

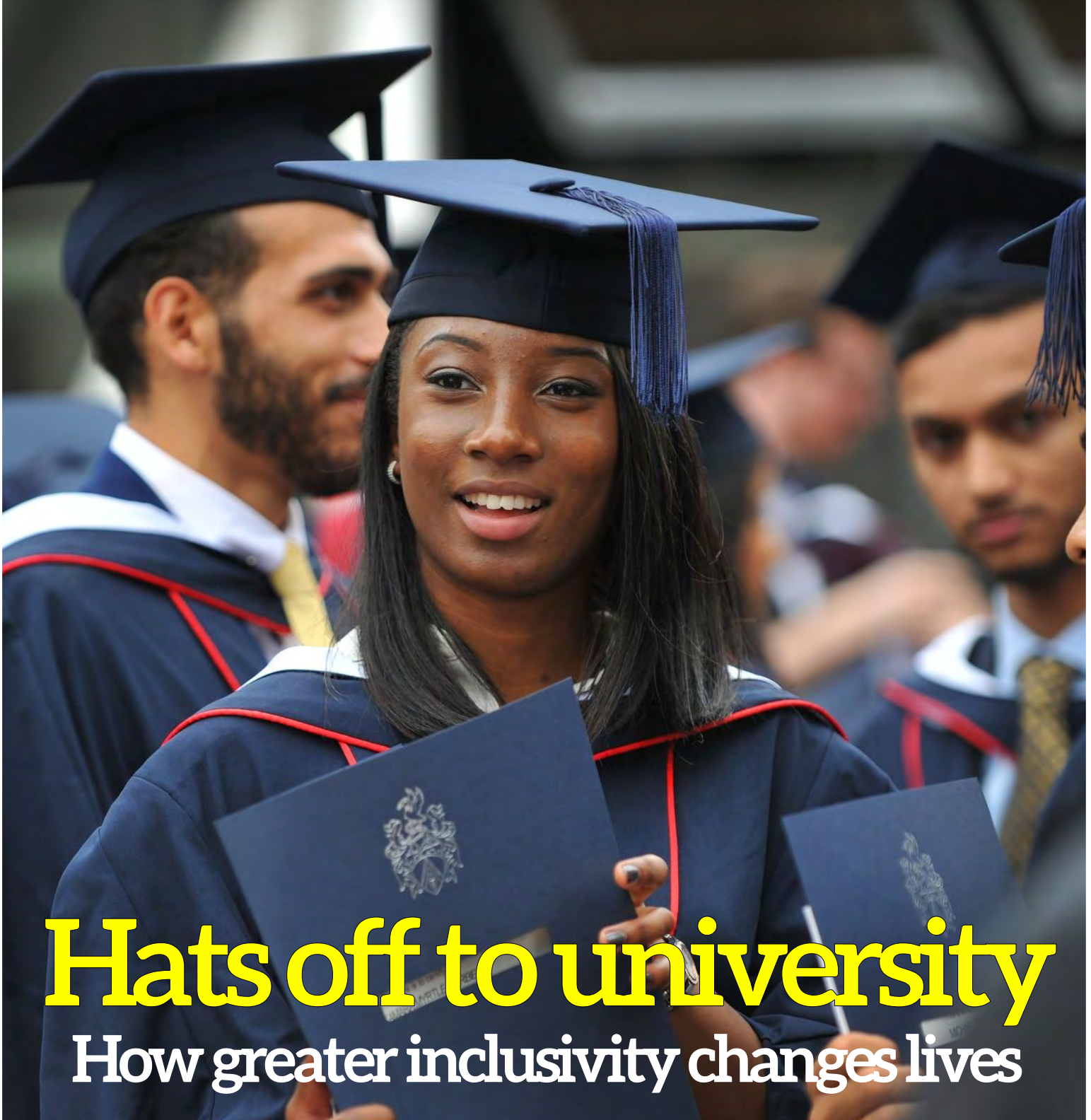
JUNE 2019 EDUCATION ISSUE

# SPIRE



HAMPTON HILL'S PARISH MAGAZINE

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## Hats off to university

How greater inclusivity changes lives

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## Meet the clergy



### VICAR Rev Derek Winterburn

Derek was born in Orpington, Kent, and ordained in 1986. He served in several diverse London parishes before becoming vicar here in 2016. He is married to Sandra, a teacher, and has two children. A keen photographer, he posts a picture online every day, combining it with a daily walk or cycle ride. He can be contacted at any time other than on Mondays (his day off).

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### CURATE Rev Jacky Cammidge

Jacky was born in Abertillery, South Wales, and ordained in 2015. She is a self-supporting minister and has been at St James's since starting her ordination training. Jacky is married to Alan, and has three children. During term-time she runs Hampton Hill Nursery School, based in the church hall, with her family.

