

THE CLARION

The Magazine of The Parish of St Mary The Boltons

rooted in faith • open in thought • reaching out in service

May 2014

A Time to Come and a Time to Leave

The following is a summary of the Vicar's closing remarks made at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting held on Sunday 6 April 2014.

It is hard to believe that this is my 10th Annual Meeting, and my last. This is not the time to look back over the past 10 years – the time for that will be in July – but I believe very strongly that the time has come for change at St Mary's. A change in leadership which will bring new vision and energy and take you on the next stage of your journey in faith.

Vicars come and go and it has been my privilege and delight to travel with you on a particular stage of your journey. It is you, the congregation, who are the church, you are the constant. Every one of you counts, every one of you is important to the life of St Mary's; when you come and worship, when you take part in a church event, you support and add something to our church life. Without you, there is no church.

The reason we come to church and do the things we do is principally to give thanks and glory to God, the God who through Jesus Christ created and redeemed us, who made us a people to praise God. That is what our personal lives and our lives at St Mary's are about.

Looking back over the past year there is a lot to praise God and be thankful for as the Annual Report shows. It was also a year of change, as Ruth Lampard came to the end of her appointment as Associate Vicar and moved to take up the position of chaplain to the organisation Chapter 1.

In some ways the year did not turn out as we had hoped. We were unable to appoint a successor to Ruth, or to find someone to lead

our children's programme, but there were plenty of things to rejoice about and you will all have your own memories of those things.

In addition to the thanks I have already expressed, I would like to thank John Ward for a year of memorable music; working with our choir, with professional soloists, forming the Junior Choir and introducing the new *Ancient and Modern* hymn book, which offers a much broader range of hymns to choose from, many of which reflect a wider and more inclusive theology. Music is an important and integral part of our Sunday services and John's liturgical awareness and sensitivity is exceptional and greatly appreciated.

I would also like to thank the leaders of Sunday School, Jessica Molloy and Katie Fowkes, and the leaders of Little Lambs, Chris Fowkes and Judy Rydel, and all who help them. They do wonderful work with the children and I often regret that I cannot attend Sunday School and Little Lambs because of my commitments in the church service.

Thanks are also due to Sylvia Gregory, who is standing down as leader and organiser of our servers, the acolytes and crucifers. It is impossible to express adequately my thanks for all that Sylvia has done over very many years, as she comes from Woking each Sunday. Each Sunday morning when Sylvia arrives I breathe a little sigh of relief, knowing that everything will be set up and in order before the service starts.

I am conscious that as we look forward to this year, life at St Mary's will be going through a testing time as you go through what the Church rather oddly calls 'an interregnum' (Vicars do not and should not reign!) before a new Vicar is appointed. But I am confident that 'all will be well' because you have excellent wardens, PCC members and committed members of the congregation.

Yet the life of the church will depend even more on you, your support and help.

To this end a Volunteer Handbook has been produced and is available at church and on the website. Please look at it carefully and decide how you can support and contribute to the life of St Mary's in the coming months; it is absolutely vital that you do so. We are in particular need of volunteers to serve coffee after the Sunday service, to help with the monthly Thursday lunches, to act as servers and acolytes, and to join the choir.

Many thanks for another wonderful year at St Mary's. When the time comes to leave, I know it will be an awful wrench, but I know it is right both for you and for me. As the writer of Ecclesiastes says, 'for everything there is a season' and as he might have said 'there's a time to come and a time to leave'.

Ginny Thomas

**Thursday 1 May
Taizé Service
at 7.30pm**



Come, be still, find peace.
A time of quiet contemplation with readings, prayer and the beautiful songs of Taizé.

**The Summer Fair
Saturday, 21 June
12.30pm till 4.30pm**



It's that time of year again when thoughts turn to letting everyone know that the Summer Fair is on its way and I know many of you are already thinking about it and the offers of help and contributions are very gratefully received.

Huge hot dogs, beautiful burgers, tea and cake, strawberries and cream and jugs of Pimms... what more can you need to keep you fuelled as you enjoy what the Summer Fair will have to offer this year. As always, the profits will be

helping our charities, which this year are St Luke's Redcliffe Gardens Food Bank, Medic Malawi, Alex the Ugandan school boy whom we have supported through Sunday School for some time, The Upper Room and The Princess Royal's Volunteer Corps (FANY).

