

JULY 2015

thespire

stjames-hamptonhill.org.uk

FREE please take a copy



Italian Idyll

A Golden Wedding celebration

AROUND THE SPIRE P4 ■ RECIPE FOR LIFE P6 ■ WHAT'S ON P7

Our Church

Registered Charity No 1129286

Clergy

Vicar

The Revd Peter Vannozi (pictured, right) Peter was born in Hanwell in 1962, but owes his surname to his Italian great-grandfather. He was ordained in 1987. Peter is a Governor of Hampton Hill Junior School and a Trustee of the Hampton and Hampton Hill Voluntary Care Group (Greenwood Centre). Telephone: 020 8979 2069 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 nursery schools owned by her family. Telephone: 077 4677 0505 jackycammidge@stjames-hamptonhill.org.uk



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Parish Office

Administrator

Jane Gibson For all general enquiries and hall bookings. The office is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings. Telephone: 020 8941 6003 Email: office@stjames-hamptonhill.org.uk Address: St James's Church, 46 St James's Road, Hampton Hill TW12 1DQ



Telephone: 020 8941 6003 Email: office@stjames-hamptonhill.org.uk Address: St James's Church, 46 St James's Road, Hampton Hill TW12 1DQ

Officials

Churchwarden

Nick Bagge Nick is a former television journalist, now working at a local theatre. Telephone: 020 8783 0871 Email: Nickbagge1@aol.com



Email: Nickbagge1@aol.com

Churchwarden

Penny Sewell Penny is a retired hotel industry training officer; now a school reading volunteer. Telephone: 020 8977 2844 Email: penny29bpg@aol.com



Email: penny29bpg@aol.com

Treasurer

Don Barrett Before retiring, Don worked at the Church Commissioners for England, who manage the Church of England's assets. Telephone: 020 8979 3331 Email: donbarrett8@blueyonder.co.uk



Telephone: 020 8979 3331 Email: donbarrett8@blueyonder.co.uk

Organist / Choirmaster

Mark Blackwell Mark is an accomplished parish organist with 40 years of experience. Telephone: 077 6814 6879 Email: Mark@mhrconsultancy.co.uk



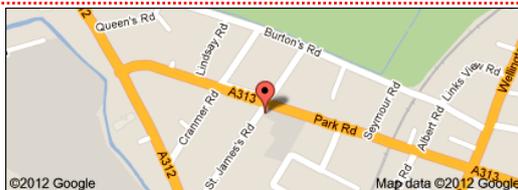
Telephone: 077 6814 6879 Email: Mark@mhrconsultancy.co.uk

SUPPORT US!

- The more **volunteers**, the more we can do
- Support us by **regular giving**, it's easy to do
- Leave a **gift in your will**, a lasting legacy

Finding us

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



From the Editor...

July is always a special time at St James's, but this year more so. On Saturday 4 July, Jacky Cammidge will be ordained at St Paul's Cathedral and will be taking up her post as the new curate here at St James's.

A week later, on Sunday 12 July, we will celebrate our patronal festival. This year, as well as a visiting preacher we have five candidates who will be confirmed during the service.

Our centrespread this month has been written by John and Moya Meredith-Smith, who had a celebration of their own last year, marking their Golden Wedding with a wonderful holiday in Italy. We also have the opportunity to learn more about Penny Sewell, our newest churchwarden, as she has written about her 10 favourite travel destinations.

Griselda Barrett has chosen her favourite chocolate cake which she often bakes for family celebrations. With so many events this month we thought a tried-and-tested celebration cake would go down well.

Best wishes

Janet

Janet Nunn



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.

STORIES, FEATURES

If you have any ideas, or would like to write for the magazine, please contact the Editor, Janet Nunn. Telephone: 020 8979 6325 Email: janunh@btinternet.com

AROUND THE SPIRE

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

WHAT'S ON

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Come and worship with us!



Sundays

8am Holy Communion
9.30am Parish Communion
(11am on 12 July)

Sunday 5 July

5th Sunday of Trinity
Jacky Cammidge's first eucharist as curate
Ezekiel 2.1-5; 2 Corinthians 12.2-10;
Mark 6.1-13.

Sunday 12 July

St James's Day and Confirmation Service
8am and 11am:
Acts 11.27-12.2;
2 Corinthians 4.7-15;
Matthew 20.20-28.

Sunday 19 July

7th Sunday of Trinity
Jeremiah 23.1-6; Ephesians 2.11-22;
Mark 6.30-34,53-56.