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### ASSISTANT PRIEST Canon Julian Reindorp

Julian was born in Durban, South Africa, and ordained in 1969. He has worked in parishes in East London, Chatham and Milton Keynes, and was Team Rector in Richmond until retirement in 2009. He continues to lead a busy life, often out and about on his trademark red scooter. Julian is married to Louise and has four children, three stepchildren and nine grandchildren.

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## Letter from the Editor

With Easter and the beautiful sunshine behind us we are now approaching summer with some very unseasonal weather. Planning is well underway for our St James's Day Weekend in July (see page 3).

It is good to see our curate, Jacky Cammidge, back in action after her hip operation. We also welcome Sylvie Collins-Mayo, who is joining us as a Licenced Lay Minister.

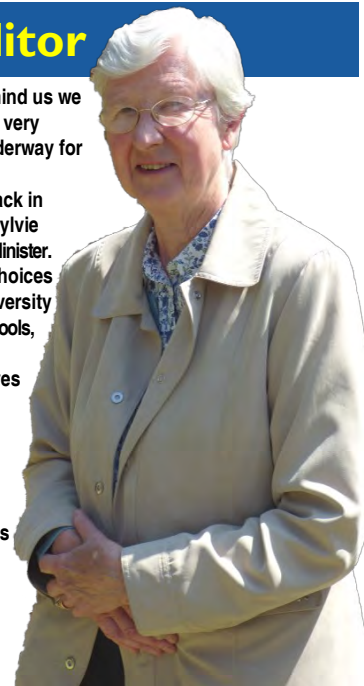
As young people are taking exams and making choices about their future, our centrespread focuses on university life. With her wealth of experience of working in schools, and latterly at Brunel University, Lesley Mortimer shows how such an education can enhance the lives of people from every background.

Paul Fitchett shares his passion for attending concerts with his personal favourites on page 8.

And finally, I would like to thank all those who have donated to our Spire Appeal, to help with the production costs of this magazine. The appeal runs all year so it is never too late to donate.

Best Wishes

Janet



Cover photo: How a university education can transform everyone's life, rich or poor

## SPIRE

The Spire is published nine times a year for the Parochial Church Council of St James. We make no charge for this magazine, but if you are a regular reader we hope that you will contribute towards printing costs to enable us to expand our outreach across the parish. Cheques should be made payable to the PCC of St James, Hampton Hill and sent to Spire Appeal c/o the church office.

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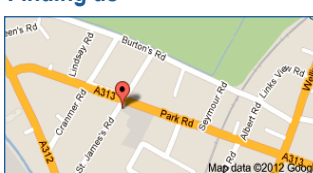


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### Finding us



The church is on the corner of St James's Road and Park Road. The hall is next to the church and vicarage. There is ample parking. Buses include R68, R70 and 285.

### Follow us

For the very latest news go to our website or follow us on social media:

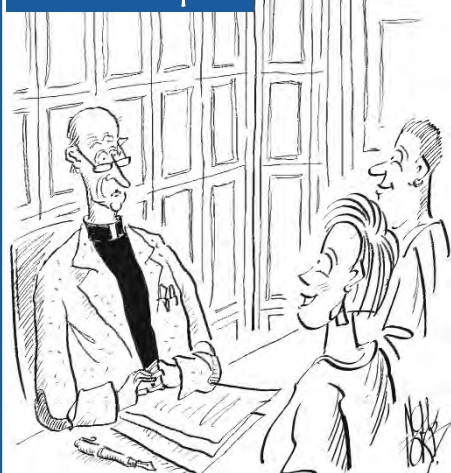
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## Clerical Capers



'... and then, as the organist hits us with a hip-hop riff, you kick off the wedding vows in a smokin' rap style...'



# Read the Bible like a Hollywood film series



**DEREK WINTERBURN**

Last year I watched the very popular movie *Avengers: Infinity War* (pictured above). For large parts of the film I was baffled as to who the characters were and what they were fighting about. What I had not appreciated was that this was the 19th film in a sequence, and the writers had assumed that the audience would know and remember what had gone on before.

In fact, I had seen episodes 1, 4, 9 and 16 - not realising that they were all connected. Last month the 22nd and final film in the 'story arc' was released, fittingly titled *Avengers: Endgame*.

Long-form storytelling has become much more common in recent years. Once TV programmes had self-contained episodes; now audiences look for a longer story. Take the long-running *Dr Who* as an example. In the early episodes, the 'showrunners' now sow seeds of a storyline that will climax at the end of the series.

Another very popular series, *Game of Thrones*, has taken eight series to come to a conclusion.

### From Fast to faster...

Who would have foreseen this in the 1990s when the BBC's *The Fast Show* was most popular, with sketches reduced to a only a minute or two, psychologists

said we could concentrate for only seven minutes and 'fast food' was on the rise?

Instead DVD boxsets and On Demand TV have paved the way to these extended stories. I wonder if this trend is a path back to an older form of storytelling that was long and sustained?

Harry Potter offers a bridge. Many encounter JK Rowling's saga as an eight-film franchise and then move onto the seven volume sequence - over a million words. Set alongside that, the Bible's 800,000 words (approx) looks modest for 66 'books'. In these days of long-form narratives the Bible is quite manageable.

