

John Ould 1928–2014

John, a pillar of St Mary's, died peacefully at St Thomas's Hospital on Sunday 27th April after a short illness. A proud, committed and generous churchman John was devoted to his late wife, Betty, who died just over a year ago, and to his loving family.

John was very active within the church and being an accomplished 'finance man' he was much in demand for his accounting talents developed over many years of experience as a senior executive with the Reed Paper Group. He had been Churchwarden at St Peter & St Paul's before coming to St Mary's in the 1980s when he soon became involved as a member of the PCC, Treasurer and then Stewardship Officer, a post he meticulously held for many years. Everything John did was carefully considered and he had a great and respected knowledge of the Church and of its liturgy. We all knew his views, which he held passionately and which, although sometimes unpopular, he defended right to the end.

He loved the Arts, particularly music and opera, and had a literary flair. He was co-editor of the Parish Newsletter from 1990-93, wrote numerous biographical scripts and an accounting guide, *Controlling Subsidiary Companies* which was published and well received. He also published a novel *Secular and Sacred* which he referred to as "Mills and Boon with religion". He was Chairman of the Richmond Concert Society for many years and contributed much to its success.

His particular loves were the family holidays at Southwold, good company, good food, good wine – and a glass of beer. His presence at St Mary's and in the community will be sadly missed.
John Demont

The Traherne Association (www.thomastraherneassociation.org) which promotes understanding of the life and writings of Thomas Traherne c 1637-1674 (and buried in our church) is holding a Traherne Festival Weekend in Credenhill 21-23 June – guest speaker Salley Vickers. More information from chairman Richard Willmott richard@willmott1970.force9.co.uk or 01432 273884.

Flower Festival of Favourite Songs

Saturday 7th June to Monday 9th

Saturday 1-6pm, with teas served in churchyard 2-5

Sunday, morning services then church open 12-5, with **handbell ringing** at 2pm and at 3pm, **teas** and homemade cakes in churchyard 2-5, **concert** of songs with choir and audience participation in favourite hymns at 5pm

Monday, church open all day 9-5

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NEWSLETTER JUNE 2014



StMARYwithStALBAN PARISH CHURCH of TEDDINGTON



Vicar's Viewpoint

At our recent annual meeting we looked back on another exciting year at St Mary with St Alban, with continued growth at both our 9am and 10am Sunday ser-

vices. Indeed, the 9am service has just celebrated its 2nd anniversary and is now very well established with a regular weekly attendance of 55 adults and 35 children. This reflects new growth, since numbers of adults and children have remained high at the 10am service. The electoral roll is now at a record high of 375. I recommend visiting our website to see a slideshow of the past year in pictures.

We continue to be hugely blessed by the priestly ministry of our two self-supporting ministers, Mary Hawes and Rosamond McDowell. They make it possible to continue providing four services every Sunday morning and their preaching and presiding at services enrich our worship.

Terry Brown and Anne McTear have been wonderful churchwardens, serving the parish and myself with true dedication. Terry has now completed his four-year term and so retires from the role. He has served with great humour, grace and wisdom, as well as counting and banking the collections week-in, week-out. Above all, he has embodied the faith and friendship that is at the heart of our vision. We are very grateful for all that he has done and he richly deserves the bottle of single malt from his favourite island of

Orkney that we presented to him. Anne will now assume the senior warden role and we welcome our new churchwarden, Peter Stevens. A profile of Peter will follow in next month's newsletter.

I'm delighted to announce that Emily D'Silva, our pastoral assistant, has been recommended for ordination. She is required to do a year of study (a 'Beginning Theology' course) before going to theological college, so we may benefit from having her around for another year. I sincerely hope so, because she has been a brilliant colleague.

Finally, I was commissioned as Area Dean of Hampton at the end of April. The deanery covers the 15 parishes across Hampton, Twickenham, Teddington and Whitton. The role of Area Dean is to be a 'middle man', representing parishes/clergy to the diocese/bishop and vice-versa. It doesn't involve the management of other clergy, but is simply about being a 'first among equals', someone who leads deanery meetings and offers support and pastoral care to fellow clergy. Another job is to help parishes when there is a vacancy, ensuring that services are covered by a rota of priests. Area Deans are also part of the Bishop's Leadership Team, helping to develop strategies and initiatives across the area. All of this is both exciting and daunting, since it has to be managed in addition to remaining a full-time parish priest. I am very grateful to all the wonderful support I get from so many parishioners, without which it wouldn't be possible to attempt this job. I can only do what I can, ask for your understanding and pray for grace.

Best wishes

Joe Moffatt

Help! We are looking for a website manager to assist with our parish website. Knowledge of CMS / Drupal preferable. Contact Joe at vicar@stmarywithstalban.org if you are interested.