Sunday 26 July

8th Sunday of Trinity
2 Kings 4.42-44
Ephesians 3.14-21
John 6.1-21

Mondays-Fridays (not Tues)

9.15am Morning Prayer

Tuesdays

9.30am Holy Communion

COMING SOON

Sunday 27 September

Harvest Sunday
The 11am all-age service is followed by harvest lunch and then Choral Evensong. More details in the next issue. Please make a note of the earlier than usual date in your diary.

Living a Christian life



The other day I came across a book in my study called *A Manual of Catholic Devotion*. It is a book containing the then forms for Holy Communion, Bible readings, and prayers for daily and occasional use. The front inside page of the book indicates why I was given it:

Peter Vannozzi, confirmed at St. Mary's, Hanwell, on 6 July, 1974 by Hewlett, Bishop of Willesden.

It was a gift from my vicar at St. Mark's, Hanwell, Father Tim Tobias. I recall a few things about the day: it was a Sunday, the service was in the evening, it was sunny, and the then vicar at St. Mary's, Hanwell, was the brother of the late Harry Secombe! Not the most overtly spiritual of memories, but there it is.

I wonder what those to be confirmed at St. James's on Sunday 12 July will recall about the day in forty years' time?

What is Confirmation?

It will be the first time since 2009 that we have a service of Confirmation at St. James's, and it will be on *St. James's Day*, our annual celebration of the patron saint of the church and parish. Bishop Stephen Platten, a London bishop, will be with us. Until Easter 2014 he was Bishop of Wakefield.

Confirmation marks the point in the Christian journey at which people affirm for themselves the faith into which they have been baptised and their intention to live a life of committed discipleship. This affirmation is confirmed through prayer and the laying on of hands and anointing with oil by the confirming bishop. The Church also asks God to give them power through the Holy Spirit to live the way of Jesus. Confirmation is multi-faceted, and different parts of the Church practise it in various ways.

Three aspects of Christian life

In common, though, is that it enables members of the congregation to take a step of faith publicly. As they do so, there are three aspects of the Christian life that might healthily interact for them, and indeed for any follower of Jesus.

The first is *journey*. This is a prominent image in the Bible from the call of Abraham in the Book of Genesis through to the travelling ministry of Jesus, and beyond into the work of those who came after him. It is a frequently used image of human life, and though overuse can make it trite, nonetheless it is valid.

The 'journey' allows for change and development, recognising that life is not one straight river, but rather a river with many tributaries, some of which are a delight, but others of which are

the exact opposite. The journey image, applied to both human life in general and faith in particular, allows for their integration.

Our candidates for Confirmation are on a journey which will already have seen many and varied twists and turns with more ahead of them. So it is with any human being, including those who have explicitly chosen to express their Christian belief.

A second aspect of the Christian life is *story*. The Bible is full of stories! It tells of myriad encounters between God and humanity, and a rich range of human beings with each other. If there is one consistent character in the stories, it is God.

God's story is being unfolded as well as that of humanity. Those coming to be confirmed this month will each have their own story to tell. Over the years I have heard many stories, and it is important for people to be able to tell theirs.

It will have many facets. When people come to confirm their baptism, their personal stories intersect with the Christian story. The story of Jesus, for example, becomes the individual's story. Their story becomes a part of the unfolding story of faith.

Thirdly, I want to say that *The Way* is a theme of the Christian faith, complementing those of journey and story. Christianity is a pattern for living, a way of life. Essential to truly Christian living is the taking-on of patterns of belief, prayer and behaviour that give form and substance to the Christian life.

The earlier Christians referred to themselves as 'The Way', and again this is an image that is fluid, allowing for the Christian life to be seen as a process rather than a static state, once accepted, with no more to be done.

James the fisherman

The first mentions of James the apostle suggest this. He was called by Jesus to follow him, which he did, leaving his fisherman's nets to do so. He ran for his life along with other disciples when Jesus was arrested and crucified. Yet later (in Acts) James was with his friends waiting for the Holy Spirit to come. Then we read that he was killed because of his faith.

It was quite a journey to travel, story to tell, and way to follow. In each case, all the candidates for Confirmation here, or anywhere, will already be on a journey, have a story to tell, and be following a way. Life is like that, and in particularly this is so of the Christian life.

I trust that St. James's Day 2015 will leave those who have been confirmed with happy memories, and enable them to step out confidently and joyfully with Jesus whom they follow.

training for Saraphina Chaka, pictured. She has worked at Milo since qualifying in 2011 and is now putting her nursing skills to wider use as the hospital administrator, which is like a matron. It is very good to witness the fruits of our giving.

