

GRAPEVINE

**Autumn Edition
2018**



**St George's Anglican
Episcopalian Church
Nuñez de Balboa, 43
28001 Madrid**

(Metro VELAZQUEZ – Line 4)

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAPLAIN Fr Paul

Hidden Gems

Exactly 40 years ago this year I arrived in the city of Montpellier in the south of France for my “year out”. I was studying French and it was expected that we would spend a year either as an assistant in a French school or as a student at a French university. I chose to be a student and, with very little supervision, attended various random courses including one on film studies, but it was then that the travel bug hit me and during the year I travelled all over the south of France with further excursions to Barcelona and on one occasion to Madrid.



This year I persuaded Jill to spend some of our summer holiday revisiting some of the places I had not seen for 40 years. We stayed for a few days in Montpellier, quite close to the Dominican monastery where I had stayed as a student. Nearby was the Musée Fabre. It is one of the best art galleries in the south of France with an excellent collection of paintings from the 15th to the 19th centuries, as well as some interesting modern works. “Did you often go there?” asked Jill. “Never” I replied. These rich treasures had been no more than 100 metres from where I lived and yet I had never gone inside.

Jill and I also visited a beautiful church, the oldest in the city, also close by. Originally founded in the 12th century, it had been rebuilt in the early 17th century. Once again I had never been inside, though I must have walked past it almost every day.

It is so easy to think there will always be time to do certain things; time to visit an interesting place but not today. Or

even more importantly, time to appreciate someone, or to do something for someone. Sometimes we do get the opportunity, as I did 40 years later, to make up for lost time. But that does not always happen and the opportunity is lost for ever. So, don't leave the important things. Spend time with and appreciate the important people in your life now, while there is still time.

FORTHCOMING SERVICES AND EVENTS

Thursday 4th October - BBF Fundraising Concert at the Ambassador's Residence

Sunday 14th October - Harvest Festival

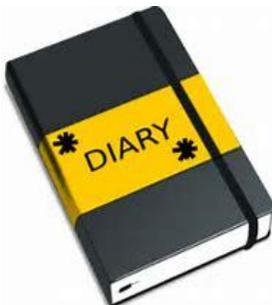
Saturday 27th October - Jumble Sale (from 11am)

Sunday 11th November - Remembrance Service **at 10.45am**
- No 10am service

Sunday 18th November - June's famous bake sale

Friday 30th November - The Babies Ladies' barbershop will again be performing in church

Sunday 2nd December - Advent Sunday



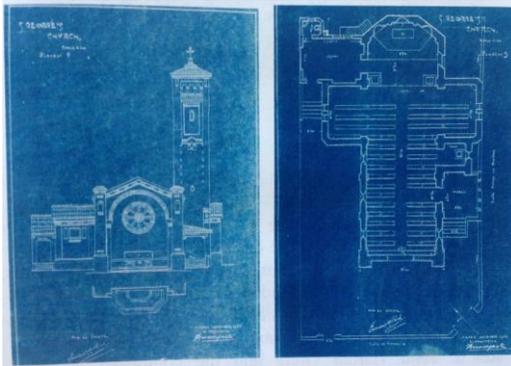
HISTORY OF OUR CHURCH (Part 1)

The Anglican presence in Madrid dates back to the 19th Century. At that time, the majority of the faithful were members of the diplomatic corps, business people, engineers, and their respective families. The archives note that early in the year 1864 the British embassy had recruited a Chaplin, the Rev'd. William Campbell, to serve the pastoral and spiritual needs of this population. The rapid growth in membership required religious services to be conducted at different sites; at one point, beginning in 1900, in the old coach house of the "palacete" which at that time served as the British Embassy. It is entirely understandable that the British residents in Madrid would come to feel the need to have their own church. At that particular time, Madrid experienced a significant influx of foreigners from different European countries. Among them was a Mr. Edgar Allen, an Englishman whose enthusiasm and generosity found an outlet in the proposed church building project.

Although Edgar Allen never settled permanently in Madrid, his business trips and visits to the city nurtured his love for Spain. He died in 1915 and in his will left instructions for Mr. Cecil P. Adcock, a British Citizen resident in Madrid, that the sum of five thousand pounds be destined to the construction of a church to serve the non-Roman Catholic English-speaking community. It is believed that Mr. Adcock and other members of the British community raised the funds needed to purchase the land, contract an architect to design the church, and supervise the building on land that eventually was acquired by the British Embassy in the year 1910.



The British architect, Frank L. Pearson, was engaged to draw up plans for the future church. In June 1919, he presented his proposal for a structure built on the lines of the Mudejar tradition. Two years later he presented plans for a structure with a south-easterly orientation, a consequence of the location of the plot on the corner of Calle Hermosilla and Calle Núñez de Balboa. These drawings are kept in the church's archives and bear Mr. Pearson's signature and his Westminster offices' address.



The definitive plans inspired by the Mudejar style, reminiscent of Mr. Pearson's original proposals, were presented in November 1922.

