

50 Pence



April 2017

The Trident




The Parish Magazine of



Serving Hanwell and Beyond

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ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE
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CHURCH OF ENGLAND

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

SUNDAY

- 8.00 AM SAID EUCHARIST (BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER SERVICE)
10.00 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL (TERM TIME & NOT 2ND SUNDAY OF THE MONTH)
10.00 AM PARISH EUCHARIST
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

MORNING PRAYER

7.30 AM MONDAY TO FRIDAY (8.00 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

Ever since I can remember my youngest brother has loved *Playmobil* (*Playpeople* in old money). Like many childhood obsessions this has stayed with him, and

although I suspect he doesn't any longer lie on the

kitchen rug re-enacting the Battle of Wounded Knee he does still buy them. His passion I never shared (a Lego man myself), but he does still keep me abreast of developments in *Playmobil* including one which prompted a purchase by me. It appears that as well as the usual line-up of construction workers and pirates they do a fine line in the distinctly eccentric. Did you know that a young child can have hours of fun playing with Albrecht Durer and Rembrandt? I kid you not. And joy of joys this year 5 year olds the world over can recreate the birth of the Reformation with their very own Martin Luther *Playmobil* figure.

There is something wonderfully reassuring to know that a toy manufacturer **thinks it's a good idea to produce a sixteenth century dissident monk** clutching a quill pen and a thesis ranting about indulgences.

It is, of course, all in aid of marking the 500th **anniversary of Luther's seminal moment when he nailed his 95 Thesis to the door of All Saints' Church, Wittenberg.** That moment became a cause célèbre for a number of disenchanted people, and so kick-started the Reformation. Over the subsequent years too much blood was shed in the name of the Church, God and truth, but praise the God so misused and misquoted that things are different in the church now. Even the Pope has met with Lutheran leaders to forge closer links, which, when one considers the polemic of those early years, is testimony to the power of love and forgiveness over anger and rudeness.

To us in Hanwell, even if like me you're the proud owner of a *Playmobil* Martin Luther (see picture), all that Reformation and Post-Reformation ire may seem very removed from our lives, but we still live in a world that records those who shout loudest rather those who bring healing and reconciliation.

Our small exhibition this month from the wonderful Suburban Faith group is a reminder that despite, or perhaps because of, differences we can celebrate and affirm others. A small group meet for several Thursday afternoons, **including people from St Thomas', to share with others what they valued about their faith, and to 'mark' that by producing something which illustrates** its significance. If you have the time please do come and reflect on your own faith and life, and ask how it can helpfully benefit others in our community.

That seems to me a genuinely useful prayer, and one which may not see you characterized as a *Playmobil* figure in 500 years, but will help renew those around us.

Your friend and priest
Fr. Robert



Parish News

There are a few important things to flag-up over the next month or two, so pens at the ready.

You will see on page 6 of *The Trident* an article about the forth-coming Suburban Faith exhibition. Please do look out for that and come and see it. Also, do bring friends

and family along too.

I have also highlighted the Giving Campaign which will occupy our thoughts, prayers and action. These campaigns, as well as raising very much needed funds, powerfully remind us of the core question of why we are **here. We will be asking the question, “What if there was no St Thomas?”** It is well worth contemplating that, and then celebrating the impact we have on so many different areas.

One of the key objectives we have had for the mission of St Thomas’ has been to develop the musical life of the parish. In mid-March a Canadian School Choir had a masterclass with Paul Ayers and the LCM at **St Thomas’**. **On 4th** April at 8pm a concert will be given by students of the London College of Music. This concert will be given by the LCM String Ensemble. Also lined up is another concert from a cello and piano duo visiting from the USA.

They are the Murasaki Duo (<http://www.murasakiduo.com>) and are on a tour of Israel and Europe and are coming to us on May 28th in the afternoon. Further details will be given closer the time.

As well as exercising our musical faculties there will be the chance to... well just exercise. We have our Fun Run on Sunday 23rd April, so dig out the trainers and start stretching!

Finally, we have our own Lenten observances which include our

Passiontide Choral Devotion which is Faure's Requiem. This will happen on 2nd April at 6.30pm. Again, in these final Lenten days do avail yourself of extra devotions so that you may, more fully, experience the journey of Christ to the Cross.



