

JULY 2016

# the spire

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

FREE please take a copy

Join us  
at our  
Open Day  
on  
Sunday  
3 July

## Inspiring views

A guide to church spires and their uses

AROUND THE SPIRE P5 ■ A-Z SACRED PLACES P6 ■ WHAT'S ON P7

# Our Church

Registered Charity No 1129286

## Clergy



### Vicar

#### Vacant

All enquiries regarding baptisms, weddings and funerals should go through the Parish Office.

### Curate

#### The Revd Jacky Cammidge

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

Telephone: 074 9677 0505

curate@stjames-hamptonhill.org.uk



Bell Ringing Susan Horner 020 8979 9380

#### Book of Remembrance Recorder

Janet Nunn 020 8979 6325

Brownies and Guides 0800 1 69 59 01

#### Charities and Links Committee

Ann Peterken 020 8891 5862, or email: annpeterken@gmail.com

#### Children's Champion

Stuart Richardson 020 8890 4854

Church Cleaning Debbie Nunn 020 8979 3078

Church Flowers Coryn Robinson 020 8979 6786

#### Church Growth Working Group

Nick Harris 020 8943 2025

#### Churches Together Around Hampton

Ann Peterken 020 8891 5862

Deanery Synod Clive Beaumont 020 8943 4336

Electoral Roll Parish Office 020 8941 6003

Eco-Group Catherine Gash 020 8783 0563

Hall Bookings Parish Office 020 8941 6003

Hall Tea / Coffee Rotas Clare Ryan 079 6413 1135

Mission Partner Link Liz Wilmot 020 8977 9434

#### Mozambique/Angola Link

Laurence Sewell 020 8977 2844

#### Music and Worship Committee

Martin Hinckley 020 8979 0528

PCC Secretary Kirstie Craig 077 7588 2935

#### Planned Giving

Gwynneth Lloyd 020 8943 0709

#### Properties Committee

Bryan Bassdell 020 8979 2040

Safeguarding Officer Jane Newman 020 8979 6154

Scout Group Richard Moody 020 8286 6918

Servers Lesley Mortimer 020 8941 2345

Sidespersons Janet Taylor 020 8979 0046

St James's Ark Debbie Nunn 020 8979 3078

#### St James's Hospitality / Parish Breakfast

Clare Ryan and Kirstie Craig 079 6413 1135

St James's Players Martin Hinckley 020 8979 0528

#### The Shell Seekers (Sunday School)

Term-time (except when there is an all-age service)  
Stuart Richardson 020 8890 4854

Tools with a Mission Janet Nunn 020 8979 6325

Theatre Club Peter Hale 020 979 9287

Visitors' Group Liz Wilmot 020 8977 9434

Weekly Pew Sheet Parish Office 020 8941 6003

# From the Editor...

By the time you receive this edition Nick Bagge will have started his new job as our Administrator. We are delighted that Nick has taken on this role and wish him well.

The PCC also decided to extend the office hours to address the plans being drawn up by the Church Growth group, and this will also mean that the church itself will be open every weekday for people to visit as the need arises. The office will now be open Tuesday and Thursday afternoons from 12.30-3.30pm as well as Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings 9.30am-12.30pm.

We are looking forward to St James's Day on 3 July when we will also celebrate the Queen's 90th Birthday. This edition features an article on church spires, written by Rodney and Janet Taylor, and, of course, our own spire will be open that day for all to see the view. There will also be an opportunity to ring the bells.

We extend our congratulations to Jacky Cammidge who has now presided at her first Eucharist following her ordination to the priesthood. Jacky will now be able to take the services and share the workload with Julian until a new vicar is appointed.

### Best wishes

Janet

Janet Nunn

Cover image: From St James's Church spire (see page four)



thespire 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: janunhh@btinternet.com

### AROUND THE SPIRE

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

### WHAT'S ON

Nick Bagge is listings editor. If you have an event to be considered for inclusion, contact him. Email: Nickbagge1@aol.com

### WEBSITE / SPIRE BY EMAIL / YOUNG SPIRE

Prill Hinckley is webmaster. If you would like to receive the magazine by email, please contact her. Prill also compiles the Young Spire page. Email: p.m.hinckley@blueyonder.co.uk

### CIRCULATION

thespire is available free from church and other outlets. It is also delivered across the parish and posted further afield. Contact Susan Horner. Telephone: 020 8979 9380 Email: smhorner5@yahoo.co.uk Write to: 5 St James's Avenue, Hampton Hill, Middlesex TW12 1HH

### NEXT ISSUE / COPY DEADLINE

The Aug / Sep issue is published on Friday 29 July. All copy must be with us by **Tuesday 5 July**.

### Credits

#### PRODUCTION

Design Nick Bagge

Proofreaders Susan Horner and Dick Wilde

#### PUBLISHING

Printer Justin Hollingsworth 020 8686 4481

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



© St James's Church 2016. Unauthorised reproduction in whole or part is prohibited without written permission from the editor.

Manuscripts, photographs and artwork are accepted on the basis that thespire does not accept liability for loss or damage to them. We cannot print anything subject to copyright. Views expressed in thespire are not necessarily those of the PCC of St James.

