WELCOME

Web service offers help going green

Finding cleaner energy and an ethical investor

hether you want to invest savings or just choose a green energy supplier, a new service compares products offered by companies that claim to have an ethical policy.

It comes from Moneyfacts, an independent website that monitors matters of personal finance.

The Co-operative Bank, which has had a mandatory ethical policy for 15 years, says ethical consumerism is now worth £26bn a year, with personal finance alone accounting for £11.5bn. But with so much noise in the market, it can be hard to make the best choices.

Alex Gibbons, Head of Personal Banking at another ethical bank, Triodos, welcomes the new service. 'Increasingly people care about the impact of their money, but it can be difficult to distinguish between products that really make a difference and headline-grabbing accounts with little lasting benefit for the environment.'

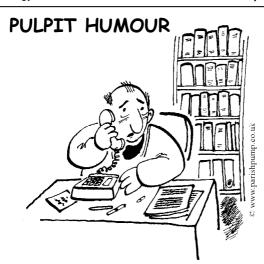
The new service coincides with a report by the Manchester Centre for Public Theology on faith-based economics.



From the Christian viewpoint, it says: 'We are committed as churches and Christians, working with others...to building up the social capital of communities, through our distinctive contribution of religious capital.'

The report also looks at the theory and practice of Islamic finance. 'Obedience to God is required not only in worship but also in economic activities, even though it is at the price of some benefits, because these benefits may go against the collective interests of society.'

www.moneyfacts.co.uk/ethical/ default.aspx



...OK... if I promise no-one will sit in your pew, we will only use the 1662 Prayer, only read from the King James' Version of the Bible, only sing old fashioned hymns to well known tunes and I never preach a long sermon... then will you come back to Church?!



Wash-day: hang your washing on a line outside to dry. Let the sun and wind do the job instead of your tumble-dryer.

Get on a bike! Don't forget a helmet and lock!

Support the campaign. Visit the website www.shrinkingthefootprint. cofe.anglican.org

NOTES TO NOTE

Lost a copy of *The Spire*? Want to read an article again? All is not lost. Magazines are being put on the website. Whole magazines from January 2006 are online now, as are some of the archived magazines (this section will gradually be increased). Just go to:

Spire Magazine >Magazine Archives.

Access The Spire magazine in different ways.

Did you know that our magazine is also available on a cassette tape or could be enlarged on request? If you would like it sent by email, send your details to: p.m.hinckley@blueyonder.co.uk. It is also available on our website.

All copy for the next issue of *The Spire* **must** be with us by: **10 September**. Send to the Parish Office (details in the left-hand column).

LEADER

Angelic thoughts from us all



PETER VANNOZZI

o on - be an angel.' This was something my grandmother used to say to me when she wanted me to do something. The expression tended to be followed by a request such as '...just nip upstairs for me' or '... just pop this in to Mrs. Edwards next door.' It worked every time!

Not to have nipped upstairs or popped next door would have been the opposite of angelic. This was not good. The expression had a very clear meaning for me. Yet if I stop to consider what I mean by an 'angel' it is not quite so straightforward.

In St. James' Church and churchyard there are depictions of angels. They conform to a conventional artistic view of what an angel looks like - wings, indeterminate sex, a distant expression, but with a certain beauty. This month sees a Christian festival on the 29th - that of Michael and all angels or 'Michaelmas.'

What of 'angels'? The word literally means 'messenger' and we have plenty of examples in the Bible of angels as messengers. In some cases they are terrifying figures, in others comforting beings with a message of hope.

In the Old Testament, in the Book of Genesis, cherubim (a type of angel) guard the entrance to the Garden of Eden (Genesis 3.24.)

They are there to prevent the man and woman returning to the Garden from which they have been expelled. Their message is not one of hope, but rather they underline the judgement of God which has resulted in the man and woman falling from their happy state in the Garden of Eden.

In the New Testament, by contrast, an angel (named as Gabriel) comes to Mary in Nazareth and tells her that she is to be part of God's loving purpose for the world. (Luke 1.26-38.) The message of the angel is that the way to God has been opened rather than closed. There is no

longer a guard over the way to the Garden of Eden.

Besides being messengers, angels are depicted in the Bible as being God's heavenly servants. Their role may be as guardians so Psalm 91, verses 11-12: '...[God] will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways. On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'

An angel's role, besides being a guardian, may also be as a worshipper.

