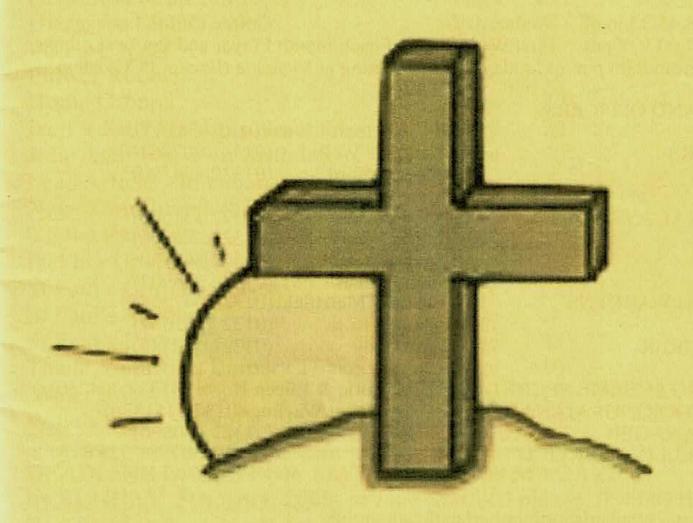
St Paul's Church Parish News 50p



MARCH APRIL 2009

Easter Greetings: Join Us! Celebrate Easter at St Paul's Christ Is Risen! Allelulia!

ST PAUL'S CHURCH: NORTHUMBERLAND HEATH

Wednesdays

SUNDAY SERVICES

9.00am Holy Communion
9.00am Holy Communion
(CW,BCP) 1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays
(CW)
2nd & 4th Sundays
(3rd Sunday: Family Communion)
(3rd Sunday only in Church Lounge)

WEEKDAY SERVICES 9.30am

8.45-12noon Wednesdays Coffee Call in Lounge 8.00-9.00pm First Wednesday of each month Prayer and Praise -Lounge from 8.00 pm Monday Prayer Meeting at Vicarage (Except PCC dates)

STAFF AND OFFICERS

Rev'd Capt Geoff Clark	e(01322 332809)
Mrs Lauraine Wells	(01322 407861)
Mrs Jane Stafford	(01322 434790)
Mrs Marion Farr	(01322 331525)
Mrs Ingrid Walsh	(01322 330265)
Mrs Brenda Leith	(01322 346150)
Ms Ann Norman	(01322 340902)
Mrs Dorothy Merrifield	(01322 347254)
Mr Jonathan Rose	(01322 521067)
Mr Ron Handy	(01322 430345)
	Mrs Jane Stafford Mrs Marion Farr Mrs Ingrid Walsh Mrs Brenda Leith Ms Ann Norman Mrs Dorothy Merrifield Mr Jonathan Rose

SHARING SCHEME SECRETARIES Marjorie & Eileen Hoare (01322 434230)
HALL BOOKINGS MANAGER Mrs Janet Wayling (01322 351536)
SITE MANAGER Mr John Ralph (01322 430800)
COUNSELLING SERVICE 24 hour Answer Phone 07981 923 647

CHURCH OFFICE

Website: www.stpaulsnorthumberlandheath.org.uk
The Church Office is situated in the Church Hall,
St Paul's Church, Mill Road
and is open from 9.00am-2.00pm on Monday
and 9.00am-3.00pm on Wednesday and Friday
and by phone at all times on 01322 336505
Please Note: All requests for Marriages,
Baptisms and Thanksgiving Services
should be made via the Church Office Administrator:
Mrs Judy Cunnew



Holy Communion

email: adminstpaulnh@hotmail.co.uk

EDITOR Mrs Jane Stafford ADVERTS OFFICER Mr Ron Richards (01322 434790) (01322 522824)

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DEADLINE DATES FOR MAY/JUNE 2009 MAGAZINE by SUNDAY 5th April 2009 to Jane Stafford please.

Articles may be e-mailed to gjstafford@waitrose.com

Please note: Everything in this magazine is printed in good faith.

No guarantees offered!

WITH THANKS. On behalf of us all at St Paul's my thanks to Mary and Timothy Nunns for their faithful service over many years in many different ways to God during their time at St Paul's. Whilst they will be missed we wish them well as they venture into a new walk with God discerning His will for them both, in new areas of ministry at their new church. Geoff.