Please recycle this magazine after use



## Officials



### Churchwarden

#### Nick Bagge

Nick is a former television journalist, now working at a local theatre. Telephone: 020 8783 0871

Email: Nickbagge1@aol.com



### Churchwarden and Treasurer

#### Nick Harris

Nick is an Executive Director of the bank Credit Suisse, based in London. Telephone: 020 8943 2025

Email: nicholasjharris@gmail.com



### Organist / Choirmaster

#### Mark Blackwell

Mark is an accomplished parish organist with 40 years of experience. Telephone: 077 6814 6879

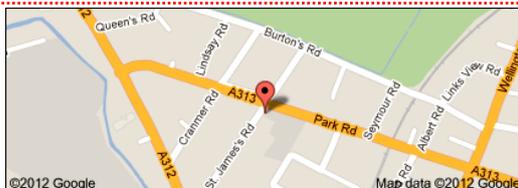
Email: organist@stjames-hamptonhill.org.uk

## 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.



# Come and worship with us!



## Sundays

8am Holy Communion

9.30am Parish Communion

(except on St James's Day)

Sunday 24 July Trinity 9

Hosea 1: 2-10;

Colossians 2: 6-15;

Luke 11: 1-13.

Sunday 3 July St James's Day

Trinity 6

11am Acts 11: 27-12:2;

2 Corinthians 4: 7-15;

Matthew 20: 20-28.

Sunday 31 July Trinity 10

Hosea 11: 1-11;

Colossians 3: 1-11;

Luke 12: 13-21.

Sunday 10 July Trinity 7

Amos 7: 7-17;

Colossians 1: 1-14;

Luke 10: 25-37.

**Mondays-Fridays** (not Tues)

9.15am Morning Prayer

Sunday 17 July Trinity 8

Amos 8: 1-12;

Colossians 1: 15-28;

Luke 10: 38-42.

**Tuesdays**

9.30am Holy Communion

# Leader Column with Julian Reindorp

## Meet the 'vicar's wife!'



**B**y the time you read this our much loved curate, Jacky Cammidge, will have been ordained priest by our bishop in St Marys Abbots, Kensington, on June 26, and three days later presided at our Parish Communion at St James's for the first time. But she is different!

Charles Handy, the management guru, suggested that today we need to have a 'portfolio' of different jobs throughout our lives, and perhaps at any one time. Jacky has been an opera singer and she runs two nursery schools in Hampton Hill, one of them led by her youngest daughter, Angharad. Now she is also a priest.

### Worker priests

The early church had what we might call worker priests. Paul of Tarsus earned his living as a tent maker as well as being a missionary for Christ round parts of the Mediterranean world.

The early church also seems to have had women priests, see the last chapter of Paul's letter to the Romans if you don't believe me.

Yet within 150 years of Christ's resurrection, the leadership of the church had become all-male, and the clergy were largely being paid for by their congregations.

Then in the 1940s the Roman Catholic church began to ordain men who were earning their living in factories, and remained working there for all their priestly ministry. In the 1960s the Church of England began to ordain men who continued doing their ordinary jobs.

### 'Mind the gap...'

We hear this message from a disembodied voice when we travel on London Underground, but it also describes what has happened in our lives. So often, the gap between our Sunday worship and our daily work has become steadily wider.

Worker priests like Jacky, and David Bell before her, remind us, in the words of the 17th century poet George Herbert: 'Seven

whole days not one in seven I will praise thee.' Our daily work is part of our worship, what we offer to God.

### Are you a vicar?

Jacky will often be asked. My reply to this in the past has always been, 'I am a priest, but my job is being a vicar.' I could also have been a chaplain in industry or in a hospital or a prison or in the commercial world (Canary Wharf has a chaplain).

Jacky is a priest now, her job is running her nursery schools, and as part of all this she is a curate in our parish of St James.

There is one difference between Jacky and me. Since I was ordained 46 years ago I have probably cost the Church of England and the congregations I have served about £2.5 million.

A vicar costs about £60,000 a year, including £24,000 in salary, the rest spent on training, housing, expenses and a pension.

Jacky comes virtually free, and I hope we never forget that! Interestingly, the Church of England is ordaining about 500 clergy a year — about 250 are women and nearly half are self-supporting ministers (SSMs) like Jacky.

### The vicar's wife!

Alan, Jacky's marvellously supportive and down-to-earth husband, has his own description for this role! Alan is a retired police officer. He now works with Jacky, running the nursery schools. Jacky and Alan have three daughters and are now grandparents.

### Training each other

Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury, said recently that he was trained to be a priest by the parishes he served. We all have a share in Jacky's training by our encouragement and prayers. She will help to train us through her dedication, faith, and sense of humour.

We are very fortunate to have Jacky and Alan among us. May we never forget that!

development of capacity for action at the local level through a network of partnerships with individual dioceses called the

*Together Network*. Its partnership with the Diocese of London was launched at St Paul's Cathedral last November and is called Capital Mass. Do take a look at [www.capitalmass.org.uk](http://www.capitalmass.org.uk), not least to be uplifted by what churches are capable of doing.

The participation section has a very long list of wide ranging projects where volunteers are working hard to make a difference. They include the Upper Room in Hammersmith, whose work we support and admire.

■ For more info go to: [cuf.org.uk](http://cuf.org.uk)

### Charity Box Church Urban Fund

St James's is supporting the Church Urban Fund (CUF) with a donation of £800 this year. The Fund was established by the Church of England as a practical response to unmet need and has been active in local communities for over 30 years.

