

St Mary's Barnes Scrapbooks 1987

The text below is written on the Index page of the first scrapbook which covers the period 1978 to 1992. The galleries will show the scrapbooks year by year.

'This album is a compilation of memorabilia – press cuttings, photographs, written contributions etc. which describe and portray the events leading up to the rebuilding of the church after the disastrous fire in 1978 and the subsequent regeneration of life and activities within the church during the last 14 years. It was thought that it would be of interest and value to everyone and, in particular future generations, if all this material was gathered together in one place. The project was thought up by Lea Ford 2 years ago (c1991) and the task of searching out and assembling the contents of the scrapbook has taken until the beginning of 1993. The next volume will be easy and can be continued on a year to year, even month to month basis, like a family photograph album.'

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PCC REPORT

Quote

Most magazines seem to me to have too wide an aim... even church-orientated magazines suffer from a lack of focus and present a blurred image. A blur is not easy to read.

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This report is produced in the size and style of the proposed magazine, but it will have more pages!

The Editorial Team

Editor & St Michael's Rep:
Wren Hoskins-Abrams
Deputy Editor & St Mary's Rep:
Faith Hallam
Deputy Editor & Holy Trinity Rep:
Rev. Peter Hills
Editorial Advisor:
John Furness

A Three Churches Monthly Magazine

Report for the PCCs of
St Mary's, Holy Trinity and St Michael's, Barnes

At present Holy Trinity publishes a monthly magazine, but its editor, after 15 years, wishes to retire. St Mary's have a monthly newsletter distributed free. St Michael's has no regular monthly publication.

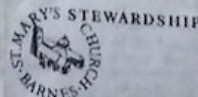
The proposal is to establish a single magazine for all three parishes. This report is submitted by the editor designate - unless another volunteer wishes to come forward.

We have all heard talk of a Team Ministry in Barnes and that our Ministers now hold regular meetings together. When we talk of ministry we tend to think of our ordained clergy, but that is unfortunate for Team Ministry refers to us all (clergy and lay alike) coming together as a co-ordinated body, pooling our gifts and resources in seeking to do God's will together. In order to work effectively together we need to know more about each other's identities and character, for neither as individuals nor as churches do we lose our individuality. That is one good reason for having a combined magazine. It will be a first step towards a Lay Team Ministry.

The objective of the magazine will be to educate, inform, entertain and foster a fellowship between members of our three churches. It will be aimed at church supporters (regular members and those who want to be kept in touch). It will not be suitable for people with no church connections, but it is hoped that such an "out reach" publication may follow in due course.

There will be regular articles, not only to educate and inform us about each other, but also to stimulate our faith. They will range from an incumbent's editorial to a calendar, hopefully, a children's page and, perhaps, readers' small ads. However, to quote from a recent survey on church magazines: "The trouble with producing something regularly is that you have to keep doing it whether you have something to say or not.... To avoid this I suggest a few regular features as possible... and a constant attempt to surprise the reader. After all, God delights in surprising us." So be prepared to be surprised!

The editorial team will be small but every member will have a part to play from being a regular reader to contributing articles, from praying for the team to distributing the finished product. The remainder of this report outlines the proposals in more detail and suggests draft resolutions which will be required from all three PCCs to establish and fund the project.



STEWARDSHIP BULLETIN - MARCH 1987

In November 1985 a blue booklet entitled "The Way Ahead - the House Groups Report" brought to a close "Stewardship '85". But in November 1986 a bulletin "The Way Ahead - One Year On" reminded us that Stewardship is a continuing commitment. That bulletin attempted to set out what progress had been made in implementing the ideas born of Stewardship '85 which had been summarized in "The Way Ahead". After its publication the nine house groups met again, just once, positively to identify the successes to date and to suggest the priorities for 1987. These were their conclusions (and some of the actions subsequently taken):

Successes of 1986

Of the sixteen suggestions made by the house groups originally, considerable progress has been made in the following:

- more basic instructions; the leaflet "Stepping Stones" giving details of courses and discussion meetings is especially commended.
- a more welcoming attitude in church.
- the installation of an audio system.
- baptism as an integral part of the 10 o'clock service.
- Parish breakfast following the 8 o'clock service.
- the Welcome leaflet; this gives good information as well as extending a welcome to newcomers to the Parish.
- a sense of growing together within the congregation.

