...'). He is the Master of prayer. His prayer forms the basis of our Lent course (Wednesdays from 8 March).

It is good to learn to express the complexities of our adult life in a richer prayer language.

Good communication is more than talking well, it is listening too.

For some people it is strange to think that God may have something to say to them. But in my experience the breakdown in communication is probably due to my poor listening.

### Listening in silence

Turning my attention towards him and stopping to listen, I hear him speak to me in silence, through scripture, through another's words, through something I have experienced.

**H**ow much trouble would be avoided in marriages, in business, in churches, if we learned to communicate better, so that we might understand and care for one another more effectively?

Similarly if we learnt to talk to God in a mature way and listen to him, how much closer to Jesus' experience would we be?

## WHAT'S ON IN CHURCH

You will receive a warm welcome at any of these church services or events

### Sundays

0800-0830

Holy Communion

0930-1030

Parish Communion

### Mothering Sunday 26 March

All-age non-Eucharistic service at 1100 instead of 0930 for Mothering Sunday with a free flower for every woman

### Mon-Fri

(but not Tuesdays)

0915-0930

Morning Prayer

### Tuesdays

0930-1000

Holy Communion

### Ash Wednesday

Wednesday 1 March

0930 and 2000

Holy Communion + Ashing

### Lent Course

Every Wednesday in Lent  
from 8 March

1900-2130

Simple meal, followed by the course. Learn more about prayer and praying.

Sign up now in church or via the Parish Office

### Palm Sunday

Sunday 9 April

0930

Join us as we process with palms to mark final Sunday of Lent, the beginning of Holy Week, and the triumphant arrival of Jesus in Jerusalem, days before he was crucified. Palm branches are a symbol of peace and victory

1600

### Stainer's Crucifixion

Modelled on the great passion settings of J.S. Bach, this is amongst the most popular of all English choral works and vividly portrays the events of the Passion of Christ. Scored for tenor and bass soloists, organ and mixed choir, the piece combines recitatives, solos, and masterful choruses

### Easter

Including Maundy Thursday,  
Good Friday and Easter Day

Go online for full details, pick up a leaflet in church, or look out for the April/May issue of the Spire

## After 21 years, Bishop Richard bows out



**HUNDREDS** of people crowded into St Paul's Cathedral on 2 February to say farewell to Bishop Richard.

The Rt Revd and Rt Hon Richard Chartres is retiring at the end of March after 21 years as Bishop of London and 33 as a minister.

He chose Candlemas on Thursday 2 February for his last public service. The cathedral was full, with an overflow 'pop up cathedral' set up in nearby Paternoster Square.

The service included contributions from people across the diocese and members of the Bishop's staff team.

The cathedral choir led the congregation in a range of musical styles, including some pieces with Orthodox (Russian and Greek) flavours, reflecting Bishop Richard's long interest in the Eastern churches.

In his sermon, the Bishop encouraged the congregation to be confident enough to build strong communities and deep relationships. In his time the Anglican church in London has grown in numbers and resources. The evening ended with Bishop Richard going to the west steps of the Cathedral to pray for God's blessing on the city.

After a period of consultation, the Crown Nominations Committee will offer the Prime Minister two names. Until the final appointment, the Rt Revd Pete Broadbent will be the acting Bishop of London. Bishop Richard entrusted him with his Crozier, pictured below, as a symbol of the change of responsibilities.

### A new style of bishop

**Derek Winterburn writes:** I first met Richard Chartres when I was a Team Vicar in Hackney. He took over from Bishop Jim Thompson as Bishop of Stepney. Bishop Jim was greatly loved in the East End, and nationally.

Richard had a very different style, and seemed to come from another world (deeply traditional, well-connected and academic). However, my clergy colleagues and I were bowled over by how happy he was just chatting with ordinary people at a church garden party.

On another occasion I had invited him to speak at an ecumenical Bible Week and he arrived with his Greek New Testament expecting to lead a Bible study for clergy. Instead he wowed a church full of people with a brilliant talk, delivered without notes.

When Bishop David Hope moved to York, another surprise was that Richard was offered the London job. At the centre of the great diocese he took steps to keep rooted by creating the 'Two Cities' area that would be his 'home ground'. I think he takes some pride in the resurgence of the city churches. The centrepiece of that is the founding of St Ethelburga's Centre for Reconciliation in Bishopsgate.

