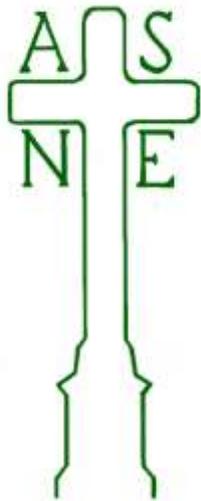


# All Saints Magazine



April 2014

Free

## **Letter from our Vicar**

Dear Friends

For the last two weeks I have been without my computer and it has been a revelation.

Going back to doing things in the old fashioned way has taken time and effort but it has focussed my mind on what I am doing and I am not distracted by checking e-mails or looking on clergy mummies on facebook.

Using pen and paper is definitely my preferred method of working and it is both portable and adaptable. So yes I have written a sermon but I sat in the garden to do this. And Yes I have inspected three churches and written the corresponding reports but did this at the church which it was about and was able to ask and answer questions as we did it.

I have also been in touch with organists and funeral directors and have not missed anything because of my lack of technology.

So now that my computer is back and working I will be trying not to rely on it so much and to make an effort to speak face to face, to engage with people more and to sometimes take my pen and paper out to the park, or into the garden, or even into church.

So forgive me if your e-mail doesn't get an immediate response but you will no doubt see me in person.

God Bless

**Annette**

## **Christian Aid**

### **Give, act, pray**

Thank you Lord for the hope we find in you  
in the uncertain moments of life.

It is in your light that we see light.

Strengthen our faith, for you are our strength,  
our song and our shield.

Your resurrection turns any moment of  
hopelessness in our lives into hope;

Because you live, we can face tomorrow  
and all fear is gone!

Help us to proclaim your salvation and resurrection in a world that desperately needs  
your loving kindness and grace.

Amen.

Written by MacDuff Phin,  
Christian Aid Country Manager In Malawi.

## **A personal reflection on a Pilgrimage to the Holy Land.**

I visited the Holy Land in June 2011 as part of a Knights Templar Pilgrimage. KT is a Christian Masonic Order and belief in the Holy and Undivided Trinity is essential to being a member. The timing of the Pilgrimage was made to coincide with the end of an appeal to UK KT's who had spent two years raising over £139K charitable monies to donate to the St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital for essential equipment.

The schedule was quite punishing, with early starts most mornings and not returning to hotels until late afternoon, and plenty of walking. Also the weather was hot, around 90 (32) degrees most days and up to 114 (45) at the Dead Sea, fortunately it was only humid for a few days and not uncomfortable with air-conditioned coaches.

To list all the Christian sites we visited would probably make this article very lengthy and boring so I will restrict myself to the highlights I thought of particular importance, although it seemed like we visited all the Churches in Jerusalem, although that was obviously not the case.

We arrived in Jerusalem late on a Thursday evening and set off early on Friday for the site of the First Temple, our guide gave us a very factually detailed account of the whole area before we moved to the Western (Wailing) Wall. (A name given to the Western Wall by the British soldiers, after the 2<sup>nd</sup> World War, on seeing the Jewish people praying at the Wall). The Mount of Olives was next, followed by a walk down the Palm Sunday Road to the Garden of Gethsemane, (Was I really standing by the Olive tree where Jesus was betrayed by Judas!), the Church of all Nations and finally back to the coach for a short trip to the Garden Tomb. I must say I also found the Garden Tomb particularly interesting for its beauty, calmness and tranquillity, a place to reflect about our Saviour and many others celebrated Holy Communion here. We also visited the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem and viewed the Shepherds Fields.

On Saturday we walked along the Via Dolorosa to the Holy Sepulchre and viewed all the stops that Jesus made whilst carrying the cross.

Sunday, following a Church service we moved to St Georges Monastery, visited Jericho while driving through the Jordan Valley to Belvoir a Crusader Fortress. We checked into our next hotel on at Tiberius on the banks of the Sea of Galilee.

Monday another early start, firstly to the Church of the Loaves and Fishes and on to the Mount of the Beatitudes where Jesus preached his Sermon on the Mount, then on to the Golan Heights, followed by Banias and the source of the River Jordan.

Tuesday took us to Cana of Galilee, the Wedding church and site of Jesus' first miracle, then on to Nazareth and the Church of the Annunciation. After lunch we moved Yardenit Baptismal site on the River Jordan where 15 of us were re-baptized, a truly moving event and without doubt one on my most happy memories. Wednesday concentrated more on KT and Crusader sites at Acre. Thursday; our last a day Tiberius, time to rest, sunbath, and swim.

Friday we departed from Tiberius and return to Jerusalem via Megiddo, a city built by King Solomon and known to us as Armageddon and at Caesarea, the ancient Roman city.

Saturday took us to the Dead Sea and to Masada to see the remains of Herod's Winter Place with great views of the Rift Valley. We returned to the Dead Sea, the lowest point on earth where many chose to swim in unsinkable waters. We returned via Qumran where the Dead Sea Scrolls were discovered in 1947.

