



Association Cultuelle de L'Église Anglicane du Pas de Calais
BOULOGNE CONGREGATION
September 2018 Newsletter
Fellowship, Hope and Love **No. 70**

Being transformed

A couple of weeks ago, during an overnight stay in Canterbury, we visited the site and gardens of the first Franciscan house in England, established in the 13th century on 18 acres of marshland which the friars drained. Most Franciscan buildings in England have disappeared. They were built in towns to serve the townspeople and after their closure their sites were attractive for other uses. Only one of the original buildings on the site still survives, probably used as the monastery guesthouse and known as 'The Greyfriars'. The guide book describes this humble house as follows: 'The building...which straddles the river Stour in the centre of Canterbury and stands amidst the site of the Franciscans' first house in England, bears witness to their transforming presence in the city for more than 300 years.'

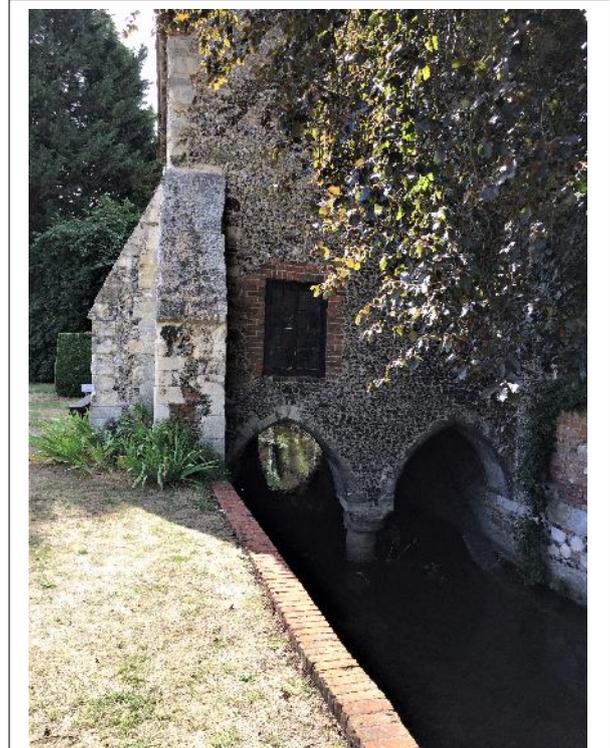
The entrance to the site would be easy to miss, a gate and a grassy path between city centre buildings, with little to indicate the peaceful haven that lies at the end of the path. The gardens are mainly grass and wild flower beds, nothing to compare with spectacular sites like *Les Jardins de Valloires* in the Somme, but the place emanates peace and tranquillity, a world away from the tourist bustle of modern city streets. At the heart of the site is the medieval guest house, small and unremarkable in terms of architecture, but a building that somehow draws you in. Its interior is humble, just two ground floor rooms and a wooden staircase leading to the upper floor, a simple room, vaulted with wooden beams, plain stone walls, a small altar and a cluster of votive candles. All the peace of the site seemed to be distilled into that room, a place of refuge and quietness that could only be explained by the building's use over the centuries. In 1683 the guest-house was briefly occupied by Huguenot refugees after the brutal St Bartholomew Massacre. During the First World War, Belgian refugees found shelter there. The house had been a place of sanctuary. Its eloquent message was borne out by a memorial notice on the ground floor, a photo of a smiling Franciscan friar, Father Mychal Judge, killed on September 11th, 2001 at the World Trade Centre while administering the last rites to a dying New York fire-fighter. His selfless action demonstrated a modern Franciscan's commitment to the example of his forbears, to be 'a transforming presence' dedicated to the needy and most broken in society.

That message is also a challenge to us, to be a transforming presence in our own sphere, through our hospitality, our friendships, our caring and prayers for others and our church community. It reminds us that the only way to be a transforming presence is to be transformed.

[Jackie L.]

'And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image, from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.'

