

July - September 2010

Issue 43  
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## The Church of St Thomas à Becket, Hamburg



*We are an English-speaking church in Hamburg consisting of people of many nations and Christian traditions. We worship in the Anglican Episcopal style and our church is part of the Diocese in Europe, which belongs to the Church of England. Our parish has existed since 1612 and the present church building since 1838. People of all nationalities and denominations are welcome to our services and other activities.*

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## There's a Season and a Time for the Ordinary...

We leave the festivals behind and during the Trinity Season practice our love in praise, fellowship and service during the long weeks in *Ordinary Time*, as the lectionary calls it. They stretch away until the end of October. But that's the secret, finding God in the ordinary things of life!

***"If on our daily course,  
Our mind be set to hallow all we find,  
New treasures still, of countless price,  
God will provide for sacrifice."***

John Keble, hymn No. 6 in our hymn book Common Praise.

'**To hallow**' means to make holy. An old title for a parish church could be 'All Hallows'- another way of naming a church All Saints. There is an 'All Hallows by the Tower' parish church in London, for instance.

There's reference in the next line to the wise person, who can bring out of his store, treasures old and new, as Jesus told us. The treasure is the gift beyond price of the knowledge and love of God. It is like the treasure of precious objects found hidden in a field, for which a person sold everything he had to obtain them. *Matthew 13.44*. We bring out our treasure when we speak in compassion and understanding to meet the other person's needs and real desires. *Matthew 12.34-35*. The treasure is in our hearts, the values, hopes and joys of the Kingdom of love. The Kingdom of God is never fully described in the New Testament. We are simply told about its standards (the Commandments) and its values (The Sermon on the Mount).

Seeds of hope, actions done in faith, a prayer for someone in need, time taken to help someone through a crisis, patient work in the harvest field of our daily lives, glorifying God in little things. We may not see the results. Others may reap where we have sown. Be patient with yourself!

## ...and also for Chaplains!

When I accepted Bishop Geoffrey's kind offer to come to us this coming October, he asked me, knowing that I was to retire in the near future, whether I could give him the earliest notice of my intentions before he came. So I have decided to give plenty of notice! I have resigned my post as Chaplain to Bishop Geoffrey, our Diocesan Bishop and retire on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2010. My last service will probably be early in the New Year. So I shall celebrate Advent and Christmas with you and leave at a time in the New Year when the programme is not so busy.

Our Archdeacon Jonathan Lloyd, also the priest at Copenhagen, comes to meet the Chaplaincy Council in late September, to get to know you; to support the Church Wardens, Chaplaincy Council and congregation during the time between priests, known as the Interregnum. Your Chaplaincy Council will in due course, be asked by the Archdeacon to prepare a Parish Profile, used to provide information for applicants. He will also ask you what kind of priest you would ideally like to come as my successor. Bishop David, the lead bishop for Germany, I expect will also be concerned that you are well prepared.

All this sounds a bit impersonal but it's meant to be simply informative at this time. I will write a proper farewell in the October edition of the Becket News. There is a season and a time for everything and everyone. I have so much enjoyed being here that I am very reluctant to retire. However, you now need to plan for the next few years and for the time of the 400<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of The Church of England in Hamburg in 2012!

Roger White

## Events Diary

On July 4th we included 8 Favourite hymns into the first part of the Eucharist Service, We sang hymns chosen by the congregation and some chose to say a few words about their choice. The few words serve as a kind of testimony of course to your personal faith. Please do let us know how this worked out and if we should include this as a regular event.

### British Day 28<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> August

The Chaplaincy Council have regretfully decided not to offer a service this year.

British day will be celebrating it's 20th anniversary this year. It aims to raise money for two chosen charities.

### Church Outing Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> September.

Please book the date! and watch the notice board or our website for further details.

### Nacht der Kirchen

#### Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> September

We had the most visitors ever, over 200, to our NdK last year, having previously opened in 2007. We have decided it best to keep to joining in every two years. This year all our past contributors can look forward to visiting other churches on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> September. We look forward to participating again in 2011.

### Harvest Festival Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> October (Erntedankfest)

Together with the flowers, fruit and vegetables and dry goods which we present in church to give to the Heilsarmee, we hope to have a special collection for our New Mission Projects.

## Bishop Geoffrey's Visit Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> October

Our Diocesan Bishop comes to visit in October and will confirm our candidates at the Eucharist at 10.30 on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup>. Bishop Geoffrey would like to meet the Church Wardens and the Council on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup>. In the light of the Chaplain's retirement, this opportunity to consult him about the future will be especially important. Our lead Bishop for Germany, David, who visited us several times already had a full diary this autumn. We are fortunate that Bishop Geoffrey has this weekend free.

**Our Confirmation Course** this year started with registration on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> June. A mixed group of adults and young people are now meeting regularly at 10.30. We have quite a lot of experience in running mixed age group confirmation classes and found these offer benefits to both age groups. Our candidates need your prayers and support for this exciting step in their journey of faith.

### The Church Bazaar Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> November

For more details please see the article on page 13.

Roger White

If you want to know God, look at his creatures and the wonder of nature.

We cannot understand the mystery and beauty of the Blessed Trinity with our minds but only with our love - the love He gives us.

"See God in his creatures, in matter giving it existence, in plants giving them life, in animals giving them consciousness.