A visit by the Tanzanian Ministry of Health in 2014 has caused some concern by saying the hospital needs better laboratory facilities.

Now that Bishop Matthew Mhagama is resident in the diocese, this matter will be given the necessary attention.

■ weareus.org.uk/worldwide/tanzania

Charity Box St Luke's Hospital

There is encouraging news from a good friend of Milo, Dr Adrian Murray, whose parish of Bala in north Wales is twinned with Milo.

During his last visit in January, Adrian met the hospital's new doctor, Dr Benedict Sandagila, pictured.

Benedict comes from this area of south west Tanzania and so is much more likely to stay at Milo. As his skills become known, the monthly number of patients treated and babies delivered are both rising.

In 2009 we sponsored the last two years of nurse/midwife



Thought & Prayer

Taking time to talk to God

St James's Day



Saturday 25 July is the day in which St. James, patron saint of this parish, is celebrated. James was the brother of Peter the apostle, both fishermen who left everything to follow Jesus, and both became martyrs for their faith.

At St. James's we remember our patron each year on a Sunday in July. This year, St. James's Day is on 12 July, when we welcome Bishop Stephen Platten, pictured above, who will confirm members of our congregation as they make a public commitment to Christ.

Here are two prayers from the 11am service on that day:

Collect for St. James's Day

*Merciful God,
whose holy apostle Saint James,
leaving his father and all that he had,
was obedient to the calling of your Son Jesus Christ
and followed him even to death:
help us, forsaking the false attractions of the world,
to be ready at all times to answer your call without delay;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.*

Prayer for the newly confirmed



*Defend, O Lord, these your servants with your heavenly grace,
that they may continue yours for ever,
and daily increase in your Holy Spirit more and more
until they come to your everlasting kingdom. Amen.*



Local and National stories

Fond farewell to David and Janet

THE CHURCH was packed on Sunday 7 June when David Bell presided and preached for the last time as our curate.

Churchwardens Nick Bagge and Penny Sewell presented David with a card and cheque and his wife Janet received a bouquet of flowers as a token of our appreciation for all they have done during their six years at St James's.

Our Sunday School, the Shell Seekers, presented David with their own card.

Then Penny surprised David with a poem she wrote for the occasion in the style of Pam Ayres. It included the verses:



*It's been six years since he came here
Planning his sermons and his career
To be a priest has been his aim
With Peter's help, success he can claim

Now off to Kingston he will go
We wish him well but for us woe
Please come back and see us often
We don't want to be forgotten*

This was followed by refreshments in the hall, including a toast and chocolate cake, when we were able to express our individual thanks and good wishes to David. He takes up his new post as assistant priest at Kingston Parish Church from September.



PCC fills remaining vacancies

THE PAROCHIAL Church Council has now filled the two remaining vacancies. Josh Webb, 18, left, a bell-ringer and former Shell Seeker, is believed to be our youngest ever member. The second appointment is Nick Harris, right, who recently joined our readers.



Church to feature in sitcom

A NEW SITCOM on the UKTV digital channel Gold is to feature St James's Church. *Marley's Ghosts*, described as a 'distinctive and original ensemble piece', focuses on a woman who can talk to the dead, which now includes both her husband and her lover. Cast and crew filmed a funeral service inside the church and in the churchyard. More filming took place in a house in St James's Road,

The three episodes are due for broadcast in either late 2015 or early 2016. The series has been written by Daniel Peacock, a regular member of Channel Four's *The Comic Strip Presents...*

Golden holiday

A 50th wedding anniversary is something to celebrate and John and Moya Meredith Smith did it in style with a family meal and the renewal of their wedding vows during a regular service at St James's.



But first, they chose to spend their anniversary itself touring southern Italy, including the Amalfi Coast

We decided to spend our 50th wedding anniversary in a romantic place, Sorrento, on the Bay of Naples, and the nearby Amalfi coast: just the two of us as the family were going to join us later in August for a celebration lunch. We extended our landmark occasion for a third event, the renewal of our wedding vows by Peter at the 9.30 service on 2 November; conveniently this fitted in with the half-term school break for the family to be there. This made a memorable and poignant service to mark our Golden Wedding.

The perfect dinner date

We found a perfect place in Sorrento to have dinner on the actual anniversary day, 13 June, at a restaurant called *La Favorita*, on a terrace under a pergola of citrus trees near the city wall. This, we discovered, was over 100 years old and constructed by a priest to provide fruit and shade for their meals.

