

Christ Church Information

July 2001

**Revd Celia Thomson,
Christ Church Vicarage, 16 Copse Hill,
London, SW20 0HG**

Dear Friends,

Our last issue came out at the beginning of Christian Aid week. Our magnificent total from Christ Church was **£3539.63** so thank you very much to all of you who collected, gave and counted the money. It will go towards making a difference in people's lives.

At our last meeting, the Anglican and Methodist members of *Churches Together in West Wimbledon* decided that we would no longer hold a joint evening service at the beginning of Christian Aid Week. Attendance has become very poor over the last few years, so from now on each church will bless their own collectors during the Sunday morning service.

Our Moderator, Peter Clifton from Sacred Heart, sets out on his pilgrimage to Rome on 15 July, with the aim of raising money for the homeless. Please support Peter in prayer on his journey,

details of which you will find on page 5. He is also taking a petition to the Pope from our Churches Together supporting the Archbishop of Westminster's idea for an ecumenical council of the Church.

I hope that you all have a very good summer and that those who go away will return refreshed and that those who stay here will enjoy the various events we have planned in July and August.

All best wishes

Celia Thomson

PEACE
TO
YOU.

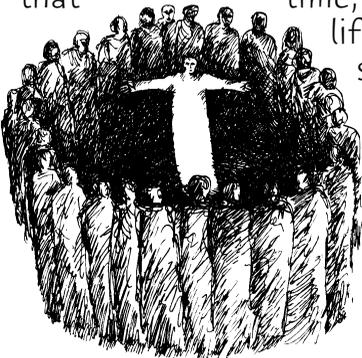
Thought for Summer



Earlier this year, as you know, I went to Rome. In one sense this was a pilgrimage, because it was something I'd always wanted to do and I did visit the major basilicas and other important Christian sites, and I waved to the Pope from a distance. But my manner of getting there was not that of a true pilgrim. I was kindly driven to Heathrow and then I got on a plane and was in the centre of Rome three hours later.

Peter Clifton, the Moderator of the Churches Together in West Wimbledon, is making a pilgrimage to Rome in the true sense of the word. On 15th July he is setting out and walking across Europe to Rome, as did the pilgrims of the Middle Ages. It will be a challenging journey and it has an extra purpose, for Peter is hoping to raise £750,000 for the homeless. (See further details on page 5.)

Not all of us will have the opportunity or desire in our lives to undertake such a pilgrimage. But there are other ways in which one can be a pilgrim. Those of us who were baptised as infants began our Christian pilgrimage at that time; for those who were baptised later in life baptism was probably more like a stage in the journey. It's through prayer that we move onwards in our pilgrimage, deepening our relationship with God, and through involvement with the church community, the Body of Christ.



Our Confirmation service is on 15th July, the day Peter sets out

the Season **2001**



Our Confirmation service is on 15th July, the day Peter sets out from home. For all our candidates, making their public commitment to Christ and having the Bishop lay his hand upon them is a significant event in their pilgrimage; and for all of us it gives the opportunity to reflect on where we are on our own inward pilgrimage, our own path towards God.

Please pray for those to be baptised and confirmed on 15th July and continue to hold them in your prayers.

From Christ Church

Edward Babar

Robert Chapman *

Tanya Lapa *

Sue Taylor

(* to be baptized)

Sheena Dean was confirmed on 24 June at St John's Wimbledon

From St John's Kingston Vale

Philippa Haughton

Antonia Lyne

Lucy Blair

Daniel Blair

Anna Jones

Barry Jones





CHRISTIAN CARE ASSOCIATION - CAMP

This year Christian

Care, an interdenominational local charity, is sending eighteen children between the ages of eight and fifteen to two camps, based at Halls Green in Kent. The camps are run by the Church Pastoral Aid Society and are aimed at inner city children in deprived areas. The camps cost £95 per child, and in addition we give pocket money and a Bible to each camper. The children selected come from families who are not able to afford to go on holiday and who live in difficult circumstances. Some have lived in Merton all their lives; others have recently arrived in the borough as refugees, having fled their own countries because of war or persecution.

