

Spring/Summer 2010

InSpire



The Magazine of St. Luke's Church, Maidenhead

News and Reviews

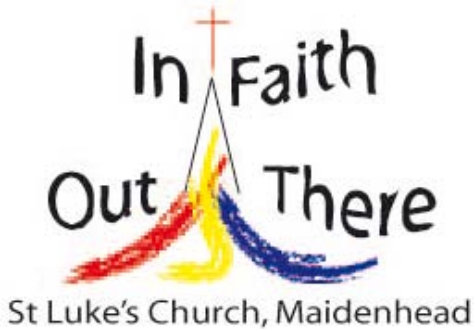
Stained Glass at St Luke's School

Pastoral Care in the Parish

Colourful Summer Arts Project

The indomitable Mr Mole

£1.20



St Luke's congregation likes to be known as a caring congregation. There are all sorts of networks by which people look out for others and act as good neighbours. Primarily this happens naturally through friendship or living close by. Our Christian calling is to care in this way, to love our neighbors as ourselves.

It also seems sensible to consolidate these networks as a church, and for many years we have had a contactor scheme. People, who have contact



with our church through regular worship or through weddings and funerals, can be put on this list and a team of contactors will keep in touch occasionally, delivering information about church activities and exercising pastoral care.

There is also a Pastoral Care Team, which was set up to review our caring and to look out for those who might slip through the net of our contactors organization. This has been particularly effective in helping those who are 'long term' ill or acutely ill, facilitating rotas for visiting so that the burden is shared around. Also this team initiated and

InSpire

Produced 3 times a year.

Editor: Richard Holroyd

Front cover: Stained Glass Panel: St Luke's School

*Regular Services at
St. Luke's*

Sundays

8.00a.m. Eucharist (said)

10.00a.m. Sung Eucharist
(1st Sunday in the month - All-age worship)

6.00p.m. Evening Worship at either St. Luke's. All Saints or Cox Green. Details on separate leaflet.

Tuesdays 7.15p.m. Eucharist

Wednesdays 10.00a.m. Eucharist

Many thanks to all our contributors to this issue, and to the editorial team.

Next issue Autumn 10

Contact: richardholroyd@mac.com

maintains the Sunday Half Hour services at some of the residential homes in the Parish.

There is much that is good about this scheme and many people have been very faithful in offering pastoral care in this way over the years. However, the system is in need of a review and renewal. A good number of people have moved away, or sadly died, and those currently involved are getting fewer in number. There is opportunity for linking in with 'Welcome Cards' or 'Packs' in church for new people, and those in much more scope for using computer communication than when the scheme was first set up.

If you have ideas as to how this scheme may be improved and made more effective it would be good to hear from you. I hope we can gather ideas and information from other churches as well, so that we can maintain and improve our Pastoral Care at St Luke's.

Richard Holroyd

Prayer Group

Meets in Church every
1st Wednesday
of the month, from 3.00pm
All are welcome to
share in the peace and
presence of our Lord





Parish Outing.

No - this is not a picture of last year's outing! It does show Canon Fry with a group of ladies (I think) and children of the parish in an 'Alpha' charabanc of the early 1920's, made by Crossley. The building in the background is the old church hall. This year's Parish Outing is to the city of Bath on Saturday 17th July.

Eton Organworks project

Last year the year 5&6 children at St Luke's Primary School participated in a joint project with the Oxford Diocese and Eton College. The children were involved in music composition, writing poetry and creating two beautiful stained glass windows.

Here are some of the comments from the children:

'When we went into Eton Chapel we saw the stained glass windows which were based around bible stories, they were beautiful. We listened to the organ for inspiration. It was gigantic and extremely loud! When we got back to school we brainstormed our ideas for our own music and to help us create our school stained glass windows.' *Keeley*

'We had a professional artist to help us with our windows. We based one of the windows on friendship with two different coloured hands crossing over each other and including a heart. The other window shows fish linked to our school logo. When we had completed the windows we took them to Eton chapel for everyone to see.' *Conor*

'When we had written our poetry and practised our music we went back to Eton Chapel to perform with the organ. It was definitely the loudest instrument I have ever heard. It was a great day!' *Anniesa*



This and the cover picture are the stained glass panels, now installed in the school entrance lobby.

The Early Church - in New Zealand

Rolleston, the town in which we live, is in the administrative district of Selwyn, named after the Selwyn river which runs across the district from the Southern Alps to the Pacific Ocean. The river, in turn, was named after the first Anglican Bishop of New Zealand. Bishop Selwyn was a pioneer who made his mark throughout the country, as we learnt on our recent visit to Auckland where there are still churches which were built in the 'Selwyn style', with vertical rather than horizontal boarding.



Bishop Selwyn

Born in Hampstead, George Augustus Selwyn was educated at Eton and Cambridge; after graduating he settled at Eton as tutor to the sons of Lord Powis. In 1833 he was ordained deacon, and acted as curate to the vicar of Windsor. At both Eton and Windsor, Selwyn displayed an organising talent and in 1841, after an episcopal council held at Lambeth had recommended the appointment of a bishop for New Zealand, the post was offered to him.

He was consecrated on 17 October 1841, and sailed from Plymouth on 26 December with a missionary party of 23 members. Also on the ship were various animals and four hives of bees. On the voyage he mastered the Maori language with the help of a Maori boy returning from England so well that he was able to preach in that language on his arrival, and acquired enough knowledge of seamanship to enable him to be his own sailing master among the dangerous waters of the Pacific.

Selwyn set up residence at the Waimate Mission Station in the north of the country, where the Church Missionary Society had established a settlement. In July 1842 he set out on a six month tour of his diocese. By October 1843 more missionaries had arrived at Waimate, and Selwyn embarked on his second tour, this time to mission stations and native settlements in the southern part of North Island. Their journey was made partly by canoe but mainly by walking, often for large distances over difficult and dangerous terrain. Later in 1844 Selwyn decided to move 160 miles south where he bought 450 acres of land, giving it the name of Bishop's Auckland.

In six years Bishop Selwyn completed a visitation of the whole of New Zealand, and in December 1847 began a series of voyages to the Pacific Islands, which were included in his diocese by a clerical error in his letters patent. His letters and journals descriptive of these journeys present the reader with a vivid picture of his versatility, courage, and energy.

Selwyn elaborated a scheme for the self-government of his diocese, and in 1854 visited England for the purpose of obtaining power to subdivide his diocese, and permission to the church of New Zealand to manage its own affairs by a "general synod" of bishops, presbyters, and laity. On his return to New Zealand four bishops were consecrated, and the legal constitution of the church was finally established.