We were sitting under arches of lemon trees, loaded with fruit, and their aroma wafting over us with oil-filled candles on each table. Antonio served us with a tuna and a veal steak, followed by lemon profiteroles with thin cut pineapple, all delicious.

As you can see, right, we had our dinner under the twinkling lights suspended in the branches above. This was a just reward for our day walking round a fascinating small town, narrow streets filled with small shops, following a historic route, including the *Valley of the Paper Mills*, from which they made their money in medieval times.

Lunch, on a terrace bar, was ciabatta with mozzarella, tomatoes and basil.



Discovering Roman homes

For many years we had wanted to see Pompeii and Herculaneum, the two cities buried under volcanic ash and lava when Vesuvius erupted in 79 AD.

Certainly a high point of the trip was seeing these cities frozen in time (although perhaps this is the wrong metaphor, more scalded), monuments buried for almost 1650 years. Both cities were reached by a short train ride.

In Herculaneum, the smaller of the two sites, the roads mark out the grid plan of the town. I found it fascinating to walk along the same surface as the Romans, roads made of vulcanite blocks with clear furrows scoured out by the chariot's wheels.

On each side of the road is a raised path for the people to avoid the waste running down the road, which sloped down to the sea at the end of the town.

At the opposite end to the sea was evidence of the high quality of life enjoyed by some of the wealthy Romans who came to live here. Their large houses came with courtyards and a pool in which visitors could wash their feet.

Roman fast food restaurants

There were many shops in the main street, the Decumanus Maximus. We saw that people used to eat out at Thermopolia (the Roman equivalent of fast food restaurants) with hot food served from large pottery vessels set in communal counters, replenished from cooking stoves behind.



The main street, Decumanus Maximus, and meeting place at Herculaneum

among the ruins



A funny thing happened on the way to the forum: John holding forth, but no-one was listening



A thermopolium – or hot food bar.

In the old wine shop, evidence of their large supply of wines could be found in the many amphorae, stored in racks within the shop. Curiously Herculaneum shows no evidence of any public buildings such as theatres or temples and these are almost certainly still buried under what is now the modern town and so will probably remain undisturbed for many years hence.

Pompeii, as well as being more well known, is much more extensive than Herculaneum and unlike Herculaneum, which was buried in pyroclastic rock, it was covered in volcanic ash.

We entered the city through a huge gate, the Porta Marina, and soon found our way to the temples of Apollo, of Venus and of Jupiter and hence to the forum, which was the centre of political, religious and commercial life in the city.

Like Herculaneum, Pompeii has many large houses revealing the affluent lifestyle of the wealthy Romans. Pompeii also boasts two theatres, the largest of which could hold an audience of as many as 5000 spectators (see below).

Villages cling to the cliffs

On another day we took a trip along the Amalfi coast where the villages cling to the sea cliffs like limpets and many of them can only be accessed on foot. Until the 1960s this was an isolated and almost inaccessible region.

The construction of the tortuous road which climbs over cliff tops and dives into small bays like a big dipper has transformed the villages into popular tourist spots: a challenging drive for motorists, which on this occasion we delegated to a local. Amalfi itself boasts a fine 11th century cathedral and was once the centre of a medieval marine republic.



Traidcraft stall in top 50 for sales

CONGRATULATIONS to our Traidcraft team, who set up a stall in the church hall for the sale of Fairtrade food and gifts every month. Ann Peterken and Catherine Gash do the majority of the work, but they have several other helpers, including husbands who fetch and carry and members of the Shell Seekers, pictured right.

The stall also goes to events locally, including to schools.

This has been a particularly good year as the total raised from the sale of Traidcraft goods was **£8,610**,

making us the 49th top selling account in the country.

A tremendous amount of work goes into setting up the stall as well as ordering stock and dealing with the finances. Well done to them all, not just for sales, but spreading the word.



Christian Aid total exceeds 2014

THE FINAL result from our annual Christian Aid collection was £3304.63 plus £542.42 from gift aid, making a total

of **£3847.05**, an increase on last year. Thank you to all the collectors who made this splendid total possible, to those who counted the money and particularly to Elizabeth Wilmot and Linda Webb for co-ordinating it all.



How used stamps help leprosy

FOR MANY years David Lloyd has been collecting stamps in a jar on the cupboards in the South Aisle and forwarding them to The Leprosy Mission. It is hard to believe that used stamps, even the most common, can help transform the lives of some of the world's poorest people. Last year the charity raised £127,341 from the sale of stamps and collectables.

Lots of charities collect used stamps, but if you don't already recycle yours please remember The Leprosy Mission and put your stamps in the jar.



Have you heard the one about...