So He lives in me, giving me existence, life, intelligence."

St. Ignatius

We live hopefully,  
with this treasure in our hearts.

## My Confirmation and Memories in and out of Church

My Confirmation Sunday was in May 1991. I remember Bishop Edward Holland well. I think he was living in Gibraltar at the time. It was a very special day with the Bishop there, which I didn't expect, especially as there were so few candidates. (Edward Holland was the Suffragan Bishop in Europe 1986-1995).

It was a very warm and sacred ceremony. There were close people, family, god-parents and all the familiar faces of our very international congregation, sitting behind me in the church. I knew every corner of St. Thomas Becket Church, as I had spent most Sundays there from my early childhood. My sister and I were also taken there once a week to the Young Mum's playgroup at the time to meet up with other English speaking mums and children in the back room of the church. My favourite Sunday service was Harvest Festival, when the church was full to the brim with fruits and vegetables. We carried heavy baskets full of our own apples or big pumpkins up the aisle and were looking forward to singing "All things bright and beautiful" - one of my favourite hymns.

When I stood in front of the altar at my Confirmation ready to kneel down, I was looking at the so familiar and meanwhile restored picture of Mother Mary and her Baby Jesus. I sometimes wondered what she must have gone through as a woman. At times, as a little child in church, I was very worried about the picture. My father being an antique-dealer I understood perhaps more the meaning of the paint peeling off.

I remember shaking hands with Princess Diana, when she and Prince Charles visited St. Thomas à Becket in November 1987, when the church was being refurbished.

My Confirmation reminded me that I always wanted to be "Mary" in the nativity play, but

someone else was either quicker than me or maybe the Sunday school teacher thought that a tall, boyish looking girl like myself would look better as a king! My mother spent hours making our costumes.

I remember that sometimes the church was a place that was lovely and cool in the hot summers we had in the 1980s. But sometimes we were frozen stiff in the cold winters and had to keep our coats on. We could watch the warm breath of every member of the congregation, while they were praying and singing. We were shaking cold hands when everyone around was wishing each other a warm "Peace be with you". It wasn't hard for us to imagine how other people in the world suffered from the cold (the church was in a very poor condition when I was a child).

Something else that is strong in my childhood memory is the huge statue of Otto von Bismarck, just round the corner from the church. I used to think it was God! I had learned at the Sunday School, that he is "almighty" and he can see everything and is bigger than everything else. So I was sure I saw him, every Sunday, when we got into the car to go back home again and we always passed "God"...who sometimes waved to me in my imagination.

I wasn't the only child that thought so. We were often three girls in the car; my sister Angela, Louisa Klietz and myself. Louisa and her mother often drove to church with us, as we were friends and lived close to each other outside Hamburg. So we were three girls sitting in the back seat hanging at the window to be the first to see "God" when turning into Bernhard-Nocht-Straße.

Of course, I know today who the statue represents and that it is possible to sense God in a different way than only with my eyes!

Lydia Struck

## Mission Projects

At the Chaplaincy Council Meeting on June 21<sup>st</sup> two new USPG-Anglicans in World Mission Projects were chosen to be supported over the next two to three years. The Women's centre in South India; as previous reported, was considered but we wanted to make our choice in line with USPG's new strategy of highlighting basic health care and clergy education. These priorities come from the partner Anglican churches in Africa and Asia. There is an acute shortage of priests in Bangladesh, for example.

We apologise for the mistake.

Roger White, Chaplain.

## Koforidua Health Clinics, Ghana



### Primary health care for local communities in Ghana.

Politically and economically, Ghana is one of the most stable countries in Africa – and is often seen as a model for reform on the continent. However, the country also faces many challenges, particularly in the area of healthcare.

For example, infant mortality is high due to malaria and a lack of clean water means diarrhoea is a common cause of death among children under five.

Against this backdrop, the Diocese of Koforidua is reaching out to rural communities through it's a series of health clinics, which are serving a local population of around 30,000.

## St Andrew's Theological College, Bangladesh



### *Training clergy to fulfil God's much-needed work in Bangladesh.*

In parts of the Anglican Communion there is an urgent need for trained clergy and lay leaders to disciple new believers. St Andrew's Theological College, in Mirpur, Bangladesh, trains men and women for pastoral ministry. It develops Christian leaders committed to effective leadership and ministry in both church and society. Courses available at the college include Old and New Testament Theology, Christian Education, Mission and Evangelism, Pastoral Care and Counselling, Pastoral Psychology,

Introduction to Theology, Religion, Women and Church, etc. The Church of Bangladesh's mission is to 'proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ, respond to human needs, strive to build a more just society and preserve the integrity of God's Creation'. In fulfilling its mission, St Andrew's Theological College – which is an institution in the Anglican tradition – has trained many Anglican personnel, both men and women, from different parts of Bangladesh.

The lecturers are mainly Bangladeshis. They are usually made available to the college on placement from their dioceses. Students are selected and sponsored by their dioceses.

Money donated through USPG goes towards supporting student fees, library and administration.

## Anglican-church-hamburg.de – calling for contributions!



We have seen a drop in visitors to the website over the past months which suggests it is time to do something. Having said this, there is solid evidence of individuals making

contact with the church having read the website, which is encouraging. 'Since (reliable) records began' the website has been visited by people located in almost 50 countries, 50-60% from Germany, 15-20% from US, and 6-10% from UK.

