



THE LINK

ISSUE 49

Vicar: Rev. Peter Hart Parish Office: 8332 1324

Dec. 2015

Inside this issue:

Editorial	2
Services and Contacts	
Letter from the Vicar	3
WW1 Roll of Honour	4
Profile: Jayne Armstrong	5
Kew Sparkle	6
Q2 Players present: <i>Charley's Aunt</i>	8
Avenue Club news	9
Angelology	10
Diary of Events Kew Village Market Kew Neighbourhood	12
Kew Gardens	13
Notice Board	14
Hymns and Modes Film screening: <i>Half Way</i>	15

Abandoned in the porch of St. Luke's — Sarah's story

On Saturday 1st May 1971 I was left in the South Porch of St Luke's Church, Kew. At only a few hours old, Barbara Niemyski found me wrapped in a blue blanket in a brown holdall at 5.40 pm. Barbara was the wife of the local doctor and lived next to the church. She took me home and called the police who transferred me to Kingston Hospital where I was kept in for over 13 days as I had gastro-enteritis. I was christened in hospital as Rachel Louise Phillips (I understand that the surname was the name of the ward that I was in).

The hospital confirmed that I was around 2 hours old and I had been born normally with the umbilical cord tied as it should have been.

My story appeared on the front page of the Richmond and Twickenham Times and the Richmond Herald. It appealed for my mother to come forward, but unfortunately she didn't and sadly the case was dropped.

I was placed into foster care for three months with a Mr and Mrs Worley who lived in Richmond. I believe that it was the request from the policeman on scene to call me Sarah as I did not look like a Rachel. I was finally adopted on 11th August 1971 by my adopted mother Pam and late father Brian Smith. My first real home was in Hampton. My parents had me re-christened and due to the policeman's wish named me Sarah Louise Smith.

We eventually moved to West Ewell. Here I grew up with my adopted parents, who I have always had a great relationship with. I could not have asked for better parents to have chosen me. In 1994 I married Richard Clothier and in 1996 gave birth to my own little boy. Whilst deciding on a name we both decided that the most suitable name was Luke, in recognition of how lucky I had been to be found.

For many years I have been trying to find my birth mother. In 2006 I decided to contact the Richmond and Twickenham Times to see if they would follow up the original story. On Friday June 23rd 2006 I was again on the front page. This media coverage led to GMTV who contacted me wanting to help with my search. I appeared on TV with an interview with Lorraine Kelly on the breakfast show. This also led to other magazines and papers running the story in a vain attempt to locate my mother. There was one contact who came forward after the GMTV interview. ITV sent us both for a DNA test but unfortunately it was a negative result. This emotional roller-coaster had taken its toll and I decided to let it lie.

A couple of years ago Long Lost Family appeared on our screens which, once again, gave me the inspiration to start the search again. I wrote to them requesting that they took up my search but unfortunately was unsuccessful. In the last series they aired a very similar case to mine. This has made me more fervent to try and find my parentage. I have decided to perform the DNA tests to both FamilyTree DNA and 23andme DNA. These tests have been highly recommended by a group called Foundlings. This group is predominately for children without a name – children that have been abandoned who have a similar story to mine.

I will not give up just yet!

Visit our websites:

www.stlukeskew.org.uk

www.thebarnchurchkew.org

Hello from *The Link* team

Kew Sparkle is here again — do support our local traders and advertisers who do so much for us and for charity — and we have a number of splendid articles for you, ranging from the poignant story on the front page to the highly amusing piece on Angelology.

Link 50 will be published on 13th March. Copy — including photographs - to the Editor by email by 21st February, please. In the meantime the team wish you a very Happy Christmas.

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ST LUKE'S

www.stlukeskew.org

Sunday Services:

8am Holy Communion
11am Parish Communion (Junior Church and Crèche in term-time)
11am Parish Communion with Junior Church participation (First Sunday in the month — All-age Worship)


Every Thursday

10am Holy Communion

THE BARN

www.thebarnchurchkew.org

Sunday Services:

 9.30am Parish Communion (Junior Church and Crèche in term-time)
9.30am Parish Communion with Junior Church participation (First Sunday in the month — All-age Worship)

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BARN CONTACTS

Church Leadership Team

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Alison Bantick

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All-age Band Leader

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LETTER FROM THE VICAR

It is All Saints Day, and I am raking leaves. The dry days of early autumn have given way to fog and clammy damp, Bartimaeus has his sight back, Lazarus is raised from the dead, and we are celebrating all the saints, we are remembering all the holy souls, and we are waiting.

