

# Becket News

We are an English-speaking church in Hamburg consisting of people of many nations and Christian traditions. We worship in the Anglican style and our church is part of the Diocese in Europe, which belongs to the Church of England. Our parish has existed since 1612 and the present church building since 1838. People of all nationalities and denominations are welcome to our services and other activities

April - June 2012 Issue 50

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#### From the Chaplain



Our 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary year with has started great excitement. We have already been able to experience some truly wonderful music and there is lots more planned. Our Thanksgiving Service was

a great occasion and it was so good to be able to have Bishop Geoffrey here for the whole weekend. He really enjoyed his time back in Hamburg.

On the Feast of St Matthias, 24<sup>th</sup> February, I was delighted to be able to represent the parish as a guest at the Matthiae-Mahl in the Rathaus. This meal has been held since 1356 and is a magnificent occasion. I felt honoured to be invited and was pleased to be able to represent St Thomas Becket Anglican Church in this, our 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary year. It was also significant for me because I was ordained as a Priest in 1995 on the Feast of St Matthias, so this made it an extra special occasion.

# *Matthiae-Mahlzeiten* 1356-2012

As far back as 1356 chroniclers have recorded the annual Convivial feast of the Honourable Council. At the start of the fiscal year, shortly after the new Council members had been welcomed, which usually took place around St Matthias' Day in February, a date for the feast was set, "if there be time". The Senate, representatives of friendly powers, burghers and those holding high public office — in early days about 40 people — proceeded to the banqueting table which was laid with the Council silver and decorated with flowers. The marshal gave orders to

"set a knife out for each foreign minister dining at the Council's table", a knife being a sign of utmost sophistication. The feast itself featured a gilded swan from the Alster lake as the centerpiece and an array of delicacies; trout, roasted capons, venison fillets, veal quarters and almond milk, washed down with ample servings of beer and wine.

The Council's musicians provided the acoustic accompaniment to the delights of the table and during the Baroque era the Council even commissioned a special piece of festive music from the Cantor and composer Georg Philipp Telemann,

"to delight the heart with song and merriment for the Gods who rule in Hamburg laugh too"

Text of the Banquet Music 1711

There were approximately 400 people at the dinner and the Chamber Orchestra of the Academy for Music and Theatre Hamburg provided the music.

There were three speakers: First Mayor Olaf Scholz, President of the Senate of the Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg; Jürgen Fitschen, Member of the Management Board Deutsche Bank and H.E. José Manuel President Barroso, of the European Commission. The speeches were very much focused on the global economic situation and, in particular, Greece. I was provided with headsets and there was a simultaneous translation for those of us who were not German speaking. Mr Barroso spoke in English. I was able to meet some very interesting people and felt honoured to be there on behalf of our parish.

As we now prepare for Holy week and

Easter, we are invited to journey with Jesus in his last days on earth. He celebrated the Passover meal with his friends and this became the 'last supper' that he would share with his friends before his death. This we celebrate on Maundy Thursday evening at 7.30pm as we remember that this meal became for us our Holy Communion which has now been celebrated for thousands of years in almost every spoken language on earth.

After the meal. Jesus invited some of his disciples to accompany him into the Garden of Gethsemane. He wanted to pray and he asked them to 'stay awake and pray for just one hour'. On Maundy Thursday night, right through the night into Good Friday morning, we are invited to pray with Jesus in the garden. There will be a garden altar set up in the church and everyone is invited to come and pray for one hour through the night. I hope that many will take up this invitation to be close to Jesus in his last hours. To think that he knew he was going to die and chose to let it happen is amazing. He had all the power of God but didn't use it. The time in the garden lets us focus on this wonderful gift that Jesus has given to all who choose to believe.

On Good Friday we will have the opportunity to reflect on the Cross. This will be done with silence, music and words. Good Friday is a solemn occasion and we will be able to feel the death of Jesus in our service. It is a time when we are acutely aware of the grief that was felt by Mary and John and all the others who were gathered at the Crucifixion.

On Holy Saturday we will spend time together getting the church building ready for our Easter Day celebrations. These working bees are great fun so please come along if you can. On Easter Day we will celebrate with lots of colour and great music

the mighty Resurrection of Jesus. This will be a great day to 'extend a welcome' to many people who might only come to STB occasionally.

May I also take this opportunity to say thank you to everyone who has made my transition to Hamburg so smooth. I am absolutely loving it here and feel truly blessed to be called by God into such a happy and welcoming community. I pray that everyone may experience the true blessings of the Easter journey and I look forward to all that God has in store for us as we continue our 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations.

Every blessing for a Happy Easter

The Reverend Matthew Jones Chaplain.

The sun was warm but the wind was chill.
You know how it is with an April day
When the sun is out and the wind is still,
You're one month on in the middle of May.
But if you so much as dare to speak,
A cloud comes over the sunlight arch,
A wind comes off a frozen peak,
And you're two months back in the middle
of March.