Those of us in the suburbs don't see very much of the Diocesan bishop as we more closely relate to our Area Bishop of Kensington. But Bishop Richard did come out for the big occasions, such as St James's 150th anniversary and the opening of St Mary's Hampton CE Primary School.

### Diocesan growth under Richard

Under his episcopacy the Diocese has grown in a number of ways. There has been a growth in numbers of people belonging to the churches. New churches have opened and closed ones brought back into use (e.g. St Michael's, Fulwell).

London now has its own theological college, St Mellitus, where Jacky Cammidge trained. Although far from being a manager, Bishop Richard has created a forward-looking culture and is comfortable working with a visionary plan (Capital Vision 2020).

He had a natural gravitas, and was in his element on big occasions. But he retained an approachableness. Just before the farewell service, Betty Rainbow (Bishop Richard had been her parish priest) and I bumped into him coming out of the Old Deanery (his home). He was in no rush and was ready to say hello. He walked on, then was stopped again, this time to be in someone's 'selfie'.

We wish him and Caroline every blessing in a well-earned retirement.



# Shared faith



Derek with one of the families helped by ALMA's outreach work

**T**he London Diocese has a formal link with the Anglican church in two countries in Southern Africa: Mozambique and Angola. Both are immense countries and obviously very different to London.

It is better not to start with the social differences but emphasise that the Anglican Communion (or family of churches) is very effective at bridging the gap between Christians in different lands.

The Link between the Angolan diocese and the two dioceses in Mozambique dates back to 1998. My own experience is only from 2005 when my former parish (St Mary's Hampton) sent me and others to explore the possibility of a link with a parish in Niassa, Mozambique.

### Our achievements

In the following years we:

- Visited most years for mutual encouragement and communication
- Funded the completion of the town church, and three other church buildings in outlying areas
- Ran a scheme to pay fees and uniform for orphans in the secondary (and latterly primary) schools, with local mentoring
- Paid for a number of wells
- Financed the salary of 'project support worker'

This Lent we are supporting ALMA, the diocese's link with Angola and Mozambique.

**Derek Winterburn reports on the achievements he has experienced at first hand.**

- Supported a healthcare fund, to pay for travel to far-off hospitals
- Taught sewing skills, gave healthcare advice, taught leadership courses
- Regularly communicated by phone and email (or tried to!)

### What have we learnt?

Our brothers and sisters *enormously* valued our friendship and personal support.

Being known and remembered by us was something very important. Indeed, a child born on one of our visits was named 'Welcome' in our honour!

Although our link was unusual in the frequency of visiting, it made the project far more tangible than it would otherwise have been.



Under cover: this junior school operates under the most testing of environments

# helps us all

Things are not as easy as they seem to us, and projects take a lot of time to get going even if we can make money readily available.

The poorest people (and these are some of the poorest people in the world) can live with hardship and still set an example to us of generosity and joy.

Mistakes are inevitable and some projects were more successful than others. However, a little money can make a huge difference — £25 to keep a girl in secondary school for another year is money well spent.

The churches are sustained with comparatively little resources (these include electricity, Bibles, robes and theological training) yet are rich in song, fellowship and kindness.

Language barriers can be overcome, but it can be quite difficult leading a study with four or five language groups — each with their own Bible!

The project brought out the best in us: huge generosity, patience and forgiveness, and, from the visiting teams, sacrifice and joy in hardship, creative collaboration, and stamina!

## Here at St James's

St James's does not have a direct link with a parish, but has always been very supportive of ALMA and contributed to many Lenten appeals.

In Lent 2013 we helped two neighbouring parishes in Teddington (St Peter's & St Mary's, and St Mary's with St Alban's) to raise funds for clergy housing in their link parish of Pemba in north east Mozambique.

A total of £6000 was raised by the three parishes and a splendid African Supper evening added some fun to all the effort. Having exceeded its goal, the

appeal was able to fund the purchase of a second house for one of the first two female deacons in the Diocese of Niassa, as well as completion of another clergy house in Nampula.

This Lent we are again supporting our sisters and brothers in Mozambique and Angola through the Diocese of London's appeal *Sowing Seeds for Tomorrow*, which has education at its core.

## Another well delivering water

This Lent we are again supporting our sisters and brothers in Mozambique and Angola through the Diocese of London's appeal *Sowing Seeds for Tomorrow*, which has education at its core.