Thinking Day 2017 – a Girlguiding celebration

February 22nd is known by Guides, Brownies and Rainbows throughout the World as Thinking Day. It was the joint birthday of our founders Lord and Lady Baden Powell. On this day we celebrate the fact that Girlguiding can be found in 146 countries and we usually have a special meeting to celebrate the international aspect of our movement as well as to learn a little about how it all began.

The groups at St Thomas' all got together on Monday 20th and held a meeting which was based on the country of Kenya. We chose this as we decided we would support a group of Girlguiding leaders from South West England, who will be visiting Kenya in August this year. They will be visiting a slum area of Nairobi where they will be helping to improve the lives of some of the people who live there. They will be taking out a huge variety of things including clothes, stationery, baby essentials, toys and items which will help girls to learn a trade e.g. hairdressing or sewing equipment.

The Guides planned the activities based on a challenge badge put out by the S.W. England leaders. This included making a passport, making an animal mask, learning a few words in Swahili, tasting foods from Kenya, learning the importance of clean water and listening to a traditional story. The Rainbows and Brownies wandered around taking part in whatever activities they chose to do. Another Thinking Day tradition that was also upheld was the renewing of our Promises. This was done by all sections – an important part of remembering who we are.

All girls who took part were given the Africa Badge. If you see the girls in **uniform I'm sure they will be only too pleased to show you the badge and** tell you about their evening.

Bev

'My life is but a weaving'

Arts Installation at St Thomas' Church 19-23rd April 2017

'My life is but a weaving' is an arts installation created by artist Katy Beinart in collaboration with a group of women from Ealing and Hanwell, including parishoners from St Thomas', who participated in an inter-faith embroidery project in the summer of 2016. The embroidery project brought together local women of diverse faith backgrounds (Christian, Hindu, Sikh, Muslim and Jewish) who met at St Thomas' Church hall on Thursday afternoons in June and July 2016. Katy asked participants to contribute to a shared textile 'map' of Ealing producing individual pieces which drew on their own faith traditions in language and images. The sewing workshops were a wonderful space of inspiration and collaboration in which embroidery skills were shared alongside stories about family, home and migration. The arts installation showcases the beautiful individual pieces of embroidery within a wider work which weaves together individual narratives into a collective story of place, faith and home.

The installation and embroidery project are part of the academic research project **'Making Suburban Faith'** which is funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council. This project is exploring the creativity of suburban faith communities through a case study based in Ealing and Hanwell.

The exhibition opens with a private view for the participants on Tuesday 19th April at 3pm. It will then be open daily from 11-6pm. There will be a talk about the project on Saturday 22nd April at 2pm at the church and on Sunday 23rd April at 11.15, after the morning service.



Members of the group showing their finished pieces
(Photo: Laura Cuch, 2016)

St. Thomas' Junior Choir



Hello,

For those of you who don't know, my name is Esther and I have been running the Junior Choir here at St. Thomas' for a few months now. I thought I would write a little bit about how the choir are doing and what plans we have for the next few months.

I'm pleased to say that the Juniors have done a marvellous job so far. It has been a pleasure teaching them and working with them on a Friday evening. We have had some new members joining us which has been lovely and lots of returning members. Everyone is very enthusiastic and the children's confidence has grown so much. They have sung the introit for Sunday services and plan to do a lot more in the coming months.

We are planning on setting up a series of monthly concerts in the church and **we can't wait to have the Juniors performing in them.**

If you or anyone you know would like to join the Junior Choir here is the information you need to know:

Time: 6pm-7.15pm on Fridays and 10am-11am on Sundays

Location: **St. Thomas' Church Hanwell**

Age: For children in Year 6- Year 11

For more details,

contact Esther Matthews (Junior Choir Leader):

juniorchoir@thomashanwell.org.uk

If you would like to join the Senior Choir here is the information you need to know:

Time: 7pm-8.15pm on Fridays and 10am-11am on Sundays

Location: **St. Thomas' Church Hanwell**

Age: All ages welcome

For more details,

contact Ed Cooke (Director of Music):

choir@thomashanwell.org.uk

Hope to see you there,

Esther

Greetings from Cambridge.....

Writing this at the start of March I am nearing the end of my second term at theological college; rather dauntingly nearly a third of the way through this part of my training! My second term has been as intense as the first.

