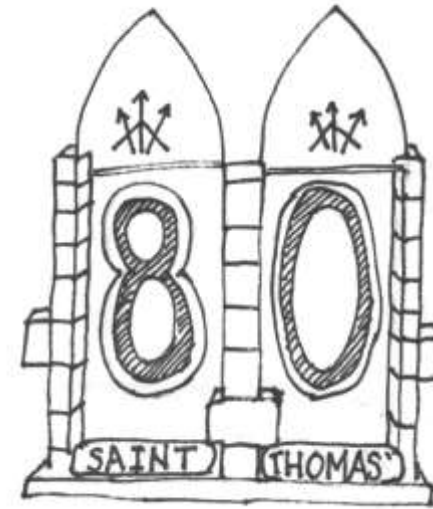


50 Pence



July 2014

The Trident



The Parish Magazine of
Serving Hanwell and Beyond

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ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE
BOSTON ROAD, HANWELL
CHURCH OF ENGLAND

WE DO HOPE THAT YOU WILL FEEL WELCOME TO COME TO OUR SERVICES

SUNDAY

8.00 AM HOLY COMMUNION (BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER SERVICE)
10.00 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL (TERM TIME AND NOT 2ND SUNDAY OF THE MONTH)
10.00 AM PARISH COMMUNION
6.30 PM EVENING PRAYER (BCP)
CHORAL EVENSONG FOR SPECIAL FESTIVALS (PLEASE SEE NOTICEBOARD FOR DETAILS)

WEEKDAY CELEBRATIONS OF HOLY COMMUNION

TUESDAY 12 NOON
WEDNESDAY 2PM
LAST WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH 7.30PM

MORNING PRAYER

8.00 AM MONDAY TO FRIDAY (9.30 A.M SATURDAY)

EVENING PRAYER

DAILY 5.00 PM (EXCEPT SATURDAY AND SUNDAY)

PEOPLE OF ALL FAITHS, OR NO FAITH AT ALL, ARE WELCOME AT ANY OF OUR SERVICES. THOSE WHO ARE FULL MEMBERS OF THEIR OWN CHRISTIAN CONGREGATIONS ARE WELCOME TO RECEIVE HOLY COMMUNION IN ST. THOMAS'S.

REGULAR MEETINGS

MONDAY	12.30 PM	HANWELL HOMELESS CONCERN
	4.45 PM	RAINBOW GUIDES
	6.00 PM	BROWNIES
TUESDAY	5.30 PM	BEAVERS
	6.30PM	CUBS
WEDNESDAY		11.00AM - 12.30PM
	10.30AM	MOTHER AND BABY/TODDLER GROUP
	7.30PM	STUDY GROUP & COMPLINE (FIRST WED OF EACH MONTH)
THURSDAY	7.00 PM	GUIDES
FRIDAY	10.30 - 12 NOON	'POP-IN'
	7.00 PM	SCOUTS (AT 'THE WARREN' TRUMPERS WAY)
	7.00 PM	CHOIR

FOR MORE INFORMATION LOG ONTO OUR WEBSITE:
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From our Vicar

Dear Friends

80 years ago, it goes without saying, the world was a very different place. Politically Europe was on the verge of complete turmoil, but philosophically it was a different world too.

The western world was still enjoying the hope of modernity which promised a better tomorrow, and after the war the white heat of technology seemed to feed that ideal. Alas, what had gone before meant that the world was now different and the way life was viewed was different, and this led to the movement from the modern to the post-modern. Both approaches recognised the ephemeral nature of life, yet modernity saw the onward march of progress as the answer and the post-modern saw only indeterminacy. By the end of the 20th century nothing was certain, the big stories no longer washed.

By now, if you're not completely depressed, you may be wondering what has this bleak worldview got to do with us in the midst of our 80th anniversary celebrations, and in the month where we celebrate our patron saint?

On one level St Thomas with his declaration of 'My Lord, and my God' may appear to be the ultimate post-modern man; he has his god, you have your god. Yet St Thomas' declaration was not an early form of 'relativistic pluralism', where anything goes, but rather something more profound. St Thomas saw in Jesus Christ not just a man with some neat ideas and fitting platitudes, a sort of human fortune cookie, but God made man. He recognised that in Jesus Christ here was God, here was love, here was other, here was good, here was life.

This message, this person, has little to do with power, he has everything to do with its loss. He shared his life, and his love so that other may have life and love, even questioning, doubting apostles. That hope is one we should celebrate this anniversary and patronal.

