

ST MARY'S CHURCH, THAMES STREET, HAMPTON

The Parish Link

HARVEST 2017



Join us to thank God for the food that we have

HARVEST FESTIVAL 1 OCTOBER 2017



www.hampton-church.org.uk

If you have just come to live in Hampton, your Parish Church welcomes you. Please make yourself known to one of the Parish Staff or Churchwardens. Please visit our website, Facebook or Twitter feeds for all St Mary's Church and our parish information.

Connect with St Mary's...

Please visit our website for all the latest news, events and activities for all age groups.

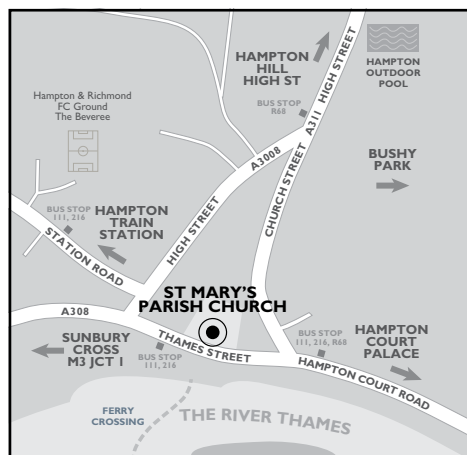
www.hampton-church.org.uk

You can also find us on Facebook, follow us on Twitter or Instagram...



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parish.manager@hampton-church.org.uk

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Sam Waako07923 331108

Safeguarding Officer

Nally Fernando, safeguarding@hampton-church.org.uk

Choir Director and Organist

Contact: **David Pimm, CertRCO** 020 8399 2404

New choir members, adults or children, are encouraged.

Worship Band email: john@hampton-church.org.uk

John Winterburn07816 855941

Bell Ringers

Beginners or experienced ringers are always welcome.

Contact: **Alison Ward** 020 8979 9848



Harvest at St Mary's

Join us to say thank you to God for the food that we have at our traditional Harvest Festival service at 11am on Sunday 1 October.

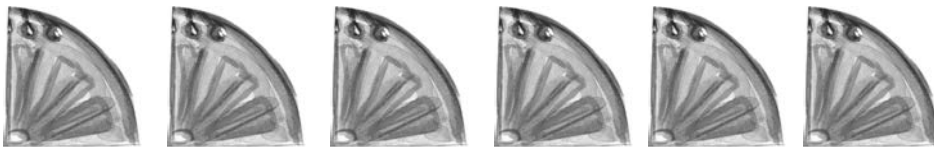
This year, our Harvest Festival food collection will be donated to



Hampton Foodbank, which is committed to providing food for families and individuals in the area who are struggling financially and therefore going hungry.



Although all your Harvest offerings will be gratefully received, Hampton Foodbank is making a specific appeal for powdered milk, pasta sauces, tinned fruit and puddings, porridge and cereals, biscuits, tinned meat, fish and vegetables, long life fruit juice, tea, coffee and sugar. Baby products such as disposable nappies and baby wipes would also be very welcome.



If you would like to know more about the Foodbank ministry in Hampton, please visit their website: www.richmond.foodbank.org.uk



Harvest Lunch

Our Harvest Lunch will be held in the Church Hall shortly after our Harvest Festival Service. Tickets are £8 (free for children) and include a full meal and family activities.

Please call Pat Felstead on 020 8979 9990 if you would like to book a place.



Contents

	page
Connect with St Mary's	2
Harvest at St Mary's.....	3
From the Registers	4
Letters Patent	4
Reaping what we Sow	5
Liberated by God's grace ...	6
Organ repairs complete	8
Sleeper Awake	9
St Mary's Drama Group News	10
Black Chiffon	11
Children and Young People at St Mary's	12
The W. I. Blues.....	13
Advent Carol Service	15
List of Advertisers.....	23
Service Times	24
Alpha course at St Mary's	24

