



EWELL PARISH NEWS

The monthly newspaper of St Mary the Virgin Ewell

No.466

November 2011

60p



Sharing the Love of Christ, the Light of the World, with the people of Ewell

CHARITY GIFT DAY

SATURDAY 26 NOVEMBER 2011

10 am - 12 noon in

ST. MARY'S PARISH CHURCH

St. Mary's Charity Gift Day is an opportunity to give our support to Charities working both in the locality and in the wider world, among the homeless, depressed, disabled, injured, and those in need of support.

Charities we are supporting this year:

- HOLIDAYS FOR DISABLED PEOPLE**
- COMPASSION EAST AFRICA DROUGHT APPEAL**
- BEACHY HEAD CHAPLAINCY TEAM**
- MERCYSHIPS**

There will be the attractive Cafe Corner, Model Corner, Bring & Buy, Brownie Stall, Cakes, and a Grand Raffle for which we will need many donations, please.

There will be light piano music played throughout the morning with the Junior Choir singing from time to time

HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!

CONTENTS

The Vicar Writes.....	2
Church in November... 2 & 3	
Publicity!.....	4
Margaret Howard's Memorial.....	4
Suggested prayers.....	5



Board Games Event	5
Love of the Stage.....	6
Charity Gift Day	6
Education and All That!.....	7
John The Cousin.....	7
Harvest Challenge.....	8
Arthur Mathews	8



Patron Recital.....	9
From the Parish Records..	10
Our Organ Scholar.....	10
Calendar for November....	12
Coach Trip	12



Please send EPN copy electronically to epn@stmarysewell.com.
Handwritten or typed copy can only be accepted with the prior agreement of the Editor. Copy date for December edition Noon 14 November.

The Vicar writes

"Lift up your eyes and see," says the prophet Isaiah. It is so easy to go through our daily lives without actually looking up and seeing what is really happening, what is really going on. We can all get so close to our daily routine, to our work and family life, that sometimes there's a danger of losing perspective, forgetting how everything is supposed to fit together. "You can't see the wood for the trees" is a much-used saying, precisely because it's so often true.

One of the things churches should do is to help us all 'lift up our eyes and see'. That is, help us to perceive the work of God amongst us. Even the most traditional things, like a sermon or the inspiring beauty of a church building, are supposed to lift up our eyes and hearts to notice God.

Quite often, churches aren't very good at lifting up our own eyes and seeing how we communicate and spread our message to those around us. There are enormous opportunities to communicate available today: it's easy to print out full colour poster, and the internet is another powerful tool. Yet so often churches put a lot of time and effort into organizing events and activities without necessarily following through with enough communication and publicity.

That's why I am very thankful for the work of our publicity committee. Ian Burgess, chairman of the committee, writes more in these pages to explain their work. As he explains, a copy of St Mary's new welcome leaflet should be found within these pages. Please keep it for reference or give it to a friend or neighbour; more are always available inside and outside church.

Much goes on, of course, besides the events and activities that are widely publicised, such as the occasional offices, pastoral care, and the work of our various committees. Many financial and other matters are presented to the members of the electoral roll at our Annual Parochial Church Meeting in April. But we are always very happy to answer questions or explain more about what goes on throughout the year. At a recent PCC meeting, one of things discussed, for example was the level of our parish share, and the PCC has decided to approach the diocese authorities with proposals about future payments. We will report back as this develops.

A final example of "lift up your eyes and see" happened last week when a member of our congregation noticed the signs that thieves had been on St Mary's roof. Sure enough, an inspection revealed that lead had been stolen from the roof. Temporary coverings are already in place to protect the church when it rains, which we only knew to do because of one person's perceptiveness and vigilance. Can I ask everyone in the local community to be vigilant, and especially to report suspicious activities at any time of the day or night around St Mary's grounds? Lead theft, followed by heavy rain, can be devastating for a church.

NOVEMBER IN CHURCH

All Souls' Day-- Wednesday 2 November-- is a day in the church year when we especially remember the departed.

St Mary the Virgin EWELL PARISH CHURCH 020 8393 2643

Website: www.stmarysewell.com

CLERGY

Vicar: The Reverend Russell Dewhurst MPhys BTh LLM
Email: vicar@stmarysewell.com

Honorary Assistant Priest: The Reverend Patrick Miller MA PhD

READER

Mrs Wendy Varney 020 8393 5212

CHURCHWARDENS

Mr Malcolm Lawther 020 8224 6693

Mrs Margaret Humphries 020 8393 6067

Visiting Co-ordinator

Mrs Wendy Paxman 0208 224 2851

SUNDAY AT ST MARY'S

0800 HOLY COMMUNION

0930 SUNG EUCHARIST

The Wayfarers and the Sunday School meet in conjunction with this service, and there is a Crèche provided in church.

There is coffee in the church hall between the 9.30 and 11 o'clock services on Sunday mornings, to which all are welcome, and especially newcomers and visitors.

1100 SERVICE

There is a wide variety of services in our 11 am service. Sometimes traditional Choral Mattins or a traditional Sung Eucharist, at other times we have a short and lively toddler service, baptisms, or a family service. See the calendar on the back page for more details.

1730 EVENING PRAYER (as advertised)

Usually a simple said service, but sometimes Choral Evensong.

Occasionally there are variations from this pattern; details are given in this paper, on the Notice Board or on the Weekly Notes available on Sundays.