The lawn – ha! – the grass has gained a centre parting, like Wilfred Owen in his uniformed best. I rake to the south and to the north, golden oak leaves, withered horse chestnut, ravaged by the depredations of the leaf miner beetles' larvae, pale green ash. As I rake slowly eastwards, a strange cacophony lights on the ears: has the water tank split? No, it is spoon rattling, rhythmic, almost frantic, coming from the hall. A subgroup of the Spoon Rattlers Association of Old London Town? More than likely. Nothing unusual there. I rake, we wait.

One oak leaf hangs in mid air, caught on a fine thread of spider silk, its six month work of feeding and breathing for the great old tree done, held now between heaven and earth, waiting. I rake, leaves fall, the dog runs past, suspicious of all that puts order into nature; we remember and we wait.

These days of remembering and waiting, up to Christmas, can be filled with hope and expectation, or gloom and passivity. We can despair of anything being done by our government for the thousands of refugees who wait for our help, who remember our example as a welcoming state in former years, after former conflicts. Or we can get ourselves organised locally and find ways of making things happen for them – look up “Harvest of Hope” in Waterloo, or “Christians for Calais”, or ring up the Bishop of Southwark's chaplain and ask for his list of contacts. We can worry about those who are trapped in their homes, never seeing their neighbours or family from one week to the next. We may feel powerless to intervene, or we could help them to contact Kew Neighbourhood Association to find a befriender, or the Avenue Club, who could give them a lift to a social group and a hot lunch five days a week.

Remember those we love and see no more, and be inspired by their example of commitment and care of others. Wait for God's powerful kingdom to come in all its glory, but help get it going by small, practical, on our doorstep measures.

I wish you all a blessed season of remembering, a hope-filled Advent, and every blessing at Christmas.

Peter

Baptisms

The Barn

23rd August Joshua Edward Anand
Olivia Alice Anand

20th Sept Ava Grace Watson

27th Sept Elizabeth Beatrice Rose Palmer

St Luke's

13th Sept Tiger Lily Hannan

20th Sept Iris Aurelia Jennifer Heath

Wedding

12th September Michael Liburd and Anne-Marie St Bernard

Funeral

16th September Patricia Broughall

The annual **Barn Dance** was, as always, well attended by the young and not so young. This year a live band made a great difference, and a good caller made sure that the uninitiated got a reasonable idea of what was going on.

Although it is a community get-together, rather than a fund-raiser for the Barn, it is gratifying to note that a profit was made for church funds. Many congratulations to all who worked so hard to make it such a great success!



Albert D Williams was the only fatality in this quarter.

Private 582, 7th Bn, East Surrey Regiment. 12th Division. Died of wounds 16th October 1915, aged 21. Son of Henry & Emily Williams of 17, Victoria Cottages, Kew Gardens. Born and enlisted in Richmond. Buried in Noeux-les-Mines Communal Cemetery F. 178.

St Luke's WW1 Roll of Honour Board: those who died October-December 1915

My detective work this time coincidentally involved some travel. This year we were driving through France to Burgundy on holiday and we took the A26 autoroute south from the Calais ferry terminal. Had we broken our journey at junction 6 and taken the D937 a short distance to Noeux-les-Mines, a suburb of Lens, we could have visited his grave. Looking at the Pas-de-Calais, Somme Michelin 301 Local tourist map, I can see that the site of the Battle of Loos which started in late September 1915 is just to the east of his burial place and thus conclude that Albert probably died of wounds incurred at Loos.

There is much controversy about the Battle of Loos – the main battle lasted just 2 or 3 days from 26th to 28th September 1915 and involved 10,000 British troops and was every bit as devastating as the later battles of the Somme but did not feature highly in writings until now, one hundred years later. It has been described by Mike Shuster in his blog <http://greatwarproject.org/2015/09/28/disaster-at-loos/> as a blatant, needless massacre of half their number after 10,000 men were ordered to walk across no-man's land toward the German trenches, many through their own gas clouds, blowing back over the advancing British soldiers. The British, according to a German account, moved forward in ten columns, each about a thousand men, all advancing towards the machine guns.

“The result was devastating”, writes historian Adam Hochschild, quoting the German account. “The enemy could be seen falling, but they continued to march.”

