



Association Cultuelle de L'Église Anglicane du Pas de Calais
BOULOGNE CONGREGATION
February 2015 Newsletter

Fellowship, Hope and Love

Dear All,

Seasonal Cleaning

I am told that the first day of the New Year in the Persian calendar coincides precisely with the first day of spring. In preparation for this new beginning, around a month beforehand, families carry out the traditional *Khouneh Tekouni*, which literally means 'shaking the house' - we call it 'spring cleaning'. I don't know if people do it any more at the dawn of the year, but it does seem a very logical place to begin if in the business of having a good clear out.

Fired up with the sense of renewal a week ago, I had the irresistible urge to tackle the long overdue job of re-organising my office at the top of the house. Paint the walls with brighter colours, fix up some new shelving, increase the desk space and improve the filing system, in other words, give the place a general sprucing up and the buzz of new life. The physical elements were soon done but sifting through the piles of old papers proved more of a task – do I need utility bills from 2002? Correspondence, leaflets, postcards, photos and publicity guides going back to 'way back when', reflecting the changing scenes of life over the years. To date 20 sacks of shredded waste have gone out, which overheated our not-large-enough-for-purpose shredding machine numerous times. But now fully into the swing of 'spring cleaning' I am keen to liberate some other store places from junk. However, I questioned ...am I one of those who suffer from the dreaded HD - 'Hoarding Disorder' - or is this squirreling away items, for some possible future use, reference or because of an emotional attachment, a common human weakness? Judging by the volume of objects found in the endless round of *vide greniers* this side of the Channel and car boot sales on the other, I think I must be in good company. Nevertheless one consequence of the turning out is the re-discovering of misplaced possessions. Treasures forgotten for years right under one's own nose...or do these consequential discoveries just impede the aim of the clean sweep?

Mrs Beeton took a no nonsense approach to spring cleaning in her 1861 'Book of Household Management' when she advises servants to "turn out all the nooks and corners of drawers, cupboards, lumber-rooms, lofts, &c., with a view of getting rid of all unnecessary articles, which only create dirt and attract vermin." There's a spiritual angle also to this seasonal shaking up; Matthew's gospel: "Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy" here we are talking about creepy crawlies again, but in the widest sense. Dietrich Bonhoeffer, the much respected German theologian, in his book *The Cost of Discipleship* comes down hard on keeping what we don't really need: "Earthly goods are given to be used, not to be collected.... Hoarding is idolatry." Perhaps we do get over attached to some things – but the trick is to know the difference between blessings and simple clutter. A good 'spring shaking' then gives us a chance to re-evaluate all we have. MG

"Clean away the cobwebs, make light of dirt and grime, wave high those feather dusters -
it's now spring cleaning time"



First signs of renewal: le perce-neige - common snowdrop (*Galanthus nivalis*)

...from 'Spring Cleaning' - by David Keig (b 1951)



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

Sunday 1st February 2015 10h30 Third Sunday before Lent, Septuagesima - Our annual Candlemas Service led by Lalage Glaister

Sunday 15th February 2015 10h30/ First Sunday before Lent, Quinquagesima - (Transfiguration Sunday) Eucharist service led by

Rev. Charles Hill, Readings: 2 Kings 2:1-12; Psalm 50:1-6; 2 Corinthians 4:3-6; Mark 9:2-9

Sunday 1st March 2015 10h30 / Second Sunday in Lent - A service of morning worship, with hymns and readings led by Jean Karssen

Sunday 15th March 2015 10h30 Fourth Sunday in Lent - Mothering Sunday, followed by the Boulogne AGM; service and meeting conducted by Rev Charles Hill followed by a buffet lunch. Readings: Exodus 2:1-10; Psalm 34:11-20; 2 Corinthians 1: 3-7; Luke 2:33-35

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News and dates for your diary:

Friday Lenten Lunches - three simple Lenten lunches are planned as follows: 27th February at the home of Lalage and Paul Glaister in Estréelles (156, rue du Moulin) ☎03 21 81 47 65; on 6th March at the home of Jean and Graham Hughes in Merlimont (130 Impasse du Moulin) ☎03 21 09 32 10 and on 20th March at the home of Jean-Marc and Linda Pillière (8 Résidence Le Ruisseau, La Capelle-lès-Boulogne) ☎03 21 32 49 76 – the lunches will start at 12.30 onwards – cost is €5 p.p and the proceeds will go to *Médecins Sans Frontières*.