Robert Frost 1874-1963



# News from your Church Council and Churchwardens

The past three months have been an exhausting but exhilarating whirl into our 400th anniversary year. As many of the council members are also in the STB400 project group, much of our efforts and time in the past quarter were taken up with the planning of our Thanksgiving celebration on 18 February. Under the expert guidance of Monica Schofield and her professional help (Jo Dawes Communication and Heiner Schäfer's Design on Location) invitations, flyers and handbills were written, proofread and published. Invitation lists were drawn up by Birte Fischer and, in a group effort, about 300 invitations were addressed, stamped and sent out on schedule. Then the writing of the order of service and program booklet were due, followed by catering plans, music selection and many other tasks and details for the big celebration. We were especially gratified to greet so many of our former parishioners on 18 February, as well as members of the Merchant Adventurers, our former locums Paul Rose and John Knott, Bishop Fehrs, our former chaplains John Newsome and Roger White, other Hamburg clergy and of course our own Bishop Geoffrey. We have many pictures and memories and an excellent coverage in the press. We hope to keep up the momentum and continue to ride the wave of good publicity in our efforts to increase our membership and reach out to English-speaking community the Hamburg.

Father Matthew's office in the vestry is now operational. Most of the bugs have been chased out of the Telekom/Canon connection, and the chaplain's new laptop and modern software is a big improvement over the old computer. Now that the weather is slowly getting warmer, the vestry

will be a more comfortable place for talks and meetings.

Work and planning continue on other events. Karen Bergquist-Lüth and other council members are involved in the concert series, the evensong program and other special events for 2012. It is not too early to start thinking about the Kirchentag in 2013, which will take place in Hamburg. We will most certainly be involved! And the HafenCity ecumenical project is also an area in which we are involved.

Watch for restoration work to be done to our church building soon. Repairs to the floor tiles, the wooden pews and to water pipes in the vestry are planned for the near future, so pardon our dust! We hope our services will continue with a minimum of discomfort.

Now we are also planning our Annual General Meeting for 22 April. This will give the congregation an opportunity to learn more about the work of the council and other groups in our church and to elect the churchwardens and council for 2012/2013. We hope to see you there!

Other events to look forward to in the coming months:

24 March: Hamburg räumt auf07 April: Church spring cleaning22 April: Annual General Meeting

24 May: Celebration of the Queen's

Diamond Jubilee

As always, we are grateful for your ideas, suggestions and on-going help. Let us continue to enjoy our 400th anniversary year!

Deborah Ockert (Churchwarden)

#### Extending a welcome 400 years on



Violinist Daniel Hope and Bishop Geoffrey topped the bill at the weekend for a joyful celebration of 400 years of Anglican worship in Hamburg.

February 18<sup>th</sup> saw the church packed for a service of thanksgiving led by Bishop Geoffrey and the Chaplain, Matthew Jones. Among the many clergy there were the Lutheran Bishop of Hamburg and Lübeck, Kersten Fehrs, and the Roman Catholic Suffragan Bishop of Hamburg, Hans-Jochen Jaschke. Also present were representatives of the City of Hamburg and a delegation from the Company of Merchant Adventurers of York

It was the Merchant Adventurers who formed the first congregation in 1612 after the Hamburg Senate granted them freedom to worship in English according to the rites of the Church of England. Even taking into account the commercial advantage to the city, it was a remarkable concession in strictly Lutheran post-Reformation Hamburg.

The evening before the service, Daniel Hope teamed up with pianist Sebastian Knauer and the conductor and pianist Jeffrey Tate for a concert in the church at the invitation of the British Honorary Consul Claus-G Budelmann to raise money to pay for much-needed repairs to the early 19th century building.

This was a highly successful start to a yearlong programme of concerts, events and services at St Thomas Becket entitled "Extending a welcome".

Our grateful thanks go out to all who have put so much effort to date to ensure our 400 year celebrations are a memorable success.

Jo Dawes

# Greetings from the Merchant Adventurers' Hall in Fossgate, York!

On behalf of David Rayner, Fred Brown and Richard Wheeway, I send hearty thanks to St Thomas Becket for a warm and friendly welcome to your initial celebrations of the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the church by Merchant Adventurers.



We each thoroughly enjoyed our stay and felt it had been a most worthwhile journey establishing a contemporary connection with the life of our predecessors in Hamburg. We are most grateful for your invitation and hope that in due course there will be a visit in the other direction.

The concert and reception on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February were a delight; some lovely music and then a boisterous reception at which we had the chance to meet many Church members. We were also pleased to play a small part in the Service of Celebration on the Saturday. One lasting memory for me was hearing Bishop Geoffrey preaching on the York Merchant Adventurers' prayer, a prayer we use for all our formal gatherings.

Currently I am drafting the text and selecting photographs for our Annual Report 2011/12. Our Hamburg visit will be a feature!

To see something of the Hall go to http://www.theyorkcompany.co.uk

# Memories from the Gala Benefit Concert and Service of Thanksgiving







Jeffrey Tate

Daniel Hope



Revd Matthew Jones Simon McDonald







Claus-G Budelmann & Simon McDonald











# The 400th Anniversary of the Anglican Church in Hamburg

It was with great joy that we returned to Germany in February to join in the special week-end celebrating 400 years of the Anglican Church in Hamburg. St Thomas Becket Church, having been our 'spiritual' home for some 14 years until we retired back to England in 2008, had played a very special part in our lives, and so naturally we wanted to be a part of the momentous anniversary celebrations.



We were also happy to be able to meet up with old friends and also others who had returned to Hamburg for this special occasion which added to the poignancy of the weekend. The most enjoyable concert by the fine professional musicians got the week-end off to a tremendous start and the Service of Thanksgiving led by the Bishop of Europe, complete with the symbols of thanksgiving from the various church groups, proved to be both uplifting and a fitting tribute to 400 years of Anglican worship.