Selwyn's constitution of the New Zealand church greatly influenced the development of the colonial church. By 1855, the Land Wars interrupted the progress of Christianity among the Māori, and caused an almost universal rejection of the Church of England. Selwyn was a keen critic of the unjust and reckless procedure of the English land companies, and was misunderstood by Englishmen and Maoris alike. His efforts to supply Christian ministrations to the troops on both sides were heroic and indefatigable.

In 1867, he visited England again and while there accepted the offer of the see of Lichfield. He was enthroned in January 1868 and later that year paid a farewell visit to New Zealand. He governed Lichfield till his death at the age of 69, and was buried in the grounds of Lichfield Cathedral.

Ann Jinman



St Stephen's Chapel, Auckland

It's reet grand, 'up North'!

Parish Weekend Away: 1st- 3rd May 2010....

It were champion to be hurtling along in the coach, heading for God's own country - Yorkshire. T'rumour was we were to visit some posh house on t' way, and be staying in the middle of Leeds, with a possible visit to York. Well, I'm thinking I've been to York that many times, but it might be a novel experience for some o' these soft southerners, to see some real life. As it turns out there's more real life on a Sat'day night in Leeds town centre, as we found out when searching for a suitable drinking place 'after hours'. Ah've niver seen so many girls wearing so little on a freez- ing Bank Holiday weekend. They'll catch their death!

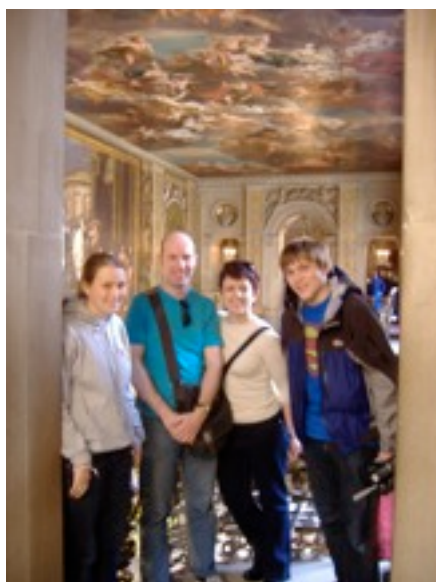
T'posh house on the way was Chatworth. Pretty impressive at the best of times, but packed to the gun- wales with flowers fo't Bank Holiday. There was not a ledge nor a windowsill that didn't have some ar- rangement



In the grounds of Chatsworth

on it. Well, some of 'em were ok, but then these modern ef- forts do nowt for me. One were a load o' beer bot- tles, each wi' just one flower in it. 'What's all that about?', I thowt. I wouldn't have minded being there when they was suppin' all'th'ale in t' first place. Then there was this giant watter spout in t'garden, all done wi' gravity - no electric pump - and apparently they 'adn't got it turned on full. It could go three times as high, but 'appen wi't gusts o' wind blowin' we'd 'ave all got a soaking then. Any road, we woz impressed!

Sunday saw us whizzing over to York and drop- pin' off them as wanted to see t'Minster and stuff, while t'rest of us headed for Castle Howard. They've gotten a reet job on, them Howards, keep-



In Chatsworth House

ing that place goin'. There was this woman, not in the first flush of youth, you might say, who gave us a tour round th'outside o't building.

Ee, she were that lively and interesting. What she didn't know about them Howards wasn't worth knowin'! All their in's and out's, and umpteen chil- dren and relations. It were a bit of a shock to find out that all of one wing of the house was gutted by a fire at the end of the war. It must a' been a fair grand blaze. Then t' film crews 'ad come along wanting to make 'Brideshead Revisited' Well, they jumped at it, 'cos all that money coming in meant they could begin to mend th'house. Mind you, they adn't done much of a job yet. Then, blow me, they did another 'Brideshead Revisited', - *revis- ited*, in 2008, and they got to filming again. It were all a bit fake, though. They'd painted these bits of murials on't walls but they weren't right.

It were a bit parky that day, so we didn't hang around much, and soon went to pick up them in York. We had a bit of a wander but I'd walked enough for one day. I was 'avin forty winks on the back seat, an everybody was back on't coach ready to go, but they thought I wasn't there. 'Oh, he's probably at Evensong in the Minster', they said. 'Oh no ee's not', pipes up somebody. 'E's laid out at t'back. Horizontal meditation, he calls it'. It was back to th'hotel Metropole for a good tea and a few glasses of vino before getting a bit of sleep. Monday morning we were off again, this time to Fountains Abbey. T'monks chose some right remote spots to build them monasteries, but if were fair grand. Some rich bloke in'th' 18th century 'ad man- aged to buy up t'monastery, and a load of grounds, for a song, and turn it into these wonderful landscaped



Fountains Abbey



Flower Be-decked Dining Table

gardens and the like, wi' lakes, and statues wi' no clothes on. I don't think t'monks would 'ave reckoned much to that. One minute it were glorious sunshine, and the next it were pouring down, but we still managed to walk for miles, and saw what there was to see.

After dinner we were on t' coach and back down t' motorway to sunny Maidenhead. It didn't seem to take



The Three Graces

long coming back - I reckon it's all downhill. Them Burdetts ought to open a travel business, they're that good at organising trips. I know we all had a reet good time - up North!

Richard t'vicar



Castle Howard Hall

Franz Joseph Haydn



Nelson Mass



Sometime during early April, Ruth Sheppard had heard of a 'Come & Sing' evening with the Windsor & Eton Choral Society. The piece of music chosen was Joseph Haydn's 'Nelson Mass' and it would take place at Eton College Chapel under the direction of Ralph Allwood. The performance was to take place on the 11th May. Ruth asked me if I would like to join her and sing at this performance. Needless to say I readily jumped at the opportunity to sing under the direction of Ralph Allwood. We obtained copies of the score and met up on a couple of occasions prior to the performance, to run through this magnificent work.

The following written by John Sheppard is an interpretation of that wonderful evening.

We walked in the steps of royalty.
 We sang to the spirits of the great alumni.
 From all walks of life - humble scholarship to hereditary peer.
 This was Nelson's Mass renamed in his honour
 - and to please the great man's mistress.
 In the shadow of the ornate piping of organ,
 and Eton boy soloists effortlessly cascading
 exquisite treble notes
 and bright crimson blood.
 Frozen choir stalls kept us well awake.
 And the genius of Ralph Allwood,
 retiring but still fresh and inspiring
 through rehearsal and performance.
 Shame that we of W & E Choral Society
 should out number the audience.
 Gloriously associated with playing fields, wall and mess
 We emerged triumphant and uplifted
 Transported briefly to an iconic paradise
 By Joseph Haydn through the hand of God.