Priorities for 1987

The main demands for the next stage of our Stewardship are:

- improved promotion of St. Mary's through better communication. Plans include better notice boards (a new board has now been sited in the church yard), a new newsletter (due to start in July), and "What's On", a monthly diary of events (starting in April).

Precursor to Barnes in Common

26 Feb: The Church of England's General Synod today gave the go ahead for the ordination of women priests by voting overwhelmingly for legislation suggested by the House of Bishops. The move brings the possibility of a major schism a step closer

Barnes In Common

A new magazine for members of the three Anglican Parishes in Barnes.

From June it is to be published monthly.

A Subscription Form is on the back cover.
£2.40 p.a. (minimum)
or 25p each.

Contents

Marriage Preparation
The Church Growth Conference
Our Churches - an Introduction
MISSION '88
The Lent Groups
Magazine Production - Help Required

Barnes In Common is not an inappropriate title for our magazine, but there is probably a better one.

A PRIZE of £10 is offered to the person proposing the alternative which is adopted for subsequent editions.

Easter Edition 1987

FREE (Future editions 25p min.)

CHRIST IS RISEN

He is risen indeed, Hallelujah!

In his autobiography Mervyn Stockwood, former Bishop of this diocese, tells this story when some years ago he visited Moscow with a parliamentary delegation. His electric razor had gone wrong and he had no alternative but to go to the hairdressing salon of the large hotel in which he was staying. He was attended by a woman. As she shaved the bishop she looked intently at him, especially his postcard Resurrection with intensity. Taking the cross in her hand she kissed it, next the ring, and then raising the razor blade aloft called out "Christ is Risen", whereupon the other customers joyfully responded "He is risen indeed". Mervyn Stockwood adds: "Four old Britishers, sixty years of age, and still the Galilean conquerors."

I had the great privilege last year to go to the Russian Orthodox Church near Knightsbridge for their Easter celebration (which does not always coincide with our Easter). We arrived at 11 pm and left in the early hours of the morning while the service was still in full swing. When we entered the Church was in darkness and there was a great sense of expectancy. At midnight the processions appeared, we all lit our candles from each other and suddenly the Church was a blaze of light. And every so often the priests would appear from behind the screen of the sanctuary and greet the congregation with the same words which the woman in the hairdressing salon in Moscow had called out "Christ is risen" and the packed Church would respond "He is risen indeed". There was an exuberance about the good news of the risen Christ which needed to be proclaimed over and over again.

Once again this Easter right across the world Christian people of all traditions will greet each other with these words

will take fresh courage from the message that they proclaim. For it is not merely a commemoration of an amazing event that took place 2000 years ago and that brought the Church into being. It is a celebration of the continuing impact of that event on the Church today and through the Church upon the world. For it is a fact that even in an atheistic world the Galilean conquerors, it is a fact that all the time, and often in the most unlikely places, individuals are converted and become Christians. It is a fact that the risen and living Christ is at work in the world of our day.

The Mission that we are planning for next year is really an opportunity for Christians in Barnes to share the Good News that Jesus Christ is risen and alive. Let us not just celebrate about it again for another year, but let us all be Easter People in Barnes who as we prepare for Mission '88 proclaim by lip and by life

"HE IS RISEN INDEED, HALLELUJAH!"

St. Mary's Parish Church

Church Road BARNES SW13

CHRISTOPHER MABLEY

Music for Organ

J.S. BACH

"Sacred & Secular"

Programme includes a Concerto, a Trio - Sonata, some Variations, and the "St. Anne" Prelude & Fugue.

SATURDAY 25 APRIL at 7.30pm

Admission by programme: £1-50

available at the door on the night

Christopher Mabley

Appointed Director of Music at St. Mary's in November 1984, Christopher Mabley has continued his organ studies both in this country and in Belgium and Holland. He is a graduate of Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, where he was organ-scholar and gave frequent recitals. In September 1984 he won the West-of-England National Organ Competition, since when he has continued to give recitals mostly in the London area, including regular concerts at St. Mary's. Future engagements include a second recital at All Saints, Hyde, I.O.W., and at Holy Trinity, Barnes.

