



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

February 2016 Newsletter

Fellowship, Hope and Love

Dear All,

Moving on

I suppose it is something we have all done at one time or another, fuelled by natural curiosity, when our birthday comes around. I am talking about running our eyes over one of those columns headed 'on this day', which turn up in newspapers listing names of people, living or dead, who were born on the same day as ourselves. In my case I know that the late artist Barbara Hepworth shared my birthday, singer Rod Stewart also celebrates on the same day and so does George Foreman, the former heavyweight boxing champion; who I know very little about, except that each of his five sons is named George and he has made a lot of money endorsing a popular line of cooking grills!



Winter sunshine -Les Berges de la Liane, Boulogne-sur-Mer

The listing normally also includes those who died on the date in question and next year it will record, that in 2016, one of the most original and influential figures in pop culture for over five decades, took leave of this world: David Bowie. For days afterwards the media devoted pages to tributes and analysis of his contribution to the world of music and showmanship. Reading though a few of them two solid facts emerged, he was for the most part an autodidact and secondly a master of reinvention. Like all innovators, he came in for criticism as well as praise, and as is often the case, there is now a sudden posthumous resurgence of interest in his music. In particular, one song appears to be getting a considerable airing and has entered the best selling charts for the first time since its appearance in the 1970s. It's simply called: 'Changes.' Here Bowie stutters out the key word of the refrain: *Ch-ch-ch-ch-changes* - as if he were too nervous to pronounce the word. Unsurprisingly the lyrics are about turning and facing the strange.

The revival of this song appropriately serves us as a good reminder, as once again our Chaplaincy's future is under the spotlight. We must re-examine ways forward and assess any changes we may need to effect. To this end we are soliciting ideas, however radical and far reaching, from everyone. For example, on the middle pages of this newsletter is an article written straight from the heart by one of our members concerning the plight of those who live in the migrant camp in Calais, known as the Jungle. It's right on our doorstep so should we be working actively alongside other Christian groups, on both sides of the Channel, reaching out into the darkest corners of our region or do we leave it to others? Should we be the first point of contact for the Anglican Church serving the English speaking community in the Pas de Calais and appeal for funds outside our immediate boundaries for the appointment of a full time chaplain with a wider brief? Or do we continue as we are, supported by visiting clergy, but known only to a certain few? What should be our role in this decade of continual social transformation? Without a new manifesto is our disappearance inevitable? There are so many questions and everyone's views count, however diverging, so the weeks ahead promise a very lively debate – let's hear from everyone.

There will be a number of opportunities to put forward views, the first step in the process is a meeting taking place after the service on Sunday 31st January – the topic will also be raised at the Boulogne AGM on March 20th and at the Chaplaincy AGM on April 17th, which will also be held in Boulogne. Please do your best to voice your ideas for our future, preferably by attending one of the meetings or if you cannot, please send your views to the secretary or churchwarden. Many thanks in advance for your participation. MG



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

Sunday 31st January 2016 11h00 / Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

(Candlemas) Joint Eucharist service with other congregations in the Chaplaincy led by Rev Charles Hill; Readings: Malachi: 3. 1-5; Psalm 24: 7-end; Hebrews: 2. 14-end; Luke 2. 22-40. This service will be followed by a 'Bring and Share' lunch* and a meeting to discuss the future of the Chaplaincy. Intercessions: Mary Wood (Calais) / Chalice: Malcolm Gale.

Sunday 7th February 2016 10h30/ Sunday next before Lent, a simple service of Morning Prayer, with hymns and readings led by Colin and Jackie Ley.

Sunday 21st February 2016 10h30/ Second Sunday of Lent Eucharist service led by Canon Reg Humphriss; Readings: Genesis 15. 1-12, 17-18; Psalm 27; Philippians 3: 17 -4.1; Luke 13. 31-end Intercessions: George Murray / Chalice: Lalage Glaister.

Sunday 6th March 2016 10h30/ Fourth Sunday in Lent (Mothering Sunday) a simple service of Morning Prayer, with hymns and readings led by Lalage and Paul Glaister.

