

Becket News

Issue 70/May 2017

The Anglican Church of
St Thomas Becket

Zeughausmarkt 22, 20459 Hamburg
www.anglican-church-hamburg.de

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From the Chaplain

During the last weeks I have been reflecting theologically on a number of events and developments in our church, the ecumenical scene and the church in the public square. One such event that is on the horizon is the forthcoming G20 summit in Hamburg on 7 and 8 July.

Churches across Hamburg are mobilised, calling for justice and peace in the world. I have been asked by the organisers to contribute towards the resources with a reflection on Matthew 25.35-40. Let me share some of my thoughts via our *Becket News*.

The short biblical passage is a familiar one, probably even for many who would not claim to be Christian, and is considered as one of the key messages which proclaim good news to the poor and marginalised in our world. It reads as follows:

35 for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, 36 I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me. 37 Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? 38 And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you,



Photo: Roland Magunia

or naked and gave you clothing? 39 And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you? 40 And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.'

Taken on its own and at face value this passage appears to be an appeal of Jesus, who is speaking to his disciples, to act charitably. When they come across someone in need, they should share of what they themselves do not lack: food, clothing, shelter and so on. Jesus is calling them to act as did the Good Samaritan towards the Jewish traveller, who was left half dead after being attacked by robbers.

Read within the context in which it is given, however, this passage carries a far deeper, one could even say, more

continued overleaf
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uncomfortable message. It cannot be reduced to simply being a challenge to act charitably towards those more in need than we ourselves. The context of the long discourse between Jesus and his disciples is that of God's justice and God's rule.

In both Jewish and Christian traditions there is a deep yearning for justice. This justice comes from God himself, the Creator of all that is good. Humankind has through disobedience, neglect of God's creation and its arrogance destroyed much that has been good. However, it continues to be our belief that God will one day bring justice to the entire world. God's judgement will set the world right and for the good of all creation.

Seen in this light, our passage takes on a significance that raises it beyond the appeal to act with charity to a challenge. Jesus, far more than appealing to our pity for the plight of the poor or the homeless or the refugee, is challenging us to do what we can to restore their rights. It is not about accruing more personal righteousness in the eyes of God, but about just action for others, of changing the causes of injustice even. Sufficient to eat, adequate and decent clothing for the body, good health, a home and even a homeland belong to our basic rights as human beings.

In our world there are untold numbers of people who have been bereft of these basic rights for a host of different reasons in hugely different political, economic, social, religious and even natural, ecological contexts. The reasons – be they unjust structures of society, be it famine, be it war – are as complex as are the contexts. But the axiom that Jesus Christ gave remains: we are to invest our energies into bringing about justice.

The way Jesus put it to his disciples was that if they acted for justice done to any one in need, they were doing it for him. Jesus came to be our brother and to show us the way in which we can see in every individual our brother or sister and to act, if need be, on his or her behalf as Jesus acted on our behalf. That is the challenge. It is the challenge that the Good Samaritan took on when he not only picked up the injured traveller and took him to hospital but ensured that he would be fully restored.

Looking back

Clare Hammond's brilliant piano concerts (see review on page 12) were a great success all round. We were honoured by the presence of many notable persons from Hamburg society. To all those involved, from the planning and organising to the catering and cleaning up, once more on my part a sincere thank you. I am con-

fidant that the profile of our church as a welcoming community which holds firmly to the Church of England traditions has been enhanced by this experience.

On Saturday 15 April during the Easter Vigil Service 15 candidates (young: 6; and adult: 9) were confirmed by Bishop David Hamid. The Easter Vigil is considered a jewel of the liturgical year and takes one more deeply into the mystery of Christ in his death and resurrection. The confirmation of candidates into the faith and the life of the church during an Easter Vigil service is a special moment. In his own unique way Bishop David had a special word for each candidate during the confirmation. We are happy to note a growing interest for confirmation and request God's continuing mercies on our ministry at St Thomas Becket.

On 6 May during the Harbour Festival we held a flea market in our church (see page 14). We did not experience huge crowds of people, rather it was a slow coming and going of visitors, many of whom stayed for a cup of coffee and cake or enjoyed the European and Indian lunch highlights. For those who at relatively short notice mobilised their resources and energies it was yet another rewarding experience of pulling together for a common cause.

