



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

Fellowship, Hope and Love

Dear All,

A day in Boulogne

Having the habit of passing many mornings in our local café, just to watch the world go by, in Boulogne's *vieille ville*, it is easy to tell the difference between visiting English school children and the French *élèves*. It has nothing to do with noise levels or discipline; the English wear coloured berets. Those round, flat-crowned, soft, archetypical French hats, are a best seller in the old town, where conceivably, many of the young visitors are slightly confused by not seeing a sprinkling of men, dressed in horizontally striped pullies, riding bikes loaded with onions.

Although still early in the year we have already seen a reasonable crop of these groups, in uniform or otherwise, wandering the narrow streets carrying questionnaire sheets and sheepishly trying out their French language skills. Certainly the old town of Boulogne does make an ideal taster of France and perhaps it is still just as foreign to English children as it always was, despite cultural globalisation. A few decades ago everything was different, road signs, food and sometimes the toilets were reported as unfamiliarly French. Now it's McDo and KFC on either side of the Channel and universal mod cons *partout*. As the season rolls on there will be a gradual increase in the number of school parties, reaching a peak in late June, early July. The *patron* of our café is always at the ready for those daring to wander in, just to use his loo (or see what it looks like), while their teachers, as often or not, occupy the best seats on his terrace, enjoying a local beer and hopefully soaking up the sun, keeping an eye on their troupe to ensure they get back to the coach in time. If there was ever any doubt as to where to find them, it's almost certain they will be swarming around one of the souvenir shops, buying a false moustache or a plastic Eiffel Tower for mum and dad, as positive proof they really have been to France.

As part of a week-long educational visit to the south of England, a teacher friend from Norfolk, brought a party of his middle school pupils over last year in June. The week had been packed with visits to Canterbury, Hastings and Dover but on the final day it was off to Boulogne. He confirmed that the children, on seeing the white cliffs disappear and another country emerge on the horizon, were suitably impressed. True, we all have memories of journeys, some recent, some past, but the early ones of our youth stay with us forever.

This year there will be a couple of new attractions in the old town, really old friends returning with a new set of clothes; the 9th edition of the *jardin éphémère* following on from last year's Andalusian garden. As usual, the theme is a closely guarded secret- although the head gardener has hinted it will be 'something more amusing'. The other will be the reopening, after 5 years of renovation, of the famous crypt beneath the basilica. This has always been Boulogne's 'must-see' but it had bad lighting and even worse labelling, little had been done for years. It is certain with new state-of-the-art displays it will become a major draw.

Still for the youngsters travelling with their peers, for many their first trip abroad without parents, the day in France and the taste of another culture, albeit superficial, will always be special; a step along their own road to discovering the different ways of the world. God bless them all. (MG)

For my ways are strange ways and new ways and old ways,
And deep ways and steep ways and high ways and low;
I'm at home and at ease on a track that I know not,
And restless and lost on a road that I know.

From 'The Wander-Light' by Henry Lawson (1867 – 1922) taken from: 'When I Was King and other poems'



Early spring morning - Place Godefroy de Bouillon in Boulogne's old town.



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

Sunday 3rd May 2015 / Fifth Sunday of Easter - Please note there will be no service

Sunday 17th May 2015 10h30 / Seventh Sunday of Easter - Eucharist service conducted by Rev Charles Hill. Readings: Acts 1:15-17, 21-26; Psalm 1; John 5:9-13; John 17:6-19

Sunday 31st May 2015 10h30 / Trinity Sunday - A Joint Eucharist service with the congregations of Calais and Hesdin, led by Rev Charles Hill. Readings: Isaiah 6: 1-8; Psalm 29; Romans 8: 12-17; John 3: 1-17 (See below)

Sunday 7th June 2015 10h30/ First Sunday after Trinity- A simple service of morning worship, with hymns and readings led by Jean Karssen and Jane Langlet

Sunday 21st June 2015 10h30 / Third Sunday after Trinity – Fathers' Day Eucharist service conducted by Cannon Reg Humphriss. Readings: Job 38:1-11; Psalm 107:23-32; 2 Corinthians 6:1-13; Mark 4:35-end

News and dates for your diary:

Trinity Sunday, we are delighted to welcome members of our two other Chaplaincy congregations to this special service on Sunday 31st May. After the service there will be a short information session by Rev. Hill on the administration of the cup at communion and on leading lay services. All are very welcome to attend.

Advertising in 'The Connexion' – under the heading 'ENGLISH CHURCH Pas de Calais', the Chaplaincy is spreading its wings by taking a year's display advertising in the pages of this widely sold publication, which draws on a broad readership of English speaking people living in France. Other churches already advertise in this newspaper but this is a first for us. This is a part of our ongoing campaign of publicity to encourage new members and make people aware of our existence – the advertisement provides basic details, a contact telephone number and our web-address.