All over England, local churches and groups are doing excellent work in their communities to address poverty and deprivation, through initiatives such as night shelters, refugee support, meal provision and debt advice. Many of these initiatives will have benefitted from a CUF grant and advice.

Central to the Fund's work is its support and



Thought & Prayer

Taking time to talk to God

## Saint James



Saint James is the Patron Saint of Spain. Celebrations there are centred on the city of Santiago de Compostela, where his remains are said to have been buried. The city is one of the most emblematic in Spain and, whenever you visit, you can be sure to see many pilgrims who have walked to the cathedral using the footpaths marked by a shell, the symbol of James, the fisherman

## Pilgrims Prayer

God, who brought your servant Abraham out of the land of the Chaldeans, protecting him in his wanderings, who guided the Hebrew people across the desert, we ask that you watch over us, your servants, as we walk in the love of your name to shrine of St. James, Santiago de Compostela.

Be for us our companion on the walk,  
Our guide at the crossroads,  
Our breath in our weariness,  
Our protection in danger,  
Our home along the way,  
Our shade in the heat,  
Our light in the darkness,  
Our consolation in our discouragements,  
And our strength in our intentions.

So that with your guidance we may arrive safe and sound at the end of our journey, and, enriched with grace and virtue, we may return safely to our homes filled with joy.



## The Great Protector

St James, you were the first to drink the Cup of the Master and you are the great protector of pilgrims; make us strong in faith and happy in hope on our pilgrim journey following the path of Christian life and sustain us so that we may finally reach the glory of God the Father. Amen.



Local and National stories

## How you can help the Church of England grow

**DO YOU KNOW** how much it costs to run a typical London church? Next year it will be £78,300. This not only covers the vicar's salary of £26,100, but their taxes and pension costs, and their training, housing costs and maintenance.

The cost of putting a priest in nearly every community is considerable — about £30 million a year. The Diocese of London is big, representing over 400 parishes, serving six million people. The Common Fund is money given by congregations in every parish, rich or poor, in the diocese at their weekly services, or by standing order.

For the church to continue to be present in poor and deprived areas of London as well as in rich areas, the diocese relies on the wealthier parishes to give more than they need, so that it can be shared. Here at St James's we have for many years been able to give more than the minimum, thanks to the generosity of our parishioners.

Common Fund currently provides over 70% of the diocese's income and the remaining portion comes from other sources such as property investments, trusts and grants. By 2020 the diocese wants Common Fund to completely cover running costs. This would enable it to free £1 million to invest in parts of London where there is significant population growth, to open churches, reach new groups of people, invest in youth mission and increase parish support.

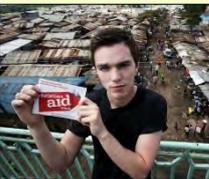
This year, Hampton, one of the most affluent deaneries, has pledged 97% of our full costs. The diocese wants us to 'up our game' in 2017 and would like St James's to increase their giving from £88,000 to £91,000.

The PCC will be meeting to consider this request. An extra £3000 would require a big effort. Many people might think St James's has no money worries because of Betty Stewart's large legacy, but this is to secure our future and invest in the church, not to cover general running costs.

We will update you on the decision, but now might be the time for you to look at your giving and consider increasing it. No sum is too small, and if you give it in a blue envelope or by standing order and complete a declaration form, we are able to claim Gift Aid at no extra cost to you.

## Christian Aid collection counted

**THE TOTAL FOR** the Christian Aid collection this year was **£3604**,



slightly down on last year's figure of £3847 as we had fewer collectors, but still a very good result. Many thanks to all those who distributed and collected envelopes, and particularly to Linda Webb and Elizabeth Wilmot for co-ordinating the collection and counting the money.

## Fellowship on beach in Worthing

**SOME OF THE OLDER** members of St. Mary's Church, Hampton, are organising time away at the Chatsworth Hotel, Worthing, from Tue 11-Thu 13 October. They will spend some of it



reflecting on their relationship with God as they grow older, considering questions such as: How do we spend our time? Where does God fit into our lives? How do we respond to the challenges that face us as we age? There will also be opportunities to chat, play board games, shop or sit by the sea. They are inviting members of other churches to join them to increase their fellowship. The cost will be £118 for dinner, bed and breakfast, plus a single supplement where applicable. If you are interested, please contact Pat Felstead on 020 8979 9990 by 15 July.

# Spires to inspire

Bosham



**Church spires have long been both symbols of piety and of wealth and prestige. They not only put the church on the map, but advertised its connection to heaven. Ours will again be open to climb on St James's Day, but as Rodney and Janet Taylor reveal, they have many other uses too.**

**A** spire is a magnificent sight to see, stretching up from earth towards heaven. The word *spire* has its origins in describing the shoot of a plant, or the shape of a spear. A tower with a spire on top, as we have at St James's, is a steeple. How splendid!

Magnificent spires such as Salisbury (14thC), Norwich (15thC) and Chichester (14th-19thC) are well known and much loved, but there are so many others. As you walk about — mindful of the traffic — look up and appreciate some of the beautiful spires that grace our villages, towns and cities.