“Hundreds of men have left descriptions of the Battle of Loos,” writes historian Martin Gilbert. One of those is the British writer Robert Graves, twenty years old at the time of the battle. In his book *Goodbye to All That*, Graves relates one officer's story:

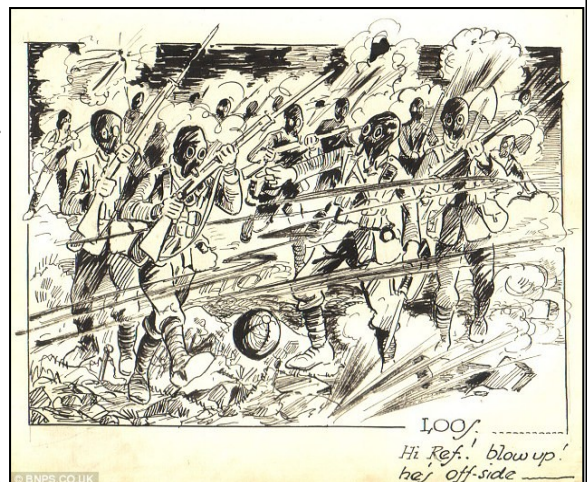
“When his platoon had run about twenty yards, he signalled them to lie down and open covering fire. He saw the platoon on the left flopping down too, so he whistled the advance again. Nobody seemed to hear. He jumped up from his shell-hole and waved and signalled ‘Forward.’ Nobody stirred.

“He shouted, ‘you cowards, are you leaving me to go alone?’ His platoon-sergeant, groaning with a broken shoulder, gasped out.... ‘Not cowards, sir; willing enough. But they're all dead.’”

By contrast I have unearthed a story about this battle which involves one Sgt Frank Edwards, who survived and lived not far away at Whitton in Richmond Borough, dying in 1964 aged 71. The story goes that, defying orders, Sgt Edwards of the London Irish Regiment kicked off the big push by punting a football out of the trenches into No Man's Land and was said to have dribbled the ball for 20 yards before he went down injured when he was shot through the thigh. One of his colleagues stopped to fix a tourniquet to the wound and saved his life.

Finally, there is no way of knowing whether Albert was persuaded to join up by the famous Lord Kitchener recruitment poster and the drive to volunteer amongst his peers but the Service Battalions were formed in Regiments throughout the land and were collectively know as Kitchener's Army. Lord Kitchener was the Secretary of State for War and in charge of recruitment. During the period August 1914 to September 1915, just short of two and a half million British men were recruited on a voluntary basis. At this time there was no conscription – that was introduced in March 1916.

Research is ongoing, please contact me to correct any inaccuracies at johnelstone@gmail.com



JAYNE ARMSTRONG

Meeting Jayne I get a wonderful sense of energy, of laughter, warmth, movement and happiness, and talking to her about her life what shines through is the meaning she gives to belonging to a community and being of service. This thread weaves through everything she has done.

Brought up in a small village near Ashby de la Zouch, Leicestershire, she attended the local Church of England church and school. Much of village life centred around the church and Jayne was an active member of the church youth group, ran a Sunday School class, and was a leader on Scripture Union holidays.

After A Levels, Jayne's passion for travelling and skiing took her to Zurich for a year as a nanny. She then trained as a nurse in Newcastle upon Tyne specialising in adult nursing, relocated to London and worked in surgical nursing at St George's Hospital Tooting. There she met Jonathan her future husband, an IT specialist, at her local church in Clapham Junction. Not ready to settle down and yearning for more

travel and skiing, she spent two years nursing in Sydney & Darwin, Australia, and in Christchurch, New Zealand. She particularly loved Darwin where she looked after personnel from the nearby military base, Aboriginal patients, and came across unusual injuries and medical conditions. In her time off she camped in the bush, visited national parks and enjoyed seeing wild animals!

Home again, she returned to surgical nursing at the Royal Marsden Hospital in the day surgery and pre-operative assessment unit. There now for 15 years, she feels privileged to work in a centre of excellence, caring for patients undergoing cancer treatment and being part of a team who get to know their patients and help them in their journey to overcome the disease. Recently she completed a part-time honours degree in healthcare.

In 2002 she married Jonathan and moved to Richmond where they soon became members of St. Luke's. Her love of the mountains led her to set up a business in 2009 managing a ski chalet in Chamonix Mont-Blanc. She organises winter and summer lets, providing a very personal service, ensuring guests enjoy their holiday.