Apart from food and drink, there will be the glorious bookstall, bric-à-brac, the bottle tombola, children's books, toys and games, home-made produce, as well as the raffle and this year's Splendid Hampers. These will be themed on the colours of the church's year: Purple, Gold, White, Green, Red, with the addition of Blue (for Mary). Links may be obvious or tenuous, everything is made in every colour it seems this year – red or white wine, green jars of herbs, books or DVDs with colours in their titles or the author's name, gardening or golf things for green, John Lee Hooker or Chelsea FC for the Blues; maybe things majestic for Gold; dinner at a Marco-Pierre White restaurant or Stuart Little for the White hamper We hope this will inspire you to give a variety of contributions that we can use to create beautiful baskets that people will enjoy and are worth the ticket price! Raffle Prizes are also needed, if you or an organization or individual you know may be able to contribute a prize, please ask them as we would be very grateful.

The Summer Fair is successful because it is a community event. We are very grateful for everyone's help and contributions and especially on the day manning the stalls, including the relief team to give the valiant stall holders a chance to have a rest and spend some of their own money too.

More details will come and more pleas will be made and all offers of help and support are much appreciated. Please keep the date in your diary and please come and join us and if there is any way in which you would like to help, please get in touch either through the Parish Office or directly.

Katrina Quinton

Dates for your Diary

Saturday 21 June, Summer Fair

Sunday 6 July Parish Lunch to celebrate the retirement of Ginny



Christian Aid Week – 11th-17th May

On Sunday 11th May we are delighted to have as our guest preacher, Libby Gordon from Christian Aid head office. After the service we will be hosting a bake sale and raffle to support the vital work of Christian Aid. Donations of home baked goodies and jam/marmalades as well as raffle prizes would be very much appreciated. Please can any items be left in the south transept on Sunday morning. Please do come along on 11th May to hear Libby Gordon speak about this year's Christian Aid campaigns, and to raise money by providing and buying delicious cakes.

New PCC members

The following were elected at the APCM on Sunday 6 April 2014

Richard Brudenell

Tania Mahler

Edward Quinton

Katrin Roskelly

Personal Statements of new PCC members:

Richard Brudenell

Richard has been worshipping at St Mary's for over 40 years and was married to June in March 1975 at St Marys.

Richard and June live in the Parish and have three grown up children, all of whom have attended the church and Sunday school over the years.

Their oldest, Amanda was married at St Marys in 2006 and Amanda's 2nd son Edward (Eddy) was baptised by Ginny at St Marys in February this year.

Richard has served on the PCC before as Church Warden, during Stephen Bartlett's ministry and that of Gerald Beauchamp. He retired from being Church Warden at the commencement of Ginny's current ministry and having been elected, looks forward to offering his help as a member of the PCC from 2014 onwards.

Tania Mahler

Tania is a working mother of two who has over seventeen years of international experience in financial markets, predominantly in sales-oriented roles. She started her career in New York as a portfolio manager for AGF Braseg (the Brazilian arm of the French insurer AGF-Allianz). She is currently employed by the French bank BNP Paribas.

Tania moved to the UK, in 1999 to continue her career in banking and lives in the Boltons conservation area.

Tania was born in France of a Dutch father and a German mother. She has lived in France, Germany, Brazil, Italy and the USA. Tania's husband Alan is from Belgium and her children Max (8 years) and Chloe (5 years) were born respectively in London and Baden Baden (Germany). The family is truly European.

Tania has been attending services at Saint Mary's of the Boltons for the last three years and her daughter Chloe was baptised there. She has since developed a great affection for the church and has made many friends in the parish.

Edward Quinton

I was born on Christmas Eve 1957 to a CofE academic philosopher father and Jewish sculptor mother. We lived in Oxford and from the age of seven to 17 I spent summer holidays in my mother's parents' house on the oceanfront on the eastern end of Long Island, NY.

After various job and family moves, in 1997 I moved to my present flat in London. At this point I met the wonderful Katrina and despite being out of work and my marriage having broken up, we stuck through it and married in 2001 and life continued to improve with the arrival of Rupert in 2005 and Benedict in 2007, both of whom were baptised at St Mary's. After a period in interim management, I ended up as Engineering Manager for the Baggage Systems at Heathrow.

With Ginny as Vicar at St Mary the Boltons, for the first time I felt at home at church. This is what made me decide to get baptized and confirmed. I was one of about 100 people at

St Paul's Cathedral but one of only three getting baptized as well. An awe inspiring experience walking along St Paul's at the head of the candidates to receive first communion at the centre of the dome.

I am still at Heathrow, I still ride a motorbike, I still love engines and cars, I enjoy the theatre and a proper martini, friends and family are very important and life is good. I am looking forward to being part of the PCC and hope that my skills will help St Mary's through the years ahead.

Katrin Roskelly

Katrin and her husband, Michael, have been members of the congregation of St Mary for almost ten years; marrying and having their two children, Alexandra and Frederick, baptised at the church. With children at school locally, Katrin and Michael also grew up in the Royal Borough.

