

St Andrew's  
EARLSFIELD

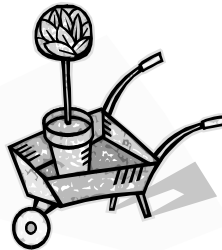
# Parish News

July/August 2010

## Garden Project

The Lottery Fund trustees have approved our funding application for the Garden Project. This is the last piece of the funding jigsaw, which means that the project can go ahead.

Work is due to begin in September, with the official opening planned for the day of the Christmas Fair, Saturday 4th December. Put the date in your diary now!



If you are not familiar with the project, details are on display on the notice board by the main entrance.

## Breathe! – Meditation for joyful living

Annual quiet day, at Ham Convent, on Saturday 11th September from 9.30am – 4pm.

Led by Fr Richard, the day will consist of guided meditation sessions alternating with periods of silence.

Meditation techniques taught will include: mindfulness of breathing; walking meditation; body scan; dealing with anger.

Cost £8. Please bring a packed lunch.

Numbers are limited: please sign the sheet in the Narthex if you would like to come.

**Denise Mumford** - Denise has decided to retire as a Reader on attaining her 75th birthday.

We will be celebrating her ministry and marking her retirement at the Parish Communion on 11 July.

## Parish Office

The Parish Office will be open as follows during July/August:

1<sup>st</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> July – open as usual (Weds 10-2pm, Fri 10-2pm)

26<sup>th</sup> July – 6<sup>th</sup> August - Closed - Holiday

9<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> August – open Fridays only (13<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup>) (10 -2pm)

30<sup>th</sup> August – 3<sup>rd</sup> Sept – Closed - Holiday

6<sup>th</sup> Sept – open as usual (Weds 10-2pm, Fri 10-2pm)

## A Welcoming Church

When Alice and Paul Dong celebrated their Golden Wedding with a reception after the Parish Communion recently, they received this apology from one of Paul's relatives.

"Thank you for your kind invitation. As I explained to Alice, I am not able to come over that day as I have an important (to me) date at All Saints', Banstead. There - with others - I am to be confirmed, almost 80 years after I was baptised at Christ Church, Battersea. The trigger for this came about from my visit to St Andrew's last year. Since Anne [my wife] passed away I have attended All Saints' regularly, and the welcome I received at St Andrew's settled it. I approached the Vicar, and the Bishop is coming on 13th June."

We are delighted that on this occasion we lived up to our aspiration to be a welcoming church. We are also delighted that Alice Dong is also to be confirmed, by the Bishop of Kingston at Holy Trinity, West Hill, on 18 July.

## Golden Wedding Anniversary

**Paul and Alice Dong** celebrated their Golden Wedding on Sunday 13th June.

## Wedding

**Steven Garrod and Donna House** were married at St. Andrew's on Saturday 12th June.

## Birth Announcement

**John and Katie Kingston** are delighted to announce the birth of their daughter **Chloe Lily** on 2nd June 2010.

## BAPTISMS

The following Baptisms have taken place during June:

### 27th

*Rory Hercules Dunbar Goss*

*Douglas Torrance Dunbar Goss*

*Abigail Bridget Stanley*



## 'Here Show Heaven' Pilgrimage 2010

A small group of 9 (and a half) pilgrims left St Andrews' following the service on Sunday 30 May. Following a short(ish) journey down the M4, we arrived in Wales and made our way to Llangasty – travelling through some very narrow country lanes with passing places – where 'Here Show Heaven' seemed a very apt description. What a wonderful place! Down by a lake, with views of the Brecon hills and surrounded by green, green, green!!! Undoubtedly the gorgeous weather helped, but we immediately felt the peace and calm descend on us.

During our stay we shared worship together before breakfast, lunch and at sunset. Weather permitting we began the day with 'St Patrick's Breastplate', setting a firm foundation on which to build our day's experiences. The Eucharist at midday, provided opportunities for sharing our thoughts and feelings about what we had read, seen or been thinking about during the day. 'Blessing of fire' was a beautiful evening service, outside in the tranquil setting, accompanied on Tuesday by a full double rainbow and on Wednesday followed by toasted marshmallows.

