



St Michael  
and All Angels  
Parish Church  
of  
Amersham-on-the-Hill

Please take one

# Newsletter

JULY 2022

It's  
Free!

## Celebrating The Queen's Platinum Jubilee



On Sunday June 6 the church was be-decked with Union Jacks as we celebrated the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. At the end of the Pentecost service the congregation gathered in the Sanctuary to be photographed by Rob Oades, before we drank to the Queen's health in the approved manner..

Rob himself was a kind of walking, breathing Union Jack but modestly he omitted to send us the photo with himself centre stage.

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9.30 am – 12.30 pm)

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The Revd Peter Binns

[peter.binns166@btinternet.com](mailto:peter.binns166@btinternet.com)



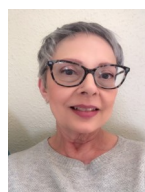
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## St Michael's Vision Statement

*As a Christian community, we seek to engage with the world around us and to be a place of welcome and acceptance for all on a journey to God – believers, doubters and those who are seeking.*

The opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Vicar or the PCC or the official policy of St Michael's Church.

***The Newsletter is published monthly (except January and August).***

**The next issue will appear on Sunday August 29. Material for inclusion should please be emailed to the Editor on [pbrune@olcs.net](mailto:pbrune@olcs.net) by August 17.**



## COMMENT

### They Were Exciting Times

The diocese of Southwark was where it was at in the 1960s. The Bishop of Southwark, Mervyn Stockwood, had radical political views which he wasn't shy of expressing. He was the 'socialist bishop' but he also seemed to see himself as something of a 'prince-bishop' – the congregation were expected to bow low as he processed into the cathedral.

The Bishop of Woolwich was John Robinson, a distinguished theologian. His book on the Gospel of John was the standard work on the subject. But he published a book called *Honest to God*, which challenged us to re-think all the traditional metaphors used to describe God. He was a shy and gentle man who I suspect was somewhat taken aback by the furore the book aroused. He was depicted in the press as 'the atheist bishop'. Many of the people in the pews found the book deeply disturbing but for some of us, at least, the book was profoundly liberating. It suggested we need not meekly accept all the traditional formulations of the church but were allowed to think for ourselves, to develop a faith that made sense in the modern world. It was OK to doubt.

And then there was the dean ( in Southwark the dean of the cathedral is known as the provost). Ernie Southcott was an exuberant, larger-than-life Canadian, who had made his name as a vicar in Yorkshire. His book about his ministry there, *The Parish Comes Alive*, had been extremely influential, introducing to the wider church the concept of small house groups.

One evening I was asked by a friend of mine who ran the Bede House settlement in Southwark to attend a small discussion group. Ernie Southcott was there and every time he spoke, which was frequently, his powerful voice dominated the small room in which we met. He flung his arms about wildly, threatening to decapitate the people either side of him. He was indeed massive, physically and as a personality, but also in terms of his influence on the church as a whole.

Yes, it was exciting (if sometimes dangerous) times in the diocese of Southwark back in the 1960s.

**Ken Prideaux-Brune**

## Join in Plastic July!

Joy Johns describes the nationwide campaign to raise awareness and help bring about positive change.

One of the great benefits of plastic is that it doesn't break down. But – as we know – this is one of its greatest drawbacks. **Up to 12.7 million tonnes of plastic is ending up as waste in the ocean each year – and is having a devastating effect on wild life.** Plastic can take 500 years or more to break down, and it degrades into micro-plastics which are now entering the ocean food chain with, as yet, unknown effects on human health.

To solve the plastic pollution crisis, **we need to reduce the production and consumption of non-essential single-use, throwaway and polluting plastic.** In Amersham,

**many people are trying to make a difference. Here are some ways to help:**

Local voluntary organisation, **Sustainable Amersham** is working to help Amersham achieve Plastic Free status by 2025, engaging with community groups and businesses to raise awareness and reduce waste.

**A charity (Medic to Medic)** raises money to support healthcare workers in Africa by collecting hard to recycle items at various locations (including the yellow bin outside the Free Church). Items are then sent for specialist recycling to Terracycle.