Six years ago Jayne and Jonathan became the Christian Aid reps for St Luke's, coordinating the annual house-to-house collections and the September sponsored walk in Richmond Park. Eighteen months ago she agreed to become a Church Warden, sharing her duties with Judi Braddock who has been immensely supportive. Jayne enjoys the role and feels honoured to represent the congregation and help the ministry team run the church, whether it's finding someone to fix a light bulb or reviewing the annual budget.

The role exposes Jayne to the bigger picture of the Church of England as a professional organisation and she is interested in how St. Luke's relates to the diocese and local churches. She is excited about the work St Luke's are doing as part of a wider Church of England initiative called MAP (Mission Action Plan). This is a strategy for directing effort and resources into a practical plan for the future. Through it St Luke's has been greatly helped in understanding its place in the Kew community, promoting its core mission and effectively focussing the time and efforts of its congregation.

All her activities appear to be carried out with an inspiring lightness of touch and joy. The parish is lucky to have her fulfilling her wish to serve and find meaning in the local community. She does this in spades!



Harriet Grace



FRIDAY 4TH DECEMBER 5pm—8pm

We are proud to announce the return of the much-loved **Kew Sparkle**. This wonderful community event will have all your family favourites, Santa's Grotto, carol singing, festive food and more—along with your favourite local shops and stalls for you to browse.

This year we are proud to be collecting money for the wonderful local charity

THE KEW COMMUNITY TRUST

who do a great job providing social events for the older Kew residents, so please give generously on the night to support this essential part of our community.

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—the more the merrier!**



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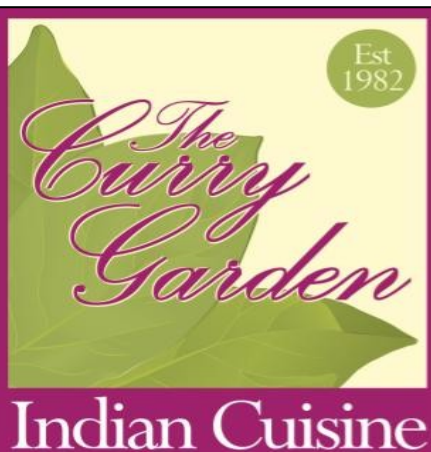
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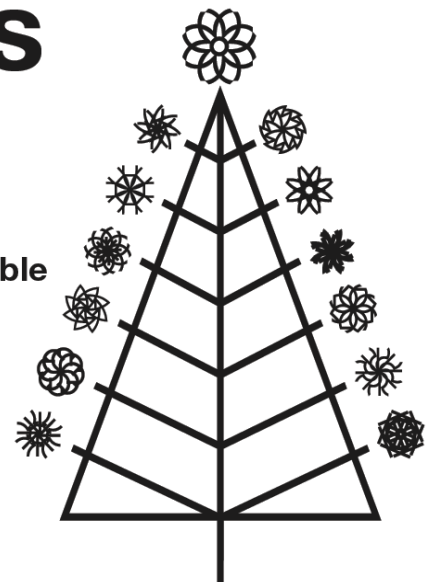
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UNLADYLIKE BEHAVIOUR IN KEW

Q2 Players, Kew's award winning amateur dramatics group,
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the classic comedy **Charley's Aunt**, directed by Jon Coop.

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26-28 Nov, 2.30 pm and 8pm at St Luke's In The Avenue

£10 standard, £7.50 concessions

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or call 07957 587 230 between 5.30-8.00pm.

For further information please visit www.q2players.org.uk

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AVENUE CLUB NEWS



OPEN INVITATION TO THE AVENUE CLUB- THE KEW SOCIAL CLUB FOR ALL AGES

Whether you want to make friends, be creative, learn something new, discover your imagination, polish your brain cells, feel energetic or need to be nurtured- All our activities are on pay-as-you-go basis so why not come and try a class or two, before deciding whether to become a member of the club.

Everyone is welcome to come and try all of our activities before joining.

Exercise Activities

We have **GENTLE** and **NOT SO GENTLE EXERCISES, TAI CHI, PILATES** as well as **YOGA- HIGH ENERGY EXERCISES** and **LINE DANCING**, all guaranteed to keep you moving.