Looking forward

With the appearance of this issue of *Becket News* the Feast of Pentecost will be upon us. A rather cynical joke in German goes as follows: 'Zu Weihnachten bringt das Christkind Geschenke, zu Ostern der Hase Eier – Zu Pfingsten kommt der Heilige Geist und der bringt nichts.' I would like to say to that: Thank God that Pentecost is not also in danger of being reduced to a holy day associated mainly with material gifts! On this birthday of the Christian Church let us remember that very special gift of the Holy Spirit which God poured out on that small band of disciples, still fearful of the future. And to what effect! God through the Holy Spirit still works wonders in our lives and the life of the Church. May that be our personal experience and that of our St Thomas Becket community as we continue our journey through this year.

I wish you all blessed and happy summer months.

Leslie Nathaniel

The G20 material is now available online, either as a download on our own website or at global-gerecht-gestalten.de/fuer-gemeinden/

I was a stranger and you welcomed me

For us members of St Thomas Becket – whether worshipping together as German citizens or as foreigners – the presence of about 51,500 refugees living in Hamburg in our midst presents us with unique opportunities for working out what Jesus requires of us in Matthew 25,35. While He calls on us to feed the hungry, give the thirsty something to drink and to clothe the naked, we may safely assume that the basic needs of refugees in Germany are taken care of, thanks to joint financing by the federal government, the Länder and municipalities. Cost-of-living allowances plus Government-paid accommodation and sickness insurance put refugees in Germany on a par with other social welfare recipients, irrespective of citizenship. In Hamburg, this is com-

plemented by state-financed daycare and free school and university education and, for working-age adults, German language classes, skills training and job-placement services.

Volunteers can and do add to the material assistance provided by the government by helping out at local foodbanks or by donating clothes and shoes (particularly for men!) to Hanseatic Help e.V. at Große Elbstraße, which serves as a central clearing facility for receiving donations of clothes and their onward distribution.

Given this, our chief role as Christians may well be to personally welcome refugees who are arriving in our city as strangers.

Unlike the impressions created at the height of the refugee ‘crisis’ in the autumn of 2015, when tens of thou-

sands of newly-arrived refugees needed to be accommodated and fed in temporary shelters, half of all refugees in Hamburg now live in rented apartments of their own, while 26,000 live in one of almost 100 residential facilities managed by the city-owned public housing authority fördern und wohnen



Photo: Petra Osinski

AöR, including a good many newly constructed container camps. As of now, only about 6,000 of Hamburg's refugees still live in 28 communal facilities such as refitted market halls and the like.

As all of these facilities are dispersed throughout Hamburg, none of them is on our chaplaincy's doorstep, so to speak – the nearest one to our church being a newly constructed container camp at Kirchenpauerstraße in HafenCity. Yet there are organised groups of volunteers, generally called 'Initiativen', at most of the newly established residential facilities for refugees, which make it easy for anyone wanting to help to fit in. The one nearest to my home in Langenhorn has organised teams of volunteers for informal German lan-

guage training, women's handicrafts, children's sports, school homework supervision, bicycle maintenance and a food bank, organises flea markets from time to time, brings in experts on legal aid for refugees and matches volunteers with refugees who need to be accompanied to their many 'Behördentermine', to appointments at doctors' surgeries and for hospital admissions and when looking for on-the-job training with a prospective employer or an apartment to rent. More often than not, my initial contacts along these lines have developed from mentoring relationships into friendships – making the blessings promised in Mt. 25 become real for me even in the here and now.

Petra Osinski

Europe in Motion – What does it mean for Christians?

This was the title of a podium discussion held at the church on Tuesday, 2 May during 'Europa-woche' in Hamburg. The 'Abendgespräch' opened with the singing of Bishop Geoffrey Rowell's words written for STB's 400th anniversary service held in 2012 to the tune of Beethoven's Ode to Joy – used as the European anthem.

The discussion was moderated by Pastorin Christa Hunzinger from the

Nordkirche's 'Europareferat'. Contributions from the podium were made by Bischof Gothard Magaard (Bischof im Sprengel Schleswig und Holstein), Dr Ralf Tack (wissenschaftlicher Referent der Arbeitswelt), Sally Wandrey from STB and our own Revd Canon Dr Leslie Nathaniel. Each gave reflections on what the current state of European affairs meant to them, from the analytical to the personal. Dr Ralf Tack



introduced four controversial theses on economic aspects. Sally spoke about the social side of Europe, of what it means to be ‘English’ after Brexit, pointing out her own identity as ‘European’. Bishop Magaard spoke among other things about personal experiences of what we can learn from each other across borders, the history of the EU and what underpinned its formation.