THE FIRST three women bishops to be appointed (Libby Lane to Stockport, Alison White to Hull and Rachel Treweek to Gloucester) all have clergy husbands. Why? Linda Woodhead, professor in the sociology of religion in the Department of Politics, Philosophy and Religion at Lancaster University has speculated: 'The most amusing suggestion I've heard is that the Church is looking for women bishops with experience of managing male clergy.'

Bushy Park gets special status

BUSHY PARK has been named among England's most important places for wildlife. It has been made a Site of Special Scientific Interest for its ancient trees, grassland and its rare invertebrates. Richmond Park was given the same status in 1992.





From our Queen to the Bible's good and evil rulers



With the warmer weather, our thoughts are no doubt turning to longed-for holidays, but no sooner have schools broken up for the summer break than our high streets are filled with *Back to School* offers!

Not to be beaten, the Shell Seekers are planning for the Autumn term too and we'll be having a theme running throughout the months leading up to Christmas.

Following on from our exploration last Autumn of lesser-known Old Testament characters, the coming term will see us focusing on some of the kings and queens found in the Bible and what we might find out about them and their actions.

Longest-serving monarch

It's a good year to be thinking about royal matters — we have already been blessed with a new princess this year and, God willing, The Queen will become Britain's longest serving monarch in September.



David had virtues... but could be cruel

There is so much we can learn about the Bible's royal figures too — good and bad! Many set wonderful examples of how responsibility can be used for good. David showed God-fearing mercy and great leadership during his reign; his son Solomon was remembered for wisdom and a period of peace and prosperity in Israel.

Esther was a queen of faith, bravery and loyalty; while predecessor Queen Vashti was courageous, displaying immense integrity in the face of her banishment by King Ahasuerus.

How power corrupted

Some of those same names also appear though as illustrations of how power can corrupt and, when twisted, be used for selfishness and evil.

David, who demonstrated so many virtues during his life, also became cunning and cruel as his reign progressed, while Solomon oppressed his people, enslaving them to realise costly building projects and taxing them to pursue war with his neighbours.



Jezebel... a 'devil woman' who led others astray

Ruthless Herod

They are joined by other famous names like Queen Jezebel, who is probably best remembered for having Naboth killed so that her husband, King Ahab, could inherit his vineyard.

The New Testament too contains accounts of great ruthlessness, like King Herod's massacre of the first-born infants in search of the newborn Jesus, and the role of his son, Herod Antipas, in the deaths of both John the Baptist and later Jesus.

Christ is King

That brings us though to Christ, the king who stands as the ultimate example of royal goodness in the Bible through his message of peace, truth and justice.

It promises to be a fascinating journey which we look forward to sharing it with the congregation each Sunday!



Celebration Cake



It is always fun to bake a cake for any celebration, whether it is a religious occasion or a personal or family celebration. July is packed with celebrations at St James's: Jacky Cammidge's ordination at St Paul's Cathedral, and St James's Day, our patronal festival that this year also includes a confirmation service.

I tend to bake a chocolate cake for any of our family birthdays and this recipe for a chocolate and orange cake is one of my favourites.

Method

1) Pierce the orange with a skewer (right through). Cook in boiling water for 30 minutes until soft. Whizz the whole orange in a food processor until smooth; let it cool.



2) Preheat the oven to 180C/fan 160C/gas 4. Grease and line the base of a 23cm/9in round cake tin. Melt the chocolate in a heatproof bowl set over a pan of simmering water or in the microwave for 2 minutes on High, stirring after 1 minute. Let cool.

3) In a large bowl, lightly beat the eggs, sugar and oil. Gradually beat in the pureed orange, discarding any pips, then stir in the cooled melted chocolate. Sift in the cocoa, flour and baking powder. Mix well and pour into the tin. Bake in the centre of the oven for 55 minutes, or until the cake springs back when lightly pressed in the middle.

(Check after 45 minutes and cover with foil if it is browning too much.) Allow to cool for 10 minutes in the tin, then turn out on to a wire rack to cool completely.

4) Make the chocolate ganache: put the chocolate into a heatproof bowl. Bring the cream to the boil and pour over the chocolate. Leave for 2 minutes, then stir until smooth. Set aside until firm enough to spread over the cake – up to 1½ hours.

5) Transfer the cake to a serving plate. Using a palette knife, swirl the ganache over the top. Decorate with strips of candied orange peel.