*1st edition of Barnes in Common - free distribution -
17 April 1987 - Good Friday*

Making New Christians and Making Christians New

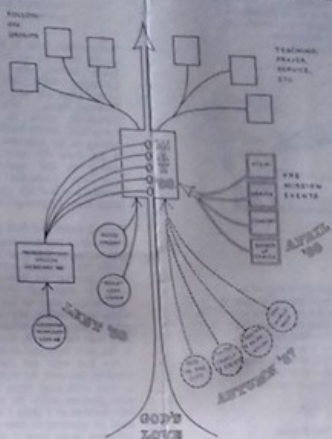
Next May something big and exciting will be taking place in Barnes. Its being planned by representatives of all six Churches and it will have something for everyone - young and old, Catholic and Protestant, committed Christians and those searching for faith. We've called it MISSION '88. It will last ten days from May 12 - 22, from Ascension Day to Pentecost.

Two days . . . What's it going to be like? What can I expect? . . . going to be like a Festival - a May Festival like the Barnes Church. Like other festivals it will have a variety of events, talks, music, drama, special services, a Gospel Concert, exhibitions, a Youth Service and a Children's Programme. A mixture of the familiar and the new. It's a Christian celebration of the faith that we have in common and of all that God is doing in the world. In recent years Christians have been a bit reticent, a bit defensive about their faith, but today it's a bit different, a bit more confident. New life is breaking out in the Church. People will give us an opportunity to be part of these good things and to share them with others who are on the fringe or outside the Church.

A sort of *faith-lift*? Exactly. The new life that is breaking out in the Church is all to do with God; how we experience his presence, how we draw close to him in prayer, how we understand his truth and his purposes. This new life comes for some as new ways of thinking about God, and new ways of understanding the Bible; for others it has come through the experience of contemplative and imaginative prayer; for others through the Charismatic Movement. Many, many people have felt their faith lifted - their hearts warmed, as John Wesley put it. That's what our Festival will be about: Making new Christians and making Christians new!

It sounds exciting - presumably the plans are well under way? We began almost a year ago with Brother Bernard's visit to Barnes in November 1986. That initial consultation laid down the basic shape of the mission and since then the Co-ordinating Group has been working on the detailed planning. Bernard was with us again last May for the Mission Launch Service, and he's coming again this November when we hope to arrange another consultation. This Autumn sees the beginning of the run-up to the Festival Week.

pled me about this. The flow chart shows how the whole train of events links together. The large arrow going through the centre represents God's love flowing through the world. It widens out to embrace our Festival. It reaches out to us wherever we are at home or away. We begin this Autumn with a group of events which aim to help us relate our faith to our everyday lives. Of the two main series one is called *Faith, Family and Society*, and the other *God in the City*. The latter is for those more concerned with individual and contemporary social and moral problems. (The details about these series are in the Autumn edition of *STEPPING STONES*.) There are two workshops on *Relaxation and Meditation*, an *Agape* in One World Week and a discussion



Other Christians we have arranged a short course on *Learning to Listen*. This is particularly for those who will be hearing *Neighbourhood Groups* in February, but, of course, anyone can come. Listen to our special Lent Course on *Prayer* and *Scripture* in the week before the Lent course. To mark the anniversary of the conversion of John and Charles, we have arranged a special service on the 28th of our Festival. On Good Friday we hope to impress on you the meaning and way of the Christian life. And early May 30, we are planning a number of special services. For example, a *Songs of Praise*, or a presentation of the Gospel. And, finally, on the 31st of May, we are planning a special service to mark the ten days of the Festival itself.

And afterwards? Well, just as God's love never ceases to flow, so our celebration ought not to stop. After the May Festival there will be opportunities to take further the events of the ten days. Some will want to learn more as there will be courses and workshops; others will want to form new groups for service and witness; and others will want to deepen their life of prayer... and so on. And for those who have come newly to faith there will have to be the support and encouragement of a nurture group. The Festival's mission '88 - will really be a big boost in the continuing work of celebration of our Churches.