Father Leslie’s focus was on what the Christian churches can contribute to building bridges between international communities and fostering cooperation as exemplified by the Porvoo and Meißen agreements. He contended that the Christian church must work together to argue the counter position to those who undermine the welcoming of strangers. Questions need to be asked as to why we are faced with a refugee and migrant crisis and, in this connection, whether we Christians can recognise the image of God and the wideness of God’s mercy

in our neighbour, in a stranger. Is the stranger also not sustained by the grace of God, which is our life-giving source? Is it perhaps through encounters with the stranger that we not only learn more of the distinctiveness of our own Christian faith but can be further strengthened to be confident and compassionate Christians in a pluralistic, challenging and changing world?

Aside from presenting his thoughts, Father Leslie deftly moved from podium to the choir loft to act as organist for the evening.

After the presentations from the podium, the audience was invited to ask questions and comment. There was a hesitant start, but discussions got going, were interesting and challenging and continued over wine and other refreshments.

The evening was appreciated by those who attended and the plan is to host a handful of such events each year.

Andrea Grantz

Watch out for new youth groups

Two new groups to cater for young people in our church get going this summer and autumn.

A **Youth Club** for the over-11s kicks off in June, with meetings alternating between a weekday evening and a Sunday. Details are still being worked out, but activity ideas include games, sporting events, social outreach, music and other events, shared meals and a regular discussion led by Father Leslie.

The group will be led initially by Madeleine Herring (madeleineherring(at)t-online.de) and Emma Richter (therichters(at)gmx.de). Please contact them or Father Leslie for further information. For dates of the first meetings, please see the Sunday service sheet or the church website.

Hamburg Anglican Children's Choir

This autumn sees the launch of a choir for children aged 8 to 16 who are interested in learning liturgical music repertoire from baroque to modern times and contributing to the worship at St Thomas Becket. The choir will take an active part in worship, singing with the Sunday choir and The Anglican Consort.

As an affiliate of the Royal School of Church Music there will also be

the opportunity to work through the Voice for Life training scheme, which provides resources for training in vocal skills, musical understanding and repertoire. The choir language will be English.

Children who join the choir will be expected to commit to a weekly Thursday rehearsal, monthly even-song, one Sunday morning service every three months and the Service of Nine Lessons and Carols in Advent.

There will be an open rehearsal and auditions on 21 September. Those interested in joining should contact Arwen Pearson and our Music Director Yotin Tiewtrakul for further information – music(at)anglican-church-hamburg.de.



Photo: Yotin Tiewtrakul

Quality time with Bishop David

The Anglican Church of St Thomas Becket, Hamburg was honoured to have 'quality time' with Bishop David over Easter. Arriving on Maundy Thursday, Bishop David took the evening service which included washing the feet of nearly all present – many, as he put it, who needed to overcome Western European cultural resistance to participating in this moving act, the undersigned being one. Theological debate followed the service, as reported on eurobishop.blogspot.de. On the Friday there was a very good turnout for the Good Friday service including veneration of the

cross, again with the majority of the congregation present participating. Then on Saturday a 'mother of all services' was held as 15 people were confirmed by Bishop David, including three individuals who had a conditional baptism thrown in for good measure. The service lasted over two hours, but there were no complaints as it had been spiritually uplifting with elements for all. A report follows from one of the confirmands. Then for Easter Day itself the church was packed to capacity to celebrate Christ's 'bursting from the tomb'.

Monica Schofield

Confirmation at Easter Vigil

Two weeks short of the 27th anniversary of my Lutheran confirmation, I was confirmed into the Church of England at the Englische Kirche St Thomas Becket in Hamburg, in the Diocese of Europe during the Easter Vigil service.

It was the first confirmation after almost three years, and there was a great request for it. This was the largest group of candidates since 1985! We were 15 candidates of all ages, the youngest being 10½. Father Leslie had conducted the confirmation class in two groups, a youth group and an adult group. The fun we had explor-

ing the Christian faith at a deeper level and the Church of England led to a very moving service.

The Suffragan Bishop, The Rt Revd Dr David Hamid, presided at the service, with our Chaplain, Revd Canon Dr Leslie Nathaniel and his wife, The Revd Julie Lipp-Nathaniel, assisting.