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY SERVICE

12 November 2017
10.50am

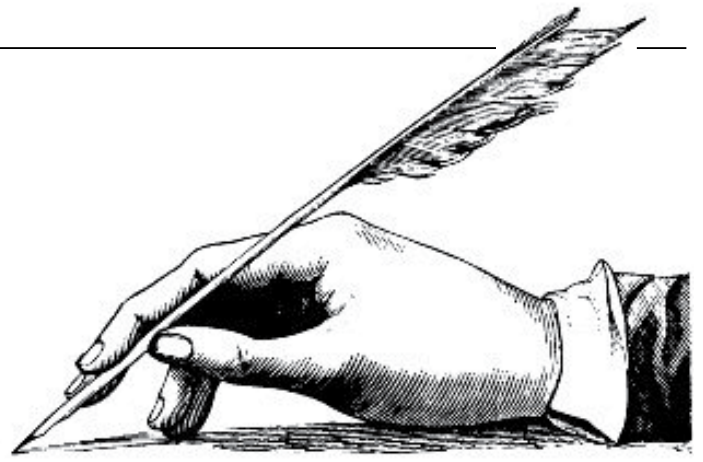
St Mary's Church, Hampton

*Two minutes' silence
will be observed at 11am*

1917-2017 
PASSCHENDAELE
Centenary

Baptisms

- 2 July Ana Eloise Blower
- 16 July Anlyn Chebib
- Jack William Robinson
- William Arthur Podbury
- 27 August Jude Isaac Neilan
- Olive-Grace Godbold
- Mason William Balbier

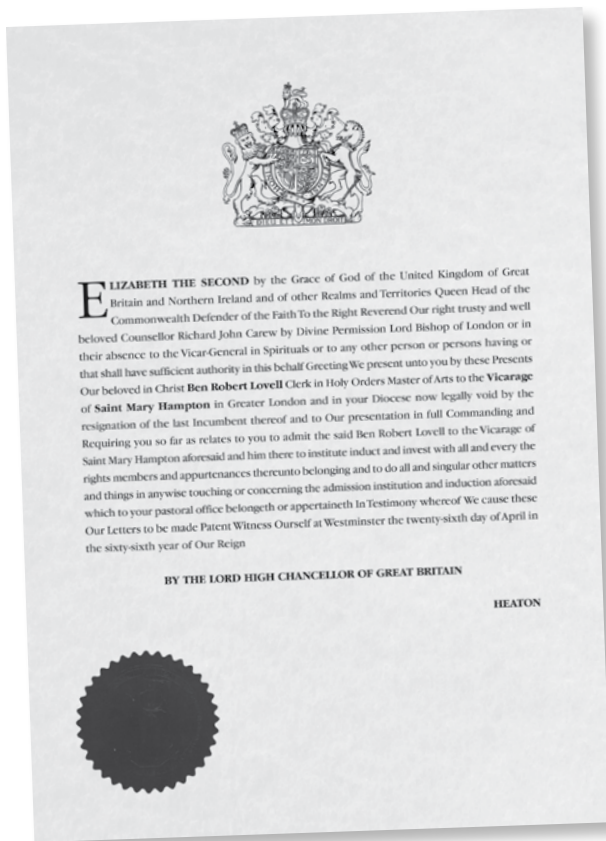


Weddings

- 3 June Tom Constable to Katie Arnold
- 22 Jul Alan Mckenna to Keeley Marcelle Wilson
- 2 September Steven Peter Fletcher to Marta Jadwiga Ciechanowicz
- 9 September Matthew Guy Chilcott to Eleanor Morgan Roberts
- 9 September Andrew Brunton to Sophie Jupp

Funerals

- 5 June June Victoria Hibberd, aged 89 years, of St Mary's House, Ormond Avenue, to St Mary's Church, then to South West Middlesex Crematorium
- 6 July Aretta Newbon, aged 85 years, of St Mary's House, to South West Middlesex Crematorium
- 5 September Wendella Anne Rhys, aged 82 years, of Tudor Road, to St Mary's Church, then to South West Middlesex Crematorium



It's official!