They mentioned Neighborhood Groups, what are they? They are the key to the basic part of the Festival programme. The idea is to have a group of people who arrange five main talks and discussions during the two days of the Festival. The speakers are Bernard and the team of Franciscans, and robustly we would like them to look at matters which Christians and those outside the Church find important, or difficult in today's world. So we are inviting some people from the Churches to lead a group, and even outside the Church, say, a group of young people. We would like to have a group of people to look at what they would find helpful. The groups would be a mix of Church and non-Church folk, and we want to have at least 50 of them. It may sound a bit daunting, but it isn't a bit like swimming—once you've taken the plunge it's fine, and people find it. There will, of course, be lots of help for the groups, and the *Leaves to Listen* were...

And what of the present? Is anything particularly notable right now? Our main need now is for more support in prayer and in one or two practical matters, chiefly publicity. We have set up a Prayer Chain, the members are kept in touch through chain mail, the members are kept in touch through chain mail. A diagram of the chain is in each Church. As from October we shall have around nine links and we need nine more. Anyone can volunteer either alone or in a group - all we ask is that you commit to a regular time of prayer each week. Our publicity would be good to have a photographer and a writer - someone with a journalist's touch. If either of these could write you please ring Peter Sims (745 5744).

The Co-ordinating Group	
Peter Sillis	Concours
Elizabeth Morse	Secretary
John Chalker	Barnes Methodist
John Levy	Holy Trinity
Philip Mitchell	St Mary's
Fergus O'Kelly	St Edmund's
Jane Sherwin	St Michael's
Jane Thomas	Barnes Baptist

16 Sept Montreal: More than 70 nations have agreed on measures to reduce the threat to the earth's ozone layer

Barnes In Common

St. Mary's News

On Sunday, 18th July Dr Arthur Connell, the husband of Dame Ninette de Valois, died after an illness that he had borne bravely and cheerfully. As soon as the Church was re-built Dr Connell devoted much care and hard work on the restoration of the Churchyard and especially the creation of a beautiful garden bed under the tower. His name will always be associated with that lovely garden which is now full of flowers and shrubs. The Service of Thanksgiving for his life took place on Friday, 24th July at St Mary's and in early August his ashes were scattered in the garden that he so lovingly tended.

Our Congratulations to Allan and Joanne Chubb on the birth of a daughter, Julia, on August 5th.

Margery Bailie has not been at all well recently and has had a spell in Queen Mary's Hospital for examinations. We hope and pray that as a student she will feel more comfortable.

By the time this magazine appears Christopher Mabley and Helen Johnson will be about to plight their troth to each other and hopefully be installed in 10 Brookwood Avenue. Viera Gray has had to commute to Boston for several weeks which must have been very trying. We hope that she, too, will be installed in her new home and that she will be very happy and comfortable there. We hope to give you her address in the next issue.

On Wednesday, 21st September the Nash Ensemble who have an international reputation will give the inaugural concert of the Barnes and Castelnau Music Society at St Mary's. The concert will include Schubert's Trout Quintet.

Please make sure to keep the evening of Saturday, 3rd October free for the Harvest Supper in the Church Hall. As usual you will be asked to bring a dish as your contribution for the evening. And here is another advance notice: The Autumn Fair will be held on Saturday, 10th October.

We hope that despite the dismal weather you have enjoyed the summer break and feel rejuvenated in the autumn.

There were no Baptisms in August.
On 1st August Paul and Debbie Rycroft were
at St Mary's.

St. Mary's News

Rev Prof Raymond Chapman has written *Intercessions at the Eucharist*. The booklet is designed for those who are leading the intercessions at the Eucharist. Part 1 covers the main festivals and principal days of a season. Part 2 follows themes of the year with prayers for the Church and the world. Part 3 provides a selection of prayers for the community, the suffering and the departed which may be used on any day. The booklet has been published by Mowbrays and costs £2.00.

Exonerated Chapman will be on a Sabbatical during the coming academic year.

On Monday, 5th October Philip Mitchell will be licensed as Reader in the Cathedral after 2 years' training. The Commissioning Service will be at 7.00 pm on the evening and it is hoped that a number from St Mary's congregation will be present at Philip's licensing. On the following Sunday, 11th October he will be welcomed as Reader at the Parish Communion.

Christopher and Helen Mabley whose wedding on 31st August was a most joyful occasion and needless to say full of glorious music have now returned from honeymoon and are settling in at 17 Brookwood Avenue where Victoria Gray used to live. We hope they will be very happy there.