Ingredients

Makes ten slices

- 1 Seville orange
- a little melted butter, for greasing
- 100g plain chocolate, broken into pieces
- 3 eggs
- 280g caster sugar
- 240ml sunflower oil
- 25g cocoa powder
- 250g plain flour
- 1½ tsp baking powder

For the chocolate ganache

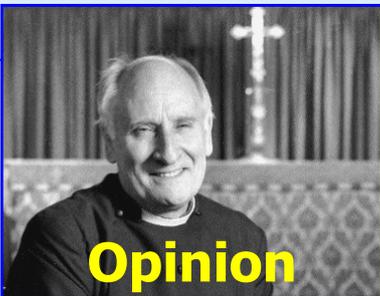
- 200g plain chocolate, broken into pieces
- 225ml double cream
- candied orange peel, to decorate



Our Sunday School, The Shell Seekers, meets in the hall from 9.25am during school terms, except for one Sunday in most months when there is an all-age service in church. We welcome new members. Come along for a trial visit and see just how much fun it can be.

What's On

with Nick Bagge



Opinion

with Canon Julian Reindorp

IRISH IGNORE CHURCH IN GAY MARRIAGE VOTE

By a large majority the people of Ireland voted in May to allow the legal recognition of marriage between same sex partners, the first referendum of its kind in the world.

Is this a 'defeat for humanity' as the Vatican Secretary of State Cardinal Pietro Parolin proclaimed, or 'the assertion of Gospel values' as *The Tablet*, a Catholic weekly described it? It went on to say: 'A large majority of Irish people clearly believes...when a relationship that is committed, loving and enduring needs and deserves public recognition, regardless of their sexual orientation, then the appropriate form for that is marriage. The Church needs to consider how far it can embrace that ethical insight, not run away from it.'

Personally I was very glad. For most of my 45 years in parish ministry I have had gay colleagues. But I reflected, is this what happens when a country loses trust and respect for its national church? Does this have a message for the Church of England?

As Dr Mary McAlees, a Catholic and former president of Ireland, said following the vote: 'If you open the windows you will hear the sound of tectonic plates shifting.'

DISABILITY AND CUTS

I declare an interest having a stepson with learning difficulties. Where will the Government get its £12bn of welfare cuts? From pensioners who make up more than half the welfare budget? So far they have largely escaped the austerity programme.

The Centre for Welfare Reform estimates that compared with the average, people with disabilities have been hit nine times harder by austerity, and the total for those with severe disabilities is 19 times greater.

The new Personal Independence Plans for people with disabilities is a practical and progressive policy in principle, but 78,000 have been waiting for more than three months to receive their plans and 3,000 have been waiting for more than a year. The world of food banks and pay-day loans is an ever present one for people with disabilities.

BANKERS CHANGED?

A recent survey in the City of London suggested that 32% of bankers would trade on 'inside information' if there was no chance of arrest.

The survey among bankers in the UK and US concluded: 'More than five years after the financial crisis and following regulatory changes, prosecution, large fines and handful of prison sentences, bankers in the UK and US seem unchastened.'

The report suggests ethical standards have declined again in the past two years.

PRISONS OVERCROWDED

Former Labour Minister Denis MacShane, who was sentenced to six months in prison for parliamentary expenses fraud in 2013, called on the new Justice Minister to reform Britain's prisons, not least because of their huge cost and ineffectiveness.

Describing the 'British prison disaster' as a priority for new Justice Secretary Michael Gove, he pointed out that with ever increasing numbers, and up to 70% of released prisoners back inside within a year no one wants to ask if the 'mass incarceration policy' works and why it is so costly.

Over the past 10 years our prison population has grown when crime rates have been steadily falling.

Faith at Work

Saturday 11 July, 9.15-10.15am, St James's Church

Continuing the Summer season of discussions about how our faith impacts on our working lives with Lou Coaker and *Faith and Taxation*.

The season concludes on 25 July, with Lesley Mortimer and *Faith on the Campus*.



Traidcraft Stall

Sunday 5 July, 10.30-11.30am, St James's Church

In addition, a full display of crafts, toys and gifts will also be available for purchase on Saturday 11 July (10.15am-3pm) and Sunday 12 July (12.30-3pm).

Twickenham Choral Society

Saturday 4 July, 7.30pm, All Saints Kingston Parish Church, Market Place, Kingston upon Thames KT1 1JP

Handel's *Israel in Egypt* with Brandenburg Baroque Sinfonia and soloists Mary Bevan, Roderick Morris and Nathan Vale.