As mentioned in the last edition of the Becket News, the website is designed for a wider audience than those who come to church regularly, but relies on the home team for input. Your webmaster would be very pleased to receive any suggestions for content, especially local notices or news for the News section. Also we would like original images, for example, photos you have taken that we can use to brighten up the pages and to tag so that they are found by Google pictures: this being a very good way to drive up traffic to the site. It is also a good place to share things you may have spotted. No need to write lengthy texts, pointers will do!

Please do tell friends and relatives to click on occasionally. Your webmaster hopes that you do too!

*Your webmaster.*

*Don't forget our web site address is:  
[www.anglican-church-hamburg.de](http://www.anglican-church-hamburg.de)*

*Take a look and keep informed!*



## Upholding the free use of the internet means considering moral responsibility

There's an internet site where children can anonymously award marks for their teachers in school. Indeed, they can also make fun of them. A few teachers get praise but the majority are brought down in the public domain by children 'getting back' at what they see unfair or inadequate teaching.

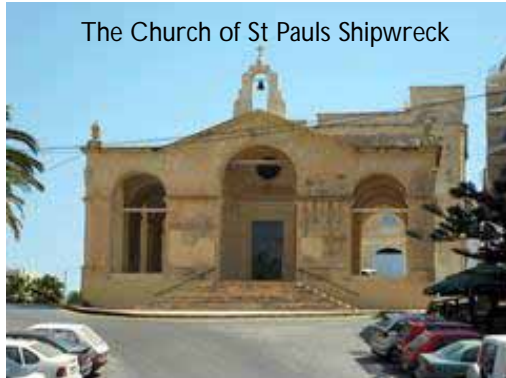
You might have thought that a formal complaint by a teacher to a court about her treatment on the internet would have been upheld. Not so-the court decided that children are within their rights to criticise or make fun of their teachers publicly. And yet-the world is grateful that the protesters in Iran can bring their resistance to the regime to us, despite all the censorship of all foreign journalists. In this regard, the internet is a blessing.

Without it, we should remain unaware of the extent of people's courage in standing up for the truth. Despite that, in a world where millions of children either cannot go to school, or where parents cannot afford to pay for their children's basic education, a website for children here to amuse themselves at their teachers' expense is morally wrong, whatever a court may say.

***Have you browsed the 'Pause for Thought' pages on our Church Website?  
The article above is one example  
available for all to read.***

## St. Paul's Shipwreck

We have just got back from holiday, a week on the historic island of Malta. Besides the obligatory soaking up the sun, admiring the wonderful views and eating far too much, we also managed to explore some of the island and learn of some of its historic and religious background.



The Church of St Pauls Shipwreck

While wandering the picturesque streets of the capital Valetta, we discovered the Church of St. Paul's Shipwreck. This church traces its origins to 1570 and is one of Valetta's oldest churches. In the year 60 AD St. Paul was shipwrecked off the Maltese coast, after his arrest and while being transported back to Rome for trial and execution. Saint Paul had to remain on the island for three months, living in a cave, but performing a number of miracles. The legend goes that after he handled a deadly snake but was left unharmed the local people regarded Paul as a God and he began sowing the seeds of the Christian religion to the population. The father of the Roman governor at the time, Publius, was healed by St. Paul and Publius was converted and eventually became the first bishop of Malta (Acts 27: 1-11).

St. Paul is the patron saint of Malta and the cathedral of Mdina (or Melita, the original Roman capital of the island) is dedicated to him, built on the traditional site of Publius's headquarters.

Every year on the 10<sup>th</sup> February, the feast day of St. Paul's shipwreck, a wooden statue of the apostle is paraded through the streets of the capital, usually during heavy rainfall,

unlike the hot and sunny weather we experienced during our visit to the island. Looking out over the sapphire blue Mediterranean Sea so calm and pleasant, it was difficult to imagine the force of the waves that would cause his shipwreck but we could easily imagine his reluctance to leave this wonderful island. However, his destiny was in God's hands and he continued his journey to Rome and his subsequent martyrdom.

*Irene & John Finn*



St. Pauls Cathedral Mdina

*Eternal Father, strong to save,  
whose arm hath bound the restless wave,  
who bidd'st the mighty ocean deep  
Its own appointed limits keep:*

*O hear us when we cry to thee  
For those in peril on the sea.*

*O Christ, whose voice the waters heard  
and hushed their raging at thy word,  
Who walkedst on the foaming deep,  
And calm amid the storm didst sleep:*

*O hear us when we cry to thee  
For those in peril on the sea.*

*O Trinity of love and power,  
our brethren shield in danger's hour;  
From rock and tempest, fire and foe,  
Protect them wheresoe'er they go:*

*Thus evermore shall rise to thee  
Glad hymns of praise from land and sea.*

*William Whitting*

## News from the Choir

I suppose some of you have met the two friendly gentlemen, who are regular visitors at our Sunday services since last Christmas: Andreas, a Lutheran Theologian who will soon start a pastoral assistance at a church in London, and Yotin, composer and cantor at St. Ansverus in Aumühle. Their relationship to St. Thomas Becket started when they reinforced our choir for the Carol Service last year, which was extremely helpful.

