

Kensington

Parish News

ADVENT 2014 | Free
www.stmaryabbotschurch.org

St Mary Abbots | Christ Church | St Philip's
www.christchurchkensington.com | www.specr.org





We build our mortgages around you

All homes are different. The same applies to the need for home financing. Therefore we offer individual and flexible solutions for all your mortgage needs and requirements. We will find the best financial solution to suit your needs whether buying a new home or remortgaging.

Contact our Kensington branch where we will be delighted to talk to you about your specific requirements.

Tom Fuller - Branch Manager

Tel: 0207 937 1028, e: tofu02@handelsbanken.co.uk

Andy Gillett – Corporate Manager

Tel: 0207 937 1032, email: angi05@handelsbanken.co.uk

Julie-Ann Thompson - Individual Banking Manager

Tel: 0207 937 1036, email: juth01@handelsbanken.co.uk

Luke Stower - Individual Banking Manager

Tel: 0207 937 1043, email: lest05@handelsbanken.co.uk

Your home may be repossessed if you do not keep up repayments on your mortgage.

Second Floor, 125 Kensington High Street

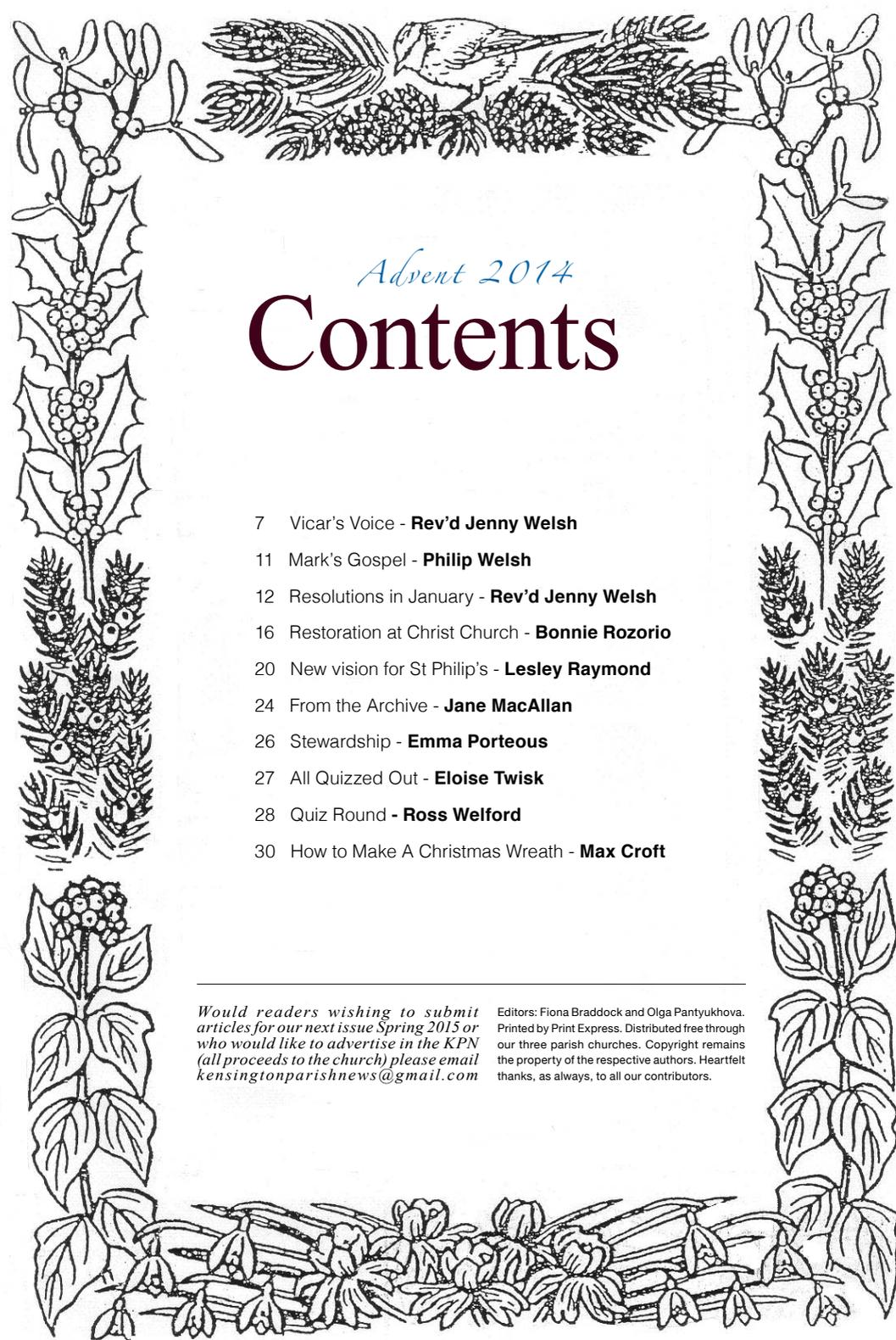
London W8 5SF

Tel: 0207 937 1007

www.handelsbanken.co.uk/kensington

Handelsbanken

Registered Office: Svenska Handelsbanken AB (publ), 3 Thomas More Square, London, E1W 1WY. VAT Registration No. GB524 9824 25. Registered in England and Wales No. BR 000589. Incorporated in Sweden with limited liability. Registered in Sweden No. 502007-7862. Head Office in Stockholm. Authorised by the Swedish Financial Supervisory Authority (Finansinspektionen) and the Prudential Regulation Authority and subject to limited regulation by the Financial Conduct Authority and Prudential Regulation Authority. Details about the extent of our authorisation and regulation by the Prudential Regulation Authority, and regulation by the Financial Conduct Authority are available from us on request.



Advent 2014 Contents

- 7 Vicar's Voice - **Rev'd Jenny Welsh**
- 11 Mark's Gospel - **Philip Welsh**
- 12 Resolutions in January - **Rev'd Jenny Welsh**
- 16 Restoration at Christ Church - **Bonnie Rozorio**
- 20 New vision for St Philip's - **Lesley Raymond**
- 24 From the Archive - **Jane MacAllan**
- 26 Stewardship - **Emma Porteous**
- 27 All Quizzed Out - **Eloise Twisk**
- 28 Quiz Round - **Ross Welford**
- 30 How to Make A Christmas Wreath - **Max Croft**

Would readers wishing to submit articles for our next issue Spring 2015 or who would like to advertise in the KPN (all proceeds to the church) please email kensingtonparishnews@gmail.com

Editors: Fiona Braddock and Olga Pantyukhova. Printed by Print Express. Distributed free through our three parish churches. Copyright remains the property of the respective authors. Heartfelt thanks, as always, to all our contributors.