'If we can be messengers of hope and servants of God, that is truly angelic.'

In the New Testament, in the Book of Revelation, there is a vision of a great multitude of all sorts of beings praising God: 'I looked and heard the voice of many angels, numbering thousands upon thousands, and ten thousand times ten thousand. They encircled the throne and the living creatures and the elders. In a loud voice they sang: "Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honour and glory and praise!" (Revelation 5.11-12)

I wonder, then, what to make of angels? There is certainly contemporary interest in them as the 91,400,000 results that come from Google show when I type in the word 'angel.'

A very quick survey of some of



the websites show an interest in every conceivable detail of angels. Some is rooted in the Bible. A great deal of the interest comes from other faith traditions or is based on people's spiritual experience with no reference to any tradition at all. For myself I go back to the two images of messenger and servant.

As far as the Christian Church is concerned, I believe it has a message to deliver and needs to be very concerned that it is delivered. As with any organisation with human beings involved in it, the Church's message can be distorted by human frailty, politics, and by the failure to practise what it preaches.

The angel who told Mary that she would be the mother of Jesus had a message of hope and the Church should always ask where the hope is in its message. A message is about more than words: is also given through deeds

The second image, of servant, also is one that the Church generally and Christians individually need to take to heart. We do not exist just to serve ourselves and to please ourselves. Angels in the Bible serve God by their positive actions towards people and in their worship of God, the source of all that is.

If we begin to see one another as created by God then we may actually want to do something positive for one another. If we see God as the Creator, we may wish to express our thanks. Service as both worship of God and practical action fit together.

Perhaps my grandmother was on to something, then, when she told me to be an angel. If we can be messengers of hope and servants of God and other people, that to me is being truly angelic.

So, go on, be an angel!



The monthly column of news and events from Hampton Hill and beyond

The marriage of **Caitlin Robinson** and **Rory Carrau** was a very happy occasion, particularly as it was a third

generation **wedding**: Caitlin's parents and grandparents were also married at St. James'. Those who were not actually at the ceremony were able to admire the splendid flower arrangements during the following week.

Oliver Eden Smith, son of **Prill Hinckley's** son Dan and his wife Lisa, was **baptised** on 19 August.

Congratulations to **Matthew Horner** and **Marina Ernst** who were **married** in Erlangen, Germany recently in a ceremony combining English and German traditions.

Margaret Taylor has decided that it is time to leave the magazine committee after many years. We thank her very much for all her hard work and wise advice. This, of course, leaves a vacancy so if any reader would like to help in producing this journal, we would be pleased to hear from you!

Do you have any news to share? We always welcome contributions, care of the Parish Office.

Registers

For July:

Baptisms

22 Abigail Audrey Priscilla Randall and Chloe Angela Anne Randall, Hampton.

29 Adam Christopher Wyn Jones, Hampton; Gracie Suzannah Davies, Hampton Hill.

Weddings

21 Rory Fletcher Carrau and Caitlyn Vivienne Louise Robinson.

28 Stuart Richard Brignall and Christine Donna Spillane.

Funerals

Eva Nellie Watson, 86, Hampton.

Jonathan Patrick Hughes, 21, Hampton Hill.

PROFILE

Meet the organist



Matthew O'Malley arrives with some impressive credentials. On behalf of all of us at St James', welcome!

atthew began life as a chorister at Peterborough Cathedral. He was also organ scholar of All Saints Parish Church, Peterborough, and, in his gap year, organ scholar of St James Church, Grimsby, and its nearby choir school.

Matthew was organ scholar (and briefly Music Society President) of Hertford College, Oxford, where he studied music from 2001-2004.

He was subsequently a choral scholar at Wells Cathedral, conducting and accompanying choirs in the Bristol and Bath area. Matthew was a member of Jesus College Choir, Cambridge, where he completed his PGCE in 2006.

He is now Assistant Director of Music at the Royal Grammar School, Guildford. He performs with a variety of occasional choirs, including Contrafactum, the Orpheus Singers and Voce in London, Sarum Voices in Salisbury and the Exon Singers in Devon.

Matthew also plays the clarinet and previously belonged to his university and county youth orchestras.

THE ORGAN



The organ was built in the 1830s by Bishop & Son. Originally built for St Peter's, Eaton Square, it was purchased for £150 and installed in the new organ chamber in 1874.

In 1901 the organ builders cleaned and improved it at a cost of £63, making it 'almost as complete and perfect as it could be'. The organ has since been rebuilt in 1912 and 1951.