One Sunday Yotin brought a new setting of the Sanctus and Benedictus composed by himself. As we liked his style we asked him if he would compose a complete setting for our Eucharist services. Indeed he did, and he gave us his composition together with twenty copies for the choir and others. It is planned that the congregation learns this setting in the coming months, part by part, led by the choir. We hope that we can use the whole setting at the All Saints Service, 31<sup>st</sup> October. Then we will have, besides the already known settings i.e. Traditional Language Setting, Old Setting and Salisbury Setting, a setting of our own which we may call the **Thomas-Becket-Hamburg Setting**. I am sure you will like it after you have become familiar with it. I think it is fine music and very appropriate to the Liturgy. That was the first part of my news.

The next is a plan for the future - Some of you may remember that we had a performance of **John Stainer's crucifixion** on Easter Saturday 2005. Yotin has agreed to set up a **project choir** in order to have another performance of this famous and in England very well known work of passion music. It shall take place on Saturday before Palm Sunday, 16<sup>th</sup> April 2011. For practice we will have a choir weekend from Friday to Sunday the week before, i.e. 8-10 April 2011. Of course our choir will join this but, at the moment, we are not strong enough to do it on our own. If there is any choir experienced member in the congregation who would like to join just this project please contact me.

The last news is really an appeal. We need urgently new members for our regular church choir. We practice every Tuesday from 18:30 to 20:00 in odd numbered calendar weeks. Please see the notice board for a detailed plan.

Let me finish with part of a psalm which we like to sing as a canon:

**“From the rising of the sun to the going down of the same the Lord's name has to be praised.”**

Jochim Trede

**Sanctus and Benedictus**

Yotin Tiewtrakul

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and  
might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry.  
Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Bles - sed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na  
in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## Junior Church

The Junior Church picnic took place at Planten un Blomen on June 26 after the Sunday service, and we couldn't have asked for better weather. Blue skies gave us the first taste of real summer. The Junior Church children and their families and friends played and had a great time together.

We shared delicious food (from bean dip to strawberries) and enjoyed time to connect with each other before our summer travels take us to far-away places (from Africa to Australia). The children were especially delighted by the Dads' creative games: Tug of war, our new heavy-duty ship's rope doubling as a jump-rope, sack races, a rousing round of tag, and the famous peg-toss.

Our get-together marked the end of an eventful year in Junior Church in which we grew steadily in numbers and enjoyed numerous activities together: preparing for our children's services and the yearly Nativity play; exploring God's Word in music and stories; and sharing breakfast together at the beginning of each term – a lovely new tradition that gives the group an early opportunity to bond.

We are looking forward to welcoming all of you back to Junior Church Sunday August 29. 'Til then, enjoy your Summer!

Karen Berquist-Lüth

### Some Memories of a Happy Day!





Junior Church finished up the year's work and teaching with an enjoyable Eucharist and Prize-Giving on Sunday 27th June. We had 14 children to give books to, some of whom do not come all that regularly! As you can see we found suitable shade under a large tree in *Planten un Blomen* for our picnic and games afterwards.

From September, Karen Berquist-Lüth takes over from Wendy Sprock as co-ordinator of Junior Church. Like Wendy, she has two children of JC age and has become increasingly engaged on Sundays.

We thank Wendy most sincerely for her dedicated involvement in JC over the years, with support from husband Tom. Fortunately for us, she is not giving up, but handing over the leadership to Karen. Wishing Karen every blessing and success in her new role.

We would like to remind parents, that regular attendance at JC during term time is vital. Your child cannot really enjoy the activities and worship if they only come now and then!

Roger White

## Fair trade - and justice through innovation

Recently, I was asked by the European Commission to join a delegation to that Mecca for IT entrepreneurs, Silicon Valley. The purpose of the trip was to see how Europe might improve relations to the European Diaspora so that they perhaps could help budding entrepreneurs make a greater contribution to the European economy, or at least remember where they came from when it comes to charitable giving! The trip also entailed attending the world's largest networking conference for Indian entrepreneurs – 4500 of them – called TiEcon, just to remind us of the global dimension.

Amongst the talk of “*how I made my first billion*” to star-stricken young entrepreneurs, one person finally asked the question that many of us who are dealing with research funding are now asking ourselves ever more frequently: How to ensure that people in poorer parts of the world too can benefit from the knowledge emerging from our advance technology research programmes, and how to get investors to invest in product development for markets where people's income is below the cost of an iPad?

Well if you think this is a dead-end discussion, start thinking creatively! A Silicon Valley based company, mentioned as an answer to the above, has just won the UK Ashden Award for sustainable energy.

**D.Light** has developed a range of very low cost solar powered lanterns that provide an alternative to kerosene lamps commonly used by households in India and Africa where there is no mains electricity. The lamps costing as little as around 9 Euros can be financed through micro loans that usually can quickly be repaid through the extra productivity provided by being able to work longer hours, for example. Electric light which we take for granted, extends the day. D.Light's lamps provide children with the possibility to do homework outside daylight hours which could make a huge difference to their educational opportunities.



They also reduce health and safety risks and environmental impact. The mission of the company is to enable households without reliable electricity to attain the same quality of life as those with electricity. Venture Capitalists have been happy to put money into this, as have many donors.