NATURAL PORTRAIT PHOTOGRAPHY

by EMILY FAIRWEATHER LBIPP

Emily loves her job and it shows in the fantastic results. She specialises in taking natural photographs using available light in a gorgeous setting of your choice producing images you will cherish forever.



Be it a family portrait shoot or your wedding day Emily has a talent for putting you at ease so even the most camera shy person will have fun on the photo-shoot. She has many products to offer from hand-finished prints to bespoke canvases, in black and white and colour, a perfect gift for all the family.

For further information and to view Emily's website please visit

www.emilyfairweatherphotography.co.uk

or phone 01984 667 281 or 07958763029

Email : emilyfairweather@btinternet.com

Looking to buy, sell, rent or let?

WE'LL GET YOUR HOME IN FRONT OF THE RIGHT PEOPLE

When you're selling your home you want to be confident that your agent is promoting it in the best way possible.

Whether you want us to shout from the rooftops about your property or it's a low-profile campaign you need, we know the best ways to introduce your home to the right kind of buyers and will tailor our strategy to suit you.

So, national or local, in print or online, we'll make sure your home is seen by the right people.

Call our Kensington office today to arrange your free market appraisal.

Winkworth. See things differently.



Winkworth Kensington

020 7727 1500 | kensington@winkworth.co.uk

118 Kensington Church Street, W8 4BH

winkworth.co.uk/kensington

Winkworth



WESTBURY

PRIVATE CLIENTS

Active Wealth Preservation

When clients select Westbury they get a truly personalised service from a boutique discretionary investment management business. Unlike many private banks and wealth managers, our clients are able to speak to the person managing their wealth, rather than a relationship manager. We focus on "active wealth preservation" whereby our controlled risk approach can deliver positive returns in both challenging and not so challenging markets. We pride ourselves in creating competitively priced bespoke risk adjusted portfolios for our clients.

What truly sets us apart is that we are "value" investors. We carry out our own internal research, and we aim to deliver absolute positive performance and significant relative performance even when equity markets fall.

Our ethos is based on the principles of 'capital preservation.' Whilst we do not profess to be 'absolute return' managers, we do seek to avoid major declines in markets, thus preserving wealth to capitalise on future undervalued opportunities after markets have declined.

James Goodchild
CIO/ FOUNDER

100 St Paul's Churchyard
London
EC4M 8BU

Telephone: +44 (0)207 060 9700
Email: enquiries@westburypc.com
Web: www.westburypc.com

This communication is for the general information purposes only and does not constitute professional advice. We accept no responsibility for any loss arising from the information it contains. The value of investments can go down as well as up and is not guaranteed. Exchange rate movements may cause the value of overseas investments to fluctuate. Westbury Private Clients LLP is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority under firm ref no.595603. This material is not suitable for retail clients. (WPC-0009)

VICAR'S VOICE

Associate Vicar **Jenny Welsh**

You know what it's like: months ago, an old friend or family member said they were coming to visit, and now suddenly, their visit is nearly upon you. There is so much to prepare: clearing the guest room (or turfing the children out of theirs, so the visitor can use it); cleaning the floors and the bathroom; making sure the rest of the family will be around and ready to be friendly; getting in the right food and drink to make the visitor feel welcome; and making sure you yourself are able to make time and space in the diary to spend with them while they are here. Having houseguests is a great joy, but getting ready for them can feel like hard work, in an already busy household.

The coming of Christmas brings all of these questions to the front of our minds very forcefully, as grandparents and aunts and so on descend on our homes, as we wonder how we will make room, how we will have enough food, and drink and entertainment to keep everyone happy, and if we are honest, how we will survive each other till the end of the holidays. It's a time of happiness of course, but we all know that it's a time a great stress, too. And that's as true as it is for those of us doing the visiting as well as for those of us doing the welcoming.



I believe that part of the stress is associated with the fact that our society begins to worry about the coming of Christmas far too early – the first Christmas cards were in the shops in September; restaurants and pubs inviting us to plan our Christmas parties even earlier; the decorations going up in town at the same time as the Remembrance poppies were being sold (which always seems unseemly to me). No wonder we get stressed. But I digress.

ST MARY ABBOTS**Sundays**

8.00 am Holy Eucharist
 9.30 am *SUNG EUCHARIST*
 with *Creche & Sunday School*
 11.15 am Choral Matins & Sermon
 12.30 pm *HOLY EUCHARIST*
 6.30 pm Evensong with Sermon & Holy Eucharist
1st Sunday of month:
 Taize Prayer & Holy Eucharist

Mondays

8.30 am Morning Prayer
 1.05 pm Sunday on Monday service
 5.30 pm Evening Prayer

Tuesdays

8.30 am Morning Prayer
 11.30 am *HOLY EUCHARIST*
Book of Common Prayer
 5.30 pm Evening Prayer

Wednesdays

7.10 am Morning Prayer
 7.30 am *HOLY EUCHARIST*
 2.00 pm 3rd Weds in the month: Holy Eucharist
 with *Laying-on of Hands & Anointing*
 5.30 pm Evening Prayer

Thursdays

7.10 am Morning Prayer
 9.30 am St Mary Abbots School Eucharist
 in term time - all welcome
 5.30 pm Evening Prayer

Fridays

7.10 am Morning Prayer
 7.30 am *HOLY COMMUNION*
 5.30 pm Evening Prayer

Saturdays

9.40 am Morning Prayer
 10.00 am *HOLY EUCHARIST*
 5.30 pm Evening Prayer

On *MAJOR FEASTDAYS* additional Services
 also offered: see the *Bulletin & Noticeboard*.

CHRIST CHURCH**Sundays**

8.30 am *HOLY COMMUNION*
 11.00 am *1st and 3rd Sundays in the month:*
 BCP Holy Communion
 11.00 am *2nd & 4th Sundays in the month:*
 BCP Morning Prayer
 6.30 pm Contemporary Evening Service

ST PHILIP'S**Sundays**

8.30 am Holy Communion
 10.30 am *SUNG EUCHARIST* with *Sunday School*
 3rd Sunday: all age service with Eucharist

Monday to Friday

9.10 am Morning Prayer

FROM THE CLERGY

The Church knows about getting ready for Christmas, and it offers a gift to the secular world to help it cope: the gift is the season of Advent – four weeks long, with clear beginning and a clear end, it's not just a countdown to the big day; it's a season to inhabit and enjoy, in which to consider what actually needs to be got ready in order to welcome the ultimate Guest – not just at Christmas, but throughout the year, throughout our lives: what space needs to be made, not by pushing the children under the stairs for the duration, but by clearing the clutter in our hearts and in our minds, and being open to the coming of God in Christ, to fill them with his peace, and his love.