At the start of the year I went on a social context placement to a hospice in Cambridge. I initially spent two days in the In-Patient Unit and at the Day Therapy centre to help orientate myself before returning at the end of January for five shifts over the course of one week. It is a truly inspiring and positive place to have been able to undertake my placement. One of the challenges with such a placement was that I was of course learning but also I was fully conscious that the people I met were not characters in a role play but those who needed care and sensitive ministry. The chaplain at the hospice was excellent in supporting me in handling this challenge. As part of the placement I have also attended several lectures concerning chaplaincy in hospitals and hospices which covered a number of topics including understanding where God is in such a ministry and how we try to live with loss, bereavement and death. I came away from my placement with huge respect for the professionalism and care that I saw in all the staff and volunteers at the hospice. Meeting with the patients was truly significant for me; I knew I was walking on holy ground.

Throughout the term I have also continued my Sunday placement at **Queens' College Chapel. Each time I attend choral evensong there I feel so** blessed to be able to attend a college chapel with such an excellent choir. I am most definitely developing my love for choral music.

On Ash Wednesday I led choral evensong at Queens, which rather **terrifyingly required me to sing the priest's parts of the responses with the** choir singing the rest of those prayers. Having never sung in public before **this was quite an experience; I can't vouch for the quality of my pitch but the** words were sung clearly enough that people could understand them! As it was Ash Wednesday the service did not follow the usual pattern and the Dean at Queens allowed me to design the liturgy (order of service), with his very capable guidance. I found designing the service very enjoyable; endeavouring to create a pattern of prayers and readings in which those attending could be given the space to help them reflect and pray in preparation for Lent. Leading the service also meant I was able to wear, for the first time, my new cassock which I bought with the very generous gift

given to me by St Thomas'; thank you to all at St Thomas' for such a special gift which will serve me well throughout my ministry.

Academically this second term has been, and continues to be, very busy. I have had 13 essays and essay plans to complete; the majority are in preparation for supervision sessions and revision for exams but four are directly assessed so are rather crucial. The range of topics that they cover is quite vast. I started the term working on an essay about liberation theology in the context of the Dalit people in India. I have also worked on New Testament topics such as considering what we can learn from reading the first three canonical Gospels in parallel (the gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke) and whether Jesus thought of himself as the Messiah. Both excellent topics in helping me engage more in reading the Gospels. My next essay plan will be considering St. Paul.

In Christian doctrine I have already undertaken a fascinating essay **considering how dangerous, or not, Darwin's theory of evolution by natural selection is for Christian belief** (I got rather carried away with this one and spent far too long on the reading but I received good feedback!). This week I need to work on an essay plan discussing the statement: **"Adequate explanations of the problem of evil are neither possible nor necessary"**. **This afternoon I had my supervision for a Church history** essay asking what caused the popularity of ascetic (monastic) practices in the third and fourth centuries. I continue to be truly grateful for the privilege I have been given to learn such wide ranging and fascinating subjects; I never knew I could take on so much more information!

I have been growing more and more accustomed to community life at Westcott House as well. I was very excited at the start of term to join the Westcott House choir. It is lovely to be able to sing with others and I am learning about how much work is involved. Yesterday evening I had my second shift tending the Westcott House bar; I am still very much a novice and need very clear instructions about the orders for beer (the wine and G&Ts are much easier!)

I will be coming back to Hanwell over the first weekend in April so do hope to catch up with you all in person on 2nd April.

Many blessings, Sophie

What is



A couple of weeks ago those of us on the working party for our Giving Campaign met to talk about it. What was interesting was the confusion **around, and worrying implications of, the word 'stewardship'.**

Stewardship is the phrase always bandied around in the church with regard to giving, but what does it mean?

Simply, Christian Stewardship means using our:



in love for each other and God and his creation.

How much of each of those three we give will vary according to our circumstances, and it is important that they are seen as elements to make us more fulfilled and *not* sticks to beat ourselves up with.

Over the next few weeks you will hear a lot about stewardship, particularly in **connection to the 'treasure' aspect as that is what is immediately confronting** us. However, do not forget the time and talent elements especially coming out of the reflections of Lent.

If you would like to know more please speak to me, it really is a joy exploring this way of life.