The service was packed, as there was a lot to celebrate:

- The Service of Light
- The Liturgy of the Word
- The Liturgy of Initiation
- The Confirmation of Candidates
- The First Eucharist of Easter

The service started with the Service of Light at the west end of the church, behind the pews and the font. Not only did the bishop and priests assemble there for the procession, but we candidates also gathered there. After the paschal candle was lit, we lit our own small candles from it, processing to the front and spreading the light to the parishioners in the pews as we walked. The first emotional highlight!

There was also a conditional baptism of three candidates, which Bishop David did with a lot of grace but also great enjoyment. Afterwards, each candidate was able to renew his or her baptismal vows at the font – a very moving moment as we stepped forward one by one to the font, dipped a hand into the water and made the sign of the cross on our foreheads. Our youngest candidate was given a special task afterwards: while processing back to the front, she gracefully and happily sprinkled the water left and right so that the congregation, too, was able to renew their baptismal vows.



The most moving moment was the confirmation itself. We each went up to the altar to kneel in front of Bishop David, who spoke movingly and personally to each of us, giving us our mission as new apostles in Christ. I could not help comparing it with my fading memories of my first confirmation, when we were confirmed by the pastor who had held the classes in groups of two or three.

After the confirmation, the service turned to the familiar pattern of the Eucharist, starting with the Greeting of Peace. I believe we all felt enthralled and as though moving on a cloud. My first Eucharist as an Anglican was special. I had already taken communion at St Thomas Becket for about two years, and yet something was different.

We were given the most beautiful confirmation candles after the service. They were lit from the paschal candle, and it was the last but not the least highlight of a very special evening.

Andrea Grantz

Convincing clarity and lightness

Clare Hammond at the Anglican Church of St Thomas Becket, 28 March 2017

It is always a pleasure to attend a concert in the English Church but never more so than when an artist of the standard of Clare Hammond is performing. With its intimate atmosphere and excellent acoustics, the church is particularly suited to piano recitals. This was clearly demonstrated by the first concert given here by Clare in 2012. It is to be hoped that Clare's performance this time leads on to further concerts in our area and that we have the chance to hear her again.

Her programme this time comprised some compositions which are not heard so often and she took us on a journey of exploration across the centuries from the 17th to the 21st. She started with a piece by a composer of whom nobody present is likely to have heard before! Élisabeth-Claude Jacquet de la Guerre was a French musician, harpsichordist and composer living between 1665 and 1729. She was well known in her time at the court of Louis XIV and a contemporary of Lully. In later years she was forgotten and only since the 1990s have her works been revived. Clare played the Suite No.

6 with a clarity and lightness which characterised her playing throughout the programme.

This was followed by Beethoven's Klaviersonate Nr. 4 which is one of the composer's longest but most neglected sonatas, thus following the evening's theme of less well-known compositions. This is a very difficult and demanding piece to play and comprehend but Clare treated us to a totally convincing performance.

The next piece was being given its first performance in Germany and only the second anywhere. Hamilton Harty was an Irish composer, conductor, pianist and organist. He was conductor of the Hallé Orchestra and returned it to its fame and acclaim enjoyed under its founder Charles Hallé.

In the spring of 1934, having severed his links with the Hallé Orchestra, Harty sailed for Australia for what was to prove a hugely successful concert tour. A fellow passenger on the ocean voyage was a young woman, Lorie Bolland, with whom Harty rapidly fell in love, though there is no evidence of reciprocity on her part. Harty dedicated two piano pieces to her: Spring Fancy, composed for her birthday on 23 April 1934, and Portrait, written at sea and dated 9 July 1934.



These pieces commemorate an episode in the composer's life which had remained private until their rediscovery among Bolland's papers in 2010. Clare gave their first performance in 2012 in Belfast and this was only their second performance and the first in Germany: a very fine performance of music which is well-worth listening to and a real treat.

The final piece before the break was Debussy's *L'Isle Joyeux*. Wonderful music and one of Debussy's most famous; encapsulated by the word 'joyful' in the title, it conjures up an impressionist mood. It was inspired by a painting of Watteau's. Again Clare convinced.

Following the interval came some pieces by Dutilleux. The piano suite *Au gré des ondes* (*Along the Waves*) is one of the earliest extant piano works by Henri Dutilleux. Comprising six short character pieces, the work was composed in 1946 as the result of commissions for short interludes used as continuity music on French radio. Throughout there are unmistakable echoes of Bach and also of Ravel, Milhaud, Poulenc and other contemporaries. It is delightful music.