One way we get ready at St Mary Abbots is to invite our members to offer a physical space to the travelling Christmas Crib – a little wooden Nativity Set, with the holy family, a manger, and even a couple of animals – just for one night, before taking them along to their next place of rest, in another home. It's a good way to make room for God's coming to your household, but it's also a nice way to meet other members of the church family. You could also invite your neighbours to come and see the Crib as well. There is a rota in church – if you are interested in joining in, do sign up to a date convenient to you, and instructions will be sent along in the next couple of weeks about what to do next.

And let us all pray that this Advent will be a period for each us to take time, and really look forward to Christ's coming with joy

Parish Directory

Clergy, wardens, vestry and office

THE PARISH

Vicar of the Parish	The Rev'd Gillean Craig	020 7937 6032	gillean.craig@stmaryabbotschurch.org
Associate Vicar	The Rev'd Jenny Welsh	020 7937 2364	jenny.welsh@stmaryabbotschurch.org
Honorary Assistant Priest	The Rev'd Julia Hedley	020 3686 1513	julia.hedley@stmaryabbotschurch.org
Parochial Church Wardens	David Banks	07732 743 228	dcjb@btinternet.com
	Adrian Weale	020 7937 0765	adrianweale@mac.com
Children's Safeguarding Officer:	Samantha Giles	07702 829859	safeguardingofficer@stmaryabbotschurch.org
Electoral Roll Officer:	James Dunford-Wood	07732 842894	er@stmaryabbotschurch.org

ST MARY ABBOTS

Associate Vicar	The Rev'd Jenny Welsh	020 7937 2364	jennywelsh@stmaryabbotschurch.org
Honorary Priest	The Rev'd Peter Stubbs	020 8868 8296	peter.stubbs@stmaryabbotschurch.org
Honorary Assistant Priest	The Rev'd Julia Hedley	020 3686 1513	julia.hedley@stmaryabbotschurch.org
Deputy Churchwardens for St Mary Abbots Church:	James Dunford-Wood	07732 842 894	
	Carole-Anne Phillips	020 7937 3448	
Vestry/Virger	George MacAllan	020 7937 5136	george.macallan@stmaryabbotschurch.org
St Mary Abbots Centre	Adam Norton (Manager)	020 7937 8885	adam.norton@stmaryabbotschurch.org
Director of Music	Mark Uglow		music@stmaryabbotschurch.org
Stewardship Secretary	Emma Porteous	07866 258 814	stewardship@stmaryabbotschurch.org

Children on Sunday / Children's Champion	Alexandra Swann		children@stmaryabbotschurch.org
Friends of St Mary Abbots	David Banks (Chairman)	07732 743 228	friends@stmaryabbotschurch.org
Bellringers	David Holdridge (Secretary)	07904 954 959	david.holdridge@ntl.world.com
Kensington Parish News	Fiona Braddock (Editor)		kpneditor@stmaryabbotschurch.org
Friday Playgroup	Laura Sylvester	07770 920 085	playgroup@stmaryabbotschurch.org

CHRIST CHURCH

Associate Vicar with Special Responsibility for Christ Church	The Rev'd Mark O'Donoghue	020 7937 2966	mark@christchurchkensington.com
Deputy Wardens:	Adrian Weale	020 7937 0765	adrianweale@mac.com
	Philip Witheridge	020 7937 5184	pip@thewitheridges.com
Administrator	Adele Pye	020 7937 2966	admin@christchurchkensington.com
Director of Music	Rupert Perkins		

ST PHILIPS

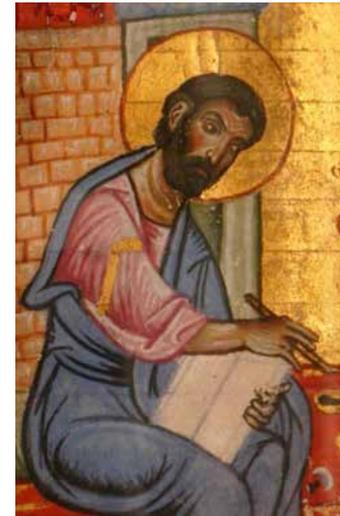
Associate Vicar with Special Responsibility for St Philip	The Rev'd David Walsh	020 7603 4420	vicar@specr.org
Non-Stipendiary Ministers	The Rev'd Lesley Perry		lesley.perry@specr.org
Deputy Wardens:	Anne Steele		wardens@specr.org
	Peter Burney		peter.burney@specr.org
Licensed Reader	Rupert Steele	020 8747 1556	rupert.steele@specr.org
Administrator	Liz Christie	020 7938 1367	admin@specr.org
Children's Ministry Leader	Erica Roane		children@specr.org
Electoral Roll Officer	Chris Luxton	020 7937 4159	chris.luxton@specr.org
Director of Music	Rebecca Taylor		rebecca.taylor@specr.org

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MARK

As we begin the new church year we also begin to hear Mark's Gospel at Parish Eucharist

Philip Welsh tells us more

Advent Sunday brings the start of a new church year and of a new gospel to hear at the Parish Eucharist. Each year, on a 3-year rotation, we work our way through Matthew, Mark or Luke, and this year it's Mark's turn. Over the past month a group of us from St Mary Abbots have been studying parts of Mark together in anticipation.



have any nativity stories, but jumps straight in with the preaching of John the Baptist and the baptism of Jesus at the outset of his public ministry – if we only had Mark, there would be no Christmas!

The greatest mystery about Mark is its final words, where the women stand outside the empty tomb 'and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid' (16.8). Scholars are clear that the verses that follow in some versions

(including the Authorised/King James Version) are a later addition. Why then did Mark end on such an inconclusive and downbeat note?

Between its dramatic beginning and its puzzling end, Mark is characterised by a sense of urgency (his favourite word is 'immediately'); by the slow comprehension of the disciples and Jesus' strange insistence on not making his true identity known (the so-called 'messianic secret'); and by an emphasis on the inevitability of suffering. Tradition has it that Mark wrote for the church at Rome. This year he is telling 'the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God' to us.