Fr. Robert

All Good things Must come to an end
 Well almost
 For some time I have been collecting coffee lids and refill packs for recycling. These are no longer being collected by Terracycle so we will not get any money for them.
 I can still collect
 biscuit wrappers
 Tassimo pods
 And Ellas kitchen baby food pouches

The last collection date for coffee packets is 1st April so after that date please do not put these items in the church collection boxes
 Many thanks
 Pauline

Terracycle recycling for Organ Fund
 We are still collecting
 Tassimo pods
 Biscuit wrappers
Ella's kitchen baby
 food pouches & lids



Find out more at www.terracycle.co.uk

What do you call a chocolate bunny that was out in the sun too long?
 A runny bunny.



Thank you for your support.
 Please continue to give by providing any of these items in one of the green Foodbank collection boxes situated inside the church porches.
 The revised list of items needed:
 Savoury paste (chicken, beef, tuna, salmon etc), spaghetti in tomato sauce, noodles, savoury biscuits, baby food, nappies (any size).
 Thank you.



Which day do chickens hate the most?
 Good Fry-day!

How many faces?

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Copy Dates!

Copy date for the May magazine
will be Sunday 9th April
Copy date for the June magazine
will be Sunday 14th May

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.

How do angels greet each
other at Easter?
They say, 'Halo'.

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Diary Dates



MARCH
26th Sun

4th Sunday of Lent
Mothering Sunday

APRIL
Sat 1st

Churches Together in Hanwell prayer
meeting at St Christopher's Church 10-11

Sun 2nd

Passion Sunday Choral
Devotion — **Faure's Requiem 6:30pm**

Sun 9th

Palm Sunday

Thur 13th

Maundy Thursday

Fri 14th

Good Friday

Sun 16th

Easter Day

Sun 23rd

2nd Sunday of Easter

St Thomas' Fun Run 2pm

Sun 30th

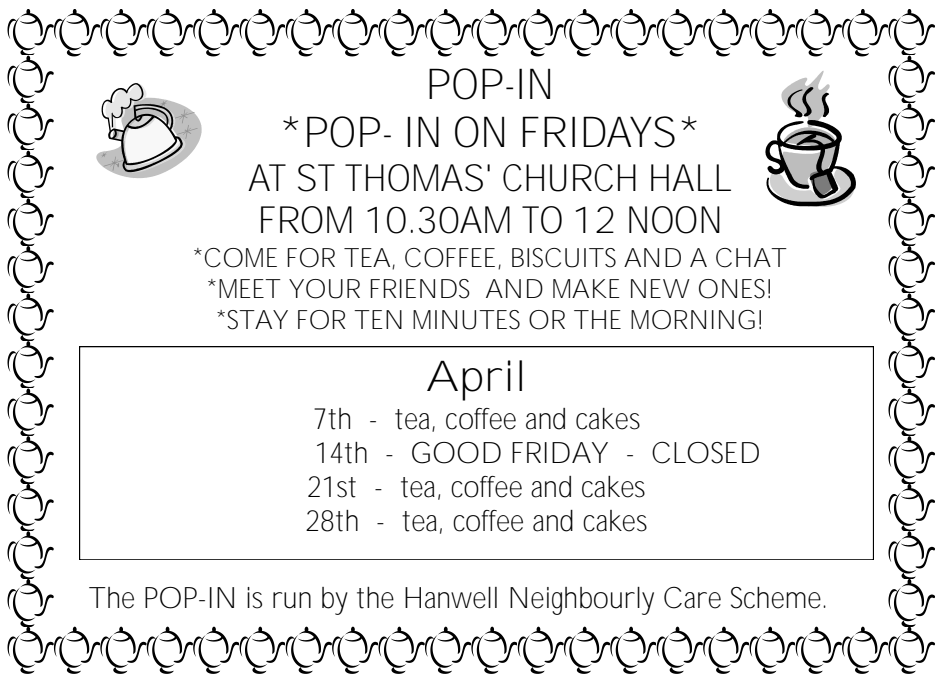
3rd Sunday of Easter

*Baby/Toddler
Group
St Thomas' Hall
On Wednesdays from
10.30am until
11.45am.
All are welcome.
Free.*

MAY

Sat 6th

Churches Together in Hanwell



POP-IN

POP- IN ON FRIDAYS

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April

7th - tea, coffee and cakes

14th - GOOD FRIDAY - CLOSED

21st - tea, coffee and cakes

28th - tea, coffee and cakes

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

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