



# ST. PETER'S CHURCH

# BROADSHEET

MARCH 2009

A MONTHLY NEWS ROUND-UP FOR THE PARISH OF ALDBOROUGH HATCH

## Services

### Sunday 1st March

*First Sunday of Lent*

8am Holy Communion  
10.30am Morning Prayer  
6.30pm Holy Communion

### Sunday 8th March

*Second Sunday of Lent*

8am Holy Communion  
10.30am Holy Communion  
6.30pm Evensong

### Sunday 15th March

*Third Sunday of Lent*

8am Holy Communion  
10.30am Holy Communion  
6.30pm Evensong

### Sunday 22nd March

*Fourth Sunday of Lent*

*Mothering Sunday*

8am Holy Communion  
10.30am Family Service  
with distribution of flowers  
6.30pm Holy Communion

### Sunday 29th March

*Passion Sunday*

8am Holy Communion  
10.30am Holy Communion  
6.30pm Healing Service

### Sunday 5th April

*Palm Sunday*

8am Holy Communion  
10.30am Morning Prayer  
6.30pm Holy Communion

### Weekdays

The church is open for private prayer on  
Monday (10am to 12noon) and on  
Wednesday (10.30am to 12noon) – except  
Bank Holidays  
**Wednesday**  
10am: Holy Communion

## Lent Course

Wednesdays in Lent  
commencing on 4<sup>th</sup> March  
10.45am and 8pm  
in the Vicarage  
Following the York Course

## Challenging our prejudices

The other week I was privileged to speak at the Redbridge commemoration of Holocaust Memorial Day. I found it incredibly moving to hear from Councillor Weinberg, the Jewish Rabbi and Muslim Imam on their experiences of the Holocaust, but also present day anti-Semitism or Islamophobia. As moving were the reflections of children from various Jewish schools.

Whenever we hear of such unimaginable horrors we say: "Never again". But history shows us that there is no end to man's inhumanity to man. So, what can we do?

Recently I have read the *Boy in the Striped Pyjamas*, and *The Reader*. They both give an insight into people involved in running or sending people to the concentration camps in Second World War Germany. They made me think very deeply. It is relatively easy to identify with victims, though those of us fortunate enough to have never experienced or been close to such things can never really know. But we can imagine ourselves in their place?

The question those two books challenged me to answer, though, was whether I could ever identify in any way with the oppressors? And that was far, far harder. I really, really don't want to think I have anything in common with such monsters. I can, perhaps, imagine myself as a coward, staying quiet for fear of what might happen to me if I spoke out. I hope I would refuse to close my eyes to the truth. I hope I would challenge what I saw. But to think I might inflict such terrible abuses on another, that is nearly impossible. They are not human. They are totally evil. Not like me in any way. But my reading showed me people who had families, who were ordinary people, who had fears and hopes just like the rest of us.

Monsters are not born monsters. They become monsters. So how does it happen? I suspect a 'monster' grows gradually. Perhaps it begins by thinking of people who are different from us as 'them'. And then looking at the changes in our community that we don't like, as well as the world, and blaming 'them' for it. That may lead us to stereotyping 'them', rather than trying to know, understand and begin to see the world from their perspective as well as our own. Then, if circumstances around us arise, such as in Germany in the 1930's, perhaps 'blaming them' becomes treating 'them' differently, and then to any abuse we can imagine.

It is hard and painful to think that way. But perhaps if we challenge any prejudices in ourselves, however small, we really can prevent something like the Holocaust happening again. I certainly pray so.

**Rev Clare Nicholson, Vicar**



## Easter Lily Scheme

Details of the scheme whereby you are invited to subscribe to the cost of decorating St. Peter's with lilies and Spring flowers at Easter are available from Shirley Rudge, Aldborough Hall Farm (020 8590 5882). Names of departed loved ones are displayed on the altar from Easter to Whitsun. The minimum subscription is £1 per name. Through your generosity we have managed to maintain the subscription at this amount for 18 years. Money received in excess of that

spent on Easter flowers is used towards fresh flowers in the church all year round. Please write the names of loved ones clearly in capital letters.