By almost universal agreement Mark was the earliest gospel to be written (possibly AD 65-70), and provided a major source for Matthew and Luke. We get a fascinating glimpse from an early 2nd century bishop: "Mark indeed, who became the interpreter of Peter, wrote accurately, as far as he remembered them, the things said or done by the Lord, but not however in order. For he had neither heard the Lord nor been his personal follower, but at a later stage, as I said, he had followed Peter... He had only one object in view: to leave out nothing of the things which he had heard, and to include no false statement among them."

Mark is also the shortest gospel. He doesn't



Handel's Messiah

6.30pm Sunday
14th December

A Baroque Christmas concert by candlelight

The Purcell Orchestra
St Mary Abbots Choir & Singers
Conductor Prof. Mark Uglow
A special concert played on Baroque instruments recreating the atmosphere of Handel's original performance

Tickets Book online at:
www.stmaryabbotschurch.org
020 7937 5136
In person from the Vestry
Mon-Sat 8am-1pm
£15 (£7.50 under 16) including programme and interval drink

St Mary Abbots Church
On the corner of
Kensington High St and
Kensington Church St
London W8 4LA



ST MARY ABBOTS CHURCH, KENSINGTON

RESOLUTIONS IN JANUARY – SO LAST YEAR

Jenny Welsh tells us about some of the charitable activity that is going on in the parish during advent and Christmas

Most people in this country start the new year on January 1st, and many of them start by making resolutions to lose weight, or read more books or some other act of self improvement. As we begin a new Church year, here are four resolutions you might consider, not to improve yourselves but to do a bit of good for someone else instead – and some words from people who know about them:

1. Send Charity Christmas Cards

The old fashioned joy of receiving greetings through the post at Christmas, hand-written by a friend or relation is something that email can never really replace. Why not buy your Christmas cards this year from the Card Aid stall in church.

Abby Heath, St Mary Abbots Church Card Aid store manager writes:

“Card Aid, an initiative of the Charities Advisory Trust, has been raising money for charities for over 30 years. By banding together, charities can sell their Christmas cards to a wider public and benefit from economies of scale. The Card Aid shops sell charity Christmas cards on behalf of over



200 charities and offer an unrivalled range of cards, together with the assurance that ALL profits from the cards you are buying are going to charity.

I am working for this because it raises money for, not just one but a whole host of charities. It is proving to be a very rewarding experience for me personally.

Particularly this time of year and in the spirit of Christmas, it is especially important to help those less fortunate than ourselves. We're

having a good year so far, but I'm hoping it's going to be even better than last year!

St Mary Abbots parish Church is a wonderful community to be a part of. As you go around the church, taking in its historical beauty, why not have a quick browse through the Christmas card selection that are available and get ahead of the Christmas rush?

My favourite card is 'The Magi Following the Star' for the Diabetic Fund which you can't find online - all the more reason to come to the shop in St Mary Abbots Church! However, the best selling cards are the 'Nine Fat Robins' for Trinity Hospice and 'Bloomsbury Scene' for Charity Direct.

Looking forward to seeing you and Happy Christmas!" <https://www.cardaid.co.uk/>

2. Offer hospitality and friendship to some homeless people.

The West London Churches Homelessness Concern runs a winter night shelter seven days a week, between November and April, offering a hot meal, a bed, housing advice and support to up to 70 people each night. St Mary Abbots, along with the other churches in the Kensington Council of Churches, provides volunteers for this excellent work, and Mark Waring from our 9.30 congregation was one of them. He writes:

“Earlier this year I volunteered to help for a few evenings at the Night Shelter at the Fulham Baptist Church on Dawes Road, SW6. The Night Shelter ran on Wednesday evenings between 7 and 9pm between

January and April and offered the homeless the opportunity to have a shower, a hot meal and a clean, safe place to sleep for the night. The idea was that volunteers helped with cooking and serving dinner to the guests, and sat down and talked to them. The rota was organised by James Mather and supported by the Kensington Council of Churches and the Forum of Faiths team. As part of my duties I helped by serving the food (more often than not a delicious chicken curry) and tidied up before the guests bedded down for the night. I found it both worthwhile and humbling. The cold weather at the start of 2014 meant that the Night Shelter was always full and I'm delighted to say that due to the successful operation earlier this year, it will be open for longer - from this November until April 2015 - offering practical support to those who really need it.” If you'd like to join the volunteer team, contact the Revd James Mather jsm@johnstonmather.com who can give you all the information you need.

3. Christmas Lunch for the elderly

For years Lucille Briance has organised one of the most important events of the year: Christmas lunch for local elderly people who would otherwise be alone and isolated on Christmas Day. The meal is cooked at the Kensington Garden Hotel, brought, while still hot, to the St Mary Abbots Centre, and served by volunteers who give up their own Christmas day at home to share it with guests from all over Kensington. There is carol singing led by one or two able singers, lots of laughing and talking together, an excellent lunch, and even gifts, hand picked for each guest by members of local churches.



The guests are identified and invited by RBKC's social services staff; they suggest what they would like for Christmas, and volunteers from our churches buy and wrap their gifts, and send them along for Christmas day, with a personal Christmas card. The guests are chauffeured to and from the SMA Centre, by other volunteers who generously offer this service, as part of their own Christmas giving.

One of our newer members at the 9.30 service, Silvana Armstrong, is taking on part of the administration of the Christmas Lunch – if you would like to give a gift, or offer to drive one of the guests to the lunch and then home again, please contact the Rev'd Jenny Welsh who will be glad to put you in touch with Silvana.

4. Supporting women affected by prostitution and victims of sex trafficking with RAHAB UK.

For a year or more, SMA has supported this local charity, based in Earls Court and working with vulnerable women working in the area – we invite people to commit to praying regularly for their work, and also to be part of the outreach team working directly with the women involved.

Caroline Eaton, a regular attender of 11.15 Matins is a member of that team:

“The first question I’m always asked when talking about Rahab is “Isn’t it scary?” I always instinctively respond “no”, and I think that is, in huge part, the grace of God, but also it is because the work feels so important.

An outreach shift lasts about two hours, and involves visiting the women in the flats and talking with them: checking to see whether they’ve had troublesome clients, distributing information on reported local incidents, making sure everyone in the flat is ok, but also just chatting – about their families, their lives. It’s about building relationships over time, so that they know Rahab and they know us.