■ You can read about it in Charity Box on page 7 and there are leaflets in church.



Many hands... make light work of sugar canes

## HISTORY LESSON



Since its formation in 1998 ALMA has been developing a deep friendship in the Anglican churches and communities of Angola, London and Mozambique. It has also been involved in forging a lasting peace in Mozambique by talking to all sides, supporting AIDS/HIV projects, helping flood victims in 2007, paying for housing and robust vehicles, training clergy and buying Bibles and learning resources.



The Sewing Club make light work of things with some communal singing



## 'I'm a young-at-heart 90!'

**CONGRATULATIONS** to Eila Severn, a lifelong member of St. James's Church, who celebrated her 90th birthday on 19 January. Having marked the day with her family, Eila invited the congregation to join her for a celebratory drink and refreshments after the service on the following Sunday.

She remarked that she really did not feel much different to when she was 21!

Eila received many cards, presents and expressions of good wishes on this special occasion.



## Year-long organ restoration begins



**THE ORGAN** is currently undergoing considerable restoration and improvements. Bernard Whitmill, our organ restorer, pictured left, will spend the next year carrying out the work, although the organ should be available for services for most of this time.

The PCC has allocated £17,000 to cover the most essential work and a substantial private donation has been made towards the rest of the cost. If you would like to support this work with a donation please see the vicar. Further gifts will ensure that we can continue to enjoy a high standard of music.

■ Other work to take place in the church over the coming months includes the provision of toilets in the west porch and a sink in the vestry.

## Help us to spring clean the church

**AS PART OF** the preparations for the Easter celebrations at St James's, the Properties Committee undertakes the annual spring clean of the church. This includes a general dusting of all surfaces, vacuuming carpets, washing, polishing and sealing floors and polishing all brassware. We conduct the work over two weeks, commencing on **Saturday 25 March—Saturday 8 April**. We depend on volunteers to help support committee members. Work can be found to suit most people and at convenient times. If you would like to help, please contact Bryan Basdell on (020) 8979 2040, or [bryan.basdell@btinternet.com](mailto:bryan.basdell@btinternet.com).

## Not just mothers, but all ladies...

Broader than simply 'Mothers' Day,' in church we celebrate the care we have received from anyone who has 'mothered us', within the 'Mother Church'. At 1100 on **26 March** there will be a lively, interactive service (less than an hour) for all ages. As part of the worship there will be an opportunity to celebrate the particular contribution of every lady, with special gifts. After the All Age Service, there are refreshments in the hall, as well as a short Communion service in church.

## Order your Fairtrade Easter eggs!

**THE TRAIDCRAFT** stall will be selling the Real Easter Egg (milk and plain) for £4.

Each egg comes with a lovely Easter story booklet and chocolate bar. If you want more than two, please try to tell Ann or Catherine or leave a note for them in the church office.

The eggs can be bought on **Sundays 5 March, 26 March and 2 April** or collected from the office if you let Ann know (020) 8891 5862.

■ The Spring Traidcraft catalogue is now available. It is packed with gifts that you won't find elsewhere. It is a great help for finding presents or for treating yourself. Do borrow a copy from church and order from Ann or Catherine.





# Watch the Shell Seekers grow!



**DAVID HETLING**

## Looking backwards, moving forwards

It seems that we have only just come through Advent, the great season of looking forward, and already we are entering our next great season, that of Lent and preparation. It's a good time then to take a brief look back on some of the things we have achieved over the past year — and perhaps mention a few preparations for the coming year too.

### Growing in number

Those of you in church on Sundays will have seen our pleasing rise in numbers over the past twelve months — we have been delighted to see some newcomers join our group, as well as welcoming back some children too! This, in combination with the advancing years of some of our group, has meant that we have been able to restore a two-group approach to Sunday mornings; activities for primary school children alongside a more mature exploration of the faith journey with our secondary school children.

### Broken records

As well as memorable events for Mothering Sunday and St James's Day in 2016, we also broke our own records in fundraising. The theme of persecution within our Christian family was a subject that moved and inspired the children throughout the year — in response, more than £140 was raised at our cake sale on Mothering Sunday for the Diocese of London's Lent Appeal for Persecuted Christians in Iraq and Syria. It was followed by £330 for Release International at our

Christmas sale on Christingle Sunday.