Ash Wednesday 18th February, a combined service, with the Calais congregation, at the home of Anne Fauquet, 43 rue de l'Abbé Dupuy, 62137, Coulogne. Eucharist led by the Revd Dr. Charles Hill followed by a light supper (details from Pat Page ☎03 21 35 07 65).

March is the month for our AGMs once again, 15th for the Boulogne meeting and the Chaplaincy AGM two weeks later on Sunday 29th. Anyone on the Electoral Roll may vote at these meetings (if you are not on the roll and would like to be added, please contact the secretary for details). At the Boulogne AGM we must elect a PCC and a new churchwarden Please do your utmost to support both meetings, especially our local one; it is very important for the future of our church.

A message below from our present churchwarden, Lalage Glaister:

I have thoroughly enjoyed the last few years serving as your Churchwarden, but I feel that the time has now come for a change. With the arrival of Canon Charles Hill to look after us and to organise all services in the Chaplaincy, it seems opportune for me to step down.

At the AGM on 15th March I hope that you, or someone you know, may feel willing to stand for election. The work is not onerous or difficult and, at times, gives a great deal of pleasure. Please think seriously about this, and if you are interested get in touch with me.

In love and friendship, Lalage

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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 regular services: Services are held as follows: 1st Sunday monthly – 10h30, Eucharist Service 3rd Sunday monthly – 17h00 Evening Prayer. Services are held in Salle de l'Arsenal, Rue de l'Arsenal, Hesdin. - Church Warden: Hazel Crompton, ☎03 21 03 31 27 e-mail: james.crompt@free.fr

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: Lalage Glaister: - ☎03 21 81 47 65, e-mail: paul.glaister@wanadoo.fr or otherwise the secretary.

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Graham Hughes has been on his travels in neighbouring Belgium again, this time discovering the Ardennes and its health restoring waters...



In the Walloon language, originally spoken in the southern portion of Belgium, the place name of Spa was originally “espa” which meant spring or fountain. I find this explanation of the origin of the word ‘spa’ more convincing than the suggestion that it might be an acronym for the Latin ‘*Salus per Aquam*’ meaning “health through water” or from the original Roman name of the town *Aquae Spadanaea*. Be that as it may the

Belgians’ strapline for the town is Spa: more than a word, a name!.

While we lived in Belgium 30 odd years ago, we went to the Ardennes but never to the town of Spa. About seven years ago I had the brainwave to stop at Spa on my way from a conference in Brussels to the next conference the following week in Wiesbaden in Germany and while there to help myself to a game of golf. It was late November and as I climbed from the motorway at Liège the snow started. By the time I had got even halfway the snows had turned into a blizzard with visibility perhaps no more than 20 metres. I decided this plan, therefore, had to be abandoned and returned to spend the night in Liège.

But I get ahead of myself; the reason for discussing Spa is that we decided to experience the autumn colours of the Belgian Ardennes in late October. The towns of Namur (the capital of the Ardennes region) and Dinant, both on our way to our first night stop, could not be more different. To us Namur seemed a charmless bustling semi-industrial town while Dinant exudes charm especially with its ancient church and charming narrow streets. Its site along the river is overlooked by a splendid citadel, which has protected the town from invaders through the centuries. Just next to this citadel is a French First World War cemetery devoted to French soldiers who lost their lives attempting to regain the town in 1917. A reminder of just one of the ferocious battles of the Ardennes

We stopped overnight in the Domain Chevetogne, a state owned recreation park of over 500 ha, of woods and more formal gardens with a delightful château. A late afternoon stroll through these gardens, beautiful with the developing autumn colours of the leaves, whetted our appetite for a meal at the charming hotel, just one of many accommodation possibilities there. The domain is a delight for those loving nature and the joys of the open-air life in unspoiled surroundings.