Creative activities

KNIT & STITCH GROUP: Our Knit & Stitch Group amaze us with the wonderful goodies they produce for our various fundraising stalls throughout the year. **We urgently require sewers!**

ART and MOSAIC CLASS: Drawing, Painting, Collage, Inks, Pastels, and much, much more. Our teachers, Linda and Patsy, will tease out your creativity to achieve wonderful results in all aspects.

CREATIVE WRITING : If drawing is not quite your cup of tea, then what about trying your hand at one of our Creative writing groups and join the **BOOK CLUB** on the **last Monday of each month.**

FRENCH CONVERSATION: Bonjour! Our new six-week course of French Conversation with Nathalie starts in January 2016. Whether you are a beginner or just want to practise, sessions are fun.

AVENUE CLUB COMMUNITY CHOIR: We have a new Choirmaster, Ian Bloomfield. Baritones, bass and tenors are particularly welcome!

Social and Well being Activities

LAUGHTER YOGA: Laughter Yoga is developed by a medical doctor- Dr. Madan Kataria, We are now offering this **FREE** to local residents. Classes run on the 3rd Monday of every month.

BRIDGE, BINGO, AROMATHERAPY, MASSAGE, REFLEXOLOGY, MEDITATION, HAIRDRESSING and/or a **MANICURE** are all alternative ways of nurturing and treating yourself.

LUNCH-We welcome anyone, members or not, to join us for lunch. If you fancy some good food and good company, please feel free to join us on a Monday to Thursday 12-1pm.

We organise various talks, outings, concerts and events throughout the year to keep you entertained, active and healthy.

Performances and other News

QUICK SILVER- a dance performance group: 30th November 2015 at 1.30pm

BOLD BALLADIERS- Christmas themed Edwardian and Victorian music: 7th December 2015 at 1.30pm

Q2 - Charley's Aunt is on 26-28th November 2015 (matinee tickets for the Saturday performance).

We will be closed from 24th December 2015 to 3rd January 2016

Please call the Club if you would like to take part in any of these activities.

For further details, please call the **Avenue Club Office: 0208 948 8807** and ask for **Lisa, Roxy or Ellen.**

Angelology

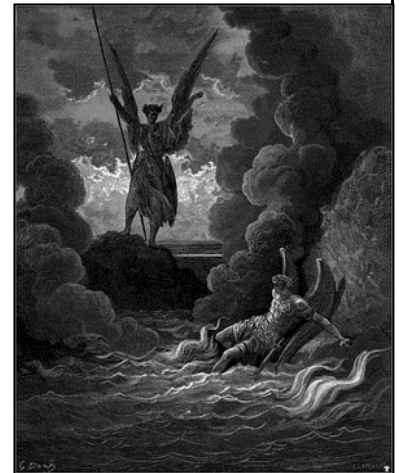
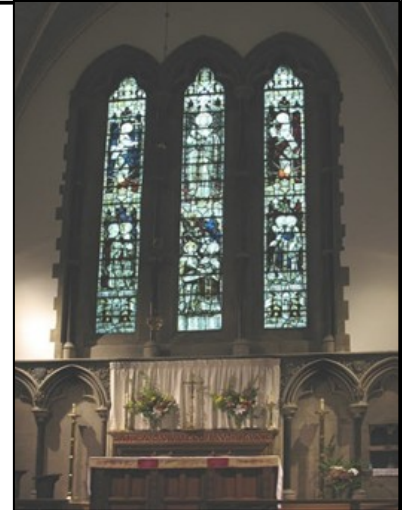
I wonder how many of us stare at the east window in St Luke's without seeing it as an organisational chart? At the top where the CEO usually sits is Jesus, pictured with characteristically Victorian disregard for ethnicity with blue eyes and auburn hair. Layered around him are the angels, in their sonorous ranks: Seraphim, Cherubim, Dominations (sometimes called Dominions), Principalities, Powers, Virtues, and Thrones.

Angelology is something of a niche pursuit. Apart from the Seraphim and Cherubim who star in hymns and carols – the ones who fly off-piste on Valentine cards and shopping bags – the notion of a whole middle tier of celestial beings

has faded from use as though Heaven had deliberately opted for a flatter management structure.