Next followed *Mazurkas* by Thomas Adès, a very talented contemporary British composer and noted pianist. He has written a wide range of music from opera through to solo piano. This set of three *Mazurkas* was a commission work and first performed in 2010. It certainly awakened interest to learn more about Thomas Adès and his compositions.

Then followed two *Nocturnes* by Fauré, No. 8 written in 1902 and No. 11, a later work from 1913.

Finally came fireworks with Stravinsky's *Petruschka*, an arrangement in three movements for piano of his ballet for the pianist Artur Schnabel and completed in 1921.

It is renowned for its notorious technical and musical difficulties. All three movements include wild and rapid jumps which span over two octaves, complex polyrhythms,

extremely fast scales, multiple glissandos, and tremolos. Due to its difficulty, it is avoided by the majority of pianists. Needless to say that, as with the rest of her programme, Clare mastered this piece and impressed with her controlled power and intensity.

At the end we experienced a young musician who had completed a difficult programme culminating in a composition requiring tremendous energy and control but who showed no visible signs of exhaustion. She enjoyed the tumultuous applause from the highly appreciative audience.

As an encore Clare then completed the circle and returned us to the 17th century with Sonata K34 by Scarlatti. This was a perfect choice which brought us down to earth after the excitement of Stravinsky.

Thus ended an evening which will remain in the memory for a long time and make us want to hear more from Clare in Germany.

Finally many thanks to the sponsors, the Church and particularly Claus Budelmann and Nick Teller for making this concert possible and of course to Clare Hammond for treating us to an unforgettable evening. *Richard Sanderson*

Flea market with hymns

Well planned and organised, as always, by Lottie Lankenau, supported by her son Tobias Brown, the annual flea market on 6 May was scheduled to coincide with the Hamburg Port Birthday for the first time. Again we were able offer many donated things, from clothes and

children's toys to household goods and porcelain and, of course, books and movies. On Friday everything was set up and decorated. It was a great experience to see the joyful mood and willingness to work hand in hand for the community's benefit.

Though we did not have as many



Photo: Katja Clajus

visitors and buyers as hoped, it was a constant flow of coming and going, chatting (also about the church building and the community's history and presence, as many visitors entered just out of curiosity) and enjoying tea, coffee, home-made cakes and even Indian food, prepared and offered by Renu and her friend Renate.

Later in the afternoon, Father Leslie was in the mood to play the organ and we sang along to a couple of

hymns, sharing feelings of blessings and happiness. In the end, we made approx. €700, less than expected, but still an addition to our account. Cleaning up and getting the church back in shape for the Sunday service was a relatively quick business due to many helping hands. We experienced really wonderful teamwork and it was also a great opportunity to get to know one other better.

Katja Clajus

Remembering the end of WW2

On 8 May Father Leslie was invited as the representative of all Hamburg churches to attend and speak during the remembrance ceremony of the Volksbund Deutscher Kriegsgräberfürsorge Hamburg at the international graves at Ohlsdorf cemetery to commemorate the end of World War 2 in Europe. The area holds the graves of 3,800 people from over 30 nations who lost their lives during or shortly after the war.

After a wreath-laying ceremony, including wreaths from the Hamburg Senate and the German Defence Ministry, and a short welcoming speech by the chairwoman of the Hamburg branch of the Volksbund, Karen Koop, speeches were made by Dr Dorothee Stapelfeld (Senator for Urban Development



and Housing) and Father Leslie. Students from Bergedorf presented their school project about forced labourers in Bergedorf in 1945 in a very moving way. It was a dignified ceremony attended by about 70 people, including representatives from various consulates, religious groups and the German Armed Forces Staff College.

Norbert Schoen

Dr Stapelfeld and Fr Leslie (Photo: Katharina Junge, Bundeswehr)

Church Recorders: Can you shed light on church lights?

Whilst our research is ongoing and we have found a photographer who has been snapping the various items and areas of the church for photos that will accompany the final record, we need somebody to join the church recording team to investigate the history of the lights in the church.

Also, if anyone has any information or knowledge about when the lights in the church were installed and about the design, we would be grateful for any input. The team is still working its way through copious church records and papers and something might yet turn up, but if anyone in the church can help, please contact us.