We would be very grateful for any donations towards the cost of sending these children to camp this year. We would also love to hear from anyone who would be able to spare a couple of hours or so during a Saturday in August to help transport the children to or from the camps.

If you are able to contribute financially, assist with transport or would like further information about the work of Christian Care, please contact:

Julia Evans, 36 Pepys Road, London SW20 8PF
Tel: 020 8879 0729.

CHRISTIAN CARE ASSOCIATION
Registered Charity No. 1044099

ROMEWALK : JUST OVER TWO WEEKS TO GO !

www.romewalk.org

PETER CLIFTON, MODERATOR OF THE CHURCHES TOGETHER IN WEST WIMBLEDON, IS WALKING TO ROME THIS YEAR - FOR THE HOMELESS

WE DETAILED THE PLANS IN THE FEBRUARY EDITION OF *CHRIST CHURCH INFORMATION*. UPDATE -

The walk starts at the premises of Shelter, and goes across London to Westminster and on to Wimbledon. Peter hopes to get a blessing from the Archbishop of Westminster's representative, as he will be carrying a petition from the Churches Together in West Wimbledon to the Pope in support of the Cardinal's call for an ecumenical council.

Canterbury via the Pilgrim's Way may permit a further blessing from the Anglican Church, and then Peter will be visiting people who work with asylum seekers in Dover. The idea is to get first hand information about the problem.

He walks across Flanders to Belgium for Poverello, a Belgian charity, and then down to Paris. Every day there will be a report on the website on the journey, the people and the outlook - which will include reflections

prompted by the war graves of northern France as well as the other history of conflict between religions.

Inter-faith visits to the liberal synagogue in Brussels and to a mosque in Paris are planned.

The fun parts are cycling across Burgundy to Geneva, and walking for three weeks in the Alps. At the Italian border Peter will meet more friends (there are eight, including relatives, booked for different legs, and he goes on to Firenze and Rome.

Finally, Pedestrian Pete will end a thirst of almost 2,000 days with a glass of beer in Rome.

***Peter is aiming to raise
£720,000
for Shelter
and other charities .***

DIOCESAN VOCATIONS DAY: THE CALLING OF GOD FOR EVERYONE

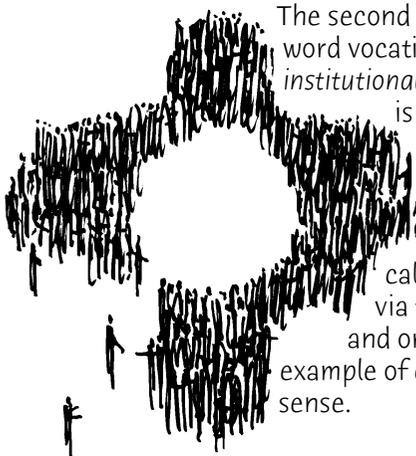
Southwark Cathedral, 9 June 2001

I have read and enjoyed several books by Reverend Francis Dewar and when I heard that he was to be the keynote speaker at the Diocesan Vocations Day I decided to attend - an opportunity to hear him talk - something not to be missed. I was not disappointed.

The day was introduced by the Bishop of Southwark, the Rt Rev Tom Butler who was followed by Rev Francis Dewar talking about the meaning of the word 'vocation'. Right at the beginning of his talk he said that the calling of God is for *everyone*, that we all have something to offer to the life of the world. He continued his talk by saying that he would describe, in detail, three ways in which the word vocation is used when it refers to the calling of God.

The first way is when the word vocation is used as a *general calling*, that is a calling for everyone to be a Christian, a follower of Christ (through Church membership).

The second way is when the word vocation is used as an *institutional calling*, but this is only for some, called to a role or job defined by others. In this instance the calling of God comes via the institution and ordination is an example of calling in this sense.