Final plans were drawn up by the distinguished Spanish architect, Don Theodore de Anasagasti. According to Sr. Anasagasti's drawings, the church would have the capacity for 191 persons. The proposals must have pleased those overseeing the project because Sr. Anasagasti was awarded the contract and named official architect. The beautiful structure in brick and stone with its characteristic tower appear in the register of buildings of historical interest. The first stone was laid in 1923 by the then Bishop of the Diocese of Gibraltar, the Rt. Rev'd. John Harold Grieg and the completed church was consecrated in 1925.

ST GEORGE'S GUILD AND THE AUTUMN AHEAD

The monthly meetings start off on October 2nd with one of our star speakers, Jim Trainor. Asked for a photo, Jim replied modestly that he doesn't go in much for pics! Jim is known for different roles: former English teacher at St Louis University; highly acclaimed member of the Madrid Players & member of The Yeats Society. He is a wide reader and talks on a variety of subjects that he has researched, usually during the long summer months. He is a favourite speaker not only for the interest he transmits in his topics but for his voice which carries one along and makes one feel what a pity the talk has to finish.

Other speakers coming up during the year are an English journalist, a Briton working in the Spanish Red Cross, a lady who will give us a presentation on how to paint silk scarves and others. So, keep "tuned in" to our programme of talks either through the St George's pew sheets or by contacting Jenny Effer: jennyeffer@hotmail.com

ST. GEORGE'S FOOD BANK

One of the charities supported by St George's for those in need, is the **COMEDOR SOCIAL VENTAS**.

After having had a break over the summer holidays, we are continuing to collect food for the soup kitchen. All dry food goods are very gratefully received; milk and olive oil are especially needed.

Many thanks for your continuing support.



LANHYDROCK

by Callie Stewart

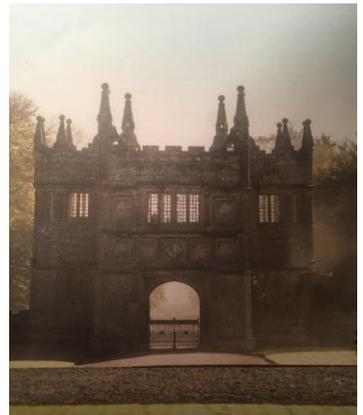
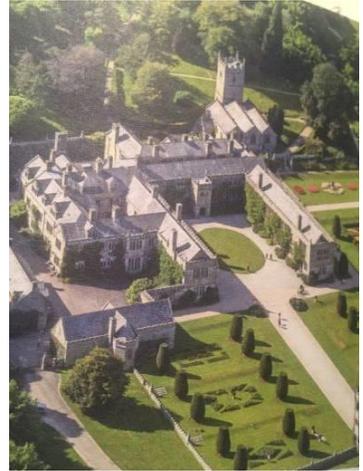
In the summer I visited Lanhydrock, a Victorian mansion set in a large estate, now property of the National Trust. One sees round 50 rooms, some of which date back before the fire which was in 1886. It's near Bodmin in Cornwall and is really worth a visit. It's a large estate and you can hire bicycles and have splendid day there and picnic etc. I found this ancient prayer in one of the rooms.

*Give me a good digestion, Lord,
And also something to digest,
Give me a healthy body, Lord,
With sense to keep it at its best.*

*Give me a healthy mind, O Lord,
To keep the good and pure in sight,
Which seeing wrong is not appalled
But finds a way to set it right.*

*Give me a mind that is not bored,
That does not whimper, whine or sigh.
Don't let me worry overmuch
About that fussy thing called 'I'.*

*Give me a sense of humour, Lord,
Give me the grace to see a joke,
To get some happiness from life
And pass it on to other folk.*



FUNDRAISING

Thank you for supporting all our fundraising events which are a vital way of raising funds for the church. The recent Afternoon Tea Party was very successful; thank you very much to Liz Mason and her team for all their hard work. Below are a couple of photos and a short note from Liz.



“I want to thank everyone who came, who didn’t come but paid for a seat at Table 0, who made jam, scones and cakes, who served table, who washed up, who sang and who made us laugh. A lovely day all round. We made just over 2,000€.”

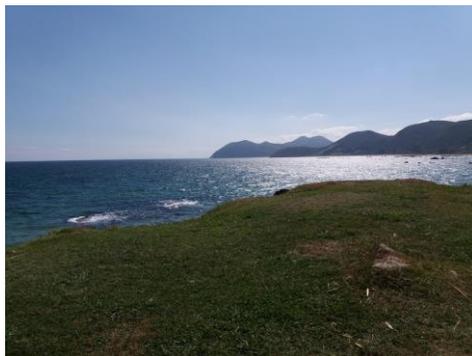


CANTABRIA

By Jenny Effer

Although several friends go north every year for their summer holidays and extol its virtues, this was my first visit to this part of Spain. The main impact for me was the coast: the sea and the beaches; beautiful beaches and so many of them to choose from and beautiful views when walking from one to the other over the headlands. To stay or to visit fishing villages dotted along the coast- some have expanded but not with high buildings near the beach like the other Costas - Cantabria is principally a holiday destination for Spaniards.