ON WEEKDAYS

Morning prayer is *usually* said at 9 am Mondays-Thursdays, in church. See the Weekly notes or phone ahead to make sure. The Eucharist is celebrated on Tuesdays at 10 am, in the Parish Room (entry through the door on the Church Street side of the Church).

THE PARISH OFFICE

Administrator:

Mrs Lynne Yuille 020 8393 2643 (Office)

Office email: parishoffice@stmarysewell.com

St Mary's Church is in London Road, Ewell, and the Parish Office is in the Sacristy on the south side of the church.

The Office hours are normally 9.30-12.00 Mon, Tues, Wed and Fri, but please check before visiting as appointments are usually needed.

The postal address is:

C/O Ewell Vicarage, Church Street, Ewell KT17 2AQ.

EST.1934
A.E. BOOTH & SON
REPAIRS TO
ANTIQUE &
REPRODUCTION
FURNITURE
 300 Hook Road, Hook
 Chessington KT9 1NY
 020 8397 7675

YOGA,
REFLEXOLOGY
& much more
 Pavana Therapies caring
 holistically about your
 overall health and lifestyle

Yoga Classes
 Weds 10-11.30 am (Gentle)
 Tues 7.45-9.15 pm (Antenatal)
 Thurs 5.45-7.15 pm (General)
 Thurs 8-9.30 pm (General)

For further details call
 020 8873 2843 / 07973 410375
 enquiries@pavanatherapies.co.uk
 www.pavanatherapies.co.uk

St Mary's
Toddler
Groups

Sessions are held on:
 Monday afternoon,
 Thursday and Friday
 mornings during term
 time in the church
 hall.

For more information:
 Tel. 020 8393 4804

There will be two Requiem Eucharists at St Mary's, a simple said service at noon and a sung service at 8pm. At both services, names of the departed will be read out-- if you would like to add the name of a departed loved one to the list, please put the name in the box in church or contact the parish office before 2 November.

On Sunday 6 November after our usual morning services, there is a service of Choral Evensong at 5.30pm.

The organ recital on Saturday 12 November features our Director of Music, Jonathan Holmes, and our Organ Scholars, Maks Adach and Jonathan Allsopp. We are very fortunate to have so much home talent, and the evening promises to be very enjoyable. Also on that same evening, two adults and five juniors from St Mary's will be confirmed by the Bishop of Guildford at St Mark's, Tattenham Corner:-- please hold them in your prayers.

Sunday 13 November is Remembrance Sunday, always a very important day in the life of our parish. Our 8am Holy Communion service is as usual, while the 9:30am Eucharist takes the form of a requiem for those from the parish who died in war. It finishes in time for the laying of wreaths at the war memorial in the churchyard, and the Civic Act of Remembrance with Choral Mattins follows at 10:50am in church. This service always sees the church very full, as many people from the wider community come to remember those who have fallen in war.

On Saturday 19 November there will be another board games afternoon in the church hall from 3-6pm. Tea will be served and there will be a range of board games available for all ages and abilities: no previous experience with board games required. Plenty of games old and new are provided, with full explanation available, but please feel free to bring along a favourite game of your own too. Tea will be served. No need to book, just show up.

The church's liturgical year ends on Sunday 20 November, the festival of Christ the King. At our 9:30 service there will be an all-age talk, and at 11am our last "Toddle Up" service of the year, especially for toddlers and their families and friends. In the evening, there will be a service of Choral Evensong with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, which is an opportunity to give thanks for Jesus' institution of the Lord's Supper.

On Saturday 26 November, our annual charity gift day takes place in church 10am-12 noon. Attractions will include a Café Corner, Model Corner, bring & buy, Brownie stall, cakes, and a Grand Raffle for which donations would be appreciated. The morning will support the following charities: Holidays for disabled people; Compassion East Africa Drought Appeal; Beachy Head Chaplaincy; and Mercy ships.

The last Sunday in November, 27, is the first Sunday of Advent, and the church cycle begins again as we begin to look forward to Christmas.

EWELL VILLAGE FAIR 2012

Note the date in your diary – 14 July 2012

One of the great things about our annual village fair is how, on the day, so many people pitch in to help. Next year, we hope that more people will get involved in the planning and preparation, which in the past has tended to rest on the shoulders of one or two organizers. This new structure will help the Fair to keep flourishing year by year, and, we hope, make it even better than ever.

We are looking for people to take charge of organizing the following areas: Electrics; Village Tours; Church Opening; Setting up & clearing away; Advertising; Publicity; and the Spring Market event in May. Holding it all together will be a Chair. Alison Archer-Lock, who organized the fair last year, has agreed to take the chair in the first year of this new system if people are willing to take on the above roles.

Continued on page 4

WA TRUELOVE & SON LTD
 INDEPENDENT FAMILY FUNERAL DIRECTORS
 & MONUMENTAL CRAFTSMEN SINCE 1885

Serving the local community

- International repatriation
- Monumental masonry
- Horsedrawn funerals
- 24 hour call out service
- Home visits available

For further details about
 Truelove guaranteed
 pre-arranged funerals
 Call FREEPHONE
0800 074 3797

EPSON Tel: 01372 723337 14/18 Church Road
 Branches also in: Banstead • Caterham • Cheam
 Coulsdon • Mitcham • Morden • Sutton • Wallington
 www.wa-truelove-and-son.ltd.uk email: funerals@wa-truelove-and-son.ltd.uk

To hire the
 Church Hall
 please contact
020 8394 0453
 for full details of
 cost and availability

**PAINTER &
 DECORATOR**
A.L. BOVIS
 Reliable friendly service
 for all exterior and interior
 household maintenance
 and improvements
 Free estimates given
01737 359581

The Vicar writes: continued from page 3

Some of these roles don't require any involvement on the day of the fair itself (e.g. arranging advertising for the programme.) Others come into their own around the time of the fair itself, e.g. a very important task will be oversight of setting up and clearing away so that job can receive the focus of one person's attention.