As a complement to this, the Dutch based **Rural Energy Foundation (REF)** supported by the Dutch Government and private individuals, winner of the EU Sustainable Energy Europe 2010 Prize, is working to provide hundreds of thousands of rural people in sub-Saharan Africa with access to renewable energy. More than 70% of this region has no access to electricity. In rural areas this often exceeds 95%. REF works to create a functioning supply chain by training local entrepreneurs to promote and install solar energy systems for energy and lighting.

Like Fairtrade which the Church supports, these are state-of-the-art, imaginative, innovative ideas on how business mechanisms, rather than just charitable aid approaches, can be harnessed to provide for a more equitable and sustainable world. They are an inspiration to those of us in the research and innovation business. Think about it when you next invest! The market for affordable renewable energy lighting is bigger than that for iPads!

Further information

Ashden Awards <http://www.ashdenawards.org/>  
BBC Online

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/world/africa/10486605.stm>.

D.Light [www.dlightdesign.com](http://www.dlightdesign.com)

Rural Energy Foundation (REF) [www.ruralenergy.nl](http://www.ruralenergy.nl)

## Annual Bazaar, Saturday November 20<sup>th</sup> 2010

You will be pleased to read that again this year we will be holding our big bazaar on the above date, here in Church. Already at this point, a big thank you to all stallholders, for being prepared to get involved again, in this big money raising event.

As in previous years, suitable contributions and donations for the various stalls are always welcome. For example good prizes for the raffle, anything in bottles for the bottle stall, CD and DVD's in good condition.

English books for the book stall are always needed please contact Martin Hackett if you have books to donate. (martin@hackett-kaiser.de)

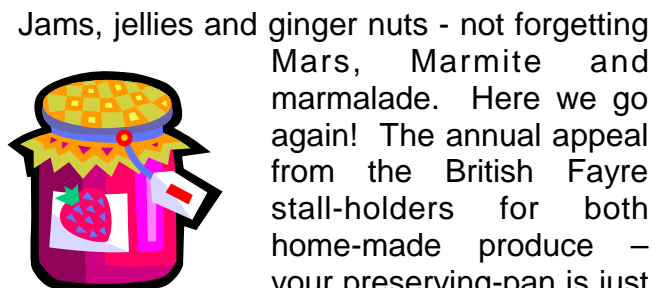
Please contact one of the Church members mentioned below if you have any donations or questions. Items should only be brought to Church after the end of October.

Please note there will be no "white elephant" stall or second hand clothing!

A bazaar meeting will be held in September, the date will be announced in Church nearer the time.

(John Finn, Birte Fischer, Renu Roy, Ellen Zeismann)

## Church Bazaar – British Fayre



Jams, jellies and ginger nuts - not forgetting Mars, Marmite and marmalade. Here we go again! The annual appeal from the British Fayre stall-holders for both home-made produce – your preserving-pan is just longing to be filled with those lovely summer fruits – and any goodies you can bring back in the boot of your car, if you are travelling to the UK by ferry in the coming months.

This year I shall be in Hamburg from mid-July until mid-September, so please do check with me before you go as to what has already been promised by others and what is still needed. We don't want to end up with 3 dozen tins of custard powder and not a single jar of mint sauce.

A reminder to watch the sell-by dates (biscuits especially have a short shelf-life and the Bazaar is not until November) and to keep your receipts, so that Stuart can reimburse you.

Many thanks.

I know we can count on you!

Cicely Hollingsworth  
Tel. 040/860790

## New bookshelves for the Gallery



We would like to thank Jane and Günter Ziesemer for their generous contribution, which has allowed us to purchase new bookshelves for our second-hand book collection. We would also like to thank Martin Hackett and his sister Melanie Hackett, Philip Jacobs, Elisabeth Jones, and Sarah Meister for purchasing, transporting and assembling the bookshelves, and for sorting the books accordingly. Your engagement is much appreciated.

Grateful thanks from us all - JF

## Ladies Christian Fellowship

Our first meeting after Easter was hosted by Renu Roy, the theme being “the fostering of children”. Renate Babel-Friedrich’s talk was based largely on her own experiences of caring for her present ‘family’, three children, a girl and two brothers, all of Indian parentage. As a qualified social worker, Renate is entrusted with some of the most difficult cases, and we all went home full of respect and admiration for Renate and other carers like her, as we compared the tenor of our own largely uncomplicated lives with the stress of coping with these youngsters and of battling with the bureaucracy of the Jugendamt. However, how rewarding, when one succeeds in changing a child’s life for the better.

In early May we had hoped to arrange a trip to Bad Bevensen but too few people were able to participate. However, on May 26<sup>th</sup> several of our group joined Dolly’s relatives and other friends – about a dozen in all – to celebrate her 88<sup>th</sup> birthday at the Ruckteschell-Heim. I am sorry I had to miss it, but Heidi reported that it was a lovely occasion and that Dolly was “in high spirits”.

On the 30<sup>th</sup> June, six ladies met at Landungsbrücken to catch the ferry no. 62 to Finkenwerder. We joined lots of tourists and as the sky cleared, we had beautiful sun and a fresh wind. Since the ferry was heavily loaded, most of us stayed inside the ship and the rest stood on the top deck to take pictures.



Arriving in Finkenwerder we changed to another ferry (no.64) and enjoyed the short trip on the top deck to Teufelsbrück – we all thought the journey could go a little longer, but after 15 minutes we reached the final spot!