### Landmarks for travellers

Spires have always been important landmarks for travellers, especially in rural areas. Sportsmen too have made use of them; a steeplechase was originally a cross-country horse race round the spires of neighbouring parishes. Church spires are often the most prominent features visible from seaward and mariners have used them over the centuries to navigate tricky coastal waters and find harbour, either by taking compass bearings or by lining the steeple up with another prominent structure as 'leading marks'.

St Jude's Church and the War Memorial act as leading marks into Portsmouth Harbour. Similarly, Bosham



Church is at the head of Bosham Quay, and Ryde Church, above, stands proudly on the Isle of Wight.

### Used by writers and painters

Spires feature famously in art and literature; Matthew Arnold's 'sweet city with her dreaming spires' immediately conjures up visions of Oxford while Thomas Gray immortalises the distant view of Eton College with 'Ye distant spires, ye antique towers that crown the wat'ry glade.' The rural idyll of farms and spires is captured in 'the blue remembered hills' of A. E. Houseman's *A Shropshire Lad*. John Constable painted Salisbury Cathedral, the tallest steeple in England, several times. Surrounded by water meadows it dominates the skyline.



St Jude's Church and the War Memorial are used by mariners to navigate to Portsmouth Harbour

# from land or sea



## Lightning and acts of God

The highest point in any locality, spires were often struck by lightning, setting fire to the largely wooden structures. The spire of Old St Paul's Cathedral was almost destroyed by lightning in 1444.

On 4 June 1561 the spire was again struck by 'a great ball of flame coming down from the heavens'. This time the damage was more dramatic, the spire was destroyed and bells and masonry from the tower crashed into the nave below. Events like these were regarded literally as acts of God, divine retribution for the sins and follies of the people.

## What goes up...

The spire was the crowning pinnacle on a church or cathedral, built to the glory of God. The higher the spire, the greater the glory, but also the greater glorification for bishop and benefactors. In a drive for more magnificent structures crossing towers were raised to house heavy bells and early wooden spires were replaced by stone, resulting in some spectacular collapses.

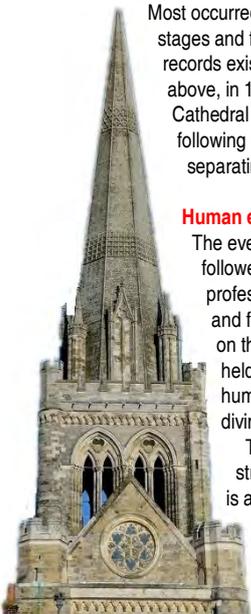


Most occurred during the building stages and few contemporary records exist. However, as seen above, in 1861, Chichester Cathedral steeple collapsed following removal of the screen separating nave and chancel.

## Human error blamed

The events were closely followed in the press; professional incompetence and failure to act quickly on the warning signs were held responsible — human error rather than divine intervention.

The current 277ft structure, pictured left, is a faithful reproduction by Sir George Gilbert Scott of the original.



## A city of churches

The City of London has been a site of Christian worship since the before the 5thC. As the population grew so the number of churches multiplied, until the mid 16thC when expansion was halted by the Reformation. There are now 40 Anglican places of worship though few have Sunday services. All views of London from the 17th to the 19thC show numerous church spires throughout London and Westminster.

Two devastating events have changed the face of the City. The Great Fire of 1666, seen above, destroyed many mediaeval churches, their spires, usually with timber frames, being particularly vulnerable. In the aftermath, the rebuilding of City churches was led by Christopher Wren.

Wren designed over 50 churches for the City though not all were built. Steeples were a prominent feature of his plans and every one is different. However, his magnificent design for St Paul's Cathedral does not feature a spire. Much of Wren's work was severely damaged during World War Two when London was repeatedly subjected to Luftwaffe bombing raids. Extensive restoration and repairs were carried out, but in some cases only parts of the buildings survive.

At Christ Church Newgate Street and St Dunstan's in the East the magnificent Wren spires/steeple are still standing although the former churches have been replaced by peaceful gardens. There are seven other isolated church towers in the City but only one has a spire. This, right, is St Augustine Watling Street, now part of St Paul's Choir School. Their 1966 replacement spire is made of fibreglass!



## 'Ugly' St James's?

In the Victorian era many towns and cities grew rapidly. Churches in new parishes proclaimed their presence in a spire visible to the community, sometimes as an indication of growing prosperity, often to remind the poor of the promise of a better afterlife.

Sir Nikolaus Pevsner, the great architectural writer and historian, describes our church as 'exceedingly ugly... but not without the punch of which the 1860s were capable'. He notes the construction of the church in 1864 and the addition of the tower and spire in 1887. And that is all he has to say about us!

Whatever he may have thought, our spire continues to draw eyes and souls to the church as a vital centre in all our lives.

# Around the SPIRE

with Susan Homer

## Church remembers life-long friend

**PAT YOUNG**, a member of our congregation for more than 60 years, has died, aged 91.

Pat helped to run a keep-fit class with Eila Severn until she was 80, and was Enroling Member of the St James's branch of the Mothers' Union, where her talents included those of pantomime producer and actor, once casting herself as Mary in the Nativity story.



To many she will be remembered for her 20 years as a stalwart flower-arranger. Her efforts were always stunning and much admired and she only gave up this work when she turned 90.

