



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

October 2018 Newsletter

Fellowship, Hope and Love

No. 71



Revd. KIRRILEE REID

Next month will see the appointment of a new Chaplain for the Pas-de- Calais, Australian born Revd. Canon KIRRILEE Anne Reid. She is also becoming Refugee Projects Officer for the area.

The post has been created through a joint partnership between the Diocese in Europe, Pas de Calais Chaplaincy, the Diocese of Canterbury, and the Anglican mission agency USPG. KIRRILEE was ordained in Canberra in 2006, where she combined parish work with outreach programmes focusing on the socially marginalized. In 2010 she moved to Scotland to become Rector of All Saints' Episcopal Church, Glencarse in Perthshire. She recently completed a sabbatical spent working with

refugee agencies on the island of Lesbos in Greece. KIRRILEE is married to Ewan, and they have three children, Angus, Tobias and Amelia, all now adults.

Our new Chaplain will be moving to Wimereux shortly in readiness to take up the post and will be licensed on 8th November at a service in Boulogne, conducted by the Bishop in Europe Rt Rev Robert Innes and the Bishop of Dover Rt Rev Trevor Willmott. We extend a very warm welcome to our new Chaplain and wish her every success in her challenging ministry.

Robots, drones and God's almighty hand

Our recent harvest service included 'We plough the fields and scatter the good seed on the land', a hymn, which I've always enjoyed from the time, I first sang it in our little Methodist chapel in south-west England. Born and raised on a small Devonian farm, the annual harvest festival was always a highlight for us, with the chapel packed with people who knew the real meaning of 'all is safely gathered in'.

After our own harvest gathering in Boulogne, it was suggested I might like to write a more modern 'We plough' verse for us to sing next year, something reflecting the changing face of today's farming technology. The idea set me thinking. How about these versions?

*Robots drive our tractors in fields across the land
Injecting seeds into the soil on some great master plan...*

Or:

*We watch the screen in comfort as drones fly to and fro
Detecting problems on our crops without the need to hoe...*

Okay, I'm not exactly a modern day Charles Wesley but at least they fit the tune. When I came to the next part of the verse, however, I realised how marvellous the original hymn is. Following on from the 'We plough' first line, we are confronted by God's part in the process of food production:

*'But it is fed and watered by God's almighty hand:
He sends the snow in winter, the warmth to swell the grain,
The breezes and the sunshine, and soft refreshing rain.'*



So how has that changed through technological advances? For all our use of robots and drones in modern agriculture, the final word still rests with God.

That's why our Devonian harvest festivals were such joyous occasions. Everyone in our little chapel knew that, no matter how hard they worked throughout the year, it was God's almighty hand that made the difference. And they raised the roof of the chapel with their songs of praise and thanksgiving at harvest time.

[Colin L



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

△ △ **Sunday 21st October 2018 10h30 / Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost**– Service of Morning prayer with hymns and readings led by David Furbur and Peter Wyart

△ △ **Sunday 4th November 2018 10h30 / Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost or First Sunday after All Saints** - First Eucharist service in the Chaplaincy to be led by our new Chaplain Revd. Kirrilee Reid. Readings: Ruth 1:1-18; Psalm 146; Hebrews 9:11-14; Mark 12:28-34

△ △ **Thursday 8th November 2018 18h00 Service for the licensing of Chaplain of the Pas-de-Calais and Refugee Projects Officer:** Revd. Canon Kirrilee Reid, conducted by The Bishop of Gibraltar in Europe – The Right Reverend Dr Robert Innes and the Bishop of Dover The Right Reverend Trevor Willmott. The service will be followed by light refreshments.

=====

News and dates for your diary...

* **Saturday, 13th October 14h30 – 17h00 AFTERNOON TEA** at the home of Peter Wyart, 138 rue Jean Ducrocq, Sorrus. Stalls and Raffle. Admission: €5 to include cucumber sandwiches, scones and cakes.

* **Saturday, 10th November 18h00 CEREMONY** in honour of Field Marshal Douglas Haig, led by Paul Glaister and followed by shepherds' pie and pudding at the home of Paul and Lalage Glaister in Estréelles.

* **Friday, 16th November 19h00 GRAHAM'S QUIZ NIGHT** in the Salle Communale, Estréelles, followed by a ploughman's supper and wine. €10 per person.

For more information about the above events, telephone Paul or Lalage on 03 21 81 47 65 or email lalageglaister@gmail.com . Please let us know if you are attending.

United Society Partners in the Gospel (USPG)

The Eucharist service on Sunday 8th October was led by the Revd. Richard Bartlett, Director of Mission Engagement at USPG. After the service, Revd. Bartlett gave a short presentation on the history and work of the Society, and answered questions.