Please do consider if you might volunteer to take on one of

these roles in preparing for the fair. Contact the Vicar or Alison to find out more about what they might involve. The future of our village fair depends on people stepping forward.

Your friend and Parish Priest

Russell Dewhurst

"PUBLICITY CAN BE TERRIBLE. BUT ONLY IF YOU DON'T HAVE ANY"

Maybe Russell was thinking of this quote from another Russell, Jane Russell - the American film actress - when he established the St Mary's Publicity Committee just over a year ago. 'Publicity Committee?' I hear you ask and it is therefore with some embarrassment that we realised an article in the EPN was needed to publicise our own efforts!

Your committee has met every couple of months and the results of our work are beginning to be noticed. In our first year we have identified a number of important issues and made some progress to address them.

St Mary's Ewell now has a unified logo and this is appearing on more and more publications. Sheets giving 'Top Tips' on poster design and guidance on advertising have been produced and updated for event organisers. They are available to all on the St Mary's website.

The use of our external noticeboards has been reviewed with the aim of making our church and its activities more visible to passing traffic. The need for additional and better located boards was identified, however, we are yet to acquire funds to take these plans further as each new weatherproof board for the display of posters and notices will cost about £600. We would welcome any donations towards this goal.

We have also begun to consider a very important topic - the welcome we give. A new Welcome Leaflet has been designed and is available to all visitors to both the church and the church hall. A copy of the leaflet has been included in this copy of the EPN. Please do look at it and then pass it on to someone who does not receive the EPN.

More recently we have looked at the 'Welcome Area' and the greeting visitors receive. By the New Year we should all begin to see a number of improvements to both the display of information and the use of these resources to deliver a true welcome to all who come to St Mary's.

The committee would welcome your ideas and comments on our work. Please do share your thoughts with me or the Vicar.

Ian Burgess
Chairman, Publicity Committee

MARGARET HOWARD'S GRAVE

Margaret died in November 2009, shortly after her 80th birthday. She was a very special person in many ways, not least in her long and faithful membership of the fellowship of St Mary's. Probably the first service she attended was her Baptism, conducted by the vicar, Rev E.C.Usherwood, on the 20 April 1930. She lived long enough to know seven vicars of St Mary's.

By the age of 15 Margaret was in the choir where she sang contralto until the early 1960s. She was taught to ring the bells by John Beams, Tower Captain at St Mary's for many years. Margaret continued ringing until she suffered a stroke in 2007. For many years she rang the angelus at the 8am Sunday eucharists.

One of Margaret's special interests was in fostering good relations between the Christian denominations. For many years she represented her church on the Executive of the Ewell Council of Churches, and then Churches Together in Ewell.

Margaret lived in Ewell for the whole of her life, in the bungalow in which she was born. Her mother's parents and her own parents worshipped at St Mary's and when her grandmother died in 1930 her grandfather purchased a grave in St Mary's churchyard, big enough to take four coffins. On 8 December Margaret's coffin filled the fourth space.

It is now nearly two years since the funeral and the grave has not yet been restored. The executors refused to authorise expenditure from the Estate for this purpose, and the church cannot use its funds to cover this. Margaret was an only child and there are no close relatives now living. As we had known Margaret since teen-age, and looked upon her as almost part of our family, we arranged her funeral and were closely involved in house-clearing. We have obtained a quotation for grave restoration for £670. This would include the inscriptions:

+M.E.H. 23rd NOVEMBER 2009+

Margaret ever faithful

We are now seeking contributions towards this essential expenditure, and are asking that anyone wishing to help in this way should send contributions to Margaret Howard Memorial, The Treasurer, c/o The Vicarage, 14 Church Street, Ewell, KT17 2AQ. Cheques payable to St Mary's PCC.

Ralph and Pauline Spittle

Greenfield and Company

Surveyors and Estate Agents

Property Lettings and Management

Ewell Village Branch (Est. 1923)

55 HIGH STREET, EWELL
020 8393 0077

Also at Tolworth,
Surbiton & Chessington



Specialising in this area for over 70 years
PROFESSIONAL AND PERSONAL SERVICE

SUGGESTED PRAYERS

Heavenly Father, we admit the mistakes of our life which we cannot undo. Help us to accept their consequences without bitterness, and within their limits to see our immediate obedience and to act upon it with joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Caryl Micklem.

God be in my head and in my understanding.
God be in my eyes and in my looking.

God be in my mouth and in my speaking. God be in my heart and in my thinking.

God be at my end and at my departing.

Sarum Missal.

O God, our loving Father, we pray thee to keep us ever close to thyself, that we may find in thy love our strength and our peace.

William Temple



**AN AMAZING NO HUNGER EATING PLAN
THAT FITS IN WITH YOUR FAMILY LIFE**

Look and feel great — Eat as much as you want

Support every step of the way

A warm welcome awaits you at:

Ewell Grove School
West Street, Ewell

Every Wednesday at 7.30 pm

For more details phone Christine: 07799 081808

Help us, O God our Father, amid the experiences of this life always to serve thee faithfully and with a cheerful courage; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Front Inner Light

I ask thee that I may ever find thyself in these in love, in friendship, in flowers, birds and trees, in joy, in sorrow, in work and hours of ease.