2 Corinthians 3:18



Greyfriars chapel over the Stour, Canterbury





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

△ △ **Sunday 2nd September 2018 10h30 / Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost** - Eucharist service, celebrant: Rev. Caroline Pinchbeck, Director of communities and partnerships

Diocese of Canterbury. Readings: Song of Solomon 2:8-13; Psalm 15; James 1:17-27; Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

△ △ **Sunday 16th September 2018 10h30 / Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost - Harvest Festival** service with hymns and readings led by Lalage and Paul Glaister followed by a ploughman's lunch. As usual produce brought by members of the congregation will be donated to the nuns.

△ △ **Sunday 30th September 2018 11h00 / Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost** - Joint congregation Eucharist service and lunch at the 'Relais de la Pentecôte,' Calais led by Ven Meurig Williams. Please see back page for address details of venue.

△ △ **Sunday 7th October 2018 10h30 / Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost** - Service of Morning prayer with hymns and readings led by David Furbur and Peter Wyart



News and dates for your diary...

● **We welcome back on Sunday 2nd September** Revd Caroline Pinchbeck. Caroline holds the position of director of communities and partnerships for the Diocese of Canterbury, a role as diverse as the title suggests, as a result she has been keeping a close eye on our search for a new chaplain. She will be accompanied by Domenica Pecoraro, Kent Refugee Project Officer for the Diocese, who will be speaking about her work.

● **The next meeting of the Bible Study Group will be on Friday September 28th**, 15h00, at the home of Paul & Lalage Glaister in Estréelles. We'll be studying Galatians 2. All are warmly welcome. For further information, contact Colin Ley: leycj@aol.com ☎ 0688792185



← **Despite the heavy rain** members of the Boulogne congregation lent a hand this year to carry Boulogne's copy of Our Lady of Walsingham, which is kept in the Basilica, through the wet streets of the town for 'la Grande Procession' on Sunday 26th August. The church of Stella Maris in Lowestoft, Suffolk contains a replica of Our Lady of Boulogne and each year pilgrims from East Anglia join the procession. This year it was headed by Chris and Janet Brooks of Lowestoft.

A large number of people attended the service on Sunday 19th August, which was led by Rev Roy Kilford, former Pas de Calais chaplain from 2002 to 2004.

Naturally after 14 years away it

was a great moment for reminiscing. Our photo shows Roy (left), with his wife Myrtle (right) enjoying a dinner on the eve of the service hosted by Graham and Jean Karszen. ↑



● **There will be a Coffee Morning** at the home of Pauline Cecchin, 13 Parvis Notre Dame, 62200 Boulogne-sur-Mer on **Tuesday 18th September** from 10h00 onwards – all are welcome contact Pauline on: ☎ 03 21 92 14 70 or e-mail: cecchinp@wanadoo.fr

● **An Afternoon Tea**, with proceeds towards the Anglican Church in the Pas de Calais will be held on **Saturday 13th October** 14h00 to 17h00 at the home of Peter Wyart, 138 rue Jean Ducrocq in Sorrus. (Tel: 0321064095) Apart from delicious sandwiches, scones, and lemon drizzle cake (and the rest) there will also be stalls and a raffle. An unmissable autumn event.

Graham Hughes discovers there's another side to...

High Days and Holy Days

I am sure we all notice the signs as we go into French and German towns that announce when services, usually masses, are held in the local church. This always strikes me as something of a paradox since in neither country is the church 'established' whereas the UK, which does have an established church, relies on notice boards outside the place of worship in any particular town or village to give information about when the services occur. In most countries, again paradoxically, there appears to be more public holidays to celebrate important ecclesiastical dates than in the UK.

I have been caught out a couple of times of late by public holidays on days when, as a normal UK resident, I would not have expected there to have been the closure of commercial establishments. The first occasion occurred in France, in Paris to be exact, actually in Montmartre. We had taken a friend to Paris to help her recover from the passing away of her husband a little time before. We stayed at a hotel in Montmartre arriving quite late in the day but just in time for a quick shower before finding a convenient local restaurant. As Alice in Wonderland might have said 'imagine my surprise' there did not appear to be anything open in the immediate vicinity. We walked for half an hour down a promising looking road but without success, everything was shut. Eventually at about 8.30 pm we came across a Chinese restaurant that was open but the ladies declined even this, saying they had not come to Paris to partake of oriental food. About 10 minutes of further walking we did manage to find a local family restaurant that was still serving food - and what good food it was too! Why were all these restaurants closed you may ask. Well it was August 15 the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, which at least in that part of Paris was celebrated by the closure of all the restaurants, bar the couple that we managed to find.