I’ve also had the chance to accompany the police on anti-trafficking raids, where they ensure that all the women working in the flats are there by choice. Just the idea of law enforcement showing up at the door is rather terrifying, so you can imagine how it is for these women. The role of Rahab volunteers is to be there for each woman – to be her advocate and support her throughout the encounter with the police. This work quite radically alters one’s view of the city

“The first question I’m always asked when talking about Rahab is “Isn’t it scary?” I always instinctively respond “no”, and I think that is, in huge part, the grace of God”

– exposing how truly vulnerable so many people are, and also how often, and easily, we avoid that inconvenient truth.” You can find out more about RAHAB UK at www.rahabuk.com

If you are interested in any of these initiatives, speak to one of the clergy. And have a happy New Year, as well.

FR ROB MARSHALL IONA 2015 PILGRIMAGE

*A pilgrimage to Iona is at the top of many people's lists - but questions remain. How do you get there? Where do you stay? How do you make sure you can join an existing retreat? Fr Rob Marshall, our erstwhile House for Duty Priest, is leading a pilgrimage to Iona from 4th-8th May 2015 and booking is now open. You make your own way to Glasgow on the Monday and then a combination of train, boats and coaches means that you enjoy your first retreat session on the afternoon of the Tuesday. For three nights the Island of St Columba belongs to you until the pilgrimage ends on the Friday morning ensuring that you are back in Glasgow by mid afternoon in order to continue your journey home to London. The price starts at £495. **Phone 01992 579697** for a brochure. All are welcome.*

RESTORATION & REGENERATION AT CHRIST CHURCH



Members of the Christ Church community at our recent Harvest Service

Bonnie Rozorio updates us on this important and on-going project

Since WWII, Christ Church experienced many challenges but a resolute, never-say-die approach saw it survive, often against all odds. A prodigious amount of hard work by deputy wardens and treasurers and an array of coffee mornings, bring and buy sales, summer bazaars and other fundraising ventures by parishion-

ers ensured that bills were paid and works completed on the roof, tower, organ and to the external stonework. Despite regular and repeated threats of closure over 50 years, Christ Church continued to serve its local community and now flourishes, due in no small part to those members of the church and local community who never gave up.



The West End works will be complete in February 2015

Located in the heart of Kensington village, Christ Church serves its local neighbourhood in many ways: church services including a Sunday school and youth group, ministry to students from local colleges and as a place for the community to gather together. The building is increasingly used by many different groups throughout the week, from a local meeting of the AA to local schools, language classes, residents' association meetings, community choirs and ballet classes. We have the joy of seeing at least 500 children use the building for various activities each week.

Longing to see Christ Church's building fit for purpose for its current and future use by our local community, we have embarked on an ambitious programme of vital works. 2012 and 2013 saw the re-slating of our

chancel and nave roofs. In early 2014, we tackled damp and defective plaster, and installed new LED lighting and our restored chandeliers, improving not only the beauty of the building but also visibility, enabling those with visual impairments to see more clearly during services and events.

This summer, after a competitive tender process, we started the promised West End works, including installing a new kitchen, lavatories, enhanced disabled access and new community rooms. August and September saw the enabling works completed as the foundations were strengthened and the drainage and plumbing were addressed. September saw Christ Church commence the fitting out contract, which is on track and wonderfully, within budget. It should be completed by the end of February 2015 and

will enable Christ Church to double the amount of space we can make available for community use. It will provide valuable facilities that will enhance our ministry, for example the kitchen and larger community space on the ground floor will enable us to host social events for the elderly and those experiencing social isolation as part of our 'A Senior Moment' initiative.

With the West End works well in hand, our attention now turns to the next phase of the works to be tackled in 2015, which includes the renovation of the ancient heating within the main body of the church building, the renewal of the PA/AV system, the refurbishment of the pews, the relocation of the font and the installation of a retractable stage at the east end of the nave for concerts, assemblies, etc. These works will enable Christ Church to have a warmer and more welcoming building, and a more flexible space with which to serve our local community. If you would like to support the Christ Community Appeal then please email communityappeal@christchurchkensington.com for information on how to donate or make a pledge.



Our growing Sunday School can feel like its bursting at the seams. New meeting rooms will enable children to be taught in smaller age-appropriate groups.

HANDEL'S *Messiah*

PLEASE JOIN US ON
TUESDAY, 2 DECEMBER 2014
AT CHRIST CHURCH KENSINGTON

APRIL FREDRICK WITH SOLOISTS ANNA HARVEY
MICHAEL BUTCHARD JACQUES IMBRAILO

IN AID OF THE CHRIST CHURCH COMMUNITY APPEAL
TICKETS £10-30
TO BOOK: ADMIN@CHRISTCHURCHKENSINGTON.COM

Christmas at Christ Church

11am Sunday 7 December
All-Age Carol Service

7pm Sunday 14 December
Traditional service
of Nine Lessons
& Carols

11am Sunday 21 December
Sunday Morning Carols



CHRIST CHURCH KENSINGTON

Christ Church
Victoria Road, W8 5RQ
www.christchurchkensington.com

LOOKING FORWARD TO 2020

Lesley Raymond reports on the new vision for St Philip's church

Every five years or so the Church Council gets together to think about how St Philip's might look in the future. On 18 October, the Council reviewed the church's vision and focused on where we might hope to be collectively by 2020. The day's thinking was split between "serving the wider community" and "building up the body of Christ" – that is, our worshipping community.

The former includes running activities targeting local need, making the building more accessible to local people, and supporting and instigating initiatives that help to build community. It could also cover developing our online presence. Building up the worshipping community at St Philip's, on the other hand, relates most immediately to enriching our worship and life together – attracting, teaching and supporting people of all ages in their spiritual journeys and Christian faith.

The Council's ideas ranged from more outreach into the community, a wider range

of church services, developing some mid-week groups and introducing more activities for the children. The Council also explored how the church might look physically and how best to use the building.

Some pretty big ideas were discussed. But one of the things the Council realised is that people in the church do not always know

the progress already being made on many fronts. For example, the fabric committee has recently been negotiating to have a telecommunications base station in the tower, which will provide valuable revenue to support our future plans.

Then there's the Bible study group that meets every Thursday under the leadership of Lesley Perry, while our work with children and young people is growing in its scope and variety under the supervision of Erica Roane, with increasingly active input from other members of the congregation. Meanwhile, we continue to be blessed by the imagination, artistic ability and commitment of those who

We asked some of the children who worship at St Philip's what they thought. Here is what they said!

'Make the church more inviting with more nice decorations' – *Isis*

'Make the space upstairs more child friendly – have a teddies' tent' – *Nicky*

'Use the plasma screens more – show films for children' – *Isis*

'Have a special service for the little kids' – *Luca*



seasonally decorate the church and transform it into a vibrant and colourful space.