The third way is when the word vocation is used as a *personal calling*, that is to make some specific contribution to the life of the world that only one individual can make, something that expresses the very essence of oneself. In this instance the calling of God is sensed inwardly.

Rev Dewar then explained in great detail the importance of distinguishing between the different types of calling and group exercises during the day were planned to help delegates understand how God was working in their own lives and, most importantly, to try and understand just what God was wanting them to do or be. This stimulating mental effort and enjoyable group discussion work was brought to an end by half an hour of midday worship before a well earned break for lunch. I took myself off to the brand new Refectory for a substantial bowl of soup - delicious!

During the lunch period there was an opportunity to wander around a 'market place' of stalls staffed by people who could answer questions on different patterns of ministry. These stalls covered all the areas of vocation represented by the organisations in the box to the right.

Browsing around the market place was very absorbing and I picked up leaflets from most stands to bring back to Christ Church.

The afternoon continued with more group work and the day was brought to an end with a concluding act or worship with the Bishop of Woolwich, the Rt Rev Colin Buchanan. Over one hundred people attended the Vocations Day and during this service there was

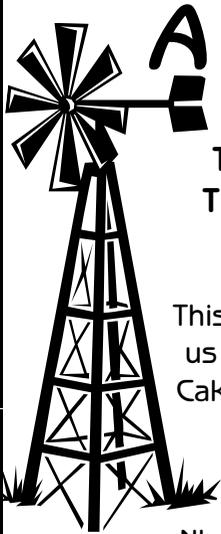
a real sense of communion amongst us and, for all of us I am sure, a deep feeling of reflection as we thought about what God might be asking us to do in his world. We began the concluding act of worship with a hymn and I would like to leave you with the words of the first verse which I am sure we can all identify with as we are all involved in the mission of the Church.



**'We have a gospel to proclaim,
Good news for all upon the earth
The gospel of a saviour's name:
We sing his glory, tell his worth.'**

I thoroughly enjoyed the day and came away feeling better for 'being' rather than 'doing'.
Brenda Thurgood

The Children's Society	Commission
Church Army	Ordained Local Ministry Readers
Church Mission Society	South East Institute of Theological Education
Community of St. Francis	Southwark Pastoral Auxiliaries
Christians Abroad	Spiritual Direction
L'Arche	St. Michael's Convent Ham
Mothers Union	Welcare
Partnership of World Ministry	
Race Relations	



A F R I C A N

THE DIOCESE OF SOUTHWARK AND THE DIOCESE OF MATEBELELAND- OUR LINK WITH ZIMBABWE

This month we have two events that remind us of our linked diocese of Zimbabwe - the Cake Sale on 1st July to raise money for the pews for St David's, Nketa, and Bishop Wilson's visit on 11 July.

Nketa is a growing township on the outskirts of Bulawayo. Two years ago, in August 1999, Bishop Peter visited and was invited to lay the foundation stone of St David's, which was built with the help of the £25,000 raised by the 1999 Bishop of Southwark's Lent Call. The building is now complete, and equipped with all the necessary resources for Anglican worship, except for pews (see photos on display)



The estimated cost for the pews is around £500. Our PCC agreed to raise one quarter of the total cost, £125 which we hope to do in one burst on 1st July, and the remaining £375 has been guaranteed from three other sources. We shall present Bishop Wilson with the cheque when he visits.

A F R I I C N A K

When Bishop Peter visited earlier this year, he was delighted to see the finished church. He wrote: I rarely get emotional about church buildings, but around noon on Friday 27 April I arrived in the high density township of Nketa, turned the corner and there stood the completed building of St David's. St David's is not simply a church in isolation. The vision includes work creation schemes such as animal husbandry, brick-making, carpentry, home care training, AIDs counselling, nursery schools, vegetable gardens, sewing projects and other self-supporting work. It may be that in the future the Link may be asked to support these not just with money but with people able to provide training and development work in the necessary skills. Life in Zimbabwe does not get any easier. A joint statement by the four Anglican bishops dated 16 June outlines the four major problems facing the country now: the failing economy, leading to more poverty and lawlessness; the land issue, which must be addressed without violence; politically motivated violence and intimidation which will continue in the run-up to the elections next year; and the AIDS pandemic.