They have written: Many thanks to the congregation for their very generous gift of money. We hope to spend the money on an item of furniture, but quite what we won't know at least until after we've got a bit more organized and I can walk again (Helen is immobile - think that has scared up!)

with a deck that has raised up.

Baptisms in September
6th Sarah Caroline Thompson
13th James Michael Johnston
Georgina Emily Wilcox
Leona Kathryn Nolan

Sunday Preachers in October
 4th Harvest Festival: Parish Communion
 The Rector
 Mr Philip Mitchell
 11th Parish Communion & Healing Service
 Mrs Mary Dickson



Entertainment 1987

Harvest Supper entertainment 1987

Marianne Adams	Chloe Darling	Kate Jernigan	Fiona Smith	Marionette Mielke	Gemma de la Hay	Joanna Barrie	Christine Harris	Joan Lynch
Richard Elliott	Matthew Park	Andrew Harkiss				Camilla Harding		



John	Alison	Tom	3 children
1000	1000	1000	

WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE A BELLRINGER?

St Mary's bellringers are arranging another series of Saturday morning training sessions for beginners. Anyone who would like to learn or has perhaps learnt some time ago and would like to pick up the threads again, will be most welcome.

Experience not required.

Most people find campanology - the art of bellringing - quite fascinating. First one learns to ring or "handle" a bell. This is the physical side of the task and is rather like learning to ride a bicycle - once you have mastered it you will always be able to do it! The second stage is learning to ring changes - the music of bellringing. As one advances this increasing becomes a mental challenge. No knowledge of music is necessary however a good sense of rhythm is an asset. We have ringers of all ages and people of all ages can learn, although children need to be 10 or 11 to have sufficient strength.

Away Visits.

Occasionally we organise visits for our ringers to ring the bells at other churches. This usually provides the opportunity for some enjoyable ringing and at the same time helps improve our skills by setting us the challenge of bells that are heavier or lighter than our own. On September

12th we had our annual or "main" outing. We visited eight churches during the day standing with Christ Church, Epsom Common at 9.30am and ending the ringing at 7pm on St Martin's Dorking splendid bells. Twelve ringers from Barnes participated and we were joined during the day by five of the Chiswick ringers. The combined skills of the two groups enabled us to tackle some of the more complex change ringing methods adding a suitable sense of challenge and achievement to the days ringing. Organised by Siobahn Chapman and enjoyed by all who came along, everyone agreed it was a very successful day.

Room for newcomers.

As the schools and colleges go back our members will drop again now so a few more volunteers are needed. Even if you feel you cannot devote time to bellringing every week why not come along to these Saturday morning sessions for the next few weeks and master the basics. After that you can progress at your own pace.

We shall start at 9.30am on Saturday October 3rd and probably arrange sessions for most of the Saturdays up to Christmas. If you are interested just turn up any Saturday between 9.30am and 11am and we shall start you off!

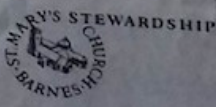


The Tower

Square red brick tower was added c.1500. The date is based on the construction of the roof (GHC Historic Buildings Division Survey). There is no documentary evidence of this addition & various dates have been put forward. The Victoria County History of Surrey (1905) gives "later part of 16th century". Alexander S Muir in his 1960s guide booklet on the church gives "15th century". A 1960s painted sheet: "tower probably c.1480 originally stone was encased in red brick early in the reign of Elizabeth I". Pevsner, Buildings of England Surrey Vol. 1962: "late C16 or C17 of a current Thames-Valley type".



A peal of 8 bells - the earliest is dated 1575 - see description of all the bells p. 57



STEWARDSHIP BULLETIN NOVEMBER 1987

Two years ago, in the middle of 1985, we embarked on a Christian Stewardship programme. Since then, much has happened in the church in Barnes. This Bulletin summarises some of the most recent activities.

The 1985 House Group report 'The Way Ahead' concluded that our church is a body of people who give witness by reaching out to others, give care for others, and give thanks and praise to God through worship. Using these three headings, where are we now?