At the end of our visit, we departed from Hamburg with the fond memories of both the concert and the Thanksgiving Service and will remember how glorious the church looked filled to capacity with the large congregation. We hope and pray that the Church of St Thomas Becket will continue to thrive in the years ahead serving both the expatriate and local community.



We are sure that had the original founders, the Merchant Adventurers, been able to witness the anniversary celebrations they would have been very proud that the Anglican services in the English language that they started in Hamburg, all those years ago, still continue today.

Corinne and Martin Greenwood



## What happened at St Paul's?

"Occupy London" is a protest movement against what many people see as an unjust situation caused economic by faulty corporate government and banking practices. In October 2011, protesters set up camp in central London outside St Paul's Cathedral. When the protest began, the Anglican canon of St. Paul's, Revd Dr Giles Fraser, said he was happy for people to "exercise their right to protest peacefully" outside the cathedral. However, the protest grew by day until a large cluster of tents, makeshift kitchens and temporary toilets surrounded the cathedral. On 21 October, the Dean of St Paul's announced that the cathedral would close until further notice as a result of the Occupy London camp pitched outside, and asked the protesters to leave the vicinity of the building "so that the cathedral can reopen as soon as possible". A few days later, the Dean of St Paul's announced the cathedral would reopen, and the Anglican Church saw itself in an embarrassing position. In the meantime, the Anglican Canon Revd Dr Giles Fraser, the Chaplain Fraser Dyer of St Paul's as well as the Dean of St Paul's, Rt Revd Graeme Knowles have all resigned after disputes on how to handle the protest movement on their doorstep.

There is an interesting commentary on these happenings by George Carey, a former Archbishop of Canterbury: "My paramount concern throughout has been that the reputation of Christianity is being damaged by the episode and, more widely, that the possibility of fruitful and peaceful protest has been brought into disrepute. ...But surely the protesters and the Church were, by one measure, on the same side? How could Occupy be unaware of the immense contribution of all the churches to justice and peace through international development and social services? The St Paul's Institute

alone has been addressing precisely the issues Occupy is raising."

Finally, on 28 February, the protest ended. The police persuaded the protesters to fold their tents, pack up their bags and leave, four months after the occupation started.



**Deborah Ockert** 

Read more at: http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/religion/8853098/The-Occupy-protest-at-St-Pauls-Cathedral-a-parable-of-ourtimes.html

# The Year's Awakening

How do you know that the pilgrim track Along the pelting zodiac Swept by the sun in his sweeping rounds Is traced by now to the Fishes' bounds And into the Ram, when weeks of cloud Have wrapt the sky in a clammy shroud, And never as yet a tinct of spring Has shown in the Earth's apparelling; O vespering bird, how do you know, How do you know? How do you know, deep underground, Hid in your bed from sight and sound, Without a turn in temperature, With weather life can scarce endure, That light has won a fraction's strength, And day put on some moment's length, Whereof in merest rote will come, Weeks hence, mild airs that do not numb; O crocus root, how do you know, How do you know?

Thomas Hardy

# The Sistine Madonna: Raphael's Iconic Painting turns 500.



Our lovely altar painting at St Thomas Becket is a copy of Raphael's Sistine Madonna, a painting now on view at the Gemäldegalerie Alte Meister in Dresden. The painting was commissioned by monks at the Monastery of San Sisto (Saint Sixtus) in Piacenza, Italy, and was completed about 1512. The original painting includes Saint Sixtus, thus the work became known as the "Sixtinische Madonna". For years the Madonna lingered in seclusion at the monastery, but in 1754, Augustus III of Poland purchased the painting and moved it to his place of residence in Dresden, where the picture was widely admired. The masterpiece has had considerable influence on German romantic art and modern culture, so it is fitting that the museum in Dresden is celebrating with a special exhibition from 26 May to 26 August this year.

(Thankyou Ewa Heaton & Deborah Ockert for ideas and input for this article)

#### The Queen's Diamond Jubilee

Queen Elizabeth II. the British constitutional monarch of the Commonwealth realms, is also the Supreme Governor of the Church of England. Thus it is no surprise that Christians in Anglican churches also are joining in the celebration of 60 years of The Queen's reign, the Diamond Jubilee, which is taking place throughout 2012. Although many of the events will take place in June, there will be festivities throughout the year, and the Church of England has already prepared special Bible readings, prayers and services. Our Bishop Geoffrey has prepared a letter of congratulations to The Queen for all of us to sign, so please make sure to add your greetings to the sheet. At our St Thomas Becket Church, there will be a celebration lecture and light supper on Thursday, 24 May, at 7p.m., so be prepared to come and enjoy!



Visit the Diamond Jubilee website at: http://www.thediamondjubilee.org/

# **Christian Giving 2012**



This year we celebrate 400 years of the Anglican Church in Hamburg. While we are in the midst of enjoying the whirlwind of concerts, services and press attention, let us pause to consider: how much longer can our St Thomas Becket Church survive? What do **you** give to your church? Can you give more?

All of us at St Thomas Becket would like to see our church thrive. Not only do we have a beautiful building and a wonderful chaplain to support, but we must also care for the needs of our congregation, for ecumenical work in Hamburg and for the spread of the Good Word. This all takes money. Your money. There is no other source of funds except you. If you have joined our church and are on the electoral roll, you have already made a commitment to support our church.

