

What a summer for records! We've had the hottest day on record in London. We've had the lowest interest rates in living memory and we have had the highest amount of spending on record for the purchase of soccer stars at a London football club. At the time of writing it looks like Chelsea's new owner would have spent some £40m on purchasing new players for his team. Now I can't pretend to know anything about football. I certainly don't. But it does seem to me to raise interesting questions about what we do with our money and how we ascribe worth to the things we do.

No doubt many of us over the summer have spent a relatively large amount of money on holidays. Our holidays are probably a once a year chance to escape and refresh and so we think they are worth investing a high proportion of our income on such important times. I certainly very much enjoy my holidays and think they are worth every penny I spend whether I spend a little or much. But just how do we assess the worth of what we spend our money upon?

Can a footballer really be worth £6m or £14m to a club? Well, obviously in one sense, yes, otherwise shrewd billionaire businessmen like Chelsea's new owner wouldn't invest their money in that way. The hope is clearly that spending so much money will generate much more. It is after all an old business adage that to make money you have to spend money. It is also something of a truism.

But I wonder if we can adapt the saying slightly and say: to find worth you have to invest worth or to find value we have to invest value. I think that's true as well. I therefore would ask you to think about the things that you value. My guess will be that many of the things that we all value are priceless, literally they have no price attached to them. They are worth more than any price can ever adequately describe. Our loved ones, our families, our friendships, our contentment, our happiness. How can we put monetary figures on these? Of course, we can't. But we can perhaps see that to create more value from them we need to invest more value in them. This doesn't necessarily mean more money but it may well mean more time, more listening, more attention, more enjoyment, more laughter, more giving of the skills and talents we possess.

And if that is how we treat our relationships with each other then surely it is also how we ought to treat our relationships with God. Worship is an odd word in today's world but it means worth-ship, that is, giving to God what we feel God is worth by offering all that we are and all that we have, the best of our talents, the best of our gifts which, we Christians believe, after all, are given to us by God as our creator. So I would urge you to think about what we give to God in terms of our finances, yes, but also in terms of our effort, our skill, our time, our energies. And in a summer of records maybe we could make it an autumn of records of our giving value and giving worth to God.

News from the Charities and Links

Some of the causes that St. James supports can simply be unknown acronyms if you are not directly involved. Here are three of the mission organisations that we support, which have each had visibility in St. James this year.

Do take a look at the OUR GIVING display in church for news of all our giving.

ALMA (Angola London Mozambique Association)

ALMA is the partnership between the Diocese of London and the church in Angola and Mozambique. Its fifth anniversary was in mid-July.

- London's Lent Appeal 2003 raised over £110,000 to support HIV/AIDS projects in our link dioceses. This will encourage and empower the church in Angola and Mozambique to confront a massive task.
- On 14th September Andre Soares will be consecrated as Bishop in Angola and Mark Van Koevering as Bishop in Niassa, Mozambique. Both are excellent choices and our own Bishop Michael will be attending the joint service. The appointments will greatly help with mobilisation of the Lent Appeal funds.
- Mark van Koevering gave an excellent talk to London Diocesan Synod in early July. He explained that the people in Niassa (the northern and poorer part of Mozambique) experience isolation and low expectation. Distances are huge and the number of priests small; but the church is growing - led by laity, many of whom are women. One of Mark's first priorities is to be able to pay priests a decent stipend, so they can be priests full time and not forced to take other work. He hopes to achieve this by asking priests here in London to give so much a month - a wonderful way to raise funds and to build shared ownership of London's link dioceses. Another priority is to build more rural churches. In Niassa, a church is very much a meeting place and teaching centre, as well as a place of worship. It benefits the entire neighbouring community.

So this is a time of great hope for the church in Angola and Mozambique.

Joanna Udal - our Church Mission Society (CMS) link partner in Sudan

Joanna Udal has been in Khartoum for two years as assistant to the Archbishop of Sudan, Joseph Marona. She came to the family service in early July and showed how the church is a global people. We are all companions on a journey of following Christ, with much to learn from one another. Joanna returns to Sudan this month.