Santander town itself is worth a visit but if you want a peaceful beach or walking holiday the whole area is worth exploring. A fascinating village a little inland, Liérganes, was well worth a day trip with its picturesque streets, historical buildings for those who enjoy visiting monuments and plenty of restaurants like the one where we had fresh fish with an inexpensive 'menu del día'. Two wonderful shops got away from the typical tourist souvenirs and offered lovely goods for the unwary. We succumbed! Liérganes is also a spa so one is tempted to go back not only for the aches and pains but also for some pampering. Bon voyage!



QUEEN ADELAIDE

By Jon Crossley



The Home Church where we worship at Hermitage in Berkshire is dedicated to The Holy Trinity. However, when researching recently for a sermon for a Family Service I discovered its original connection with Queen Adelaide. The Church was opened on 11 August 1835 having taken less than a year to be built. At the time the village that is now Hermitage was part of Hampstead Norris where there was already a Church and the population lived in little hamlets. “Farmers, mechanics and labourers” petitioned the Patron of Hampstead Norris, the Marquess of Downshire, to agree to the building of a Chapel of Ease. The Marquess asked the Queen – Queen Adelaide – that the Chapel might bear her name and she send back a lovely response;

“The Queen feels deeply gratified by the Wish expressed by the Parishioners of Hermitage that the proposed Chapel should bear her name, a permission which Her Majesty willingly grants, with her sincere good wishes for the speedy completion and permanent utility of the Edifice, and altho' no pecuniary Aid is requested, and the Chastity of the Inhabitants seems to render any assistance of that kind unnecessary, the Queen commands me to offer in her Name a small Service of Plate for the Communion Table as a lasting Memorial of one whose best wishes will ever attend the frequenters of that Place of Worship.”

That Communion set still exists, sadly usually kept in the Bank but used for special celebrations. In 1835 the Church was called Queen Adelaide Chapel and it was only when the Parish separated from Hampstead Norris in 1840 that it became a Church in its own right and it was dedicated to The Holy Trinity.

It seems that Queen Adelaide was a good Christian. She was born in Germany in 1792 and it was only through the bizarre way in which our Monarchy succession works that she eventually became the wife and Queen of King William IV. He was 30 years her senior and as the Duke of Clarence had already fathered 10 illegitimate children some of whom Queen Adelaide accepted into her family and court. At the Coronation, Queen Adelaide displayed “dignity, repose and characteristic grace” whilst The King apparently fooled around and would not treat the ceremony seriously. The biography about her that I found records her Baptism and Confirmation in Germany and after she had come to England it says “that Sunday Service at St Georges Chapel, Windsor generally lasted for two hours and a half. The reading and singing were bad, and the Dean, who usually preached, was so indistinct that it was impossible to hear the sermon. Therefore, the Queen, who said her mind often wandered during the service and that she liked, when in church, to be serious and to think about religious matters, adopted the plan of bringing a book of sermons with her, and reading it while the Dean was in the pulpit”.

William IV only reigned for 7 years, dying in 1837 at the age of 72. By that time Adelaide had suffered several miscarriages and still births and the death at only 4 months of a greatly loved daughter, Elizabeth, the loss of whom affected her greatly.

For the 12 years after the King’s death, Adelaide spent a lot of time in charitable work and it is said that she spent half of her income helping charities of the parish in London which included Marlborough House, where she lived after the King’s death; contributing to missionary societies such as financing a new road in Madeira, where she spent the winter for her health, to help the Portuguese fishermen; laying the foundation stone for St John The Evangelist Church in

Stanmore Middlesex and commissioning a church for Anglicans in Malta, which is now St Pauls Pro Cathedral.

Just before she died at the age of 57, Queen Adelaide wrote “I die in all humility. We are alike before the throne of God and I request that my mortal remains be conveyed to the grave without pomp or state, to have as private a funeral as possible. I die in peace and wish to be carried to the Fount, in peace and free from the vanities and pomp of this World.”





The Church Council:

The Chaplain:	The Revd. Paul Ormrod
Reader:	Celia Paterson
Vice-chair:	Celia Paterson
The Church Wardens:	Anne Cole & Rebecca Rico Irwin
Synod Reps:	Celia Paterson Elizabeth Pacey Jenny Effer
Honorary Treasurer:	Karen Mullins

Elected Members: Lillian Dike, Carol Skinner, Jill Ormrod, Ngozi Ajero, Natalie Kinley-McCurry, Karen Mullins, Rebecca Rico Irwin, Adam Hill, Melissa Pearce

Church Flowers:	Louise Bueno
Director of Music & Organist:	Stephen Knight
Deputy Organist:	Diana Davies Burr
Secretary Church Council:	Anne Cole
Safeguarding Officer:	Anne Cole