Letters Patent from **Her Majesty The Queen** present **Ben Robert Lovell** as the **50th Vicar of St Mary Hampton.**

ELIZABETH THE SECOND by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and of other Realms and Territories Queen Head of the Commonwealth Defender of the Faith To the Right Reverend Our right trusty and well beloved Counsellor Richard John Carew by Divine Permission Lord Bishop of London or in their absence to the Vicar-General in Spirituals or to any other person or persons having or that shall have sufficient authority in this behalf Greeting We present unto you by these Presents Our beloved in Christ **Ben Robert Lovell** Clerk in Holy Orders Master of Arts to the **Vicarage of Saint Mary Hampton** in Greater London and in your Diocese now legally void by the resignation of the last Incumbent thereof and to Our presentation in full Commanding and Requiring you so far as relates to you to admit the said Ben Robert Lovell to the Vicarage of Saint Mary Hampton aforesaid and him there to institute induct and invest with all and every the rights members and appurtenances thereunto belonging and to do all and singular other matters and things in anywise touching or concerning the admission institution and induction aforesaid which to your pastoral office belongeth or appertaineth In Testimony whereof We cause these Our Letters to be made Patent Witness Ourselves at Westminster the twenty-sixth day of April in the sixty-sixth year of Our Reign

BY THE LORD HIGH CHANCELLOR OF GREAT BRITAIN

HEATON

Harvest – Reaping what we Sow

Written by Ben Lovell

It's probably clichéd in a church magazine at harvest time to talk about how we have lost our connection with nature. We no longer have an innate understanding of where our food comes from and how our produce has been grown. We vicars love to write articles bemoaning such things.

However, it is true! I remember a friend of mine who ministers in the inner city telling of his youth group's humorous reaction to seeing a cow for the first time. I am sure this coming season will see newspaper articles reporting surveys where people were not able to identify that eggs come from chickens, milk from cows or chips from potatoes*.

It is easy to mock the ignorance of others without thinking through what has changed in our culture that means we no longer understand how food comes to be in our cupboards.

Sowing

A couple of years ago I was at the butcher's with one of my young daughters. Keeping in mind my concerns that we no longer understand the providence of our food I decided, on a whim, to invent a game with her. The challenge was to make the animal sound that the piece of meat would have made.

Steak went moo.

Pork, oink.

Lamb, baa.

We had no idea what sound venison made.

This did not go down well with the lady behind me in the queue. She balked at the idea that I would somehow be sullyng the innocence of my daughter by associating the lumps of meat before us with the sounds of a living creature.

A challenge to comprehending where our food comes from is that it involves the transition from life to death. Whether it be meat or vegetable, our food is the result of a seed being stripped from its stem or an animal being herded to slaughter.

Jesus speaks about how seed must fall to the earth to produce a new plant. He specifically describes that grain dying in order that it might produce more.

