# ST JOHN THE DIVINE BROOKLANDS · SALE



## 40p July/August 2018



Summer is upon us, although based on past years maybe it has been and gone. In common with usual practice there will be no August magazine so keep this one and read it twice. (That's before you pass it on to somebody else of course.)

This edition carries much that has become familiar. Our archive from 1918 shows how St John's and the local community contributed to the war effort. A companion piece tells how the war was finally turning in favour of the Allies. We know, of course, that the Armistice was still over four months away but it would, at last, be over by Christmas.

Sadly, violent death didn't end in 1918 and a short piece reports on the commemorations of the Arena bombing of a year ago. More happily though we are reminded of holidays gone and to come. If you do visit a church while you are away do please send an account into the magazine; and take a spare copy of it to leave behind. The usual lame jokes and visuals are included for your amusement and even the chance of a prize!

Richard explains how the Mission Action Planning might focus itself as we look forward to setting a course for St John's after the holidays.

If you are going away over the next two months, have fun and travel safe. See you all in September.

The Editor

brooklandsmag@gmail.com

### **Richard writes...**

Well it went with a splash! Last month St John's hosted the Deanery Confirmation service at which eight candidates were confirmed, four of which were from St John's. Congratulations to Abby, Daniel, Eva, and Sophie! Before being confirmed Eva was also baptized in a baptism pool we'd borrowed for the occasion. This was, I am told, a first for the deanery...but not the last! The service was very moving and it



was lovely to see so many smiling faces afterwards!! It has been a joy to help, along with Janet one of our Assistant Wardens, to prepare these young people for baptism, confirmation, and communion. The Youth Alpha material we used was excellent and although now Abby, Daniel, Eva, and Sophie are at the end of the process of Christian Initiation, their journey has just begun as they continue to grow in their faith and put it into practice: #loveandserve.



Recently I received a letter from David Walker, Bishop of Manchester, in which he mentioned three very important letters: MAP. These stand for Mission Action Plan and the idea is simply that each parish has a clear plan for missionary activity, and this plan is put into action.

Over the past few months I have been reading *What Makes Churches Grow* by Bob Jackson which has some fascinating insights: the most helpful chapters I read were intending to grow, inviting to grow,

planting to grow, changing to grow, and spending to grow. What struck me most was his parable on pages 74-75 at the start of Part 2: 'What is working on the ground today?' He invites us to answer the question: 'is St John's a magic roundabout or a gospel train?'

You may remember the TV show *Magic Roundabout* and the various characters. Jackson writes, 'A **magic roundabout church** is one that trundles thoughtlessly around the church's year. If it is Christmas the church will 'do' Christmas, by which is meant repeating as exactly as possible what was done last year...When it is Mothering Sunday the daffodils will be provided as normal, there will be three hours at the cross on Good Friday because that is what you are supposed to do, everyone will look after their customary stall for the Spring Fayre, and the Harvest Supper will be the usual pea and pie'. In other words, 'the church's life is not planned with the future in mind, it is composed of endlessly replicating the past. There is no need to make any decisions. Without strategy, intentionality or debate, the magic roundabout church goes through the motions, its strength gradually waning and its relevance gradually disappearing'.

The opposite is a **gospel-train church**; in this type of church 'the members take stock of where they are, assessing what the church is like and what it does. Then they catch a vision of where they want to be - of what God is calling them to be and do. Once the gospel-train church knows where it is and where it wants to get to, it will develop a travel plan. It will lay railway lines, get up a head of steam and move along intentionally to the destination.'

A MAP or Mission Action Plan is a really helpful way for us to make sure that St John's is a gospel-train church travelling the line we've constructed into the future. In order to help us grow as a gospel-train church we need to have a vision which sets the direction and this is why we're having our Parish Vision Day on 15<sup>th</sup> September. This will be a fantastic opportunity to worship together and pray and discuss where God wants us to be in 10 years time! Please keep this day in your prayers and put it in your diary.

