



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

June 2016 Newsletter

Fellowship, Hope and Love

No. 48

Dear All,

Staying in touch or submerged?

A new law has been proposed in France to allow workers, in companies with 50 or more employees, to ignore business related e-mails and phone calls during evenings and weekends, as an attempt to allow them to disconnect from the continuous stream of exchanges which have become a part of modern life.

I am old enough to remember the days before the mobile phone, desktop computer, e-mail and dare I admit it, the pocket calculator and the photocopier, but at least I can say I have lived both 'with' and 'without' all the trappings of information technology.

But now we have, seemingly overnight, all acquired computers and i-phones, and are all marching along the information highway with, at our disposal, the extraordinary power of the internet. The thing is to stay connected; there are no days off! Back in the 70s and 80s we would go on holiday, content with just a guidebook, only an outline plan and no reservations. Never thought twice about turning up late in some small town, having caught the last train in and getting a room in a hotel. Now we can plan everything via the internet, compare the best deals, consult the reviews and study the street plans with add-on aerial and street views of the locality and use GPS to find it. Furthermore surf-up everything else; restaurants, best tourist attractions, opening hours and admission costs and print the lot off on demand, if we wish. Are we slaves to this information overkill? Are we drowning in data?

Although we hear a lot about malware, viruses, hackers, scams and all the other nightmares of the internet, it is hardly likely that any of us will abandon our computers, despite their sometimes apparently overburdening aspects. Short of some less-than-friendly government blocking channels they have taken a political dislike to, we can tweet and exchange opinions worldwide, as well as keep up with family and friends, wherever they are. The world is at our fingertips.

True to say the internet now covers the globe as 'the waters cover the sea', which reminds us of the words of a still very popular 19th century hymn, written by an Eton schoolmaster, Arthur Campbell Ainger in 1894, of which the first line runs: 'God is working his purpose out as year succeeds to year.' Ainger knew, as a teacher, that good communication is everything, although in the hymn, he had one very special message in mind, which should reach every corner of the globe. I am convinced he would have seen the World Wide Web as a further unveiling of God working his purpose out, in providing the opportunity of a new window of understanding between the people of this world. We are the messengers, and Jesus asked us, "to love one another... and by this everyone will know that you are my disciples." A call to answer, evenings, weekdays and weekends alike. MG

*From utmost east to utmost west, wherever feet have trod,
by the mouth of many messengers goes forth the voice of God,
'Give ear to me, ye continents, ye isles, give ear to me,
that the earth may be filled with the glory of God as the waters cover the sea.'*



... a windy day with the white clouds flying...
Entering Calais harbour (spring 2016)



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

Sunday 5th June 2016 10h30 / Second Sunday after Trinity (Third Sunday after Pentecost) Simple service of Morning Prayer with hymns and readings led by Malcolm Gale

Sunday 19th June 2016 10h30 / Fourth Sunday after Trinity (Father's Day) (Fifth Sunday after Pentecost) Eucharist service led by Rev Charles Hill; Readings: Isaiah 65: 1-9; Ps: 22.19 -28; Galatians: 3.23 - end; Luke 8: 26-39

Sunday 3rd July 2016 10h30 / Sixth Sunday after Trinity – Thomas the Apostle (Seventh Sunday after Pentecost) Simple service of Morning Prayer with hymns and readings

Sunday 17th July 2016 10h30 / Eighth Sunday after Trinity (Ninth Sunday after Pentecost) Eucharist service led by Canon Reg Humphriss; Readings: Amos 8:1-12; Psalm 52; Colossians 1:15-28; Luke 10:38-42

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### News and dates for your diary:



### *Scones ... cakes ... strawberries ... and teas*

**Sunday 12th June: - back again on our summer calendar**, Paul and Lalage Glaister will be offering delicious **Strawberry Teas** in their lovely garden at Estréelles (156, rue du Moulin) from 14h30 – 17h00 – further details ☎03 21 81 47 65

**Wednesday 29th June:** - Calais congregation are holding an afternoon **Strawberry Tea** at the town centre home of Mrs Ros Levy, 149 rue Dunkerque, (next to Natur House shop) St Omer. For further details contact Ros ☎ 03 21 88 49 33 [rosplevy@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:rosplevy@yahoo.co.uk) or Pat ☎ 03 21 35 07 65

**Saturday, 11th June** Yet another opportunity for English teas can be found at the **Arras Church Annual Garden Fête** 12h30 – 16h30 (103 Rue d'Amiens) which promises: bubbly, sandwiches, home-made scones, sale of English books, home-made jams and cakes, Scottish dancing, a raffle with many prizes and more. Further details ☎ 03 21 58 57 76



**The minutes of the last Chaplaincy AGM** are now available – for a copy please contact the secretary. The meeting appointed, from the 3 congregations, the members of Chaplaincy committee for the coming year. These are, in alphabetical order: Hazel Crompton, Malcolm Gale, Lalage Glaister, George Murray, Clare Page, Pat Page (Chair), Daphne Power, Michael Spriggs and Mary Wood. At the AGM it was agreed that the Chaplaincy should fund the purchase of bibles in Arabic and Farsi, to be distributed by a new member of the Calais congregation, Brother Johannes who is working in the 'Jungle' migrant camp.