For us in a post-modern world wrestling with questions and doubt St Thomas is there praying for us, and offering a way forward; look to Jesus.

This is the message, the person, we are called to share, may we do it

together aided by our patron's prayers.

Bon anniversaire St Thomas, and the people of this parish!

Fr. Robert



Parish News

July is always a joy, because it is our patronal festival month.

As this is our 80th we are aiming to have a wonderful family fun day during the Vicarage

Garden Party. There will be lots of things for the church family and wider family to enjoy, and this will culminate in a Vicarage garden BBQ. Running throughout that day there will be old pictures running continually on a data **projector, and something for budding Thomas' in the Church Hall; that's** Tank Engine rather than our patron.

The following day we have the huge privilege of having Revd Prof. Alison Milbank to preach for us. Mother Alison is on the staff of Southwell Minster (**Nottinghamshire's Cathedral**) and is **Associate Professor of Literature and Theology** at Nottingham University. She is also an international expert on Tolkien, so bring along your hobbits and elves! After Mass there will be champagne(ish) in the Vicarage Garden.

In other news, after what has felt like a Tolkien-est quest we have a new Stewardship Secretary – Mr Ivan Carter. Personally, I am thrilled that Ivan has agreed to do this as he is a long standing member of the parish community, and has wonderful personal gifts which make him ideal.

In other good financial news the rental income from the second aerial is now coming in. Hopefully this will enable us to look at our giving afresh and see how we can best serve the parish, diocese and wider church.

June was the month for the Hanwell Carnival (Britain's oldest apparently!). It was hoped to have a choirs' festival in St Thomas', but the number of entrants sadly meant that we will have to revisit it next year.

The final link means that we must send our congratulations to Sara Brooks and her husband Paul who were married in June. Please pray for Sara and Paul as they begin their new life together as husband and wife.

Do support our patronal festivities and bring along a friend, so they too can experience the joy of the season



Prayer for the month of July

O Lord Jesus Christ who said to your servant Thomas the Apostle, I am the way, and the truth and the life: mercifully grant that we, looking to you for faith, may find in you the way that leads to the Father, the truth that makes us free, and the life that is life indeed, now and always.

Amen



From the Editors

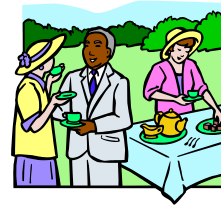
We hope to see you all at the Garden Party and BBQ (see below)

Jul + Sue

Copy date for the August Trident will be Sunday July 13th

Copy date for the September Trident will be Sunday Aug 10th

Copy date for the October Trident will be Sunday September 14th



Vicarage Garden Party

Saturday July 5th 3 - 5.30pm

Stalls * Raffle * Cream Teas

Followed by

Parish BBQ

From 6pm

(bring a salad, something to put on the BBQ and something to drink)



The opinions expressed in this magazine are those of the individual contributors and not necessarily those of the Church, the Vicar, the Editors or of the PCC. The editors reserve the right to edit items sent in for publication.

The photograph of Father Robert on page 3 is reproduced by kind permission of Stephen Brooks. www.stephenbrooksphotography.com

A Letter To Today, From Yesterday

Although in my 90th year I can, happily still remember the excitement of my **parents and fellow worshippers in the 'Little Tin Church' when it was** revealed that we were to have a new, impressive Church next door designed and built by dedicated experts for fervent Christians.

At the age of 9 (in August 1933) as a very junior member of the choir, one month after the foundation stone was laid, I began to believe it was all going to happen and though as a youngster, I had enjoyed the cosiness of a missionary base, the lure of a meaningful High Altar, Lady Chapel, Choir Stalls etc. and the enthusiasm and drive of Father H J Beck and his team ensured our earnest desire for instant completion.

My parents Fred and Dorothy Weymouth were active members of St Thomas for many years until father died in 1957, and my Mother later came to live with me and mine for the rest of her days in Hampshire. Among her possessions left to me when she died in 1983, were a few photographs of an 11 year old Norman Weymouth and other young children in the St Thomas Nativity Play in front of the High Altar, of which he had dreamed, in those far off days, and of his father too, Fred Weymouth in front of the High Altar (with and without beard!) playing his senior role in the play and no doubt keeping an eye on his own son the Shepherd Boy.