USPG (United Society for the Propagation of the Gospel)

On 7th September, a speaker from USPG is with us to talk about the work of the society, which celebrated its tercentenary in 2001. It is through USPG that we support St. Luke's Hospital in Milo, Tanzania. An excerpt from St. Luke's latest newsletter was included in last month's Spire.

Ann Peterken

The Cavan Bakery

The association of the Cavan family with baking started 200 miles away and over 80 years ago in Devon. At the age of 10, David Cavan was sent to the tiny village of South Zeal, near Okehampton, to be away from his parents' home in Clapham in case of bombing raids on London during the first World War. David was fascinated by the smell of newly-baked bread from Endacott's bakery at the east end of the village where he used to work after school and on Saturdays. He returned home after the war determined to take up the craft, and began his career in Lyon's Corner House in the Tottenham Court Road. Following his marriage to his wife Olive, he set up his own bakery in Twickenham in 1929 and called it the Devonshire Bakery.

Eight years later, he moved to 12 High Street, Hampton Hill, acquiring the business of Tommy Clarke, a former Champion Bread Baker of England, who had just died. These premises have remained the headquarters of the Cavan Bakery ever since. The bakery there produced cakes and pastries by day and bread at night to supply the one shop and six hand drawn bread barrows delivering to houses all over Hampton Hill and Hampton and parts of Sunbury and Teddington. The ovens and dough room, bordering Bushy Park, stand on Crown property known as the Deer Leap. The Crown is said to have kept control of the land so that if a deer managed to leap over the wall it remained on Crown property so long as it strayed no more than 15ft from the wall; after that it became "fair game"! For the privilege of using this piece of historical land a sum is paid annually to the Queen, this used to be £12 per annum but is now £600! David Cavan died in 1949 at the age of only 43 and Olive continued with the help of a manager who later left to pursue his own business. In 1955 the firm acquired the premises at 183 High Street, which became the cake bakery, and at Station Approach, Hampton. Olive's son Tony joined her in 1957 after completing his studies as the

National Bakery School. Whilst studying, he met Penny, herself the daughter and granddaughter of bakers. They married in 1960 and Penny became both cake decorator and retail director in addition to bringing up their three children.

On Easter Monday 1961 one of the two large bread ovens exploded, blowing the roof off the bakery and the resident bread baker out of his bed in the adjacent flat. Luckily, no-one was working at the time and nobody was hurt. All the bakery staff gave up their Bank Holiday (it was raining!) to help the engineers move all the machinery and equipment to the cake



bakery where the bread was baked for the next eight months during rebuilding. The business is now in the hands of the third generation of the family, being run by Tony and Penny's daughter Sarah and her husband Jeff Greenall. Jeff sees to the day-to-day running of the shops and bakery and Sarah handles the marketing, promotion, brochures and training. Tony is now fully retired but Penny still sees to the accounts. All the produce is produced on the premises, the gas-fired ovens at No. 12 baking the bread. Cakes and savouries are made at No. 183. Bread baking starts at 10p.m. and cake and sandwich-making at 5a.m. Sandwiches are a growth area and the firm has contracts to supply many local businesses and cafés. Cavans also provide a catering service for wedding receptions, parties and funerals and this is an area which Jeff hopes to expand. In addition to the delicious traditional bread which they have baked for so many years, they also now have speciality breads such as rye and soda breads, sun-dried tomato bread and rosemary and garlic focaccia. Wedding and celebration cakes are another speciality.

Many other bakeries in the area have closed and we are certainly fortunate that Cavans maintain two traditional bakeries on our High Street. However, as Mrs. Cavan says, it is a pity that all those who throng the High Street for the Christmas Parade do not actually use it more often! We would agree; our local shops deserve our support.