I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God has been making it grow. So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God, who makes things grow.

1 Corinthians 3:6-7

Richard





#### **Gorgeous Green**

One of the joys of summer is the explosion of green everywhere, even in cities. Dark green pine trees, soft green grass for picnics, tender green leaves that get darker through the summer.

Next time you're out and about as a family, see how many different green things you can count, and maybe even collect a few things to take home and press inside a heavy book. Pressed leaves and flowers can make beautiful pictures. You can even use them to create home-made cards for birthdays and other celebrations.

Summer is a wonderful time for planting too. Try planting seeds or bulbs with your child to see how they can grow when they're fed and watered. Amaryllis bulbs grow fast and have beautiful big flowers, which children will love. If you want to grow something to eat, why not try rocket, which can be harvested as soon as four weeks after planting?

Your local church will probably feature a lot of green fabric over the summer. During this time, Christians just get on with growing in our life with God, like the plants are doing. And like the plants, to grow, we need feeding spiritually. Praying is a great way to feed our growing faith.

Long summer days and nights can be a good time for prayers. Start with something as simple as saying thank you to God for something you're really grateful for, or asking for God's peace at bedtime each night.

These are three examples of simple prayers you could try:

#### Saying Thank You:

God the Father, who made us, we thank you. God the Son, who saved us, we thank you. God the Spirit, who holds us in love, we thank you. God, who is everywhere, thank you for being you.

#### Bedtime:

God, who is like a mother hen watching over her chicks, Keep me under your warm wings as I sleep. Send me good dreams. And help me wake up ready for another day.

#### Prayer for God's help:

Father God, sometimes I am scared. Sometimes I am worried. Sometimes I need help. Sometimes people I love have problems. Please be with me and help me, Like shepherds caring for sheep.

### From the Archive

### The first marriage ceremony at St John's

The first marriage ceremony at St John's took place on 23<sup>rd</sup> July 1868 when 49 year old widower Samuel Brooke, married 36 year old widow Alice Paton. The register records the profession of Samuel as coal merchant.

After their marriage Samuel and Alice lived at Beech Cottage in Marsland Road with son Richard, from Samuel's previous marriage, and daughters Lucy and Harriet from Alice's first marriage. Some time later they left the area, as the 1881 census records Samuel and Alice living in Wetherby with Lucy and Harriet.

Samuel died in 1882 aged 63, and Alice returned to Sale and took up residence in Washway Road with her widowed daughter Lucy. She lived with Lucy until her death in 1915, aged 83.

Mike Lawrence



### From the July 1918 Magazine

The Flower Service.-The gifts of flowers and fruit will this year be sent to the Parish of S. James the Less, Ancoats, for distribution by our friend, the Rev. James Ashcroft. Gifts of plants are very much appreciated. The offerings of money from the children will also be forwarded to the Rector to enable him to send a little girl, named mary Fores, to Southport for a change of air. She is one of a family of five motherless children whose father is away on active service.

The All Day Working Party proved a great success, the material being ample and a large number of capable workers present.

The number of articles sent to O.M.S. House, London, was nearly 1,000 representing about £22 worth of material made up.

War Service.- It affords us great pleasure to take this opportunity to congratulate Miss Lomax on the award that has been made to her by the King whereby she becomes a Member of the Order of the British Empire.

As Commandant of the Linden Lea Auxiliary Hospital since 1914 she has shown a high organising ability and an unremitting devotion to her duties which have justly earned for her the commendation of all connected with the hospital and the congratulations of her friends upon the honour that His Majesty has conferred upon her.



### Saint Raymund Gayrard of Toulouse

Raymund was born around 1050 in Toulouse and died around 1118. He became a chorister and later a schoolmaster. After a short marriage, his wife having died, Raymund devoted himself to charitable causes, caring for the poor and needy, both Christians and Jews. During this period he built an almshouse and two stone bridges.

Having decided to become a priest he rose to the position of canon, and then provost of St Sermin. Where he enriched the community's relic collection. After his death he was buried in the almshouse.