She was also a long-standing member of the St James's Ladies Choir and Liturgical Dance Group. Her many other roles included managing the distribution of *The Spire* and hosting poetry reading evenings.

Pat's funeral was held at St James's on 22 June. We send our sympathy to her children, Lesley Mortimer and Robert Young, and their families.

## London Lent Appeal beats target

**THE BISHOP OF LONDON** has praised parishes across the Diocese of London for their generous response so far to the Diocese's 2016 Lent Appeal for persecuted Christians in Iraq and Syria.

The fundraising total has now passed the £90,000 mark, more than double the appeal's original target of £35,000. The total raised at St James's has also grown to **£3034**, including Gift Aid.

## Bon voyage to adventurer Kirstie

**KIRSTIE HIRD HAS** been a member of our church for 20 years and a server for 10. By the time you read this, she and her husband Neil will have moved from their house in Teddington onto their boat, *l'escale*, where they hope to spend the rest of their lives.

Initially they will sail up the East coast of England before returning to Plymouth for the winter and then sailing round the Isles of Scilly, Ireland and Scotland next summer. Autumn 2017 should see them sailing through the Caledonian Canal to the North Sea and Amsterdam, reaching the Baltic in the Spring of 2018 and then to the Mediterranean before venturing further afield.

You will be able to follow their travels their blog [lescale.me](http://lescale.me) in due course. We said farewell and bon voyage to Kirstie on 5 June, when she was presented with a card and a gift.



## 'Unsung hero' celebrates birthday



**JOHN DALY CELEBRATED** his 70th birthday on 5 June when, with his wife Ros by his side, the congregation joined in a toast to him and shared nibbles and birthday cake following Parish Communion. John is one of the 'unsung heroes' of our church, undertaking a myriad of routine maintenance jobs such as repairing church furniture, flooring and locks, dealing with leaks and keeping the Garden of Remembrance tidy. He also does major projects among which are rebuilding and re-guttering the vestry porch roof and restoring the Fitz Wygram grave for our 150th anniversary. We are very grateful to John for the hours he puts in every week.



Young Spire with Prill Hinckley

# My daughter, the acrobatic superstar

By Carol Bailey

In April this year I had the privilege of watching my youngest daughter, Jennifer, 19, compete for Team GB at the Acrobatic Gymnastic World Championships in Putian, China, alongside a number of friends from her club, Richmond Gymnastics Association.



The Chinese put on a fantastic competition with all the ceremony, officialdom and meticulous organisation that one would expect. Jenny's trio competed at senior level, qualified for the final and came fifth. It was a splendid result as a year ago her previous partners retired and a new team had to be formed and train very hard to get to competition standard. Overall, Team GB and Richmond gymnasts did very well, winning lots of medals and having several World Champions.

Acrobatic Gymnastics is not an Olympic sport. The gymnasts work in pairs, trios or fours and perform routines to music, with balances and spectacular somersaults and catches, rather like circus gymnastics. Jenny competes in a trio as the base. Britain has a very good record at the sport internationally and being selected for the GB team is very competitive.

### Following in family footsteps

Jenny has been doing gymnastics since the age of three, following in the footsteps of her older sisters. She has competed in many international competitions at junior level, winning silver medals at the Junior European Championships in 2013 and then moving to senior level and winning several world cup medals and competing in the Paris World Championships in 2014. Last year she was selected to represent GB at the first European Games in Baku, Azerbaijan. This was an amazing experience as it was a multi-sport event run by the Olympic Committee.



She stayed in the athletes' village and met and trained with many athletes from GB and Europe. To compete in gymnastics at this level requires a huge amount of commitment. Jenny trained for 20-24 hours a week, nearly every week of the year in addition to doing her schoolwork and exams. Whilst she has had to be very disciplined about keeping up-to-date with homework and revision, gymnastics always came first. In fact, she had to sit three of her A-level papers in Baku — an interesting, if stressful, experience as training and competition schedules meant long periods of supervision before taking the exams. The gymnasts also get involved in coaching at the club and most take formal qualifications. It gives them a part-time job and great teaching and communication skills for the future.

### Retirement at 19

Jenny retired from gymnastics after China, but a few weeks ago her trio were invited to take part in the Gymnastics Gala at the Rio Olympics this summer, alongside a Chinese group and Russian pair — they are hoping that one day Acrobatic Gymnastics will be included in the Olympics. Such an exciting opportunity and experience could not be missed, so she is back in training for the event, which we are hoping will be televised. I have thoroughly enjoyed supporting my children in their gymnastic careers despite the family commitment needed for a competitive athlete. I have travelled to many cities to watch competitions and enjoyed the support and friendship of other parents on these trips sharing both the highs and lows of competitions.

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.



### Ephesus

When St Paul wrote his Epistle to the Ephesians while he was in prison in Rome (around 62 AD), Ephesus was a major Mediterranean commercial centre and with an important community of Jewish Christians. Paul himself had earlier lived in Ephesus from about 52-54 AD working with the congregation and apparently organising missionary activity into the surrounding area. It was here that Paul had written his first letter to the Corinthians.