- WITNESS**
- The new magazine 'Barnes in Common' started in April, and demonstrates the stronger links between the three Anglican churches in Barnes.
 - St. Mary's Coffee Shop on Saturday mornings started in May and has proved very popular, with many non-church-members enjoying excellent coffee and cakes.
 - 'What's On', a leaflet giving details of events in the parish, is now published monthly. A new noticeboard has been erected to publicise these events.
 - 'Stepping Stones', a full and varied programme of events and courses for all who are interested in learning more about the Christian faith, is now in full swing, and continues through into the New Year.
 - The Barnes Churches' Festival, 'Mission 88', is being planned for May next year.
 - Kitson Hall is being redeveloped to provide better facilities for both church and non-church groups in Barnes.
- CARE**
- Street representatives have been set up to cover most streets in Barnes.
 - All newcomers to St. Mary's have been invited to Newcomers' Parties held over the last 18 months.

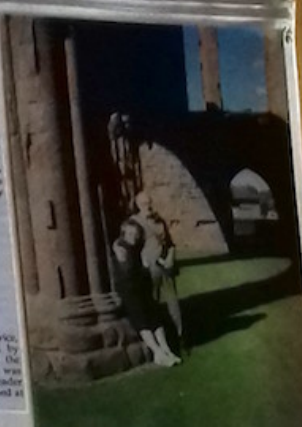
Barnes In Common

The Autumn Fair on Saturday, 10th October did not start with any similar events in the neighbourhood, but unfortunately it clouded with the weather. It poured all day which kept many people away. Those who came found a great range of goods as well as some exciting raffles and also a display of plans for the improvement of the Kitson Hall. At the end of the day Miss Joan Bolt came with her husband Carl Davis to draw the raffles. Despite the weather nearly £1,400 was raised which was quite an amazing figure. Our thanks to David Blacklock and all helpers for a very happy day.

The Cathedral was packed for the licensing of some 28 new readers in the Diocese. Philip Mitchell from St. Mary's was one of them. It was a very



Philip Mitchell licensed as a Reader



AIDS and the Wrath of God

A discussion on the medical, social and moral aspects of the AIDS epidemic. This important discussion will take place:

at St Mary's
on Monday, 16th November at 8.00 pm.

The Panel will be:

Dr Christine Lee
Senior lecturer in Haematology
and Hon. Consultant in
Haematology, Queen Mary's
University Hospital, Roehampton.

Prof Keith Ward
Professor of the History and
Philosophy of Religion at Kings
College, London.

Fr Bill Kirkpatrick
Vicar of St Cuthbert's, Earls Ct
and Organiser of Reaching Out -
a network concerned with the care
of AIDS victims and their families

Rev Ron Farrow
of St Michael's and BBC Religious
Broadcasting will be
The Chairman

News from Overseas

Barnes Reader Ordained in Goa

Steve Menon was a well known member of the Community having lived in Byfield Gardens for 28 years. He was also made a Lay Reader at St Mary's last year. He returned to India early this year and was asked to take charge of St Christopher's. In September he was ordained by the Bishop of Kolhapur, The Rt Rev JP. Andrews, accompanied by four presbyters.

After the Confirmation of three of the congregation, the service continued into one of Ordination. The Diocesan Secretary presented Mr Menon to the Bishop and after completing the legalities Mr Menon was ordained as a Presbyter (Priest) with jurisdiction over the State of Goa. Following the singing of 'Tea and Bread', the Bishop of Goa presented Mr Menon to the congregation as their new presbyter. Bishop Andrews preached and afterwards celebrated the Eucharist, assisted by Rev Steve Menon.

Pathfinders

St Mary's Pathfinders

Pathfinders is the new group for 11-14 year olds at St Mary's. We are affiliated to a national organisation with thousands of Church-based groups throughout the country including one group in St. Margaret's Putney. Their leader, Tony at St. Margaret's, was a great help in the launching of our group in May. We now have 13 members, some of whom are also Bell Ringers or Servers.

Pathfinders is for young people who want to learn more about Christian faith and wish to grow as members of the Christian family in the Church. In the early summer we looked at the different symbols on the Pathfinder badge: the Cross of St Andrew, the Signpost (Cross), the Cross of St Andrew, the Signpost (Cross), the Book (Bible), the Flame (Holy Spirit) and the Rope (Christian Love). The group then demonstrated the badge as a Family Service. This Autumn our themes have been 'The Bible - Just Another Book?' and 'God - Lord of All?' usually begin with a quiz and a game for all. We are really lucky! and end at 12.15. Now members are always welcome. Ask Nick Phillips, Frances Summers, Isabel Cooper, Sarah Squire, Kate Summers, Sarah Summers and Charlotte Vassal.