Reaping

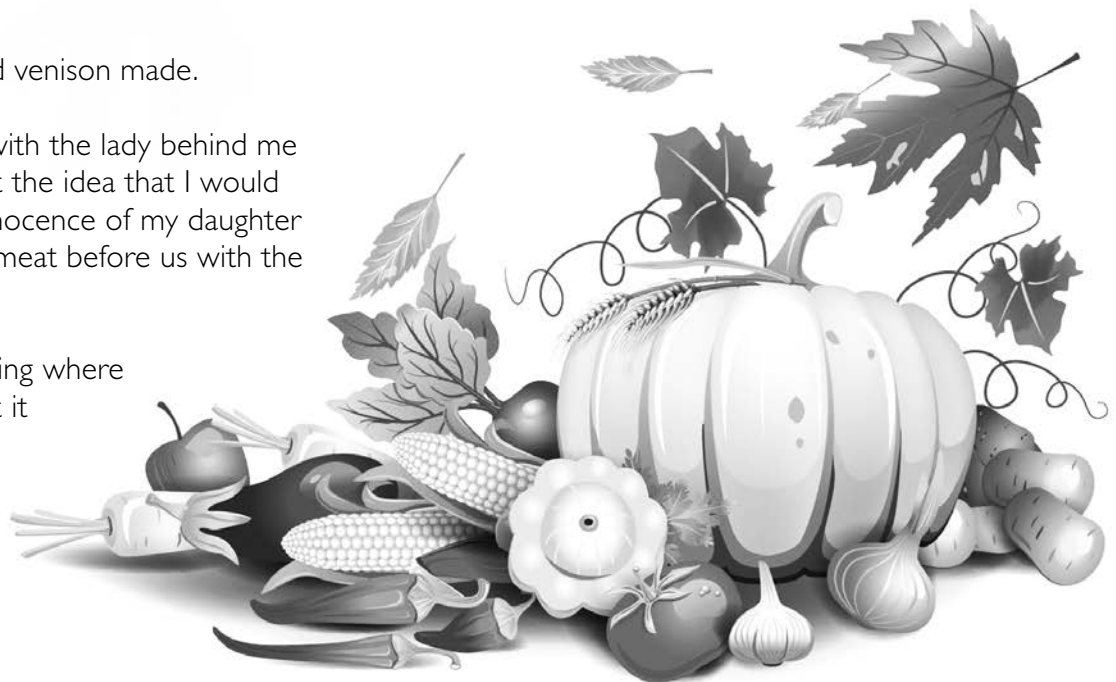
The food that we eat, whether meat or vegetable, comes from the harvesting of something that once was planted or an animal who makes farmyard noises visiting an abattoir. It's not a process that is clean and clinical. It is a process that involves risk. The seed might not grow. The livestock herd may be unhealthy.

We all want more, right? To eat well, to feast. To live a life that is eventful, vibrantly joyful. But so much of what we have is the result of risk. Something being laid down in order that we might have more. There seems to be a theme in the Bible where the great characters of Christianity are called to risk all in order to do more. To leave their homes, to go somewhere risky, or even to give their lives that many others will flourish.

They had to sow, give up, lay down; before they reap and know the result of what they have.

The same is true for us. Do we value ourselves by what we have or by what we give away?

**These examples are actually from a study five years ago.*





Liberated by God's grace

Marking the 500th anniversary of the beginning of the Reformation

Written by David Pimm, Organist and Choir Director

On 31 October 1517, Martin Luther posted his famous 95 Theses that are widely seen as the start of the Reformation. On 29 October 2017, almost 500 years to the day later, we will be holding a Full Choral Evensong to reflect on the significance of the reformation to us today.

The established church of Luther's day had lost touch with some of the teachings of the New Testament and created a system whereby people had to earn God's forgiveness by their right actions and submission to the church. Confession to God could only be made and forgiveness conveyed through the mediation of a priest and ordinary people didn't have access to the Bible in their own language.

Martin Luther was a German Augustinian monk and professor of moral theology at the University of Wittenberg. His protest was initially against the practice of indulgences and took expression in 95 Theses touching on questions of grace, repentance and forgiveness.

*For I have not come to call
the righteous, but sinners.*

Jesus in Matt.9:13

Luther sent the Theses enclosed with a letter to Albert of Brandenburg, the Archbishop of Mainz, on 31 October 1517. Luther may also have posted the Theses on the door of All Saints' Church and other churches in Wittenberg in accordance with University custom on 31 October as he is famously

thought to have done, although historical evidence for that is less clear.

Reaction from church leaders and scholars, at first on a small scale, gathered momentum with lives changed radically in German states and in many countries across Europe. Two years later, King Henry VIII of England started to write his Defence of the Seven Sacraments while he was reading Martin Luther's attack on indulgences. Luther himself composed a reply to King Henry, answered in turn by Thomas More.

*For the Son of man came to seek
and to save what was lost.*

Jesus in Luke 19:10

The reformation gave birth to significant movements in music. Luther himself was a composer; he was a choir boy at the same school and church choir in Eisenach as JS Bach (nearly 200 hundred years apart). The theology of the reformation drove not only the translation of the Bible into local languages but the singing of psalms and spiritual songs in the languages of the people, and in a musical style that worked for ordinary believers both to understand and to join in heartily. In Switzerland and Scotland in particular, but also right across Northern Europe, metrical psalms were sung and in due course, this gave birth to the hymn as we know it.