Grant to us, O Lord, to know that which is worth knowing,

to love that which is worth loving,

to praise that which pleaseth thee most, and to dislike whatsoever is evil in thy eyes.

Thomas a Kempis

Grant to us, Lord, we beseech thee, the spirit to think and do always such things as be right; that we, who cannot do anything that is good without thee, may by thee be enabled to live according to thy will; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Collect for Trinity 9.

BOARD GAMES AFTERNOON

Saturday 19th November
3pm-6pm in the church hall



All
Ages
Welcome

St Mary's Church
plays board games!

Come and join us 3-6pm at St Mary's Church Hall for some board game fun. Games of luck and skill, familiar games, some new and unusual games, suitable for young and old. Tea will be served. No need to book - just turn up!



A LOVE OF THE STAGE



Bill Rackham treads the boards again after a gap of 50 years at the age of 87. His last stage appearance was for the Epsom Players in 1961 inOklahoma.

After 5 years war time service in the RAF Bill took up a career in finance. It was a colleague who took him along to a London Amdram group the Cavendish Players in 1949 who were putting on a performance of "George and Margaret". Playing opposite Bill was a beautiful young actress Jean Mellow. Bill was besotted, with both Jean and the stage. It was in their next production "Love in a Mist" that Bill and Jean fell in love, and to quote his daughter, 'he's been in a

haze ever since'.

Marriage and a move to Ashted in 1951 meant appearances for the Ragged Revellers and Ashted Theatre Group and also the Epsom Players for whom their most memorable performances together were in Annie get Your Gun (1958) and Oklahoma (1961).

Oklahoma saw the last of their appearances together and family life took over but with four children their life was certainly not short of drama!

Jean passed away in April 2011 and as a tribute to his beloved wife Bill returns to the stage.

CHARITY GIFT DAY

This annual event, which replaced the Christmas Market, takes place this year on Saturday 26 November 2011 from 10am to 12 noon in St Mary's Church, Ewell.

We support four charities, some with a local flavour or supported from within St Mary's by one of our congregation, others connected with the wider world both religious and nonreligious. This year we are supporting Holidays for Disabled people, based in Southampton which provides holidays for people with physical disabilities. A feature of the holiday is the warm and friendly atmosphere and friendships that grow amongst those who have been involved. Helpers are provided to assist the disabled holiday-makers with their physical needs.

The continuous news relating to the drought in East Africa seems always to be in the forefront of news bulletins, so we are supporting the Compassion East Africa Drought Appeal. Compassion is one of the smaller charities, and provides development programmes for children in Kenya, Ethiopia, Rwanda and Uganda, all of which are experiencing food shortages as a result of severe drought conditions this year.

The name of Beachy Head Chaplaincy Team speaks for itself It is an intervention team who are often the last hope for distressed and despondent people. Over the last six years, 1300 people have been rescued from Beachy Head. The current economic climate coupled with the continuing breakdown of the family is adding to the number of despondent people. The Team is stretched to the limit and needs to expand

to go on saving lives and is fully reliant on support from the churches. The majority of those rescued come from the Surrey, Sussex, Kent and London area.

Mercy Ships operates the world's largest charity hospital ship delivering free health care to the poorest people. Thousands of patients are waiting, and hoping for medical treatments and surgeries, which are needed to relieve their long term suffering. Many have struggled to reach the port of Freetown, in Sierra Leone where the hospital ship "Africa Mercy" is docked.

You can see that the needs of our four charities are large and varied. Please come along to the Charity Gift Day on Saturday 26 November. There will be displays highlighting the four charities we are supporting, together with Cafe Corner, Bring & Buy, Cakes and the Grand Raffle. New items this year are the Model Corner, where we hope many Dads will relive their childhood memories with a working model railway and scalextric.

Also we are hoping that the Brownies and the Junior Choir will be present. As usual our team of soloists will be playing a variety of piano music throughout the morning. Please note we are in urgent need of cakes for the cake stall and good quality gifts for the Bring and Buy Stall and raffle prizes.

There will also be the opportunity to make donations at the Sunday services on 27 November, following the Charity Gift Day. Offers of help on the day will be gratefully received.

John Stovell, Chairman, Outreach Committee

EDUCATION, SCHOOLS AND ALL THAT!

Thomas Arnold, Headmaster of Rugby 1828 - 42, is remembered for saying -

"What we must look for in education is - firstly, religious and moral principles, secondly, gentlemanly conduct, thirdly, intellectual ability."

"It's not fair" is a common remark about bullying among children being educated today.

Yet we overlook the more obvious fact that the bullying so condemned in our schools is common practice in our business dealings, political dealings and international dealings. Many nations have leaders who have bullied their way to the top.

"It's not fair".

Thomas Arnold knew where his pupils came from and how their parents had gained their position in the England of their day. Fair or not, they were there.

His three principles made some impression on their lives. It would be naïve to say that they altered their characters. Schoolmasters have in general agreed that about three in every hundred boys have their characters radically altered by an overt Christian education.

1. Religious and moral principles are there in abundance. Why some regard them and others don't is difficult to explain.

2. Gentlemanly conduct. Women sigh and say - "If only.....!" OR "I wish...!"

3. Intellectual ability. The distribution of brains is itself obviously unfair.

The problem for parents and teachers lamenting disorder such as our recent riots is that Arnold's suggestions run counter to boys' natural human drives for sex, security and success. These drives inevitably lead to bullying. Bedrooms, Boardrooms and Barrack rooms all over the world

give evidence.