2. DIARY FOR MARCH

1st 1ST OF LENT

9.00am Holy Communion (BCP HC). Job 36

Elihu continues

10.30am Morning Worship Job 36

Elihu continues

7th 9.30am -4pm PROPHECY WORKSHOP at St Paul's

(see Page 4)

8th 2ND OF LENT

9.00am

Holy Communion (CW HC). Romans 4:13-25

10.30am Morning Worship. Matthew 9:9-13

Matthew - Levi

15th 3RD OF LENT

9.00am

Holy Communion. (BCP HC). Job 38:1-21

Encounter with God

10.30am

Holy Communion. Job 38:1-21

Encounter with God

4.00pm

Fellowship Tea followed by

5.00pm

Informal Worship in the Lounge

21st Saturday 9.30-10.30 am 'Putting together' of posies. See below

22nd 4TH OF LENT MOTHERING SUNDAY

9.00am

Holy Communion (CW HC). John 1:10-13

Happy Families

10.30am

Family Worship and Parade. John 1:10-13

Happy Families

28th 9am

Spring cleaning!

29th 5TH OF LENT

9.00am Holy Communion (BCP HC). Job 42

Vindication of Wisdom

10.30am

Holy Communion. Job 42. Vindication of Wisdom

6.30pm

CTE Celebration (venue to be decided)

Saturday 21st March: 9.30am Join us to help make the posies for Mothering Sunday.

SPRING ČLEAN TIME!

Saturday 28th March from 9am.

All hands on Deck!

Do come along and help to clean and tidy our Church buildings.
Teabreaks provided + CAKE!
Please contact Monica or Bob about either of these events.

Tel: 01322 332108







DIARY FOR APRIL

PALM SUNDAY 5th

> Holy Communion (BCP HC). 9.00am

> > Mark 11:1-11

Morning Worship. 10.30am

Mark 11:1-11

HOLY WEEK:

8.00 pm - 9.00 pm

6th, 7th,8th

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday

Prayer/Meditation at the Vicarage:

9th

MAUNDY THURSDAY

8.00 pm - 9.00 pmJohn 13:1-17

10th

GOOD FRIDAY

10.00am Luke 23:25-36

12th

EASTER DAY

Sunrise Service at Erith Pier

(time to be announced)

9.00am

Holy Communion (CW HC)

Luke 24:1-12 He is Risen!

10.30am

Holy Communion.

Luke 24:1-12 He is Risen!





19th 2ND OF EASTER

Holy Communion (BCP HC) John 5:4-12 9.00am

Holy Communion. John 5:4-12 10.00am 4.00pm Fellowship Tea followed by

Informal Worship in the Lounge 5.00pm

26th 3RD OF EASTER

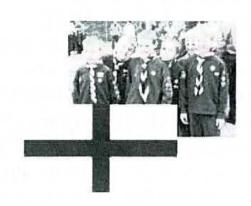
Holy Communion (CW HC) 9.00am

Acts 3:12-19

Morning Worship and Parade 10.30am

Celebrating St George's Day

Mark 5:24b-34. Faith



CHRISTMAS SERVICE COLLECTIONS DONATED TO CHARITIES

Carols by Candlelight: Demelza Hospice Care for Children: £327.55

Signed Christmas Cards: Demelza Hospice Care for Children: £43.06 Christmas Eve Communion:

Church Housing Trust:

£142.77

4. WHAT'S ON AT ST PAUL'S?

If you have access to the Internet, you might like to 'log on' to the church web site with all the up to date information about St Paul's Church The address is http://www.stpaulsnorthumberlandheath.org.uk

ST PAUL'S FINANCE

from Ron Handy (Church Treasurer)

Sundays	Gift Aide	ed Cash	Sub Total	Std Orders	Tax Recov	Total
02/11/08	287-00	295-69	582-69	700-00	278-38	1282-69
09/11/08	223-50	208-33	431-83	717-00	265-27	1148-83
16/11/08	122-00	482-44	604-44	314-00	122-97	918-44
23/11/08	90-50	133-17	223-67	710-00	225-78	933-67
30/11/08	169-61	566-38	735-99	695-00	243-86	1430-99
07/12/08	418-00	1045-87	1463-87	757-00	331-41	2220-87
14/12/08	84-50	174-56	259-06	377-00	130-17	636-06
21/12/08	114-10	1216-54	1330-64	427-00	152-62	1757-64
28/12/08	168-01	639-98	807-99	545-00	201-11	1352-99

We were blessed with two separate £1,000 donations from the same donor and another donor with £500 in December, which gave the average weekly giving to be £1,298-02.

It is this time of the year we see the claims for recovering tax from the Inland Revenue come in, with £2,038-25 in Nov and £2,267-61 in Dec. This is where the Church does so benefit from being able to claim the tax back that you have paid on your Gift Aided money.

For those who are able to give by a standing order, or have access to Internet banking, our bank details are:

NatWest Northumberland Heath Branch:

235 Bexley Road, Northumberland Heath, Erith. Kent. DA8 3XX

ACCOUNT NAME:

St Paul's Church PCC

SORT CODE: 60 15 28

ACCOUNT NUMBER: 66526434

PROPHECY WORKSHOP

Using the gift of Prophecy so that it is a blessing not a curse . . . on Saturday 7th March 2009 at St Paul's Church 9.30am - 4.00pm
Further details and booking form from: -

Co-ordinator Jackie Robinson 01322 341057 ALL are WELCOME

PARISH WEEKEND 2010 - ADVANCE NOTICE

We have placed a booking deposit to return to The Oasts, Northiam in East Sussex for a Parish Weekend. 4 - 6th June 2010. There will be a list at the back of Church to sign up for this in due course. Meanwhile put the date in your diary.