It really was a marvelous evening and a wonderful opportunity to sing such a glorious piece. Yes, we both thoroughly enjoyed ourselves thanks to Joseph Hadyn.

Sonya Clarke & Ruth Sheppard

St. Luke's Hospital Nablus

In February of this year, the Archbishop of Canterbury Rowan Williams visited the West Bank and Gaza. He was accompanied by the Anglican Bishop in Jerusalem, Suheil Dawani, and Church of Ireland Bishop Michael Jackson Clogher.

According to the Lambeth Palace press release, Palestinian Prime Minister Salem Fayyed, "spoke warmly of the vibrant and important contribution made by the Christian community and Anglican institutions such as St. Luke's hospital in Nablus to the whole Palestinian community, regardless of faith. The archbishop spoke of his and the Anglican Communion's pride in the contribution local Christians were making to the service of the whole community in very challenging circumstances."

Williams and Dawani paid a pastoral visit to the Al Ahli Arab Hospital in Gaza, while Jackson toured the newly renovated St. Luke's Hospital in Nablus.

In Nablus, Jackson described the ministry at St Luke's Hospital as "nothing short of inspirational. Despite tremendous shortages of equipment and medicines St. Luke's serves the whole community without exception, to the very best of its capacity and with a dedication which is humbling to witness. I want now to ensure that, alongside my own diocese, which already has a relationship with St Luke's, others in the church know how great the needs are, what can be and is being done often with very little basic equipment, and respond generously in whatever ways we can."

The Lambeth Palace release said that Williams, during his visit, "urged a greater awareness of the humanitarian crisis and isolation, which had ensued, to ensure that the people of Gaza were not forgotten."

Williams paid tribute to the "constant, caring and skilled work done by the hospital and its staff for people of all backgrounds, regardless of faith. It was a model of service born in, and sustained by love – a model response to our Christian calling."

It is good that we at St Luke's Church can continue to support this important work.

Adapted from an article in episcopallife online February 24th 2010

Shula Tajima

A BIG THANK YOU

The past few weeks have been traumatic, to say the least. My friend had been having dizzy spells and not wanting to be too persuasive, my options always ended with 'or do nothing at all'. On Election Day, I detected a different attitude and having placed his vote, I noted panic in his voice and knew that it was now up to me to make the decision and to get to him quickly. I called another friend, asked where I should be going, collected David and drove to Upton Walk- In Centre. Within minutes, he was in an ambulance en route to Wexham Park Hospital. By the time I had stowed the car in a safe place and found my way to A&E, David was surrounded by doctors, nurses and technicians who were looking with incredulity at the screens, giving him more oxygen and putting in plugs and tubes. His heart was racing at 200, when 60-70 would have been more acceptable.

A bed was found for him in the Coronary Care Unit, and the contingent moved off at such a pace that I got caught up in the crowd in the main passage. The doctor came back for me, realising that I had been left behind. That was very kind. Then came days of tests. David was told that the quick thinking and expertise of the Paramedic at Upton had saved his life. Then came a day trip to Brompton Hospital with a nurse in attendance, for scans, before deciding on the next stage of treatment. As they made an early start, one of the team cooked porridge for David, as he would miss breakfast. She also took a packed lunch, in case he missed dinner.

Back at WPH, operation dates were agreed and altered. He has now been fitted with an Implantable Cardioverter Defibrillator [ICD], so he is now a sort of bionic friend. Throughout his stay at WPH, I felt quite overwhelmed by the care and expertise of the entire team.

One of David's main early concerns was the fact that he would be missing the church services at Shottesbrooke, where from an early age, he had pumped the organ and had gradually taken over many other duties as well. They knew that he could not possibly attend the hospital service, and he was thrilled to learn that by chance it was St Luke's turn to be there on that Sunday. It was, in fact David who consoled me, when they had been unable to go. It made me realise, however, how much these services are appreciated.

David has now gone home, feeling very sore and vulnerable and still not sure how much he can do, while the healing process takes place. No driving for six months is a bit of a blow, but the great thing is that he is on the 'road to recovery'. We shall cope with the problems if they occur. We both give thanks to all who kept him in their prayers, in the churches in and around Maidenhead, Slough, Langley, High Wycombe and Princes Risborough and to the staff and ambulance crews of Upton and Wexham Park Hospitals who were wonderful.

Valerie J. Bosley

Reminiscences of Marjorie Goddard

7th July 1920 -
27th February 2010

by *Mary Rose*

I first got to know Marjorie during the 1980's when Marna Starbuck, wife of the Reverend Tony Starbuck gave her a cat called Ginny. Ginny needed to find a new home because Marna and Tony were going to New Zealand to live. As I have had a great connection with cats over many years Marna asked if I could keep an eye to Marjorie and her new pet. So it was through this cat that I developed a deep and lasting friendship with Marjorie.

Marjorie would ring me every day to see how I was, invite me over for a coffee or to show me her much loved garden. Maybe it would be to show me some new plants she had bought ready to put in her garden. Sometimes it would be to help sort out why the toaster or microwave wouldn't work. She was hopeless with anything electrical and certainly didn't want to have all these new fangled gadgets that the 20th century brought.

Marjorie enjoyed her holidays abroad and loved to go on day outings. Often her friend Doreen would ring her up and they would just go off somewhere in the countryside just to enjoy a day out.

St Luke's was a huge part of her life and she lost count of number of the vicars that had led worship there from Canon Fry up to the present vicar, Reverend Richard Holroyd. For many years she was one of



the vergers at church and would often tell me over a cup of coffee, all about the weddings that took place. She went regularly to both the morning service and Even-song.

Another big part of her life was sorting out the squares for blankets for 'Feed the Children'. Marjorie's spare bedroom was like a small warehouse, full of blankets completed ready to be taken to 'Feed the Children' and bags and bags of squares ready to

be handed out to the kind ladies who stitched them into blankets. She loved the stitch-up days, when a whole group of ladies would gather in the Parish Centre and sew these squares together.

Marjorie and I got together on Christmas Day over the last three or four years. We would have great fun relating stories to each other of our younger years and she had many a good story to tell about her Army days and her business life.

She had a very good relationship with her neighbour Graham, who to a certain degree took care of her. But when both her dear friends Francis and Doreen died, she was left with a huge gap in her life and she seemed not to take so much interest in life herself.