The drive to Spa took us through ancient towns such as Rochefort and particularly the pretty town of La Roche-en-Ardennes, dominated by a ruined castle. The ruins dating back to the 11th century look gloomy but are impressive and are emphasised by the roughly piled slate walls. The castle was inhabited until 1780 when it was abandoned. It quickly fell to ruin when in the 19th century the local villages of La Roche stripped it of all useful materials. Recent excavations have shown that the site is much older and dates back to Roman times. The drive to Spa takes you through very attractive gently mountainous-forested areas whose beauty was emphasised by the autumn colours of the wide variety of species of trees in the region. It also takes you to the city of Malmedy – partly German speaking – that had more than its share of WW2 atrocities including a mistaken air raid by the American air force which killed over 200 of its inhabitants. You can also visit the rather strange town of Stavelot with its ruined abbey and beautiful château. Stavelot is decorated with Pinocchio type effigies, which are in fact left over from a traditional carnival, the Laetare des Blancs-Moussis. On Laetare Sunday, the fourth Sunday of Lent, some 200 local men clad in white and masked with long red noses – the Blancs-Moussis – parade through town throwing confetti and beating bystanders with dried pig bladders. Not to be missed I guess!

Spa itself was, to me, a disappointment. I had expected a much more attractive and interesting town especially since it was the grand-daddy of all spas. The attractive casino is apparently the oldest in the world having been built in 1763 by the then Prince Bishop of Liège, while the spas themselves offer a wide variety of treatments for the sick and the hypochondriacs amongst us. Although known since Roman times



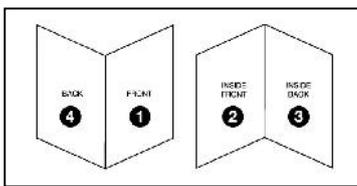
Climbing the Ardennes –the Funiculaire de Spa

Spa really started as a health resort in the 14th century and came to its height in the late 19th century. The highlight of the spa area is the Leopold IInd gallery, which is a typical 19th-century gallery that can be found in many health resorts.

Looking back I've been to quite a few spas in my time ranging from perhaps the most attractive, Vittel in the Vosges. Others include Vichy which is well worth a visit, Wiesbaden itself in Germany where my hotel, the Schwartze Bock, had a spa and mineral bath in its basement, Banff hot Springs in Canada where bloated Americans floated listlessly in the mineral spring water, not to mention Bath and Harrogate, and a sort of anti-pièce de résistance: Bourbonnes-les Bains where our hotelier sent us off to bed at 9 o'clock-presumably so that we could get a good night's sleep before the rigours of the cure that we might experience the following day. While the autumn colours did not quite compare with those we have seen in New England, I can certainly recommend visiting the Ardennes, to enjoy the gentle forests and ancient towns.

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If you have any news, short articles, adverts or any form of announcement for inclusion, please send them to the secretary Malcolm Gale: malcolm.gale@dbmail.com - ☎03 21 31 83 57 Port: 06 99 09 60 44 or by post to 76, rue de la Paix, 62200 Boulogne sur Mer.



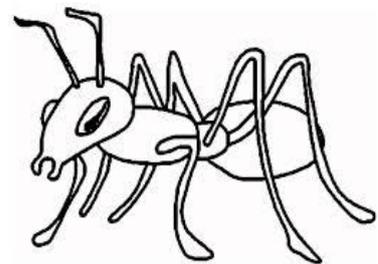
Printing your newsletter: This newsletter is designed to be printed at A5 size - select the 'livret' or 'booklet' printing format on the print management page of Adobe PDF Reader, this turns it into a handy A5 size four-page leaflet - of course remember to pass the paper through your printer twice (i.e.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

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

And just for the fun of it ...

From the clues below find the words ending with an *ant...* for example: 'A waiting ant' = *attendant*

1. A floating ant...
2. A plentiful ant...
3. A hard ant...
4. A needy ant...
5. A graceful ant...
6. An enormous ant...
7. A shirking ant...
8. A wandering ant...
9. A dunce-like ant...



Amazing Animal Facts

- Ants never really sleep, they only take short power naps. Also they don't have lungs.
- A mouse has more bones than a human.
- An anteater is nearly 3 metres long, yet its mouth is only 2 cms wide.
- Each of a dragonfly's eyes contains 30,000 lenses.
- There are some insects for which a male of the species has never been found.
- A grasshopper can leap 20 times the length of its own body.

10. A light-giving ant...
11. A sweet smelling ant...
12. A helpful ant...
13. A domestic ant...
14. An ambitious ant...
15. A coming-in ant...
16. A meagre ant...
17. A residential ant...
18. A singing ant...
19. A fighting ant...
20. A pleasing ant...

Solutions in next month's newsletter.