In England (as well as elsewhere) this also gave birth to the church anthem which set scripture in



MARTIN LUTHER
By Lucas Cranach Der Ältere
PAINTED IN 1528

a very direct and less elaborate way such that the words could be readily heard and understood. In the hands of composers such as Tye, Redford and, of course, Tallis it was a thing of great beauty as well as being direct and having a crisp rigour and energy. These practices, together with the singing of psalms in English find their home in the Choral Evensong as it developed in English Cathedrals and then in parish churches.

Back in Germany, JS Bach wrote some of the finest music ever, steeped in the Lutheran tradition: Chorale Preludes based on Lutheran Chorales, more than 200 Cantatas and, of course, the exquisite Passions sung in Holy Week.

The music at our Full Choral Evensong can only touch on this vast array of splendid music. In keeping with Luther's desire to make the gospel accessible to ordinary people, our sung music will draw from the

English Reformation, in English. The Magnificat and Nunc dimittis will, I hope, be sung by our expanded choir to Tallis' captivating Dorian setting. However, we will also sing 'A safe stronghold our God is still', translated from the German words written by Luther himself to a melody Ein' Feste Burg composed by Luther and to a harmony by JS Bach. And we will 'top and tail' the service with organ voluntaries by JS Bach based on Lutheran chorales.

But of course, whilst the reformation may have given birth to some great musical traditions, it was really all about our faith. Right at the centre of Luther's insight is fantastically good news: Jesus said: 'For I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners', and 'For the Son of man came to seek and to save what was lost'. Luther was a monk who 'not only applied with the closest diligence to ecclesiastical studies; but also, with the greatest of severity of discipline, he exercised the government of himself' [P. Melanchthon, *The Life and Acts of Martin Luther*, 1549]. But all his religious endeavours could not give Luther peace and assurance within the theology of his day, until, revisiting both the psalms and the New Testament, Luther encountered the revelation of their true meaning: that he was put right with God, not through his own efforts, but through faith in the completed work of Jesus: 'God proves that it is his justice alone, which he gives through faith, that helps us, the justice which was at the appointed time revealed through the Gospel and, previous to that, was witnessed to by the Law and the Prophets.' [Luther, *Preface to Romans*, 1545].

That gift through faith is still offered by God today and, I hope that we will first be challenged by it, and then celebrate this wonderful good news at our evensong on 29 October. And if you want to explore this good news further, do think about the Alpha course starting in the church on 2 October (see page 24 for details).

Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we rejoice in the hope of the glory of God.

Romans 5:1,2

Organ repairs complete!

Written by Anselm Frost

The extensive repairs to the lovely organ at St Mary's are finished (subject to a few minor adjustments), and the instrument is sounding great! The old fairly loud hissing sound of air leaking from wear holes in the main bellows is gone, and our organist, David Pimm, reports that the refurbished keyboard backed by updated electronics is a joy to play.

Last September the Parochial Church Council of St Mary's launched an appeal to raise funds for organ repairs, mainly to the parts of the organ that the maintenance contractor had advised were likely to suffer a terminal failure in the fairly near future. Some of the leatherwork, including that of the huge main wind reservoir ('bellows'), had given about 120 years' service, and had been patched several times. The generosity of the response greatly exceeded expectations, leading to the expansion of the project to include replacing the 1970s electronics taking the signal from keyboard to pipes. Following a short competitive tender process, the repairs by Mander Organs, a prestigious company in the British organ building and repair industry, started late in July this year with the removal to its Bethnal Green workshop of various components. Careful thought was given to how to extract the bellows, and its weight and bulk required a team of six people to lift it out. The components were returned and assembled in mid-August, including two solid state processors in the new electrical transmission and capture system, which a specialist technician had to spend many days on site linking to a complex array of wiring through a meticulous soldering exercise. Following testing and retuning, the handover took place on 25 August. The process was remarkably smooth for a project of its size, coming in on time and at the cost set out in the contract (with no contingencies arising). A short video covering the repair project is on the St Mary's website (www.hampton-church.org.uk), which shows among other things what the interior looks like with and without the bellows.