A member of the Church's Charity Committee since 2007 and Communications Committee since 2013, Katrin is also freelance financial communications consultant with twenty five years' experience in financial services. The Founder of K Communications, speaking French and German, Katrin has particular expertise in advising, planning and executing communications programmes locally and cross-border for global asset managers. She has also directed programmes for stockbrokers, online trading platforms, rating agencies and has hands-on experience of product launches and event management.

Triduum



Reflections on the journey through Holy Week at St Mary's

In the April *Clarion* Ginny wrote about the formal framework of Holy Week, reminding us of the significance of the three most holy days of the whole Christian calendar, the Triduum, of Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday. What of the actual experience of that week and those three days in particular?

I start with the experience of the journey, not at this point the spiritual experience, but the actual physical experience of turning up each day at church for worship and meeting largely the same individuals, and sharing the same experience of prayer, singing and silence. Often in life too, much store is laid on the destination. We climb a mountain to see a fabulous view, but in fact the bit we remember and share with our friends years later is not the view, however fabulous, but the struggle up the mountain and very possibly the one or two strangers we met just the once on the way. The experience of attending Holy Week services is much the same: it binds us together, forming the worshipping, living community of Christians that we are meant to be in a way that would take years to achieve though weekly or more occasional attendance. This was once again the experience of Holy Week this year.

The events of Holy Week bring into sharp focus the cost of discipleship, or put another way, perhaps also provide a valuable opportunity to think about awkward and difficult situations that we might well face in life in some form. How loyal would we be in the circumstances that Peter found himself? What of Judas? What a difficult position to be in: to be told by Jesus that you are the one to betray him and in effect that you had to do your duty? How often do we react thinking only of the immediate, short term when we need to see through the short term difficulties and see the long term working out of the will and love of God?

In fact there is an early opportunity to rise to the challenge of fully owning and living our faith. The Maundy Thursday evening service is when we hear Jesus commanding his disciples to continue sharing bread and wine in his name. Most of us participate in this readily enough at our weekly Parish Eucharist, but on the same evening, according to St John's gospel, Jesus washed his disciples' feet and told them to continue doing that also. The greatest challenge to full participation in this ceremony is not overcoming self-consciousness and pride. After all, Jesus said to Peter if you do not participate you are not my disciple. Rather it is in living up to the command to do the same. For me, being present at that ceremony, whether as spectator

or as one whose foot is washed, is as profound and as rewarding as receiving bread and wine at the Eucharist.

We often expect our worship, especially perhaps the Eucharist, to be uplifting and inspiring, but the truth is that it can be harrowing and dispiriting, and never more so than on Good Friday. Three hours following Jesus through the Stations of the Cross, to death on the cross is serious and solemn stuff. Following him along the road means there are so many lessons for Life. This year there was plenty of room for reflection, with a picture for each station, a reading, a short introduction to the theme for meditation and a period of silence that always seemed too brief. Then at the end we emerge back into the real world; cycling along the Fulham Road, the atmosphere was relaxed. Clearly there was a holiday mood; a supermarket was open and busy with last minute shoppers. What a contrast, what a lesson. I think of this service also as a way to prepare for the death and vigil at the bedside of a loved one or indeed gently to process the experience of their death and move on.

If Good Friday is exhausting and draining, then Holy Saturday is just empty. That is until it is time to set off for the Easter Vigil. I always have a sense of anticipation at this point, for in sharp contrast to the dryness of the Three Hour Service this occasion is rich and full of symbol – a flickering fire, the lighting of the Easter Candle, the Light of Christ, lighting individual candles from that candle – lights from the Light of Christ. The service started outside in the gathering gloom, quite late as the service is traditionally held after sunset but before dawn, and continued inside in the dark while we heard a number of sometimes long but familiar readings. Many were from the Old Testament and it was good to have time to reflect on them after each reading. The climax of the service is the Easter Acclamation ‘Christ is risen – He is risen indeed’, and all the lights come on. Brilliant. It is good to say that this year the Acclamation was delivered firmly and with confidence. Finally there was the opportunity to renew our Baptismal vows, saying them this time for ourselves, not on behalf of our own or somebody else’s child. At St Mary’s this is an evening service, but even so I am always

reminded of the events of earlier in the week before the cock crowed... these are solemn vows and statements. All in all, this service was a real feast for the soul, especially after the previous two days. Afterwards there was food for the body: a real feast with good food and good wine and the company of those who had travelled the week together with visitors and other parishioners.

A real celebration needs good music too, and of this we had a feast of another sort throughout the week. The broad framework of services was familiar, but the music was startlingly different from what we have come to expect in recent years. It is reviewed in more detail in a separate article, but from my point of view the change was very welcome and added another dimension to each service. Thank you to all the musicians.