Approx cost just over £100. More details later.

Firstly, we would like to wish everyone a belated, happy and Christ filled New Year. Neither of us this time last year had looked to the future with any idea that we would become wardens, not in a million years, so how come? Well to begin with no one came forward at the last APCM, which was a bit concerning, but I suppose, like others, there was an expectation that someone would come forward. But as time went on no one did. On that same day, Dorothy asked me (no doubt having prayed) about us putting our names forward. I started to think about this and decided to ask Janet her thoughts, expecting her to go into defence mode on my behalf, but to my surprise she said, "why not, go for it".

To be quite honest and yes Dorothy has seen, read and had the chance to edit this. I couldn't have thought of a less likely partner. God really does have a great sense of humour or just a great sense of knowing better than we, what is right and will work for Him, also what will work to encourage and benefit us as well. Having grown to know Dorothy more these last seven months than all the years we have both been at St Paul's, it has, I can

honestly say, been a blessing and a joy.

We have been fortunate we feel, with not too many major fabric issues, the Church heating working almost all of the time and no leaking roof, (big thank you to the previous wardens for their diligence in these matters) although as I sit here hearing the rain it can be a worry. There are always financial concerns, I have never known it any different, and we live by the grace of God and the hard work of Ron Handy, to whom we are truly grateful, but giving, remains, an issue. I personally have to my surprise enjoyed the opportunity afforded to me as part of our duties to serve and attend the 9.00 clock service; it has been good to meet other members of the church family and I would encourage others to share in my experience. It is an honour and a privilege but also a tremendous responsibility to serve the Lord in such a role. Dorothy has particularly enjoyed the more caring aspect and getting to know people at a deeper level. Duties include, opening up the Church for the services on Sundays, preparing the communion table, taking the remembrance wreath forward, to decorate with and light all the candles over the Christmas period and yes many other day to day happenings. We also meet and pray with Geoff on a regular basis.

I have been at St Paul's now since I was 13 and have enjoyed most of my time here. There have been many good things that I hang onto and remember and many people too. Like many of you I have seen people come and go for all manner of reasons but the body of Christ at St Paul's still remains. There must be a reason for this! We have seen change within our world and our society at a pace faster than ever before, yet within this changing world many of the same issues still exist, those to which we know there is only one true answer, God the Father.

We are what our past has made us, but we can be what God wants us to be only in the future. As I am sure God's plan for each one of us is not a static and stationary one but one changing and moulding to meet the new things that are to come, if we look for and to them. So can I encourage each and every one of us to enjoy the remembrances of the past, but also to talk about and to look to the future however long or short this may be for each of us. In the book of Isaiah it says "See the former things have taken place and new things I declare" (Ch 42 v 9) So let us dream big dreams and think big thoughts for Christ and his Church here on the Heath, in the community and beyond. I fear new things like everyone. But to miss quote a famous quote "Tis better to have stepped out boldly in faith and feared than never to have stepped out boldly in faith at all." In finishing, we would like to thank and praise the Lord that when he calls us he also equips us, He is truly faithful!

Dorothy Merrifield & Jonathan Rose (Church Wardens)

6. GREETINGS FROM THE JENNING'S HOUSEHOLD IN DHAKA! by e-mail

House 42, Road 6, Banani, Dhaka, Bangladesh jennings6@hotmail.com 03/01/09 Although we were spread across four countries and five cities at the beginning of December, all nine of us had the privilege of being together for Christmas and New Year. We're all living in Bangladesh apart from Sarah and Andrew. It's been a richly blessed year with opportunities and challenges. Hannah has been the only one at home with us all year. She came to Dhaka on 9th December 2007 and has been with us ever since. She's been working with CARE International, mainly in HIV/AIDS prevention programmes. She plans to work as an independent consultant for the next few months before returning to London later this year to pursue further studies.



After three years as a social worker in London, Beth returned to Bangladesh in February. She has set up a new project for children, adolescents and young mothers living on the street. She is the coordinator and works with a small team.

Sarah is here from Birmingham (England) for the holidays and is completing her degree in politics. She may eventually return to Bangladesh in some type of development work, but wants to travel and get some experience first. After graduation she may work in London and take a training course to teach English abroad.