Pat Pledger
BRIDFAS Church Recorders
040 821858
patpledger.bet(at)t-online.de



BRIDFAS of Hamburg e.V. is shortly to become The Arts Society Hamburg e.V. following worldwide rebranding of the organisation (NAD-FAS). Our new logo will look like this:



Photos: James Faulkner

Thanks for Sunday MAX

On a recent visit to the UK, I popped into a beautiful little church called St Nicholas in Bathampton, where Arthur Phillip, founder of Australia and first governor of New South Wales, is buried and there is an exhibition about him. I was reminded of course of our former chaplain, Father Matthew, who was from Australia and also thought of Junior Church because this church belongs to the Diocese of Bath and Wells, whose Sunday MAX material we use for teaching. Every week there are wonderful ideas and stories always based around the Sunday service readings. So I would like to say a big thank you to Jane Tibbs who produces Sunday MAX for the Diocese of Bath and Wellls. We are so happy to have this resource.

Thank you so much for inspiring us every week!

Recently the children made some gates of chocolate sticks, as it said in the reading Jesus is the gate, and we spoke about the life of the sheep and shepherds and how God is like a shepherd to us. One child decided to build a sheep pen to keep the sheep safe instead of a gate. Amazingly the children built their gates and could patiently wait to eat just some of the chocolates and shared them with some latecomers to our session, too. Here you can enjoy some pictures of the children's chocolate creations, St Nicholas Bathampton and a beautiful magnolia in their churchyard.

Wishing all *Becket News* readers a blessed and joyful summer!

Sally Wandrey



Photos: Sally Wandrey

Twenty years of wandering

This coming May the Wanderers can look back on 20 years of walks in and around Hamburg and further afield. We really enjoy being outdoors and getting some exercise in good company. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank all those whose presence helps to make our excursions such happy and sociable occasions and those who undertake to lead the walks with great enthusiasm.

The Woodpecker Walk

We met at Ohlstedt station for the first walk of the year on 25 February. It was a cold grey day but everyone was in good spirits and the photo of a splendid golden pagoda in Myanmar, whatsapped to us with good wishes from one of our numbers holidaying there, certainly made a cheerful contrast to our overcast North German surroundings. As we set off through Ohlstedt village on the 9 kilometres to Ahrensburg, we noticed there had been quite a lot of building here recently, and Ohlstedt now has a refugees' home on the Dorfstrasse.

After we had been under way for half an hour, one of us was summoned back to the city to deal with a professional emergency, reminding us yet again of the advantages of the mobile phone! We made our first stop on top of the wooded Schüberg – even 63 metres counts as a mountain here. However, the countryside may be a bit flat, but it is certainly not boring. Thereafter the path runs on through gently rolling fields and along the Bredenbek River to the Bredenbeker Teich, which is more of a lake than a pond. Man-made in the Middle Ages and fringed by sedge, this impressive stretch of water has a melancholy beauty at this bleak time of year.

In the woods round Ahrensburg we stopped for a hasty lunch and were entertained by a couple of very energetic woodpeckers tapping away above our heads. A few drops of rain began to fall at this stage, which encouraged us to keep up a brisk pace to Ahrensburg station where the next train back to central Hamburg arrived promptly and offered shelter from the heavy rain that shortly began to fall. There is a certain satisfaction in defying the weather, which is not half as bad as its reputation in this part of the world.

Photo: Anke Peters



The Crane Walk

March 11 found us starting out from Ohlstedt yet again. We had planned to walk to Poppenbüttel, but our walk leader, Anke Peters, suggested we make a round trip through Wohldorfer Wald and Duvenstedter Brook instead, a very good choice at this time of year for people looking eagerly for signs of spring. Two years ago, in April, we had been charmed by the cherry tree in bloom in the Ohlstedt schoolyard, but this year we were too early. Also too soon for the swathes of wood anemone for which this area is famous. However, a forest only just awakening from winter has a beauty of its own and the impression here is of unspoiled nature scarcely disturbed by the appreciative walkers, cyclists and riders we met from time to time.

Duvenstedter Brook is a very attractive nature reserve offering sanctuary for many birds and other wildlife. In the wooded areas we could hear the harsh trumpeting of the cranes and when we reached the more open, marshy parts we were rewarded by many a sighting of these majestic, elegant birds that come here to nest at this time. Our walking pace slowed considerably for some time as the keen photographers in our group stopped to take their pictures. Thanks to their zoom lenses, we were

able to admire close ups of the cranes with their silver grey plumage and startling blue eyes.

We covered a little over 11 km and were glad to sit down in an Ohlstedter café for a late tea before returning home. In deference to the Hamburg tradition, we sat outside although the temperature was not many degrees above zero.