On Sunday following a Church service we moved to the Israel Museum to view 'The Shrine of the Book' where the Dead Sea Scrolls are housed, a model of the Second Temple, and finally Yad Vashem (Holocaust Memorial). We returned to the Hotel to change and attended a reception at the St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital to present the cheque for nearly £140,000

that will be used for eye equipment to assist in treating Retinitis Pigmentosa and Diabetic Retinopathy.

On our last morning we visited the home of the King, you guessed, a motorway service station dedicated to Elvis Presley, probably the only lighter visit of our whole trip. Having been to Gracelands, I was quite impressed. We then moved to a site I had wanted to visit, a hill which had sight of Jerusalem and the Church of Emmaus. Onward to Jaffa a city which is now absorbed into Tel Aviv but was originally conquered by Richard the Lionheart in 1191 and occupied by the Crusaders. Finally back to the airport to fly home.

Would I recommend a Pilgrimage to Jerusalem to others, most definitely?

Geoffrey Ellis

## **Traidcraft – Big Brew 2014**

A huge thank you for taking part in the Traidcraft Big Brew 2014

We are all very grateful for your kind gift of £152.07, please do pass on our thanks to all those who supported this event.

Last year Traidcraft's development programmes gave thousands of families in East Africa and Asia a hand up out of poverty. Without your generosity this work simply would not be able to continue.

You may remember that this year's Traidcraft Big Brew resources were based on tea farmers in Bangladesh and how their lives have been transformed since working with Traidcraft, through access to training and equipment. Jamal Uddin is one of the farmers benefitting from increased yields and higher income. He says, *"Everyone wants to move forward... Those of us who have gone into tea plantation, for us a lot of change has come"*.

On behalf of everyone at Traidcraft, and all those we work with in the developing world, thank you again for joining us in making a difference.

## **Diary Dates for April 2014**

Tuesday 1st	2.15 pm	CTNE at All Saints
	2.30 pm	Build on the rock, at the Methodist Church
	8.00 pm	Build on the rock, at All Saints Church
Thursday 3rd	11.00 am	Holy Communion
Saturday 5th	10.00-12.00	Parish office
	6.00 pm	Passover Meal
Sunday 6th	10.00 am	Holy Communion
Wednesday 9th	10.30 -12.00	Fairtrade Café
Saturday 12th		NSPCC Craft Fair
Sunday 13th		<b>PALM SUNDAY</b>
	10.00 am	Holy Communion
Tuesday 15th	8.00 pm	Stations of the Cross
Wednesday 16th	8.00 pm	Tenebrae Service
Thursday 17th		<b>MAUNDY THURSDAY</b>
	11.00 am	Holy communion
	8.00 pm	Holy communion
Friday 18th		<b>GOOD FRIDAY</b>
	10.00 am	Walk of Witness, starting at Claire Corner
	10.00-12.00	Messy Church
	2.00 pm	Service of the Last Hour
Saturday 19th	8.00 pm	Easter Vigil
Sunday 20th		<b>EASTER SUNDAY</b>
	10.00 am	Holy Communion
Wednesday 23rd	10.30 -12.00	Fairtrade Café
Thursday 24th	11.00 am	Holy Communion
Sunday 27th	10.00 am	Holy Communion
	11.30 am	Annual Parish Council Meeting

## **Parish Pump**

### **The 100 Club**

The winner this month was Michele Walker (nee Keirle).  
It was lovely to see Michele and baby Joshua recently. They both looked very well and happy. Congratulations to all their family.

### **Baptism**

Isabella Maria Rosetti on 2nd March.

### **Funerals**

Marcia Irene Edwards on 6th March.  
Marcia had been a teacher at Wyborne School for many years.

### **Ron Smith - Organist**

Ron Smith's funeral took place at St. John's Sidcup on 26<sup>th</sup> March. Ron had often played the organ for our Sunday Services and was a supporter of our Fairtrade café. We send our condolences to his family

### **Director of Music**

We say farewell to Luke Green on 30th March and thank him for his work with the Choir. We wish him all the best for his future as Assistant Conductor to Ivor Bolton at the Bavarian State Opera and also in Zurich.

### **Stewardship**

The Treasurer would like to thank everyone who responded to his "Fairer Shares" article in November's magazine by increasing their planned giving contributions, and also those who have replied to the stewardship letters following Jackie Pontin's presentation on 16th March

### **Future dates for the Diary**

Sunday 11<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> May – Christian Aid Week

Sunday 22nd June - Tea Afternoon.

Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> October – Quiz Evening.

### **Marcia Irene Edwards**

Marcia died on 24<sup>th</sup> February 2014 aged 84.

Marcia had lived in New Eltham for many years with her husband Stan and her children, Peter and Helen. She was a teacher both at Eltham Green and Wyborne Schools and had strong views on the present state of education.

Marcia originally attended her local Methodist Church in Cornwall but, after it was bombed, joined the parish church and when moving to new Eltham became a regular member of All Saints, though in recent years, owing to illness, was unable to come to Services but kept in touch through the Church magazine and the 100 Club.