As in the year 1612 and all the years up to the present, the church depends on the donations of its congregation, as St Thomas Becket has no other source of income, receives no church tax, and does not receive any funds from the Diocese. How much to give? The German state churches levy a tax amounting to 9% of a person's income tax, for example, a single person earning about 2000 € a month would pay about 20 EUR a month Kirchensteuer. Our Diocesan Handbook suggests member of the congregation give as a standard 5% of net income (income after taxes) to the church, which would mean a

single person with a net income of 1500 € a month would donate 75 € a month to the church. How much do you give? You can:

• Give by bank transfer (Überweisung) or standing order (Dauerauftrag) to:

The English Church, Konto Nr. 1280 146422, BLZ 200 505 50, Hamburger Sparkasse

- Use numbered Freewill Offering envelopes and place these in the collection bags.
- Donate as a one-off payment to our 4 0 0 th Anniversary Fund: The English Church, Konto Nr. 1280 383678, BLZ 200 505 50, Hamburger Sparkasse

All donations are tax-deductible and you will receive a confidential statement from the treasurer. For more information, please ask any of the church council members, or take a Christian Giving flyer home with you.

Thank you for your support in the past! Please continue to give generously. We count on you.

Your churchwardens and council

God, raise the level of giving in our churches so that we may share abundantly in every good work.

2 Cor. 9:8

## Our Church in the press



As a result of the very energetic promotion of St Thomas Becket Anglican Church by Jo Dawes and the STB400 team as part of our 400<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, we have been receiving considerable publicity in the press! Here are a few highlights:

Hamburg Guide, January 2012 Hamburger Abendblatt, January 2012 Die Welt, February 2012 Hamburger Abendblatt, February 2012

Television: Hamburg Journal and SAT.1, 18

February 2012

Radio: NDR, Deutschlandradio, 08 February

2012 and 12 February 2012

D Ockert

# Blickpunkt: Diesseits Autor/in: Breitmeier, Florian | Sendedatum: 12.02.2012 07:05 Uhr Startseite > Podoasts > Verzeichnis > dradio.de - Länderreport > 400 Jahre anglikanische Kirche in Hamburg dradio.de - Länderreport 4) Audio 400 Jahre anglikanische Kirche in Hamburg Ads by Google Für alle Telekom-Kunden Musik aus 6 Mio Songs und 200.000... Alben wählen und sofort downloaden! music.telek dradio.de

# . cnurch Hamburg

# where foreign worlds meet

The Anglican "Church of St. Thomas Becket" in Hamburg is celebrating its 400 year jubilee with a whole series of concerts throughout 2012. Under the motto, "Where Foreign Worlds Meet: The Expatriate Experience", first class ensembles will "cate their performances to themes such as how foreign worlds and differer"

`identities touch and affect each other. In

music from the time when



St. Thomas à Becket

Der Hamburger Pianist Sebastian
Knauer brachte es auf den Punkt:
"Niemand schafft es in so kurzer Zeit,
so viele Menschen zu bewegen. Wenn
er anruft, gibt es kein langes Zögern.
Alle kommen:" Claus-G. Budelmann
"ar gemeint, Britischer Honorarkonsul
'amburg und Spiritus Rector des
'izkonzerts in The English
h St. Thomas à Becket, die hier



Der Pianist Sebastian Knauer, Claus-G delmann, Simon McDonald, Britische schafter Berlin, und der Geiger Dani



nderen Hang zum Anglophilen
n, ist bekannt. Dass hier jedoch die
wohl erste anglikanische Kirche auf euAand gegründet wurde,
eitgehend unbekan t
die Meunt Adver
eicher T

"Wir sind heute eine in.
Kirche", sagt Kaplan Jones, der
September aus dem australischen ipwich nach Hambur,
noch ein Drittel der 12
degliede en Englän
komme
taus
Länder

## Looking our birthday party best!

When it's your birthday, you want to look your best! We have not had the resources to put a lick of paint on the outside of the church building, or fix some of the loose tiles inside, but we have, I think everyone will agree, managed to look just great with our special STB400 promotional material.

Responsible for the beautiful design of the website, numerous flyers, posters and programme is Heiner Schäfer, who runs with his partner Ute Springler, Design on www.designonlocation.de. Location: see donated Heiner the very first 'Announcing a birthday' way back in December 2010, and this professional good looking design has been instrumental in impressing sponsors to come forward: a small start that then has helped bigger things to happen. The STB400 project is covering all expenses without using money from normal church funds.

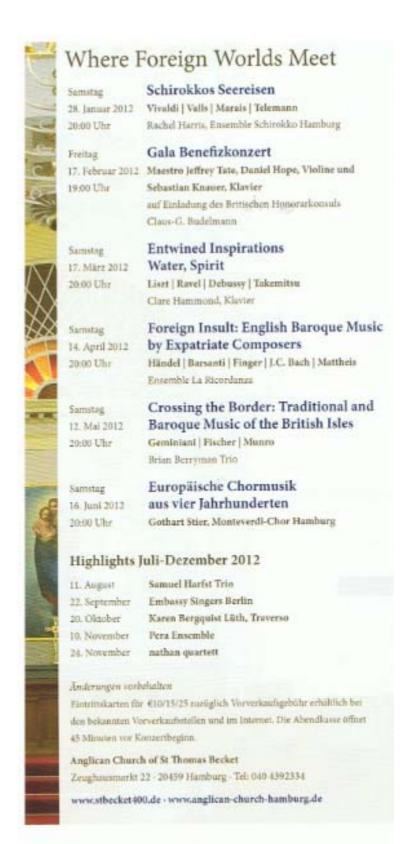
The high profile media coverage is thanks to Jo Dawes. Jo was previously press officer at the British Consul and now runs her own communications company. With her extensive network of media contacts, Jo has succeeded in getting STB400 onto the likes of NDR, SAT 1 as well as numerous articles in the print media. One of the key goals of the STB400 project was to improve the visibility of the church in Hamburg, and we have certainly achieved that.