Andrew is a senior at Grace International School in Chiang Mai, Thailand. This is his 2nd year there and he loves Thailand. He graduates from high school at the end of May. The highlight of 2008 was becoming grandparents! Nathaniel's and Donna's first child Micah was born 25th May in Belfast. He's adorable. We saw him when he was a month old in Ireland, and they came back to live in Bangladesh in October. They live about a five hour bus ride from us. It's wonderful having them so close. They will be setting up an English language centre in Kushtia. Since February James has

for the Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID). Most of his work is in Bangladesh, but he is also responsibe for Sri Lanka and Nepal, where he makes occasional trips. He has been asked to serve on our church board this year. And what about me (Diane)? For the first half of the 2008 I was teaching 3 and 4 years olds at Grace International School here in Dhaka. It was a busy and extremely rewarding time. I loved it. We were in England in the summer. James, Sarah and Andrew made a trip to Morocco while I went ahead to Belfast. They joined me later for a restful week in a cottage in the scenic Irish countryside. After returning to





Dhaka, Andrew and I took off to Chiang Mai mid-August. An American family offered their home to him and Andrew and I lived in their house for four months. It was a very different life for me. The house is located in a beautiful and quiet area. But I enjoyed the time with Andrew as well as periods of reflection, meditation and prayer. Thanks for all you mean to us, for your encouragement through prayer, emails, calls, cards and precious memories. May God bless and keep each one of you in a special way in 2009.

Diane and James Jennings

A TRIBUTE by Edith Rose

It seems to me only a few months back I wrote a tribute and thanksgiving to Eileen & Len Hollingsworth and now I am writing about the departure of Mary & Timothy Nunns from their Family Church at St Paul's.

Their association with and their commitment to St Paul's was exceptional, and I fear that I took their presence for granted and did not let them know of my deep

appreciation for all that they did witnessing their love for our Lord.

Timothy went through the training as a Reader licensed to St Paul's whilst still working full-time. I thank him for his teaching: his undertaking on my behalf (and indeed on behalf of all members of St Paul's) many and various duties on committees, giving up his time and energies. Also for something like 43 years undertaking work with young people sailing on the Norfolk Broads during Easter, and for his witness within St Paul's and outside.

My personal admiration for Mary, living life to the full - for giving those of us with a more timid mouse-like attitude, a truly symbolic example of acknowledging our Lord's protection with her reading to us the biblical text for the day, her prayers; and acknowledgement of her work within Queen Mary's Hospital, Belmont School and Cruse Counselling, indeed just the way she tackled life.

May our God continue to Bless them both, giving them all happiness and wellbeing. As a church we are the poorer! Our love and good wishes for the future.

8.



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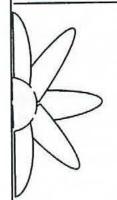
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Well over 300 people, from pensioners to babes in arms, packed into St. James' church, Birkdale, on 9th December 2008.

VIDA GRINHAM, modest as ever, had wanted her funeral to be in the little church which she and Garth had joined when they retired – but All Saints, Southport would have been far too small, so numerous were those whose lives she had touched and who came to thank God for her.

Tributes were paid to Vida's godly wisdom, to her cooking, her hospitality, to the Tortoise Club she founded, to her sense of Christ-centred fun – but, in particular, to her love and care for people, old & young alike, valuing each one individually.

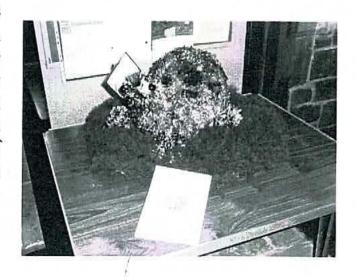
The hymns and Bible readings were Vida's own choices – and she had even left pointers for the sermon. Gordon Kuhrt drew out, from Isaiah 43 and Ephesians 2, how God

calls his people by name – assuring each of us that we are uniquely valuable in his sight; how God gives us his own name, because we are adopted into his family; how we are precious in his sight, honoured and loved with the "love that will not let (us) go." He protects us through the storms of life; he makes each of us into something new, something beautiful, in his image – and he calls us to reflect his beauty to the world.

Vida was indeed beautiful, with that inner beauty of faithfulness, friendship, a free spirit, a sweetness of character. All of these sprang from her daily walk with Christ, choosing to obey him. Thus it was natural for her to shed God's fragrance, day by day, on all those she met.

Our hearts ached for Garth in his loss — but we were glad to rejoice with him that Vida is "safe in the shadow of the Lord." She lit up so many lives, with her fun, her friendship and her love of the Lord. For all of that we give thanks — and, in the words of the last hymn she chose, "Thine be the Glory!" Amen!

Timothy & Mary Nunns (Photo right of Tortoise tribute sent on behalf of St Paul's family.)



10.



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St Paul's Church invites you to join in the Easter Garden Extravaganza 2009.

As part of our Easter celebrations we will be decorating the church with Easter gardens again and we would like the entire congregation to be involved, both young and old.

All you need is a seed tray and a bit of imagination!