Our aim is to make the programme as varied and interesting as possible. Special events so far have included a Games morning, the Church picnic, a Barbecue, punting the Coffee Bar, taking part in two Family Services, a Robbery outing and a Theatre Trip. For next year we have arranged for a weekend away at the Granary, a youth centre attached to Wyckhott, the diocesan conference house.

In July the founder members of the group received their Pathfinder badges: Joanna Barrie, Tom Deanda, Camilla du Parcq, Chloe du Parcq, Tom Deanda, Ben Phillips, Kate Silliman, Camilla Squire, Kate Summers, Sarah Summers and Charlotte Vassal.

We start on Sundays (except 1st in the month) at 11.15 am in the Eborac Room. Meetings usually begin with a quiz and a game for all. We are really lucky! and end at 12.15. Now members are always welcome. Ask Nick Phillips, Frances Summers, Isabel Cooper, Sarah Squire, Kate Summers, Sarah Summers and Charlotte Vassal.

John Holbeck



A.A. view of St. Christopher's Church



Barnes In Common

DECEMBER 1987

25p (cont.)

The Response to AIDS The Synod Debate and the Barnes Forum

On 16th November, at St Mary's Church three panelists spoke on the moral, medical and pastoral implications of AIDS. The Rev Prof Keith Ward, Professor of History and Philosophy of Religion, Dr Christine Lee, Consultant in Haematology and Fr Bill Kirkpatrick, Organiser of Reaching Out, a network helping AIDS victims and their families.

The Chairman, Rev Ronald Farrow of St Michael's and BBC Religious Broadcasting, called for a real Christian response to AIDS and said that even after a massive input of information there was still fear and misunderstanding.

The Facts
Dr Lee explained the medical implications and manifestations of HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus) and said that unless people changed their habits we would shortly be in the position in which the USA is now, of escalating proportions. She said that of 1,000 cases of AIDS here, half were now dead, 40% of those were homosexuals and the rest drug addicts, haemophiliacs and heterosexuals. In Zaire, a study showed 25% of 'normal' people were now affected. She said that there was still a great need to educate and that the difficult group to reach was drug addicts.

Not because they are bad.
Prof Ward said that people do not suffer disasters because of what they had done. It does not happen because they are bad. He asked why did God choose sex? Because there are more things than sexual intercourse. He stated that the Bible and Christian tradition oppose promiscuous sexual conduct. The promise of wholeness brings about wholeness. He said that the wholeness is the turning from wholeness. He said that the wholeness is the turning from wholeness. He said that the wholeness is the turning from wholeness.

God rejects nobody.
Fr Bill called for compassion to be put back into care, and the spiritual to be put back into spirituality. God rejects nobody. He illustrated the pastoral work cases in which he had been.

For those who could not attend, or need more questions answered, this new book is recommended.
By Dr Margaret Kirby
An informal and lively book for all clergy and laymen. It is a professional, who are working to support the affected by AIDS, but if compassion for human beings is not the aim, it is not to speak up for Christian values.

8 Dec: President Reagan & Mr Gorbachev made history today as they signed the first ever treaty to cut the size of their nuclear arsenals. The accord signed at the Washington Summit provides for the dismantling of all Soviet & American medium & short-range missiles



NATIVITY SERVICE 24 DECEMBER 1987

Frances Sumner Fiona Smith Jenny Sumner Mary Adams

Mary: Marianna Adams
Joseph: Sam Deards

Chris Thornton

Star: Camilla Rolleston
Angel: Phoebe du Parc
Innkeeper: Patrick Chamberlain
Gold King: Richard Smith
Gold Page: Hugo Ricciati
Purple King: Angela Alderlake
Purple Page: Bennett Summers
Red King: Joanna Stewart
Red Page: Jonathan Miller

Shepherds: Nicholas Turk, Vanessa Hartley,
 Belinda Stewart, Lucy Miller, James Humphrey,
 Ruth Hamner, Sarah Hamner, Alice Hughes