Perhaps this year we can break the £500 barrier? Look out in church for news of our next event on Mothering Sunday at the end of March.



### More volunteers needed!

Looking forward, our growing numbers have also resulted in us needing a bit more help each week. I'd like to thank Sandra Winterburn, pictured, who will be working with our older children from time to time and we are also recruiting some new faces to the team who will start to get involved over the Summer term. We continue to be open to volunteers in this crucial area of our growth for St. James's too — if you feel inspired to help as we evolve in our work with children and young people then please speak to any of the Shell Seekers leaders!



Our Sunday School, the Shell Seekers, starts in church from 0930 every Sunday during school terms and parades into the hall, except for once every month when there is an all-age service in church. We welcome new members. Come along for a trial visit, or ask one of the clergy about it and find out how much fun it can be.

# A holy city with a tragic history



The holy shrine and mosque to Imam Hussain



**LAURENCE SEWELL**

Many will only know Karbala from the recent dreadful events of the Iraq War with the US troops clearing the city of Iraqi forces in March 2003 and the subsequent killings and bombings with Muqtada al-Sadr's militia, particularly the fighting in August 2007. However, historically it is one of the holiest cities of Shi'a Islam because here is located the shrine of Imam Hussain ibn Ali.

Karbala lies in central Iraq about 60 miles southwest of Baghdad; it is a city with a current population of about 1.150 million people and the capital of Karbala Governorate. The word Karbala is formed from two Assyrian words (Karb and lyla) which mean the 'sacred precinct of God'.

### Karbala's historical significance

After the death of the Prophet Muhammad in AD 632, a conflict broke out over who should succeed him as leader of Islam. Some said it should be the Prophet's descendants (later called the Shi'ites), while others argued that the community should choose a leader (later called the Sunnis).

This lies at the heart of differences and separation between Shi'a and Sunni Islam that lasts to this day. Hussain ibn Ali, the grandson of Prophet Muhammad, took a stand against what he considered the illegitimate rule of Yazid of the Ummayyad dynasty leading Islam at that time.

During this conflict, Imam Hussain was killed at the Battle of Karbala in AD 680 together with his half-brother Abbas and many followers. Immediately thereafter Hussain's tomb and that of Abbas in the city became a place of pilgrimage.

### Mosque became a shrine

A mosque was built over Hussain's tomb as a shrine in AD 684, and a succession of mosques have been built and destroyed on the site ever since. The original mosque was enlarged with another dome in 749 but was destroyed in 787.

Later a sepulchre for Hussain's tomb was constructed of teak wood. The present mosque was built in the 11th century, with extensive reconstruction of the walls and dome in the 14th century. This shrine is a

magnificent piece of architecture; the minarets and dome are covered in pure gold and his tomb inside is likewise decorated in gold and silver and sheltered by a vast dome covered in mirrored tiles.

A wide, tree-lined avenue leads from here to the Shrine of Abbas, who had been his army commander in the battle. The tomb of Abbas is also highly decorated with precious metals and materials.

In all, Karbala has more than 100 mosques and 23 religious schools, with Imam Hussain's shrine as the city's centrepiece.

### Pilgrimage

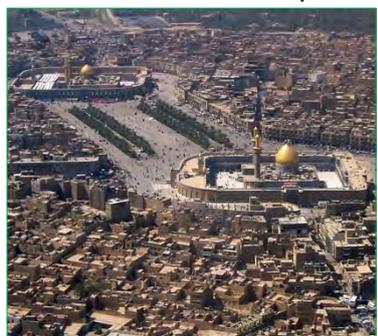
For the Shia, pilgrimage to Karbala is as important as the Haj to Mecca, and each year there are about two million pilgrims. This pilgrimage called *Ashura* to Karbala takes place twice a year to commemorate Hussain's death — on the 10th day of the Muslim month of Muharram and 40 days later in the month of Safar.

Public mourning, dirges, and expressions of grief are major parts of the pilgrimage and many believe that Karbala is one of the gates to the Heavenly Paradise promised to the faithful in the Qur'an.