In 1997 it was refurbished again with the addition of clarinet and trumpet stops, the pipes being salvaged from a neighbouring church. In 2006 work was carried out in the organ chamber to prevent the entry of dust particles from the original mortar into the operating mechanism.

THE CHURCH AT WORK

The unsung keep St Jam

Starting next month, we begin a major new series highlighting some of the people whose jobs often go on unseen at St James' Church. *Val Traylen* explains their importance.

5

t Michaelmas we celebrate the role of angels as perfect servants of God - worshippers, warriors against evil, messengers and helpers. Some of us know we have met an angel, most of us encounter them without knowing it for angels work invisibly. Consequently, they are not always appreciated.

The same is true of the many unseen helpers at St James', who quietly get on with the many tasks that produce the pleasant environment for worship, a smooth-running administration, and enjoyable social events. What are these tasks and who does them?

What goes into preparing the church for worship? Who keeps the garden and courtyard tidy? Who sweeps the church, polishes the brass, arranges the flowers, washes the altar linen? And worship today is not a solo performance by the vicar, watched by a passive congregation. We have sidesmen, readers, intercessors, servers, an organist and a choir. Who rings the bells, types the service sheet, organises the rotas and chooses the music?

The interregnum revealed just how much the vicar does that Sunday worshippers do not see. Who supports the vicar in providing pastoral care - through visiting the sick and housebound, through preparation for baptism? Who handles the administration - the hall bookings, the registers, the books of remembrance?

And in our relationship with the wider world - who keeps us in touch with the deanery and diocese, and with other churches? Who maintains our links with overseas mission partners? Who maintains our website? Who staples *The Spire*?!

There are many other activities - from teaching children to cleaning out the gutters, from cooking and making coffee to washing up - and laundering the tea-towels. You can be as involved as you like and as you have energy to be!

Over the next few months we will be looking at these behind the scenes activities, celebrating our hidden helpers and encouraging everyone to pray for them, to support them and to join them.

■ Look out for the monthly feature, and who knows, perhaps you will be inspired to offer to help in some way to keep the wheels turning.

I only know the names

Everybody's got it all anymore. I forget why

It's not easy to become an you go to heaven, then through. And then you've

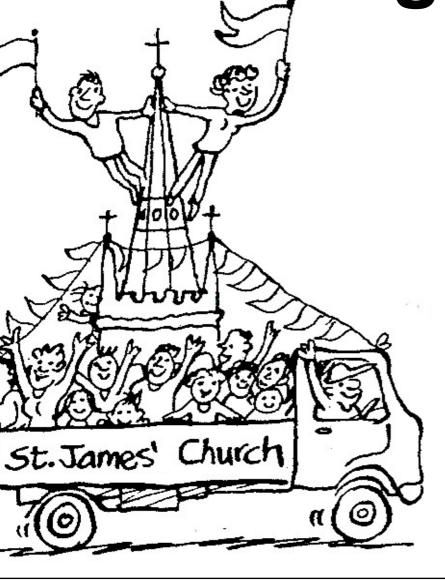
Angels work for God and v

My guardian angel helps n





heroes who es' running



of two angels. Hark and Harold.

Gregory, five

wrong. Angels don't wear halos but scientists are working on it. Olive, nine

angel! First, you gotta die. Then nere's still the flight training to go got to wear those angel clothes. Matthew, nine

vatch over kids when God has to go do something else. Mitchell, seven

ne with Maths, but he's not much good for Science. *Henry, eight* Angels talk all the time they're flying you up to heaven. The main subject is where you went wrong before you go dead.

Daniel, nine

When an angel gets mad, he takes a deep breath and counts.

When he lets out his breath, there's a tornado somewhere.

Reagan ten

Angels have lots to do and keep busy. If you lose a tooth, one puts money under your pillow. They go south for the winter.

Sara. six

Angels live in cloud houses made by God and his son, who's a very good carpenter.

Jared, eight

What I don't get about angels is why, when someone is in love, they shoot arrows at them.

Sarah 7

YOURS FAITHFULLY

Lou Coaker-Basdell



Lou works for HM Revenue & Customs (formerly the Inland Revenue), starting in Canterbury and currently Somerset House, London. She took a career break to have two children, Joe, 23 and Alice, 12. Lou has been involved with the Sunday School since 1992. Bryan, her husband is chair of the Properties Committee. Her son used to be a server and also played guitar in St James' Players, where Alice now plays flute. A keen cyclist, Lou is vice-president of Hounslow and District Wheelers. Any spare time is spent in her garden - that is when not acting as an unpaid chauffeur for her daughter!