From there we walked along the river Elbe to the Hotel Louis C. Jacob to be joined by another four members for a nice iced coffee/chocolate and a piece of cake. We had a big table in the corner of the terrace all to ourselves and enjoyed a nice chat together.



It was a beautiful afternoon and we are looking forward to doing the same next year.

Birte Fischer/Cicely Hollingsworth



Future meetings:

July 13<sup>th</sup> – lunch at the home of Jane Ziesemer

August 3<sup>rd</sup> – tea in Ellen’s garden

September 7<sup>th</sup> – A meeting to be arranged by Birte and hosted by Renu. Details later.



## Church Wanderers

As expected, the end of the wintry weather saw us resuming our walks with renewed enthusiasm.

In April we ventured along the dyke from Wedel to the Carl Zeiss Vogelstation, where we were able to eat our lunch outside in the sunshine at one of the picnic tables. Several of us then attempted to identify the birds on the lake with the help of the telescopes in the club-house, or to observe them through the "windows" in the two hides close to the water. On the way back we made a stop at the Gaststätte Fährmannsand for Kaffee u. Kuchen.

Nicki and Johann Schiller kindly offered to lead the May walk from Aumühle to Bergedorf. The route through the woods alongside the river Bille was especially attractive in the spring with all the leaves such a fresh green. As in the past, the steps leading down to the lake in front of the Reinbeker Schloß made a lovely picnic spot, and what could be better for tea than the Schloß Café in Bergedorf. As you see, all this exercise gives us a good appetite!

Last month we returned to the Harburger Berge for a walk from Appelbütteler Weg to Waldfrieden. The weather in the preceding few days had been very showery but on Saturday came a change and, except for a few alarming moments when the skies grew dark and we thought our sandwiches might get a good soaking, the day stayed dry. At one point we wondered if we had taken a wrong path, but Sarah's skill at map reading proved we hadn't and we finally reached the familiar Moisburger Stein. 10 kms. is scarcely a long walk, but somehow we were all thankful that it was now only a short stretch to one of our favourite Gaststätten with the bus-stop for Harburg close by.

July 10<sup>th</sup> – Sarah Meister will lead a walk along the Alsterwanderweg.

August 14<sup>th</sup> – to be decided

September 11<sup>th</sup> – to be decided.

Cicely Hollingsworth

## Mothers Union - Three years on and finding our feet.

The Hamburg branch of the Mothers Union has a small membership but with continued growth. Our annual "Christmas Party" in the beginning of December is open to all and many African Women who are not able to attend weekday meetings join this event.

We have a specific concern for the elderly residents and support pastoral care for those who are alone and sick towards the end of their lives.



*Adapted from the summer 2010 edition of The European Anglican.*

## Annual General Meeting 2010

The AGM was attended by 48 people, more than usual in recent years. We heard reports from all those involved in church administration and organizations. Sadly, the Ladies' Christian Fellowship is *formally* no more and will not take up its ex-officio seat on the council.

Sincere thanks were passed to all retiring council members and a special thanks given to Ellen Zeismann, Rosemarie Curren, and Cicely Hollingsworth who all have faithfully served as both council members and wardens for many years.

A new council was duly elected:

Deborah Ockert & Renu Roy - Church Wardens

Peter Alexander - Council Secretary

Stuart Cook - Treasurer and Vice Chairman

Karen Berquist-Lueth, Birte Fischer, Matilda

Hammond, Emmanuel Saarkodie, Harriet

Sasse and Heidi Thomas-White - Council

Members.

## The Parochial Church Council

Last week a friend remarked to me, “Now, should I join our P.C.C.?” I answered rather priggishly, “You’re a communicant. You can and want to help your clergyman. Parochial church councils are from parish councils different far” I said, “and district councils too have very different things to do, for district councils raise the rates and have political debates. If one side says “Preserve the town”, the other side says “pull it down!” and parish councils try to make the district council keep awake to local practical affairs – like village bus-shelter repairs.

From parish to parliament and queen, a mighty structure thus is seen – endless committees in between.

And I suppose that it occurred to someone as not quite absurd. To make our Church of England be a similar democracy.

The Church Assembly’s near the top, where people talk until they drop;

Next come diocesan committees, like mayors and aldermen in cities.

The equivalent to R.D.C.s are ruri-decanal jamborees, and at the bottom of the tree

We find the homely P.C.C.

For P.C.C.’s were really made to give your local vicar aid

And I have always understood that most of them are very good –

Where lay folk do what jobs they can to help their church and clergyman.

But in small villages I’ve known of ones which make the vicar groan and

Wish he could be left alone. So just you come along with me to a really dreadful P.C.C.’

This evening in the village school, and wedged into an infant’s stool

A large parishioner is sitting glancing at us above her knitting.

The farmers sit (they make one laugh) in desks too small for them by half.

Prim ladies brooding for a storm are ranged like infants, on a form.

We read the text that hangs above in coloured letters, ‘GOD IS LOVE’,

The vicar takes the teacher’s chair. A dreadful tenseness fills the air.

‘We will begin,’ he says, ‘with prayer’. We do. It doesn’t make things better.

The vicar reads the bishop’s letter – Diocesan this and quota that

– He might be talking through his hat;

This is not what they’ve come about. But now the devil’s jumping out

for now we have the Church accounts, and as they’re read, the tension mounts.

