

Association Cultuelle de L'Église Anglicane du Pas de Calais BOULOGNE CONGREGATION

April 2018 Newsletter

Fellowship, Hope and Love

No. 66

'Marketing is everything' was a mantra drummed into me long ago when learning the ropes to run a successful business, although with a naturally untrusting mind I began to believe 'everything is marketing' was closer to the truth.

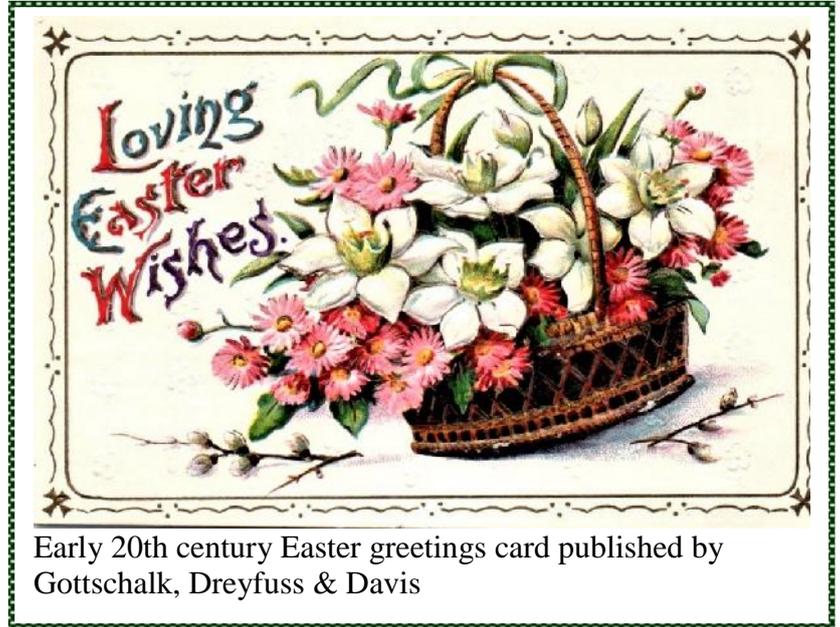
A few weeks ago I spent a morning in the excellent Van Gogh Museum in Amsterdam. It was quite some years since I had been within its walls so changes in presentation, of what amounts to the world's largest collection of the celebrated Dutch artist's work, came as no surprise. In fact it far exceeded my expectations; there's more than just the instantly recognisable originals, reproductions of which now find their way on key rings, tea towels and even underwear, but layer upon layer of biographical detail, sketches, notebooks, letters and materials revealing, piece by piece, the artist's struggle to be taken seriously, moving through his troubled life and finally his untimely death at only 37.

Although Vincent van Gogh is known today for his post-impressionist art, he long cherished ambitions to become a priest, but had he not been turned down for the evangelists' training school in Amsterdam, his life may have taken a different direction. He also tried his hand as a teacher at a school in Ramsgate and later in Isleworth near London, employing his language skills of Dutch, French and English. But as a largely self-taught artist and regardless of encouragement from contemporaries, he famously only managed to sell one work from his amazing output of over 2,000 pieces, including 860 oil paintings. This contrasts with a 1987 auction figure of £22.5 million paid for the swirling yellows of one his 'Sunflowers' canvases which made the crowd at Christie's in London gasp. The auctioneer, when asked why a painting considered worthless in the artist's lifetime, could fetch a fortune a century later, he replied rather curtly: "Van Gogh just wasn't very good at marketing!"

Marketing comes in for a lot of criticism these days, often rightly so, but had it not been for the efforts of Vincent's close relatives conceivably the world might never have known the artistic genius of Van Gogh, as we do today. But if personal recommendation or experience, of something good, can be the optimum in marketing, then perhaps this is the time to advertise the true meaning of Easter and what it means to us, a little more.

(Malcolm G.)

Jesus said to the people who believed in him, "You are truly my disciples if you remain faithful to my teachings. And you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." John 8:31-32 (NLT)



Early 20th century Easter greetings card published by Gottschalk, Dreyfuss & Davis



**Forthcoming services at the chapel of the Monastère du Carmel,
rue du Denacre, Saint-Martin-Boulogne**

● **Sunday 1st April 2018 10h30 / *Easter Day*** Eucharist service led by Rev. Gordon Warren. Readings: Acts 10:34-43; Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; 1 Corinthians 15:1-11; John 20:1-18



● **Sunday 15th April 2018 10h30 / *Third Sunday of Easter*** Simple service of Morning Worship with hymns and readings, followed by the **Boulogne Congregation's AGM**

● **Sunday 29th April 2018 11h00 / *Fifth Sunday of Easter*** Eucharist service led by the Archdeacon of France: Meurig Williams. Followed by **Chaplaincy AGM** and light lunch. Readings: Acts 8:26-40; Psalm 22:25-31; 1 John 4:7-21; John 15:1-8

● **Sunday 6th May 2018 10h30 / *Sixth Sunday of Easter*** Simple service of Morning Worship with hymns and readings.