Your STB400 Coordinator would like to extend a very big thank you to both Heiner and Jo for their whole hearted engagement with this project and helping us to make it a great success.

Please do visit the STB400 website www.stbecket400.de where there is a repository of media coverage and videos of

the events. And please do take the concert flyers and programmes to give to friends. They are there to be distributed – we still have nine months of fantastic events to go!

MS



# The Council of Anglican Episcopal Churches in Germany (CAECG)

Report on the March 2012 Meeting

The Council of Anglican Episcopal Church's in Germany meets twice a year in different cities in Germany, mostly its purpose is to evaluate/debate/discuss, etc.

The last meeting was held from Friday 9<sup>th</sup> to Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> March, hosted by Christ the King Church in Frankfurt.

Amongst other things on the Agenda, there is always Diocesan and Archdeaconry news/reports: news from the represented parishes here in Germany and news from the Old Catholic, ACK/Ecumenical churches. The "Kirchentag" Church day was mentioned, which Hamburg is hosting in May 2013.

We were privileged to have had 2 speakers; the Rev. Paul Needle, on the topic "Communication and Parish Website" and our own Monica Schofield, who was just fantastic!!! She spoke on Church's Websites (how it should be presented, the Do's and Don't, etc). All examples were based on STB's website. It was a great success I would say, which of course, lifted "Our St Thomas Becket" and our 400<sup>th</sup> year celebrations. We were so very proud about that.

It was once again an experience graced with spicy Indian and typical German delicious dishes, good interaction and the very warm reception. (The food was provided by some members of the parish). Birte and I were honoured to be guests of Rev. Carola von Wrangel in the church rectory.

Harriett Sasse

# A few helpful points noted during the lectures:

E-mail is quick, informal and convenient. But in a very diverse community it easily causes misunderstanding and irritation, if it is not used with care. These guidelines are intended to help us use e-mail so that it builds up our common life:

- Be Gentle. Don't forget the value of face-to-face and telephone communication. If you have a problem, speak to the relevant person directly. Email is not always appropriate and can cause confusion or give wrong emotional messages.
- Be Kind. Remember that your tone of voice can't be heard in an e-mail. Avoid harsh and abrupt words. Think 'how would I feel if I received this?'
- Be Faithful with personal information.
  Remember that e-mail is not private. Do
  not put anything in e-mail that you would
  not put on a postcard. E-mail can be
  easily forwarded so unintended
  audiences may read what you have
  written. Be trustworthy with personal
  data.
- Be Patient. If you receive a puzzling or annoying e-mail, phone or speak to the person rather than reply with an angry email response. Do not let misunderstandings multiply.
- Be Self-Controlled in your use of e-mail. Most people are flooded with information. This can be stressful. People are generally less sympathetic to e-mail than to personal contact. Think carefully about whether your recipient really needs and wants the e-mail before you send it.

#### **Church Wanderers**

2012 began very well with a record number of us - 16! - setting out from Volksdorf to Poppenbüttel via the " Alte Mühle " in Bergstedt, where we had reserved a table for our New Year's lunch. ( This replaced our usual Advent celebration which had to be cancelled on account of the numerous competing events in December ).



On this occasion we welcomed a newcomer, Anke Peters, a keen walker, who has joined us again on the following two walks and who is full of ideas for new routes!

Numbers have been fewer in February and March, but " small is beautiful " and those who have participated have enjoyed each other's company and the opportunity to get out for some exercise in the fresh air.

Having said that, I must admit that in February we could actually have done with a little less of the brisk westerly wind we had to battle against on our way from Altona to Blankenese. The plan had been to picnic at the Teufelsbrück, but we had hardly taken more than two bites of our sandwiches than we were forced to move off and continue walking to keep warm. On arrival in Blankenese the climb up the steps in the Treppenviertel soon helped to warm

us up and cups of tea or coffee at Schloss Hollingsworth completed the process.

In March we repeated a walk we have done twice in the past, namely that from Ohlstedt to Ahrensburg West.

It was good to see an old friend, Johannes Heutmann. а former church council treasurer, waiting for us at Ohlstedt station. Although the morning had started cloudy, by the time we had climbed up to the top of the Schübarg, the sun had come out - perfect for our coffee break. The views over the countryside we approached the as Bredenbeker Teich were so lovely that Johannes was quoting poetry and Tina breaking into song! It was a day to make one feel good to be alive - but for all that my calf muscles were quite glad that we could relax for an hour or so over Kaffee und Kuchen in a pleasant café before catching the train back home. Correction! - for Johannes and myself it was the end of the walk, but Anke and Tina continued across the moor.

#### Forthcoming walks

- 14 April Arboretum Ellerhoop
- 12 May Altes Land a new route!
- 9 June Tesperhude to Lauenburg

Details of each walk will be circulated and published on the website nearer the date.