So come on and give it a go,

decorate a tray with an Easter Theme and bring it to church on

Sunday 5th April, Palm Sunday,

to share in the celebration.

Individual and group contributions are welcome.

Don't forget to put your name on your garden.



EASTER CRAFT AFTERNOON 2-4 PM

Sunday 29th March 2009 St Paul's Church, Mill Road

All 5 - 11 years olds welcome to spend the afternoon making things, playing games and meeting new friends - please come and join us. Places must be booked before the day so please contact

Janet 01322 521067



What will become of the church if we don't have more young people like our Cyril here?





12. ST PAUL'S CHRISTMAS TREE 'Glory to God in the Highest'



A photo of the Christmas Trees at Christ Church Erith taken just before Christmas. Unfortunately because of 'technical problems' in e-mailing to the printers, I was unable to publish all the other photos as planned!

At Christ Church, the whole Church is 'taken over' by Christmas Trees at the end of pews and the chancel, side chapel, porch and baptistry areas. Individuals and organisations pay £30 for their tree, which is then decorated either by members of Christ Church, or by those who purchased them.

We have been working with our Homegroups who have generously donated towards the cost of the tree and the purchase of the lights and decorations, so thank you very much to all those who contributed.

We felt very honoured that our tree was in the chancel just below that of Bishop Michael Nazir-Ali!

We were allowed to bring the tree back to the lounge after the Christ Church Carol services, so we could enjoy it ourselves for our events! Hope you managed to get down to see the whole spectacle, or enjoyed seeing the tree at St Paul's. Hopefully we will be able do the same again next year. Jane, Marion & Joan

'in brief' information sent from Diocese to all Parish Treasurers

As a result of the 1999 Water Industry Act, water companies have introduced new charging regimes for the three main elements of drainage:

1. Foul water drainage: waste water from sinks, WC's etc

2. Surface drainage water: rainwater run off from roofs and car parks into main drains

3. Highways drainage: contribution towards the overall cost of drainage for public highways.

The other change is that properties which were formerly exempted, such as places of worship or properties used for the disabled, or which enjoyed relief by virtue of being charities, such as village halls, Scout halls etc, will be subject to the same rates as business users as they fall within the non-household category.

The Church of England has estimated that it may face an annual overall increase in its water bills of up to £15 million. Most churches' water bills will rise by hundreds of pounds; some by a few thousand. Discussions have taken place with Ofwat and the Government, and the Archbishop of York has written to the Prime Minister.

On-going developments: Downing Street e-petition now has 38,000 signatures and the deadline has been extended to 6th April 2009 reflecting the level of interest in the issue. (http://petitions.pm.gov.uk/ChurchWaterBills)

General Synod Motion tabled by Martin Dales (Diocese of York) will be debated at the February sessions.

Correspondence is continuing with senior ministers and a briefing provided to MPs Representations have been made by non-Church charities such as the Scouts, Village Hall Associations, and various charitable organisations.

Clearly this remains a serious situation and both on behalf of the Church of England, we will maintain dialogue with Ministers and officials.

The message is starting to get across, but it remains to be seen how much movement we are able to secure. There remains the possibility that the charging regimes in the Northern Province will not only become the norm, but be adopted throughout the country, so we must keep the pressure up.

We have decided, at least for the moment, against a mass letter writing campaign, but we encourage dioceses and parishes to talk to their local MPs to ensure that they are aware of the likely impact on Church and community life. We would encourage more signatures on the No 10 Website.

Geoff Marsh: Assistant Diocesan Secretary.

Ron Handy reports that St Paul's charges for 2007 which are charged to the Church Hall was £1027-32, with £1132-08 charged in 2008 giving an increase of 10.2%, due to inflation.

Please speak to Ron or Jonathan Rose if you need further information and if we as a church are planning to take any action, they will keep you informed of any developments.

14. BIBLE SOCIETY NEWS

URGENT PRAYER REQUEST FROM GAZA

As fighting continues in Gaza, staff of Bible Societies in the region are urgently

appealing for your prayers.

'Our hearts are broken as we witness the escalation of hostilities in Gaza and southern Israel,' said Victor Kalisher, Director of the Bible Society in Israel, in a joint message issued by the Bible Societies of Israel and the occupied Palestinian Territories. 'Israelis and Palestinians are at war; we are not. Through our single identity in Christ and his lordship we experience his peace, practise his love, and hold on to him as our hope. 'We are committed to serving our communities with the



gospel of peace and forgiveness. We will sweat for that which Christ bled for, and labour for that which Christ died for,' Victor added.

Ian McKay, Bible Society's International Director said, 'We are committed to bringing the Bible's life changing message to the region. With love, care and compassion staff in Gaza and Israel are living out the Bible's message of hope.'

Staff there are working to provide humanitarian aid to people in Gaza.