Born and brought up in Cornwall this was the place she loved the most and it was felt appropriate that her children and grandchildren should take her back there to be buried in Falmouth amongst her own family.

Betty Macdonald

## **War tears lives apart**

### **Love can help piece them back together**

**'The Lord is my rock, my fortress, and my deliverer... in whom I take refuge.'**

2 Samuel 22:2-3

For a growing number of people across the world, the horror of war is a part of daily life. Right now, fuelled by the devastating violence in both Syria and the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the numbers of people driven from their homes by war is on the rise.

It stands at 42 million people – an appalling statistic and a stain on the conscience of humanity. We can't turn our backs. We must act now.

The good news is that your church can make a real difference.

Last year, a magnificent 20,000 churches across the country helped raise over £12m for Christian Aid Week.

This Christian Aid Week (11–17 May 2014) we want to go even further. We want every church in Britain and Ireland to get involved – whether by giving, acting or praying.

Together we can send people living in fear this message: you are not alone. We're with you, helping you to rebuild your lives, and working for peace.

Imagine what such an expression of love would mean to people searching for the strength to cope with the devastation of war, and how it could help to drive out their fear.

Demonstrate God's love for those living in poverty and show how much good the church is doing in the world this Christian Aid Week.

Together we can reach the 42 million people caught up in conflict and help them live a life free from fear.

### **Could you provide the gift of hope?**

£15 - could provide blankets for refugee children to protect them from bitter night-time temperatures.

£40 - could provide enough good quality and nutritious food for two refugee children for a month.

£150 - could help us provide specialist emotional support for a child deeply traumatised by the horror of war that they've witnessed or experienced.

Be an instrument of God's peace. Give, act and pray this Christian Aid Week.

[caweek.org](http://caweek.org)

## **PEOPLE**

Never take people for granted,  
Each one has a part they can play-  
Some help us to take a look at our lives  
And count all our blessings each day,  
Some boost our confidence gladly  
And lift us up when we're down,  
Sharing a small ray of sunshine  
Exchanging a smile for a frown.  
Some will be there when they are needed,  
Perhaps just a phone call away  
And some will be quiet and caring  
Just having the right words to say.  
Some will be noisy and cheerful  
Enjoying a joke and a fuss,  
And some will be weary and lonely,  
Sometimes they seem to need us.  
Never take people for granted,  
Each one has their stress and their strife.  
Reach out to each other at Easter  
And welcome them into your life.



### **Traditions and Customs - April.**

Easter Day the greatest of our Christian festivals preceded by Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday and Good Friday usually falls in April. Among other traditions we have April 1st which goes back to the 17th century, a day for making a fool of someone by sending them on a fool's errand. In Scotland the victim is called an April gowk which means a cuckoo.

April 23rd is St. George's Day and it is also the anniversary of William Shakespeare's birth in 1564 and death in 1616.

April's last Sunday sees the Tyburn Walk which honours the Roman Catholics who were executed for their faith at Tyburn. A cross is borne in procession from the site of Newgate Prison to Marble Arch where the grim gallows stood.

April 1981 the first London Marathon was held, being both a serious race and a fun race with the aim of raising funds for charity.

**From the Archives – snippets from the April magazine of 1934, price twopence.**

**CHURCH COUNCIL**

The new Council held its first meeting on Monday, March 5th. The various officers and committees were elected. Mr Harold Hemmings was elected Parochial Officer for the tenth year in succession. This shows a splendid record of faithful work and our grateful thanks are due to Mr. Hemmings for the devoted way in which he carries on the arduous duties of his important office. Mr. Field was elected Vice-Chairman and our faithful friends Mr. Salinger and Mr. Norman Harding were again re-elected as Treasurers.

The Vicar and Mr. Pond were chosen to represent All Saints at the Conference on Unemployment held at Woolwich Town Hall on Monday, March 12th. The Vicar spoke on the Bishop's Call to Evangelism and it was decided to have a joint meeting of the Congregation on Wednesday, March 21st, to discuss the questions asked in the Bishop's Call to the Laity.

**OUR TENNIS AND BOWLING CLUB**

The Club's A. G. Meeting was held on 23rd February, when another successful year was reported. The Committee are at present at work arranging an attractive programme for the coming season.

For the benefit of newcomers, the Ground, which is the Club's freehold, is situated in pleasant surroundings behind the Church and consists of four grass courts and a bowling green.

Membership is open to Members of All Saints Church and their friends.

The Committee have decided that a somewhat larger membership than has hitherto been thought advisable can be comfortably accommodated. Anyone wishing to join is advised to make early application to the General Secretary, A. N. Harding, 72 Gerda Road.

Owing to the success of the Bowling Section the bowling rink has been enlarged during the winter and will therefore allow of a larger membership, application for which should be made to Mr. Thompson, "St. Helens," Bercta Road, or to the General Secretary.

*There was nothing specific to April 1974 entered in the "Church Logbook".*

*Historical Notes:* Mervyn Stockwood House and Keith Sutton House now stand on the ground of tennis courts and bowling green.

*We hope to provide "snippets" from the relevant month of 80 and 40 years ago.*