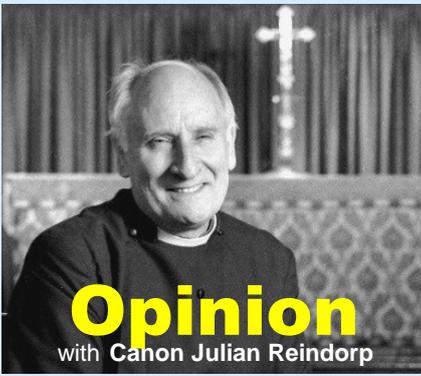
### Scenes of conflict

These pilgrimages have often been the scene of sectarian conflict. Saddam Hussein, in common with other Sunni leaders regarded the themes of Karbala and Ashura as a potential threat and banned pilgrimages several times and even destroyed the shrines (which have always been rebuilt) and in recent years bomb attacks have marred proceedings.

Thus, Karbala also represents the tensions that are at the forefront of Islam today.



Karbala's mighty mosques



**Opinion**  
with Canon Julian Reindorp

**BLACK DOG**

This was Winston Churchill's description of his lifelong battle with depression. One in four Britons will be affected each year by mental health problems, according to MIND, with depression and anxiety the most common illness. Some 80,000 children and young people suffer from severe depression. Last year 40% of the mental health trusts had their budgets cut at a time when the Government suggests mental health costs the UK £105bn a year.

But mental health is beginning to get the political attention it deserves, not least because politicians have been far more open about their own problems. As Winston Churchill wrote in 1911 of his 'black dog': 'He seems quite away from me now — it is such a relief. All the colours come back into the picture.'

**AUSTERITY**

It is estimated that the UK's six million poorest families will be worse off by more than £2,500 a year by 2020. The research is based on 187,475 households in 17 districts with a mix of political control. This at a time when the stock market is at an all-time high, and when a parliamentary committee has revealed the tax collected from the richest 1% of people is going down. Some eight million people are over-indebted and 21 million have less than £500 in savings (not £5000 as I said three months' ago).

A report from the Royal College of Paediatrics suggests that one in five children now live in poverty. The Department for Work and Pensions said the welfare changes provide incentives to work, yet more people are in work than ever before with over one million on zero-hours contracts.

**ROUGH SLEEPING**

Writing this during a very cold spell of weather, the growing numbers of rough sleepers, about 4,000 a night, is deeply disturbing and the number has been growing steadily since 2010. SPEAR, the single person's emergency accommodation in Richmond, is an outstanding local charity and last year helped over 500 people to rebuild their lives. SPEAR was started in 1987 when two rough sleepers were found dead in Richmond. With concern about housing the highest it has been for 40 years, and under 1000 council homes completed in England last year, the desperate need for homes of all types to be built could not be clearer.

**ISRAEL/PALESTINE**

Perhaps the most depressing feature of the new US Trump administration is the policy about Israel. As a result, Israel has been encouraged to go ahead with building more settlements – 2,500 homes in the first instance on land that has been part of Palestine. The US embassy has promised to move from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem, though no other country currently has its embassy there, nor recognizes Israel's annexation of the eastern part of the city. The new US ambassador for Israel strongly opposes the two-state solution and raises money for more settlements in the Palestinian West Bank. The Quartet, established in 2002, of the US, the UN, the EU and Russia to work for a settlement now seems redundant. There is even some suggestion that in our Government's concern to get a rapid post-Brexit trade deal with the US, we are now falling in line with the administration's world view on Israel.

**MANCHESTER UNITED**

The club are moving 2,600 fans in order to create 300 positions for disabled supporters at Old Trafford, to be phased in over the next three years. This has come from consultation with the Equality and Human Rights Commission and Manchester United Disabled Supporters' Association. Most of the Premier League clubs make arrangements for people with learning difficulties. They can come with a carer — total cost £20-30, whereas other fans pay at least £50 each.

# Education is key to Church's future



**LAURENCE SEWELL**

**S**t James's Church is supporting the Diocese of London's Lent Appeal to help its three partner dioceses in Angola and Mozambique. Bishop Richard, who retires at the end of March, wanted this year's appeal to raise funds for ALMA (Angola London Mozambique Association).

He consulted with the African bishops who all chose projects with an educational theme. Their churches are vibrant and growing and need well trained leaders at all levels, both ordained and lay.