● **Sunday 20th May 2018 10h30 / *Pentecost - Whit Sunday*** Eucharist service led by Rev. Gordon Warren. Readings: Acts 2:1-21; Psalm 104:24-35; Romans 8:22-27; John 16:4-15

News and dates for your diary:

Once again we will be holding our Annual General Meetings, this spring there are two in Boulogne – our local and the Chaplaincy at which the Archdeacon of France Ven. Meurig Williams will be presiding (details above.)

As usual nominations will be required for positions in the church, so if you feel you are able to spare the time to serve then please do not feel reticent in allowing your name to go forward.

House group report

Our Bible Study on March 23rd was a follow-up to our study of the Lord's Prayer on March 9th. The well-known prayer that Jesus taught his disciples gave our group of modern day disciples plenty of scope for reflection and discussion. It's a prayer we know so well, it's all too easy to rattle through without giving much thought to its depth of meaning. Even after 90 minutes of lively discussion and debate, we'd still only managed to scratch the surface.

So for our March 23rd study, we opted to delve into other references in Luke's gospel to occasions when Jesus prayed. We selected nine short passages from Luke to ponder and discuss, and managed to cover the first two:

- Luke 3:21-22. When all the people were being baptised, Jesus was baptised too. And as he was praying, heaven was opened and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: 'You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased.'
- Luke 5:16. But Jesus often withdrew to lonely places and prayed.

Each of these verses proved to be the springboard for wide-ranging discussion and some heartfelt sharing of personal experience. Certainly we're proving the truth of Matthew 18:20. 'Where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.'

We usually meet fortnightly, although we're having a longer Easter gap before our next meeting, 3pm, April 30th, at the home of Peter Wyartt in Sorrus. All are welcome and there's no need to feel inhibited from joining us because you can't commit to every meeting. Several of our group live part-time in France and attend group meetings when they can. Contact Colin Ley: leycj@aol.com for further info. (Jackie L.)

Who, When, Where & Why?

Graham has been busy again, and a happy crowd enjoyed the results of his labours in Estréelle's homely *salle communale* on a cold March night. Every seat was filled and we listened with rapt attention as Graham explained his strategic plan for the movement of people at the end of each round. Some people even claimed to understand this plan of action, but it did not show. In the past there have been complaints that Graham's questions were too academic and specialised for such people as us, but see if you can deal with three typical questions from the evening*: 1. *What cheese is made backwards?* 2. *In what country can a man marry his widow's sister?* 3. *How many times can you deduct ten from one hundred?*

The evening finished with a delicious ploughman's supper with apple tart and a glass of wine. Time to start revising for Graham's next foray in the autumn. The evening raised €120 for church funds, but if you are worried about not knowing the answers –then see the back page. (Paul G.)



House group on 23rd March; the discussions continued over dinner...



A Paphos Odyssey

Graham Hughes recounts a recent voyage of discovery to Cyprus

An Odyssey may be defined as an epic journey; our visit in January 2018 was hardly epic although it was interesting, informative, and relaxing. The weather, 18 to 20°C with beautiful blue skies and cerulean sea, made a pleasant change from the mist and murk of northern Europe. The island was also very quiet with apparently few visitors which made sightseeing a pleasure rather than a challenge. Our hotel, busy at weekends but almost uninhabited during the week, was beautifully situated with wonderful views over Paphos and the city, but its location made hiring a car from Mr Thrasos a necessity. We discovered that he rented out cheap and cheerful cars (we assumed) belonging to family and friends, and had no age-related additional charges.



Paphos was founded around the third century BC and traces of pre-Roman civilisations can be found all around town. The Romans in particular liked the place and made extensive constructions in what are now two vast archaeological parks. In the city one cannot help but be struck by the number of other archaeological sites many of which are open free of charge to the public. Paphos has particular resonance for Christians since St Paul spent an important period of his life in the city. Although not one of the original twelve apostles, his conversion made him an ideal candidate to spread the gospel. He was able to combine his Greek education, his Jewishness and his status as a Roman citizen to enable him to visit the Roman Empire with an open passport. In 45 A.D. Paul and Barnabas accompanied by Mark travelled from Antioch to Silesia and from there to Cyprus where his preaching converted the Roman proconsul Sergius Paulus to Christianity so that Cyprus was the first country to be governed by a Christian. This was not before Paul had been subjected to physical trials, which according to local legend, included receiving 39 lashes while tied to a stone pillar. This pillar can still be seen in the grounds of The Panagia Chrysopolitissa church which was built in the 13th century over the ruins of a large Byzantine basilica. This church is still used for Catholic masses and is extensively decorated with icons and has beautiful mosaic floors.

The 'jewel in the crown' as it were of Paphos is the Kato Paphos archaeological site, an UNESCO World Heritage listing since 1980. The archaeological park includes sites and monuments dating from prehistoric times to the Middle Ages although the most important remains are those of the Roman period. The vestiges of four villas contain marvellous mosaic floors depicting scenes from Roman myths. These mosaics are remarkable for their artistic content, the practical skills required at their inception and the technical wizardry that has been used to restore them - if not exactly to their former glory. The site also contains the remains of a impressive Byzantine castle which was destroyed by an earthquake in 1222-along with many other buildings. The remains of 40 columns carved from granite are spread across the site of the castle and again show remarkable craftsmanship required for the smoothness of the finish. Also on the site is a very well preserved amphitheatre still used for performances in the summer months. One of the noteworthy features of the site is its organisation and the astonishingly low entry fee, especially for seniors. Excavation is still ongoing and no doubt more treasures, particularly mosaics, will be unearthed in future years.