These memories of the doors that opened in 1934 to great opportunities for all who were there and the many who have come and, unfortunately gone, the richer for having taken part in the vital and successful development of St Thomas the Apostle, Hanwell

Long may it continue



Norman Weymouth

Brownies at Osterley Park

On the early May Bank Holiday Monday the Brownies met at Osterley Park for an afternoon of challenges and activities in the gardens. The challenges were part of the Big Brownie Birthday Challenge and among the things they did was to explore an area of woodland and to build a den. They also played on the rope swings, climbed up a tree to reach and ring the bell and also played on the adventure playground. We learned to recognise several trees and were lucky to be able to spot a variety of water birds including some baby ones. The girls also managed to try out some of the activities suggested by the National Trust in an initiative they have published called "100 Things To Do Before You Are 11 3/4"

The weather was great and we all had a wonderful afternoon of fun and learning.

After the resurrection.....

Around the year A.D. 46 King Gondophernes or Guduphara reigned over the part of Asia south of Himalayas now represented by Afghanistan, Baluchistan, the Punjab, and Sind, who bore the name. It is he, legend has it, who received St Thomas and heard the gospel.

On the other hand, though the tradition that St. Thomas preached in "India" was widely spread in both East and West and is to be found in the writings of those such as Ephraem Syrus, Ambrose, Paulinus, Jerome and, later, Gregory of Tours and others, it is still difficult to discover any adequate support for the long-accepted belief that St. Thomas pushed his missionary journeys as far south as Mylapore, not far from Madras, and there suffered martyrdom. In that region is still to be found a granite bas-relief cross with a Pahlavi (ancient Persian) inscription dating from the seventh century. The tradition that it was here that St. Thomas laid down his life is locally very strong.

Whatever, the validity of these stories it's certainly more probable than the incredulous suggestion that he pipped the pilgrim fathers to the post by 1600 years and preached in America.

These tales true or false tell us something very important; that someone written-off as a doubter ended up being claimed as their apostle, their first missionary. St Thomas is a great example of the true nature of faith, which sometimes wrestles, and sometimes rejoices.

St Thomas pray for us!

Fr. Robert



Organ Notes

It really is a privilege for me to have been asked **to become Music Director here at St Thomas's.** Our church has always had an enviable reputation in the area for its high quality of music, and the baton which has been passed to me carries a lot of weight. I have been most fortunate to have worked closely with Bev, whose musical training

and experience has been invaluable to me. He represents for me a link to a part of England's musical heritage which I love: namely the church choral tradition of the early 20th century, and I have learned a lot from working with him.

The choir continues to go from strength to strength. We have lost a few and we have gained a few. We will shortly be beginning a recruitment drive, so perhaps your musical talents (or those of someone you know) might be suited to the musical worship here at St Thomas. We are particularly fortunate to have a thriving Junior section to our Choir. Many far larger churches would give their eye teeth to have 12 dedicated young singers.

And how about the organ? Well, I can tell you that things are looking good, so much so that we had a meeting with the organ-builders a couple of weeks ago and have drawn up an exciting scheme of work. We will end up with a fabulous instrument, perfect for the regular liturgy of the Anglican church and ideal for recitals too. Watch this space!

And finally, thank you for the continued support which you as members of St Thomas give me on a weekly basis. I have played the organ in churches where I was regularly informed that I played too loudly or too quietly; too quickly or too slowly; or more frequently, played the wrong tune. Perhaps I do these things at St Thomas. If so, thank you for being remarkably forgiving on a regular basis. I look forward to a long and happy association with you.

Michael Mappin

HAVE A LAUGH!

Broken pencils are pointless.

I'm reading a book about anti-gravity. I can't put it down.

They told me I had type A blood, but it was a Type-O

Brownie Star Quest Day

On Saturday 24th May the Brownies joined with other Brownie units in the area in a special day to celebrate the Big Brownie Birthday (100 years of Brownies) We went to the Willow Tree Guide Centre in Harefield where we had a very busy day.

We began by making a rocket from paper which we launched using Tawny Owl's rocket launcher. They went a long way and as high as the big trees ! After that we made our Space sandwiches. There was so much to choose from to put in them and we cut them into star and rocket and alien shapes. We also made our dessert which had a space theme too.

After eating our Space Lunch we were then told of the afternoon's activities which involved completing challenges to gain stars. We were called upon by the Guiding Space agency to find the stars that had disappeared from the skies over New Zealand. We had to find them before the sun went down here or they might be missing for ever. Our challenges involved tunnelling our way through a maze, having races on space hoppers, conquering the obstacles of the Adventure Playground and several craft activities including making an alien in his flying saucer.