Leo Fraser-Mackenzie



Passion and Easter Music at St Mary's

Leo has written movingly of the Easter Journey, and the mood swings that accompany us through the pathos of the Foot Washing, the memorial of the Eucharist and the Last Supper, the bleakness of the

Via Dolorosa and the agony of the Cross, with that anticipatory joy in the kindling of the New Fire and lighting of the Paschal Candle and our liturgy moving from darkness through flickering candlelight to the brilliance of Easter and the reflected light of the Risen Christ. Over the past years we have been lucky to have heard many fine singers bringing to life the deeply felt music associated especially with this time, from the darkest psalms at the Stripping of the Altar, through the deep sorrow of Good Friday, the *Exultet* that is such a stirring beacon in the dark church, and finally the brilliant, uplifting ‘Alleluias’ at Easter itself.

Great music intensifies our experience, offers a counterpoint to the words and thoughts in our time of sorrow and despair, and lifts our hearts with jubilation as the Resurrection news

spreads on Easter Day. This year John Ward, our Director of Music, had given much thought to the selection of the music and the result was a tour of many different ages, nationalities and styles to underpin our worship.

On Maundy Thursday we had our neighbour and great friend Ana-Maria Rincon singing the soprano arias from Bach's deeply human *St Matthew Passion*, with all their chromaticism and spiky notes, wringing the pathos out of the words. On Good Friday we were treated to a piece that is often heard in concert but less often in its true context, Pergolesi's *Stabat Mater*. This was written in sections of a few minutes each for solo or duet for soprano and mezzo soprano, and was sung with superb tone and attention to the words by our regular Sunday soloist Danae Eleni and a former singing partner of hers, Lila Palmer. The two rich voices blended immaculately and the close intervals of the music shivered and shimmered as first one voice then the other took up the melodic line. As we reflected on the words and images of the Stations of the Cross, the *Stabat Mater* was both thrilling and chilling.

After that intense Good Friday experience, Saturday evening was about joyous release. John had assembled four professional voices and they delivered a *tour de force*, with several choruses from the great oratorios, normally sung by 50 or 100 voices. The scene was set with Haydn's *The Heavens are telling the glory of God* from the *Creation*, passed through classic polyphony with Palestrina's *Sicut Cervus* (As pants the hart...) and Victoria's *Vidi Aquam* (I am the water of life...) as appropriately we were 'asperged' with water from the baptismal font. A Mozart *Gloria* and the final Handel *Hallelujah Chorus* released the wonder and joy we all felt. Never have we been so able to hear each line of the Handel and yet feel the church was full of sound, a cosmic soundstage...

After that the Easter Day service saw Ana-Maria back again to sing much loved favourites including Handel's *I know that my Redeemer liveth* and Mozart's ringing *Alleluia*. John Ward worked tirelessly with his singers and delivered music of the highest quality, always appropriate to the mood of the service and attuned to the progress of the Holy Week Drama. We have been lucky to hear much fine music at St.

Mary's, but this sequence seemed to reach a new level of musicality.

Congratulations to all who contributed so magnificently: Ana-Maria, Danae, Lila, Neil Bellingham, Karen Fodor and David Stengle, all under the committed direction of John Ward!
Gerontius



Worship away from home

In an earlier *Clarion* Ginny suggested that we visit other churches when on holiday and offer greetings from St

Mary's. This reminded me of the many times when I have experienced worship away from home, starting from World War Two when I went to find a church or chapel in the nearby town if there was no service on the camp. Some made a special feature of providing a 'home from home' for people in uniform.

During my post-retirement job as cat-sitter I stayed in 28 different parts of the country and always sought out the nearest church and the times of services.

My experiences have mostly been positive. At a Baptist church in Essex I paid my annual visit and was given an enthusiastic greeting by a sidesperson who introduced me to her colleagues as 'The cat lady'. I also enjoyed the lively mid-week meetings there. Another cat-related visit was to a church in a little Kentish village. I made my way there across the fields only to find I had forgotten to put my watch forward and everyone was enjoying coffee when I got there. All was not lost as the Vicar was due to lead a later service in another village and took me there in his car.

I frequently found myself on a Christmas morning in a lively West London church, literally packed to the rafters with parents, grandparents and dozens of children, all pleased to show off their new toys to everyone present.