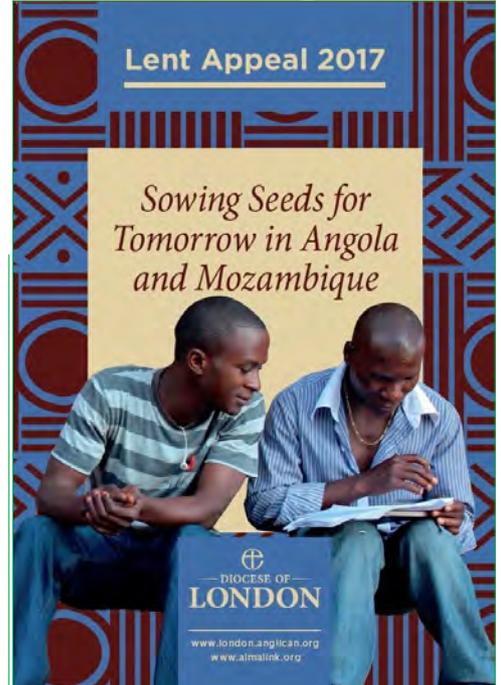
The economic situation in both Angola and Mozambique is severe with oil prices falling and currency devaluations. When this is coupled with the long-lasting drought that both countries are experiencing and also the political insecurity in Mozambique, it is hard for our partners to find funds for their larger projects.

**Education is key to the church's future**

We will be joining in with the three educational priorities that they have identified as critical for the future of the church:

■ **Angola** is increasing the number of classrooms in its church schools to meet the huge need for school places there and to meet new government requirements, thereby ensuring a continuing Christian presence.

■ **Lebombo** (Southern Mozambique) is initiating a significant project to create a new accredited seminary outside Maputo to train the next generation of church leaders.



■ **Niassa** (Northern Mozambique) is building a church training hub with accommodation in Nampula for the huge Lurio region. Anyone who has travelled from Pemba to Lichinga will understand why this is so necessary.

The hub will be used for training locally ordained priests, lay leaders, Mothers' Union workers, community development fieldworkers and teams.

**Please give to the Lent Appeal**

These are all 'church' projects which would find it difficult to attract other funding, so please help to *sow seeds for tomorrow* by giving generously.

Please put your donation in a blue St James Gift Aid envelope, write Lent Appeal on the outside, and bring it to church before the end of April. Cheques payable to St James PCC (Lent Appeal 2017), as shown on the appeal leaflets in church. Do take one to inform your response.

**LOCAL EVENTS**

**Women's World Day of Prayer**  
1330 Friday 3 March, Hampton Hill United Reformed Church, High Street.

This year the service comes from the Philippines using the theme *Am I Unfair to You?* There are also services at 1030 at St Edmund's Church, Whitton, and at 2000 at Sacred Heart Church, Teddington.

**Concordia Voices Spring Concert**  
1930 Sunday 5 March, St Mary's Church, Church Street, Twickenham TW1 3NJ

The programme includes Britten's *Jubilate Deo* and Tavener's *Funeral Ikos*. Tickets £12 (concessions £10) on the door or £10 (£8) in advance from members or by emailing [secretary@concordiavoices.org.uk](mailto:secretary@concordiavoices.org.uk)

**REGISTERS**

## Keeping it in the family

After the morning services in Hampton Hill on 22 January, Derek and Sandra Winterburn drove the short distance to St Mary's, Hampton, for their granddaughter's baptism.

Tabitha Clara Winterburn is their first grandchild and lives in Hampton with her parents John and Jenny.

Derek was privileged to preach and then baptise Tabitha during the service, pictured right.

We send our congratulations and best wishes to the whole family on this happy occasion.



**JANUARY**

**FUNERALS**

- 16 James White Munby, 96, New Malden
- 16 Jill Gray, 85, Twickenham

# MY FAVOURITE VINEYARDS

## No sour grapes from me!



**CHRISTOPHER CARSON**

**W**hat a challenge! To be allowed to choose only 10 vineyards, when there are hundreds of thousands, some going back to 6000-5000 BC. Should I choose for the aesthetics, quality of wine, or where I have worked? Vineyard management and selection for new sites has changed dramatically in the past 20-30 years, driven primarily by viticulturists (grape growers). Their considerations include: geology and soil types, vista, water tables, accessibility, and of course potential quality of grapes that can be produced.

### Puligny Montrachet — France

I started my wine career in January 1968 (not a good year for wine!) and in August did a three-week trip around France. To this day I still have pictures in my mind of the vineyards and villages of Burgundy.