Wise Men: Tara Siddall, James Rolleston,
 Mark Hawkins, Susannah Pearce,
 Oliver Pearce, Abigail Innes, Helen Hartley,
 John du Parc, Mathew Turk, Jenny Kingham,
 Jane Blacklock, Susannah Ricciati, Tom Hallett,
 Camilla Thornton, Lucy Thornton, Robin Ricciati,
 Max Webster

Narrators: Camilla Hartley, Chwechu Pang, Sarah Squire,
 Charlotte Vassall, Nicholas Adams, Ben Phillips,
 Alastair Watkinson

Musicians: Felonella Barnett, Anna Burnett,
 Katie Sturman, Kate Summers, Selby Hamner

Scenery: Andrew Squire

Baboushka: Kirsten Siddall

The Life and Work of the Brothers of the SOCIETY of SAINT FRANCIS at Hilfield Friary, Dorset.

Hilfield Friary, set in beautiful Dorset countryside between Sherborne and Dorchester is the largest of the fourteen Anglican Franciscan friaries in this country. The central courtyard is surrounded by the Chapel on one side, a meeting room on the other, a shop and accommodation for men on the roads on a third, and the original farmhouse on the fourth. Brother Bernard (who is leading our Mission week, May 13th-22nd) lives in this last together with some handicapped men.

The kitchen and the dining room are also in this house - important rooms when between forty and sixty people sit down daily to meals. There are about twenty-two brothers, including usually about ten novices - e.g. apprentices who all begin at Hilfield before going to the inner-city houses - twelve men in care, about six working through a problem, up to sixteen or so women or men in the guest house, up to fourteen men from off the roads (wayfarers for whom the place was originally started) and day visitors. The brothers try not to employ outside help so all the cooking, cleaning, laundry, office work, large grounds and gardens keep them busy, but work with people is their main task.

Unlike a monastery, the friary is a base from which to move out into the wider world. Francis of Assisi (1181-1226) - who is the patron of the brotherhood, which was established in the 1920's and which has links only of friendship with the Roman Catholic Order he founded - wanted to bring the richness of the monasteries out into the market place. Brothers go into parishes, schools, prisons, forces units, universities etc to share the love of God and help others to find him. We look forward to coming to Barnes next May.

As well as activity, especially for the more needy in society (we have brothers in Papua New Guinea, the Solomons, Tanzania where the standard of living is of course very much lower, as well as work in the more deprived parts of this country), the brothers engage in prayer (two and a half hours each day privately) and worship (Morning and Evening Prayer, Midday and Night prayer and the Eucharist each day) and spend some time in study. They

are of very varied background and education and live together under the traditional vows by which they live simply without personal property, remain unmarried for the sake of the Kingdom of heaven, and commit themselves in obedience to the Lord and to each other, ready for his service.

For women there is a comparable Community of St. Francis, and an enclosed sisterhood, the Community of St. Clare. And for women and men living in their families and homes and doing a variety of jobs there is what is called the Third Order, some 1500 of them, living the way of the Gospels in their ordinary settings.



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The magazine *The Franciscan* gives news three times a year, and requests for prayer support. Brother Bernard has also written a Fount-Collins book *Open to God* which tells of the life and its thrust. It tells also of Bernard's own experience. After the Army and four years at Cambridge and two at Oxford training for ordination, he was a curate in Lincolnshire and then joined SSF. After a year in Worcester he spent ten years in dockland, Plaistow E13, six in Brisbane Australia, six months in Hong Kong, eighteen in Canterbury and has been in charge of Hilfield Friary for ten years. He has served on General Synod nearly as long, and is now vice-chairman of the Board of Mission and Unity and is on working parties for the Central

Church. He is currently doing a mission in rural Dorset (the village of Cerne Abbas) following a mission this time last year to St Alban's Abbey, Herts. We look forward to him bringing a team of brothers and sisters to share the life of Barnes and hopefully to make the Church more available to everyone. We in Barnes already work and pray and care for others, the Churches together are going to make what we have more clearly available. There is something too good in the churches to keep to ourselves - if service and joy are two marks of being a Franciscan we hope these are the winning characteristics of Christians everywhere and certainly in Barnes.



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16 Oct: South east England battered by winds gusting up to 110 mph. caused greater havoc than any other storm this century