The vicar has been forced to be the treasurer of this P.C.C.

As no one else will volunteer to do the hard work needed here.

“Well, Vicar do I understand last year we had six pounds in hand”

Says Farmer Pinch who’s rich and round and lord of ninety thousand pound,

“and this year you are three pound ten in debt – and in the red again?”

Now, Vicar that is not the way to make this parson business pay.

You’re losing cash. It’s got to stop or you will have to shut up shop”.

The tactless vicar answers, “Sir, upon the church you cast a slur. Church is not trade”.

“Then time it were”, growls Farmer Pinch, and now Miss Right —

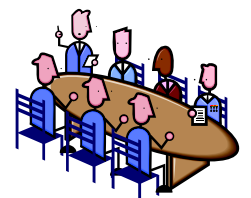
Who has been spoiling for a fight – Miss Right who thinks she’s very Low

And cannot bring herself to go to services where people kneel,

Miss Right who always makes you feel you’re in the wrong, and sulks at home

And says the vicar’s paid by Rome – cries, “If the vicar and his pals spent less

On popish fal-de-lals like altar candles and such frills. Perhaps we then could pay our bills”.



The fight grows furious and thicker, and what was meant to help the vicar – This democratic P.C.C. – seems just the opposite to me.

The meeting becomes charged with hate, and turns the devil's advocate. Its members never go to church. Admittedly you'd have to search A lot of villages to find a P.C.C. that's so unkind.

But everywhere, just now and then, the devil gets at groups of men. So if you join your P.C.C. Be calm and full of charity.



*John Betjeman  
Broadcast on the BBC in April 1955  
And published in 1982*

*The Church Assembly was renamed in 1970 the General Synod*

## Worshipping in Mumbai

Over the past year I have had the opportunity to visit India on several occasions which has indeed been an interesting experience. My work has given me the pleasure of meeting many people and I have learned much about the culture and life of working and living in the major cities of Mumbai (Bombay) and Chennai (Madras). When in Mumbai on a Sunday I have had the chance to join the congregation of St. Thomas's in the wonderful old part of the city. Sitting in the cool and shady pews of the Cathedral Church early on a Sunday morning, taking part in the Choral Eucharist and listening to the Presbyter, the Revd. John Silas preach is really a privilege.



The construction of St. Thomas' Cathedral was started in 1676 and completed in 1718

the first Anglican Church in Mumbai. It was built to accommodate the growing British population and inside can be found ornate tombstones of British officers and civil servants.

St Thomas Cathedral is to be found near Flora Fountain in the Fort area of Bombay. In 2004, the cathedral was selected for the UNESCO Asia-Pacific heritage conservation award.

The church derived its name from St. Thomas - the disciple of Christ, who came to establish the faith of Christianity in the south western part of India, all along the Malabar Coast. The Cathedral of St. Thomas has been a calm and serene abode for scores of Britons, who were laid to rest beneath marble tablets. The cathedral confine has a cemetery, which houses the tombstones of generals, clerks and young maids.

St. Thomas Cathedral draws a congregation from all parts of the country. At the time of Christmas and similar festivals, the church is festooned with buntings and decorations. Residents as well as tourists visit St. Thomas Cathedral to spend some moments of peace and solitude. The marvellous architecture of the church is worth-seeing and admiring.

John Finn

## Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals at St Thomas à Becket. April - June 2010

<b>Baptisms</b> ,The Water of Life'	Sunday 20th June	Alison Wartisch
<b>Weddings</b> ,To have and to hold...'	None	None
<b>Funerals</b> ,I know that my redeemer lives'	None	None

### PRAYERS FOR THE WORLD CUP

God of the nations,  
who has always called his people to be a blessing for the world,  
bless all who take part in the World Cup.  
Smile on South Africa in her hosting,  
on the nations represented in competition and  
on those who travel to join in the party. Amen.



**Lord, as all around are gripped with World Cup fever,  
bless us with understanding,  
strengthen us with patience  
and grant us the gift of sympathy if needed. Amen.**

### Goodbye and Good Luck Jane & Ryan



We wish both Jane and Ryan Birkelbach "Bon Voyage" as they fly back to their homeland and settle into their new life in Monterey CA. We will miss their support, help and friendly smiles and wish them both success for their future.



## Sunday Services : July - September 2010

For possible changes and additions at short notice please visit the online church notice board on our website, which is updated weekly, at [www.anglican-church-hamburg.de](http://www.anglican-church-hamburg.de)

