



ST. PETER'S CHURCH

BROADSHEET

MARCH 2010

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

Services

Sunday 7th March

Third Sunday of Lent

8am Holy Communion

10.30am Morning Prayer

4pm Holy Communion

Sunday 14th March

Fourth Sunday of Lent

Mothering Sunday

8am Holy Communion

10.30am Family Service
with Parade and
distribution
of Flowers

4pm Holy Communion

Sunday 21st March

Fifth Sunday of Lent

Passion Sunday

8am Holy Communion

10.30am Holy Communion

4pm Evensong

Sunday 28th March

Palm Sunday

8am Holy Communion

10.30am Holy Communion
with Procession

6.30pm Evensong

Holy Week

Monday 29th March

8pm Devotional Service

Tuesday 30th March

8pm Devotional Service
(United Service at Meads Lane United
Free Church)

Wednesday 31st March

8pm Devotional Service

Maundy Thursday 1st April

8pm Holy Communion and
Stripping of the Altar

Good Friday 2nd April

10.30am Family Service

2pm Devotional Service

Easter Eve Saturday 3rd April

8pm Vigil

Sunday 4th April

Easter Day

8am Holy Communion

10.30am Holy Communion

6.30pm Evensong

Reflecting on our true value

Recently, I sat and listened to two clergy colleagues (not local!) talking about their health problems and work. One had had to take early retirement due to ill-health (he had ME). The other, younger, suffers debilitating headaches most days. Both find it hard to restrict their activities to their physical capabilities; they feel driven to do more than they ought.

Of course, they need to listen to their bodies and work within their limitations. But it is hard, isn't it. I think many of us find it frustrating to discover we do have limitations – especially when those limitations are increasing! It's so much easier when we're young and believe we can do anything! We struggle to accept ourselves as we are and live within our limitations. I wonder why that's so?

It may be we feel guilty. "There's so much needing doing and I should be able to do more," we tell ourselves. We feel a failure or that we're letting people down - our family, our friends, our church, our community. Or we tell ourselves we're a burden, we're not contributing – we're not *doing* anything.

It suggests we feel we're only of value when we're active. Something our culture does imply, if not declare openly. So the increasing needs of the elderly, the sick, the handicapped are a 'problem' for society. Fortunately, I don't think God shares those views! He loves us for ourselves not for what we do or don't do.

We're part way through Lent now. A good time to reflect on our lives, to remind ourselves of our true value as beloved children of God and to rest in that.

People who are at peace within themselves give far more than they ever realise – they are easy to be with; they listen; they demonstrate in all they are how valuable *you* are – just by the way they relate to you in all the little every day things of life. And because they are not anxious about themselves their level of actual activity is immaterial. The fit and healthy will do more, the frail do less – but all give immeasurably of themselves. For from their security they can give themselves to others simply by being themselves. And that is a gift beyond measure.

This Lent, may we learn to be truly ourselves as God loves us so we are free to love others, too.

Revd Clare Nicholson, Vicar



Pre-Mothering Sunday Tea

St. Peter's Church Halls - Saturday 13th March - 3pm to 5pm

Tickets £6 from Yvonne Jeffries (TEL 020 8599 7250)

Flower Festival Fund Raising Events

These events are being arranged to raise money to buy the flowers for the Festival.

Gravel Sands Goes West – Saturday 10th April

Just Desserts – Friday 14th May **Plate Raffle** – Friday 4th June

Lent 2010

We are following the York Course on Wednesdays from 24th February to Wednesday 24th March – meeting in the Vicarage at 10.45am and 8pm.

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. 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. If you have not contributed in the past, you would be very welcome to take part – a telephone call will enable Shirley to give you the details.

For details of the history of the Scheme, please see overleaf.

The closing date for donations is 19th March.

Weekdays:

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

Around the Hatch

**St. Peter's
Coffee Morning and
Bring and Buy Sale**
St. Peter's Church Halls
Saturday 6th March - 10am to 12noon
All are very welcome

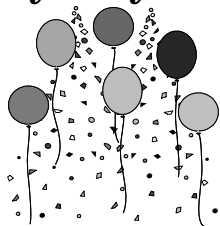
New leaders needed

**The Cub Scout Section of the
1st Aldborough Hatch (St. Peter's) Scout
Group needs new leaders.**

Cub Scout Leader Charles Paddon is, at the moment, the only warranted leader in this Section. So far he is managing to run the meetings with the help of leaders from other sections within the Group and/or parents. This situation cannot continue and Charles would like to hear from anyone who would be prepared to consider becoming a leader or pack helper or who, in the first instance, would like information on what is required. Charles can be contacted on 07852 216 029. Please, do not just read this but think hard about whether you can help.
The Cub Scout Pack runs on a Monday nights between 6.30pm and 8pm in the church hall

If you or a relative or friend would like to see the BROADSHEET by email contact the Editor (email ronjeffries@live.co.uk).

St. Peter's May Day Fete



**Bank Holiday Monday 3rd May
2pm to 5pm**
All the fun of the fair!
Bedding plants – New Gifts: unwanted presents welcome (*No jumble please*)

Redbridge Voluntary Care

Quiz Night

St. Paul's Woodford Bridge
Saturday 27th March 7pm for 7.30pm
Ploughman's Supper – Bring your own drink - *Tables of 8 – Tickets £7*
Contact Carol Campbell
(TEL 020 8551 2587)

Sunday Club

The newly formed Sunday Club for children aged three and over will meet in the church halls at 10.30am on Sundays 7th and 21st March. All children are very welcome.
On March 14th and 28th we will be in church for Mothering Sunday and Palm Sunday.