BILL ROBINSON

Bill Robinson OBE, C.Eng., Emeritus F.I.E.E. celebrated his 90th birthday on Saturday 26th July, both in Bushy Park and at home, with family and friends. George Ivan Robinson was born in Rose Cottage, Hampton Court, but is known to many as Bill after his father William Henry who died when he was 2 years 8 months old. After the first World War he with his three sisters moved to Leicestershire where he went to school and trained as an engineer. He met Margaret in 1934 and they married at Holy Apostles Church, Leicester in 1940. Their children, Diana and Richard, were born in Leicester and Lindsay after they moved south. There are now ten grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

Bill refers to much happiness and not surprisingly periods of sadness: his mother's struggles and her death when he was 19, RAF Halton and the loss of colleagues in the Battle of Britain and elsewhere; but he says that the help and love of Margaret, whose spirit is still with him, surmounts it all and so many dear friends and neighbours give strength and encouragement for many years to come.

Congratulations and best wishes from us all at St. James's.

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK 2003

The total collected by Churches Together Around Hampton this year amounted to £13,779.36, a splendid sum for which many worked extremely hard. St. James's share was £4,298.78, so very special thanks to our congregation.

Margaret Taylor

CONFIRMATION

Confirmation will take place at St. Mary's Church, Hampton on the evening of 14th December. Anyone, any age, who is interested in preparing for Confirmation or in re-visiting their preparation for Confirmation, should get in touch with Brian or Julie.

"A Time for Decision"

What would you do when your expenditure is more than your income? Try to cut costs and attempt to increase income probably. This is the situation our Diocese of London is in.

The Diocese has been asking each of the parishes what they think should happen. The Bishop of Kensington visited us in June to explain the situation, and the PCC has been asked to return a questionnaire to the Diocese giving our views.

To understand what is happening, I need to explain some background:

The stipends (salaries) and housing costs of the parish clergy are paid by the Diocese of London, rather than directly by each parish. To meet this costs, each parish is asked to contribute to a Common Fund according to what it can afford. At St. James's, we will be paying £51,000 into the Common Fund during 2003.

The effect of this is that poorer parishes are subsidised by the richer ones, which allows the Diocese to keep a presence in all the parishes of the Diocese (there are over 400).

Unfortunately, even with rising contributions to the Common Fund, the Diocese's costs have risen even faster (think pensions, investment income, and Council Tax). For the last few years, expenses have been greater than income by about £500,000 each year, and the Diocese has been selling off assets to meet the deficit.

This situation can't go on for much longer.

So the main options for the way forward are to cut costs, or to increase income, or both. The main cost of the diocese (70%) is its parish clergy and their housing, so, if there is to be any effective cost cutting, it will mean reducing the number of clergy. The main income of the diocese (75%) is Common Fund contributions from the

parishes; every parish would need to increase its giving by 25% in order to solve the problem without any cuts.

So what has the PCC said in its reply to the questionnaire? We decided that:

- There will have to be a mixture of cutting costs (i.e. numbers of parish clergy) and increasing income.
- We know that cutting clergy numbers needs a complete rethink of how parish ministry happens, and we would like to see the thinking about this progress rapidly.
- We are concerned that our parish stewardship income is near its limit, but we would make an increase in our Common Fund contributions if good plans for parish ministry are forthcoming.

All the parishes' views will be brought together for the Diocesan Synod in November, which will be the real "Time for Decision".

I would welcome any ideas or questions that readers have on this. And of course, any new or increased giving to St. James's will help us to be more generous in our support of the London Diocese; please contact Pip Rowett (020 8892 4736).

*Paul Peterken,
PCC Treasurer*

RNLI QUIZ NIGHT

SATURDAY 27TH SEPTEMBER at 8p.m.
(Not 29TH September as given in August Spire)

at the British Motor Yacht Club, Ferry Road, Teddington
Teams of 4 - 6 people

Tickets £2.50 per person from Jill 8287 7438 or Joan 8979 9475

Raleigh International

Raleigh International is a youth development organisation which gives people between 17 and 25 years a chance to do voluntary work in different parts of the world. These young people (venturers) need a certain amount of support so each expedition has staff members. They can be anyone over the age of 17 if they are interested in helping young people and wanting to do some unusual travel. I have just returned from 14 weeks in Namibia where I worked as a staff member using my nursing skills as a "medic". Our expedition was from 4th March until 12th June while the venturers were in Namibia from 19th March till 6th June.