Feast day 3 July



## Diary of a Momentous Year: July 1918 - When Friends Come to Help

It is called 'World War 1' and certainly no previous conflict had spread its ugly fingers so widely. Of course, we tend to think of the Western Front. Our default image of the War is of men in trenches, of mud and blood and soldiers with drawn bayonets going 'over the top'. In fact, the War was being fought on many Fronts: the Eastern Front (Germany/Russia, about to end with the new Russian regime); the Ottoman Front, in the Middle East; the Italian Front (Italy and France against the 'Central Powers'). Then there was the Ocean Front (U-boats against Allied shipping), the only one where the Germans were winning.

Not surprisingly, in view of all that, the War became one of resources, human, military and economic; and by 1918 the Allies had a great advantage. Hard-pressed armies were being continuously refreshed by the arrival of well-trained and committed troops from many quarters, notably Canada, Australia and New Zealand, and decisively the United States. These soldiers, and many from other countries in the British Empire, were now being equipped with newly designed, modern equipment. At last the Allies outnumbered the Germans in tanks and aircraft - and the new planes were faster, better equipped and armed.

All of this was, of course, evident to the German High Command, and persuaded them to launch in July 1918 what one historian, Gary Sheffield, has described as perhaps the defining battle of the War, the second Battle of the Marne. It was a desperate attempt to inflict a heavy defeat on the Allies - not in the vain hope of winning the War, but of getting a better bargaining position in the peace negotiations that everyone expected. Launched on July 15<sup>th</sup>, it succeeded in driving the Allies back across the Marne. But they had been prepared for it, and three days later launched a massive counter-attack. Two French divisions captured 15,000 men and 500 tanks in a single morning, and then went on to drive the Germans back across the Marne. From now on the Allies knew they could win the War, and the Germans finally accepted that they could not.

#### **Canon David Winter**

### News from the Wider Church Community

#### The Windrush Generation at worship

The significant impact of the so-called "Windrush Generation" (those arriving in the UK between 1948 and 1971 from Caribbean countries of Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago and other islands) and other Commonwealth nationals from Africa, India and Pakistan has played a major role in shaping and creating modern Britain. (The phrase is a reference to the ship MV Empire *Windrush*, which arrived at Tilbury Docks, Essex, on 22<sup>nd</sup> June 1948, bringing workers to the UK as a response to our post-war labour shortages. The ship carried 492 passengers, many of them children.)

But what kind of Christian impact has the Windrush Generation made? Usually called Black-Majority Churches (BMCs), there are probably at least 75 different BMC denominations in the UK in 2018, totalling at least 4,200 churches, and some, like Dr Joe Aldred and Dr Babatunde Adedibu, would say that there could be 8,000 churches in 400 denominations! The largest of the 75 Pentecostal churches (not all necessarily BMC), given in UK Church Statistics, include:

Redeemed Christian Church of God (68,000); Elim Pentecostal Church (68,000); Assemblies of God (49,000); New Testament Church of God and Associated churches (16,000); Hillsong (14,000); Kingsway International Christian Centre [KICC] (12,000 in Chatham alone).



Editor: Operation Mobilisation is well known world-wide...

### OM's ship Logos Hope breaks all records in Mexico

The Logos Hope's visitor count in Veracruz has broken the Ship Ministry's all-time record for a single port. A total of 226,554 members of the public climbed the ship's gangways to browse the book-fair, visit the International Café or attend an onboard event during the six weeks the vessel was open. A spokesman for OM Ships International said: 'We are constantly asking, 'Is the Ship Ministry still relevant? Are we accomplishing what we believe God has called us to do?' I believe these numbers certainly reinforce the sense that there is a strong appeal for the ministry we have been given.'