**‘Just like a TV boxset or a long-running epic Hollywood film series, knowing the basic plot of the Bible helps provide a path through books written over a thousand years’**

### Grasping the Bible's Big Story

Yet many people feel about the Bible as I did when I watched 'Avengers: Infinity War'. If one begins with a gospel (one of the accounts of Jesus's life) one is starting in the middle, and may soon be asking 'who are these people?', 'why are they arguing?' and 'what does it all mean?'

If on the other hand one starts at the beginning (The Book of Genesis), after a pacy start things seem to terminally slow

down, 60 pages in, with detailed instructions on tent making.

That's why Bible Teachers talk about grasping the 'Big Story of the Bible'. If one can grasp the overall direction and the key themes of the Bible, then it begins to fit together. The movie, TV and musical versions of *Les Miserables* can offer a 'main route' through the meandering plot of the book — and so help in reading the novel itself.

In the same way knowing the 'basic plot' of the Bible helps provide a path through books written over a thousand years. Then, knowing the main route, one is better placed to take in a myriad of other ideas.

### The Bible Course

Some of us at St James's are following *The Bible Course*, a resource provided by the Bible Society. Through video, printed material and discussions we are thinking about the Old Testament and New Testament, and learning how God spoke through history books, poetry, prophecy and letters.

But there is also the challenge to listen to God in these words today. The refrain throughout the course is: 'What did this passage mean in its context and what does it mean in my life today?'

Whether being on the course or not, reading the Bible is an adventure. I love the words of Archbishop William Temple: 'In the Bible a child can paddle and an elephant can swim.' But in the end we actually have to read and reflect on it — not like the man who said, 'I almost read the Bible everyday: almost on Monday, almost on Tuesday, almost on Wednesday...' Happy reading!



## Sundays

Holy Communion (said) 8-8:30am  
Parish Communion 9:30-10:30am (not 7 Jul)  
Together at Eleven 11-11:35am (not 7 Jul)  
followed by crafts and refreshments

## Mon-Fri

(but not Tuesdays)  
Morning Prayer 9:15-9:40am

## Tuesdays

4, 18, 25 Jun  
Holy Communion 9:30-10:15am  
11 Jun  
Holy Communion and Coffee 10-11:30am

## Ark Playgroup

Mondays 3, 10, 17, 24 Jun 10:15am-12:15pm  
Weekly playgroup for under 5s and carers.  
£2 per family, including refreshments.

## Fairtrade Stall

Sundays 2 Jun 10:30am  
Stock up on Traidcraft goods

## Connections

Tuesday 4 Jun 11am-12:30pm  
Our drop-in session with games and exercises and a free, NHS hearing aid clinic.

## The Bible Course (Life Groups)

Tuesdays 4, 11, 18 Jun; 2 Jul 8pm  
Thursdays 6, 13, 20, 27 Jun 3pm  
Thursdays 6, 13, 20 Jun; 4 Jul 8pm  
The home groups follow the Bible (see left)

## Endelienta Baroque Concert

Friday 21 Jun 7.30pm  
Endelienta Baroque present a lively programme of Baroque Treasures from Corelli, Handel, Bach and Vivaldi using period instruments. Tickets, £10 adults, £5 students, under 16s free, available on the door or from endelientabaroque@gmail.com

## St James's Day Weekend

### Open to View Saturday 6 Jul

1.30pm Organ Recital  
2pm Climb the spire, ring the bells, take a church tour, enjoy tea and cakes, try your hand at the tombola or buy a plant.  
4pm Pop-up Cinema presents *How to Train Your Dragon: The Hidden World* (PG)  
Free entry - no need to book

### St James's Day Sunday 7 Jul

11am The Rev Prebendary Dr Brian Leathard, a former vicar of St James's, is guest speaker at our Parish Communion.  
Children's groups will run as usual.  
12:30pm Barbecue lunch and drinks in the vicarage garden, with games, activities and crafts for families and children.



# More open universities



**LESLEY MORTIMER**

In the ten years since I last wrote in the *Spire* about my work as a Widening Participation Officer at Brunel University London much has changed in the Higher Education (HE) sector. Tuition fees have risen to £9,250 per annum, the cap has come off student numbers, i.e. universities can recruit as many students as they wish (although Oxbridge has, so far, refused to tread this path) and there is a new HE regulator – the Office for Students.

HE has become a hot topic. In fact, barely a day goes by when there isn't an article in the broadsheets about fair admissions, student debt or the wellbeing of the UK's undergraduate population.

What *hasn't* changed in the past ten years is the low participation rate of young people from the most disadvantaged backgrounds. While government figures published last year show that 25 per cent of young people eligible for free school meals (an accepted proxy for deprivation) entered HE by the age of 19, up from 21 per cent in 2012, the gap between disadvantaged students and their more advantaged peers *increased* over the same period.