At the time of publication, a half day of celebratory events will be taking place (on 17 September), starting with an afternoon talk by the Friends of St Mary's on the history of the organ, followed by a short organ recital by our organist David Pimm and the visiting organist Nat Keiller, leading on to a full Choral Evensong.

The PCC would like to reiterate its thanks to donors for their generosity, including Allchurches Trust and The On Organ Fund which made generous grants.

A few final words from David Pimm: 'I am so enjoying playing our repaired organ. With the sound of escaping air from all sorts of components no longer there, the clarity of sounds shines through, reminding us of the beauty and versatility of the pipe work, much of which dates back to 1831. The refurbished keyboard has a very much more precise feel to the player (it had got rather sloppy over the decades); the new registrational aids have opened up possibilities for greater expressivity (that subtle addition or subtraction of a stop) and some combinations of pipes that were not previously possible; the repaired swell box shutters also provide for a greater range of expression. But above all, we have the confidence that we are looking after this lovely instrument well, and that we have leatherwork that will be there to support our singing God's praises for many decades to come.'



Sleeper Awake

Written by Trudi Murray

*Hello, my name is Trudi Murray,
and I'm addicted to the internet.*

There, I've said it.

I don't know about you, but I love the internet.

I like being able to look things up at every moment. I enjoy knowing all the random facts. I like chuckling at cat videos at midnight when I should be asleep. I like buying tickets, shopping for clothes and ordering a Chinese, all from my phone – a handy little computer in my pocket.*

But what I truly adore is social media. I love finding old friends, making contacts, chatting and forging new connections. I'm an artist – I like the daily challenge of flooding the internet with as much great art as possible. It gets me work. So it's important for what I do, of course, but more than that, I'm just very nosy. I like looking at all your pictures, especially if you've got a new portfolio, or a sweet puppy, or a sadly failing tomato plant, and I do always enjoy photos of your children on World Book Day, even if no one else does. Bring it on.

The trouble is, you can get addicted, and I do. It's a trap. I lose myself in it. Particularly, I start to think that all the other artists are better than me, more popular, more skilled at sharpening pencils. I even begin to imagine that your puppy is cuter than my kittens.**

I get sad. I don't want to get out of bed anymore and start again the endless cycle of not comparing, of trying to be true to myself. It's hard. In fact, sometimes I don't want to get out of bed at all.



RISE FROM THE DEAD AND CHRIST
WILL SHINE ON YOU EPHESIANS 5:14

There's this verse in the Bible:

*'Sleeper, awake, rise from the dead
and Christ will shine on you.'*

I heard it in a service at St Mary's the other day, and this immediate modern translation pinged into my head:

*Get off the internet, you fool, deadened
and weary as you tend to become,
and read your Bible instead. It's good for you.*

Well, the Jesus I know is very direct.

So I'm going to try. Let's hope it works.

And when I get to heaven, I can watch all the cat videos I like.

*Did you know? The German term for mobile phone is 'handy'.

**Which is an out and out lie, as we all know.
Nothing is cuter than my kittens.

The Parish Link

Volunteers deliver the Parish Link free to every home in the parish.

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St Mary's Drama Group News

Written by Sue McMillan

We are delighted to be able to tell all our Members and Friends that SMDG received three nominations for this year's Swan Awards: Andrea Harris in the Best Supporting Actress category for her magnificent and elegant performance as the imperious Lady Bracknell in Michael Harris's production of *The Importance of Being Earnest*, Mandy Stenhouse in the Best Actress category for her emotional tour de force as Alicia in *Black Chiffon*, and *Black Chiffon*, directed by Jean Wood, in the Cygnet Award category. The Cygnet Award is for productions which take place in a non-dedicated theatrical venue with limited facilities, such as a Church Hall.