St Philip's has also maintained its reputation for throwing a good party and opening its doors to local people – through the film club, for example, and through the new series of Saturday evening concerts. We can do more to share among ourselves the initiatives and ideas already taking off within St Philip's.

The Council's planning day made no firm decisions as it contemplated the church community and its wider local role in 2020. Instead, it concentrated on how to provide direction so that the vision can become reality. Council members are very keen to harness the enthusiasm and faith of the wider congregation, and to hear their ideas.

However, some things became clear win the day's discussions.

By 2020, although beginning much sooner, St Philip's hopes to:

- have its doors open all day long, offering an oasis of quiet and prayer for local people and passers by
- hold more than one main service a week, perhaps with contrasting styles of worship
- connect further with and serve our wider community – the appointment of a community worker can help us

develop this aspect of the vision

- resolve outstanding questions about how best to make the building more useable and accessible
- engage more creatively with communication technology on site and by developing our online presence.

The challenge now is to map what we already do well and prioritise which things to do next. Progress on each front will require resources, both financial and in terms of people to make them happen. We need to find these by growing together as a community in our love for Christ and our neighbours.

St Philip's Church Council has looked into the future and seen an exciting place with real opportunities to contribute to the local community.



MARIS ROSA CONSULTING
 Cambridge University PhD and US Fulbright Scholar with extensive UK/US education experience provides bespoke/ personalised guidance counselling for entire UK/US university application process, including advising on university choices, references, essays, and UCAS/ Common Application for UK/US schools. High student acceptance rate into first choice universities. Central London. Flexible/home visits available.
 E: marisrosaconsulting@gmail.com

CHRISTMAS SERVICES AT ST PHILIP'S CHURCH

Earl's Court Road
 London W8 6QH

Sunday 14 December

8.30am: Said Holy Communion
 10.30am: Holy Eucharist
 4.00pm: Carols by Candlelight

Thursday 25 December

8.30am: Said Holy Communion
 10.30am: Christmas Day Holy Eucharist

Sunday 21 December

8.30am: Said Holy Communion
 10.30am: All Age Service

Sunday 28 December

8.30am: Said Holy Communion
 10.30am: Holy Eucharist

Wednesday 24 December

11.30pm: Christmas Eve Midnight Eucharist



IT'S MULLING SEASON

As the cold nights draw in, nothing beats a hot glass of mulled wine by the fire. Raise your spirits with our special St Mary Abbots recipe.

Ingredients

4oz/115g sugar
 4 cinnamon sticks
 Small handful cloves (or to taste)
 1 star anise
 1 orange, zest only
 1.5 litres/2 pints 12¾fl oz port wine or claret
 40ml cognac

Preparation method

1. Pour two glasses of water into a saucepan and mix in the sugar, cinnamon, cloves, star anise and orange zest.
2. Bring the mixture to the boil, then reduce the heat to its lowest setting and simmer, stirring regularly, until the mixture has reduced to form a thick syrup, about 15-20 minutes.
3. Add the port wine or claret and cognac and stir well. Increase the heat until the mixture is piping hot, but not boiling.
4. Serve immediately in small cups or heatproof glasses.



FESTIVAL AT OJI - FROM ST MARY ABBOTS PARISH MAGAZINE: JANUARY 1944

This extract from the January 1944 issue of the Parish Magazine relates how Christmas was celebrated at the Oji River Leprosy Settlement, which is situated in Enugu State, Nigeria. The Settlement was set up in 1936 by the Church Missionary Society as a centre for the treatment and prevention of leprosy. In 1956, as part of the Royal Tour, The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh visited it. Some video footage of their visit can be seen on the British Pathé News website.



Copyright ©: Pathé News

Festival at Oji

Year by year the great Festival of Christmas becomes increasingly full of meaning. Owing to the increase of our in-patients at the Oji River Settlement, it seemed last year as if it might be difficult to give them all a Christmas meal or each child a present, as had been the custom, but somehow the wherewithal arrived.

We started the Christmas festivities with a midnight Communion Service on Christmas Eve. Each year this becomes a greater service. As usual, there was a Christmas offering at which gifts of money and in kind were presented; it is always inspiring to witness such giving on the part of all who attend the service. This Christmas Eve was the first occasion for using the new galleries in the

transepts of the church which had just been added to give more seating space. An Ibo setting to "O come, all ye faithful", sung kneeling, was perhaps the most moving point in the service. The lamps, several hundreds of small palm-oil lights, carried by individuals, stood on the floor around the kneeling figures. (There are no seats in the nave of the church; each person brings a small wooden stool to sit on.) Then before the last verse, a vigorous, varied drumming brought everyone to their feet, and holding high their lamps, they broke into: "Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this happy morning." It was a moment not to be forgotten. The outward procession singing a triumphant song wound its way round the church until everyone had joined, and then down to an open space where two large bonfires had just been lighted, round which a huge circle was made and Christmas greetings exchanged.

On Christmas morning, in a manner now becoming traditional, all the patients assembled to receive their gift towards a feast. Each was given two cupfuls of rice, two pennies, two oranges, and a share (distributed at another time) in the Hausa cattle, which is the main treat. It was possible also to make up a surprise parcel for each of the 130 children. These were arranged in four groups, according to age and sex, and every child had a "dip", which gave much pleasure and amusement to all who watched as well as to the children themselves.

Each year a Nativity Play is acted in the church by the patients and African staff. The church lends itself perfectly for such

a purpose, with its transepts, pillars, and raised sanctuary. The play itself is beyond description, and is in truth an expression of the understanding of the Incarnation.

The life of the Ibo people is bound up with the changing seasons, and in the life of the Church, too, such seasons are given their place.

... The life and work of the Settlement is always growing and deepening. There are now over 700 in-patients and more than 12,000 on the clinic registers, though not all those attend every week. The clinics will be extended towards the end of the year, when men who have been carefully selected from among the patients, and have had special training, will go out into the district to supervise and work the existing and new centres.

... So people come and go. Some come hopefully and a new life opens before them: some are hopeless, but find there is happiness in the midst of suffering; some help to give joy and strength and goodness to the community; some have never come into contact with the Christian Church, but their minds are open to receive the new knowledge; some come broken-hearted from leaving children or family behind, others are broken-spirited by the realisation of the future. For all there is a chance; hope and work for body and mind. And those who are discharged leave with thankfulness and rejoicing. Our vision is that all who come here may become part of a great family and find, in spite of this cruel disease, joy and life abundant.