Marjorie and I shared some good years together as friends and I shall miss her 'phone calls, her garden, going out with her, particularly on the Parish Outing and her just being across the road. But I do have the knitted squares as a constant reminder of the good laughs we had doing something practical. Yes. I shall miss my friend, dear Marjorie.

Mary Rose - Friend and Neighbour

Coffee for Two

Fond Memories of Kath Waller

Two-thirty on a Monday afternoon would find me heading for Longlea Nursing Home where I had a weekly appointment with my dear friend Kath Waller - coffee for two in a nearby garden centre. For Kath the occasion merited the careful application of a fragrant face cream followed by a stunning coloured lipstick and then, with tightly closed eyes, a puff of face powder. After a thorough combing of her pretty silver hair, she would turn to me with sparkling eyes and say, 'Will that do, dear?' Having given my ap-

proval, on would go the fashionable shoes, coat, scarf, gloves, hearing aid and glasses, but NEVER a hat, even in sub-zero temperatures! She would then pick up her walking stick and off we would go - not to the Ritz but to the Willows Cafe.!

The staff would give us a welcoming smile as we made our way to our 'usual' table and then, with hot frothy cappuccino coffees in front of us we would chat animatedly about many things including Kath's beloved family, past and present. However, she never failed to ask me what I had been doing and always listened attentively to what I had to say, amazing me on one occasion by enquiring after one of my God-daughters who had sadly lost her father just as she

was leaving for university; I had told her the sad story two or three years previously and she had not forgotten any of it - even that she was studying to become a vet.

Our coffee session was invariably followed by a short drive down to the Windsor Marina where we would find a parking spot next to the boats bobbing gently on their moorings. It was a couple of years later that I learned that the entrance to the marina was for members only, but fortunately no-one challenged us although we did attract the odd suspicious glance!! Kath always found great solace in the profound peace of the area and often had a wee snooze.

I sadly miss our little outings and still marvel at the enthusiasm and keen interest in everything shown by this remarkable 96 year old very dear friend of mine.

Ann Hockham



A Hymn of Faith, Hope and Praise.

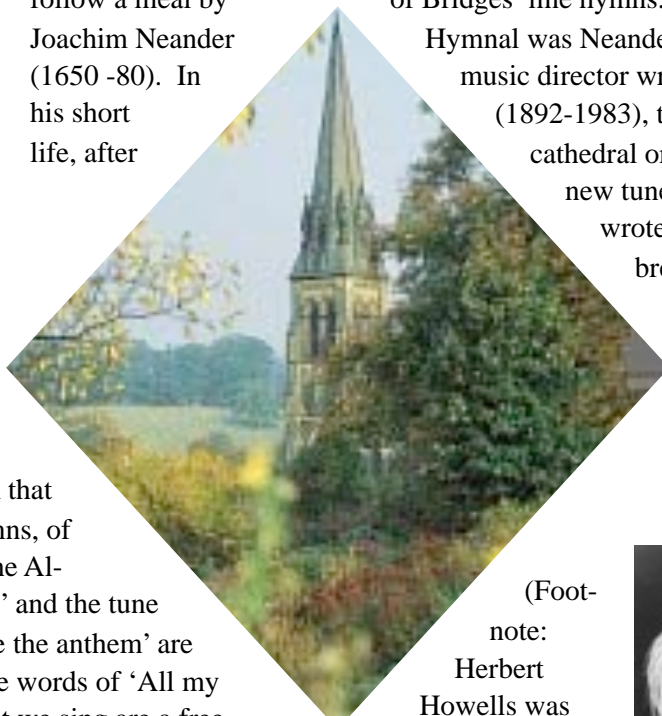
All my hope on God is founded. (368 in Common Praise)



Robert Bridges

riotous living as a student, he was converted, became a Christian pastor and a headmaster until his controversial views lost him that job. He wrote about 60 hymns, of which 'Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation' and the tune for 'Come you faithful, raise the anthem' are also in Common Praise. The words of 'All my hope on God is founded' that we sing are a free translation of Neander's original by Robert Bridges (1844-1930). He studied medicine at Bart's Hospital and practised as a doctor until he retired in 1862 to the Berkshire village of Yattendon to devote himself to literature, becoming Poet Laureate in 1913. At Yattendon he became choirmaster of the village church and compiled the Yattendon Hymnal (1899) of 100 hymns, 44 of which he wrote, translated, or

This hymn based on 1 Timothy 6:17 was originally written in German as a Grace to follow a meal by Joachim Neander (1650 -80). In his short life, after



adapted. As John Betjeman rather gloomily said, 'It was an attempt - foredoomed to failure - to raise the literary standards of popular hymnody', but it may be noted that 100 years on our hymnbook still contains 8 of Bridges' fine hymns. The tune in the Yattendon Hymnal was Neander's but in the 1930's a school music director wrote to Herbert Howells (1892-1983), the composer, teacher and cathedral organist, asking him to write a new tune. Howells immediately wrote the inspiring tune at the breakfast table where he had read the letter and called it 'Michael' after his son who died in infancy. Do read the grand words.

Herbert Howells

(Foot-note: Herbert Howells was the uncle of the former vicar of St Luke's Church, Neil Howells.)

Roger Bevitt.



**ST LUKE'S
ARTS PROJECT**
4th – 8th August 2010

LIVING FAITH THROUGH COLOUR



Summer 2010 will be another opportunity to get involved in the St Luke's biennial summer arts project. This year we are taking as our theme the five colours of

Living FAITH for the Future

“Living Faith for the Future is a vision for the Diocese of Oxford 2009/14. It offers five priorities which resemble a palette of colours that everyone can use to create their own distinctive work of art”. We will be following in the spirit of the Bishop of Oxford's suggestion that each parish in the diocese should “produce its own work of art, not a look-alike copy of someone else's. We need the colours to be applied with vigour and confidence, as befits a God of creation and resurrection. The colours aren't new but what we do with them will be new every time we put brush to canvas. Let's paint something beautiful for God”.

At present we are planning to produce four display boards following the themes of each colour:

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| RED | – MAKING DISCIPLES |
| YELLOW | – MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN THE WORLD |
| GREEN | – COLLABORATIVE LEADERSHIP |
| BLUE | – CREATING VIBRANT CHRISTIAN COMMUNITIES |

Attached to the panels will be 2 or 3 dimensional artwork – painting/ collage/textiles/photographs etc and possibly some written material (prose/poetry). The panels will be placed around a central circular area – **SUSTAINING THE SACRED CENTRE**

Alongside these creations we will be devising a ‘Son et Lumière’ presentation for Saturday evening on the same themes, including live music as well as visuals projected on the inside or outside of church. We also hope to have coloured floodlighting to complement the whole project.