Still hazier is the concept of angels as warriors. Much of the blame for this lies in the literally disarming depiction of these 'winged squadrons of the sky' as creatures cutely perched on Advent calendars and Christmas cards, decked up in gossamer garments with golden curls orbited by haloes. Nowhere was this more apparent than during my

stint as an A-level English examiner. In the first book of *Paradise Lost* Milton's strict observance of epic convention (start in the middle, don't explain, don't apologise) means we meet arguably the most famous angel of them all, Satan, in his fallen state, attempting to make the best of what even his followers would have to concede is a bad job. "It is a bit stuffy in Hell", observed one candidate. Given that Satan is chained on a burning lake at the time this exemplifies a commendably British flair for understatement. In Book IV the angel Gabriel encounters Satan hanging around Eden up to no good and is understandably rather shirty with his erstwhile colleague. This provoked an indignant reaction from several examinees concerning Gabriel's perceived lack of manners – conduct unbecoming an angel.



In Wim Wenders's 1987 film *Wings of Desire* a pair of angels, black-coated, pony-tailed cool dudes, roam Berlin in grainy monochrome; no harps, no clouds. Like the archangel Raphael in Book V of *Paradise Lost*, who patiently explains to Adam and Eve how angels live, they are a consoling presence, but lack the capacity to feel human emotion in all its fullness.

Good and Bad Angels offer contrasting counsel to Marlowe's Doctor Faustus, while the Victorian domestic goddess is dubbed 'the angel in the house'. As understanding of the angelic purpose wanes we seem unable to shake off these heavenly beings as metaphors and plot devices. In *Good Omens*, a collaboration between Terry Pratchett and Neil Gaiman, an angel and a demon form an unlikely alliance to avert the coming Apocalypse. Philip Pullman's *His Dark Materials* trilogy, a specifically anti-religious text, uses a pair of angels, Balthamos and Baruch, as companions to the hero Will in his attempt to find the kidnapped heroine Lyra.

My most treasured literary angels remain those in Peter Didsbury's irreverent poem 'That Old-Time Religion', who argue about the poetry of Arthur Hugh Clough, play forfeits, and generally get on God's nerves. All this is a world away from the dip-dyed feathered minions forming a chorus line for Richard II in the Wilton Diptych, but is strangely reminiscent of the office politics in the window at St. Luke's.



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Saturday 28 th	11am-2pm	Barn Christmas Fair
Sunday 29 th		Advent Sunday
	6pm	Advent Music & Readings by candlelight at St Luke's
December		
Sunday 6 th	2-4pm	St Luke's Brownie & Junior Church Play Rehearsal
Saturday 12 th	3pm	Abbeyfield & St Luke's Carol Service at St Luke's
Sunday 13 th	5-5.30pm	St Luke's Brownie & Junior Church Play "Tatty Anna's Secret"
Mon/Tues/Wed 14/15/16 th	8pm	Compline at the Barn
Sunday 20 th	6pm	Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols at The Barn
Thursday 24 th	3pm	Barn Crib Service
	4pm	St Luke's Crib Service
	11pm	Midnight Mass at St Luke's
Friday 25 th	9.30am	Christmas Eucharist at The Barn
	11am	Christmas Eucharist at St Luke's

KEW VILLAGE MARKET



CHARITY AT CHRISTMAS

On Sunday 6th December Kew Village Market's Santa will be giving cheques to two more local charities. All the market's operating profits are given to good causes in the area and in the four years since it began 40 grants totalling over £25,000 have been made. If you know a local charity which could benefit from a donation or a free stall place at the market please visit www.kewvillagemarket.org. There'll also be 40 fine food and handmade craft stalls at the bumper Christmas market and live music throughout for the right seasonal spirit!

Kew Neighbourhood Association

has received funding from Richmond Parish Lands to carry out research on Social Connectivity amongst people who live in Kew, who are over 65 years old and live alone - see www.kna.org.uk for further details.

If you or anyone you know on your street might be willing and interested in being interviewed, please contact:

Abi Palmer

Co-ordinator, Kew Neighbourhood Association

270 Sandycombe Road, Kew, Richmond, Surrey, TW9 3NP

mail@kna.org.uk 020 8948 8054 or 07951 293 319 www.kna.org.uk

Confidential interviews are carried out by trained volunteers who are peers of the people we wish to interview. Interviews are taking place throughout October and November. This project is being carried out in partnership with Chrysalis Research Consultancy who specialise in social research.

KEW FOR YOU

As I write this, the trees in Kew Gardens are still showing remnants of what has been a beautiful autumn, full of colours. Now, although we are turning our thoughts towards winter, there are still plenty of things in Kew to give you cheer. Just out of interest, when we first moved to Kew, we were amazed to count 12 different plants flowering outside in the gardens, in January!