Blaming human beings for this sort of misbehaviour is like blaming rain for causing floods.

Where we have taken steps to channel rain correctly pure water results and vegetation flourishes.

Can we channel human drives to good effect?

Normal discussion centres on human instincts. We hear expressions like "After all, it's only human", OR "I can't believe anybody could be so inhuman", without clarity about what distinguishes "human" from "inhuman".

Jesus.

Lives touched by Jesus, however remotely, have a living energy which infuses them wherever they go. Lives not so infused go wherever they like. Messes and muddles result. Soon we are into debates about police, punishment, prison, probation and politics.

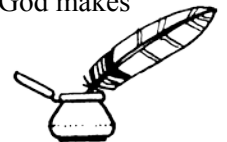
Impossibly confused these debates can become.

St Mary's offers a calm, quiet space where we can attune ourselves to God's harmony and begin to see these perplexing problems in proper perspective. In St Mary's quietness we may even begin to see ways forward towards answers. A starting point is often a new and unexpected feeling of love for those whom it is fashionable to blame.

This is a seed-ground, a starting plot to plant the education we need to grow in ourselves and others, a plot where altered motivations came first, brain power second, where God is love in action, and we are part of it. In this silence we stumble across the freeing realisation that Jesus bears the burden. Our part is to listen and obey.

We can say, with Amy Carmichael, "God makes provision for victory, never for defeat."

Let's.



JOHN THE COUSIN

In many families there is one person who is especially helpful to us, giving us advice and supporting us. I feel John the Baptist was such a one in the Holy Family. I am sure Jesus was brought up wonderfully well by his Mother, Blessed Mary and his earthly Father, St Joseph. He needed a sheltered early life. His very birth brought about dangers and the Flight into Egypt was at least a disturbing event for a young child.

By the time he was twelve Jesus probably realized that his Heavenly Father had work for him to do. So no doubt he spent the next twenty years being a good son to his parents and learning all he could of the Jewish religion and what he must do to lead people closer to God. Here I believe John was alongside him pointing out the problems and troubles that lay ahead. How was Jesus to start his mission? John said I will go before you and call people to be baptised in the River Jordan.

Now at one time I used to think of the Jordan flowing

through rather desert-like country down to the Dead Sea, the lowest point on earth. So I did a little exploration. I started at the Southwest corner of the Sea of Galilee I saw no fishermen in boats nor our Dear Lord walking on the water. However, close by there were two boys silently fishing. The atmosphere was right for my walk. A few miles along and there it was, a river flowing out of the lake, it must be the Jordan, but how beautiful it was. It had green banks and numerous trees, a lovely start even if it had a sad end.

I felt sure it was somewhere in this green and beautiful part of Jordan that John called people to start a new approach to God by being baptised. Following his cousin and friend Jesus came too. John felt that the Son of God did not need baptism but Jesus wanted then as later to be seen as just another man in spite of his special task of bringing mankind closer to God and his powers of forgiveness.

John Richard

HARVEST SUPPER AND CHALLENGE

On 1 October, the Church Hall was to be found with tables beautifully decorated with candles and autumn garlands for the "Harvest Challenge" - a traditional supper with mysterious entertainment thrown in.

The supper itself was an excellent meal - with appropriate wines. Salmon and prawn mousse was followed by a main course centred on sausages in a rich red wine sauce with shallots and mushrooms. After an interval - of which more below, - there was a choice of creamy and chocolatey wickedness for dessert or cheese and biscuits for the non-sweet-toothed.

The courses were interspersed, designed and compèred by the "Dance Duet" of Jenny and David, on the lines of a popular T.V. programme. The perceptive reader's guess of "Strictly Come Dancing" would be wrong since it was, as the title "Harvest Challenge" implies an "adaptation", in the widest sense, of "University Challenge" between two St Mary's teams. The first comprised the Vicar and (the Rev.) John Baxter and their respective spouses, Elaine and Dorothy, - a team "christened" by Jenny as "Russell's' Rustlers". Against them was the Warden's Team, led by the Senior Warden, Malcolm Lawther with the newly elected Margaret Humphries, and Wendy and Julian Varney. (Your totally impartial reporter wonders whether Margaret guessed, on her election, that this would be one of her early duties!)

To complete the scene, the audience had been given, by Jenny, favours to wave, with the Vicar's supporters on the kitchen side and the Warden's fans on the Entrance side of the Hall. The Jeremy Paxman role was shared by Jenny and David. The first and third parts of the Challenge consisted of general knowledge questions on the University Challenge model (but perhaps at a slightly lower intellectual level?) The second part, quite unlike BBC2, involved the respective Cap-



tains seeking to mime to their team some church-related subjects held up by Jenny on a placard. Russell proved to be a strong actor, successfully miming, amongst others, "The Second Lesson" and "The Pulpit". Malcolm had (in the view of your completely impartial reporter) rather harder challenges, including "The Book Trolley", "The Balcony" and "The Weekly Notes". At half-time the Rustlers were declared to be somewhat ahead of the Warden's team.

After dessert, there were further general questions to the two teams and a concluding round of "Pass the Buck" which involved swift interchanges of questions between the two teams (your impartial reporter got a bit lost). At the end of the Challenges, during which there had been vociferous support to the two teams from the well-fed audience, the Warden's Wonders were declared to have very narrowly beaten Russell's Rustlers. Malcolm received a gold (paper covered) medal amid loud applause and proudly wore it for the rest of the evening.