OUR CHURCH AND ITS FUNDING

Stewardship is essential for the life and future of our church, **Emma Porteous** explains

We are always trying to highlight the importance of stewardship, and as it's a fairly dry subject, one of the fun ways in which we do this is through the annual St Mary Abbots Stewardship Quiz Supper. The quiz usually takes place in mid-October, and we are always looking to have new people join us in what is invariably a great night.

Although we raise money in a number of ways, regular giving is vital to St Mary Abbots, and is really the only way we can guarantee income. All of the members of the congregation benefit from the money contributed by planned, regular giving. This covers the upkeep of the church building, as well as day-to-day costs, from staff wages and clergy stipends to the glue, sellotape and arts and crafts materials used by the children at the Sunday school crèche! The work of the church continues day by day, week-by-week, month by month – and it has to be paid for on this basis.



The challenge is that financially we only just get by. Maintaining the life and ministry of St Mary Abbots costs £10,000 each week yet we receive no subsidy whatsoever from the Government or other statutory bodies. Income has to come from other sources, which are often difficult to rely on. This includes renting out our hall and meeting rooms (meaning the church can't use them!), fêtes and some interest from historic bequests.

As members of the congregation, your financial support is vital in keeping St Mary Abbots open and helping us to provide such a rich Church life. By far the best way of doing this is to become a regular giver.

RICHARD YOUNG GALLERY

4 Holland Street, London W8 4LT
 T : +44 (0) 207 937 8911
 E : office@richardyoungonline.com
 www.richardyounggallery.co.uk
 www.richardyoungonline.com

ALL QUIZZED OUT!

Eloise Twisk on the trials and tribulations of the annual St Mary Abbots Stewardship quiz

My problem with the St Mary Abbots Stewardship Quiz Supper is that we won the first year we attended – perhaps 8 years ago, and have been trying to re-capture the lost glory ever since. We even got to go on stage wearing silly hats and pose for photos. Ever since then, we've come everywhere - close to bottom, respectable mid-table and a tantalisingly close second. Sadly this year it wasn't to be either, we came third, along with about 4 other teams. If you were being unkind, you could probably also describe this as 3rd from bottom.

Our team was splendidly cross-generational – ranging from Jeannie Carr-Gomm, who despite being 95 is about to fly to Australia for 3 months to see her daughter (hope I'm like that at her age) – to St Mary Abbots school mum, and Oxford scientist, Tammie Bishop who looks so young she was asked for ID at the supermarket on the day of the quiz, by a cashier who flatly refused to sell her any alcohol.

This is what's so good about the quiz night - luckily it's not all about the winning. There's always a fantastic turn-out of the great and the good of St Mary Abbots parish life and it's a really nice opportunity to meet new

people or spend time with friends you haven't seen properly for ages. Ross Welford came up with his usual mix of interesting and taxing questions. My favourite question of the night: 'which homonym is a mountain range and a name?' Answer is at bottom of the page.*

The winning team was hosted by Max Croft (again!) and I couldn't resist asking her the secret to her success, and this is what she said:

"It's very much a team effort. We only won by one point this year and everyone on our team could claim to have come up with the crucial winning answer. Although we may look horribly competitive, we're actually quite good fun and no-one is intimidated. It's really important that everyone feels confident enough to have their say - they're usually right. And my other tip is go with your instincts. If you start wavering or changing answers it's usually a mistake. Of course, what really helps is if there aren't any sport questions, but don't tell Ross that!"

Well done to the winning team and thanks to Ross Welford, Emma Porteous, Jenny Welsh and everyone who made the evening go so well.

* Answer: *Appalachian / appellation*



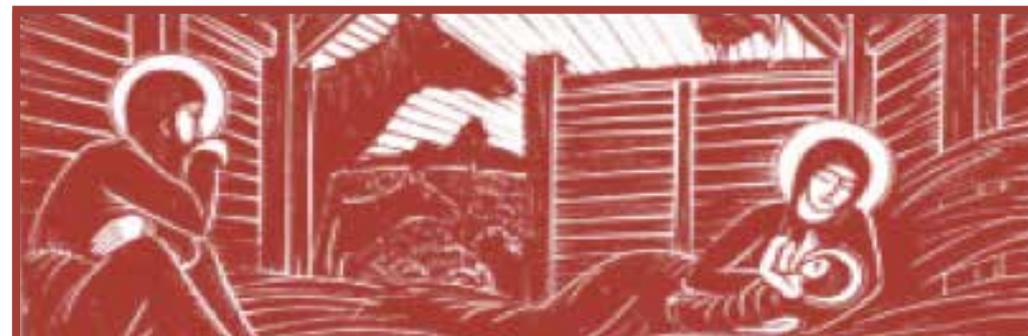
Opening hours:
 Mon-Sat 10am-7pm
 Sun 11am-5pm
 44A Kensington Church St
 London W8 4DA
 Tel: 020 7937 0284
 Appointments not always
 necessary

FUNDING MASTERMIND

Quiz-master **Ross Welford** tests our knowledge on the ins and outs of church funding

- How much does it cost to maintain the life and ministry of St Mary Abbots Church, per week? (to the nearest £1,000)
- Which of these methods of giving involves the greatest expenditure of administrative time and effort? Circle the answer
 - Bank Standing Order Give as you Earn – GAYE: popular payroll giving scheme which many people use for lots of different charities – including SMA.
 - Weekly envelope
 - The yellow envelopes in the pews
 - One off donations – legacies, a share in your bonus, plate giving etc.
 - Text Giving – STMA11 to 70077
 - Online shopping portal, through easyfundraising.org.uk.
- Three of the following are NOT sources of income for SMA. Circle the three
 - Investment income
 - Government grants
 - Planned giving
 - One off donations
 - Diocesan grants
 - Property lettings
 - VAT on Christmas Cards and Easter Eggs
- A large proportion of our expenditure at SMA goes to pay for something called ‘Common Fund’. Complete the sentence: “Common Fund is money given by congregations in every parish in the ___ of London. It is collected from rich and poor parishes, to provide and support ___ (stipends, housing etc), and to further our work in every parish, across London.”
- What GROSS figure (clue!) does St Mary Abbots Church pay towards Common Fund?
- How many people at St Mary Abbots give by Standing Order? (includes some individuals and some households (one standing order per family)
- How many people, to the nearest 50, are on our electoral roll, that is, registered members of the church who may vote at AGM’s etc?
- How can a person at St Mary Abbots join the electoral roll?
 - By filling and signing an electoral roll form, and giving it to one of the clergy, or to the electoral roll officer.
 - By telling your local MP
 - By thinking carefully and promising to do it soon.