Sunday 20th March 2016 10h30/ Sixth Sunday in Lent (Palm Sunday) Eucharist service led by Rev Charles Hill; Readings: Isaiah; 50 4-9a; Psalm 31:9-16; Philippians 2: 5-11; Luke; 22:14-23. This service will be followed by the Boulogne AGM and a 'Bring and Share' lunch*. Intercessions: Linda Pillière /Chalice: Jean Karssen.

** To judge numbers please try to let us know beforehand if taking lunch (contact Lalage Glaister: ☎03 21 81 47 65, e-mail: paul.glaister@wanadoo.fr*

News and dates for your diary:

Please note the date of the Boulogne AGM - Sunday March 20th, which will follow the service and will naturally include the election of officers i.e.: Churchwarden, Secretary, Treasurer and PCC, nominations can be received at anytime – please send to the secretary. This meeting will be chaired by Rev Charles Hill and be followed by a lunch.

Prayer Diary /Intercessions. At the last PCC meeting, it was decided that a book would be made available for the entry of the names of those who anyone wishes to have included in the intercessory prayers during the service. Otherwise please pass a note to the person responsible for the intercessions on that day, see service listings above, before the start of the service.

A collection point is available in the porch at the chapel for donations of warm clothes (anoraks etc.) trainers or similar, shoe sizes 39 to 45, blankets and duvets, these will be passed on to associate organizations to help those in need over the winter.



An Ash Wednesday Service of Eucharist organised by the Calais congregation and conducted by Rev Charles Hill, will be held at the home of Anne Fauquet, 43 rue de l'Abbe Dupuy, 62137 Coulogne at 19h00 on Wednesday 10th February 2016, a light supper will be served afterwards.

If you would like to attend please contact Pat Page at pat.page@wanadoo.fr or phone 03 21 35 07 65, or alternatively Anne Fauquet at annefauquet@free.fr - before 6th February.

From Dhaka to Calais **by Jane Langlet**

Over the last few years I have been to Bangladesh several times to visit the L'Arche community near Dhaka. It was there, in what is one of the poorest countries in the world that I saw first-hand what the living conditions of those who live in a slum are.

So when in October I visited the biggest slum in Europe...the so-called 'Jungle' in Calais, my experience in Bangladesh should perhaps have prepared me for the conditions I would see. Far from it, the jungle is so much worse than anything I have encountered in India or Bangladesh –perhaps because it is on our doorstep.

A friend who teaches French to the migrants living there had invited me to come and see their school, a kind of shed set up in the camp. We went on one of the wettest and windiest days in November (or so it felt to me) and there I discovered with my own eyes the horror of thousands of people living in tents in the mud or sand... mostly men, but also women and children. How could this be, not in a developing country, but just down the road?

And yet despite the horror, what struck me first was the openness and welcome of the people living there... smiling as we passed, proud to practice the few words in French they had learnt: "*Bonjour ça va?*" I was immediately reminded of the smiling faces of the slum dwellers in Bangladesh. We were completely drenched, cold and walking in ankle deep water and mud... And yet here were people smiling and being friendly as if this was just part of life! From this very first encounter, I was struck by the paradox of the humanity and solidarity in a place where the conditions are unfit for human beings.

This impression has been confirmed over and over as I go weekly to teach and spend a few hours with some of the refugees. Several associations have set up makeshift language schools and many come to learn or improve their English or French. Apart from learning the language, it is a time they can actually just be out of the cold and meet and talk with others in a calm environment.