If this is to be successful we of course need lots of enthusiastic helpers and an audience for Saturday evening. In previous years our arts projects have at

the outset seemed fanciful and impractical to achieve over such a short period but every time people have come and enjoyed doing some creative activities, perhaps even more so because they thought they weren't artistic or creative. This year's project will be just as exciting, challenging and fun so please join us and tell and bring your friends and families; all ages will be welcome.

As always the culmination of our arts weekend will be our Sunday Eucharist bringing together all the themes and displays in our worship.

Barbara Essam

Look out for more information in church or on the web.

St Luke's Thursday Group



Summer is nearly with us and Thursday Group will soon be taking a break through August. But what have we done since the last edition and what have we still to look forward to? Well we've done quite a bit:

Our guest speakers for January, February, March and April were brilliant, and all of these meetings were very well supported. In January we heard more about how RNLI use the money raised, we watched a short film about RNLI and thoroughly enjoyed the talk given by Michele Law.

February found me driving around the Buckinghamshire countryside trying to track down Tony Eaton who was to speak about the 'Rudolf Hess Conspiracy.' As is my want, I do like to ensure that our speakers are still coming and about a week before the meeting, contact them to confirm that they will be coming. I tried on several occasions to contact Tony but with no response, so eventually I took map book (no sat nav: then, I wasn't sure how it worked!!) and drove into the wilds of High Wycombe to find Holmer Green where Tony lives. During the time we had made the arrangements Tony had changed both his e-mail address and telephone number but somehow had not informed all the groups he was due to visit. To say he was apologetic is an understatement, he was mortified. Anyway, he came, and we thoroughly enjoyed an enthralling evening listening to his account of Rudolf Hess.

In March we enjoyed Spring, as our guest from the National Trust gave us a most interesting slide show, showing the many and varied ways that the National Trust work; yet another enjoyable evening.

April found us holding our sides with laughter as Alan Stockwell came sharing more of his 'Odd Odes'. This evening was a real tonic for anyone suffering from the winter blues and Alan was his usual humorous self.

This brings us to May, the last evening we have enjoyed before Inspire goes to press. Roger Clarke arranged a Quiz Night with a difference. The quiz was loosely based on Eggheads. We divided in to four teams answering questions on subjects such as Sport,

Arts & Books, Food & Drink, Local Knowledge, Geography and General Knowledge. There was a lot of conferring when there shouldn't have been, but it was a fun evening with one team winning and all of us sharing the chocolates.

So what have we to look forward to? The Deanery Festival will have happened by the time you read this. This year it is All Saints turn to host this occasion and it takes place on 1st June. Our annual Summer Party will be held on 26th June from 6.30pm and tickets will soon be available. Julienne Grobler has very kindly offered her garden as the venue, for which we thank her. All we have to hope for is a lovely balmy summers evening!!

Our last meeting of this our year, is the AGM which will be on 15th July from 8.00pm in the Parish Centre. All are very welcome to attend this meeting. This is your opportunity to have your say and if you feel like it to join the committee. I know most people think that AGM's are boring and a waste of time, they are not. We do need this meeting; hopefully we can welcome new members and choose a new charity to support. The AGM is when we hand over the cheques to our nominated charities for the last year, so do please come and support not just our group, but the committee and the charities we sponsor.

We have as usual this year held two Jumble Sales which raised a total of £262.00 towards the charities as nominated at the last AGM, RNLI and Air Ambulance.

Our year starts again on the 23rd September with our enrolling evening and with luck a representative from the charity or charities chosen at the AGM. Our first proper meeting in October will be an evening of Questions & Answers, and we have a panel of speakers from our own congregation, namely our Vicar, Richard, our Church Warden, Shula, Ralph who is our PCC Secretary and Phyllis, who brings a lifetime of experience.

It just leaves me to say a huge THANK YOU to all who help make our group the success that it is, our Committee, Jan Cheek, Sue & Ralph Hinchliffe, Lin Luff and our Treasurer Ann Burdett, but without our members there would be no group to work for, so thank you all for your continuing support.

May your summer be warm and relaxed and may God's blessing be with us all as we enjoy what He has given us.

Love and Prayers
Sonya R Clarke
 Leader/Secretary



My Parish Walk with "The Crinklies"!

On the 29th May a small group from St Luke's went on an all day circular walk in Heathe, near Bicester, Oxfordshire. Unfortunately the weather wasn't ideal- very wet, but we still enjoyed an 8 mile walk in the beautiful countryside.

After two and a half hours walking, the women of the group were desperate for lunch and willing to shelter under a resident's garage, whereas the men, ever keen to press on, were looking for ruins to eat our lunch in! With no ruins around we looked for a nearby church and were delighted to find the tiny village church of Cottisford which not only had a porch to eat under, but also had a special flower festival on. Inside, a local parishioner knew some history of the ancient building and manned the stereotypical "Church Raffle"!

It was much to my amusement the "Village Way of Life!" The woman in the church had her own vegetable patch, cycled a bike with a basket at the front and explained that the village meetings in the church are very much like those on "The Vicar of Dibley!"

After a jovial exchange, we went to the vicarage for homemade tea and cakes which were scrumptious!

We finished our walk off passing through Juniper Hill and Fringford, the setting of "Lark Rise to Candleford," a trilogy of books about the countryside location. The author of the novels, Flora Thompson, has her memorial plate in the small village church we visited.

We finished our walk at about 6 o'clock and returned to Maidenhead to dry off. Then Roger and Sonya, and Don and Lynn went out for a well earned meal and Anne Darracot and I went home!

Harriet Burdett



A 'Modern' Parable!



A Fishy Tale

The fishing contest was under way long before many of the boys had arrived. They found that the best spots had been taken by those who had arrived early and chosen the darker deeper water out of the sun where the fish were more likely to gather. Those who had come early seemed well prepared with various different tit-bits to attract the larger fish – ranging from grubs and wriggling worms, through tasty pieces of sweet corn, to flies that seemed to dance across the surface of the pond. They had also obviously been practicing casting for weeks in advance .

When the late comers turned up they had to settle for the shallow gravelly edges of the former gravel pit or the bright sunlit open areas which the fish avoided. Some of them were ill prepared. They had no choice of bait and their casting left much to be desired; snagged lines on tree branches was but one problem.

It was therefore not surprising that the early arrivals began to collect fish in great numbers and sizes. As the morning progressed some of the late arrivals lost heart or gave up. They left their rods dangling in the water while they disappeared to either 'do wheelies' on their bikes or see if they could skate board anywhere nearby.