Over the years I have enjoyed many wonderful holidays and always look forward to Sundays and the chance to find new churches and ways of worship. I remember the atmosphere of warm blossom-scented little churches in Natal (South Africa) and Trinidad; large multi-faith gatherings in theatres on cruise liners, and experiences as varied as a silent Quaker Meeting and a Caribbean Carnival Mass. In most churches I have been treated very warmly. At a Primitive Methodist Church meeting in Cornwall the people hardly waited for the blessing before gathering around to greet me, and at Holy Trinity, the English Church in Madeira, the regular congregation welcomed their many visitors with the local cake and wine in the shade of palm trees. In 2013 I was there on Mothering Sunday when everyone was presented with an exotic orchid button-hole, but sadly not distributed by children, as at St Mary's.

However, one never knows quite what to expect. One Whit Sunday (my favourite festival) I found myself in a church near Windsor where no-one spoke or smiled and no-one joined in singing the hymns. I could only guess the reason for this and prayed that no local tragedy had recently occurred.

The opportunity to talk with so many other Christians and to share in other forms of worship is very rewarding. One can write a greeting in the visitors' book and add one's message to others from all parts of the country and the world. It is such a good reminder of how varied and widespread our Christian family is, and how thankful we should be to our loving heavenly Father for the amazing planet he has given us to care for and to enjoy.

Greta Trevers

Easter in Honduras

Father Alberto Gauci, a Franciscan priest from Malta and living and working in Juticalpo, Olancho State in Honduras for the last 40 years, described his Easter in an email. It is relevant to know that in all of Honduras there are only 18 (R.C.) priests.

'We had so much running around for the last 10 days that it was pretty hard to sit down and write [to you]. I'm now catching up!

Down here Holy Week is a real serious celebration with visiting villages of the parish. Hours and hours of confessions, masses, baptisms... you name it... we had it! But at the end of the day you feel happy and satisfied as people come by the thousands and participate a lot. Thank God, what we had on paper as a programme, we managed to execute it all. Then these people love processions with a passion and most of them like the Way of the Cross, taking from four to five hours [to walk it]. More so right now here it's the dry season and the heat is really tropical with the sun shining at its best. Now, little by little we go back to normal, and pastoral activities. Very happy Easter with lots of Easter chocolate eggs. Here they don't have that custom and know nothing about Easter bunnies and Easter eggs!'

Verena Tschudin

Richard Hooker 1554-1600



The statue of Richard Hooker in front of Exeter Cathedral.

Richard Hooker was an Anglican priest and academic theologian, whose most senior appointment was Master of the Temple. He wrote a massive book with the unpromising title *Of the Laws of Ecclesiastical Polity*, which came out in eight volumes during the last years of Queen Elizabeth I's reign. His emphasis on reason, tolerance and the value of tradition has exerted a lasting influence on the Church of England and he is now regarded as one of the founding fathers of Anglican theology.

Hooker spent his childhood in Exeter and attended the grammar school there until the age of fifteen. In 1569, through the good offices of John Jewel, bishop of Salisbury, he obtained a place at Corpus Christi College Oxford. He took his MA in 1577 and became a fellow of the college in that year.

In 1585 Hooker was chosen by Queen Elizabeth as Master of the Temple in London. This beautiful church was built in the late twelfth century as the Headquarters of the Knights Templar, and when these were abolished by the Pope in 1307 it was given to the Order of St. John – the Knights Hospitaller – and rented to two colleges of lawyers who came to be known as the Inner and Middle Temple. The Temple Church became the ‘college chapel’ of these two societies and remains so to this day, its services being the most beautiful in the city of London. Henry VIII expropriated the Temple in 1540 and since then the crown has appointed a priest to the church with the title Master of the Temple.

In 1585, after 27 years of Queen Elizabeth’s reign, any prospect of restoring Roman Catholicism in England was fading fast and the defeat of the Spanish Armada three years later finally put paid to it. Yet, the English church was now challenged by Calvinism, not only in doctrine but in organization. Small cells or conventicles of Reformed worship had formed throughout the land. Their hold on general sympathy was so strong that even the bishops were lukewarm about suppressing them and allowed their growth to increase unchecked. In that year the position of Master of the Temple fell vacant. One candidate was Walter Travers, an ardent Calvinist, who although he had not received Anglican orders, had been made lecturer at the Temple Church. However, the Queen and her council preferred Hooker and he got the job. Hooker, a loyal Anglican, preached in the morning while Travers had set up an organization in the afternoon congregation on the model of the Reformed Church in the Low Countries and preached accordingly.

Thus it was said that the Temple congregations heard Canterbury in the morning and Geneva in the afternoon. The difference between the two men was indeed radical. Hooker did not agree with many of the decisions of the Roman Catholic Council of Trent (1545-63), which attempted to reform the Catholic church following the Protestant Reformation, but he did approve of many of the medieval scholastic philosophers and theologians, such as St. Thomas Aquinas. This was anathema to

Travers, who regarded the teaching of the scholastics as sheer rubbish. After a few weeks the controversy ended abruptly when Travers was silenced by Archbishop Whitgift in March 1586, and the Privy Council strongly supported the decision. Hooker now began to write his great book, as a critique of the Puritans and their attacks on the Church of England in general and the Book of Common Prayer in particular.