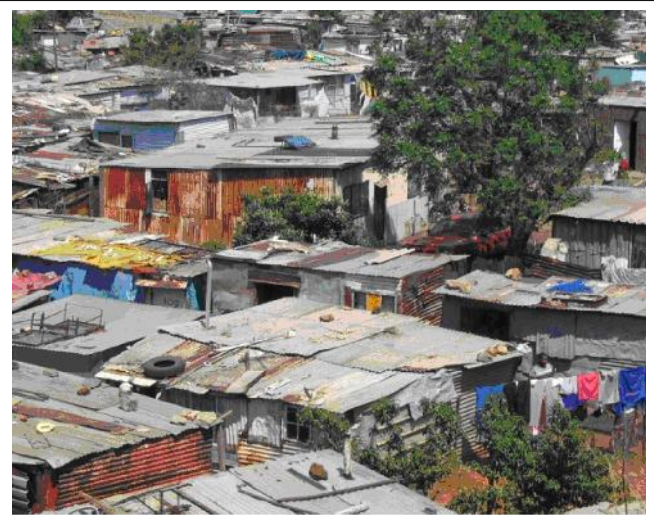
It is a deeply humbling experience to sit with groups of men (or boys) from the Sudan, Syria, Afghanistan, Eritrea, Iraq or other countries as they share their stories: - Torkey from Chad who comes from the desert and has never been to school or learnt to read or write and yet has learnt English through sheer determination –



Calais - a water point in the 'Jungle' home to 2,500. Winter 2016

Nabiq from Afghanistan who is wanted by the Taliban and had to flee because he had worked in an American hospital –Abdullah from Sudan whose village has been destroyed by the government .. Each of these men has left everything in search simply of a safe place to live and work. It is humbling indeed – such hope in the face of desperate situations, determination to succeed in order to help their parents left at home: the sheer power of human resilience.

As we walked back to the car that first day, we followed a young family – a mother, a father holding on tight to the hands of their 2 young children... What horrors had they had to leave to embark on such a perilous journey? And what hope for them now? Each time I leave the camp I drive back past Cité de l'Europe, packed with shoppers... then on past the miles of fences and barbed wire around the tunnel... back to my warm house and a hot meal... Food for thought.



The slums of Dhaka - Bangladesh

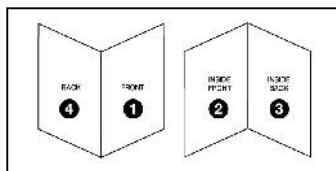
Other services in the Chaplaincy... Calais's regular services: Services are held on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month at 10h30. The normal place of worship is now the Oratoire Notre Dame de la Misericorde, rue Gaillard, Calais – (near St Pierre's church) - Church Warden: Pat Page ☎ 03 21 35 07 65 or e-mail: pat.page@wanadoo.fr

Hesdin's regular services: Services are held as follows: 1st Sunday monthly – Morning Prayer 10h30; 3rd Sunday monthly – 17h00 Eucharist. Services are held in Salle de l'Arsenal, Rue de l'Arsenal, Hesdin. - Church Warden: Hazel Crompton, ☎ 03 21 03 31 27 e-mail: james.crompton@free.fr

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 or otherwise the secretary.

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 the secretary, Malcolm Gale: malcolm.gale@dbmail.com - ☎ 03 21 31 83 57 Port: 06 99 09 60 44 or by post to 76, rue de la Paix, 62200 Boulogne sur Mer.



Printing your newsletter: This newsletter is designed to be printed at A5 size - select the 'livret' or 'booklet' printing format on the print management page of Adobe PDF Reader, this turns it into a handy A5 size four-page leaflet – of course remember to pass the paper through your printer twice (i.e. both sides).

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And just for the fun of it...

A mystery left over from the party season...



A doctor was attending a small reception given by one of his former patients. During the party a large bowl of punch was placed on the table for everyone to partake of. The punch was made up of two or three different alcoholic drinks, fruit juices, and segments of oranges, grapefruit, apples, plus ice cubes. No sooner had the punch been put before the guests, the doctor received a phone call from his hospital asking him to return urgently because a major casualty had been brought in and he would need to operate. He swiftly swallowed a glass of the punch and while he was waiting for the taxi to arrive, a second and a third, but in great haste.

The day afterwards he read, in his local newspaper, that all those who had attended the reception had been taken seriously ill as a result of poisoning. It was attributed to the famous punch, which the doctor had also consumed in plenty. Why was the doctor not poisoned?

Answers please.

