#### BRAVE WORDS AND BRAVE DEEDS

St. James the Apostle, who is the patron saint of our church, is one who showed bravery in deeds and words. He was the first of the apostles to be martyred and was not afraid to speak out when he thought the Jews had misunderstood the message of Jesus. He was to some extent made 'an example' by King Herod, who wished also to ingratiate himself with the political and spiritual leaders of the people.

He was also brave enough, when Jesus was alive, to accompany him to all sorts of unpromising places and situations when the ordinary people thought the whole thing was ridiculous: for example when Jesus healed a girl whom her parents and friends thought quite dead and beyond human help.

So one of the hallmarks of the christian ought to be the preparedness to speak out even if those around think differently — even if other christians think differently. And between christians there ought also to be the willingness to accept without bitterness or rancour the ideas and opinions of others because there is another ingrediant — love — present too. But we are all subject to human limitations so the tempers may get frayed a bit at the edges.

In this issue of The Spire some local people have been brave enough to voice their own views about violence. Read what they have to say and think on, and pray on, the words. You may find yourself agreeing or disagreeing with what is written, but do not dismiss it as so much claptrap. Ask yourself if you would be prepared to let people know your thoughts and not mind any criticism that might be launched.

In the early church (for about the first 300 years after Jesus) if any member of the congregation could not get to the worship, for reason of sickness, the deacons would leave the church and take the newly blessed bread and wine to the homes of the sick. When towns grew larger and numbers increased it became impossible to organise. Gradually the practice increased of keeping some of the consecrated bread and wine on one side in a special safe cupboard or 'aumbry' in the church for use throughout the week. In western christianity this also developed into making the 'reserved sacrament' into a special object of worship, and in many cathedrals and churches today the chapel set aside for quiet prayer has an aumbry in it. This has not happened at St. James, but the suggestion has been made that for pastoral reasons it would be good to have the sacrament reserved for use with the sick.

The matter will be discussed by the P.C.C. If you have any views please let me know.

Nicholas Chubb

#### THE BLUEBELL RAILWAY - PARISH OUTING, 5th JUNE

By the time that we met outside St. James' Church at 11am it was hot and by the time that we arrived back just after 6.30pm it had been recorded as the hottest day this year.

It was a true summer outing with the men in their shirtsleeves — I much approved of the shirt worn by Nicholas — and the ladies in their pretty sundresses. With plenty of ventilation in the coach it was bearable both ways. Nevertheless it was thirst-making and thereby hangs the tale. A large urn containing tea with milk stood at the front of the coach guarded over by Roger Bucknall who was our "Daddy" for the day and ably looked after us, except perhaps on this one occasion: about half way to our destination our driver did a swing turn in a village – there was a crash and a horrified silence as Roger rushed to rescue the overturned urn with tea pouring away down the steps – on such a day!

When I was first left in charge of orthopaedic clinics I was jittery that I'd make mistakes but had a very calming piece of advice: "Of course, you'll make mistakes. You'll just have to rectify them." Well, Roger put this disaster right with the aid of Trevor Atkinson and car. They went to Forest Row for more tea and saved the day.

The Social Committee once again provided us with a good picnic lunch for which we were a little late because the driver lost his way; but the drive was very enjoyable along the tree-lined country roads. The green of June was fresh and beautiful and it was pleasant to see there is still open space in England.

After lunch Mr. Whippey was busy doling out ice creams and then we drove down to the station where we embarked in the cleanest of trains. All paintwork was newly painted, all brass newly polished, even the piles of coal waiting to be shovelled into the boiler fire looked as though they had been polished. The old Southern Railway coaches were immaculate and as the smoke drifted past the windows and the steamy smell came in to us it was most nostaligic to those of us who regularly travelled behind steam locomotives long ago.

We travelled in leisurely fashion from Sheffield Park to Horsted Keynes in Sussex where we spent an hour before the train took us back to the coach. I wished I had read more about the Society and its aims. Unfortunately, I didn't get into the sheds but I hear that they were filled with interest for those who did. My friend and I were rather unenterprising just going outside for a little walk into a buttercup field and to the buffet for drinks. I think the heat must have affected our brains as all we could think of was liquid.