And if you are a child in the care of a local authority, you have little more chance of going to university now than you did in 2009. Efforts to increase social mobility through access to HE still have a way to go.

## Social mobility challenges

So what is the government doing to address the situation? When it permitted tuition fees to rise from £6000 to £9000 in 2012, universities were obliged to spend a percentage

of their increased income on measures to secure gains in access and participation.

This replaced the government funding which, until then, had underpinned widening participation work at Brunel and at every university in the country.

A regulatory framework also came into being involving annual reporting of spend on widening participation activities. In the hope of speeding progress, this has now been considerably strengthened by

the Office for Students. Last year universities in England had to submit reports on how they had diversified their student populations.

Those deemed to be wanting, such as Oxbridge, have been threatened with sanctions. This is why there has been a flurry of new initiatives, such as that recently announced by Cambridge University to give disadvantaged students a second chance of a place if their A level grades are better than expected.

**Giving young people from disadvantaged backgrounds the opportunity of a university education has been a government priority for 18 years — but not every provider has been as committed, and imminent changes could water down the expectations. Yet where universities do widen participation it can and does change lives, as Lesley Mortimer has seen**

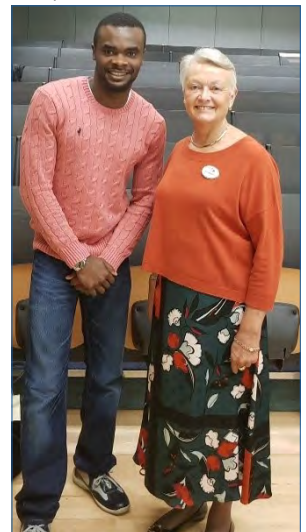


Graduation day at Brunel University

likely they are to aspire to achieve and attend.

## It changed Patrick's life

Take Patrick, pictured below with me last year at the Brunel Urban Scholars Saturday School, for students from across London in receipt of free school meals.



Patrick was brought up in Canning Town, one of the most deprived areas of the capital. His local Roman Catholic boys' school encouraged his ambition to go to university and he graduated from Brunel with a 2.1 in Electrical and Electronic Engineering, as well as becoming a British Universities boxing champion.

Throughout his time at Brunel he worked alongside me as a Widening Participation Ambassador, encouraging others to follow in his footsteps. Today he runs his own business, is a motivational speaker, mentors challenging, disaffected young

## Funding makes a difference

I was fortunate to work for a university that generously funded widening participation work and reaped the benefits. About 60 per cent of Brunel's undergraduate student population comes from black, Asian and minority ethnic (BAME) backgrounds, around 7 per cent are in receipt of the Disabled Students Allowance and between 15 and 25 students per year are care leavers.

We also targeted other under-represented groups such as young carers, estranged students (not supported by their parents), refugees and white working class young people who are the least likely of all ethnic groups to enter HE.

## Aspiring to achieve

For 16 years I organised HE awareness-raising visits to the campus for young people from primary Year 5 upwards; Taster Days enabling students to learn more about degree subjects; summer schools; GCSE revision sessions and careers fairs.

If you can open the eyes of students from non-traditional, less privileged backgrounds at a young age to the opportunities afforded by a university education, the more



Opening the eyes of the young to the opportunities afforded by a university education is vital



# change lives



## Tuition fees and student loans should not deter young people from a university education

people and gives back to the community in which he still lives by coaching sport and running fitness sessions. University changed his life and his expectations of life.

### HE changes lives

For all young people with the aptitude and inclination, HE can be a life-changer. Don't be put off by the tuition fees and student loans. The amount graduates repay depends on what they earn - currently 9 per cent of any earnings over £25,000 - NOT how much they have borrowed. Someone earning £30,000 would currently repay £450 a year (£37.50 per month). Any outstanding debt is written off after 30 years. As a point of comparison I often reminded students and parents how much they pay for their mobile phone contract per month! The reality is that the government/taxpayer is still subsidising university students because more than 75 per cent of them will never fully repay their loans.

### Tips for aspiring undergraduates

- Do your research - consult comparison websites such as [www.unistats.ac.uk](http://www.unistats.ac.uk)
- Look at the league tables for the *subject* you wish to study. A lower-ranking university may be very highly rated for your particular degree course.
- Visit, if possible, the universities you are interested in - the sun is always shining in the prospectus photos and, if you aim to move away from home, that wonderful student accommodation may be an inconvenient three miles from the campus.
- Never be tempted to plagiarise your UCAS personal statement - the software will catch you out.
- If a conventional university degree is not for you, then look at applying for a degree apprenticeship. These are offered by the civil service, many engineering firms such as Jaguar Land Rover and BAE systems, all the big

accountancy firms, many banks and technology companies.

There is even the hope that in a couple of years' time you will be able to apply for a degree apprenticeship alongside your five university choices rather than having to apply directly to the sponsoring company. There is a lot to be said for earning as you learn.