Puligny Montrachet's vineyards are spread across 200 hectares (510 acres) and are interspersed with limestone churches, houses and wineries, all of which makes this area exceptionally beautiful. What's more, the Chardonnay that is produced in the region is arguably the best in the world.

### Domaine De La Baume — France



I have sentimental reasons for choosing this property. After Hardy's of Australia purchased this totally neglected winery I was made Gerant (manager) and we had to renovate the winery within five months and give TLC to the vineyards. We were the first to introduce 'night-picking' of the grapes in Languedoc to the total outrage of all the locals. Also, this is where my son was introduced to winemaking!

### Nino Negri, Valtellina — Italy

The Valtellina Valley runs 40kms east to west in the province of Sondrio near Lake Como. The wines that are produced come from Chiavennasca grapes (Nebbiolo),



which are grown in some of the toughest terrain to harvest in the world. Having done a vintage here I know! The grapes are picked and put in baskets which have to be

collected by helicopter and taken to the Nino Negri Winery for vinification (turning the juice into wine by fermentation). The winemaker Casimiro Maule is one of the most highly acclaimed in Italy — try the *Sfursat 5 Stelle*!

### Campofiorito — Sicily, Italy



This vineyard is situated at 750-1,100 metres above sea level and some 3 miles as the bird flies from the famous town of Corleone. The vineyard, unusually for the Northern hemisphere, faces north (to protect the vines/grapes from the aggressive Sirocco wind (with sand) that blows across the Med from the Sahara desert. It is 100% organic, yielding outstanding fruit. I was lucky enough to work with the winemaker in creating a range of award-winning wines. A place of silent beauty, apart from the whispering breezes.

### Tenuta Sant'Antonio — Veneto, Italy



I discovered this vineyard last November on what was a clear day and offering magnificent views (here shown southwards), but behind me snow-capped Alps! From these vineyards in Monte Garbi, the four Castagnedi brothers grow grapes which regularly produce award-winning *Amarone*. It would be a wonderful place for a retreat!

### Malvira — Piedmont, Italy



Another discovery last November, when Jonathan, my son, and I were looking for a Barolo producer. We went outside the region and discovered the beautiful countryside of Roero. In this region they grow Nebbiolo, Arneis and Cortese grapes which produce classic wines of real quality and much more reasonably priced than Barolo and Barbaresco. Malvira Winery has 42 hectares of vineyards which are wrapped around the hillsides some 300-450 metres above sea level. The picture shows some of the vineyards and the boutique 4-star hotel in all their glory.

### Hentley Farm — Australia

Using an old soil map of the 1950s the Hentschke family discovered the rich red soil of Seppeltsfield/ Marananga area in the North Western section of Barossa Valley - one of my spiritual homes! At that time the vineyards were

derelict and past retrieving, but in 1999 new vines were planted — Shiraz primarily, Cabernet Sauvignon, Grenache and a small quantity of Viognier. Under Andrew Quin's guidance of viticulture and vinification Hentley Farm was voted Australia's No 1 Winery in 2015.



### Man O'War — Waiheke, New Zealand



This land was first sighted by Captain Cook over 200 years ago. In 1993 the first vines were planted and now the property boasts 150 acres, 76 individual hillside blocks with 14 different grapes. The names of the wines have a nautical connection; the *Dreadnought* is really quite special. From these vineyards the views are stunning and to be cherished.

### Siegel — Colchagua Valley, Chile

Colchagua Valley offers some of the best terroir (environmental conditions) in Chile. At the top of the valley by the foothills of the Andes is a collection of vineyards which make the Los Lingues Estate, pictured. Between 200-360 metres above sea level, the hill blocks are planted with Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot and Carmenere vines. A beautiful setting and producing truly outstanding wines.



### Rutini — Argentina

The beautiful snow-capped Andes overlook this magnificent vineyard of 370 hectares in the region of Tupungato. Vines were first planted here by the Rutini family in 1925 and now offer some of the finest, world renowned Argentinian



Malbecs. Being at 950-1250 metres above sea level, the vines benefit from the cooling evening breezes having endured the searing sun throughout the day. Mariano di Paola is considered to be probably the best winemaker in Argentina, consistently scoring over 90 points for his wines. For sure, having excellent vines in this special region helps make his task easier.