This year, 1982, marks the centenary of the opening of the Lewes and East Grinstead Railway of which the Bluebell Line is the only surviving part. The latter was established in 1960 as a living museum for steam trains. It has 28 locomotives, 15 of which are over 50 years old and 4 over 100 years. This line is run by the Bluebell Society and members can train to be guards or drivers or any other necessary job.

We were too late in the year for bluebells but it is a pretty name for a railway anyway.

Thank you Roger and Social Committee.

Alison Thompson

# MOTHERS UNION OUTING TO ARLESFORD

Many thanks to Mrs. Edmonds for arranging such a lovely outing for us, which I'm sure we all enjoyed.

It was a really glorious day, the sun pouring down on us as we went on our journey, first picking up M.U. members from St. Mark's Teddington. The countryside was beautiful – what a joy to see it!

When we got to Old Arlesford Place cups of coffee and biscuits were waiting for us and then we all assembled in the Mary Sumner Room where we were told a bit about the house and how the M.U. started in that very room. We were then invited to wander round the house. The chapel was on the first floor. I found the whole house most interesting. Near the front door is to be found a motto which I thought good: The Beauty of the house is order,

The Blessing of the house is contentment,

The Glory of the house is hospitality,

The Crown of the house is Godliness.

After looking at the interesting Church, we came back to the house and had our picnic lunch after looking at the stalls the M.U. had put out for us, which included fresh watercress from nearby Old Arlesford.

It was soon time for us to go on to our next destination which was Winchester where the sun still blazed down on us. Those of us who could, made our way to the Cathedral which was quite beautiful, especially the carving behind the altar which is a reminder of the great cloud of witnesses in the worship of a great church

I was told that Mary Sumner was buried in the Cathedral. After scrutinising many epitaphs Pat Young (to whom I really must say thankyou as she escorted me everywhere all day with such loving care) and Brenda Oliver found a guide and he took us outside into a beautifully kept burial ground which was locked and there we were able to see Mary Sumner's grave and Pat photographed us beside it. What an honour.

After such a wonderful day we made our way home once again through the gorgeous countryside. I felt like singing "Oh, oh, oh, how good is the Lord."

Arriving in Hampton Hill once more we came into floods of water - while we had been basking in the sun, here there had been a terrific thunderstorm.

Violet Clark

#### OUR VISIT TO ST. PAUL'S

On June 15th twelve of us went to the Mothers Union Diocesan Festival at St. Paul's Cathedral. This was the first time I had attended and I was most impressed by the service and especially the banner procession. There were ninety eight banners, proudly carried by representatives from churches in and around the London area. The St. James' banner was carried by Don Rawlins. The theme this year was 'LOVE', and the Bishop spoke of:

- - 1. Love at the heart of the Christian Gospel, its function in everyday life and in the Church.

Love is giving, generously and sensibly and receiving the same in return.

- 2. Love is looking for the best in others.
- 3. Faithfulness which is an essential element of Love. God's Love never dies, He loved to the end.

Megan Parry

#### **1st HAMPTON HILL GUIDES**

Once again the summer is upon us and we are grateful for the support we have received during the year in our efforts to raise money to buy a tent. We have at last succeeded and we put our new acquisition up for the first time in the Vicarage garden on the 12th June between rain showers. We are always busy and during May we went to Windsor Safari Park for the day and thoroughly enjoyed ourselves with the rain keeping off. The summer means we can enjoy the long light evenings playing rounders in the park, practising netball for the rally and clearing the graveyard. Later this month we shall be going to London and having a guided tour around the back stage of the National Theatre. this takes organisation and time since we meet every Monday night, and help would be greatly appreciated. Please contact Vicky Verity, 12 Brisbane Ave., S.W.19. Tel: 542 5859.

### CHRISTIAN AID WEEK 1982

St. James' collection totalled £460 this year, compared with £453 in 1981. My grateful thanks to all the stalwarts in the Parish who helped in this mundane task, and especially the Church Youth Club under Joe Brownlee who took part in collecting for the first time. Our total of £460 is disappointing, but seems to reflect the little impact that Christian Aid Week has on the emotions of the general public. We delivered some two thousand envelopes with a return of twenty three pence per envelope, the price of a bar of chocolate or cup of tea! The total Christian Aid collection in the UK comes to about £4 million, for world wide distribution, but the Penlee Lifeboat disaster fund raised £2 million plus, for the crew's dependants; the comparison needs no comment, it speaks for itself.

