

THE COMMONER

ST BARNABAS CLAPHAM COMMON

16 MARCH 2023 ISSUE #53

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

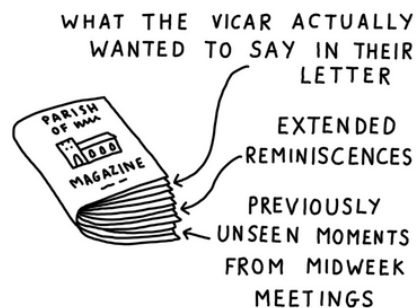
THE BENEFITS



USE OF THE SECRET MEMBERS-ONLY LOUNGE



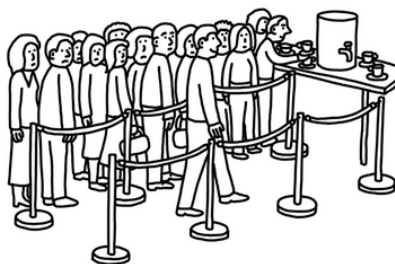
PREVIEWS OF SERMONS THE NIGHT BEFORE RELEASE



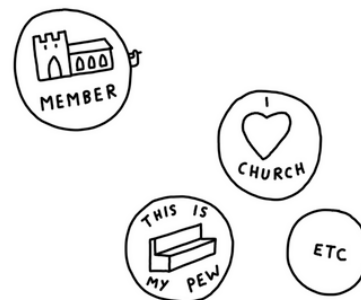
A SPECIAL BUMPER EDITION OF THE PARISH MAGAZINE



A 'GET OUT OF A ROTA FREE' CARD



PRIORITY LANE AT AFTER-SERVICE COFFEE



A BADGE, AND SOME STICKERS

CartoonChurch.com

WHEN THE ELECTORAL ROLL IS CALLED UP YONDER

So much to comment on in this week's cartoon...

I mean, if there is a secret members-only lounge - serving champagne by the looks of it - where the devil is it? (Of course, if I told you, it wouldn't be a secret, would it?).

Would previews of the sermon the night before release make much sense to the reader if, as is commonly the case, it isn't *quite* finished by then?

Would a badge and some stickers be quite cool in a self-deprecating, ecclesiastically ironic, church kitsch kind of a way? (With apologies to any genuine church badge enthusiasts who might be reading this - I know who you are!). But perhaps the real questions to ask are: do any of these perks really incentivise membership? And how do you join a church anyway?

Well, if you *were* wondering about this - joining a church and all that - it turns out that this might be your lucky edition of *The Commoner*! Because this is the time of year when we open, and add to, our Electoral Roll which you can join as a member of St Barnabas if you are over 16 or will be 16 on your next birthday; if you live in the parish of have been with us for at least 6 months; and if you have been baptised. Simples. Who knew? Just ask Sandrine for a form on Sunday, fill it out, hand it back and she will add you to the Roll.

'But what's the benefit?' I hear you ask you ask. Easy. It's an administrative realisation of our collective salvation. Or as 1 Peter 2.10 would say: *Once you were not a people, now you are a people. Once you had not received mercy but now you have received mercy.*

125TH ANNIVERSARY



This year marks the 125th year since our consecration as the parish of Clapham Common and as you can see we are marking this anniversary with a 125th anniversary logo! And this is not the only thing we are planning.

Last month, Mike outlined three projects chosen to mark our 125th anniversary which will improve our facilities as well as support our eco church mission.

We are also planning a *125 day period of celebrations* which will start in June with a service after which our new doors will be blessed, and end in October when a new cross (made out from the 'old' doors) will be blessed. So save the dates, here is a flavour of what is to come:

SUNDAY 11 JUNE

Launch of the 125th period with Ven. John Kiddle
(Archdeacon of Wandsworth)

SATURDAY 01 JULY

25 take part in the 5km Park Run (=125kms)
Sign up with Richard

SUNDAY 02 JULY

Windrush Sunday, 75th Anniversary
with Caribbean music and refreshments

SUNDAYS 11 SEP to 08 OCT

Celebrating with our former clergy

SATURDAY 14 OCTOBER

125th anniversary and 50th birthday joint party

SUNDAY 15 OCTOBER

Closing Sunday with Rt Rev Martin Gainsborough
(Bishop of Kingston)

also watch out for further details on ...

Summer Recitals and Concerts

Guided walks with a local history or an ecological focus

[30 Jul, 23 & 30 Sep]

History of St Barnabas Open Day [30 Sep]

125TH LEGACY FUND

We are pleased to let you know that we have set up a 125th legacy fund which will help fund our projects. We are delighted to say that we almost have our first thousand pounds following a £500 legacy left by Uncle Richards which we recently received, the collection of c. £150 for at funeral of Myrtle Paynter and a further, one off gift, too. We will also add the legacy left by the late Margaret Rose Goodfellow. It will be a lovely way to remember all those who have been a part of St Barnabas over the last 125 years.

THE LENT COURSE

A few weeks ago, Richard mentioned the Lent course starting on a Tuesday, and to read, if I could, the first two chapters of the book *'Borders and Belonging'* in preparation for the first week of the Lent Course. I thought it was an interesting title; I read the preface, beautifully written by Pdraig O Tuama, and found myself reflecting on what it means to belong, and wondering 'where do I belong'?

The first meeting started 7.30pm prompt; we read a chapter of Ruth, and then discussed how Ruth's story relates to us today; we looked at our thoughts and perceptions around borders and belonging in the current migrant crisis. It is a real pleasure spending time reflecting with, and getting to know other members of St Barnabas, most of whom I have only known by sight. I very much look forward to Tuesday evenings exploring current issues alongside the beautiful ancient story of Ruth.

I will miss the Lent course when it finishes; but through attending this course I found the answer to my question: I belong at St Barnabas!

Wendy Hewitt

GARDENING

Our next gardening morning will be on Thursday 23rd March with Victoria and Andrew leading the way and tending to our bushes and flower beds. If you can, do consider joining them for one hour or so between 9am and 12pm! Thank you.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GIVING

It was a real pleasure to write my first thank you letter to everyone who donates regularly to our Church. Your donations make a huge difference. As an ECO Church, this year we emailed the letters whenever possible and handed over paper copies when preferable. If anyone is expecting one, and has not received one, please let me know.

I want to extend my thanks to everyone for your generous and kind donations.

Sosy Cholakian



Last chance to book your place to attend this fantastic event about public speaking.

Care for the Family founder, Rob Parsons will share insights from his fifty years of public speaking experience to learn how to grab and keep the attention of an audience. Wednesday 22 March at 7.30pm in Wimbledon.

Sign up at cff.org.uk/heartof



ST BARNABAS CLAPHAM COMMON
CHURCH FOR ALL - INCLUDING YOU

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HOLY WEEK & EASTER

www.stbcc.co.uk



06 APRIL

MAUNDY THURSDAY	2.30 pm	BCP HOLY COMMUNION <i>IN CHURCH</i>
	8.00 pm	VIGIL: AS NIGHT FALLS <i>IN CHURCH</i>

07 APRIL

GOOD FRIDAY	10.30 am	WALK OF WITNESS <i>ST MICHAEL'S COBHAM CLOSE</i>
	2.00 pm	AN HOUR AT THE CROSS <i>IN CHURCH</i>

09 APRIL

EASTER SUNDAY	5.30 am	SUNRISE COMMUNION <i>AT CHURCH</i>
	11.00 am	FAMILY COMMUNION <i>IN CHURCH</i>