Of course all productions are the result of a vast amount of teamwork both on and off stage and huge congratulations are due especially to our nominees but also to absolutely everyone involved, not forgetting our audience members whose support we greatly appreciate.

STOP PRESS

Jean Wood awarded the prestigious Swan Accolade at Arts Richmond's Gala evening.



At the glittering Gala Evening of the Swan Awards, Arts Richmond's annual recognition of the best of drama in Richmond-upon-Thames, St Mary's own Jean Wood was surprised and delighted to be awarded The Swan Accolade. This award is given for 'outstanding contributions over many years to the cause of amateur drama in the Borough'. In the fifty plus years of Arts Richmond there have been two dozen such awards made.

Jean Wood was one of the founder members of St Mary's Drama Group (SMDG), which was set up in 1960 by the Young Wives' Group and Women's Fellowship at St Mary's Church. Jean has been active in SMDG throughout the 57 years of its existence. Jean was attending the black-tie event on 10th September to receive two nominations for *Black Chiffon*, the play she directed just before Easter this year.



Black Chiffon

Review by Didie Bucknall

Despite turning ninety, Jean Wood is still going strong as ever. Her direction of another winner for St Mary's Drama Group of *Black Chiffon* by Lesley Storm was this time staged 'in the round' at the newly refurbished St Mary's Community Hall.

Stage direction of a play 'in the round' needs much careful planning to ensure that no one seat in the audience affords better vantage view than another. This can lead to the actors having to make quite restless movements to change positions but, in the case of this play, the restlessness served to indicate the underlying unease of the characters. The lack of walls and windows, though integral to the plot, are left to the viewers' imagination which, again, serves the play well.

Black Chiffon is a play which requires very strong actors, and these it most certainly had. The central character brilliantly played by Mandy Stenhouse as a mother struggling to come to terms with the forthcoming marriage and departure from the family home of her adored son with whom she has developed a strong bond, was movingly and powerfully shown. Her son, still nursing huge anger and resentment against his father who, on his return from the war, had roughly displaced his

son's entrusted role as 'man of the house', was sensitively played by James Henry. The blustering assertive father played by Keith Wait was excellently portrayed. Here was a man who thought that money could buy him whatever he pleased; in this case the services of an eminent doctor to prove that his wife was not of sound mind when she shoplifted from a local department store. Unfortunately, whilst probing into the disturbed mind of his patient, the doctor reveals unexpected hidden psychological depths. The doctor was very plausibly played by Charles Halford with an air of quiet competence and authority. Sue McMillan as the long suffering Nannie, loyal retainer and maid-of-all-works anxiously strove to keep the family calm and carry on in spite of the increasingly puzzling turn of events. Katie Rainbow as the happy fiancée and unwitting cause of her future mother-in-law's distress and Catherine de Roure as the married daughter of the family were in refreshing contrast to the build-up of underlying family tensions. It is great to see SMDG attracting more younger people to their company which will mean that they can tackle a wider choice of plays.

A good backstage crew provided the set, lighting, sound, costumes and props, all of which combined to make a thoroughly enjoyable production.

Jean Wood is not resting on her laurels. We can look forward to another play under her direction later on this year.



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**For young people of
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F.A.B. meets in church on
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at 11am and most Sunday
evenings for discussion,
games, acting, eating and other
activities. In the programme
there are also occasional socials
and trips to Soul Survivor.

For further details contact
Sam Waako 07923 331108
sam.waako@hampton-church.org.uk



**For infants
3 to 7 years**

Mini-COSMOS begins in the
church service and then the
children leave for their own
activities in the church hall.

We meet on the 2nd, 3rd, 4th
and 5th Sundays of the month
during our 11am service.



**For children of
junior school age**

COSMOS meets in the hall
during our 11am service for
activity, craft and fun.

We meet on the 2nd, 3rd, 4th
and 5th Sundays of the month
during our 11am service.

We come back in time for a
blessing in the service.