Newsletter – Your secretary needs your help. At the last Boulogne AGM I agreed, for the time being, to continuing producing your newsletter in its present form, which is now in its fourth year. Modelled on the lines of church and parish magazines published across the UK, but on a reduced scale, hopefully it serves as a link for those who attend our services regularly and for those who cannot, but wish to stay in touch. Grateful to all past contributors, we always need a substantial mix of articles, reports on events and services, viewpoints, photos and yes - funny stories. There is a wealth of talent out there - so please don't leave your secretary to struggle on alone – your help is needed. Contact details on the last page. (MG)

Paul Glaister - we are very pleased to report that Paul is now back home, after his recent operation, and is continuing his recuperation there. Both Paul and Lalage wish to thank everyone for their prayers and good wishes over the last few weeks.

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.crompton@free.fr

Fund raising for the Boulogne English Church 24 years ago...

Trawling through archives is always a fascinating activity and the Chaplaincy collection of letters, minutes and press cuttings is no different. Below is a letter from Holy Trinity Church, Maisons-Laffitte, dated July 8th 1991.

Why did the French Maritime Administration ban the event, yet give the green light to a crossing from Jersey to Carteret? Concerns over crossing one of the world's busiest shipping lanes is probably the answer. But unfortunately there is no record of how much money was raised from the sponsors of the rescheduled event. Nevertheless, there is a postcard, oddly enough sent from Truro on July 23rd, confirming that the time taken was 3 hours 10 minutes - certainly not bad going! But so many questions go unanswered. How big was the boat; how many oarsmen were there and where did they train; how did they get the boat over to Jersey when their plans changed? Does anyone remember this unusual, and not without risk, fund raising event, and can throw more light on it?

PS: France banned swimmers leaving her nation's shores heading for Dover 21 years ago.

Holy Trinity Church

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July 8th, 1991

ROWING THE CHANNEL IN AID OF A NEW BOULOGNE ENGLISH CHURCH

The crossing had been planned for Monday, July 8th, Everything was in place, the weather forecast was good, the moral high, the boat loaded ready for shipment.

Yet, 24 hours before departure, we had to cancel everything. Although we had support form the English Coast Guard, the French Maritime Administration not only refused permission, but it became apparent that arrest and confiscation of the boat on landing in France was inevitable. So very sadly we had to accept defeat - with a smile.

But we accept to loose the battle, not the challenge. On Saturday, July 20th, we plan to cross from the British Isles to France (!) from Jersey to Carteret. The distance is about the same, and the French this time support us.

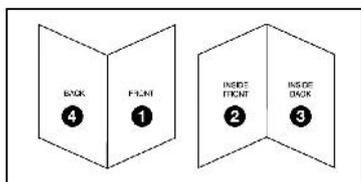
Some of the Churches and friends have been sponsoring the first event very generously. So if we succeed in the second attempt, would you be willing to keep up your sponsorship ?



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: george.murray@orange.fr or otherwise the secretary.



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 ... Boy oh Boy!

Three boys are in the school playground exaggerating about their fathers' achievements. The first boy commented: "My dad scribbles a few words on a piece of paper, he calls it a poem, and they give him €50."

The second boy retorted: "But that's nothing. My dad scribbles a few words on a piece of paper, he calls it a song, and they give him €500."

Then the third boy, thinking that he could outdo the others said: "I got you both beat. My dad scribbles a few words on a piece of paper, he calls it a sermon, and it takes eight men to collect all the money!"

A boy had to choose from a number of titles for his week-end essay; the one he selected was; 'On being born'. Thinking he might get some support from his rather prudish parents on the subject, he ventured to ask his mother "How was I born?" She quickly came back with the answer: "Well my dear – it was the stork that brought you to us".

The boy thought for a minute and then asked again: "Well, how did you and daddy get born?"

- "Oh well the stork brought us along too!" the mother again swiftly replied.

Once more he persisted: "But how about granddad and grandma?"

- "That was the same for them as well," yet again she repeated the same response.

When he handed in his essay a few days afterwards, the teacher was very puzzled to see it start off: "This essay has been very difficult to write as, on inquiring, I have discovered that there hasn't been a natural childbirth in my family for three generations.

E	G	A	H	C	B	D	I	F
D	I	F	E	A	G	H	B	C
C	B	H	D	I	F	A	E	G
H	D	E	F	B	I	C	G	A
I	A	C	G	E	H	F	D	B
G	F	B	A	D	C	I	H	E
A	H	I	C	G	E	B	F	D
B	C	G	I	F	D	E	A	H
F	E	D	B	H	A	G	C	I

Solution to last month's wordoku

A rather distressed boy came home from school complaining that the other boys in his class had called him: 'Big Head'. His mum thinking she would send him on a small errand to take his mind off it, said: 'Never mind dear, just run down to the grocery on the corner for me and collect the 2 kilo bag of potatoes I ordered – you can bring them back in your cap!'