Our field base in Namibia was 20km from the capital, Windhoek. There was a staff house for the administrators while the rest of us lived in tents. Everyone was a volunteer apart from the expedition leader, the Namibian co-ordinator and 10 local staff. Our expedition had 119 venturers from Portugal, Denmark, Singapore, Namibia and the UK, and 33 staff members - all British.

There were nine different projects undertaken on our expedition, three environmental, three community based and three adventure spread all around the country. Staff members were allocated in pairs to one project for the whole period, while medics were rotated to three different projects, usually those furthest from civilisation. The venturers did one of each of type of project.

I was attached to a community project first and in this phase we constructed a playground for a school with 580 pupils in the Omahivi region. When we arrived there was nothing but sand around the school but by the end of 3 weeks there was a playground with swings, climbing frames, a see-saw and tyres used imaginatively for play. The venturers designed and built the playground with the help of a builder while the project leaders and I worked alongside the venturers. Seeing about 500 children run on to the playground in great excitement when it was complete made it all worthwhile. The interaction with the school children and children provided us all with an opportunity to work and live within a rural community.

My second project was as a roving medic and working at Field base. The roving medic is on standby for any problems which may occur during the treks. This is the adventure phase for the venturers who walked a total of 30,000km between them as they trekked through the mainly dry Huab river, the Messum crater or the Namib Naukluft Park. I was driven in a Landrover between the three treks and saw some truly amazing scenery while covering 2,500km over this period. Fortunately there were no major medical problems!

My third phase was an environmental project working within the Sperrgebiet diamond area in Southern Namibia. This area has been "forbidden territory" to the general public since 1908 when diamonds were discovered lying on the desert sand. These have all been mined now and the area is 26,000km of true wilderness - mainly desert but the magic is it is totally undeveloped apart from the actual diamond mines on the coast. We had to have permits to work here and were accompanied by a government official at all times. Our work involved cleaning up old water holes and protecting

rare species. We were very fortunate to see this area. To be able to sleep under the stars and to watch the shooting stars made you very aware of God's wonderful world. Being shown sparkling uncut diamonds made you understand why the area is restricted. Other projects undertaken included building a school in the remote northwest of Namibia over three months, building two further playgrounds, helping with cheetah and rhino conservation and improving tourist facilities near Bandberg. This is the site of some of the most renowned rock art in Africa.

The success of the expedition was not only the completion of projects. It was rewarding to see the venturers' progress through the expedition, gaining confidence, knowledge and making new friends. Staff members also benefited, not only from new friendships but also being able to do something so positive for people less fortunate than ourselves.

Namibia is a vast, awesomely beautiful country with only 1.8 million inhabitants. AIDS affects a significant number of its citizens. The Namibians are a happy, friendly people who made us feel very welcome and were extremely grateful for all that was achieved by the expedition. Not only did we see a beautiful country but we met some lovely people and improved conditions for some of them.

Are you interested? Then contact Raleigh at 020 7371 8585, or e-mail: staff@raleigh.org.uk

Gwynneth Lloyd



Anthony Ball was ordained as minister of Isleworth Congregational Church on the evening of Sunday 3rd August. He has been a lay pastor there for 29 years. We are always delighted to see him at Morning Prayer at St. James's.

Andrew, Zoe and Lucy Napier have moved to 14 Shepherds Way, Tilford, Surrey GU10 2AB. We wish them happiness in their new home. They would be pleased to see any friends from St. James's who find themselves in that direction.