When and why did you come to St James'?

I moved to Hampton Hill from Twickenham in 1991. My son continued at Archdeacon Cambridge School and I thought it was important to make local friends. He also joined 3rd Hampton Hill Cubs so it was a natural choice.

How did you become a Christian?

I was baptised as a baby in St Dustan's Church, Canterbury. I continued to attend church there as a child, including Sunday School, and at the age of 11 I confirmed my faith. I left Canterbury at 18 and my churchgoing dwindled. I am a great believer in equality in all aspects of life (yes I burnt my bra at a very early age!) I also demonstrated in my youth for equal rights for the whole workforce. Through my employer I was a welfare visitor for the Civil Service Benevolent Fund. My Socialist principles ensured that I continued acting in a Christian way although not attending church. When I moved to Twickenham in 1985 I started attending Holy Trinity Church and have been a regular churchgoer ever since.

What do you value most about St James?

The people. When I walk into church I feel safe and secure. I also like the local community spirit and seeing people I know when I am out and about in Hampton Hill. The music is very important too and I have enjoyed watching my children flourish in this environment.

What is it in Christianity that particularly inspires vou?

Equality, loving you neighbour, harmony and caring for one another, irrespective of background.

What difference does being a Christian make to your

A feeling of belonging and purpose in life.

What is the most useful lesson you have learned in

You cannot live as a complete person without friends and loved ones.

YOUNG SPIRE



3rd Hampton Hill Brownies Summer Term Activities

We have had a very busy and exciting term at Brownies with lots of activities. We were pleased to welcome Lindsay Mclinnes, who joins our unit from Bristol.

Many of you coming to church in May would have noticed our colourful pavement art drawn in chalk. Also in May we were joined by Kidsdance, who taught modern dance by pretending to be electricity. We also went to see *Sleeping Beauty*, which was directed and adapted by Chris Lloyd and performed by Hampton Brownie Unit.

The Brownies took their badge tests, the girls having to do quite a lot of work to earn ones like Friends, Animals, Cook, Artist and Hobbies.

In June we had the Brownie Bring and Buy Sale, raising £180 for St James' Church. Bethan Chapman and some of her fellow gardeners kindly gave us a tour of Hampton Hill allotments, giving us with an insight into growing fruit and vegetables.

Our District Music and Dance Summer Activity in July showed the girls what is available locally. We finished the term with a bike ride. We try to provide the girls with a variety of activities that we hope will benefit them throughout their lives.

■ For more information contact Natasha Clifford on 020 8979 0361.



3rd Hampton Hill Scout Troop Summer Camps

It's Summer Camp for Cubs and things were a bit more relaxed. Flag break was kept for the opening and closing of camp, the only uniform requirement was a Group scarf, and, to be honest, no one had had a proper wash for four days!

This year's camp was pretty special. Scouting celebrated its centenary with a camps all over the world and a giant 40,000 strong Jamboree in Chelmsford, Essex. Our own camp was held at Phasels Wood campsite, plus a day visit to the Jamboree that excited everyone.

My role in the Replica Camp

Twelve-year-old Alexander Lloyd was chosen to be part of a very special centenary camp. Here he describes what it involved.

I was one of just 21 Scouts from all around Britain lucky enough to take part in the Replica Camp on Brownsea Island, Dorset. Replica was recreating the first experimental camp that Lord Robert Baden-Powell held there 100 years ago, and which led to the Scout Movement starting up.

The organisers were looking for Scouts who could play the part of an Edwardian boy for five days. They needed to be a competent swimmer and confident at talking to others. I applied, and my Scout leader at 3rd Hampton Hill Scout Group, Paul Fitchett, supported my application. I was really pleased to be chosen.

Last November I went on a training camp in Nottingham. We practised putting up the bell tents we would be sleeping in, we learnt about what it was like in Edwardian times, and a historian who had been studying the original camp for a book he was writing told us what went on when they were on the island.

In the morning of Saturday 28 July, we took the ferry over to Brownsea from Poole Harbour. We were welcomed on to the Island by a lot of Scout helpers and we walked to the campsite. It was the same spot where Baden-Powell held his camp 100 years ago. We put on our Edwardianstyle outfits which were tweed jackets and waistcoats and a cloth cap. A flash of ribbon fastened to our shoulders signified the patrol we were in.