Cicely Hollingsworth



# "Let all rejoice who have a voice to raise!"

One speciality of the Anglican tradition is that we put our way of celebrating the liturgy first. When someone asks "What is Anglican?" there are not many opinions and doctrines which distinguishes us much from other Christian traditions. I feel the best thing to explain this is to bring the person asking about Anglican tradition to the church: The experience of how we pray and celebrate Holy Communion together should give them an idea what Anglicanism is all about.

An important part of the liturgy is our singing. Of course we have a choir, but it is everybody's privilege to give voice to the psalm, prayers and to sing the hymns of our heritage and all are also invited to explore new songs which express our faith in a fresh way. It would also be wonderful if our hymns and songs reflect our international and multicultural parish.

As choir director at St Thomas Becket, Hamburg, I warmly invite all of you and all the friends of our community to embrace the following challenges:

- Join the singing of the hymns, songs and liturgical pieces,
- Tell us your ideas what we could sing and what you would like to sing.

The voice of each person is unique. Often it reveals the most intimate feelings of a person. Singing makes you vulnerable. Don't be shy! Without your voice something would be missing. Try to find your own voice and trust that something beautiful can happen as we listen to each other while we sing. (I'm not sure but I guess singing is 80% about listening and 20% actually singing.)



You can tell us what you would like to sing. Either talk to me (04104/9706-15 or yotin.tiewtrakul@googlemail.com) or any member of the choir. We have a hymn selection group which meets about once in every two months. At those meetings we try to plan what to sing in the forthcoming Sundays. Our next meeting is 24th April at 8 p.m. directly after the choir practice. Please come along if you would like to help! All are welcome to the hymn selection meetings.

It is wonderful to be part of the church at St Thomas Becket. Here one can explore together how life is celebrated and extend a welcome to those who look for a safe place to join together with others and listen to their own and other voices.

Yotin

Let every instrument be tuned for praise! Let all rejoice who have a voice to raise! And may God give us faith to sing always: Alleluia!

> Frederick Pratt Green, (last verse of the hymn "When, in our music, God is glorified")

#### 2011 - CHURCH CHRISTMAS AND GREETINGS CARDS - 2012

Once again about 6000 Christmas and Greetings cards were sold during the past year in aid of our historic Church.

Expenses amounted to €820.82 and the net profit was €5,547,98.

Now entering its 28<sup>th</sup> year in 2012, the success of the recycled card project depends on so very many people, both in Hamburg and Great Britain. In particularly we are extremely grateful to all the helpers who are not members of St Thomas Becket, but who nevertheless continue faithfully to support us over so many years.

First and foremost, a big "thank-you" to those who make the cards - sorting, chopping and glueing - some for many years, and some newer members of the team - but always with very great care and attention to detail. Secondly, thank you to all those who sold the cards to their friends. families. work colleagues and also within the Englishspeaking societies and organisations here in Hamburg. Because of all this extra support, we can reach out to a far wider public. Finally thank you to everyone who helped by giving us their used cards, and by collecting cards from offices, voluntary societies or their own churches in Britain. Some have even sent packets of cards through the post. All the cards are so very much appreciated.

Looking ahead to Christmas 2012, we shall again need as many used cards as possible. We hope to sell more blank cards during our 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary year and will also need more used birthday and flower cards. There is a basket for used cards on the counter inside the church door, or if this is difficult, let me know and I can collect them.

Hamburg, 18th March, 2012 Judith Holst (Tel. 040 880 07 27)

#### Where Do We Go From Here?

Sometimes we wonder and ask, where is God and why do some awful things happen? It should be the other way around. What are we doing wrong and what can we do to stop it. There are times people do not believe God exists. We have polluted our beautiful world with ignorance, jealousy, envy, hate, greed and evil. God wrote laws, and from generation to generation people refused to live by them. We must remember Jesus' message in the book of Revelation, that these things that are taking place will come to pass. It may have been going on for a long time, but sometimes it seems worse than ever before.

People and Countries fight for power over each other, Religions too are in conflict. For example we should let Muslim women wear their head coverings. It is their way to respect God, statues and pictures of the Virgin Mary show her dressed in a similar way. Even the picture behind our altar in Church, shows Mary and the naked baby Jesus. Naked we came into the world and naked we will go. In Jesus' time people took heed of God's words and these are the same words we hear today. That means the Church is still doing its duty. Let those who have ears to hear, hear God's words. It is never too late to come to Christ. He is willing to accept us anytime, anywhere and in whatever condition or circumstance. He came for all sinners.

So where do we go from here? In other words, are we prepared or ready for things new? The life we live here is transient, Our eternal home is our aim and destination. It is our goal and end station, our resting place. Jesus is our rest. We should not gain the world and lose our souls.

I thank Almighty God for all his saints, for all that have been part of St Thomas Becket congregation. For Matthew Jones who is now with us. May God continue to give him wisdom and strength and keep him healthy. May he also give us the understanding and strength to work together with him in the "battle field". Amen.

# † Dolly (Theodora) Schrader



Dolly died on the 23 February 2012. She was a part of St Thomas Becket Church for nearly 90 years as she was baptized at St Thomas Becket or 'The English Church' as it was known, in 1923 by her

mother's brother, who at that time was a Canon of St Paul's Cathedral in London. She was a member of our Choir for over 40 years and served as an altar assistant for many years. I would like to quote from an article by her published in the Becket News in January 2009.

"Our church has always been, and still is a second home to me. Here the Word of God is constantly proclaimed in earnest and in fullness. We have been blessed with many good preachers and an alert congregation with goodwill and devotion."