**Amersham Town Council is involved in or-**



*Clara and Daniel Galloway with the recycling bin for pens in St Michael's narthex.*

**ganising some collection points. St Michael's is pleased to be one of these.**

You may have noticed recycling bins in the narthex for pens and pringle tubes. Other specialist collection points are listed below. *(Please feel free to cut the list out to keep)*

### WHERE YOU CAN RECYCLE PLASTIC/REDUCE WASTE IN AMERSHAM

**HARD/RIGID PLASTICS –Buckinghamshire Council Blue bin collection**

**SOFT PLASTICS –Marks and Spencer's and Tesco's in Old Amersham** have containers to take soft plastic for **recycling inside** the front of their stores. **WHAT ARE SOFT PLASTICS?** – cling film, crisp packets, fruit, salad and veg bags and nets, wrapping from mags or clothing etc, plastic carrier bags, bread bags, pet food pouches, peelable thin film lids (all must be clean). No compostable bags, polystyrene

Plastic Writing implements	St Michaels	
Pringle Tubes	St Michaels	
Toothpaste Tubes and toothbrush heads	Specsavers	
Light Bulbs	Robert Dyas	
Marigold gloves Ferrero Roche boxes	Post Office	
Hangers	Amersham Dry cleaners, Bluebell Dry cleaners	
Glasses and contact lenses	Boots Optician	
Batteries	The Entertainer, M&S, Waitrose, Superdrug, Boots, Robert Dyas, WH Smith	
Unused Medicines Used blister packs	Boots Superdrug Pharmacy – Eden Centre, HW)	
Shoes and boots	Clarks	
Toys	The Entertainer	
Various Make up items	Brendan O'Sullivan Hair	
Children's clothes	Jolo Maman Bebe	



# HS2 Support Hall Refurbishment

## Alan Jarvis outlines the project

Over the past 9 months, I have been putting together an application to HS2 which will enable an upgrade to our Church Hall. The project has now been accepted and funding will be released during the project's progress. All the elements are planned to take place before the end of 2022:

To change the various types of lighting systems inside and outside the Hall to LED with the aim to be "net zero carbon".

To install 2 electrical car charging points in the Hall car park

To insert a new door in the Glover Room (inside the Hall building)

To provide improved disabled and child friendly access

A door to provide an extra emergency exit

To provide a wheelchair ramp and pram ramp to the car park

To install handrails on either side of the ramp

To install some paving outside to create a flat surface (avoiding trips)

To provide a canopy over the new ramp to keep the weather out.

To provide a covered buggy park outside the Hall

To completely refurbish the Hall floor.

To replace the double "fire doors" in the Hall, the single "fire door" in the Servedy and also the main entrance "double doors".

To change the hot water supplied to the toilets and kitchens to electric water heaters. This is currently provided by gas boilers.

To create a new community garden facility with seating/ planters and hand rails which will alleviate issues in the Square with the step.

Adding a new access point to the Glover Room will provide users (who currently struggle to manoeuvre their push chairs, prams, buggies and those with disabilities up a fairly steep step with ninety degree turns down a narrow corridor), with a gentle ramp directly into the room from our car park. We will also provide a covered "buggy" park.

A recent evaluation in March 2021 by our church architect, recommended replacing all the interior and exterior lighting on the Hall with LEDs, aiming towards being "net zero". The lighting systems that we have vary across each area of

the building and our aim is to upgrade where necessary to all being LED. In support of net zero, we will include two "electric car charging points" in our car park to encourage electric car use.

The water is currently heated by a gas boiler which is sited a very long way from all the taps in the toilets and kitchen areas. Currently, a hot water tap is turned on, and users rarely wait around to experience the heated water. This will save on wasted water and gas to heat the water.

To create a "community garden" with public seating, using recycled plastics for the planters and seating. The aim is to provide a new garden area in the public area in the front of our site. creating a green garden space which can attract wild life while providing a relaxing, environment for the public. The community of Amer-sham has similar planters along the main shopping area and our aim is to enhance this with seating, providing a place to rest and ponder.

Funding from HS2 is to provide 75% of the required total funding of just under £75,000. A few very supportive members of St Michael's have contributed the remaining 25% which is enabling the project to go ahead.

**This upgrade to our Community Hall will enable our current users to continue to use the premises, while incorporating enhancements that will future-proof the Hall for the next 20 years.**



# It's Time For The First World *Peace*

An extract from the powerful address given by Detliv, who teaches English at a secondary school in Gelsenkirchen, Germany, at the opening of a new exhibition at Talbot House in Poperinge, Belgium, on June 11 2022.

On special events like today I wear my grandfather's shoes which are more than 50 years old. He served as an infantryman in the Great War.