ANSWERS: 1. £10,000; 2. c; 3. b, e, g; 4. diocese, clergy; 5. £144,000; 6. 121; 7. 395; 8. a



Celebrate Christmas at ST MARY ABBOTS CHURCH

Wednesday 10 December

1.05 pm COMMUNITY CAROL SERVICE
sponsored by DMG Media

Sunday 14 December

9.30am CHILDREN’S NATIVITY PLAY
6.30pm HANDEL’S MESSIAH

Tickets from the church or website

Tuesday 23 December

6.30p NINE LESSONS AND
CAROLS by CANDLELIGHT

Wednesday 24 December

Christmas Eve
4.00pm CHILDREN’S CRIB SERVICE
11.30 pm MIDNIGHT MASS
by CANDLELIGHT

Thursday 25 December Christmas Day

9.30 am FAMILY EUCHARIST
11.15 am SOLEMN MATINS
4.00 pm “UNTO US A BOY IS BORN”
A SERVICE FOR CHRISTMAS AFTERNOON



ST MARY ABBOTS CHURCH, KENSINGTON



“...the earliest age is the most important one for education, because the beginning decides the manner of the progress and the end.”

Fredrick Froebel



Pooh Corner Kindergarten
St Stephen’s Church Hall
48 Emperor’s Gate
London
SW7 4HJ

Opening in September 2014
Pooh Corner Kindergarten, Holland Park
The Crypt, St John the Baptist Church,
Holland Park, London, W14 8AH

Please call the kindergarten office for details.

We hope you will come and visit us to see how your child will reach their potential academically, socially and emotionally whilst having lots of fun and laughter along the way.

01622 833331

www.thekindergartens.com

HOW TO MAKE A CHRISTMAS WREATH

Did you know that the word 'Advent' comes from the Latin word 'adventus', meaning arrival? Look forward to the arrival of Christmas and Jesus's birth by making your own, simple Christmas wreath. **Max Croft** shows you how...

WHAT YOU WILL NEED

- * 2 sheets of A4 size green card
- * some red card
- * glue
- * scissors
- * ruler
- * pencil
- * stapler or sticky tape



HOW TO MAKE IT



1. Take one sheet of the green card and fold in half lengthways



2. Using a ruler, mark a line about 2cm from the open edge. Now mark out spaces 1cm apart on the line.



3. Using the scissors, make cuts in the paper 1 cm apart from the folded end towards the line



4. Open out the sheet of card and roll into the shape of a cylinder.



5. Open out the sheet of card and roll into the shape of a cylinder. Staple or sticky tape the ends together and stick along the length of the cylinder.



6. Repeat the same process for the other sheet of green card. Stick or staple the two cylinders together at both ends. You should get a circle - your wreath.



8. Draw a bow on the red card and cut it out. Using the glue, stick it to the bottom of the wreath. Cut out some small circles from the red card for the berries, or if you have some small red pom-poms you could use those. Dot those on to your wreath.



7. Draw a bow on the red card and cut it out. Using the glue, stick it to the bottom of the wreath.

Have a very happy Christmas!

EXPLORE. DISCOVER. CREATE

DRAMA CLASSES
HOLIDAY COURSES
DRAMA PARTIES

allsorts drama

HAMPSTEAD
PUTNEY
BATTERSEA
KENSINGTON & CHELSEA
KNIGHTSBRIDGE
NOTTING HILL

AGES 4 TO 18



www.allsortsdrama.com

0208 969 3249
0208 767 5298

MOVING HOUSE? REQUIRE STORAGE?

- Highly experienced London based moving company
- FREE quotations and advice
- Comprehensive packing/unpacking service
- Friendly male and female team (some French speaking)
- Fully Insured
- Disposal service/ electrician/handyman /cleaning service available
- Established since 1999, family firm with regular team
- Arrange parking permits if required
- References available

10% DISCOUNT
to discount to ici Londres readers



LONDON TOTAL REMOVALS

www.totalremovals.com

020 8367 8348
Company reg no. 04109912

dubarry 
of Ireland

Where will you go in yours?



GALLERY 19 is ...



- large architectural prints and outstanding limited editions for the home, corporate collector and interior designer
- sourced from Italy, a collection of paintings and prints
- a wide range of London prints, framed and unframed
- architectural bookends and models by Timothy Richards
- original paintings, oils, acrylics, watercolour and mixed media
- antique engravings of Kensington
- private commissions
- a Framing Workshop on the premises specialising in hand crafted fine picture frames, providing a personalised comprehensive service to the public and trade.

THE ARCHITECTURAL GALLERY
IN KENSINGTON

GALLERY 19

19 Kensington Court Place
London W8 5BJ
Telephone: 0207 937 7222
Facsimile: 0207 937 4133
Email: info@gallery19.com
Website: www.gallery19.com

HAWKESDOWN HOUSE SCHOOL

Kensington, London



For boys aged 3 to 8 years old

27 Edge Street
Kensington, London W8 7PN
Tel: 020 7727 9090
Fax: 020 7727 9988

E-mail: admin@hawkesdown.co.uk
Website: www.hawkesdown.co.uk



Engineered with



dubarry  **com**



3A Kensington Church Walk • London • W8 4NB

Aromatherapy • Ayurvedic

Electrolysis • Eyelash Tints • Facials

Massage • Manicures • Pedicures

Skin Care • Top-To-Toe • Waxing

Tel/Fax: 020 7937 8618

Queen's Gate

Independent Day School for Girls from 4 - 18 years

Queens' Gate School offers girls a friendly, supportive environment, where individuality is nurtured, academic standards are high and where a broad based curriculum ensures a well rounded education.

For a prospectus, or to make a private visit to the School, please contact the Registrar Miss Janette Micklewright, on 020 7594 4982 or email, registrar@queensgate.org.uk

Queen's Gate Junior School | Queen's Gate Senior School
125-126 Queen's Gate London SW7 5LJ | 131-133 Queen's Gate London SW7 5LE

www.queensgate.org.uk



Garage optional. Chimney essential.

No matter what your must-haves are, our experienced team will endeavour to find your perfect fit, whether you're searching for a buyer or a new home. All with the undivided attention and professionalism that Strutt & Parker has come to be known for.



exclusive affiliate of
CHRISTIE'S
INTERNATIONAL REAL ESTATE

103 Kensington Church Street, London, W8 7LN
020 7938 3666 | struttandparker.com