Some highlights of Easter Week 2014



Palm Sunday procession. Donkey (horse!) ridden by Daniel Moffatt



The Bishop of Kensington, Paul Williams, joins a joint Messy Church with SS Peter and Paul and SMwSA on Good Friday.



Ecumenical Walk of Witness processes through Teddington on Good Friday.



Joe lights the fire at dawn on Easter Day



60-second interview with Suzanne Parker, our new parish administrator

What attracted you most to this job at St Mary's?

Admin is completely my thing. Getting to be organised and helpful, with hours to suit my children's school day, and staying local. What's not to like?

Who inspired you most to become a Christian?

My dear Mum.

What is the best piece of advice you have ever been given?

Avoid any 60-second interviews. Which clearly I am failing to heed...

Do you enjoy music?

Hugely, and that has even recently expanded to include the "stuff" that my 11 and 7 year olds love listening to.

How/Where do you like spending your spare time?

Somewhere warm, with family and friends, and a bit of gardening or crochet thrown in. And it would be rude not to open a bottle of something at some point too.

Do you have a favourite book/film /play you would like to mention?

My answer to this would change all the time, but today I'd say – *Pride & Prejudice* to read, *Fried Green Tomatoes at the Whistle Stop Café* to watch, and *The Importance of Being Earnest* for a theatre treat. Nothing too high-brow for me!

What would be on your birthday breakfast menu?

That would have to be a toasted sesame bagel, packed with really crispy bacon. As well as a bowl of juicy chunks of the sweetest melon.

How do you view the challenges of your new job?

With excitement, but can't say any more as I have just (thankfully!) run out of time.

As told to Susan Jacobs

Parish Registers

Baptisms – *We welcome into Christ's Church:*

20th April: Grace-Marie Carine, daughter of Stephen & Laetitia Haynes; Sophia Louisa, daughter of Ilya Varlashkin & Christine Varlashkin-Scheld

4th May: Laura Jean Caroline, daughter of Nigel & Joanna Griffin; Dylan Veere, son of Anthony Pollak & Stephanie Newman; Jacob Arthur Leppard, son of Jonathan & Alison Hollis

11 May: Elsie Rose Bramley, daughter of Charles Wood & Gemma Bramley

Weddings – *We wish every blessing on the marriage of:*

3rd May: Anna Jane Woodrow and Benjamin Samuel Hammond

Funerals – *We remember with thanksgiving the lives of:*

22nd April: Charles Reed, aged 82

15th May: John Ould, aged 85

Diary for June

SERVICES – **Sundays:** Holy Communion (Prayer Book) at 8.00am
Morning Worship (30 minutes) at 9.00am
Parish Communion (with Sunday School) at 10.00am
Holy Baptism (most Sundays) at 12 noon

Wednesdays: Holy Communion at 9.30am
Church Mice Toddler Service, 10.30am

Monday-Friday: Morning Prayer at 9.00am, Evening Prayer at 5pm

Sunday 1 st	7th of Easter
Wednesday 4 th	First Wednesday Club, Mina Hogan Room, 12.30-2pm, Topic: <i>Favourite WW1 poems</i>
Thursday 5 th	Traherne Study Group, Mina Hogan Room 2-3.30pm Contemplative prayer in Church, 8pm, followed by Compline, 8.30pm
Friday 6 th	Wedding 2pm
Saturday 7 th	Flower Festival Weekend, church open 1-6pm.
Sunday 8 th	Pentecost Flower Festival continues, from 12 noon. Teddington in Flower gardens open 2-6 (info: www.teddingtonsociety.org.uk), churchyard teas, St Mary Teddington Bells ringing in church at 2pm and 3pm, Concert of Favourite Songs in church, 5pm Youth Group in Hall, 6.30pm
Monday 9 th	Flower Festival continues, church open all day
Tuesday 10 th	Plain & Pearl knitting, Mina Hogan Room, 7.30pm
Wednesday 11 th	Wedding, 12noon First of 6-week Confirmation course (Young People), Mina Hogan Room, 5.30pm First of 6-week Confirmation course (Adults), Parish Office, 8pm
Thursday 12 th	Parish Lunch, Royal Oak, 12.30pm
Saturday 14 th	Traherne Study Group, Mina Hogan Room 2-3.30pm Time To Talk, St Peter & St Paul Church, 10.30-12noon Wedding 1pm
Sunday 15 th	Trinity
Thursday 19 th	Deanery Synod in church, 7.30pm
Saturday 21 st	Weekend Parish Pilgrimage to St Alban's begins
Sunday 22 nd	St Alban Churches Together in Teddington Ecumenical Service, St Mark's, 4pm
Tuesday 24 th	Plain & Pearl craft, 7.30pm
Sunday 29 th	St Peter & St Paul Teddington Village Fair, Udney Park, 12-6pm [see flyer]

Looking ahead

Saturday 5th July St Mary & St Peter School Fete from 12noon
Sunday 6th July Choral Evensong, 6.30pm