In memory of dear Dolly there will be a Memorial to her as part of the Sunday Service on May 27, her 90th birthday weekend.

John Finn

We first started going to St Thomas Becket's in 1974 and Dolly was certainly one of the first people who welcomed us then. Dolly with her long connection with the church - she had been baptised there as a baby - was on home ground and eager to meet newcomers.

I joined the LCF and Dolly was an active member there. I think earlier she had been a member of the Altar Guild - it preceded the LCF - and chairwoman of the LCF. She sang in the choir as and when we had one - in the past it rather came and went - and for years at Christmas sang the first verse of 'Once in royal David's city' as the opening solo.

Dolly loved singing and wanted those around her to sing. When we visited her in Bad Bevensen we were encouraged to sing grace before coffee, sometimes in parts.

The annual visit to Bad Bevensen was a highlight of her year and the LCF's afternoon with her there was a highlight of ours. Dolly would be waiting outside the house for us and her greeting was joyous. She had a programme of readings for us and then we sang and then we had coffee and then walked through the lovely garden to the lanes and fields below. A very happy time.

Dolly had a great capacity for enjoyment and she liked to take part in outside activities. I can remember her and her family enthusiastically joining the church outings every year. I can remember her going on retreat with us. One year she went with Günter and me to Bruges, where the Archdeaconry of North-West Europe used to have a retreat house, and seeing horsedrawn carriages in the town insisted on hiring one and taking us for a drive. I remember her and Christoph joining a group of us to see the first Harry Potter film. Her positive pleasure in people and things was one of Dolly's great assets and one that I shall always value.

Jane Zeismer

When I moved to Hamburg in the early 80's and joined the St Thomas Becket congregation, it was not long before I got to know Dolly.

Dolly loved the church and it played a key role in her life. No matter which group was meeting, Dolly would be there playing her part – at the Bazaar busy selling Bric à Brac; at the Bible Study or at a Lenten Study Day offering her thoughts. For many years she served as an altar assistant at the

Eucharist, sang in the choir, led intercessions and, on occasion, even conducted Evening Prayer. She had a firm faith and worship was important to her.

However, her activities were not confined solely to St Thomas Becket. She was a member of the Ladies Guild, a circle which she used sometimes to invite to her home for a "literary tea", at which we would read favourite poems or extracts from books that had interested us.

Dolly was always generous in her hospitality and, although the family flat was small, she was ready to offer a bed, when accommodation was needed for a visitor coming to Hamburg for a church event.

Dolly became a real friend and in years gone by, together with her husband Albert and younger son, Christoph, we would go for walks through the Hamburg parks or along the Elbe; or after an invitation to lunch we would spend the afternoon playing games.

Dolly had qualified as a Physiotherapist according to the methods of an American Dr Mensendieck, and even well into her advanced years continued to practice with a small group of friends, known as her "gym girls".

She was very proud of her English ancestry, claiming that she could trace her family back to the Plantagenets. She certainly had more English blood in her veins than German. Although brought up almost exclusively in Germany, and married to a German, her mother was English and her paternal grand mother also.

Life goes on without Dolly, but we miss her cheerful smile.

Cicely Hollingsworth

# **Goodbye Simon**



Simon Gill died suddenly on 27 January 2012. He was a former member of our church, and then moved to the Philippines to head up "The Bountiful Harvest Rural Development" project involving organic farming. He and his wife Jinky taught rural farmers techniques in sustainable development, and regularly sent our church newsletters on their progress.

In his last news letter, December 2011, he gave thanks for God's grace that brought their project so far and asked for prayers to overcome the many daily challenges.

Please do remember Simon's wife Jinky in your prayers as the BHRD project still continues in development.

The sum of 650€ was collected from our congregation in memory of Simon Gill and sent to his project.



#### L We mourn the loss of

**Gesa Marietta Reemtsma,** who died on 14 February 2012. Gesa Reemtsma was the wife of Hermann Reemtsma, who has kindly offered to support our church with funds from the Hermann Reemtsma Stiftung.

**Dolly Schrader,** who died on 23 February 2012. A long time member of the church, active in many ways she will be greatly missed by many. (see page 16),

**Simon Gill,** who died on 28 January 2012. Simon was a past member of our church, and then he moved to the Philippines to head up "The Bountiful Harvest Rural Development" project.

# Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals at St Thomas Becket Jan—Mar 2012 Baptism & Confirmation 'The Water of Life' Norbert Schoen February 19 Weddings 'To have and to hold...' None None Funerals Ann Elizabeth Margaret Speller Margaret Speller

#### **Advance Notice**

**MoGo 2012 -** The annual Motorradgottesdienst ("MoGo" - Motorcyclists' Church Service) takes place on **Sunday 10th June** around the Michel. As always, from 9 a.m. the whole of Ost-West-Straße will be closed to four-wheeled traffic, so bear this in mind if you are coming to our church by car.

You may also find access is restricted during the following events, so check on the details and leave home a little earlier or use public transport.

The Hamburg Marathon - 29 April.

The Hafen Geburstag - 11/13 May.

The 'Hella' Half Marathon - 24 June.