### The future for HE

**T**he Augar review of post-18 education funding in England is due to be published imminently. It is rumoured that it will recommend a significant reduction in tuition fees. This may please students, but it could spell financial ruin for some universities. And if there are no compensatory arrangements, where is the money coming from that supports disadvantaged and under-represented young people to fulfil their potential?



Graduation day brings home to candidates and families the scale of achievement

# Around the Spire

## Building a better church for future

**TWO NEW FACES** have joined the Parochial Church Council following the Annual Meeting in April.

Annalea Gratton and Scott Robertson were elected, along with Sarah Richardson who had previously been co-opted.

Gwynneth Lloyd was re-elected to serve a third year as churchwarden. The second warden remains vacant.

The accounts showed that the church recorded a loss in 2018, but thanks to a terrific 7% increase in planned giving from parishioners the projected deficit had been reduced from £9,490 to £6,737.

Major improvements to the church buildings, and the appointment of a Children & Families' Worker were paid for from Betty Stewart's legacy.

The 2019 budget again projects a loss, but includes £1500 allocated to the Charities Team. Last year it had to fundraise to cover all donations.

In his address to the meeting, Derek Winterburn said that for the



Annalea Gratton Scott Robertson

second year running there had been an increase in churchgoers, mostly from the shorter, more family-friendly 11am service, but numbers attending the 9:30am service were also slightly up.

### Serving community

He said the church remained focused on serving the community in many different ways, investing in the building, and supporting a number of charities.

He said the church building was increasingly being used for cinema events and concerts, alongside the popular weekly playgroup and the new monthly drop-in club for lonely and elderly people.

## Support for vulnerable families

**THANK YOU** to everyone who is supporting The Children's Society with a collecting box from church. Between them hundreds of pounds is being



their hands. 'Low wages, poor housing and public service cutbacks have left many families struggling,' it says. 'They have to make impossible

choices every single day. One bit of bad luck quickly leads to families not being able to afford the basics, made worse by council service cuts.'

## Lay Minister joins our team

**WE ARE DELIGHTED** to welcome Sylvie Collins-Mayo, pictured, who is joining our ministerial team as a Licensed Lay Minister (previously known as a Lay Reader),

Sylvie is being licensed at St John's, Hoxton, on 6 June, after which she will be able to take part in leading worship and preaching.

This is a voluntary post and professionally Sylvie is a sociologist and Head of the Department of Criminology and Sociology at Kingston University.

Her interests include the Street Pastors project, now running in Richmond, and the involvement of



animals in religion.

She is married to Bob Mayo, who until recently was a vicar, but is now the chaplain at HM Prison and Young Offenders' Institution in Rochester.



# When the only way is up!



**DANI ROBERTSON**

Churches from the Kensington Area joined forces to share the love of Christ with 30 young people over the course of one action-packed weekend in April.

Three of our young people, Charlotte, Emma and Erica, were swept away to the Oakwood Youth Challenge where they embarked on spiritual and physical journeys.

The weekend began with a crime scene investigation where they interviewed Peter and Mary Magdalene to see if they thought the resurrection of Jesus really happened.

My group was sceptical of Mary Magdalene's testimony. She said she'd forgotten that Jesus told them he was going to be put to death, but that he would rise again. The group thought it was a little fishy that she'd forget something so important.

Following a short night's sleep filled with the sounds of giggling girls we gathered again. I spoke about how our lives change after becoming a Christian and how God loves people unconditionally.

### Erica commended for 'fantastic attitude'

Following this session they visited a climbing wall which was Charlotte's favourite activity and where she easily had the quickest climbing time. Erica preferred the escape room which she helped to run, and she was also commended in front of everyone for her fantastic attitude as she cheered on her friends despite not being able to do some of the activities due to a wrist injury.

Later that evening they visited around 20 reflection stations challenging them to consider their relationship with God. Some stations had them blow up balloons and think about being filled with the Holy Spirit, while my favourite station had them trace their hand on a piece of paper, write a prayer and nail it to a cross.

### Bishop Graham: 'Jesus loves us'

Bishop Graham joined us for our final session on Sunday where he had them think about where they'd be the next day. He told them that they would always be supported by Jesus (this was Emma's favourite part).



Emma, reaching high on the climbing wall

During Emma's reflections on the weekend she remarked about how much she enjoyed the calm, welcoming atmosphere of the entire weekend. There was a general consensus among the girls that the food was great, but they didn't care too much for the washing up or being woken too early!

The girls made new friends, conquered their fears, and are already asking for the forms to sign up for next year.



Charlotte and Erica in the 'escape room'

# Fresh take on Easter a hit with school



Our volunteers helped 90 children from Carlisle Infant School walk in the steps of Jesus in our interactive Easter Experience. We had some great feedback too.



# Protecting coffee farmers



Drying coffee beans in Ethiopia



**LAURENCE SEWELL**

None of this can be predicted by poor rural farmers in Latin America or Africa. Growing coffee is further complicated by the impacts of climate change that have caused disturbances to weather patterns and temperatures in producing countries increasing the risks faced by farmers dependent on coffee sales.