Car-free Sunday

Sunday 5 July, St James's Church

We all know about the dangers of too much pollution to our environment, yet every day we get in our cars and make the situation worse. This important awareness day aims to help highlight the pollution of the world caused by car use and persuade us to leave the car at home and have a no-car day! We encourage worshippers, wherever possible, to leave the car at home today, or to at least share a car journey, or use an alternative method of transport to church. Imagine a day when there is no traffic noise, everyone is car-free and you can hear the birds sing! Together we can make it happen.



St James's Day Service and Open Day

Sunday 12 July, 11am, St James's Church

Our annual service and open day will this year be a double celebration as it will include five members of the congregation being confirmed by our preacher, the Rt Revd Stephen Platten, Rector of St Michael's, Cornhill, and an honorary Assistant Bishop to the Diocese of London.



As usual, following the service, lunch will be served in the hall and can be taken into the vicarage garden. The church will re-open from 1pm-3pm, giving parishioners and visitors the chance to climb the tower and ring the bells.



Registers for May



Baptisms

3 Jack William Vernon Morris, Hampton

10 Ewan Jack Andrew Wilkins, Walton on Thames

17 William Peter Day, Hampton Hill

17 Georgiana Alexa Day, Hampton Hill

17 Huey William Kerr Chalmers, Hampton Hill

31 Vivienne Rose Wilson, Twickenham

Wedding

26 Charlie Wilkinson and Rebecca Faye White, Hampton

Funerals

April
16 Ian Michael Sidebotham, 70, Teddington

24 Peter Richard Moody, 75, Hampton Hill

May
5 Hilda May Stenner, 94, Hampton Hill

13 Brooking Young, 83, Hampton

TW12 Jazz Festival

Friday 17-Sunday 19 July, various locations

The TW12 Jazz Festival is back for its third consecutive year with even more events over an entire weekend in South West London.

On Friday evening there will be a jam session at the Jazz Cafe Posk, the Polish Centre, 238-246 King Street, Hammersmith.

On Saturday afternoon and evening there will be events at Garrick's Temple, situated in Hampton, opposite Garrick's Villa in the public gardens (Garrick's Lawn) between the A308 (Hampton Court Road) and the banks of the river Thames.

Sunday sees all-day events at The Hampton Hill Playhouse. Sets include Questers Jazz Band, The Frank Harrison Trio, TC3 and award-winning jazz vocalist / lyricist Georgia Mancio, pictured. Tickets from £6. For details of the musicians and to book tickets please go to tw12jazzfestival.co.uk



Prudential Ride London

Sunday 2 August, all day, Richmond and Kingston areas

On this Sunday, some 24,000 amateur cyclists will tackle the Prudential Ride London-Surrey 100, a 100-mile ride on closed roads through London and Surrey.

Later that day, 150 of the world's best professional men will race against each other in the Prudential Ride London-Surrey Classic, an extended 200km version of the amateur route, live on BBC One.

Both events start at Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park, travelling out of the capital via Richmond Park and Kingston towards Surrey's stunning countryside and returning to London via Kingston before an iconic finish on The Mall.

The Prudential Ride London Handcycle Classic will start in Kingston at 08:30, prior to the first amateur cyclists arriving, and follow the inbound route back into London.

Richmond Park will be closed to vehicles all day. A number of bridges will also be closed. Roads will be closed at various times during the day, starting at 5am with some not reopening until 7pm.

Roads affected in Richmond, Kingston and Hampton Court include: Chiswick Bridge, Clifford Avenue, Upper Richmond Road, Sheen Lane, Sheen Gate, Richmond Park will be closed to Kingston Gate, Queens Road, Kingston Hill, London Road, Cromwell Road, Queen Elizabeth Road, Sopwith Way, Wood Street, Horse Fair, Kingston Bridge and Hampton Court Road.

For full information go to: richmond.gov.uk/ride_london or PrudentialRideLondon.co.uk/roadclosures



Vicar's View





Experiencing the history, culture and sights

My travels have taken me to many countries, first of all as a young traveller in my twenties when I worked in Cyprus, Switzerland and the Caribbean; and then with my husband, who worked in international development.

We spent many years in Pakistan, Nigeria, Somalia and Kenya. These offered experiences I could never have dreamt of, learning much about their different histories, cultures and sights.

My choice of travels reflects my interests in landscapes, visiting places of interest and playing golf, rather than being beach-centred.

1 PAKISTAN Silk Road to China, Himalayas



Whilst living in a remote part of northern Pakistan we travelled up part of the old Silk Road to China in the midst of the Himalayas, following the three valleys of Kaghan, Swat and Hunza. (In 1980 they were closed to foreigners who were not resident.)