Kew has some stunning seasonal things to enjoy, as well as many beautiful and quiet areas to appreciate. You may well have noticed all the activity along

the **Broad Walk**, where the planting of 27,000 perennials is taking place. If you are in Kew when the weather is not inspiring, head for the **Shirley Sherwood Gallery of Botanical Art** which has a stunning new exhibition and then pop next door into the **Marianne North Gallery** to see her original paintings, all now fully restored. I have a soft spot for this lady artist: born in 1830, Marianne North devoted her life to travelling the world and painting plants, quite a feat for a woman of her time. She herself designed and donated the gallery to Kew Gardens and now plant historians also use her paintings for research.

Now for some completely different things: until the end of November, you can join a free tour: **Kew Gardens at War**. Gain an insight into Kew's Wartime History through the people and plants which were involved. 12 noon from Victoria Plaza, register 15 minutes before. Also consider attending one of the **Kew Mutual Horticultural Lectures**, on Monday evenings in the Jodrell Lecture Theatre: see Kew Website for further details. If you are interested in wine, join the **Christmas Wine Tasting** evening on 1st December, £30: booking is essential - call 020 8332 5626, email adulated@kew.org or go to kew.org/learn.

Christmas at Kew: Wednesday 25th November to Saturday 2nd January. The Christmas season is almost upon us and did you know that Kew Gardens had one of the very first decorated Christmas Trees in England? Queen Charlotte in the 1790's, dressed a tree in Kew Palace. Now Kew Gardens has come up trumps again, with a splendid spread of Christmas Festivities for 2015: a New Trail with a scented Fire Garden, Choir of Holly Bushes, Mistletoe Moment, Santa and his Elves, Vintage Rides and Festive Foods and Drinks, to name but a few. Do go on the one Mile Trail which will have something to amaze and surprise one and all. I have been on the Christmas Trail with friends and family, young and not so young, for the last two years and everybody thought it was splendid. Available at the same time will be spiced cider, mulled wine, hot chocolate, roasted chestnuts and other traditional fare, together with toasted marshmallows. For the young ones to enjoy the atmosphere, go to White Peaks to be welcomed with a Victorian Carousel, Helter Skelter and other family rides. For the Christmas Trail, you will need to book your tickets: kew.org/Christmas or 0844 995 9675

Once again, people are already asking about the next **Orchid Festival:** 6th February to 6th March: explore the exotic world of orchids in the Princess of Wales Conservatory, no additional charge. Do consider joining an **Orchid Nursery Tour:** a behind the scenes tour of the Orchid Nursery and meet Kew experts, who will share their insider knowledge and tips: 11 February to 5 March. Saturdays and Thursdays only, tours 1.30pm, 2pm and 2.30pm £10. NB: Thursday 2.30pm tours cost £15, as they feature an additional orchid-care session. Do book your tour to make sure, although places might be available on the day. Other specialised courses on orchids are available: **Orchids for Beginners** and **Grow Orchids from Seed** and booking for these two courses is essential.

Contact 020 8332 5626, email adulated@kew.org or go to kew.org/learn. The Gardens are open daily except for 24th & 25th December



Rosalind Eagleton



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8948 7254

Kew Wind Orchestra

King's House School, King's Rd, Richmond.

All ages, Thurs, 8pm.

8876 2192

Tea & Art Club

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Pensford Field. Pam: **07500 178578**

Kew Neighbourhood Assn

offers help with transport to medical appointments and the Avenue Club, together with befriending and shopping.

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Kew Community Trust

runs **Avenue Club** - social activities for older people. David Polya

8948 8806

Rotary Club of Kew

Coach & Horses, Kew Green.

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8894 9958

Richmond and Kew Quilters

every 2nd Monday of the month.

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www.richmondandkewquilters.org.uk

Kew Community Choir Thurs. 7.30

— 8.30, St Luke's in the Avenue

noyesmary@hotmail.com

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8785 6718 or 8994 0396

KIDS

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Tuesdays: St. Paul's, Raleigh Road;

Thursdays: St. Luke's House,

Sandycombe Road and the Barn Church.

Guides (10-14 yrs)

Thursdays: the Barn Church.

girlguidinginrichmond@hotmail.co.uk

Kew Scout Group HQ

Station Avenue by Kew Gardens

Station (rear of Pether's Butchers Shop).