Again, many thanks, and if I am still organising the collection in 1983, I hope I can rely on your help again.

Alwyne Loyd

### ST. JAMES' DAY

We are celebrating our patronal festival on 18th July this year. There will be a festive Evensong at 16.30, followed by a family tea on the church lawn. Everyone is very warmly invited. These afternoons are always happy and friendly occasions, and this year we have a special reason to celebrate in that it is almost exactly the first birthday of the Chubb family's arrival in our parish.

### CHILDREN'S SOCIETY - NEWS

The annual Box Opening Evening for the C. of E. Children's Society will be on Monday July 19th at 68 Park Road from 7 - 10pm. Everyone who holds a box is invited to come and bring it to be emptied and enjoy a cup of coffee and a chat. There will also be some cards, notelets, etc. on sale.

The Society's Annual Garden Party, which is held in the grounds of the Hurlingham Club, SW6, is on Wednesday July 14th at 2pm. This is a very pleasant venue and if anyone does go it makes a delightful afternoon's outing. Harry Secombe will be opening it this year, refreshments are available and music will be provided by the Metropolitan Police Band.

In the Autumn, Monday October 4th to be precise, the Society is organising a sponsored KNIT-IN to raise money for Christmas presents for the children in their houses (and many in needy families too). Start saving your balls of double knitting wool now and you will need to bring a pair of no. 8 needles with you. I hope to organise this event in my house from 10am onwards — refreshments will be provided — you have to knit solidly for 1½ hours in garter stitch, the strip of knitting is then measured and your sponsors pay according to the number of inches at whatever rate they have agreed to pay beforehand. I shall have sponsor forms in September and will distribute them to anyone who is interested — so everyone who has always been a 'sponsor' and never a 'sponsored' can get their own back now and at the end of it all the strips of knitting can be sent to the Society and be made into blankets — you can't do that with swimming, jogging and walking, etc.!

A couple of years ago we had a very successful jewellery appeal, which we are now repeating. If anyone has any pieces of jewellery – broken or intact, costume or valuable – that they would like to give to a good cause then contact me or Doris Childs. Other items the Society are interested in are old stamps, stamp albums, dolls, lace or embroidery, coins and notes, and pre-1939 postcards and photographs.

If anyone can't bring their box on July 19th please let me have it sometime around that date for emptying. Anyone who would like a box who isn't already a holder, please get in touch with me (tel: 979 7042) at present we have about thirty Box holders which brings in about £150 per annum.

Helen Taylor

#### THE HALL CLEAN

Two Saturdays, August 14th and 21st.

Following last year's successful pattern, the first Saturday will be devoted to getting rid of the dirt on the ceilings, walls, woodwork and windows. Plenty of scope here for any and all to wield sponges, mops, and buckets, but if numbers permit, we might also tackle the tables and chairs.

This, then is where we'd like the main effort to be made if possible. I will provide the usual step ladders etc., but do please bring at least one bucket if you can, plus a sponge, leather, squeegee or whatever.

On the second Saturday, apart from mopping-up any residue of other tasks, we'd like to concentrate on the floors, which have to be cleaned, re-sealed and re-painted, and also on reinstating any chipped or worn paintwork. I will provide brushes, paint, etc.

Please help if you can, for as long or short a spell as you can manage, either washing or painting, or even both!

Jack Gostling

### WEA CLASSES ON CHRISTIAN DOCTRINE

Perhaps you would like to know more about what Christians believe but do not want to get involved with a Church. Or perhaps you are a member of a Church, but feel your knowledge of Doctrine is shaky. The Workers' Educational Association is holding 10 weekly classes on Christian Doctrine on Monday evenings at Rectory School, Hampton starting on 27th September with a break at half-term. The Lecturer will be Mrs. A. Myers, BD. The WEA is a nonsecretarian organisation with a strong tradition that their classes are divided into two halves, the first is a talk by the Lecturer and the second is given over to questions and general discussion which you can take part in without feeling inhibited. The WEA also allows people to pay their fees at the second class which means you can come to the first one free without committing yourself to the term's course. (Reduced fees for senior citizens, students, etc.) There will be WEA posters and other publicity in September but we thought you may like to know about these classes now so that you can keep your Monday evenings free until Christmas if you are interested.