They are also launching a scriptural initiative in Gaza and southern Israel – bringing the Bible's life-changing message to those desperate for hope. To support this work gifts can be given by visiting

www.biblesociety.org.uk/gaza or by calling 01793 418222.

'As a result of ten years' work building relationships and trust with both Hamas and Israeli political leaders, Bible Society has access to people in need,' said Labib Madanat,

United Bible Societies' Development Director.

As Bible Society remains committed to the work in this region, please pray:

For a speedy end to the war and for respect for the sanctity of human life

• For Bible Society staff in Palestine and Israel, working to meet humanitarian and Scriptural needs

For God's wisdom for staff of the Bible Societies in the region as they bring the Bible's message of hope during difficult times

'Remind your people of this, and give them a solemn warning in God's presence not to fight over words. It does no good, but only ruins the people who listen.'

2 Timothy 2.14 (GNB)

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16. THANK YOU!

Gladys May Durrant 25.4.1902 - 16.11.2008

Thank you so much, from all my family, for the wonderful service for Nan recently. It was so beautiful and unrushed, so fitting for the special lady that she was. The prayers were so meaningful and we would like you to pass on our thanks to everyone who helped you to make it all run so smoothly. It was, naturally, a very emotional day for us all, everyone that knew Nan took her to their hearts. She would have been overwhelmed by all the tributes but I know she would have cherished every bit of the service just as she cherished all the people in her life.

On behalf of my Mum, Muriel Bremner, her sister Pat Jeffery and myself, I would like to thank everyone at St. Paul's who helped make the funeral service for my



Nan such a beautiful and memorable occasion. We were very pleased to return to St Paul's to thank God for giving Nan 106 years in which to share her love with her family and many friends. We all took comfort from the warmth and peace that we felt during the service and, although she will be missed so much we know that she is now in a place where she can sleep peacefully. Also, I would like to thank everyone for the beautiful flowers and the lovely cards that we received in memory of my dear Nan. Thank you too for the donations to the RNLI which totalled £855. Nan would be overwhelmed but, as we all know, she was one in a million and we were so lucky to have her with us for 106 years. Thank you to everyone who came to say goodbye, at the Church, Crematorium and at

Hurlingham Road. We know that some of you were unable to come but I'm sure Nan was in your thoughts wherever you happened to be. Nan was a joy to us all and in troubled moments used to sing:

"Though your heart may ache a while, never mind And your face may lose its smile, never mind. There'll be sunshine after rain and gladness after rain You'll be happy once again, never mind"

We will never forget her beautiful smile, twinkling eyes and her singing. May she rest in peace.

ADVANCED NOTICE

Christian Aid Week 10 - 16th May 2009 If you would like to run an event or help with collecting. Please contact/ Janet Rose 01322 521067. Thank you.



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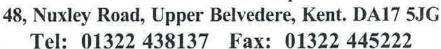
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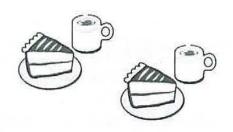
For further information call:

Matthew Barrett on 0208 301 3272 matthew@hdconsultants.net

18. AROUND THE GROUPS

"COFFEE CALL"

8.45 am - 12 noon at St Paul's"



EVERY WEDNESDAY MORNING

Coffee, Cake, Refreshments in the Church Lounge

A place to sit, talk, relax - just drop in. Come and go as you please.

Please speak to Marion Farr if you would like to be involved or on the Rota.

EVENING MEETINGS in Church Lounge as usual 8.00 - 9.00 pm:

on FIRST Wednesday of every month A time of Prayer & Praise:

Please Support and Join Us. All are Welcome.

FLOWER ROTAS

MAR	8	VACANT DATE	** APR	5	Nora McGill
114144	15	Veronica Ralph	**	12	Jeanette Watts
	22	VACANT DATE	* *	19	Edith Rose
	29	VACANT DATE	* *	26	Nicky Carrier

Often there are VACANT DATES on the ROTA. Please offer. There are several VACANT dates during this year. CAN YOU HELP? Any donations towards cost of flowers always welcomed! Joan Hawkins can be contacted on 01322 433622.

CAMEO:

MARCH 2nd: Living with Kidney Failure- Karen Ladell

APRIL 20th: Indoor Games - note date because of April Bank holidays

ALL Ladies Welcome. Contact Monica 332108 or Margaret 522824

MEN'S GROUP:

Darts Evening - Gary Bridge 10th March:

Visit to Royal Observatory Greenwich - Ron Arthur 24th March:

To New Zealand with Bill Allan 14th April:

Saturday: Men's Breakfast - Keith McGill 25th April:

For all details: Contact: Tim Luff 552214 or Colin Smith 442233

3rd Sunday each month 2nd ST PAUL'S FELLOWSHIP TEA.

15th March & 19th April 2009 at 4.00 pm.