The USPG is our biggest single stakeholder in the funding which has led to the appointment of Revd. Kirrilee Reid as our new chaplain. We were therefore particularly privileged to welcome Richard at this time when we are so eagerly anticipating Kirrilee's arrival in France. USPG (formerly known as the United Society for the Propagation of the Gospel) is an Anglican mission agency supporting churches around the world in their mission to bring fullness of life to the communities they serve. The Society was founded in 1701 so, as Richard put it, his presentation covered over 300 years in ten minutes!

Formerly sending some 15,000 missionaries around the world, USPG now partners churches and communities worldwide in God's mission to enliven faith, strengthen relationships, unlock potential and champion justice. UK-based partners are far from sedentary, though, with an active programme of Mission Engagement encouraging especially the Anglican Churches of Britain and Ireland to engage with USPG in global mission. Richard himself, who was Vicar of Northwood, north-west London, prior to joining USPG several years ago, spent three years in Brazil with USPG, and is shortly off to visit USPG's partners in the Philippines. Earlier, in his sermon, Richard spoke of the Society's work in several countries, chiefly Malawi, stressing the scarcely believable levels of rural poverty (its effects particularly on children) and the small amounts of money which can make a huge difference. He mentioned as an example the case of Benadeter, a girl who had a 45-minute walk to school and was frequently barred from entering because she had no school uniform. With USPG's help a uniform had been purchased for her, and hundreds of other girls in a similar situation, costing just £16 each.

USPG relies chiefly on donations for its continued operations. Richard mentioned a recent particularly handsome gift, the donation of a painting, which had, on its own, made possible USPG's engagement with the Diocese in Europe in responding to the refugee crisis, in a number of locations, including now, the appointment of Kirrilee as our new priest. We are privileged indeed.

[George M





David Furbur reflects on the case of 'the echinops and the new boy'

As I walked around Etaples Military Cemetery a few days ago, where over eleven and a half thousand soldiers are lie buried, I was deep in my own thoughts, questioning how wars arise and why they never seem to stop. This is despite people of all nationalities seemingly getting on well at tourist hotspots and sports events and the rest. Is it the leaders and politicians who touch the right nerve, or do we get swept along by national emotion and follow the actions of our piers or is it our pack instinct? Then I walked past a flowerbed full of echinops, also known as 'globe thistles,' overlooking the graves.

It brought back an incident at my preparatory school. Echinops were a very popular flower with the boys, at least the purple flower heads were. The headmaster of this school was a stern disciplinarian, he never smiled, was also feared by his own staff. But more importantly for us, he was in charge of the slipper, not a cane, which he would use even for the most minor transgression. The maximum was: 'six of the best' but on one occasion with me, he lost his temper and gave me eight. But I digress.

The Headmaster loved his garden and, like the flowerbeds at Etaples, he had a profusion of echinops planted in his garden. Each year on our way down to the playing fields, we would quickly pull off a few heads and secrete them in our pockets and then when well clear of the masters, we would have a hilarious game of throwing them at each other. We all did it - it was a tradition. We knew it was naughty, but not really serious.

Then one day at assembly the headmaster stood up, red faced and in a foul temper, demanding to know who had pulled the heads off the plants. I will admit I had noticed that ALL the flower heads had gone. He demanded and in no uncertain terms that any boys involved should raise their hands and own up.

We were all quivering in fear. We were all taught to confess our misdoings, but in this situation we all knew that every one of us was guilty although no one raised a hand and I kept mine well and truly in the down position. I had been taught to own up but why should I get 'six of the best' from the Head; no one else was owning up. As a group was it correct to stick together and by not coming forward we might make the Head think it was the naughty urchins from the village who were responsible.

The headmaster was getting more and more annoyed and I was on the edge of raising my hand, but at that moment suddenly a hand was raised. We all turned to see that it was the 'new boy' who had put his hand in the air. This young fellow had just joined the school at the start of summer term and was the youngest and the smallest.

The headmaster gulped. He was wrong footed. He even thanked the boy for admitting his misdeed. Then he swung back on us all pointing out that he knew that far more boys had been involved and the responsible should come forward. He walked along in front of us, like some Gestapo officer staring us in the eyes. But no one else owned up. We all stood our ground.

He dismissed the assembly and dragged the new boy off to give gave him four whacks with the slipper. We heard the punishment and saw the new boy coming out of the Head's study crying. Now crying was something you never do, you hold it in. But he was a new boy, he did not know any better. We all felt sorry for him. We knew he had taken the blame for all of us. We could not comfort him or we would have been guilty by association.

I sat at the Cemetery looking at the flower heads and wondering what happened to that boy. Was he successful in business, honest, open, always admitting his faults, or did he change. Did he learn to just go along with the majority and keep quiet even if he thought something was wrong? Never whistle blowing. Or did he become someone special in his life, an example for others.

He was prepared to take the blame for all of us and we let him do just that and face the punishment. Is this a story that sounds familiar?



Echinops adenocaulos



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 / e-mail: pat.page@wanadoo.fr

Hesdin's services: 1st Sunday – Lay Led service – 10h30 / 3rd Sunday - Holy Communion – 17h00. 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 November issue: 25th October 2018

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).