### **Prayer and Praise**

The commemoration of the bomb attack at the Manchester Arena last year provided an opportunity for the city to come together across faiths and pay tribute to those killed and injured. A service held at the Cathedral on 22 May was broadcast on a big screen and watched respectfully by a large crowd of people. Prayers and readings were given by members of the Anglican and Catholic churches; the Jewish, Hindu, Sikh and Muslim faiths; the Humanists; and the emergency services. I found the prayer read by Rabbi Warren Elf which used lines taken from the Yizkor memorial Prayer, moving.

#### Death has failed.

You cannot inflict oblivion or eclipse existence on those who were life of our life.

They live and move with us, and in us, in spheres beyond our dominion.

Blessed are You, Eternal god, who enables your children to remember.

Teach us to love wisely and unselfishly in truth and understanding, in love and peace, so that those who come after us may likewise remember us for good as we, on this day, affectionately remember those who were to us a blessing.

They live in us, in our hopes, and so shall their influence continue in our children.

#### In You, Eternal God, they are, we are, one.

The beauty of God's earth was also on display as part of the commemoration. St Anne's Church in the city centre hosted a wonderful flower festival. Sponsored displays, themed around aspects of the city and its history echoed the way that St Anne's Square had been the focal point of individual acts of remembrance last year.

There has been a resurgence in civic pride in our city with the bee motif visible everywhere. A high price has been paid for that as we remembered in the commemoration.

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### The Joys of Travel

One of the joys of travelling is the pleasure of attending service at other churches. These are invariably memorable although sometimes for odd reasons. Meeting fellow Christians and experiencing a familiar liturgy in different contexts add to the experience of travel.

Sometimes the 'experience' is not as expected. In Lisbon we decided to go to a weekday service at St George's Church. This is sited within the grounds of the British Cemetery. Itself a historic patch of land it was leased in 1717 as a burial site for Britons living in the area who were denied internment at local churches if they were not Catholic. We checked with the local priest that the service was on and arrived shortly before the start time only to find the Church locked. Our rattling of the door handle produced a somewhat flustered Curate and the discovery that we were the only congregation.

Santa Margarita in Es Castell on Menorca is a place that we have visited several times. Situated on a quiet street this small building has a very welcoming congregation and is a focal point of the British community on the island. Churches like that are a good way of seeing how the local community operates although few beat the Finnish Cultural Centre we wandered into in Puerto de la Cruz for an insight into the expatriate life. Welcoming visitors in those sorts of places might be more ingrained into the congregation but we could maybe learn a lesson. Even places that might be thought as being more staid and formal embrace visitors even though they may never be seen again. St John's Cathedral in Hong Kong is a case in point. This was probably once an imposing building but is now dwarfed by the high rise office blocks that surround it. Probably the most expensive piece of land you can pray on anywhere in the world.

These are all Anglican churches but occasionally one isn't possible. We attended a Roman Catholic service in Paphos. St Paul's is one of the oldest church we have visited being based on an original building erected in the twelfth century. The congregation included a large number of Filipinas who worked as domestics locally and it was a lovely service.

A final note goes to services on board P&O cruises. These take place when the ship is at sea on a Sunday in one of the theatres with a rendering of 'For Those in peril on the Sea' and a collection for the Seamens' Mission. How wonderfully British.



### From Around St John's



Greetings to all. I hope everyone's been enjoying the good weather after our cold spring. Our meeting in May saw our Vicar, Richard, entertain us with his life story. He talked about his school and university days which led him into becoming a priest.

In June we welcomed Rev Canon John Sutton, I'll enlighten you on his talk in September.

In July we will be having our annual lunch, on the eleventh. There is no meeting in August.

Best wishes Sharon



### Sanctuary Guild - July/August

Volunteers in the Sanctuary Guild take turns to clean the brasses in church, such as the altar cross, candlesticks, offertory plates and lecterns.

6th July	Mrs D Ellerton
20th July	Mrs M Hopkins and Mrs S Grimley
3rd August	Mrs A pilling and Mrs A Howard
17th August	Mrs L Vickers and Mrs C Parry



### Mary Webster writes

We had a wonderful evening at our fundraiser for 'Mind', the mental health charity.