It was therefore fitting that, at the conclusion of the proceedings, after Malcolm had thanked the Social Committee ladies for their excellent Harvest Supper, and Jenny and David for their innovative entertainment, there was prolonged applause from all present.

NMH

AN APPRECIATION OF MR ARTHUR MATHEWS

Arthur is an extraordinary man. I met him a few years ago when it was my great pleasure to play for his wedding to Julia our wonderful Church Treasurer.

In the years since, I have come to realise that Arthur is a human dynamo. Undaunted by what for many would be all-consuming debilitating medical conditions, plus his propensity for accidents, he has never ceased to amaze me on various levels.

After having run Clapham Junction and the Southern Railways, it is not altogether surprising that he remains undaunted in the face of what would seem insurmountable obstacles. The biggest obstacle being lack of funds for the church to afford to restore the very large and important Willis Organ it possesses. Undaunted Arthur has more or less single-handedly taken on the role of organ curator, saving it from falling into further disrepair.

Although it has always been tuned twice a year and had running repairs, it is now almost 40 years since any major work has been done on it. Imagine if all you'd done to a 40 year old car was put fuel in it!

Arthur has many gifts, and we at St Mary's owe him a tremendous debt of gratitude for his unceasing fundraising

efforts on behalf of our organ and choir.

Arthur loves the "Father" Willis Organ. It might come as a surprise to many to know that he is a talented musician and organist in his own right. He played as a child and then began again in retirement.

For the church he has taken away a huge headache in costly maintenance repairs for the Willis Organ.

In the past few years he has raised more than £30,000 towards its ongoing restoration. He has done this in many imaginative and creative ways.

He is an amazing cook and thinks nothing of holding 5 course banquets for 75 or more in his own house and garden and giving the proceeds to a number of good causes including our organ.

He doesn't only raise money for the organ but also for many charities and hospitals.

He is an excellent salesman and feels he's failed if he hasn't cajoled most of our congregation to part with some money for our concert series.

JH

PATRONAL ORGAN RECITAL WITH REQUESTS - 10 September 2011

Following extensive repair work to the Willis organ during the summer, our Director of Music, Jonathan Holmes, demonstrated its rejuvenated capacity in a recital this evening. Individuals "sponsored" him to play their favourite pieces; and all proceeds went toward the Organ Appeal.

We did in fact hear Jonathan on both organ and piano, for some vocal pieces had been asked for, too, requiring piano accompaniment. A lively and enthusiastic audience clearly enjoyed what proved to be a varied programme consisting of major works interspersed with lighter moments. Opening the evening in serious mood with J.S.Bach, we heard his Prelude and Fugue in A minor BWV543 requested by Roland Fisher. We sometimes hear Jonathan play the Prelude of a Sunday morning, but I certainly had not heard the Fugue before. Great music especially the cadenzas written by Bach himself to play. Next came Scott Joplin (c.1867-1917) in an arrangement of his well-known piece 'The Entertainer'. This lighter spirit continued in Albert W. Ketélbey's 'In a Monastery garden' requested by Valerie Smither: music which reminded me of some of Lehár's operettas which date from around the same time (1915). Jonathan now moved to the pianoforte. In somewhat similar vein to 'In a Monastery Garden' is Arthur Sullivan's 'The Lost Chord', sung tonight by Timothy Tomkins (bass). Sullivan came across the poem as a young man but put it aside; then in 1877, while sitting at the bedside of his dying brother Fred, he chanced upon the poem again. Now he felt inclined to set it to music. In my opinion the resulting song is a well composed and quite moving piece.

To continue this evening, more vocal music came next: two pieces that were requested by Eve Myatt-Price. Firstly Sarah Lutton (mezzo) sang Michael Balfe's 'I dreamt that I dwelt in marble halls'. Taken from his opera 'The Bohemian Girl' this song is occasionally performed today but the opera itself, never. Yet in its day it was a minor classic whereby Balfe achieved national celebrity. Much more often performed is the duet from 'The Pearl Fishers' composed by Georges Bizet in 1863. Tonight the duet 'Au fond du temple saint' was sung in French by two members of St. Mary's choir, tenor Matthew Smith and bass Timothy Tomkins.

Now Jonathan returned to the organ for a virtuoso piece: Modest Mussorgsky's 'A Night on the Bare Mountain' of 1866. It was requested by Julian Varney. This work was conceived as a showpiece for orchestra and it presents formidable demands on the organist both technically and in attempting to recreate the vivid orchestral colours. They were dramatically displayed on our wonderful organ. Lastly, to round off the first half in celebratory style, Charles-Marie Widor's most famous composition, the Toccata from his Fifth Organ Symphony.

Everyone enjoyed Arthur Mathew's nice refreshments and returned to their seats in a happy frame of mind. Arthur himself had submitted a request for Jonathan to play, but before that we had some serious listening to do. Franz Schmidt's Toccata was composed in 1924 and demonstrates what can be done in the key of C major even that late date. Julius Reubke (1834-1858) would, I am sure, have been a major composer had he lived, judging by the piece we heard

next. This was his Sonata on the 94th Psalm, one of the finest works ever written for the organ. He was a pupil of Liszt whose influence is everywhere apparent in the music, and he gave the premiere himself on the Ladegast organ of Merseburg Cathedral in Germany. Liszt admired him and sent a kind letter of sympathy to Reubke's father when the young man died.