We successfully found the stars and then it was time for our barbecue tea. There was so much food to choose from and it was all very good ! The final part of the day was a campfire. We went and sat round a huge fire and sang some fun Guiding songs. All too soon it was time for our parents to pick us up. We were all awarded our Big Brownie Birthday Star Quest badge before we set off for home.

The Blackbird

He comes on chosen evenings,
My blackbird bountiful, and sings
Over the gardens of the town
Just at the hour the sun goes down.
His flight across the chimneys thick,
By some divine arithmetic,
Comes to his customary stack,
And couches there his plumage black,
And there he lifts his yellow bill,

Kindled against the sunset, till
These suburbs are like Dymock
woods
Where music has her solitudes,
And while he mocks the winter's
wrong
Rapt on his pinnacle of song,
Figured above our garden plots
Those are celestial chimney-pots.

John Drinkwater
1882-1937

A Night in the Life of a Street Pastor

I'm very new to this; only just been commissioned. I do find it difficult leaving the house at 10pm – usually the time I'm thinking about going to bed. And then coming home at 4am, when the birds are singing. Haven't done that since I was at Uni (not saying how long ago that was!).

What am I talking about? Being a Street Pastor. I go out once a month on a Friday night with a group of others and walk the streets of Ealing, Southall or Acton between 10.30pm and 3.30-4am. This might sound a little mad to you but here's the blurb from the website (www.ealing.streetpastors.co.uk):



And from the main website: Street Pastors is an inter-denominational Church response to urban problems, engaging with people on the streets to care, listen and dialogue. It was pioneered in London in January 2003 by Rev Les Isaac, Director of the Ascension Trust, and has seen some remarkable results, including drops in crime in areas where teams have been working. There are now some 9,000 trained volunteers in around 250 teams around the United Kingdom.

But, what does that mean for me on a Friday night? I arrive at the base at about 10.30pm, the Street Pastors and Prayer Pastors* have a chat, talk about what's happening that evening and pray. Then the Street Pastors go

*Prayer Pastors remain at base to pray while the Street Pastors go out on the streets.

out on their first patrol (about 11pm).

We might meet a guy walking home from a night-out, fall into conversation and he'll open up to us (we're strangers but we are there to listen and not to judge); he could talk about how he's got a good job but is pretty lonely, just moved to the area, about how he's worried he's an alcoholic, always going out with different sets of friends and drinking large amounts. We'll spend time chatting and sometimes offer a prayer – it is often accepted but never forced. Then he'll go on his way home.

We'll chat to the bouncers outside Club Karma or the Barracuda Bar; is it a busy evening, how are they doing? We'll talk to the people waiting in the queue, looking forward to a good night and a bit of a dance. We'll bump into a group of Iranians who've just been to a baptism of 14 people or to family and friends leaving a Muslim wedding, chatting with one of the guys about his aspirations to go off to Uni.

Then we head back to base about 1-2am, perhaps getting stopped on the way by a Sikh and talk for half an hour about our respective religions. We get to base, have a cup of tea and pray before heading out for our second patrol. The second patrol is often different in character, that bit later. This is the patrol when we meet the people leaving the night clubs; hand out bottles of water, flip-flops or help people to taxis, particularly the girls, keeping them safe from predatory males.

One of our teams, just as they were going off duty met a young guy who was homeless and didn't know where to go so was hanging around the police station. He was given an Ealing Street Pastor Card (with contact numbers and information). The next day our co-ordinator received a phone call from him asking for help. She then rang round to see what she could do. Eventually she rang him and told him to wait at the Police Station where she and her husband collected him and took him to the soup kitchen at St Paul's West Ealing. There she introduced him to Daphne who does the referrals to the Winter Night Shelter. Our co-ordinator heard on the Sunday that he had indeed been referred and that night (Saturday) he had been admitted to the winter night shelter for one month. He was a student who had just lost his way. With a month in a night shelter he could get some sleep and be able to get his life back on track.

Now, you might be thinking: why do you do it? For me, it's about being a Christian and being a Christian for me isn't just about going to

Cont....

Church on a Sunday, it's about my Mondays to Saturdays as well. And it's about showing the love of Christ to those about me – anybody, not just people I love and who love me (and then it's usually easy) but also complete strangers, sometimes the people who you might cross the street to avoid. But, on a Friday night I am given the privilege to spend my time caring for them, listening to them and, if I can, helping them. But I'm never out there alone; Street Pastors is very clear that we need to be kept safe and must always stay together.