Bats galore

On 8 April we were in Bad Segeberg. The first highlight was clambering up the Kalkberg which offers spectacular views at all levels. We looked down into the backstage area of the open-air theatre where Karl May's Wild West epics have been re-enacted every year since 1952, thrilling the hearts of young and old. Right at the summit (at a dizzying 91 metres) there is a splendid view of the town and the large Segeberger Lake. Once down from the mountain, we went past the Noctalis, Bad Segeberg's renowned bat museum. The town claims to be home to northern Europe's largest bat colony, which hibernates in the caverns beneath the Kalkberg.



Photo: Ralf Plenz

The walk round the lake is very attractive, offering as it does a variety of landscape, with wooded areas, farmland and some gentle hills. The restaurants in this part of Schleswig-Holstein are very hiker-friendly, offering their rest rooms as 'die nette Toilette'!

There was a lot of bird life, as is to be expected at this time of year – the woodpeckers were again very active as on the March walk. We enjoyed a congenial lunch overlooking the lake and were almost sorry to get back to 'civilisation' on completing our circuit. Since Bad Segeberg is a spa specialising in the treatment of cardiac diseases, it has an enormous amount of nice cafés where people in need of a little cheer can enjoy the obligatory coffee and cake. Having completed our nine and a half kilometres, we felt entitled to follow their example before returning home.

Nicki Schiller

Ten Wanderers, who ignored the gloomy forecast of thunderstorms and showers on Saturday 13 May, were rewarded instead with perfect walking weather. Route planning too was a no-brainer. From Timmendorfer Strand, with the Baltic Sea on our left, it was impossible to lose the way to Travemünde. We stopped at the tiny fishing port of Niendorf for



Matjesbrötchen, continued over the Brodtener cliffs to the Travemünde Promenade and ended our stroll with coffee and cakes outdoors overlooking the Lübecker Bucht. For future planning, however, I would never again lead a group with a large female contingent through a shopping street on a Saturday afternoon.

Six nationalities were represented: English, German, Ghanaian, Liberian, South African and Welsh, with conversations ranging from 19th century Wales, the value of dress jewellery, to current topics that end all conversations: Trump, Brexit, Corbyn, May, Schulz, Merkel.

One wanderer used a Health Monitor App, which recorded a total of 22,798 paces. Whilst not calculating exactly, after 11.9 km we felt this was at least the energy equivalent of several fish rolls and cheesecakes, and returned on the train to Hamburg in a state of pleasant chillaxation.

Stuart Cooke

Last word – captions please

Father Leslie has clearly taken to heart our mission to be “a welcoming, active and inclusive church, growing in our relationship with God and the wider community”, as the photos below show. The first, bonding with British Honorary Consul Nick Teller, is from the Clare Hammond concert, the second was taken on a visit to Hamburg’s cricket club, THCC Rot-Gelb (formerly the Alster Cricket Club). Your *Becket News* editor invites readers to submit witty and tasteful captions. The best (printable) submissions will appear in our next edition.

Photo: Andreas Weise



Photo: Monica Schofield

STUTTGARTER

HYMNUS



CHORKNABEN



Dienstag, 6.6.2017, 19 Uhr

St Thomas Becket Anglican Church

Englisch-bischöfliche Gemeinde

"A welcoming, active and inclusive church, growing in our relationship with God and the wider community."

Chormusik aus fünf Jahrhunderten

A-cappella-Musik von von Heinrich Schütz,
Orlando di Lasso, Johannes Brahms u.a.

GETRAGEN UND BEFÖRDERT VON



STUTTGART



DIOCESE IN EUROPE
PROVINZ
WÜRTTEMBERG



Eintritt frei

Spende erbeten

Forthcoming services and events

We meet every Sunday at 10:30 for a service of Holy Communion followed by refreshments – all welcome

For more events, please see our website:

www.anglican-church-hamburg.de

June

- | | | | |
|-------|--|----|--------------------------------------|
| 4 | 10:30 – Whit Sunday | 16 | 18:00 – Summer Concert (tbc) |
| 6 | 19:00 – Concert: Stuttgarter Hymnus Chorknaben | 23 | 10:30 – Sixth Sunday after Trinity |
| 10 | Church Wanderers walk | 30 | 10:30 – Seventh Sunday after Trinity |
| 11 | 10:30 – Trinity Sunday | | |
| 9–11, | ProPiano: all the | | |
| 23–25 | Beethoven sonatas | | |
| 18 | 10:30 – First Sunday after Trinity | | |
| 25 | 10:30 – Second Sunday after Trinity | | |
| 30 | 18:00 – Choral Evensong | | |