> Beryl Bolsover 979 7003

# **A VOTE OF THANKS**

As once again we come to the start of the summer season, I feel that this is an appropriate time to give a heartfelt vote of thanks to the people "behind the scenes", who have kept the church looking so clean and bright during the dark winter months: Judy Hewitt and her band of helpers; Roma Bridges and hers, who always manage to find flowers and greenery to "tone" with the Church's seasons; Ron Metcalf who has kept the brasses so "shining bright"; and all those others who do so much to keep the outside in a reasonable condition. Thank you all for working through the cold, damp, rain, hail and snow of the winter months. Ursula S. Pearce

# MORE TO IT THAN MEETS THE EYE?

Recently when visiting the Royal Marsden Hospital in Fulham Road, I noticed a sign "To the Chapel" and so I followed the direction and found a beautiful little chapel which I enjoyed for a while and was just leaving when a member of the staff came in and said "You are having a look at our lovely chapel? Did you notice the large painting on the wall to the left of the door?" We then returned to it together and he told me it was painted, as it was signed, by Hugh Gurney of Devon who was to depict Mary and the baby Jesus. He chose as a model a young Jewish girl from his class and he painted her in a simple deep blue robe and black shawl and the young child in her arms simply dressed and neither having a halo or any outward sign of majesty. The Child is stretching out to grasp the ring of thorns on a nearby tree. Behind is a distant Sea of Galilee.

My kind guide then told me that Mr. Gurney had deliberately chosen to work in Acrylic paint which does not reflect light as oil paint does, so that the picture could be viewed from any direction, but when a photographer tried to get a good reproduction the thorns were obliterated by a bright light. He tried 20 times from various angles with the same result. Another of the many mysteries which keeps us on our toes.

### Alison Thompson

# THE CHURCH ARMY

The Charities Committee (who meet several times a year to discuss the next list of donations from St. James to various needy causes) thought of including this year the work of the Church Army, now celebrating its centenary. The Army suggested that we might care to sponsor the work of one of its Officers and suggested Audrey Shilling who lives in Tower Hamlets, a deprived area of the She came to a recent meeting of Koinonia and talked about her East End. work - only the other side of London, but far removed from our comfortable life in Hampton Hill.

Audrey is the secretary of a group who are starting a Community Centre in an area where there is nothing similar and where there is nothing for people to do and nowhere to go. The group have premises, a long abandoned slipper baths, they have received some generous donations and now they are planning for the re-building, working out what needs to fulfil and persuading people to help in developing their own community; Audrey is a parish worker, and as a councillor she is much concerned with the problems of racial harassment in Brick Lane and She is also a governor of the local comprehensive school, Her Spitalsfield. object is to bring the gospel into every situation of ordinary life and to help others to realise their potential as children of God. We left Audrey, feeling the strength and power of her spirit, her love of life and her fellowmen, and above all, her love of God.

Margaret Taylor

# SPIRE DISTRIBUTION

We have now successfully revised our distribution list and I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the distributors and other parishioners for their kind help in this project. Of course the list of readers is never final – as soon as anybody becomes aware of any changes or finds that anybody new would like The Spire, please let me know. And a big thankyou to all distributors for their faithful service over the years, very many years in quite a number of cases. We could still do with one or two more volunteers to ease the burden on the present helpers. Please get in touch if you can help.

### WAR - YES OR NO

The Falklands Conflict has raised in people's minds the whole issue of the rights and wrongs of using armed force. The United Nations are currently holding their Special Session on disarmament. For these two reasons we felt we should discuss this very topical and difficult question here. This discussion is not confined to the Falklands issue but considers armed conflict as such. As Christians we have a responsibility to try and define our own attitudes clearly and measure them against the teaching of the Bible. Listening to the views of other people who have also opened themselves to the Lord's teaching will help us arrive at conclusions that approach the Truth. Once this stage is reached we can try and translate our thinking into action accordingly. We hope that this month's thoughts will prompt more contributions next time.