We are very pleased to have Megan Parry back in church with us after a long stay in hospital. Jean Wilson, Irene Watson and Susannah Nettleton are also now home from hospital.

We record with sadness the death of David Nunn, a member of our church for many years, and we remember David, Janet and Peter.

The BAPTISMAL TEA PARTY will take place on Sunday 7th September at 3.30p.m. All those who have been baptised in the last two years, their parents and godparents, are most welcome. Please ring Debbie Nunn on 8979 3078 for more details. Offers of cakes, sandwiches and help on the day would also be appreciated!



St. James's Chronicles

The Hampton Hill Parish Magazine 1903 Extracts from the September Issue

MY DEAR FRIENDS,

The repairs to the roof of the Church have proceeded rapidly, and I feel sure that the benefit will be felt throughout the Church during the coming winter.

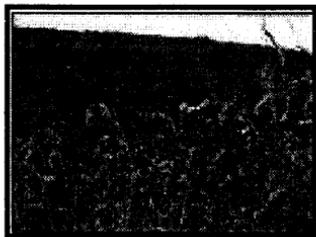


The building will be easier to warm, and there will be greater freedom from draught. It will be seen from the list of donations below that a number of people were not able to give in the offertory have most kindly contributed since. The total sum received so far is £37 10s. 0d. If there are any who have not yet given and who are willing to do so, the Churchwardens will be very grateful for their assistance. The Churchwardens are anxious to asphalt the path in the Churchyard from the Vestry door to Park Road, and they will do this as soon as they can see their way to the necessary funds.



On the 30th of July the adult members of Choir had an excursion to Windsor, which proved in every way pleasant and successful.

I am writing this far away in the country, surrounded by ripe cornfields looking exquisitely beautiful, and I am informed that the crops are unusually heavy; but, alas, the weather has been distressingly trying to the farmers. There is, however, still time, and hope that all may yet be well gathered. Under any circumstances the year has been one of many blessings, and we have all much to thank God for, and I hope the attendance at the Festival will be an evidence that our gratitude is felt.



I am, my dear friends, Yours very sincerely,

CHARLES R. JOB.

FROM THE JULY REGISTERS

Baptisms

- 6 Erin Sarah Young, 9 Little Park Drive, Hanworth
Anthony Michael Douglas Burn, 15 Hanworth Road, Hampton
- 12 Andre Christian John Wheeler, 83 Rectory Grove, Hampton
- 27 William David Plumridge, 22 Winifred Road, Hampton Hill
Max Christopher Smith, 29 Laurel Road, Hampton Hill
Gemma Webb Holburn and James Alexander Harry Webb Holburn,
3 Hatherop Road, Hampton
Benjamin David George Dufty, 22 Windsor Road, Teddington

Weddings

- 12 Charles Neil Ransasinghe and Karen Jane Parker
- 19 Michael Anthony Golden and Donna Marie Wells
- 26 Kevin Lee Bushell and Wendy Jacqueline Shelley

DATES TO NOTE IN SEPTEMBER

- 1 1230 onwards St. James's table at the White House Community Centre
lunch. All welcome.
- 2 The Martyrs of Papua New Guinea, 1942.
- 3 Gregory the Great, Bishop of Rome, 604
- 4 1400 Holy Communion
- 7 **Trinity 12**
1530 Baptismal Tea Party - all those who have been baptised in
the last two years and their families are very welcome.
- 8 Birth of Blessed Virgin Mary
- 2000 PCC Meeting
- 13 Chrysostom, Bishop of Constantinople, Teacher of the
faith, 407
- 1930 Concert in Church for Richmond Mencap
- 14 **Holy Cross Day**
- 15 Cyprian, Bishop of Carthage and Martyr, 258
- 16 Ninian, Bishop of Galloway, 432
- 17 Hildegard, Abbess of Bingen, Mystic, 1179
- 20 John Coleridge Patterson, Bishop of Melanesia and
Martyr, 1871
- 21 **St. Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist**
- 28 **St. Michael and All Angels (tr)**

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