The Triathlon - 22 July

The Cyclassics - 17/19 August



# **Sunday Services : April - June 2012**For possible changes and additions at short notice please visit the

For possible changes and additions at short notice please visit the online church notice board on our website, which is updated weekly, at www.anglican-church-hamburg.de

Sundays or Weekdays	Service	Officiant	Lectionary Readings	Psalm
		APRIL		
1 April. Palm Sunday	10.30 h Holy Communion	MJones	Gos pel Mark 11.1-11, Philppians 2-5-11, Passion Drama	
5 April. Maundy Thursday	19:00 h Holy Communion and Vigil	MJones	Exodus 12.1-4,11-14, I Corinthians 11.23-26, John 13.1-17,31b-35	
6 April. Good Friday	10:30 h Good Friday liturgy	MJones	Isaiah 52.13-53.12, Heb.4.14-16,5.7-9, John's Passion Drama	
8 April. Easter Day	10:30 h Easter Service	MJones	Isaiah 25.6-9, Acts 10.34-43, Mark 16.1-8	Psalm 118. 1-2,14-24
15 April. 2nd Sunday of Easter	10:30 h Holy Communion	MJones	Acts 4.32-35, 1 John 1.1 - 2.2, John 20:19-end	Psalm 133
22 April. 3rd Sunday of Easter	10:30 h Holy Communion	MJones	Acts 3.12-19, 1 John 3.1-7, Luke 24.36b-48	Psalm 4
29 April. 4th Sunday of Easter	10:30 h Holy Communion, <i>Trad Lang</i>	MJones	Acts 4.5-12, 1 John 3.16-end, John 10.11-18	Psalm 23
		MAY		
6 May. 5th Sunday of Easter	10:30 h Holy Communion	MJones	Acts 8.26-end, 1 John 4.7-end, John 15.1-8	Psalm 22. 25-end
13 May. 6th Sunday of Easter	10:30 h Holy Communion	MJones	Acts 10.44-end, 1 John 5.1-6, John 15.9-17	Psalm 98
20 May. 7th Sunday of Easter	10:30 h Holy Communion	MJones	Acts 1.15-17, 21-end, 1 John 5.9-13, John 17.6-19	Psalm 1
27 May. Pentecost	10:30 h Holy Communion, <i>Trad Lang</i>	MJones	Acts 2.1-21, Romans 8.22-27, John 15.26-27, 16.4b-15	Psalm 104. 26-end
		JUNE		
3 June. Trinity Sunday	10:30 h Holy Communion	MJones	Isaiah 6.1-8, Romans 8.12-17, John 3.1-17	Psalm 29
10 June. 1st Sunday after Trinity	10:30 h Holy Communion	MJones	1 Samuel 8.4-11; 16-20, 2 Cor 4.13-5.1, Mark 3.20-end	Psalm 138
17 June. 2nd Sunday after Trinity	10:30 h Holy Communion	MJones	1 Samuel 15.34-16.13, 2 Cor 5.6-10, 14-17, Mark 4.26-34	Psalm 20
<ul><li>24 June.</li><li>3rd Sunday after Trinity</li><li>Birth of John the Baptist</li></ul>	10:30 h Holy Communion, <i>Trad Lang</i>	MJones	Isaiah 40.1-11, Acts 13.14b-26, Luke 1.57-66, 80	Psalm 85. 7-end
		JULY		
1 July. 4th Sunday after Trinity	10:30 h Holy Communion	MJones	2 Samuel 1.1, 17-end, 2 Cor 8.7-end, Mark 5.21-end	Psalm 130

# Who's Who at our Church

#### <u>Chaplain</u> <u>Telephone</u>

Revd Matthew Jones (040) 4392334 (040) 2849 3722 Fax.

#### **Church Council**

Deborah Ockert, Churchwarden 0170 147 5544 Renu Roy, Churchwarden (04103) 16584 Peter Alexander, Secretary (040) 475015 Stuart Cooke, Treasurer, Vice Chair 0178 5616463 Matilda Hammond (040) 5323931 (040) 6412157 Emmanuel Saarkodie (Giving envelopes) 0151 4192 0532 **Christopher Sacra** Wendy Sprock 0173 206 1521

#### Council of Anglican and Episcopal Churches in Germany - Delegates

Harriet Sasse (040) 46862994 Birte Fischer (040) 21057391 Karen Bergquist-Lüth (040) 50097673

#### **Other Ministries**

Child Protection Officer Pieter Thomas (040) 53331324 Choir & Organ Jochim Trede (040) 7135448 (040) 71404826 Fax. Choir Director Yotin Tiewtrakul (04104) 9706-15 Church Wanderers Cicely Hollingsworth (040) 860790 Electoral Roll Officer Birte Fischer (040) 21057391 Emmanuel Saarkodie (040) 6412157 Assistant Flower List Ellen Ziesmann (040) 22697878 FWO Giving Envelopes Emmanuel Saarkodie (040) 6412157 (040) 8800727 Greeting Cards Judith Holst (040) 50097673 Junior Church Karen Bergquist-Lüth Ladies Christian Renu Roy (04103) 16584 **Fellowship** Magazine Editor John Finn (040) 86626673 (040) 86626674 Fax. Mothers' Union Erika Anders (040) 582850 Refreshment Rota **Emmanuel Saarkodie** (040) 6412157 **Shared Prayer** Cicely Hollingsworth (040) 860790 Sidesmen's Rota Deborah Ockert 0170 147 5544 The Sacristan Paul Fletcher (040) 784630 Young Adults

Fellowship

For notices and contribution to the website, please e-mail to webmaster(at)anglican-church-hamburg.de