For ten weeks now our newspapers, radio and television sets have saturated us with news of The Falkland Crisis. Now we are told that the fighting is over and that Britain has won. Democracy defeats dictatorship, the principles of freedom triumph and an embarassing remnant of British imperial history is preserved to be quietly given away at a later date.

For many Christians this far away war has caused another crisis, a crisis of conscience. Was it necessary to have a war, was there not another way of dealing with the problem of the Argentine invasion? Must aggression always be met by retaliation with death and destruction all round? Is superior fire power and fighting courage and skill the only realistic response to those who threaten us?

Aggression and retaliation is the way man has progressed his ambitions since the earliest times but it is a road of pain and sorrow without end, there is always another war around the corner. But there is a way to escape from this treadmill. The Christian solution is breathtakingly simple in concept but almost impossibly difficult for us in practice. Jesus says simply — love your enemies, do not retaliate if you are attacked, if necessary accept the suffering which will be caused to you but do not inflict more suffering by fighting back.

This is hard for us to accept. Our nature is to defend our families, our possessions, our freedom by whatever means are necessary. But Jesus says, this is not the way of future human development, it is a dead end, but see My way, see how I approach the problem, this is the way forward. Put away your possessions, your principles, your selfishness, your attachment to the material life, centre yourself in weakness and humility – this is the God-like power of love and compassion.

This is a hard road to follow, but not impossible, there are many examples to light the way apart from Jesus himself. We talk about these qualities of the Christian life often enough in Church, but can we put it into action? Do we try hard enough to live out our Christianity, or is it all just empty words?

Tony Lawrance

\* \* \* \* \*

War inflicts suffering. It can therefore not be good. What is not good, is evil. At the same time war can be considered necessary in order to prevent or stop another evil which would inflict even greater suffering. If we become actively guilty by entering into war, we may feel equally guilty if we stand by passively and allow a wrong to continue which we could put right. God alone can be our judge.

If we love our fellowmen – and naturally that includes *all* men – the decision to start a war must fill us with dread; sending soliders off into battle must be acutely painful. I feel that proud cheers at such a time are a sad reflection on the dangers of nationalism. I also think that the suffering of an injured soldier or the grief of bereaved parents or wives is quite independent of the reason for the war. The conviction that it was inflicted by a just cause does not ease the pain. In fact, the moment pain enters any particular family's personal experience, their definition of a "just cause" is probably going to alter. And once the fighting has started, exactly the same feelings are experienced on both sides of any conflict.

Our country having to go to war must therefore fill us with sorrow, whatever other considerations also enter into the matter. And we must recognise that we stand in need of God's forgiveness.

Hilde Bucknell

\* \* \* \* \*

#### The Falklands War

By most standards this has been a little war, a short war with few casualties but due to the media coverage we are now seeing perhaps the most personal war most of us have known ..... There is no difference between the widow of Portsmouth or the widow of Buenos Aires. God has given the precious gift of life, the example of Jesus to those who chose to follow Him; where in the list of our priorities come pride and nationalism?

\* \* \* \* \*

The church has remained largely aloof during the Falklands crisis. In this battle we were fighting against a cruel and ruthless regime as evidenced by the treatment of their own troops at the surrender. Does anyone in St. James' feel as I do that we should have supported the Government in offering prayers for the *defeat* of the Junta?

David Nunn

**Matters of Principle** "It's a matter of principle!" we heard. To be fair, few adult people were not sick at the thought of the fighting, even before the first casualties occurred. But it seems that a majority of both British and Argentines thought that it was right to go to war to uphold the principle: "the Falklands/Malvinas are ours!"

I heard a remarkably clear little radio sermon from Richard Harries which made two commonsense Christian points. Firstly, a just war must balance the good that might be achieved by success, against the damage that must be done, even if we believe we are righting a wrong. Secondly, a more subtle point, if wrong is done in the world we are all damaged and we all have to pay for it. It is childish and dangerous to believe that we can make someone pay for their wrongdoing and get back all that is lost. We all lose, inevitably. I think I would add a third point. Matters of principle are often matters of pride. "We can't let them get away with that!" leads to children fighting over a ruined sand-castle or could lead to generals fighting over the nuclear desert that was Europe.