Beavers (6-7 yrs) Thur 6 pm

Cubs (8-10yrs) Thur 7 pm

Scouts and Explorer Scouts

(11+ yrs) Fri 7 pm

8940 2484

Kew Youth Club

Barn Church (entry Marksbury Ave):

Friday nights during term time,

secondary school years 7-9. Entry

£2.50. jabbraddock@sky.com

Kew Park Rangers Football

North Road Recreation Ground.

Ages 5-11, boys and girls.

Sat morning (training),

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07770 755 538 or 8940 9882

Kew Young Musicians

Saturday morning music school for

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kewyoungmusicians@googlemail.com

8401 6950

Toddler Groups

Barn Church Mondays 9.30 -11.00

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Hymns and Modes: Archbishop Parker, Thomas Tallis and Ralph Vaughan Williams

In 1567, Archbishop Matthew Parker probably didn't imagine that such long-lived music would emerge from his newly commissioned English Psalter. But then that giant of English music, Thomas Tallis, did contribute nine tunes. Of these, three are still in use as hymns: *To Mock Your Reign, O Dearest Lord* (778, Anglican Hymns Old & New), *Glory To Thee, My God, This Night* (229 – Tallis's Canon) and *O Holy Spirit, Lord of Grace* (554 – Tallis's Ordinal).

Although the *Canon* and *Ordinal* are good pieces, the most fascinating is the first, intriguingly titled *Third Mode Melody*. So what's interesting about the third mode? Listen to Tallis's original setting from the Psalter – '*Why Fumeth in Fight*' (see footnote for links). The third mode – more usually called the Phrygian – is related to our major scale (Do Re Mi etc., as once presented by Julie Andrews) but crucially it starts on the third note, Mi. It can be thought of as E to E on the white notes of the piano. As Eric Morecambe (the well-known interpreter of Grieg's piano music) once observed: all the right notes, but not necessarily in the right order. This re-structuring of our everyday scale generates a dark-sounding mode, which sometimes has a Spanish feel (frequently used in flamenco).

In our hymn (778), Tallis's original melody – which he gave to the tenor, a common practice at that time! – is moved to the top voice for ease of congregational singing. The pain-filled words telling of Christ's passion were added in the 20th Century by Fred Pratt Green. They complement the sombre Phrygian sound with one exception: at the end of the original psalm, Tallis's harmony gives emotional release, driving its way to a radiant major chord. In the hymn, Pratt Green used this joyous shift to reinforce his messages of hope at the end of the first and third verses (... your sorrows heal our own, ... till love embraces all).

The musical importance of Tallis's tune and harmony is well-established: not only did Ralph Vaughan Williams use it for another hymn (*When Rising from the Bed of Death*), but was inspired by it to write one of the greatest works of the 20th Century – *Fantasia on a Theme By Thomas Tallis*. In this highly charged piece, VW states Tallis's theme near the outset, then develops it by introducing variations and new material, but importantly maintains the dark Phrygian quality before moving to a serene final chord in the major key.

Hymn-singing congregations and devotees of 20th Century English classical music both owe a debt to the Archbishop and his Psalter.

Nigel Blake

Footnote

The Sixteen's version can be found on Spotify via this link [spotify:track:10evdD9XUTGqbbLSfXZaX7](https://open.spotify.com/track/10evdD9XUTGqbbLSfXZaX7)

Type in all of the code, including spotify:track:etc ... into the search bar in Spotify.

The work was also performed by The Cardinal's Musick at this year's Proms. If it's still available on the BBC's website, here's the address <http://www.bbc.co.uk/events/embfxj#b062jlwm>

HALF WAY

FILM SCREENING and talk by DAISY-MAY HUDSON

7 pm, 11th December, Kew Community Trust, St Luke's in The Avenue, Kew, TW9 2AJ

The housing crisis is forcing more and more people into homelessness across the UK. The situation in London, where the cost of housing is double the average for England, is particularly bad; each week about 60 people are seen sleeping rough for the first time in London.

Please come along to our screening of documentary **HALF WAY** to raise money for **NO SECOND NIGHT OUT**, a homelessness charity. The screening will feature a talk by Director DAISY-MAY HUDSON on her first-hand experience of becoming homeless.

Tickets can be purchased here - <https://goo.gl/8RHZKy> - or you can email Rosie at rosalind.polya@gmail.com using 'Half Way' as the subject for further information on how to buy tickets.

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