By the end of the competition as the shadows were beginning to fall more fish made their appearance and the catch in the final hour exceeded the rest of the day, but by then those unprepared or lacking in 'stickability' had already gone, and their catches paled into insignificance.

Indeed if a thing is worth doing, it is worth doing well.

John Sheppard



Rev. Richard Holroyd, on the right, against the opposition (Don Luff, Peter Goford, Steven Cronbach)

LOCAL VICAR TO TAKES THE STRAIN FOR WORLD POVERTY

Richard flexed his muscles against the odds on Saturday 8th May in a tug-of-war to demonstrate the extreme injustice of world poverty. He was the lone “tugger” against the combined forces of a team of Christian Aid supporters, in a situation which mirrors that of many struggling developing countries all over the world.

The tug-of-war was a call to action to mark the beginning of this Christian Aid Week, and to encourage the public in Maidenhead to give generously during the week.

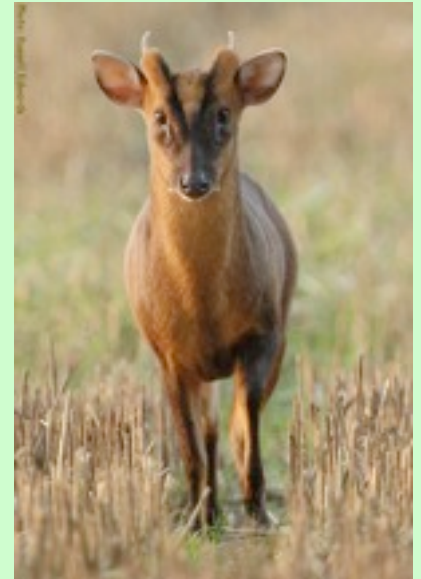
Richard said: “World poverty is the greatest injustice that exists today. One lone vicar against a group of strong men is a powerful demonstration of the inequality which prevails in our world and which prevents so many people from accessing water and sanitation, healthcare and education – some of the most basic elements of life which we sometimes take for granted.”

Across Berkshire thousands of Christian Aid supporters took part in house-to-house collections and other fundraising events in Christian Aid Week, which last year raised more than £188,000. Nationally more than 300,000 supporters collect during the week, which raised £13 million for the charity in 2009.

Richard Holroyd



Local Walks



This year started off with our winter wildfowl walk when flooding prevented us getting right round the part frozen Braywick lakes, but we did see a fair number of birds, amongst the less common being gadwall, little grebe, wigeon, reed bunting and common gull (not common around here, in spite of its name). Now we are well into the summer season of walks on Wednesday or Thursday evenings which, with the help from Roger Clarke, continue on a weekly basis until the end of August. So far we have visited the site of the former ‘Strand Castle’ (actually a folly type house), Little Marlow and Hambleton, and found superb bluebells at Pinkneys Green. We were lucky on a walk near Burchetts Green to see muntjacs, rabbits, a hare, a buzzard, parakeets plus (in the pens at Hall place) some more exotic foreign species, and a splendid sunset. Do join us some time for the walk, the chat, or just the drink afterwards - details of future walks are given on the weekly news sheet.

Roger and Jilly Bevitt



On Friday 26th March - Richard Burdett, Kevin Baughan, David Copley and myself flew out to Madrid in Spain for a “Boys Weekend”. We met up with my brother Luke who is working out there teaching English to foreign students, and he acted as our interpreter.

The ambience there was relaxed and serene as nobody rushes in Madrid. We had glorious sunshine the whole weekend, so we walked around, saw the sights and sat outside sampling Tapas with a few drinks along a way. In the evenings we didn’t get back to the hotel until 2:00 a.m., which is early, apparently.

Madrid is steeped in culture, with museums, churches, gardens and plazas. Here are a few places we visited.

- The Museo Del Prado, housing works by Botticelli, El Greco, Caravaggio and Goya - to name but a few.
- The Plaza Mayor is the main square, where there are traders offering delicacies, tapas bars to relax at and an abundance of entertainers to please the tourists.
- Palacio Real is Madrid’s palace, built in 1734. There are 2800 rooms, but only 50 are open to the public. You’d need a week to look at that many. It’s only used for State ceremonies, and the Royal family reside in the nearby Palacio de la Zarzuela.
- Parque del Buen Retiro features a giant observatory, endless acres of wonderful flowers, plants, ponds and statues of all kind. It also includes the Fallen Angel by Richard Bellver - the only commissioned statue of Lucifer.

One of the bonuses of Madrid is their underground Metro system. It’s cheap (2 Euros), very easy to use, convenient and comfortable. I wish our tubes were like that!

Before we left on Sunday, we took an open top tour bus around the city. Once on board, we were told to be seated. The tour lasted about 1-½ hours and we saw Madrid from a whole new perspective. We then came to an abrupt end and had to vacate the bus. Just in time to see a magnificent sight. As it was Palm Sunday, we witnessed a procession from one church to another, which was led by a Crucifer and Acolytes carrying crosses and incense through the streets. Next were the 20-30 strong clergy and some local dignitaries. The best was yet to come. The whole congregation – some 300 or so followed behind them carrying real palms. I’m sure this has given Richard some ideas!



If anyone is thinking of going, I thoroughly recommend it. Madrid is such a beautiful and vibrant city. I’ve been before and I’m sure I’ll go again.

From the Men in Madrid – *Adios!*

Ben Darracott

Highview Toy Library

Having worked with disabled adults for around forty years, and managed Highview since 1977, it never occurred to me that I should be taking over a group used by young children. Thames Valley Toy Library had been part of the Highview family for well over thirty years. We had overlooked the fact that they were very much in debt to us, until other groups began asking for time and space. The organiser was found to be unable to obtain sponsorship, had only one helper and wanted to give up anyway. The organisation was founded to assist those with Special Needs. Over the years, children without these special needs had been introduced, and these were now the sole users.

From January 2010, we have re-named it Highview Toy Library and have made a few minor changes. In addition to the normal Wednesday Sessions, we have introduced a meeting on the first Sunday of each month. In so doing, Special Needs children, who are at school during the Wednesday Morning sessions, can come along and enjoy the equipment. We now also open during school holidays

Highview Toy Library now has a team of twelve helpers, spread between Wednesday mornings and the Sunday session, with some overlapping. We have introduced music. We have now opened a bank account and have obtained sufficient funds to cover the next year or so. One of the Wednesday helpers is the mother of a Special Needs user. She particularly enjoys keeping the equipment clean. Then there's Derek, who loves mending things. We recently had a toy returned that had lost its 'ding'. In the past, it would have been destroyed, but Derek claims to have a drawer full of dings and the toy is now back on the shelf dinging merrily on request.