The theme of the pilgrimage 'Here Show Heaven' was based on the poetry of Henry Vaughan who lived in the local area. We visited his grave on Monday afternoon and read 'At the grave of Henry Vaughan' by Siegfried Sassoon, where we noted his final resting place was still the same as Sassoon had described. Vaughan's poems were brought to life by Roy, often bringing sections to our attention that we had missed by just reading them to ourselves. The discussions that followed not only placed the poetry in its historical perspective but also how it related to us, as Christians today. No previous knowledge of Vaughan or poetry required!

With ages ranging from 6 months to 'retired', the pilgrimage gave us the opportunity to get to know each other better and to join in where we wished or were able to. All contributions were gladly received, from the intellectual to Freya's babbling, and all played a part in making the pilgrimage an oasis of calm in our busy lives. Many thanks to Father Richard for organising the journey and daily activities and to Alix for providing the vocal accompaniment.

If you have the opportunity in the future please come along, even if only for a couple of days. It is a great way to have 'time out' from our busy lives and to have 'time with' God and our church family.



Getting creative: pilgrims at Llangasty

Vivian Snell



## Diary for July 2010



Sun	4th	<b>5<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity</b> 10am Family Service
Wed	7 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am – Holy Communion followed by refreshments 8pm – Kindle a Flame – meditative evening service
Sat	10th	PCC Day Conference at Holy Trinity, South Wimbledon
Sun	11 <sup>th</sup>	<b>6<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity</b> 10am Parish Communion to mark Denise Mumford's retirement as a reader
Wed	14 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am – Holy Communion followed by refreshments 8pm – Kindle a Flame – meditative evening service
Sun	18 <sup>th</sup>	<b>7<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity</b> 10am Parish Communion 10.30am Confirmation Service at Holy Trinity, West Hill
Wed	21 <sup>st</sup>	10.30am – Holy Communion followed by refreshments 8pm – Kindle a Flame – meditative evening service
Sun	25 <sup>th</sup>	<b>8<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity</b> Parish Communion and Holy Baptism
Fri	30th	1.30pm Marriage of Thomas Dooley and Shannon Standish
Sat	31st	Parish BBQ at 63 Tilehurst Road (time tbc)

### Peace and Quiet

Whatever you are doing this summer I hope that you will get the chance to rest. The book of Genesis makes it clear that even God needed rest on the Sabbath day after completing creation. A well balanced life is one that includes sufficient time to recuperate and renew. In my own life I know that time is the scarcest resource. It is often easier to 'do' something else rather than just do nothing, yet doing nothing is vital to our good health.

I often say that Christianity is just a clever way of living a happy life, the tradition of coming to church on Sunday and Sunday lunch with the family is not meant to be one more thing to do but a way of stopping us doing all the other stuff.

Of course it can sometimes seem like church is yet another place where you are being asked to be busy, to 'get involved' join a committee, get on a rota or whatever. We must be a community that allows people to do nothing; that spends time resting and provides a place where people can come for as long as they like with nothing at all being asked of them.

For the sixteenth century Spanish mystic John of the Cross 'nada' or 'nothing' was the way to God. When we are doing nothing we meet the living God. May we be challenged and renewed by **nothing** this summer.

with all good wishes

Father Richard



## Diary for August 2010



Sun	1st	<b>9<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity</b> Family Service
Wed	4 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am – Holy Communion followed by refreshments 8pm – Kindle a Flame – meditative evening service
Sat	7th	<b>No</b> Cake Stall in August
Sun	8 <sup>th</sup>	<b>10<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity</b> Parish Communion
Wed	11 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am – Holy Communion followed by refreshments 8pm – Kindle a Flame – meditative evening service
Sat	14 <sup>th</sup>	from 9.30am Cleaning and Maintenance Day
Sun	15 <sup>th</sup>	<b>11<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity</b> Parish Communion
Wed	18 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am – Holy Communion followed by refreshments 8pm – Kindle a Flame – meditative evening service
Sun	22 <sup>nd</sup>	<b>12<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity</b> Parish Communion
Wed	25 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am – Holy Communion followed by refreshments 8pm – Kindle a Flame – meditative evening service
Sun	29 <sup>th</sup>	<b>13<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity</b> Parish Communion
Sat	4 <sup>th</sup>	10am-12noon Cake Stall
<b>Sept</b>		4pm Marriage of David Meaney and Diane Lewis-Cole