Our support through prayer continues to be necessary



Bruno Bear News

If you are under 5 and would like to have fun on Thursday mornings come along and join us between 9:30 and 11:30 am bring your parent or carer and give them a chance for a coffee and a chat whilst you play.

Bruno Bear Club will be closed during August

Last meeting will be 26th July

First meeting in the Autumn is on 6th September

Bruno Rules

"Bruno Bear Club Holiday Meets"

During the summer break some of the mums (and toddlers) will meet up on Thursday morning for "Bruno Bear Club Holiday Meets" - Cannizzaro, Wimbledon Park, Melbury Gardens ... for more details contact Clare or Louise (details below) - or Clare on the mobile number for the Hall as she does hall bookings (leave a message and she will get back to you with details)

For More Details Phone: Louise Roberts (020 8879 0971)
or Clare Pickard (020 8947 2196)

Kingston Episcopal Area / Matabeleland Link
Wednesday 11 July 7.30 pm at Christ Church

CELEBRATION SERVICE & DISCUSSION FORUM

with

The Rt Revd
Wilson Sitshebo
Bishop of Matabeleland

&

The Rt Revd
Peter Price
Bishop of Kingston

Saturday 4 August 7.30 pm

Music for a Summer Evening

Music by

Ravel, Elgar, Schubert & others

Entry £5 to include a glass of wine
or soft drink.

SATURDAY 29 SEPTEMBER

7:00-10:00 pm

BARN DANCE

All ages welcome

Tickets to include a light meal

Drinks from the bar

Bring your friends and neighbours

Christ Church 'Information'

C H U R C H D I A R Y
J u l y t o S e p t e m b e r 2 0 0 1



- 1 July *The Third Sunday after Trinity*
- 3 July 11:00am Holy Communion
- 5 July 9:30am Holy Communion
- 8 July *The Fourth Sunday after Trinity*
- 11 July 7:30pm Celebration Service and Discussion Forum with the Bishop of Matabeleland
- 12 July 9:30am Holy Communion
8:00pm PCC Meeting
- 5 July *The Fifth Sunday after Trinity*
10:00am Confirmation The Bishop of Kingston
- 22 July *The Sixth Sunday after Trinity*
The Revd Vic Read
- 26 July 9:30am Holy Communion
- 28 July 1:00pm Wedding of Melissa Young and Christopher Turner
- 29 July *The Seventh Sunday after Trinity*
- 2 Aug 9:30am Holy Communion
- 4 Aug 7:30pm Summer Concert
- 5 Aug *The Eighth Sunday after Trinity*
- 7 Aug 11:00am Holy Communion
- 9 Aug 9:30 Holy Communion
3:00-5:00pm Tea at the Vicarage
- 11 Aug 1:00pm Wedding of Deborah Bundock and Dirk Mohammed
- 12 Aug *The Ninth Sunday after Trinity*

- 16 Aug 9:30am Holy Communion
3:00-5:00pm Tea at the Vicarage
- 19 Aug *The Tenth Sunday after Trinity*
- 23 Aug 9:30 Holy Communion
- 26 Aug *The Eleventh Sunday after Trinity*
- 29 Aug 8:00pm PCC Meeting
- 30 Aug 9:30pm Holy Communion
- 2 Sept *The Twelfth Sunday after Trinity*
- 4 Sept 11:00 am Holy Communion
- 9 Sept *The Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity*
- 16 Sept *The Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity*
- 20 Sept 9:30am Holy Communion
- 23 Sept *The Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity*
- 27 Sept 9:30am Holy Communion
- 29 Sept 7:00-10:00pm Barn Dance
- 30 Sept *The Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity*

BUT HALLOW THE
LORD
CHRIST
in your hearts.