Revelation (Revelation chapter 2:1-7), indicating that the church at Ephesus was strong; and two decades later, the church at Ephesus was still important enough to be addressed in a letter written by Bishop Ignatius of Antioch to the Ephesians in the early 2nd century AD. The Church of Mary, near the harbour of Ephesus, was the setting for the Third Ecumenical Council in 431 AD. Mary may have spent her last years near Ephesus, and what is considered in the Roman Catholic tradition to be her last home (The House of the Virgin Mary), based on the visions of Sister Anne Catherine Emmerich, is a popular place of pilgrimage which has been visited by three recent popes.

### Where is Ephesus?

Ephesus is an ancient Greek city situated on the Aegean Sea at the mouth of the Cayster River, about three miles south-west of present-day Seljuk in the Izmir Province of Turkey. It was built in the 10th century BC by Attic and Ionian Greek colonists and became one of the 12 cities of the Ionian League. Ephesus flourished after it came under Roman Republic control in 129 BC. According to historical records, Ephesus had a population of 30,000 to 56,000 people in the Roman period, making it the third largest city of Roman Asia Minor. The city was also one of the greatest seaports of the ancient world and a centre of travel and commerce.

### Its archaeological heritage

The city was famed for the Temple of Artemis (completed around 550 BC), one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World. Other important sites include the Library of Celsus, and an amphitheatre with a capacity of 25,000 spectators, used for gladiatorial combats during Roman times. Ephesus also had several major bath complexes, and one of the most advanced aqueduct systems in the ancient world.

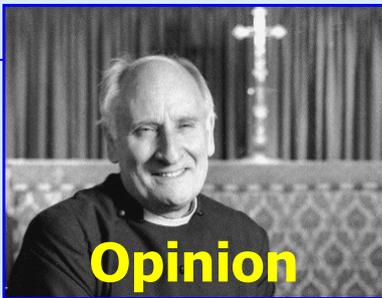
### What happened to Ephesus?

The city was destroyed by the Goths in 263 AD. By the time that the Seljuk Turks conquered Ephesus in 1090 AD, it was just a small village. Archaeological excavations began in 1869 and still continue. It is the largest collection of Roman ruins in the eastern Mediterranean and in 2015 they were placed on the UNESCO World Heritage List. They receive millions of visitors each year.

### Its role in early Christianity

Ephesus had a significant role in early Christianity: the apostle John lived in the city and his Gospel may have been written there; it was one of the seven cities addressed in the Book of





## Opinion

with Canon Julian Reindorp

### HOW CORRUPT ARE WE?

We are often reminded of the corruption of other countries, recently in Nigeria, and usually in other continents such as Africa. So I was interested that the *Economist* in a recent table of world crony-capitalism ('the essence of a corrupt state is crony capitalism') made Britain the worst country in Europe and 14th worst in the world.

Some £20 trillion is now estimated to be lurking in tax havens. Again, according to an *Economist* survey, 30% of global foreign investment is now channelled through tax havens, mostly British. We can certainly claim to be one of the most corrupt nations on earth!

My favourite illustration of this is how the four large accountancy firms advise the government on new tax laws. Partners from the same firms then advise their clients how to get round the new laws that their partners have suggested. No-one seems to suggest a conflict of interest.

### LONDON'S INTEGRATION

I was proud to see that when Sadiq Khan was sworn in on 7 May, it was in my old cathedral in Southwark. He was introduced by Baroness Doreen Lawrence, the mother of the murdered black teenager Stephen. She told the congregation, which included many faith leaders: 'I never imagined in my lifetime I could have a mayor from an ethnic minority background'. The mayor then went straight to a synagogue for a Holocaust memorial service.

It was one of the ironies of the widely criticised campaign of Conservative candidate Zak Goldsmith, planned we are told by the firm of Lynton Crosby, that on the same day as the result was announced, Lynton Crosby was being knighted at Buckingham Palace.

The criticism of the campaign was that it used 'dog-whistle' tactics — the use of coded language to influence subgroups, such as calling Khan a 'radical'. As the former Tory Mayoral candidate Stephen Norris wryly commented: 'Dog-whistle politics is fine, but not in a city where everybody else can hear it. This is the most cosmopolitan, the most relaxed, the most genuinely integrated major city in the world'. On the same day, Marvin Rees was elected mayor of Bristol — the first directly elected city mayor in Europe of African or Caribbean heritage.

### EU AND CLIMATE CHANGE

By the time you read this we will be 'in or out of Europe'. We all recognise in our saner moments that environmental issues are the most important we face as a planet. If you see a map of this part of London in 50 years' time, great chunks of it will be vulnerable to flooding. All the commentators I have read suggest that remaining in Europe is the best way we can be part of worldwide negotiations to save our planet. These issues have hardly been mentioned.

### CRICKET COMMENTATOR

The West Indian cricket commentator Tony Crozier died recently, aged 75. My favourite commentary team would include 'the deep Basingstoke claret rumble' of John Arlott, the clipped, eloquent, meticulous Christopher Martin-Jenkins, the happy laughter of Henry Blofeld, and then Tony Crozier. It always amused him how many people assumed from his Bajan twang that he was black, when he was white.