The towns of Cary (North Carolina, USA), Witney (UK), Rixensart (Belgium) and Winterberg (Germany) are all twinned with Le Touquet. We found this out by chance when we arranged a weeks' time-share in Winterberg earlier this year. We stayed at a holiday village belonging to the Landal group just outside the main town. Beyond being a holiday resort it is difficult to see what Winterberg and Le Touquet have in common, still less in towns such as Cary, Witney and Rixensart which seemed to have no similarity with Le Touquet at all. Winterberg is located in the middle of the Sauerland about 200 km east of Dortmund. Situated in hilly country and due to its continental position, it receives plenty of snow in the winter and therefore has become a winter sports resort of some renown. In particular it has hosted world ski jumping championships and toboggan races. In the summer it's a big centre for mountain walking and mountain bikes. Intrepid young, and not so young, men and women ride down the now bare ski slopes at terrifying speeds and then back up again with the ski lifts. The countryside is very attractive being surrounded by pine forests and pastures mainly occupied by cattle. There is even a pretty nine-hole golf course, the professional of which had heard of Le Touquet but never played there. On our last day the 31st May we visited some of the very attractive half timbered villages which are dotted around Winterberg and on our way back came across a sign to a mediaeval church which we thought would be worth visiting. Parking amongst lots of cars next to one of the meadows we walked to the church, which was almost empty, while close by was a large marquee in which some sort of ceremony was being conducted. In vain could we discover what this ceremony was, since we did not care to interrupt any of the many participants.

While my wife Jean was doing the packing I decided it was a good opportunity to pop to the local supermarket and buy some German wine, which would be difficult to obtain here in France. To my surprise the supermarket was closed, although the town did not seem to be particularly quiet. I was even more surprised to find that Aldi and Lidl were also closed. Filling up with fuel for our return journey I asked the attendant why all the shops were closed. He



The green hills of Winterberg



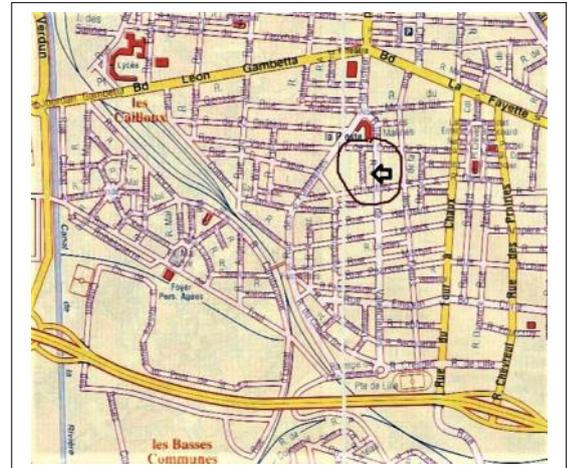
The large marquee



told me it was a public holiday but could not explain why. Someone else in the shop explained that it was 'Fronleichnam' the German for Corpus Christi. Caught out again by a public holiday that we in the UK do not observe. So the wine had to wait until the crack of dawn the following day with a rather restricted choice at Aldi. That being said I can warmly recommend Winterberg in the summer for its attractive scenery, good food and opportunities for relaxation, even if the tourist office staff had never heard of Le Touquet.

Joint Service:

As listed, there will be a joint congregation Eucharist service and lunch led by Ven Meurig Williams on **Sunday 30th September 2018**. This will take place in Calais at the 'Relais de la Pentecôte.' Although the address of the venue is actually 114 rue de Chantilly, please note that the large car park, which is a part of the complex, is entered by a gate at 57 Rue de Valenciennes. Parking in rue de Chantilly is very limited.



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: 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 October issue: 30th September 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).