Each day we were woken at 6 o'clock for the flag ceremony. After this, we did the daily activities, such as canoeing, pioneering, orienteering, first aid and learning semaphore. In the evenings we had time to relax, so we went down to the beach and collected cockles for our tea.

On the Monday two Scouts from each Scouting country came to Brownsea Island . They had been staying at the World Scout Jamboree in Essex with 40,000 other Scouts and had come to the island for the Sunrise Ceremony on Wednesday. Throughout the week, the Sunrise participants came around to see us. They took a lot of pictures and they asked us about the 1907 camp. Also we were filmed and interviewed by TV crews.

At 08:00 on Wednesday 1 August, exactly 100 years after the start of the original 1907 camp, the Sunrise participants marched with their flags down to the coast right next to the Replica Camp.

Peter Duncan, Chief Scout in Britain, blew the kudu horn and invited everyone to renew their Scout promise. We all spoke in our different languages, and knew that Scouts all over the world were doing the same. This marked the new centenary of Scouting.



eptember

September is the ninth month of the year in the Gregorian Calendar and the start of the academic year.

September's flower is the aster or morning glory and its birthstone is the sapphire. In Latin, septi means 'seven' and septem means 'seventh'; September was in fact the seventh month of the Roman calendar until 153 BC.

International Day of Peace

21 September

The United Nations General Assembly has chosen 21 September as the International Day of Peace, a day of cease-fire and peace-building activities to be celebrated around the world. Young people will play a major role in helping to inspire and promote the International Day of Peace - a Global Ceasefire and Day of Peace & Non-violence in our homes, our communities and nations.



St Michael and All Angels

26 September

The Feast of Michael and All Angels falls near the equinox which is when the sun is directly above the Earth's equator. This happens around March 20 and September 22 each year and is when night and day are nearly the same length. Because of this, the feast is associated with the beginning of autumn and the shortening of days. St Michael, one of the principal angelic warriors, was seen as a protector against the dark of night and so became very popular in the Middle Ages. His name was the war-cry of the good angels in the battle fought in heaven against the enemy. He is usually represented in a coat of armour, with a halo round his head, and a sword in his hand, trampling on the fallen Lucifer.

During the Middle Ages, Michaelmas was a great religious feast and many popular traditions grew up around the day, which coincided with the end of harvest and the start of the new cycle of farming.

In England it was the custom to celebrate with a well-fattened goose, fed on the stubble of the fields after the harvest. This was supposed to protect against financial need for the next year, being the time for beginning new leases, rendering accounts and paying the annual dues.

This year's Young Musician's Recital is on 7 October at 15:30

There is a wealth of talent in our young musicians. This recital will combine soloists, groups and the St James' Players and will finish with a delicious tea in the hall.

Any youngster wishing to join in with this should contact Susannah Nettleton on 020 8979 4609 (children's choir, strings and recorders) and Martin Hinckley on 020 8979 0528 (for orchestra, wind and small chamber groups).



JAYS AT LARGE

Emma-Lee has performed in Oliver Twist with the TTC. She played 4 parts, all quite different characters and which she portrayed really well. Lily-Ann is going to take her Grade 1 recorder exam in November, so we wish her good luck with that. She is also going to take Grade 1 violin soon. She also plays the piano!

CHARITIES & LINKS COMMITTEE



Welcare -Strengthening families

Welcare is a Christian charity that works preventatively with children and families in need, irrespective of faith, culture or abilities, to achieve a better quality of life for children and families.

Some of the issues Welcare confronts are domestic violence, isolation, single parenthood, financial difficulties, and under-achievement at school. Last year it reviewed all its services to ensure it has something unique to offer compared to other organisations and to concentrate on what it does best.

Services are offered from a dozen centres across south London, including Welcare in Richmond on Twickenham Green. This local centre costs over £180,000 a year to run and receives funds from many sources, including the London Borough of Richmond and local churches.

St James has supported it for many years and in 2007 will make a donation of £1450. Welcare in Richmond continues to place great importance on its links with local churches and plans to re-launch its parish representative scheme later

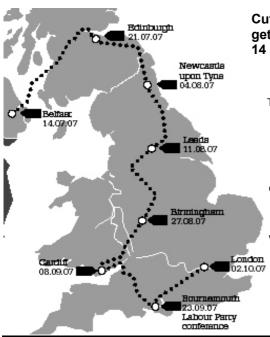
■ If you would like to find out more, please talk to our vicar or Ann Peterken.