### A JEWISH JOKE

From the last sermon I heard in the Orthodox Synagogue in Richmond. The then chief rabbi, Dr Jonathan Sacks, began his sermon with a question: why did it take only 34 verses to describe creation in the book of Genesis and 602 verses to describe the construction of the first tabernacle for worship in the book of Exodus? Answer, the former was describing

# What's On

with Nick Bagge



NEW

### Cantanti Camerati

Saturday 9 July, 7.30pm, St Francis de Sales Church Hall, Princes Road Hampton Hill TW12 1JR

A Summer Celebration Concert takes *Three Shakespeare Songs* by Vaughan Williams, spirituals and arrangements, madrigals from *The Triumph of Oriana*, and part songs. Tickets £16 (to include a glass of fizz) under 16s free. Available from Hillsound Musical Instruments, by phoning 020 8898 8020 or on the door.

NEW

### ALMA Sunday Celebration Eucharist

Sunday 10 July, 6pm, St Paul's Cathedral,

Celebrate the 18th Birthday of ALMA, our diocesan partnership with the Anglican Church in Angola and Mozambique. Join ALMA Parish and School Links from all across the Diocese, as we welcome Bishop Andre Soares, Bishop of Angola, to celebrate the coming of age of our partnership. The event is free and everyone is welcome. For more information email [almacoordinator@london.anglican.org](mailto:almacoordinator@london.anglican.org) or tel 020 7932 1231.

NEW

### Refugee Crisis Response

Wednesday 13 July, 8pm, Hampton Methodist Church, Percy Road, Hampton, TW12 2JT.

Come and be informed by Ms Angela Afzal, the Diocese of London's Refugee Response Coordinator. We are lucky to have her come to Hampton, so please spread the word.

### Hampton Hill Summer Festival

Saturday 16 July, 10am-7pm, High Street and beyond

This popular event is organised by the Hampton Hill Traders' Association and takes place up and down the High Street and inside the gates of Bushy Park. Events include the Hounds on the Hill dog show, pony rides, pets corner, vintage bus rides, live music and food. More information at: [lovehamptonhill.com](http://lovehamptonhill.com).

NEW

### TW12 Jazz

Sunday 17-Sunday 24 July, various locations

Now in its fourth year, this is an impressive programme of live music and jam sessions — and it is now even bigger! This event is organised by Janet McCunn and Terence Collie, two local musicians who have once again attracted big names to this unique festival.

There will be performances in Richmond, Twickenham, Hampton Hill town centres on the opening day, on Thursday 21 in Hampton Square, Friday evening at the United Reformed Church, Saturday in Normansfield theatre and Sunday afternoon and evening at the Hampton Hill Theatre.

Special events include two large scale new projects from Femi Temowo and Kate Williams. Other musicians include Gilad Atzmon, Anita Wardell, Jim Mullen, Southside Gypsy Trio and Mood Indigo Jazz Band. Tickets from £8-£50. For more details and to book go to: [tw12jazzfestival.co.uk](http://tw12jazzfestival.co.uk)

### Concordia Voices

Saturday 2 July, St Mary with St Alban, Ferry Road, Teddington TW11 9NN

A concert celebrating the work of William Shakespeare in collaboration with the Richmond Shakespeare Society. Tickets £12 on door (concessions £10), or £10 in advance (£8) from members or by emailing [secretary@concordiavoices.org](mailto:secretary@concordiavoices.org).

### Teddington Choral Society

Saturday 2 July, 7.30pm, Waldegrave School, Fifth Cross Road, Twickenham TW2 5LH

The theme of the evening is *Draw on Sweet Night*, with music from Bernstein, Barber, Brahms and Saint-Saens. Tickets £15 on door (£13 in advance). Go to: [teddingtonchoral.co.uk](http://teddingtonchoral.co.uk).

### St James's Open Day Celebrations

Sunday 3 July, from 11am, St James's Church

Please join us for our annual celebration and church open day. This year, we will also be celebrating the Queen's 90th birthday. Our guest preacher is the Rt Revd Martin Wharton. Ordained in 1972, he was Bishop of Kingston-upon-Thames from 1992-1997 before becoming Bishop of Newcastle. He retired in 2014 after 17 years there.



Our all-age Parish Communion starts at 11am to be followed by a barbecue lunch, weather permitting, in the vicarage gardens. We'll be serving hot dogs, pork roast and pizza as well as a wide variety of salads, cheeses, meats, and desserts.

There will also be an inflatable slide, music, children's entertainment, and a churchyard nature trail.

**The church will re-open from 1pm-3pm, giving both parishioners and visitors the chance to climb the tower, for an unrivalled view of Hampton Hill, and ring the bells.**

### Twickenham Choral Society

Saturday 9 July, 7.30pm, St John's Smith Square, London, SW1P 3HA

Elgar's *Dream of Gerontius*, with the Brandenburg Sinfonia and soloists Miranda Westcott, Peter Auty and David Soar. *Gerontius* leaves the world, facing his judgement and beyond, guided by angels.

The 100-strong choir are his comforters; then nasty devils; and finally angels praising God in heaven. Elgar's dramatic, atmospheric orchestration goes from solemnity through fear to ecstasy. Tickets are £5-£22 online from [sjss.org.uk](http://sjss.org.uk) or by telephoning 020 7222 1061.

### Registers for May



There were no baptisms, marriages or funerals in May.