Nearby is the 'Tombs of the Kings' site which stretches over a vast area, with wonderful sea views. Its impressive underground tombs, some dating back to the fourth century BC, are carved out of solid rock while some are decorated with Doric pillars. High officials rather than kings were buried here but the magnificence of the tombs gave the locality its current name. Also close to the site is Paphos Castle, originally a Byzantine

fort built to protect the harbour. It was rebuilt by the Lusignans in the 13th century, dismantled by the Venetians in 1570, during the Ottoman invasion, and rebuilt by the Ottomans after they captured the island in the 16th century. When we arrived it housed an impressive art exhibition devoted to St Paul but unfortunately the only information available to describe pictures was in the local language and so was all Greek to us!

Outside the city of Paphos you can find many monasteries. These tend to be located in out-of-the-way locations in beautiful landscapes. All three that we visited had impressive chapels, which emanated an air of peace and tranquillity. The monks apparently cultivate vines and keep bees, the results of such labours being on sale in shops in the monasteries. What we found curious was that in none of the three monasteries that we visited did we see any monks at all.



Mosaic of the House of Dionysus



In contrast to the Christian heritage Paphos and the Greek Orthodox history of the monasteries, is the local legend of Aphrodite. The story is that she emerged from the sea at Paphos and being the daughter of Uranus went to Olympus to claim her place in the assembly of the gods. After a scandal between Aphrodite and Ares (god of war!) was resolved, Aphrodite returned to her birthplace, Paphos, and established the baths of Aphrodite in a secluded bay, which can be visited on the North Coast close to the village of Polis.

Paphos with its pleasant sea front and harbour and fort combines a holiday resort, spectacular countryside and many interesting historical sites. You don't go to Cyprus for its gastronomy although its plainly cooked food is filling and sustaining. With the possibility of both enjoying sea and mountains you can easily get a taste of the island's culture from its many archaeological sites as well as enjoying the tranquillity of the monasteries.



Other services in the Chaplaincy: Calais's regular services: Services are held on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month at 10h30. The normal place of worship is now the Oratoire Notre Dame de la Misericorde, rue Gaillard, Calais – (near St Pierre's church.) Church Warden: Pat Page ☎ 03 21 35 07 65 or e-mail: pat.page@wanadoo.fr

Hesdin's services: Easter Sunday 16h00 Eucharist led by Gordon Warren /Sunday 15th April – 17h00 lay led. Otherwise services normally as follows: 1st Sunday monthly – Morning Prayer 10h30; 3rd Sunday monthly Eucharist. Services are held in Salle de l'Arsenal, Rue de l'Arsenal, Hesdin - Church Warden: Michael Spriggs ☎ 03 21 81 61 79

If anyone needs any form of help or assistance or if you are aware of someone who is ill, either in hospital or at home and would appreciate a visit, or alternatively if you know of anyone who you feel may benefit from prayer, please contact the church warden: George Murray ☎ 03 21 36 53 87, e-mail: georgemurray@sfr.fr.

This newsletter can be found, together with other information about the Chaplaincy, on our website at: <http://www.anglicanspdc.com>

If you have any news, short articles, adverts or any form of announcement for inclusion, please send them to: Malcolm Gale: malcolm.gale@dbmail.com - ☎ 03 21 31 83 57 Port: 06 99 09 60 44

Deadline for May issue: 28th April 2018



An Easter Word Search

Printing your newsletter: This newsletter is designed to be printed at A5 size - select the 'livret' or 'booklet' printing format on the print management page of Adobe PDF Reader, this turns it into a handy A5 size four-page leaflet – of course remember to pass the paper through your printer twice (i.e. both sides).

Answers to Graham's Quiz 1. Edam 2. No where. He is dead. 3. Once. As soon as you deduct 10, it is no longer 100.

	VSHC	
	ESER	
	IORU	
	LROC	
	MCDI	
	ANLF	
	ROAI	
Ascension	SEYAKYISXRETEP	
Body	BTDCSMTTHIEVES	
Cross	MTOIRACSI SADUJ	
Crown	ARBNEGEUGNENIL	
Crucifix	LAINEDRPELPMET	
Denial	ARPT	
Empty tomb	LUEH	
Gethsemane	LESRS	
Herod	NECE	
Judas Iscariot	ERRM	
Lamb	ROOA	
Last Supper	YBWN	
Linen	CENE	Peter
Mary Magdalene	FEOS	Resurrection
	OMIA	Robe
	NPSL	Rock
	OTNV	Salvation
	MYEA	Simon of Cyrene
	ITCT	Sins
	SOSI	Stone
	NMAO	Temple
	IBRN	Thieves
	SDAY	Veil