He had a crippled left hand because of an injury he had suffered in WW1. Within the family he kept telling different stories to explain its origins such as "I waved at some French soldier, and the next thing I knew a grenade splinter shot clean through my hand".

His death on June 11 1991 and the mystique surrounding his injured hand prompted my personal and school interest in creating peace initiatives. Today I am wearing his shoes to complete the circle which involved my family in two world conflicts in different ways. My father was trained to become a pilot, my grandfather's brother became a victim of Nazi euthanasia, suffering from epilepsy.

I made best friends with an English WW2 veteran whilst working as a kitchen porter at the Pontins holiday camp in Weymouth, England in 1979. His name was Frank Stirzaker. When Frank met my grandfather, WW1 veteran, for the first time he asked my grandfather "Have you ever been to England before?" With a pointed index finger his answer was "Almost, almost, but your naval guns did not let us." That definitely broke the ice and they were soon roaring with laughter. I knew instantly that veterans of war are able to develop a mutual understanding for one another, disregarding on which side they had fought. How many encounters along these lines have happened at Talbot House?

Later I learned that although they were very talkative men, both of them were traumatized, suffering from nightmares that made them

speechless with regard to the horrors they had witnessed.

Whilst on a recent visit to Berlin I purchased this postcard (holding it up) with the following self-explanatory inscription: "Wie wärs mit dem Ausbruch des ersten Weltfriedens?" (What about the outbreak of the First World Peace?) It really made me think!

**Please remain confident. Right now, peace-loving, open-hearted and determined people are more important than ever.**

## Our Lent Appeal

**Madeline Cole, the Treasurer of Friends of St Anne's Hospital, Liuli, reports that they received £3,775 as a result of our Lent appeal. This is, she says, "a magnificent result. Thank you so much."**

### Activities in August

Tuesday	Aug 2	LUNCH BREAK Free Church. 1.10 pm
Wednesday	Aug 3	Nappy Days. 1.30—3 pm
Friday	Aug 5	Pop in and Paint 10.30 am-12.15 pm
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Aug 7</b>	<b>Trinity 8 Warden: Andy Connor (723561)</b>
Tuesday	Aug 9	LUNCH BREAK Free Church. 1.10 pm
Wednesday	Aug 10	Nappy Days. 1.30—3 pm
Friday	Aug 12	Craft Cuppa. 10.30 am—12.30 pm
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Aug 14</b>	<b>Trinity 9 Warden: Claire Sinclair (07591 954701)</b>
Tuesday	Aug 16	LUNCH BREAK Free Church. 1.10 pm
Wednesday	Aug 17	Nappy Days. 1.30—3 pm
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Aug 21</b>	<b>Trinity 10 Warden: Roger Leslie (726362)</b>
Tuesday	Aug 23	LUNCH BREAK Free Church. 1.10 pm
Wednesday	Aug 24	Nappy Days. 1.30—3 pm
Tuesday—	Saturday Aug 23-27	Amersham Photographic Society Exhibition
Friday	Aug 26	Craft Cuppa. 10.30 am—12.30 pm



**St Michael and All Angels  
Amersham-on-the-Hill**

**DIARY**

**JULY 2022**

**Eucharists will be celebrated each week**  
**Sundays 8.30 am and 10 am**  
**Tuesdays 10.30 am**

The church is open for private prayer from 10 am until 4 pm Monday to Friday. The votive candle stand has been moved into the Lady Chapel, which has been set aside as a place of quiet.

The following link, [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC-KJtHzLo0w2CM6RQI\\_50yg](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC-KJtHzLo0w2CM6RQI_50yg) will access live-streamed services.

**Weekly Activities in the Hall**

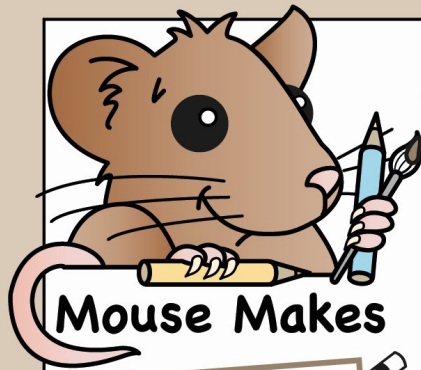
Mondays	Mature Movers. 1.45—2.45 pm (term time only)
	Dance Studio. Hall. Children from 3+. Afternoon/Evening. (term time only)
Tuesdays	Tuffney Performing Arts Academy. 4.30 pm (term time only)
	Yoga classes 6 pm
Wednesdays	Karate Club. Hall. Beginners/Junior 6 —7 pm. Intermediate/Senior 7—8 pm
Thursdays	Dance Studio. Hall. Children from 3+. Afternoon/Evening.
Fridays	Stay Steady, Stay Strong.. Hall. 1.30—2.30 pm
	Karate Club. Hall 7 —8.pm