On every turn of the road there was another stunning view of mountains, for example Nanga Parbat, K2 (the world's second highest mountain) and Rakaposhi.

On one occasion, we camped at 10,000ft by a lake and climbed to 17,000ft where it looked as though we were on top of the world. I even lost the power of speech, which for people who know me, is quite a feat!

2 INDIAN KASHMIR Lake Dal



During our stay in the sub-continent we spent time in Srinagar, in Indian Kashmir, a very popular resort for tourists who wanted to experience staying on the houseboats moored on the beautiful Lake Dal.

We visited the stunning Mughal gardens, the floating vegetable markets and the highest golf course in the world at Gulmarg in the Himalayas. We brought back a lot of exquisitely painted *papier mache* boxes reminding us of our stay.

3 KENYA Masai Mara



Kenya provided the next unforgettable trip, camping (in my preferred more luxurious style!) on the Masai Mara game reserve. Game drives in the very early morning and later on in the day enabled us to see all the animals that I could wish for, including the Big Five: lion, elephant, rhino, buffalo and leopard, plus my favourite the cheetah. I just love Africa; I have such fond memories of the people I have met and the experiences I have had there.

4 SOUTH AFRICA The Cape



We have returned to the Cape area in South Africa on a number of occasions to enjoy its many attractions: Cape Town with the striking Table Mountain as its backdrop, Kirstenbosch Gardens with its extraordinary range of flowers especially all the proteas, the famous Garden Route along its southern coast, the whale viewing in October and November, and, of course, the many memorable golf courses.

My favourite experience was at Hermanus watching approximately 250 whales, mainly mothers with their calves, playing in the water in close proximity to the shore at Walker Bay.

5 FLORIDA, USA Orange Lake Golf Course

Golf, as I have said, features high on my activity list and the courses in Florida take some beating. My favourite is at Orange Lake, near Disney World, which has the



added interest of hazards, such as alligators appearing from lakes on the course and snakes in the grass; so we learned quickly not to retrieve stray golf balls.

Our daughter, Claire, considered it only fair that we then took her to Disney World which, in fact, we all enjoyed.

6 FRANCE Languedoc Roussillon



France's south western region of Languedoc Roussillon is, for me, the most memorable part of the country, owing to its moving but tragic history of the crusades against the Christian Cathars in the 13th and 14th centuries.

You can see the castles of Peyrepertuse and the Chateau de Queribus de Montsegur in the foothills of the Pyrenees where they tried to hold out, but were forced to accept the papacy or were massacred.

The medieval city of Carcassonne is in the region, with its narrow cobbled streets and old architecture, but its restoration is a bit artificial for me, although still worth visiting.

7 PORTUGAL Lisbon



For a city break, Lisbon is fascinating, situated over seven hills. It still runs an historic wooden tram system which takes you up and down quaint, narrow streets of the old city. The Gulbenkian Museum on the outskirts is a treasure trove of artefacts from all over the world including art, glass, jewellery and pottery, all collected by one man who achieved a coup of buying exhibits from the Hermitage in St. Petersburg in the 1920s. Also, there is the City Museum which graphically tells the story of the devastation caused by fires and a tsunami during the massive earthquake in 1755.

8 CORNWALL Minack Theatre

We have been going to Cornwall annually for many years and are surprised how each time we find something new to see or do.



We have walked the coastal path all around the county, visited the Eden Project and the Lost Gardens of Heligan, but the one place we love going to each year is the Minack Theatre, perched on a cliff on the south coast near The Lizard.

The productions by theatre groups from all over the UK are excellent and well worth seeing. Our favourite time of year is in May when the Cornish gardens are at their best, and the weather is perfect for walks and golf.

9 AUSTRALIA Sydney



Venturing to the other side of the world, I fulfilled a promise to an old school friend to celebrate my 60th birthday with her in Australia.

We experienced phenomenal weather: torrential rain in Sydney, the longest, hottest recorded spell in Adelaide, fires in Melbourne, and then a cyclone in the Whitsunday Islands!

Despite this, I so enjoyed travelling around the country visiting friends along the way and seeing the famous Ocean Road outside Melbourne, tasting the wines of the Hunter Valley, and looking over the Blue Mountains west of Sydney.

10 ISRAEL Jerusalem

Last, but not least, is my visit to Israel in 1971 where I spent a momentous time discovering my faith. In Jerusalem I was so moved by my walk along the Via Dolorosa, my visits to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, The Western Wall, the Dome of the Rock, and a bus journey to the site near Jericho where Christ was baptised. These experiences provided the beginning of my journey of faith that continues today.