JULY			
4th July Trinity 5	10.30 The Parish Eucharist	Proper 9. 2Kings 5-1-14, Isaiah 6.10-14, Luke 10.1-11,16-20	Psalm 66.1-8
11th July Trinity 6	10.30 The Parish Eucharist	Proper10. Amos 7.7-17, Colossians 1.1-14, Luke 10.25-37	Psalm 82
18th July Trinity 7	10.30 The Parish Eucharist	Proper11. Genesis 18.1-10a, Colossians 1.15-28, Luke 10.38-42	Psalm 15
25th July Trinity 8	10.30 The Parish Eucharist. Traditional Rite	Proper12. Genesis 18.20-32, Colossians 2. 6-15, Luke 11.1-13	Psalm 138
<i>Thursday 29h July</i>	<i>19.00 Eucharist</i>		
AUGUST			
1st August Trinity 9	10.30 The Parish Eucharist	Proper 13. Hosea 11.1-11, Colossians 3.1-11, Luke 12.13-21	Psalm 107.1-9
8th August Trinity 10	10.30 Parish Eucharist	Proper14. Genesis 15-1-6, Hebrews 11.1-3,8-16, Luke 12.32-40	Psalm 33.12-22
15th August Trinity 11	10.30 The Parish Eucharist	Proper15. Isaiah 5.1-7, Hebrews 11.29-12.2, Luke 12.49-56	Psalm 80.1-2,8-18
22nd August Trinity 12	10.30 The Parish Eucharist. Traditional Rite	Proper16. Jeremiah 1.4-10, Hebrews 12.18-29, Luke 13.10-17	Psalm 71.1-6
<i>Thurs 27th August</i>	<i>19.00 Eucharist</i>		
29th August Trinity 13	10.30 The Parish Eucharist	Proper17. Jeremiah 2.4-13, Hebrews 13.1-8 only, Luke 14.1,7-14	Psalm 81.1,10-16
SEPTEMBER			
5th September Trinity 14	10.30 The Parish Eucharist	Proper18. Jeremiah 18.1-11, Hebrew 13.8.15-21*, Luke 14.25-33	Psalm 139.1-18
not Lectionary			
12th September Trinity 15	10.30 Morning Praise (Not HC)	Proper19. Exodus 32.7-14, 1 Timothy 1.12-17, Luke 15.1-10	Psalm 51.1-10
19th September Trinity 16	10.30 The Parish Eucharist	Proper 20. Amos 8.4-7, 1 Timothy 2.1-7, Luke 16.1-13	Psalm 113
26th September Trinity 17	10.30 The Parish Eucharist. Traditional Rite	Proper 21. Amos 6.1a, 4-7, 1 Timothy 6.6-19, Luke 16.19-31	Psalm 146
<i>Thurs 30th September</i>	<i>19.00 Eucharist</i>		
OCTOBER			
3rd October	10.30 Children's Eucharist	Special Readings and Prayers. Heilsarmee Guests	No psalm
<i>Harvest Festival / Erntedankfest Junior Church in for whole service</i>			
<i>17th October Trinity 20</i>	<i>10.30 Eucharist with Confirmation</i>	<i>The Bishop in Europe Geoffrey Rowell visits us</i>	

Please note : - **Deadline for the next issue of Becket News is - Sat. 25<sup>th</sup> September**

# Who's Who at our Church

## Chaplains

	<u>Telephone</u>	<u>E.Mail</u>
Revd. Roger White	(040) 4392334 (040) 40186735 Fax.	
Revd. Erika Anders, Assistant	(040) 582850 (040) 582841 Fax.	

## Church Council

Deborah Ockert, Church Warden	(040) 6317009
Renu Roy, Church Warden	(04103) 16584
Peter Alexander, Secretary	(040) 475015
Stuart Cooke, Treasurer, Vice Chair	01785 616463
Karen Berquist-Lüth	(040) 50097673
Birte Fischer	(040) 21057391
Matilda Hammond	(040) 5323931
Emmanuel Saarkodie (Giving envelopes)	(040) 6412157
Harriet Sasse	(040) 46862994
Heidi Thomas-White	(040) 664316

## Council of Anglican and Episcopal Churches in Germany - Delegates

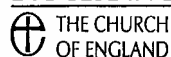
Revd. Roger White	(040) 4392334
Revd. Erika Anders	(040) 582850
Harriet Sasse	(040) 46862994
Heidi Thomas-White	(040) 664316

## Other Ministries

Child Protection Officer	Pieter Thomas	(040) 53331324
Choir & Organ	Jochim Trede	(040) 7135448 (040) 71404826 Fax.
Church Wanderers	Cicely Hollingsworth	(040) 860790
Electoral Roll Officer	Birte Fischer	(040) 21057391
Assistant	Emmanuel Saarkodie	(040) 6412157
Flower List	Ellen Ziesmann	(040) 22697878
FWO Giving Envelopes	Emmanuel Saarkodie	(040) 6412157
Greeting Cards	Judith Holst	(040) 8800727
Junior Church	Karen Berquist-Lüth	(040) 50097673
Magazine Editor	John Finn	(040) 86626673 (040) 86626674 Fax.
Mothers Union	Erika Anders	(040) 582850
Refreshment Rota	Heidi Thomas & Emmanuel Saarkodie	(040) 664316 (040) 6412157
Shared Prayer	Cicely Hollingsworth	(040) 860790
Sidesmen's Rota	Deborah Ockert	(040) 6317009
The Sacristan	Paul Fletcher	(040) 784630
USPG Rep.	Heidi Thomas-White	(040) 664316
Young Adults Fellowship	Sally Newnham	(040) 20982866

For notices and contribution to the website, please e-mail to [webmaster\(at\)anglican-church-hamburg.de](mailto:webmaster(at)anglican-church-hamburg.de)

**DIOCESE IN EUROPE**



**Church Bank Account : Hamburger Sparkasse, BLZ 200 505 50, Konto-Nr. 1280146422**

Our church receives no income from church tax and is entirely dependent on freewill donations.  
These are tax deductible. Contact the treasurer for more details