Mencap has given us a donation that will enable us to offer free use of Highview Toy Library to anybody with Special Needs, as long as they pay the £2 per year to belong to Maidenhead Mencap. Other users will be asked to pay £15 per year that will be the same as Thames Valley Toy Library. As our year will be the Calendar Year, and previously they used the Academic Year, Highview Toy Library will not receive membership money from existing members until January 2011. We need to keep membership levels high, because many of the children come less often once they start going to school. There is, however, no reason why the parents should not come and enjoy the facilities even while their children are at school. They can also, of course, continue to bring the children during the school holidays, as we hope the facility will be continuous. Parents can still borrow toys whether or not the children are present. Highview Toy Library is available to Playgroups and other organisations where children congregate. Maybe one day St Luke's will use the service. They would be most welcome.

Highview Toy Library is open on Wednesdays from 10am –12noon and on the first Sunday of the month from 3-5pm, at Highview 6 North Road Maidenhead SL6 1PL.

Valerie J. Bosley



LITTLEWICK SHOW

When you have spent the last 43 years organising an event, it becomes a major part of your life. You love the good bits, and the bad times, of which there have been a few, fade into the background. Every year brings its own problems. They make it even more interesting. Our 2009 Show was the easiest ever. This year, we have already encountered set-backs, but nothing beyond us!! Retirements can be planned. Illness is more difficult. We have had both.

Littlewick Show has been Maidenhead's major one-day event for many years. We try to plan entertainments and activities to suit people of all ages. We have a four-ring Horse Show, Horticultural and Handicraft competitions, a Dog Show, a Vintage Car Rally with over 250 vehicles, Children's Sports, Pony Rides, Children's Fairground, Side Shows, Trade stands lots of food and a licensed bar. We invite charities to take part for their own benefit and support local good causes as a result. One of our best fundraisers has always been the Grand Draw. We no longer have sufficient resources to organise this section on Show Day, although we can provide the tickets, prizes and the gazebo. We have, therefore, been inviting St Luke's Church to run the Grand Draw on the day of the Show. We have a number of outlets beforehand, each one keeping the money that they raise, although not being allowed to sell the tickets on the Showground. We are again inviting St Luke's to organise a team to sell tickets throughout the day of the Show. There is plenty of opportunity to sell in advance. If every adult member of the congregation bought one book beforehand, that would be a tremendous benefit to all. Selling on the day, is hard work, but rewarding. St Luke's has not been without illness, but there must be willing helpers in our midst to form a team for the day. Will you help?

The Show is to be held on Bank Holiday Monday 30th August, at the Showfield, Ascot Road, Braywick, Maidenhead. It would be great to see a large team at the Show.willing to support the good work of St Luke's Church and ensuring that the Grand Draw once again has a record result

Valerie J. Bosley

Thursday Teas

The second Thursday in the month is the time when the Parish Centre opens its doors 2-4pm for free tea and cake for anyone who cares to 'drop in'. It is a good opportunity for people who live alone to come and enjoy a sociable afternoon. For those unable to get there under their own steam, lifts in cars can be provided. Twice a year we visit a garden centre and sometimes we are entertained by children from St Luke's School.

If you know someone who would appreciate such an outing, do please let us know. Also if you, or anyone you know, would be happy to help once a month or just occasionally we would be more than glad to hear from you. There have been times when two (or more) helpers decide to go on holiday at the same time meaning extra pairs of hands are needed. Everyone is very friendly and you get to meet some amazing people.

Please contact Phyllis on 01628 778656 or Enid on 01628 628195

Future dates; 10th June outing

- 8th July
- 12th August
- 9th September
- 14th October
- 11th November Outing
- 9th December

Modern Magnificat

My soul glorifies the Lord.

My spirit rejoices in God my Saviour!

For you have blessed me lavishly
and made me ready to respond.

You shatter my little world
and let me be poor before you.

You take from me all my plans
and give me more than I can hope for or ask.

You give me opportunities and the ability
to become free and to burst through my boundaries.

You give me strength to be daring, to build on you alone,
for you show yourself as the greater one in my life.

You have made known to me this:
It is in my being servant that it becomes possible

For God's Kingdom to break through
here and now.

From the Registers

Baptisms

January 10th

Noah Joseph Edward
Bardwell

February 14th

Joshua Marcus Brady Bartley

7th MArch

Reuben Jack Williamson

18th April

Scarlett Rose Stevens

April 25th

Caden Ian George Anderson
Neve Anna Joy Bushel

30th May

Luke David Mattingley

Weddings

February 27th

Donald Parker and
Samantha Davis

April 17th

Robert Mace and
Donna Stamper

Funerals

at Slough Crematorium

December 31st

Dora Stringer

January 7th

Margaret Harris

January 15th

Alice Childs

January 22nd

Scott Bowden

January 27th

David Addie

February 15th

Albert Bentley

February 19th

Gwendoline Waters

March 10th

Kathleen Turner

March 31st

Ethel Jamieson

April 14th

Euwan Jones
George Jones

April 30th

John Eakins

May 6th

Pat Cox

May 12th

Jack Southard

at Easthampstead Crematorium

January 8th

Marjorie Knox

in Church

February 19th

Richard John

March 3rd

Brian Daniel

March 15th

Marjorie Goddard

April 15th

Hetty Bell

April 16th

Alice Jones

April 23rd

Kath Waller



"The Last Supper" by Leonardo Da Vinci

In planning our summer holiday last year I realised it would take us near Milan in Italy. Of course being an art junky I knew that Leonardo Da Vinci's mural painting of the last supper was somewhere in Milan. My sister-in-law had tried to see it in the past only to be disappointed as bookings are only by timed tickets booked well in advance.

So in March I ventured onto the internet and found the site within the Milan Museums website and duly booked 4 tickets. (For information adults pay full price but under 18yrs are free and students half price.)

Eventually the day came, or so I thought, to travel to Milan from Lake Como where we were staying by train. We navigated the busy streets and underground until we found the square that contained the church of Santa Maria de la Grazie where the mural is now. I went to pick up our tickets with my e-mail voucher clutched in my hand. You guessed it. I had made a mistake with the day and our tickets were for tomorrow!! I was so upset and felt such a fool but God bless my wonderful family - we just did some sightseeing and came back the next day.