ALL who would enjoy fellowship are most welcome. Do feel free to come along. Newcomers always welcome. The meeting will be followed by an Informal Worship in the Lounge at 5.00 pm. Lifts can be arranged.

Please contact David & Marion Farr. Tel:- 01322 331525

ON THE REGISTERS 19.

We extend our sympathies to the Families of:

DEC	11	Margaret Louise Farndon Dickens Close, Erith	age 74 years	
	11	Frederick Frances Gilham Brook Street, Erith	age 96 years	
	28	Roger George Phipps Belmont Road, Erith	age 50 years	
	30	Alfred John Dickason Horsa Road, Erith	age 88 years	
2009				
JAN	7	Diane Elizabeth Illingworth Fossett Lodge, Bexleyheath	age 71 years	E

A SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT:

It is with great sadness that I write to inform you that my mother passed away on 6th December 2008. Her name was FLORENCE LILIAN SKEGGS. She lived at 172 Brook Street, Erith, Kent and was aged 85 years old when she died. She will be greatly missed.

The Skeggs family had lived in Brook street for over 80 years.

Yours sincerely Catherine Skeggs-Thirkettle

CHARITABLE STATUS:

As from 19th January 2009: St Pauls Church PCC, Northumberland Heath - 301 has become charity registered **No. 1127583**, under the name of

The Parochial Church of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Paul's, Northumberland Heath

We will need to show on our letter headed paperwork a footnote that our charity name is: The Parochial Church of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Paul's, Northumberland Heath. and that the Registered Office is:

St Paul's Church, Mill Road, Erith, Kent DA8 1HN. Registered Charity No. 1127583

Ron Handy: Hon Treasurer

20. JULIE ANDREWS COMMEMORATES HER 69th BIRTHDAY by performing her version of 'My favourite things' via Betty Garrett

Botox and nose drops and needles for knitting, Walkers and handrails and new dental fittings, Bundles of magazines tied up in string, These are a few of my favourite things.

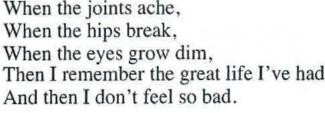
Cadillacs and cataracts, hearing aids and glasses, Polident and Fixodent and false teeth in glasses, Pacemakers, golf carts and porches with swings, These are a few of my favourite things.

When the pipes leak, When the bones creak, When the knees go bad, I simply remember my favourite things And then I don't feel so bad.

Hot tea and crumpets and corn pads for bunions, No spicy hot food or food cooked with onions, Bathrobes and heat pads and hot meals they bring, These are a few of my favourite things.

Back pain, confused brains and no need for sinnin', Thin bones and fractures and hair that is thinnin', And we won't mention our short shrunken frames, When we remember our favourite things.

When the joints ache, When the hips break, When the eyes grow dim, Then I remember the great life I've had, And then I don't feel so bad.

















THE UNCOMFORTABLE DEFINITION OF AN INFIDEL

by Tim Keenan

via Deidre Allard email.

Allah or the Lord Jesus Christ?

The Muslim religion is by far the fastest growing religion

in the UK. Last month I attended my annual training session that's required for maintaining my prison security clearance. During the training session there was a presentation by three speakers representing the Roman Catholic, Protestant and Muslim faiths, who explained each of their beliefs. I was particularly interested in what the Islamic Imam had to say. The Imam gave a great presentation of the basics of Islam, complete with a video.

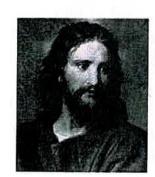
After the presentations, time was provided for questions and answers. When it was my turn, I directed my question to the Imam and asked: 'Please, correct me if I'm wrong, but I understand that most Imams and clerics of Islam have declared a holy jihad [Holy war] against the infidels of the world and, that by killing an infidel, (which is a command to all Muslims) they are assured of a place in heaven. If that's the case, can you give me the definition of an infidel?'

There was no disagreement with my statements and, without hesitation, he replied, 'Non-believers!'

I responded, 'So, let me make sure I have this straight. All followers of Allah have been commanded to kill everyone who is not of your faith so they can have a place in heaven. Is that correct?' The expression on his face changed from one of authority and command to that of 'a little boy who had just been caught with his hand in the cookie jar.' He sheepishly replied, 'Yes.'

I then stated, 'Well, I have a real problem trying to imagine Pope Benedict commanding all Catholics to kill those of your faith or Dr. Stanley ordering all Protestants to do the same in order to guarantee them a place in heaven!'

The Imam was speechless!



I continued, 'I also have a problem with being your 'friend' when you and your brother clerics are telling your followers to kill me! Let me ask you a question. Would you rather have your Allah, who tells you to kill me in order for you to go to heaven, or my Jesus who tells me to love you because I am going to heaven and He wants you to be there with me?'