**Closing date – 27th March.**

### The Mayor's Charity Cockney Night

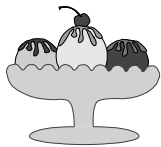
St. Peter's Church Halls  
Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> March at 7pm  
Peggy Oliver  
Redbridge Pearly Queen  
Dancing – Supper  
Bring your own drink  
Tickets £10 from the Mayor's Office  
(TEL: 020 8708 2110)  
In aid of Haven House Children's  
Hospice and the Dream Factory

### St. Peter's Lent Lunch



St. Peter's Church Halls  
12noon on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> March  
Suggested donation £5 to the  
Bishop's Appeal - All God's Children  
To reserve a place, ring  
Yvonne Jeffries (020 8599 7250)

### St. Peter's Pre-Mothering Sunday Afternoon Tea



St. Peter's Church Halls  
Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> March  
3pm to 5pm  
Tickets £6 from  
Val Smith (020 8599 6452)

### St. Peter's Coffee Morning and Bring and Buy Sale

St. Peter's Church Halls  
Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> March  
10am to 12noon

### Women's World Day of Prayer

Service at St. Peter's  
Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March at 2pm

## Fairlop Waters

*The following notice has been  
received from the Borough*

The London Borough of Redbridge is pleased to be commencing phase one of landscaping Fairlop Waters.

We are improving the layout to the western entrance and car park.

Further details of these plans can be found inside the clubhouse. Access to the park and the facilities remains open throughout the construction works.

We apologise for the inconvenience caused and aim to have completed these works by 31st March 2009.

### Bring and Buy Sale and Coffee Morning

in aid of

### Bornean Sun Bear Conservation UK

Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> April – 9am to 1pm  
at the home of  
Pam Trump, 6 Applegarth Drive

### From Westminster to Aldborough Hatch A history of St. Peter's Church

Priced at £1.50, copies are available from  
Ron Jeffries on 020 8599 7250.  
All profits to St. Peter's Church.

#### Monday Club

2 <sup>nd</sup> March	Cards
9 <sup>th</sup> March	Open Afternoon
16 <sup>th</sup> March	Bingo
23 <sup>rd</sup> March	Speaker
30 <sup>th</sup> March	Bingo

*We continue the series in which we look back to the halcyon days of Post-War Aldborough Hatch, when sweets were on ration and mobiles had not been invented.*

### The boys in blue

Towards the end of the 1940s, the voices of some of the young choristers at St. Peter's began to break. Their fathers watched as these young tearaways showed a preference for the new-fangled safety razors over the cut-throat variety which they used – as had their fathers before them and, in all probability, their fathers before that.

Clearly, thought the Rev Joseph Palanque Byng, something needs to be done if we are to retain the interest in Sunday services of these young fellows who are starting to shave and going out with girls – and probably doing other things of which the Rev Byng knew little.

And so it was that the first Servers came into being – young men who assisted the Vicar at the altar and in a variety of other ways before, during and after services.

The first thing that had to happen was that a series of whist drives were scheduled, the profits from which would purchase the light blue cassocks, the white cottas (surplices, but shorter in the body and arms than those worn by the choir, and with square necks,) and the blue belts. In those days – as will be appreciated if you have been paying attention up to now - whist drives were the major fund raising activities at St. Peter's. The potential Servers were involved in the whist drives – putting out the tables and chairs, making the tea, plating up (and eating) the cakes and biscuits, and clearing away afterwards. But when the whist was being played complete and absolute silence had to be maintained – or the wrath of some of the more formidable players would come down upon the miscreants like a mighty roar of thunder or an ear-splitting flash of lightning.

To kit out a server cost around seven pounds, give or take a shilling or two. But the whist players of the 1940s were rather like today's adherents of Coronation Street or Eastenders – given the opportunity, they would have played every night of the week with a omnibus meeting on Sunday afternoons. And so it was that within a month or two the whist players were nearing exhaustion point as the cash piled up in the Vicarage and the Rev Byng set forth with Mrs Byng carrying the coinage (for she was the stronger of the two) to the House of Vanheems, suppliers of all things clerical and religious, in London Town.

The Servers sat in the Sanctuary, behind the communion rail and on either side of the altar. The two large bishop's chairs, which came from the chapel of St. James at Little Heath, were used with two wooden chairs placed behind so that four Servers might be seated at any one time.

Later two antique chairs replaced the wooden ones. Dated 1693, the chairs were presented to St. Peter's by Len and Joyce Chapman, who lived throughout their married life in Bawdsey Avenue and worshipped at St. Peter's. **RJ**

*(To be continued next month)*

**St. Peter's Organisations**  
Monday Club - Monday 2pm  
Beaver Scouts - Monday 5.15pm  
Cub Scouts - Monday 6.30pm  
Scouts - Monday 7.45pm  
Brownie Guides - Tuesday 7pm  
Guides - Wednesday 7pm

Vicar: Revd. Clare Nicholson – 020 8599 0524 Churchwardens: Roger Goffee – 020 8590 1610, Martyn Stewart – 020 8599 7516  
Reader: Brian Kerrison – 020 8599 4368 Hall Bookings' Secretary: Stella Fletcher – 020 8599 3115

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