**Other activities in July**

Friday	July	1	Pop in and Paint. 10.30 am—12.30 pm
Saturday	July	2	Repair café. North transept. 10 am—1 pm (for repair of small electrical items and textiles)
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>July</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>Thomas the Apostle. Warden: Claire Sinclair (07591 954701)</b>
Tuesday	July	5	LUNCH BREAK Free Church. 1.30 pm
Wednesday	July	6	Nappy Days. 1.30—3 pm
Friday	July	8	Craft Cuppa. 10.30 am—12.30 pm
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>July</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>Trinity 4 Gathered Round. Warden: Hazel Miller (773189)</b> <b>Traidcraft stall after 10 am service.</b>
Tuesday	July	12	LUNCH BREAK Free Church. 1.30 pm
Wednesday	July	13	Nappy Days. 1.30—3 pm
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>July</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>Trinity 5 Warden: Roger Leslie (726362)</b>
Tuesday	July	19	LUNCH BREAK Free Church. 1.30 pm
Wednesday	July	20	Nappy Days. 1.30—3 pm
Friday	July	22	Craft Cuppa. 10.30 am—12.30 pm
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>July</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>Trinity 6 Warden: Roland Gillott (722674)</b>
Tuesday	July	26	LUNCH BREAK Free Church. 1.30 pm
Wednesday	July	27	Nappy Days. 1.30—3 pm



# Children & Families Page



## Mouse Makes

Cross out all the X  
to find the bible verse:

NXOXWXTXHXERXEXA  
 XRXEXMXAXNXYYOXT  
 XHXEXRXTXHXIXNXGX  
 SXTXHXAXTXJXEXSXU  
 XSXDIXDX.WXEXRXEXE  
 XVXEXRXYXONXEXOXFX  
 TXHXEXMXTXOXBEXXW  
 XRXIXTXEXNX,IXSXU  
 XPXPXOXSXETHXAXTX  
 TXHXEXWXOXRXLXDXI  
 TXSXEXLXFXCXOXUXLD  
 XNXOXTXCXOXNXTXAI  
 XNXTXHXEXBOXOXKXS  
 TXHXAXTXWXOXULX  
 DBXEXWXRIXTXTXEXN  
 X.JXOXHXNX2X1X:2X5X

What did Jesus turn  
water into?



John 2:1-11

Who's mother-in-law  
did Jesus heal?

Matthew 8:14-15



DID YOU KNOW?

Jesus fed thousands  
of people from a  
few loaves and fish,  
... not once but twice!



READ  
Matthew 14:13-21  
AND  
Matthew 15:32-39

In each story...  
How many loaves  
and how many fish  
did Jesus have?

How many people  
were fed?

How many baskets of  
broken pieces were  
left over?



How did Jesus get out  
to the disciples  
in the boat?



Matthew 14:22-27

Who did Jesus raise  
from the dead?

John 11:38-44



How long had the  
woman at the synagogue  
been disabled?

— years

What did she do after  
she was healed?

Luke 13:10-13



Who did Jesus  
heal when his ear  
was cut off?

Luke 22:47-51

DID YOU KNOW?

There  
are over

37

miracles of Jesus  
recorded in the Gospels.

How many of them  
do you know?

F A L S H B J O H E A L E D  
 I S T T W L W M I R A C L E  
 S P G O A I I D E A F A I M  
 H E A R T N N Y J I S S W O  
 C A L M E D E A D S I T A N  
 K K P A R A L Y S E D O L S  
 M U L T I P L I E D E U K T  
 J E S U S I C K E M U T E W

Find these words  
in the word search

JESUS • MIRACLE

DEAF • HEAR • BLIND • SEE

PARALYSED • WALK • SICK

HEALED • DEAD • RAISED

MUTE • SPEAK • DEMONS

CAST OUT • STORM

CALMED • WATER • WINE

FISH • MULTIPLIED