Fifty-four years of Easter Lily Scheme – at least!

Overleaf are details of the Easter Lily Scheme which has been running at St. Peter's for at least 54 years!

Records date back to 1956 – although the scheme could have been running before this – when 174 names of departed loved ones were listed. In 2009 some 623 names were printed on cards on the altar – an increase of 35 over 2008. The donation in 1956 was three shillings and sixpence, when thirty-six pounds, seventeen shillings was raised. This year the donation will be the same as it has been for the past 19 years – one pound. Last year the amount raised, including the Gift Aided donations, was £2,122.
In the early days the lists were hand-written using calligraphy, but today they are produced on a computer.

Over those 54 years two members of St. Peter's have co-ordinated the scheme – Ivy Taylor from 1956 to 1985, when Shirley Rudge took over. Our grateful thanks to both ladies and to those who have supported the scheme loyally over the years, providing a feast of flowers at Easter and in the church throughout the year.

Monday Club

1st March Cards
8th March Bring and Buy Sale
15th March Bingo
22nd March Speaker
29th March Bingo

The mystery of the Jewish grave at St. Peter's

From time to time a group gathers to pray at a particular grave in St. Peter's churchyard. On leaving they follow the Jewish tradition of placing a pebble or stone on top of the gravestone to signify that someone has honoured the deceased person's memory with a visit to the grave. Those of us who have been privileged to witness the gathering have been struck by the dignity of the participants and the solemnity of the occasion. The grave, which may be found in the churchyard on the lefthandside inside the main gate from Aldborough Road North, has an interesting history linking St. Peter's with the airfields on the open land to the North of the church. There are said to have been three airfields on Fairlop Plain in the First World War (1914-1918) – Hainault Farm Aerodrome (on land to the East of Hainault Road) and Fairlop Aerodrome – both Royal Naval Air Service – and one of the first Royal Flying Corps airfields which started to operate there from 1915. Twelve service personnel died on active duty from Hainault Farm Aerodrome and the same number from Fairlop Aerodrome. Sopwith Camels, single-seat biplane fighters, were based at the farms and the pilots were involved in shooting down Zeppelins. The 44th Squadron Royal Flying Corps was formed at Hainault Farm on 24th July 1917

as a home defence squadron, gaining fame by pioneering the use of the Sopwith Camel for night operations and achieving the first unqualified victory in combat between aircraft flying at night – two Sopwith Camels versus a German Gotha on the night of 28th/29th January 1918.

The buildings standing today on the East side of Hainault Road, opposite Hainault Farm, are Hangers dating back to the First World War and were almost certainly used in the Second World War (1939-1945) as no permanent Hangers for maintenance were built on Fairlop Airfield.

Fairlop Airfield was built in 1939 as an auxiliary airfield to cover Hornchurch, Debden and North Weald in the event of them being unusable through enemy attack.

During the Second World War over 1,000 personnel were stationed on Fairlop Plain. Spitfires, Mustangs and Typhoons were amongst the aircraft which flew from Fairlop. Many service men and women were killed in action and lie buried in Barkingside Cemetery, in the churchyard at Holy Trinity Parish Church, Barkingside, and at St. Mary's Great Ilford. Others killed in action after they flew from Fairlop now lie at peace in various cemeteries in Europe and a few have no known grave.

One serviceman from the First World War lies buried at St. Peter's – in the grave inside the front gate which is visited regularly by members of the local Jewish community.

It is the grave of Second Lieutenant Harry Walter Jassby, who was from Montreal, Quebec, Canada. He joined the Royal Flying Corps (forerunner of the Royal Air Force) in 1917 and arrived in England in April 1918. He died in a flying accident seven months later on 6th November 1918, just five days before the Armistice was signed on 11th November.

He lied about his age when he enlisted and his gravestone indicates that he was 22, when in fact he was just 20. Before going overseas, he learned to fly during his training as an aerial gunner and was made a Second Lieutenant.

It is highly probable – although we cannot be certain – that Second Lieutenant Jassby was a member of the 44th Squadron Royal Flying Corps as the Squadron remained at Hainault Farm until 1919 when it was disbanded.

The Star of David together with the insignia of the Royal Air Force appears on his tombstone with the inscription:

*In life he flew the azure sky,
in death he flew to heaven high.*

He received a Jewish burial service with military honours. Nothing more is known of Second Lieutenant Jassby or of this family, and why he was buried in the churchyard of St. Peter's remains a mystery. **RJ**
(We are grateful to John Coombes for his assistance in compiling this article.)

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 – 01277 821790
Reader: Brian Kerrison – 020 8599 4368 **Hall Bookings' Secretary:** Stella Fletcher – 020 8599 3115

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Published by: St. Peter's Aldborough Hatch Parochial Church Council
Printed by: SPS Communications, 499 Aldborough Road North, Ilford, Essex IG2 7SY – 020 8599 6452

**Copy deadline for Next Issue:
Tuesday 9th March**