You could have heard a pin drop as the Imam remained speechless. Needless to say, the organizers and promoters of the 'Diversification' training seminar were not happy with this way of

dealing with the Islamic Imam and exposing the truth about the Muslims' beliefs. Within 20 years there will be enough Muslim voters in the U.K. to elect a government of their choice, complete with sharia law. I think everyone in the U.K. should be required to read this, but with the Liberal justice system, liberal media and the political correctness madness, there is no way this will be widely publicised.



Radio 2 presenter Jeremy Vine, a practising Anglican has claimed that it is becoming 'socially unacceptable' to be a Christian in Britain.

He said he felt unable to talk about his faith on his show

because he feared how people would react.

"You can't express views that were common currency 30 or 40 years ago. Sadly it is almost socially unacceptable to say you believe in God."

Cardinal Cormac Murphy-O'Connor the

head of the Roman Catholic Church in England said that the rise of secularism has led to a liberal society, hostile to Christian morals and values, in which religious belief was viewed as "a private eccentricity" and the voice of faith groups was marginalised. Tony Blair was afraid to talk about his faith while in office in case people labelled him



a 'nutter!' In the American political system you can talk about religious faith and it is something the people respond to quite naturally. We can only hope and pray that Barack Obama as the new American president will not be ashamed to profess his faith now he is a World leader. His Inaugeration Ceremony was certainly bathed in prayer.

ISN'T THIS GREAT?

 $original\ information\ by\ email\ Fred\ Cross$

Dutch Creationist Johan Huibers has built a replica of the biblical Ark as a testament to his faith, in Schagen, Netherlands. The ark is 150 cubits long, 30 cubits high and 20 cubits wide. That's two-thirds the length of a football field and



as high as a three-story house. Life-size models of giraffes, elephants, lions, crocodiles, zebras, bison and other animals greet visitors as they arrive in the main hold. There is enough space near the keel for a 50-seat film theatre where children can watch a video that tells the story of Noah and his ark. Huibers, a Christian man, said he hopes the project will renew interest in

Christianity in the Netherlands, where church going has fallen dramatically in the past 50 years. His dream took 14 years to manifest, and his work began in May 2005. Finally the exhibit opened on April 28, 2007. He used modern tools working from 8 to 5, six days a week, and most of the work was done by him, with occasional help from his son after school. If you Google either Johan Huibers or Noah's Ark, Schlagen, there are several websites whereby you can get fuller detail

REMINDER of HOME G	ROUPS ALL ARE WELCOM	E 23.
MONDAY 2.30 - 4.00pm	25 Cavendish Avenue, Erith	01322 434230
	Marjorie Hoare and Jane Stafford	01322 434790
8.00- 9.30pm	82 Bedonwell Road, Bexleyheath	01322 430345
Roi	& Joan Handy and Marion Farr	01322 331525
TUESDAY 8.00- 9.30pm	39 Swanton Road, Erith	01322 434790
	Jane Stafford	
WEDNESDAY 8.00-9.30p	m 91 Merewood Road, Barnehurst	01322 332108
coordinator	s Monica & Bob Lindridge	

92 Barnehurst Ave. Barnehurst 01322 338558 Rob & Karen Silver and Vivien McGill 01322 433478

3 Heath Way, Erith 01322 341622 Paul Goldsmith & Julie Marshall and Andy Ladell 01689 539977 THURSDAY 8.00-9.30pm 25 Barnehurst Ave. Erith 01322 330265 Ingrid Walsh

You are most welcome to join any group, but please PHONE first as some groups meet irregularly. Fuller details are posted on Church Notice Board in link.

PICKING UP THE PIECES

St Paul's Bereavement

~~~~ INVITE YOU to join them ~~~~ Support Group in the Church Lounge on the 2nd Friday of the month at 12.30pm when Lunch will be supplied. It is our prayer and wish that no one grieves alone.

David & Marion Farr: 01322 331525 Church Office: 01322 336505

#### CORNERSTONE CHRISTIAN COUNSELLING SERVICE

(24 Hour Answer Phone): PHONE 07981 923 647 St Paul's PCC recently endorsed the wish of the

Service to change their Cornerstone to Christian Counselling Service.

remember Please counselling team in your prayers as they continue to serve in this work. They are involved also in



further studies and training as part of the service. The counsellors are trained in general counselling and aim to help people with issues such as depression, stress, panic attacks, abuse,

eating disorders, bereavement and loss, and marriage and relational difficulties.

ST PAUL'S PRAYER CHAIN Please feel free to use the Prayer Chain in absolute confidence. First contact Dorothy Merrifield on 01322 347254.

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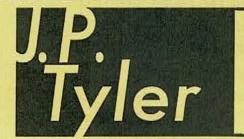
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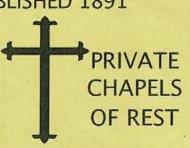
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