Perhaps you have just drunk your morning coffee, one of about 95 million cups of which are consumed every day in the UK. But have you thought about how and where the coffee beans are grown?

The international coffee trade is one of the most complex supply chains and, as a significant internationally traded commodity, prices are determined by dominant multinational trading and roasting companies. Three companies – ECOM, Neumann and Volcafe – control around half of the global coffee trade.

It is only by ensuring you buy Fairtrade certified coffee (such as is sold through Traidcraft) that you can be certain that it has been ethically and sustainably sourced directly from farmers whose livelihoods are being protected, rather than the exploitive relationship that goes with much of the commercial trade.

### Origins and types of coffee

The coffee bush originates from Kefa in Ethiopia. It is endemic to the highlands of south-eastern Ethiopia where some 15 million smallholder farmers are dependent on harvesting and processing coffee beans. This is the main type of coffee – *Coffea arabica* – grown at higher elevations, over 1,000 metres. The other genus is *Coffea canephora* grown at lower altitudes from which we get robusta coffee which is used primarily in instant coffees.

Coffee is cultivated by smallholder farmers or grown on estates in more than 70 countries worldwide, but over 60 per cent of the world's coffee is produced in just four countries: Brazil (which alone produces 30%), Vietnam, Colombia and Indonesia. Vietnam, as the second largest global producer, is entirely concentrated on robusta coffee. Ethiopia is the largest producer in Africa, that overall has a 13 per cent share of global production.

### Challenges for the coffee farmer

Farmers are badly affected by the notorious volatility of world coffee prices that make it difficult for them to predict annual incomes, and the incentives and resources to invest in production. For example, between 2011-13 prices fell by 65% as a result of the Euro crisis and oversupply of coffee. Then in 2014 prices rose due to drought in Brazil.

### Supporting farmers and the supply chain

Many organisations and donor programmes have been working to ensure coffee farmers receive a fair and stable price for their crop, and build more efficient supply chains (often cutting out middlemen and traders that exploit individual farming families).

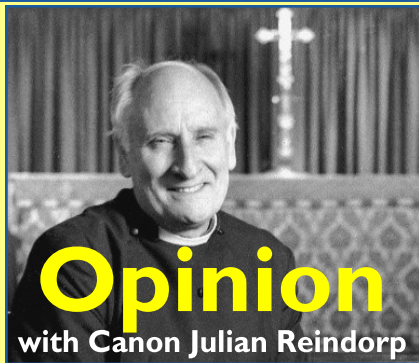
I was recently in Ethiopia and am currently providing advisory support to a programme that is aiming to develop and promote the value chain for 'forest' coffees (i.e. the wild traditional varieties found in tropical forests in the country). This has potential for ecological, farmer and consumer benefits. It seeks to protect the genetic material of wild coffee; build a brand and a traceability system through separately grading and improving the processing of 'forest' coffee so that local communities can achieve better livelihoods; and work with international buyers directly to offer premium prices for this specialised, improved quality coffee that can be marketed to consumers.

If local forest communities can see opportunities for improved livelihoods and are incentivised through a market-led approach with international buyers, this demonstrates the value of a twin-track approach of community participation and public private partnerships for the protection and sustainable use of the valuable and unique Ethiopian forest resource which ultimately brings wider benefits for climate resilience.



Farmers need help to adapt to climate change





## Opinion with Canon Julian Reindorp

### DEMENTIA ICON

Wendy Mitchell was working in the NHS when, aged 58, she was diagnosed with young onset dementia. She describes her experiences in her remarkable book, *Somebody I Used to Know* (Bloomsbury, £5.99 from Amazon). At first she tried to hide it from colleagues, then she faced it head on. She vowed to spend her time raising awareness about dementia, and encouraging others to see there is life after a diagnosis. She writes from within the dementia 'bubble', the first memoir of its kind, a memoir about losing memories.

She speaks at a literary festival to warm applause. Her interviewer asks, how much will she remember about the evening the next day: 'Probably nothing'. Do read this helpful and inspiring book.

### EXTINCTION REBELLION

As I write, more than 1,000 people have been arrested over their direct action on London streets about the urgency of climate change. 'This is not just school children, hippies and crusties, it is everyone.' This movement has overtaken the peace movement of the 1980s to become the biggest civil disobedience campaign in modern British history. A 16-year-old Swedish school girl, Greta Thunberg, addressed politicians at Westminster: 'If your house was on fire how urgently would you respond?' And Sir David Attenborough, a world leader in this field, addressed the International Monetary Fund.

About 85% of all our environmental legislation is from the EU and it is legally enforceable. Meanwhile our Government has produced some powerful policies in this field, but has twice refused to give them legal backing. This could mean the needs of our economy will come before the needs of our planet. It is four years since Pope Francis published his ground-breaking encyclical *Laudato Si* (Praised Be) in which he underlined the man-made effects of climate change.