In 1591, Hooker left the Temple and was presented to the living of St. Andrew's Boscomb in Wiltshire to support him while he wrote. He seems to have lived mainly in London but spent time in Salisbury where he was Sub-dean of Salisbury Cathedral and made use of the Cathedral Library. The first four volumes of his book were published in 1593. In 1595, Hooker became Rector of the parishes of St. Mary the Virgin in Bishopsbourne and St. John the Baptist Barham in Kent and left London to continue his writing. He published the fifth volume in 1597 (which is longer than the first four taken together). He died in November 1600 in his Rectory at Bishopsbourne, aged only 46, and the last three volumes came out posthumously.

Hooker defended the Elizabethan church against Roman Catholics and Puritans. He upheld the threefold authority of the Anglican tradition: bible, church, and reason. Roman Catholics put Bible and tradition on a parity as the authorities for belief, while Puritans looked to Scripture as the sole authority. Hooker avoided both extremes, allowing to Scripture absolute authority when it spoke plainly and unequivocally. Where it was silent or ambiguous, wisdom would consult the tradition of the church, but he insisted that a third element lay in human reason, which should be obeyed whenever both Scripture and tradition needed clarification or failed to cover some new circumstance.

The core of Hooker’s thinking on the relations of church and state was unity. In his view, the Puritans adopted an impossible position: they claimed to be loyal to the Queen while repudiating her church. By law and by reason, the people of England must be Anglican, pledged to serve Elizabeth as the supreme

magistrate of the country and the supreme governor of the church. If doctrine were not to be settled by authorities, and if Martin Luther's argument for the priesthood of all believers were to be followed to its extreme with government by the Elect, then having the monarch as the governor of the church was intolerable. On the other side, if the monarch were appointed by God to be the governor of the church, then local parishes going their own ways on doctrine were similarly intolerable.

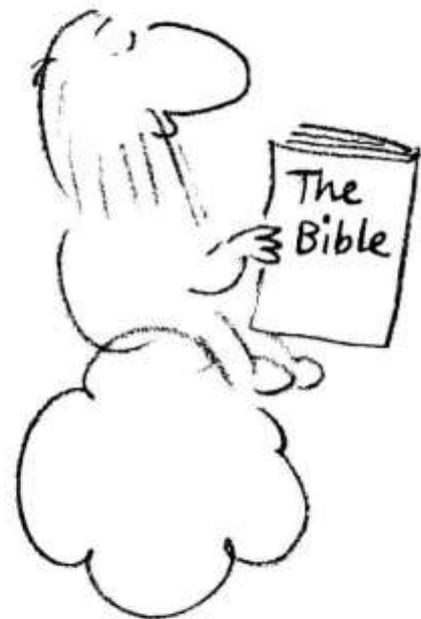
Hooker worked from Thomas Aquinas, but he adapted scholastic thought in a broad manner. He argued that church organization, like political organization, is one of the 'things indifferent' to God. He wrote that minor doctrinal issues were not issues that damned or saved the soul, but rather frameworks surrounding the moral and religious life of the believer. He argued there were good monarchies and bad ones, good democracies and bad ones, and good church hierarchies and bad ones; what mattered was the piety of the people. Hooker argued that authority was commanded by the Bible and by the traditions of the early church, but authority was something that had to be based on piety and reason rather than automatic investiture. This was because authority had to be obeyed even if it were wrong and needed to be remedied by right reason and the Holy Spirit. Notably, Hooker's affirmed that the power and propriety of bishops need not be in every case absolute.

The Laws is remembered not only as a monumental work of Anglican thought, but also for its influence in the development of political theory and English prose, being one of the first major works of theology written in English. Hooker was admired by Laud, extolled by the Restoration bishops, and brought once more to prominence by Keble and the Oxford Movement. He has been rediscovered within the modern evangelical church. His reach has extended far beyond theologians. His book was the starting-point for Clarendon's *History* and seminal for Locke's philosophy; its self-critical balance touched Andrew Marvell; and Samuel Pepys read it at the recommendation of a friend who declared it 'the best book, and the only one that made him a Christian.' The

contemporary philosopher Roger Scruton, in his excellent history of the Church of England *Our Church* (Atlantic Books 2012) pays graceful tribute to Hooker on many pages. At St Mary the Boltons, 'Rooted in Faith and Open in Thought', I believe, we also can recognise a debt to Richard Hooker.