In total contrast with the seriousness of Reubke's sonata, we now heard some much lighter music requested by Arthur Mathews. First we heard the well known Hornpipe Humoresque written by Noel Rawsthorne who was organist at Liverpool Cathedral from 1955 to 1980. He writes in the styles of (and apologies to) Bach, Vivaldi, Thomas Arne and Widor too in the course of variations on the famous Sailor's Hornpipe. We were all encouraged to sing along in 'Land of Hope and Glory', A.C.Benson's words to Elgar's Pomp and Circumstance March No. 1: those not familiar with them from The Last Night of the Proms found the text all written out at the back of our programmes.

This was not quite the last word. That honour went to a piece asked for by Janet Morrison and Malcolm Pitstow, Lefebure-Wely's Sortie in E flat: a cheerful and unpretentious little piece which, surprisingly, was the only opportunity Jonathan had all evening of running the gamut of French reed stops on the mighty Willis organ.



THANK YOU ARTHUR MATHEWS

Arthur Mathews (fund raiser extraordinaire) looks forward to seeing you at the next organ recital on Saturday 12 November to hear Jonathan Holmes and our organ scholars. The recital starts at 7.30pm.

Further details can be obtained from the church website:
www.stmarysewell.com/music_events.html

OUR ORGAN SCHOLAR - MAK'S

I have recently been awarded an organ scholarship at Oriel College, Oxford, a college which was the home of the famed Victorian churchman and convert John Henry Newman, who was both the Chaplain and a Fellow of Oriel. I have been asked to write a short account of the interview process and the events leading up to it.

As is the norm for Organ Scholar candidates, I submitted my application in late August and applied for a total of five colleges: Hertford, Keble, Oriel, Merton and Jesus. I was granted an interview and I was told to stay in Oxford for a total of three days for what was supposed to be two interviews and an organ playing audition. So, on the Sunday evening I was dropped off at the porters lodge of Hertford College (my first choice college – I thought I was not good enough for Oriel so I placed it at third choice!). I must confess I was extremely nervous, realising that all the efforts of my last five years of education had been aimed at the following three days. I really did not want to muck this up! The following morning I had been scheduled in for two interviews: one at the Music Faculty and the other at Hertford. I was told over breakfast that a third interview had been scheduled at Keble immediately after my Hertford interview. The interviews all followed the same basic shape; I was given a pack ten minutes beforehand containing a musical article and one or two excerpts about which I was expected to talk. This was followed by around 20 minutes of discussion about various subjects the dons on the other side of desk deemed appropriate. These three academic interviews were perhaps the most intense one and a half hours of my life! They were followed by an informal chaplains interview at Hertford, which was slightly less intense than the others. After hall dinner, the two current organ scholars of Hertford insisted on taking me out to the public house on the other side of Catte street.... and then to another one and to another one! As the evening progressed I suddenly became mindful of the fact that I had an organ playing audition the following morning; so after the proposition of a fourth round of double vodka shots, I decided to bid goodnight to my hosts and find my way back to Hertford.

The Organ playing audition takes an interesting form: one has to play a piece of Bach (any piece of Bach), sight read, transpose a hymn, score read and harmonise a melody. It is a rather daunting experience! I walked into Magdalen College chapel and went upstairs to the organ loft, I looked over the edge of the Quire screen and saw around 20 dons sitting in the chapel in perfect silence,



eagerly awaiting my playing. The audition went rather well, the only disappointing weak link was the sight reading – something which I am normally rather proficient at. The next morning I was told that I had been summoned to Oriel for an academic interview and to the Music Faculty to take a short choir rehearsal. The rehearsal went well, but felt rather daunting as I was faced with an octet of choral and organ scholars and an audience of around 10 dons. The interview at Oriel after this felt very disappointing, I felt that it had been a disaster! I must have done something right though, as they offered me a place in a letter written the following day. I had to wait until the Monday to receive the letter which I found im-

possible to open! I was too nervous. I cradled it for about five minutes plucking up courage and hoping for the good outcome; as it happens they asked me simply to resit one module of my Latin A-level. I ask for your prayers as I prepare to jump this final hurdle!

Maks Adach

FROM THE PARISH RECORDS

HOLY BAPTISM

Be Christ's faithful soldier and servant

25 September
9 October

Garry Stephen Streeter
Oscar Reece Breen
Lauren Evie Pecover
James Antony West

HOLY MATRIMONY

A gift of God in creation, and a means of his grace, a holy mystery' (Alternative Service Book Marriage rite)

17 September
14 October

Arthur Robert Gary Hutson
and Ivana Tlumacova
Daniel Charles Parkes and
Lauri Jane Downie

FUNERALS

In sure and certain hope (BCP Burial rite)

24 September
26 September
13 October

Emily Elizabeth Bell, aged 91
John Coates, aged 73
Malcolm Howard Sutcliff,
aged 89

Have you made a Will?

For just £69.00 + VAT Single Will
£95.00 + VAT for two Wills

A Consultant can visit you to take your Will instructions and offer guidance and advice

Call to make an appointment,
or for advice

0208 408 0836

We also specialise in drafting
Lasting Powers of Attorney



Exclusively Wills Ltd. are members of
the Society of Will Writers

Established in 1997

Abbeyfield

Where older people find care in housing

EWELL VILLAGE

Abbeyfield Ewell offers supported sheltered housing and is dedicated to making the lives of older people easier and more fulfilling. For over 45 years residents have enjoyed companionship and support in comfortable surroundings.