### HUNGRY FOR CHANGE

The London Stock Market is at its highest for six months and we are the sixth biggest economy in the world. Meanwhile the UN estimates that up to 8.4million people in the UK are 'food insecure', worrying about their next meal or simply going without. There are about 2,000 food banks that we know of and the Trussell Trust, a Christian charity, runs many of them.

The all-party Parliamentary group on hunger has found that austerity, punitive welfare reforms, benefit cuts, inaction on low pay and insecure work, as well the widening gap between income and the cost of living are the main drivers of UK hunger. Three million children are at risk during the school holidays, and 1.3 million older people are 'withering away in their own homes'.

### ONE RULE FOR THE RICH?

Recently the Roman Catholic weekly *The Tablet* described a meeting of 2,300 people who had come to listen to the Tory MP Jacob Rees-Mogg in conversation with Fraser Nelson, the editor of the *Spectator*. Rees-Mogg dealt with most questions very politely. He explained he works one day a week at the capital management company he set up in his 20s, paying himself £500 an hour. He was asked, 'Isn't that a bit much when you're voting for nurses and doctors to have pay freezes?' He snapped back, 'Completely irrelevant comparison.' That was as cross as he got.

### MR MEN RIVAL STEINBECK

Mr Men books, ideal for family services and bed time reading for children, have been shown to be only marginally less complex in their language than that used by John Steinbeck in *The Grapes of Wrath*, a Pulitzer-prize-winning epic of 500 pages. Mr Men books are picture books with about 36 pages and it was Mr Greedy who was the key comparison.

# Families in crisis live in our midst



DEREK  
WINTERBURN

**A**lthough we live in an affluent area not everyone enjoys a comfortable income, good housing or a happy family life. Child poverty may be half the national average, but at least two children in a class of thirty will live in a low income family. Richmond has higher than national average admissions of under 5s to A&E, lower than average take up of the MMR1 immunisation and the highest levels in London of teenagers drunk, smoking and other 'risky behaviours'. Sadly this culminates in one of the highest levels of self-harm amongst 10-24 year olds in the Capital.

Growing out of the social action of London churches over 100 years, Welcare invests in families in crisis and need. The SW London (Richmond and Kingston) centres operate from East Sheen and Southfields. They offer both personal visits from a Family Support Worker as well as a good parenting programme and guidance with mental health, domestic abuse and substance misuse.

Across the whole organisation last year, 190 children and 88 families were given intensive support, and a further 900 children and families benefited from other programmes and activities. 93% of parents and children reported making a positive change in their life following the intervention.

#### Bishop Wand School

Based in Sunbury, Bishop Wand is a popular choice for those who are looking for a Church of England Secondary School. A number of our Shell Seekers attend there.

It was founded in 1969 on land given by St Paul's Cathedral, and was named after William Wand who was Bishop of London between 1945 and 1955. Bishop Wand's



Local families in need can get vital support from Welcare

students have distinctive ties, coloured red, gold and blue.

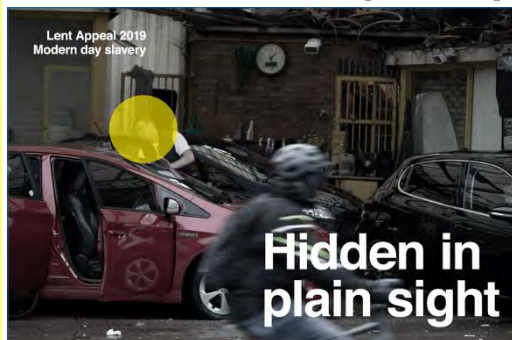
Church Schools are sometimes called Faith Schools. This is a mistake. Unlike Faith Schools, places are not reserved for children of one particular religion and RE includes other religions. Staff and students will be from a variety of faiths and none. Church of England Schools such as Bishop Wand speak often about their Christian Ethos - which like the air we breathe is difficult to describe but vital.

The gift that St James's makes to the school supports the work of the Chaplain. When budgets are so tight in education it is a marker of the Governors' commitment to the Christian Ethos that the post of Chaplain is still supported.

As a result the spiritual life of the students is fostered by assemblies and services, and a variety of Christian Groups. The Chaplain also is able to offer students and staff pastoral care on an individual level.



## London's Modern Day Slavery



**OUR LENT APPEAL**, shared between the Diocese of London's Modern Day Slavery campaign, and David and Shelley Stokes in Argentina, raised **£2013**. It's emerged that there have been more than 900 reports of potential slavery from drivers using hand car washes. The **Safe Car Wash app**, which allows drivers to respond to a checklist of key factors that may suggest modern slavery or labour exploitation in hand car washes, has been downloaded **8,225** times since its launch by the Church of England and the Catholic Church in England and Wales last year.