My thanks to everyone who gave us a donation, bought tickets, attended and dug deep into their pockets to make it such a success.

I must also include in my thanks the wonderful team of Women's Fellowship ladies who are always there and make things happen, it is a pleasure to work alongside you all.

When welcoming people I said that it was lovely to see many familiar faces, but it was even better to see others who were not at all familiar, hopefully you all enjoyed the time you spent with us.

It was a very relaxed and extremely enjoyable evening as well as being a rewarding one for our chosen charity. The total raised was £690.70 which means that once our expenses have been deducted we will be able to make a very substantial donation to 'Mind' to enable them to continue their valuable work.

Our July meeting on the 25<sup>th</sup> is when we members come together for our Summer Supper which will give us the chance to thoroughly enjoy ourselves. I hope that Carole will, as usual, be organising it and thank her again for this, it is not always easy, but she does it so well.

On 15 August our meeting will be informal, it will take the form of a Quiz and Social Night giving us the opportunity to stretch our minds and enjoy each other's company. I don't include my mind in that as I think too much sunshine has made it go to sleep.

I hope you all have an enjoyable summer.





They have done splendidly! Through many hours No moistened eye did see So many flowers! The rainbow's range of hues -The yellows, reds, and blues They are, with love and care all used By skillful florists!

By Nigel Beeton

NB You can sing this to the tune of 'To Be a Pilgrim'...



When it was Mrs Wilson's turn to do the flower arrangements, she always kept the vicar's hay fever in mind

### Upcoming Events



#### **KEY DATES**

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> July @ 7.30pm Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> September @ 9.00 Parish Vision Day Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> September @ 11.30

Café Church planning meeting Welcome BBO

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### And in case you thought there were no funnies...

#### You know you are living in 2018 when....

1. You accidentally enter your password on the microwave.

2. You haven't played solitaire with real cards in years.

3. You have a list of 15 phone numbers to reach your family of five.

4. You e-mail the person who works at the desk next to you.

5. You e-mail your children upstairs to tell them dinner is ready.

6. Your reason for not staying in touch with various friends and family is that they

are not on Facebook.

7. You pull up in your own driveway and use your mobile to see if anyone is home to help you carry in the shopping.

8. Every TV advert has a Facebook link at the bottom of the screen. 9. Leaving the house without your mobile, which you didn't have the first 20 or 30 (or 60) years of your life, is now a cause for total panic and you have to go back and get it.

10. You get up in the morning and go online before getting your coffee.

#### No, not any

The manager of the garden centre came out of his office to hear Jenkins, one of his most trusted assistants, saying to a lady customer: 'No madam, we certainly haven't had any for some time, and who knows when we will get any.'

When the customer had gone, the manager tackled him: 'I heard that, Jenkins,' he remonstrated, 'and I must say that I am surprised at you. Never, never admit to a customer that we can't get them something. That's what we're here for. If it's out of stock, tell her you'll get it for her soon. Now, what was it the lady wanted?'

'Rain,' said Jenkins simply.

#### Say a prayer

Young Brian and his family sat down to Sunday dinner at his grandmother's house. When Brian received his plate, he started eating right away. 'Brian! Please wait until we say our prayer,' said his mother.

'I don't need to,' the boy replied.

'Of course, you do,' his mother insisted. 'We always pray before eating at home.'

'That's at our house,' Brian protested. "This is grandma's house, and she can cook!'

#### Parish Diary July 2018

1st	Trinity 5	
	8.30	Holy Communion
	10.30	Parish Eucharist
	5.30	5
4 <sup>th</sup>	10.00	,
	2.00	Crafty Chat
8 <sup>th</sup>	Trinity 6	
	8.30	Holy Communion
	10.30	All Age Service of the Word (Parade) and Welcome
a a th	5.30	Evensong
11 <sup>th</sup>	10.00	Holy Communion
<b>4</b> ⊂th	2.30	Mothers' Union
15 <sup>th</sup>	Trinity 7	Hely Communian
	8.30 10.30	Holy Communion Parish Eucharist
	5.30	
18 <sup>th</sup>	10.00	Holy Communion
10	10.00	
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Trinity 8	
	8.30	Holy Communion
	10.30	Parish Eucharist
	5.30	Evensong
26 <sup>th</sup>	10.00	Holy Communion
	2.00	Crafty Chat
	8.00	Women's Fellowship
29 <sup>th</sup>	Trinity 9	
	8.30	Holy Communion
	10.30	All Age Baptism and Communion
	5.30	Evensong