### Vicar's View



*The curate's new interest in angling proved to be a real asset when it came to getting more people into church*



# Getting steamed up about railways

For my second birthday I was given a Thomas the Tank Engine train set and shortly afterwards Percy was added... and I was hooked from that moment. When I was six I received my first Hornby set which really added fuel to the fire and I now have a 14x9ft Hornby layout and a garden railway. People ask me what bit I'm interested in the most, but the truth is I like everything railway-related, from the engine itself to the atmosphere of the railway and, of course, the smell.

I have taken my hobby and interest to a new level, and volunteer on the Hampton & Kempton Waterworks railway as a fireman on their steam engine, *Darent*. I hope to qualify as a driver in the next two years.

## 1 SWANAGE RAILWAY Dorset



The Swanage railway is a six-mile line that runs between Nordon and Swanage, passing the lovely Corfe Castle pictured above. There are two reasons that this is my favourite railway. My favourite engine, 80104, lives there, and there is the fantastic scenery, from hills to the beach. It is great for train enthusiasts and for the rest of the family as you can stop at Corfe Castle for tea and cake and then head to Swanage to paddle in the sea.



## 2 HAMPTON & KEMPTON WATERWORKS Snakey Lane



I volunteer here at one of the UK's newest railways, as a fireman, guard, or doing some manual labour, as below! It runs a steam engine, the *Darent*, on a 2ft narrow gauge circuit of track at the Kempton Steam Museum. There are plans to extend the line to the Hampton waterworks.

I enjoy the fact it has got so much future potential. Whilst many other railways are established, I like the idea of developing it as well as running it.



## 3 HAYLING ISLAND SEASIDE Hampshire



This 2ft narrow gauge railway started in 2003 and runs a diesel engine between the Beachlands fairground to Eastcote Corner.

It runs along the beach, passing all the colourful beach huts and with a view of the sea. When I was five year's old I made my Mum and Dad walk the entire line as at the time it was being just being built and I wanted to see where it went!

We used to visit twice a year for a ride in both summer and winter and I have very fond memories of my time there.



## 4 SNOWDON MOUNTAIN RAILWAY Gwynedd, Wales

Snowdon Mountain Railway is the only narrow gauge rack and pinion railway in the UK and it runs from Llanberis to the summit of the mountain. It has been running as a tourist railway since 1896 and several of the steam engines from this time are still operational.

When I visited in October we left the bottom of the mountain in rain and arrived at the top in a winter wonderland covered in snow. I've heard there are amazing views from the top of Mt Snowdon but, as pictured above, I could barely see 10ft in front of me!



## 5 MUSEUM OF WATER & STEAM Kew Bridge

The museum at Kew Bridge runs a small narrow gauge railway around the back of the building. It used to run



one of my favourite engines, *Cloister*, but now uses a Wren-class loco called *Thomas Wicksteed*, which is currently the newest working steam locomotive in the UK. (It also visited the Hampton & Kempton Waterworks Railway in 2013). The short line represents the Hampton to Kempton Park Coal Railway, built and operated by the Metropolitan Water Board between 1916 and 1946.

It's also a great museum to visit with its massive 100- and 90-inch Cornish engines. This is one of my favourite railways as it's another place from where I have fond childhood memories.



## 6 VALE OF RHEIDOL RAILWAY Aberystwyth, South Wales

This narrow gauge railway was built in 1902 to carry lead ore and timber. It runs between Aberystwyth and Devil's Bridge in Ceredigion, Wales. There are the most amazing views of the Rheidol valley as the it climbs 700 feet along the side of the hillside.

At Devil's Bridge there is a lovely waterfall and this and the bridge has been an attraction for centuries. Birds of prey are often seen over the valley and we were lucky enough to see a red kite soaring above us.



## 7 NORTH NORFOLK RAILWAY Sheringham

The North Norfolk Railway / The Poppy Line runs between Sheringham and Holt. One of the reasons that I like this railway is that one of my favourite television programmes, *Dad's Army*, used Weybourne Station in the episode *The Royal Train*.



It has changed slightly since the filming in 1973, but it is easily recognisable from when the platoon were lined up on the platform. The train passes through areas of outstanding natural beauty and, as the name suggests, fields of poppies can be seen in the summer.



## 8 FFESTINIOG RAILWAY Gwynedd, North Wales

This is the world's oldest narrow gauge railway and three of its original locomotives are still running today. The beautiful route runs from Porthmadog to Blaenau Ffestiniog up into the mountains 700 feet above sea level. It passes forest, lakes and waterfalls as it climbs up or through the mountain. The original carriages are still used and an at-seat buffet service is provided, which is very welcome on a cold, wet Welsh day.

## 9 DIDCOT RAILWAY CENTRE Oxfordshire



The centre has a large collection of Great Western Railway engines and has recreated a small section of Brunel's broad gauge 7 foot railway. I like this railway because you can go into the sheds and climb in the engines and play with the controls and as a young child I had loads of fun there. It's also where I learnt about the non-stop mail trains as they used to demonstrate this. I managed to get a replica of this for my own model railway.

## 10 AMBERLEY MUSEUM Arundel, Sussex



Amberley Museum and Heritage Centre is on the site of a former chalk quarry. It's a hands-on museum where you can learn about many different industries, including visiting a printer's shop and a brickyard. There are demonstrations ranging from how steam engines work to how an old telephone system operated. The narrow gauge railway runs around the site and when I visited I was pleasantly surprised to find *Cloister*, which used to run at Kew.