## REGISTERS

### MARCH

#### FUNERALS

- 1 Maisie Estelle Sharp, 92, Kingston
- 13 Kenneth Edwin Eley, 86, Hampton

### APRIL

There were no entries





# Music was my first love...



**PAUL FITCHETT**

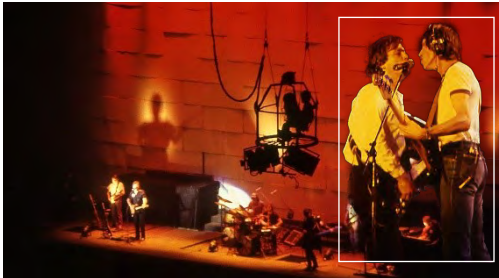
**M**y wife Carol and I have been keen concert-goers since our teens, our first together being Status Quo at Hammersmith Odeon, and our tastes ranging from punk to proms; Boomtown Rats to The Last Night of the Proms. We'll see pub bands, do all-day festivals (not Glastonbury, phew) and squeeze into sold-out stadium concerts, and consequently we have a diverse music collection. These are my choices; Carol's would differ.

**Knebworth, 1978**



This was my first and, truth be told, *only* weekend festival, where we slept in the back of my mate's car. Genesis headlined with such acts as Jefferson Airplane, Devo and Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers and I was just in awe of these idols on the stage. I remember sheltering under a plastic sheet when it rained and the toilet facilities still make me shudder.

**Pink Floyd, Earls Court, 1981**



It was probably not the best Pink Floyd concert we ever saw, but it was the first — and I'm a lifelong fan. It was notable for the fact that during the first half they built a huge wall, completely obscuring the stage which meant I couldn't see the band again until the end when they knocked it down. Odd, but a seminal moment for me as I never thought I'd see such a great band live.

**Lindisfarne Christmas Shows, Hammersmith Odeon, 1984**



This Geordie band enjoyed success in the 70s with *Lady Eleanor*, but also gained a reputation for their annual Christmas shows in Newcastle, which eventually they toured down south. Ever seen a band split Hammersmith down the middle so the two sides could have a singing contest? You knew it was brilliant as you had a silly smile on your face as you walked out.

**Michael Jackson, Wembley Stadium, 1992**



Horrendously expensive tickets and we still took all of our family. Justifiably so as he was at his absolute peak here and put on one heck of a show (and what a dancer). It sticks in my memory as daughter Kim was just two years old, already an MJ fan and she just danced the concert away.

**Genesis, Twickenham Stadium, 2007**



Again, a band that had been around since the early 70s. This was their reunion tour and quite simply a brilliant concert. It's one I'll never forget for the simple reason that you could buy the CD of your concert afterwards, oh and I've got the DVD too.

**War of the Worlds, Bournemouth, 2007**



This was a concept album by Jeff Wayne, based on H.G. Wells classic science fiction tale. You may not know the album, but you are likely to know the odd track, such as *Forever Autumn* by Justin Hayward. We took eldest daughter Kelly when she was pregnant with Josh as she needed to excise the demons raised by me playing it to the kids at a young age... ooo-laaaa

**Spaghetti Western Orchestra, Royal Festival Hall, 2009**

Completely weird this, and we just went on the spur of the moment after they'd been on breakfast television that day. They were a group of extremely capable Aussie musicians who played music from, surprise, surprise, the Spaghetti Westerns with a comedic bent; just hilarious!



**BBC Radio 2's Festival in a Day, Hyde Park 2014**



As Carol said, a total field of happiness all day in Hyde Park and the headline act, brought out of retirement, were ELO, the Electric Light Orchestra. Supported by a full orchestra, Jeff Lynne, 75, was just dumbfounded by the ecstatic response of the crowd of absolute fans; utterly brilliant.

**Alan Parsons, Shepherds Bush, 2015**

You may not know the name, but Alan Parsons engineered on many of the greatest albums of all time, such as Pink Floyd's *Dark Side of the Moon*, and worked with bands like the Beatles and Hollies. He was never well known in this country, but had a huge following in the US and we finally got to see him, touring at the age of 75.



**Neil Sedaka, Royal Albert Hall, 2014**



Having hits before we were born, but one of Carol's favourite artists, and I just went along as it was another concert to see. I should have known better, as his songs are exceptionally well crafted thanks to his classical education. On tottered a frail looking 75-year-old Sedaka and, supported by a full concert orchestra, he proceeded to astound and amaze us with his energy, dancing and singing, easily rousing the entire hall.

**And some not so good that may surprise you...**

**Status Quo, Hammersmith, 1979** Yes, they really do know only three chords. We were in the balcony and it bounced up and down in time to the beat a good 10 inches, very unnerving!  
**The Eagles, Wembley, 1996** Some of my earliest record purchases, they were in the middle of one of their huge fallouts and they couldn't be bothered to get the sound right, just awful.  
**Elton John, Wembley, 1984** Again, an artist I've loved since I first starting buying music, but a bitter disappointment as he seemed disconnected and uninterested. We saw him in 2016 in Hyde Park where he showed what a great artist he really is.  
**Oddities** Yes, we did see the Spice Girls too...