### **Ladies in the news**

Women who go to church more than once a week live longer than those who do not, this is according to a new study. It appears that researchers at Harvard University found: "Compared with those who never attended religious services, women who attended more than once per week had a 33 per cent lower mortality risk," these results were produced after studying the records of more than 74,000 women. But apparently only American women of the Christian faith were studied, men's records, other nationalities/faith groups have not been examined. Whatever the results, does this mean that doctors should now tell their patients to go to church?

*Thanks to Pam Batas-Bjelic for that report*

## Graham Hughes discovers that the motto of health spa Bourbonne les Bains, should be '*Early to bed, Early to rise...!*'

**W**e have travelled across the length and breadth of France many times in the last 40 years. Of late, our journey from home on the north coast of France, to Berne in Switzerland has been one of the more frequent. Our method has been to drive there in the day and to take two or three days for the return journey. One or two of the stopovers are to be recalled.

The spa resort of Bourbonne-les-Bains is situated in a remarkably well-preserved natural environment, at the source of the River Meuse, on the border of the Lorraine, Franche-Comté and Burgundy regions. Bourbonne les Bains was a fashionable spa town in the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries. The Gallo-Romans discovered the healing properties of thermal waters and attributed them to the god Borvo (the god of hot springs) who gave its name to the spa town. . Where the simple Gaulish wooden bathing installations stood, the Romans harnessed and canalised the springs and built a well. The Romans who came to take the waters threw their votive offerings into the well, in recognition of the waters' beneficial effects. The spa resort became a flourishing, and even luxurious, place.



The source of the spring

Each year, from March to November, more than 10,000 people go to take the waters and benefit from the supposed healing properties of the hot springs, which have a high calcium and magnesium content, as well as being rich in sodium and trace elements that have a similar composition to human serum. The waters flow through different rocky layers from a depth of up to 2,000 m, thus acquiring their properties and picking up heat before surfacing at 66°C.

Nowadays, Bourbonne les Bains is said to offer many entertainments. You can relax and cure your rheumatism in the thermal centre of Valvital, or get rich in the “Emeraude” casino and enjoy a nice dinner or a cabaret show.

It seemed like a good overnight stopping off point and I booked at the best, although modest sounding hotel. The town's glory has clearly faded a great deal although the health spa and its associated cure spa still attract visitors, often paid for by the French health care service. Our hotel turned out to be very much into health. The menu looked okay so we thought you would eat there and told the receptionist that we would have dinner in the hotel. “Dinner is at 730 to 830” she told us rather stiffly. In our room we prepared to go down to dinner and were just watching the end of a tense tennis match on TV when the phone rang. “Are you coming down for dinner? the voice at the other end demanded. “Yes” we replied “It is already 730 and you must come down at once” so we rushed downstairs into the dining room. All heads turned as these naughty children (us) came down late for dinner. As far as we could see everybody but us was in dire need of the cure as promised by the spas. All looked miserable (and ill) as they picked at their healthy food. The set menu of the evening seemed pretty unexciting - boiled fish seem to feature strongly. We thus ordered from the à la carte and had the temerity to order a bottle of wine. “A whole bottle?” Asked the waitress. “Yes of course!” Our order was grudgingly taken but the food was actually very good, simple, fresh, tasty and nicely served; just right for the infirm we thought. We had not realised was that when they said that dinner was 7.30 to 8.30 you were expected to arrive at 7.30 and to finish by 8.30 pm.

We were brave enough to order coffee on the dot of 8.30 “We are closing the restaurant now but you can have it in the sitting room” we were told “Of course, no problem” and so off we went. We settled down and started to read the local newspaper. At no later than 9 o'clock, in came the manager “We are shutting up now. You have to go upstairs to bed” she ordered. It was as much as we could do not to burst out laughing at the gall (or do I mean Gaul?) of the hotel to send guests to bed. Needless to say this is not a hotel we have stayed at more than once.



**Prayer Diary /Intercessions - A book is now available for the entry of 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.**

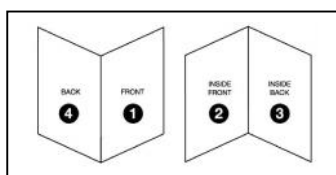
**Other services in the Chaplaincy** Calais's regular services: Services are held on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month at 10h30. The normal place of worship is now the Oratoire Notre Dame de la Misericorde, rue Gaillard, Calais – (near St Pierre's church). Church Warden: Pat Page ☎ 03 21 35 07 65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



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your printer twice (i.e. both sides).

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## All at sea...