**Come and join
our group for
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and toddlers**

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for play, craft, story, songs,
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ST MARY'S DRAMA GROUP
Presents
The W.I. Blues
 by John Peel
Wednesday 25 – Saturday 28
October 2017 at 7.45pm



Hampton Hill Theatre, 90 High Street, Hampton Hill TW12 1NZ
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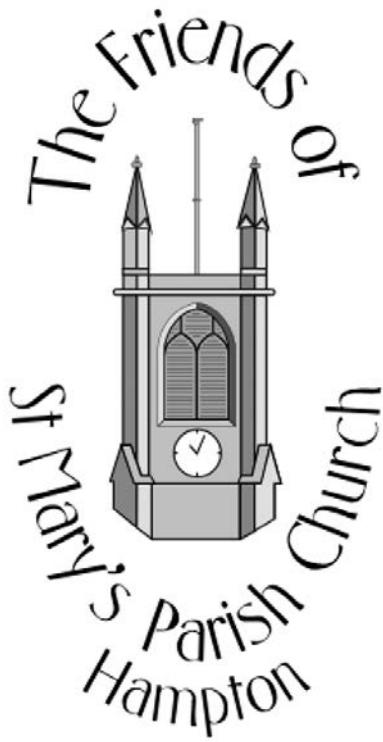
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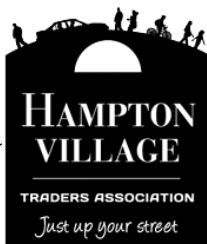


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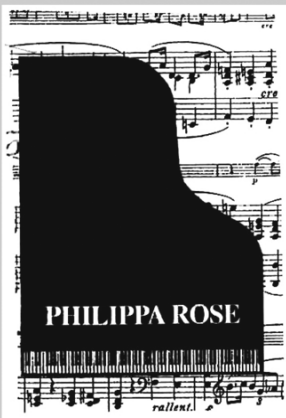
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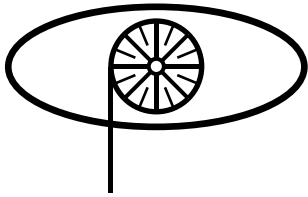
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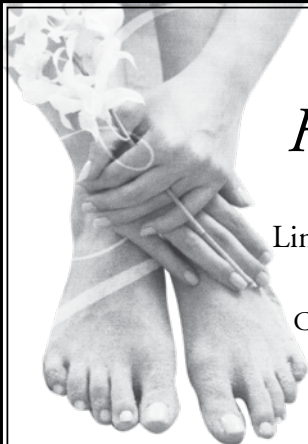
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Bell Inn, The	15
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Exam Tutor	22
FW B Restorations	18
Girls on Tap	21
Grassroots Day Nursery	22
Hampton Beds	18
Hampton Centre Dance Academy	22
Hampton Flooring Company	14
Hampton Hounds – Pet Grooming	17
Hampton Pool	19
Hampton Spice	23
Hampton Village Denture Studio	17
Happy Feet Home Comforts	22
Holiday Cottage	18
Howard, Ken – Professional Handyman	18
Impressed – Dry Cleaning	13
Judith Strong Design	20
Julia's Montessori Nursery School	18
Keates – Funeral Directors	14
Marini's – Fried Fish Shop	20
Nature's Medicine	13
Oven Man, Oven Cleaning	23
Philippa Rose – Piano Teacher	18
Priory Opticians	21
Prune and Tidy	13
Richmond Bridge Boathouses	16
Right at Home	15
Ruchi – Bangladeshi Cuisine	21
Squiffy's Restaurant @ Jolly Coopers	20
St Catherine's School	23
Thameside Harmony Chorus	20
Timbawood Ltd	19
T J Parker, – Electrical Contractor	21
Twickenham Preparatory School	13
Veterinary Surgeons – Willett House	17
Wedding Planner	16
Words & Figures – Accountants	19
Xpress Locksmith	21



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9.30am Holy Communion
A choral service with traditional hymns

11am 'Sunday Praise'
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6.30pm Prayer Book Evensong
A gentle, traditional service
or

6.30pm Refresh Informal Service
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I was glad when they said unto me
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