July

- 2 10:30 – Third Sunday after Trinity
- 7 18:00 – Choral Evensong (St Thomas Becket, Martyr, 1170)
- 9 10:30 – Fourth Sunday after Trinity: Family Service with Holy Communion
- 15 18:30 – Recital by Meili Li, countertenor
- 16 10:30 – Fifth Sunday after Trinity

August

- 4–6 British Flair, Hamburger Polo Club
- 6 10:30 – Eighth Sunday after Trinity
- 13 10:30 – Ninth Sunday after Trinity
- 20 10:30 – Tenth Sunday after Trinity
- 27 10:30 – Eleventh Sunday after Trinity

September

- 16 **Nacht der Kirchen**
19:00 – Choral Evensong
20:00 – Concert Night with Judy Bailey (tbc)

October

- 23–26 Pilgrimage to Rome

November

- 12 Remembrance Sunday
- 18 10:00–16:00 – **Bazaar**

Who's Who at our Church

Chaplain

Revd Canon Dr Leslie Nathaniel
PTO: Revd Julie Lipp-Nathaniel
PTO: Revd Erika G. Anders

Telephone

(040) 439 2334
(040) 284 937 22 Fax.

E-Mail

anglicanchaplain.hh(at)gmx.de

Church Council

David Hercus, Churchwarden	0173 887 3616	davidjhercus(at)hotmail.com
Susanne Hergoss, Churchwarden	0176 215 235 16	S.Hergoss(at)gmx.net
Peter Alexander, Minute Secretary	(040) 475 015	alex475015(at)aol.com
Norbert Schoen, Vice-Chair	(040) 298 342 63	norbertwschoen(at)web.de
Jo Dawes, Webmaster & Becket News	(04862) 201 6870	dawes(at)dawescom.de
James Fischer	(040) 800 20 369	jandmfischer(at)sbcglobal.net
Daniel Loarte	0176 726 033 20	daniel.loarte(at)gmail.com
Dorothee Möller	0179 764 1132	dorothee.moeller(at)gmail.com
Samuel Quaye	(040) 314 947	-
Emmanuel Saarkodie	(040) 641 2157	-
Monica Schofield, Treasury Liaison	(040) 530 528 89	web(at)stbecket.de

Council of Anglican and Episcopal Churches in Germany—Delegates

Susanne Hergoss	0176 215 235 16	S.Hergoss(at)gmx.net
Kelvin Asante	0178 426 7522	kelvinasante.ka69.ka(at)gmail.com
Andrea Grantz	0176 419 462 35	andrea_grantz(at)web.de

Other Ministries

Organist	Jochim Trede	(040) 713 5448	jochim.trede(at)t-online.de
Choir Director	Yotin Tiewtrakul	0176 723 648 65	yotin.tiewtrakul(at)gmail.com
Treasurer/Schatzmeister	Heiner Quast	0170 121 2046	treasurerstb(at)web.de
Fabric Cttee Chair	Fr Leslie	see above	see above
Fabric Cttee Vice-Chair	Gert van der Jagt	0176 477 381 78	gertvdjagt(at)gmail.com
Electoral Roll Officer	Norbert Schoen	(040) 298 342 63	norbertwschoen(at)web.de
ER Assistant	Emmanuel Saarkodie	(040) 641 2157	-
FWO Giving Envelopes	Emmanuel Saarkodie	(040) 641 2157	-
Intercessions	Peter Alexander	(040) 475 015	alex475015(at)aol.com
The Sacristan	Paul Fletcher	(040) 784 630	-
Refreshment Rota	Emmanuel Saarkodie	(040) 641 2157	-
Safeguarding Officer	Norbert Schoen	(040) 298 342 63	nobertwschoen(at)web.de
Junior Church	Sally Wandrey	(040) 209 828 66	sallygisele(at)hotmail.com
Ladies' Christian Fellowship	Renu Roy	(04103) 165 84	renujroy(at)gmail.com
Mothers' Union	Renu Roy	(04103) 165 84	renujroy(at)gmail.com
Church Wanderers	Nicki Schiller	(04104) 699 9266	nicki.schiller(at)gmx.de
Greeting Cards	Judith Holst	(040) 880 0727	peter_judith_holst(at)t-online.de

Website: www.anglican-church-hamburg.de

Please e-mail contributions to: [webmaster\(at\)anglican-church-hamburg.de](mailto:webmaster(at)anglican-church-hamburg.de)