GROVE COTTAGE
10 CHEAM ROAD, EWELL VILLAGE KT17 1SN
and
WENDOVER HOUSE
266 CHESSINGTON ROAD WEST EWELL KT19 9XF

The Grove Cottage Voluntary Committee was set up by St Mary's Parish Church and friends from the United Reformed Church and Wendover House by volunteers from All Saints in West Ewell. Rotarians provided business advice and support.

Each house has a housekeeper who ensures that the house is comfortable, clean and safe. We offer two nutritious home-cooked meals a day, a communal lounge, dining room and attractive gardens. All rooms have en suite facilities. Your room is your private place to furnish with your personal possessions and to live in as you choose.

Our rooms are affordable and inclusive of all meals, heating and council tax. Come and have a look for yourself. Please telephone **020 8393 0881** or email abbeyfieldewellsoc@btinternet.com

Registered Charity No. 204444



All roofing and guttering repairs

**30 years experience covering
Worcester Park and close by**

Valleys, Bays etc.

All new work guaranteed

Free estimates

Special rates to O.A.P.s

J L Hellings & Son

Tel: 020 8942 1861
100 Kingsmead Avenue
Worcester Park KT4 8UT



The Rising Sun Epsom

14 Heathcote Road, Epsom KT18 5DX



A warm welcome awaits you. Award winning real ales and wine. A la carte Restaurant. Large landscaped garden with heated covered patio. Bar-B-Q. Function room.

Delicious dining in our restaurant or al fresco. Daily **specials** board.

All food cooked on the premises by our chefs and locally sourced where possible.

Large selection of **wines** by the bottle or glass. **Youngs** ales, many guest beers, lagers, ciders and soft drinks.

Having a do? Functions and parties are our speciality.

Come and see us about using our function room. We can tailor a menu to suit your taste and budget.



Wedding receptions, birthdays, work do's, meetings, club nights, parties, all functions catered for.

Enquiries call
01372 740809

Visit our website have a look see the menus

www.therisingsunepsom.com

Email mail@therisingsunepsom.com

ALFRED & EWART LONGHURST

FUNERAL DIRECTORS AND MONUMENTAL MASONS

- A complete, caring professional service
- Estimates and advice freely given for funerals and memorials
- Flexible pre-paid funeral plan - details on request

21-23, KINGSTON ROAD, EWELL

020 8393 1077



Calendar for November

- T 1 All Saints
1000 Holy Communion (said) in the Parish Room
- W 2 All Souls' Day
1200 Requiem Eucharist
2000 Requiem Eucharist
- S 6 **THIRD SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT**
0800 Holy Communion
0930 Sung Eucharist
1100 Mattins and Holy Baptism
1730 Choral Evensong
- M 7 1630-1730 Junior Confirmation Class
2000 Meeting of Pro Musica
- T 8 1000 Holy Communion (said) in the Parish Room
- W 9 2000-2100 Adult Confirmation Group
- S 12 1800 Deanery Confirmation at St Mark's Tattenham Corner
1930 Organ recital in church
- S 13 **REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY**
0800 Holy Communion
0930 Requiem Eucharist
1100 Act of Remembrance and Choral Mattins
- M 14 0930-1230 Holy Communion to the housebound and to The Elders
- T 15 1000 Holy Communion (said) in the Parish Room
- S 19 1500-1800 Board Games afternoon in the Church Hall
- S 20 **CHRIST THE KING**
0800 Holy Communion (BCP)
0930 Procession and Sung Eucharist with all-age talk
1100 Toddle Up
1730 Choral Evensong and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament
- T 22 1000 Holy Communion (said) in the Parish Room
- S 26 1000-1200 Charity Gift Day in church
- S 27 **FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**
0800 Holy Communion
0930 Sung Eucharist
1100 Choral Mattins
1115 Holy Communion to Priory Court
- T 29 1000 Holy Communion (said) in the Parish Room

C☕FFEE MORNINGS

**WE MEET EVERY WEDNESDAY
FROM 10.30 am – 12 noon
IN THE CHURCH HALL**

DO COME AND JOIN US

There are a few seats remaining for the Coffee Morning Coach outing to the Cathedral City of Winchester on Thursday 1 December.

It coincides with the Christmas Market held in the cathedral's famous Close and along with other places of interest to visit promises to be a great day out.

The Coach leaves St Mary's 9.15 for 9.30 sharp.

Seats cost £10 each.

Names together with money to Julian Varney (8393 5212) or Lynne Yuille (in the Parish Office) ASAP to secure your seat.

KENNETH J. EVE BUTCHERS and THE LARDER

Quality free range meats
And home cooked food
BBQ's -party in your own garden
we will come and cook
or just supply the food

Buffets - large or small any occasion
Funerals, birthdays, weddings
Ask to see our extensive range of menus

9 Corner House Parade
Epsom Road
Ewell Village
0208 393 3043

Easy Buy Appliances

Now Open in Ewell Village (Near Free Car Park)

Washing Machines, Dishwashers, Tumble Dryers
Fridges & Freezers, Gas & Electric Cookers
Vacuum Cleaners, Built in Appliances
All Types of small appliances

Open 9am - 5.30 (Mon-Fri)
9am - 5.00 (Sat)

Quality products at low prices
Free local delivery

**5 Cheam Road, Ewell Village, Surrey KT17 1SP
020 8224 0916**