Important dates



Saturday 8 September at 18:00 in the Church Hall Please support this evening, hosted by the Charities and Links Committee. We hope to raise a nice sum for Christian Aid. See Events on back page.

Wednesday 12 September at 18:00 in Pimlico, SW1. Come and hear Bishop Dinis Sengulane from Mozambique. It would be good for a few more members of the congregation to know him. Elizabeth Wilmot has the details.



Cut the Carbon march gets nearer to London 14 July - 2 October

The enormous effort of the marchers warrants a repeat of their 1000-mile itinerary in this month's Spire.

Opportunities to meet and support the marchers on Sunday 30 September. Monday 1 October and Tuesday 2 October are listed on

www.pressureworks.org and on notice boards in the church and hall.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Out of tune

The Hampton Hill Parish Magazine.



Prill Hinckley dusts off more pages from the parish magazine. This time from 1885 May -September.

Our Church Organ - 1885 May

"Our Easter Day offertories were given to a fund which has now been started for the repair of the organ. The organ itself is a very good instrument, but somewhat old-fashioned in its mechanical structure, and very much out of repair. A thorough overhauling of the working parts, and in some cases their rearrangement, cannot longer be delayed; and some additions in the shape of new stops would add very much to the effectiveness of the

To do all would probably require an expenditure of at least £150, but the more urgent and necessary portion of the work could probably be carried out for £60 or £70.

For this, contributions, which may be sent to the Vicar, Churchwardens, or Organist, are asked.

It may not be known to some of our readers that this organ originally stood in St. Peter's Church, Eaton Square, which of late years has been the centre of a great work, principally carried on by Dr. Wilkinson, the present Bishop of Truro."

Our Church Organ - 1885 August

"The organ was re-opened on the occasion of the Confirmation and, as far as we could judge, the improvement effected by the repair and additions is very marked. The rich soft tone of the Bourdon pipes which form the western front of the organ is very pleasing. We defer further comment till our next magazine."

Our Church Organ - 1885 September

"More than a month has now elapsed since the restoration was completed, and we think the work done has given satisfaction to most of those who have heard the organ played. Mr. Higgs, organist of S. James,' Westminster, tried it a week or two ago, and seemed pleased. Messrs. Bishop & Son will thoroughly overhaul the instrument, and remedy any little defects before they hand it over as entirely finished."



15

Crossword No 200709

6 Christian festival occurring 10 days before Whitsun (9,3)

8 Last book of the OT (7)

9 The second commandment forbids their making (5) 10 Goliath's home town (4)

12 Sternutation produced seven times by a boy in 2 Kings ch. 4 (6) 14 Aviator who sounds like the Roman

no longer is stirred (Ecc 12.5) (6)

16 What the wicked do to their bows in

Psalm 11 (4) 19 Whence Hiram's ships brought gold in 1 Kings ch.10 (5)

21 Punish, as a man on a bed of pain in Job ch. 33 may be punished (7) 22 Christian feast day commemorating Christ's resurrection (6,6)

Down

1 Junior church officers (8)
2 What you must do to have the door opened, according to Matthew ch. 7 (5) 3 Not ecclesiastical (5)

4 Description of a hymn that is not modern (7)

5 Ring of light round a saint's head (4) 6 Scene of the final struggle between the powers of good and evil (10) 7 Dominating influence (10)

11 Whoever eats their eggs will 12 Weep noisily, like Hagar in Genesis ch. 21 (3) 13 Evening (8) 14 In proportion (3,4) 17 ..taunt him with ridicule and _ (Hab 2 6) (5) 18 Lisbon's river (5)

me , for I have sinned (Ps 41.4)

Answers to August Crossword (200708): Across: 1 Camel 4 Calf 8 Orderly 9 Vicar 10 House 11 Theatre 13 Limeys 15 Priest 17 Murders 20 Abbot 22 Chaos 23 Abigail 24 Lyre 25 Gongs. Down: 1 Cloth 2 Midsummer Day 3 Larceny 4 Crypt 5 Levee 6 Scatterbrain 7 Ararat 12 Hip 13 Lamech 14 Sir 16 Reading 18 Essay 19 Snake 21 Tales