In a group of about 15 we followed the guide. We entered a modern chamber like a large square lift. The doors closed and fans could be heard as they removed particles and moisture from us and the air. This is needed as the mural was painted in a new way for the 15th century by Da Vinci, who liked to experiment with new techniques, straight onto the plastered wall. Unfortunately this method did not prove to be a good idea as over the centuries the paint has slowly been peeling off. Many attempts have been made to con-

serve it but during the 2nd World War the whole building was bombed and the only wall left standing was that with the painting on! Now they have taken all the touch up paint off and taken the painting back to the original paint and art of Da Vinci but there are a significant parts missing, most notably under the table by Christ's feet when they decided to put a new door into the refectory for the monks to get to the kitchen more easily!

The doors then opened and we entered a large, airy, high ceilinged chamber, empty except for the images on the walls at either end. In minimal light with my anticipation high I gazed at the painting and I was not disappointed. The painting takes up the whole wall and is larger than I thought it would be. In quiet awe we all stood transfixed, looking at the moment in time when Christ announced that one of them would betray him. The expressions on each of the disciples' faces, the gestures, and the tension - it's palpable. This mural is unlike anything that had been painted before. Not only the amazing perspective and the feeling you could walk into the picture and see the view beyond, but the characterisation of each figure and face, depicting them as real people of that time.

Twenty minutes is not long enough to take in all you need to see and the painting at the other end of the room gets barely a glance.

It was a very special experience both in an artistic and religious way. I would recommend if you ever visit Milan to put it on your list of things to see. I have a guide book with further details to borrow if anyone is interested.

Carole Baughan



Scenes from Parish Life.....

One Night in Rio



Easter Banner Making



The Little War of the Expat and Mr Mole.



If there can be said to be a downside to the lives of expats living in France, it is the war which they must constantly fight with Mr Mole. Think not, I beg you, of Ratty and Mole messing about in boats by the river, nor yet of little gentlemen in black velvet waistcoats, for French moles are quite different. They are fierce little beasts, coming equipped with more cunning than the wiliest of foxes and claws sharp enough to be used as scalpels in an operating theatre.

Our neighbour in France retired to bed one night the proud possessor of a garden which could have won a prize at the Chelsea flower show, only to awake next morning to look out at a lawn which resembled a battlefield on the Somme.

He sought advice from his friends as to how the problem might best be dealt with. Those who had lived there many years were full of possible solutions.

First, he tried a trap specifically designed and guaranteed to catch moles. The result was a line of new molehills neatly circumventing the trap.

Next, he tried a sonic deterrent. Mr Mole decamped to the opposite side of the lawn and began a new set of earthworks.

Then he tried something which the other expats assured him was an absolutely failsafe method that had been successfully tried many times – mothballs. These were duly inserted into the mole runs. Next day he inspected the lawn only to find the mothballs had been neatly ejected and yet more molehills had appeared.

The final straw came when he found that Mr Mole had constructed a line of hills straight across the middle of a newly laid gravel drive. Our friend was distraught. As he stood surveying the damage a neighbouring French farmer happened along and asked what the problem was. On hearing the explanation he roared with laughter, slapped our friend on the back and said, 'But to get rid of the moles is easy. All you need is one dead mole to encourage the others.'

'Encourage them to do what?'

'To pack their bags and leave, of course. It's simple.'

Our friend protested that catching a mole in the first place was anything but simple.

'But certainly it is. I can catch one anytime.'

'Bet you can't catch this little blighter.'

'Ten euros says I can,' said the farmer.

'Done,' said our friend, and shook hands on the deal.

The farmer went on his way grinning and no doubt thinking that the French would never starve whilst there were expats around.

Next morning our friend opened his bedroom window and looked out at his once pristine lawn. He ran downstairs to take a closer look. There on top of a molehill was stretched the body of a mole, clutching a tiny knapsack in one paw and a white flag of surrender in the other. (I can only think that Mrs Farmer had been up half the night making them.) As our friend stared in disbelief the farmer appeared doubled up with laughter and said, 'I think you owe me ten euros.'



The word on the street has it that the farmer no more knew how to catch moles than our friend, but his farm cats catch them regularly and proudly lay them at his feet.

Strange to relate, since then our friend has had no further trouble with Mr Mole and is convinced that the victory is his, however, those who have been around for some time are sure that in the autumn Mr Mole will be back.

After all, he has to finish excavating the subterranean tower block which will house all his relatives!

Noeline Page

Who's Who at St. Luke's



Vicar:
The Revd Richard Holroyd



Associate Priest:
The Revd Dick Cheek



Associate Priest:
The Revd Terrie Robinson



Licensed Lay Minister:
Sonya Clarke



Licensed Lay Minister:
Nöeline Page

Church Wardens

Shula Tajima 546889
Barbara Essam 782894

PCC Secretary

Ralph Hinchliffe 784724

Parish Administrator

Mary Quick 783033

Electoral Roll Officer

Jill Bevitt 633464

Stewardship Recorder

Adrian Quick 623533

Director of Music

John Cotterill 636514

Publicity Officer

Phyllis Sigsworth 778656

Honorary Vergers

Rita Buckland 671531
Enid Barber 628195

Asst. Church Wardens

Peter Goford 638238
Don Luff 630833

PCC Treasurer

Richard Burdett 631486

Asst. Treasurer

Ben Darracott 620280

Pastoral Roll Officer

Serena Tajima

Gift Aid Secretary

Ann Cooke 472147

Sacristan

Helen Petter 631896

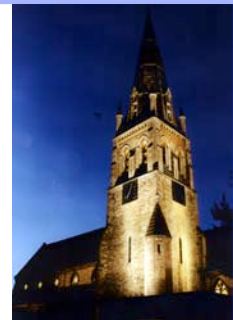
Flower Organiser

Joan Harnby 622140

Head Servers

Ralph Hinchliffe 784724
Roger Clarke 671795
Ben Darracott 620280
Serena Tajima

Sunday Half-Hour Services



led by members of St Luke's Church,
Norfolk Road, Maidenhead

*You are most welcome at these short, informal services
in the lounge at 4.00pm*

6th June	Southgate House
4th July	Neve House
18th July	Jakes House
1st August	Southgate House
5th September	Neve House
19th September	Jakes House
3rd October	Southgate House
7th November	Neve House

You are welcome at our Thursday Teas in the Parish Centre from 2pm to 4pm on

10th June - outing
8th July
12th August
9th September
14th October
11th November - outing

**Come along to our Monthly Lunches at a Pub/Restaurant - transport provided.
Meet at church at 12 noon**

27th May
29th July
26th August
30th September
28th October