Hugh Beach (This article makes extensive use of material from Wikipedia and the *Encyclopedia Britannica*).

it's nice to look at
my Press cuttings
from time to time...



Out in the garden...

The garden put on a magnificent show this spring. Everything burst into flower and the bushes suddenly had leaves and colour. I was amazed how it all happened, without me doing practically anything to help it along. One week I wondered what had happened to the lilies of the valley, and when I

next looked, they were in flower. I sowed lots of summer seeds and hope that more of them than last year will grow and flower.

I find all kinds of things in the garden. One day I found a Farthing, dated 1931, under the magnolia tree. The next week I found a 5p. piece on the lawn. More common items are spoons, pens, buttons, and quite a lot of (chicken) bones, probably brought in by foxes. Look out for any new growth and changes and let yourself be surprised by joy at the abundance of creation.

Verena Tschudin

Something Different

"Ginny has conducted over 50 weddings at St.Mary's but this was a first! The bride arrived in a white carriage drawn by two fine shire horses with white plumes...traffic in the Boltons was brought to a standstill at this unusual and romantic sight! The bride and groom left in the carriage after the service looking "blissfully happy"!



The Fulham Boys School: A new CofE Secondary School

A new boys' secondary school will open in Fulham this September. The school will be for boys, nurture enterprise and be built on Christian principles. We are determined to make it the best school in the country, and with the backing and support from the Bishop of London, Bishop of Kensington, business, sporting and media groups, the plans and policies that are in place, and the outstanding staff that have been appointed,

we believe we can achieve this, as does the Department for Education.

The Headmaster, Alun Ebenezer, writes (in part): 'we want to be far more than just a school and believe it is important to educate boys in a Christian environment. To achieve this, we need to do all we can to promote the Christian ethos from day one. We still have some places available for this September and would be keen to fill them with boys from Christian homes and churches.'

A flyer about The Fulham Boys School is available, as is a seven-minute [video clip](#) on the school website www.fulhamboysschool.org giving a flavour of what the school is about.



Passes for St Paul's Cathedral and Westminster Abbey

We have four free passes to get FREE entry into St. Paul's Cathedral and Westminster Abbey.

If you would like to pick up the tickets please call or e-mail John at the parish office.



Sustainability Top Tip: Used postage stamps can help to raise money for charity. At St Mary's we have started to collect stamps in aid of The Leprosy Mission. Last

year, over £100,000 was raised from stamps and collectables.

Stamps – both UK and overseas – should be left on the envelope and trimmed leaving a 5mm border of paper around the stamp. There is a box at the back of the church in which to place your stamps. Many thanks!

Save those bottle tops! A programme run by Sutton Council collects all types of plastic bottle tops (no metal please) and exchanges them by weight for money that is then used to purchase wheelchairs for disabled people. Three large green recycling bins full of bottle

tops equals enough money to buy one wheelchair; five full bins buys one electric wheelchair. This is a great way not only to support a worthwhile charity, but is also environmentally friendly as the council recycles all the tops.

There is a box at the back of the church for bottle top donations. Thank you.

Fiona Parsons

May Year's Mind

George Godbolt
 Frances Vernon
 Clas Groth
 Anne Simmonds
 Grenville Lake
 Ronald Palin
 Charles Tait
 Joan Garraway
 Richard Dowbiggin
 Rosemary Hulse
 Martin Hulse
 Edward Hamilton
 Richard Hopkins

SUNDAY SERVICES

8.00am Eucharist, 10.30am Sung Eucharist
The meeting room at the back of the church is available for people with pre-school children. There is a baby changing facility in the wheelchair accessible toilet in the hall.

WEEKDAY SERVICES

Usually Morning Prayer is said daily at 8.30am (Eucharist on Feastdays); except Public Holidays.
 Wednesday 7.00pm Eucharist

Readings in May 2014

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| Sunday 4 | Third Sunday of Easter |
| Readings at 10.30am | <i>Acts 2. 14a, 36-41; 1 Peter 1.17-23; Luke 24. 13-35</i> |
| Wednesday 7 | Eucharist |
| Readings at 7.00pm | <i>Acts 8. 1b-8; John 6. 35-40</i> |
| Thursday 8 | Julian of Norwich |
| Readings at 11.45am | John 20. 11-18 |