### Baptism Anniversary: July

Joshua Benjamin Newbury



#### Parish Diary August 2018

i unon	Dialy / agaot	
1 <sup>st</sup>	10.00	Holy Communion
	2.00	Crafty Chat
5 <sup>th</sup>	Trinity 10	
	8.30	Holy Communion
	10.30	•
	5.30	-
8 <sup>th</sup>	10.00	Holy Communion
12 <sup>th</sup>	Trinity 11	
	8.30	Holy Communion
	10.30	All Age Communion and Welcome
	5.30	
15 <sup>th</sup>	10.00	-
	8.00	Women's Fellowship (Informal Evening)
19 <sup>th</sup>	Trinity 12	
	8.30	Holy Communion
	10.30	
	5.30	Evensong
22 <sup>nd</sup>	10.00	Holy Communion
26 <sup>th</sup>	Trinity 13	
	8.30	Holy Communion
	10.30	All Age Communion

- 10.30 All Age Communion
- 5.30 Evensong

29<sup>th</sup>

10.00 Holy Communion



...I don't care what your Sat-Nav's telling you - I'm telling you you are definitely **not** on the M6, nine miles south of Derby!!



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#### Can you find 30 books of the Bible hidden in this passage?

This comes originally from the East Leicester Fellowship of URC churches. The answers will come in September but if you get all 30 and send them into the editor, Mrs Editor might find a prize for one lucky person drawn at random. (No excuses Richard.)

This is a most remarkable puzzle. It was found by a gentleman in an airplane seat pocket, on a flight from Los Angeles to Honolulu, keeping him occupied for hours. He enjoyed it so much that he passed it on to some friends. One friend from Illinois worked on this while fishing from his John-boat. Another friend studied it while playing his banjo. Elaine Taylor, a columnist friend, was so intrigued by it, she mentioned it in her weekly newspaper column.

Another friend judges the job of solving this puzzle so involving that she brews a cup of tea to help her nerves. There will be some names that are really easy to spot. That's a fact. Some people, however, will soon find themselves in a jam, especially since the books are not necessarily capitalised. Truthfully from answers we get, we are forced to admit it usually takes a minister or scholar to see some of them at the worst. Research has shown that something in our genes is responsible for the difficulty we have in seeing the books in these paragraphs. During a recent fundraising event, which features this puzzle, the Alpha Delta Phil-Lemonade booth set a new sales record.

The local paper, the Chronicle, surveyed over 50 patrons who reported that this puzzle was one of the most difficult they had ever seen. As Daniel Humana humbly puts it, "the books are all right here in plain view, hidden from sight". Those able to find all of them will hear great lamentations from those who have to be shown. One revelation that may help is that books Timothy and Samuel appear without their numbers. Also, keep in mind, that punctuation and spaces in the middle are normal. A chipper attitude will help you compete really well against those who claim to know the answers. Remember, there is no need for a mass exodus, there really are 30 books of the Bible lurking somewhere in these paragraphs waiting to be found.





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### The Parish Church of

#### St. John the Divine, Brooklands

#### In the Deanery of Withington, In the Diocese of Manchester, In the Province of York

Website: www.stjohnsbrooklands.org.uk

#### SUNDAY SERVICES

8.30am Holy Communion				
10.30 am	Family Communion			
	(Second Sunday of the Month All-Age Worship)			
6.30pm	Choral Evensong			

Holy Communion is celebrated on Holy Days and Saints Days as announced.

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