I am really pleased to say that St Thomas's has been able to support the local Ealing Street Pastors through the mission fund for which I, and ESP, are very grateful. If anybody would like to find out more I am very happy to talk. Also, I am very happy to put you in contact with Ann (the ESP Co-ordinator) if you might be interested in being either a Street Pastor or Prayer Pastor.



An initiative of Ascension Trust though

Sophie Schuil-Brewer

If you think you are too small to make a difference,
try sleeping in a closed room with a mosquito
African Proverb

For those who speed on the road - a few hymns:

55 mph God Will Take Care of You

75 mph Nearer My God To Thee

85 mph This World Is Not My Home

95 mph Lord, I'm Coming Home

8th Hanwell Guides

The Guides recently chose between two new topical badges. One called "Ready Steady Glasgow" and one called "World Guiding Goes to Hong Kong" The girls each chose the one they would like to do and the unit was split almost evenly between them.

"Ready Steady Glasgow" has 3 areas to complete activities from

- 1) they had to learn about the Commonwealth - its countries and history
- 2) they had to take part in activities connected to Scotland
- 3) they had to complete a sporting challenge and raise some money for the Kelly Holmes Legacy trust. (This helps disadvantaged youngsters to take part in sports)

During meetings they have made shortbread, designed a pet Loch Ness Monster, played a game involving thistles, located commonwealth countries on a world map and completed a swimming challenge. They will also be doing a hockey, rugby, cycling, and basketball challenge in the weeks to come !

The "World Guiding Goes to Hong Kong" also has 3 areas to work on

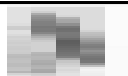
- 1) activities connected with Hong Kong
- 2) finding out about WAGGGS (World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts) as they are holding their triennial conference in Hong Kong this summer
- 3) learning a bit about what a conference is about and what it can do

During meetings the girls have painted their names in Chinese writing, played a game with chopsticks, found out about the 4 World Guiding Centres (in Switzerland, India, Mexico and London) made cheese fondue and chocolate fondue, made Mexican God's Eyes, learned some of the languages of conferences and held a discussion to decide how best to share out a bunch of grapes !

Brownies' Sainsbury's collection

The Brownies would like to say a big "Thank You" to all who have so kindly collected Sainsbury's vouchers for us. The shops are no longer giving them out but we have until the end of June to collect any outstanding coupons. We will be using the coupons to buy some cooking equipment for the Brownies and also to add to our collection of sports items.

Thanks again to all who have helped us



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POP-IN

POP- IN ON FRIDAYS

AT ST THOMAS'S CHURCH HALL
FROM 10.30AM TO 12 NOON

*COME FOR TEA, COFFEE, BISCUITS AND A CHAT
*MEET YOUR FRIENDS AND MAKE NEW ONES!
*STAY FOR TEN MINUTES OR THE MORNING!

July

4th - tea, coffee and cakes
11th - tea, coffee and cakes
18th - tea, coffee and cakes
25th - tea, coffee and cakes

The POP-IN is run by the Hanwell Neighbourly Care Scheme.

St Thomas 2015 Calendar

As a reminder of the fun we are having in our 80th Year I am planning on selling a 2015 calendar with photos of the church and some of its events

We now only have a few more weeks left to collect photos for the calendar.

We still need more - especially if you have any of the choir, the Caribbean Evening, Sunday School Nativity or the church garden party.

If you have a "real photograph" contact me and I will arrange to have it scanned

Please email your photos to
paulinesbritton@hotmail.com

The small print;

There will be no payment made for your photo

Please ensure there is no copyright on your photos

If your picture includes people make sure you have their permission to be photographed and put on the calendar.

Diary Dates



JUNE

28th Sat
29th Sun

Sara and Paul's Wedding.
2nd Sunday after Trinity

JULY

5th Sat
6th Sun

Garden Party 3-5.30pm and BBQ from 6pm
3rd Sunday after Trinity

St Thomas's Patronal Festival.

Rev'd Professor Alison Milbank to preach

13th Sun
29th Sun
27th Sun

4th Sunday after Trinity
5th Sunday after Trinity
6th Sunday after Trinity

AUGUST

3rd Sun
10th Sun
17th Sun
24th Sun
31st Sun

7th Sunday after Trinity
8th Sunday after Trinity
9th Sunday after Trinity
10th Sunday after Trinity
11th Sunday after Trinity

*Baby/Toddler
Group*

St Thomas' Hall

from

10.30am until
11.45am.

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