Sunday 11

Readings at 10.30am

Wednesday 14

Readings at 7.00pm

Sunday 18

Readings at 10.30am

Wednesday 21

Readings at 7.00pm

Sunday 25

Readings at 10.30am

Wednesday 28

Readings at 7.00pm

Sunday 1 June

Readings at 10.30am

Wednesday 4 June

Readings at 7.00pm

Fourth Sunday of Easter

*Acts 2. 42-end;
1 Peter 2. 19-end;
John 10. 1-10*

Matthew the Apostle

*Acts 1. 15-end;
John 15. 9-17*

Fifth Sunday of Easter

*Acts 7. 55-end;
1 Peter 2. 2-10;
John 14. 1-14*

Eucharist

*Acts 15. 1-6;
John 15. 1-8*

Sixth Sunday of Easter

*Acts 17. 22-31;
1 Peter 3. 13-end;
John 14. 15-21*

Eucharist

*Acts 17. 15, 22-18.1;
John 16. 12-15*

Seventh Sunday of Easter

*Acts 1. 6-14;
1 Peter 4. 12-14, 5. 6-11;
John 17. 1-11*

Eucharist

*Acts 20. 28-end;
John 17. 11-19*

Upcoming in May 2014

| | | |
|-----------|----|--|
| Thursday | 1 | 7.30pm Taizé |
| Sunday | 4 | Baptism of Lara Cooper |
| Monday | 5 | Church Closed |
| | | Memorial Service for Nectar Assaturian Marzeki |
| Thursday | 8 | Thursday Lunch |
| | | 7.45pm PCC Meeting |
| Friday | 9 | Wedding of Ben Holland and Shani Willson |
| Sunday | 11 | 2.30pm Baptism of Lily Cutts |
| Monday | 12 | 7.00pm Bible Study |
| Wednesday | 14 | 10.30am Bible Study |
| Saturday | 24 | 2.00pm Wedding of Steven Mayne & Katherine Burrell |
| | | 4.00pm Wedding of William Poole & Lauren Spang |

Parish Office

St Mary's Church House, The Boltons, London
SW10 9TB Tel 020 7835 1440

www.stmarytheboltons.org.uk

Vicar The Revd Ginny Thomas
020 7835 1440, mobile 07590074951.

Day off: Tuesday

ginny@stmarytheboltons.org.uk

Director of Music John Ward
07853 406050 (mobile)

boltonsmusic@gmail.com

Parish Administrator

John McVeigh 020 7835 1440 (church office)

Mon to Fri 9.15am-2.15pm

john@stmarytheboltons.org.uk

Verger / Caretaker David Ireton
020 7244 8998 / 07881 865386

Day off: Tuesday

Churchwardens

Leo Fraser-Mackenzie 020 7384 3246

Ann Mulcare 020 7937 2005

Members of the Parochial

Church Council

Revd Ginny Thomas (Chair)

Mr Philip Bedford-Smith

Mr Craig Drake

Mr Leo Fraser-Mackenzie

Miss Margarete Geier

(Deanery Synod Representative),

Mrs Mary Godwin

Miss Joanna Hackett (PCC Secretary)

Mr Timon Molloy

Mrs Ann Mulcare (Deanery Synod
representative)

Mr David Parsons

Mrs Katrina Quinton

Mrs Judy Rydell

Mrs Ann Tait

Safeguarding Officer

The St Mary The Boltons' Safeguarding Officer is Timon Molloy. His role is to help us to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and adults at risk. He is the first point of contact for children, adults at risk and other members of the congregation regarding suspicions of abuse and other safeguarding concerns. If you have any concerns, please contact Timon on: [07816 184207](tel:07816184207)

Children's' Champion

The St Mary The Boltons' Children's Champions are Chris and Katie Fowkes. Their role is to ensure that the voices and needs of the children and young people are heard and reflected in parish life. They can be contacted via: Katie.Fowkes@talktalk.net / [07810 831505](tel:07810831505)

Treasurer Carolyn Stubbs 020 7835 0074

Assistant Treasurer

Bill Gallagher 020 7384 3246.

Electoral Roll Officer Fiona Parsons

Gift Aid Secretary

John Barker 020 8571 0737

Co-ordinators:

Monday Bible Study Group

Pat Schleger 020 7589 2359

Wednesday Bible Study Group

Margarete Geier 020 7373 1639

Clarion Editor

Verena Tschudin 020 7351 1263

Flowers Margarete Geier & Katrina Quinton

Prayer Network

Verena Tschudin 020 7351 1263

Readers & Intercessors Rota

Mary Meeson (call Parish Office)

Reading at St Cuthbert's and St Matthias School

Sheila Gibbs 020 8788 9744

Thursday monthly lunch

Ann Tait 020 7352 5127

Social Secretary

Margarete Geier 020 7373 1639

Sunday School Parish Office

**Contributions for the June Clarion should
be sent in to the church office by 19 May
2014**

*The PCC of St. Mary with St Peter & St. Jude, West Brompton is a
Registered Charity, No 1133073*