There are many real matters of principle which are worth fighting for. The principle that proper jobs, proper housing and proper health and social services should take priority over arms spending. The principle that it is wrong to sell arms ("But be realistic, old chap, if they don't buy from us, they'll buy from the French." The same logic will have us mugging the weak because if we don't, someone else will steal the money.)

Perhaps we should stop being hard-headed, realistic, practical or whatever word is used to excuse wickedness. We should look to principles, but make sure they are Christian principles.

\* \* \* \*

The Archbishop of Canterbury speaking in 1980: (From a paper issued by the Area Dean for discussion in local churches). I have always been a spokesman in favour of the non-pacifist view, believing there to be something worse than war — totalitarian dictatorship. But I have had to agonise in recent weeks over the change of framework of that sort of attitude since 1945. I am convinced that nuclear war makes it virtually impossible to draw distinctions between combatants and non-combatants. It may be possible to have a just war, but there can be no such thing as just mutual obliteration ...... We are capable of unbinding the forces which lie at the heart of creation and destroying the entire planet. I have been struggling with my conscience over unilateral disarmament ..... and I fear to disturb and destabilise a balance which has

**The Atomic Bomb** – A Meditation It is good to have a big stick so that an aggressor fears to attack but it is better to drop the stick and find mutual agreement always remembering that to your opponent you yourself are the aggressor with the big stick. Absolute trust is needed and absolute honesty and purity in motive and absolute Love, man for man.

undoubtedly contributed to the peace of Europe.

How shall these things be? They shall be because they must be. When Man has expended himself to the utmost he will turn to Me. As he has always done individually so he will do collectively, and where enough are gathered together in My Name there I am also. You are thinking that these things are easy to say but the doing of them seems impossible but I say to you, what I can do with one child of little faith and many faults so can I do with all my children. Do not grieve, it is hard in this troublous world to have faith but you know that it is infinitely harder *not* to have it, for without faith you have no hope, and I am Hope. The Hope of My creation for My creation.

### BAPTISM

30th	May	Carl Adam Eldridge
6th	June	Emma Gail Haspineall
20th	June	David Eric Hounson
20th	June	Christopher Martin Wiles

### FUNERALS

27 Bishop's Grove

206 Hanworth Road 106 Wordsworth Road

52 Stourton Avenue, Hanworth

# DATES TO NOTE

#### July

- 10 CCG Garden Party in aid of Premises Appeal, 63 Park Road
- 11 6th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST Services as usual
- 13 10.30 Editorial Board, 75 St. James' Avenue
  19.45 for prompt start 20.00 Hampton Hill At Home, Rectory School
- 14 20.00 PCC, Wayside
- 18 7th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST Morning services as usual 16.30 St. James' Day Celebration: Festive Evensong followed by Tea on Law
- 19 14.30 Ladies Choir, Vestry
- 20 14.15 Keep Fit Open Afternoon in aid of Cancer Research, Parish Hall
- 21 10.00 Liturgical Dancing, Church
- 22 ST. MARY MAGDALEN 19,15 Holy Communion
- 25 8th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST, ST. JAMES THE APOSTLE Services as usual
- 28 20.00 Good News Group, 75 Burtons Road

#### August

- 1 9th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST Services as usual
- 6 THE TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD
- 8 10th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST Services as usual
- 10 10.30 Editorial Board, 75 St. James' Avenue 20.15 Liturgical Committee, 63 Park Road

#### CHEMISTS ADDITIONAL DUTY ROTA

- July 11 Boots the Chemists, 59 Broad Street, Teddington
  - 18 Hall, H, 63 High Street, Hampton Hill
  - 25 Moss, E Ltd, 14 Broad Street, Teddington
- Aug. 1 Martin, FG (Chemists) Ltd, 28b Priory Road, Hampton
  - 8 Manley, D G, 122 High Street, Teddington

Date	Communicants	Attendance	Pledged Giving	Other Givi
May 23	112	122	146	14
30	114	124	79	19
June 6	110	160	110	22
13	102	112	148	12
20	103	118	78	18

Whitsun Offering 79, Pledged Offering by Bankers Order May 179