



Association Cultuelle de L'Église Anglicane du Pas-de-Calais

The Chaplaincy Newsletter - December 2021

Advent Blessings to you all

Hope Love Joy Peace



Forthcoming services in the Chaplaincy

Monastere du Carmel, Rue du Denacre, Saint Martin Boulogne.

5th Dec, 10.30am Lay Led (Linda)

12th Dec, 11.00am Chaplaincy Eucharist Service led by Sara MacVane (note later time)

19th Dec, 10.30am Carol Service followed by mince pies. Bring along a friend!

25th December 10.30am Christmas Day Worship

Oratoire Notre Dame de la Misericorde, rue Gaillard, Calais

5th Dec, 10.30am Lay Led service at Mary Woods house (contact: Pat Page)

13th Dec, 7pm Carol service at the Temple in Calais (see flyer page 5)

Salle de l'Arsenal, Rue de l'Arsenal, Hesdin.

5th Dec, 10.30am Lay Led

19th Dec, 5pm Evening Carol Service (see flyer page 5)

24th Dec, 5pm Christmas Eve Lay Led Service

Zoom services every 2nd and 4th Sunday at 10.30am- link below

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81308857876?pwd=ektZUy9RcGZ6dTdxjdjBSMWE5K3V0QT09>

Wednesday Compline at 9 pm (Linda says, come along earlier if you wish to chat) link below.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87872685714?pwd=UIFNVURPb2NWL2UxUXpkc09ZR2wydz09>

Please Note: We are now functioning as a hybrid church with a twice-monthly zoom service.

Please contact Linda if you would be willing to learn how to operate the slides so that we can constitute a team; and a working session will be put in place. LP

December – A time for giving: If you can, please support our persecuted Christian brothers and sisters all over the world by putting 'open doors' on your Christmas list this year.

<https://www.opendoorsuk.org/>

Coming up: Chaplaincy zoom service, 9th January 10.30, led by Archdeacon Peter Hooper.

Some useful links:

Prayer Requests 'in confidence' email: ourprayersr4u@mail.com

Safeguarding Policy <https://europe.anglican.org/safeguarding/policy-and-guidance>

Newsletter contributions: Please send any items of chaplaincy news, services, meetings, what's on in your area; and forthcoming events to Marilyn at mcatchdossat@gmail.com

Note: *Please remember that if you plan on sending photographs, do ask peoples permission first; and be aware that pictures or images may be copyright. Thanks MD*

Newsletter: the cut-off date for January's issue 20th December.

This newsletter, together contact details for our Church Wardens, is also on our website <https://anglicanspdc.org>

Chaplaincy News

At the chaplaincy council meeting 8 November with Archdeacon Peter Hooper, the following items were discussed and agreed.

House for duty: it was decided we should go ahead and complete the vacancy pack. This will be discussed at a later date, after the new year, when we have spoken to all members of our congregations as to what they want for the church in the next four years.

Chaplaincy Zoom: a meeting was arranged for 9 January led by the Archdeacon Peter Hooper.

Charities: Two charity nominations are required for each centre please by the end of December.

Christmas Carol service in Hesdin: Please nominate Carols for 19 Dec service at 5pm.

Chaplaincy Eucharist Service: Led by Rev. Sara McVane at Boulogne on 12 December 11am.

A Meeting on 22 November: with Rev. Chris Oldroyd from ReSource, to discuss our way forward and hopefully to enlist his support. An update on this meeting in the next newsletter.

News from the 1901 association Solidarité Anglicane: (ASA)

There are still crackers and cards on sale for the church and charities. They will be available after the Chaplaincy service on December 12th and the 19th in Boulogne

Bishops's Advent Appeal: The 1901 ASA, decided that this year it would be concentrating on gifts for MSH rather than launching a second appeal. 2,401 euros has been raised this year for the Bishop's Lent Appeal. *LP*

Christmas boxes for Maria Skobtsova House in Calais:

Every year the three churches in the Pas de Chaplaincy donate gifts to the protected community of vulnerable refugees staying in the house. This year it was decided that each congregation would provide boxes of items to be shared out over the Christmas period. Hesdin offered to supply toiletry items, such as soap, deodorant, toothpaste and brushes, shower gel, etc.

Calais will be supplying chocolate and cake treats; and Boulogne children's gifts, which include crayons, note books and more. In addition to this, a collection of razors, dark socks and hats etc., are being made to be handed out as necessary during the winter. Thank you to everyone who has donated items and participated in making these Christmas boxes possible. *Doreen Cavalier*

Safeguarding:

Pauline Cecchin and Daphne Power attended a Safeguarding training afternoon on the subject of "What makes a concern a safeguarding referral"? They both found it very informative and enlightening.

Next training sessions are as follows:

6 December 2021: "Safeguarding case management Meetings: Managing Active Cases & Safeguarding Agreements.

13 January 2022: "Safer Recruitment" - New Practice Guidance and Policy. *DP*

The Royal British Legion (RBL)

For many years Jeremy Towler, RBL President, and Anne Towler, RBL Secretary, were actively involved in the Pas de Calais and Northern France branch of the RBL. They have recently retired and returned to live in Scotland. Their enthusiasm and work were greatly admired, appreciated, and will be missed.

However, this left a vacancy; but the latest news is that our local branch has a new chairperson, John Knight, and news of forthcoming events will soon be made public.

John and his wife Jennie recently met with John and Joyce Bosworth who are both active supporters of the work done by the RBL: they are new residents in Marconne; and members of Hesdin congregation.

John Knight is planning a branch meeting next month to invigorate the support and work that the RBL had previously received in Northern France. John and Joyce Bosworth will inform the chaplaincy and members as soon as a date has been set. *DP*.

The Tuesday Walk and Talk Group

A number of local people, mainly British, but some French and Dutch, try to meet up every Tuesday morning for a 'walk and talk' in the beautiful countryside of the Seven Valleys. Most of us are resident in France, but sometimes second home owners join us too. The walking group was originally started by Daphne Power, from the Hesdin Congregation, for an informal get together of church members. Over time, some walkers have invited friends along and it has now spread to include many of the local community from all areas of the Seven Valleys. We're not an association, just a group of informal friends and it's a great way to meet up. Everyone is welcome to come and join us. A member offers to plan out a walk and takes the lead; and we meet up in a different spot each time. This way we discover villages and places of interest that we would have otherwise just driven through without noticing. We're fine weather walkers and do about four kilometres, weather permitting, in just over an hour. Our numbers range from six up to thirty; and we do our best to make our walks accessible for all abilities. If we can finish the walk with coffee in a local café, or perhaps the leaders house, that ends the walk and talk very nicely! Sometimes however, we have to take a flask, but the main thing is that we have enjoyed each other's company in pleasant surroundings. *DC*

Bible Study: Our small group will be studying, weekly by Zoom, from the book 'Reflections for Advent' by Stephen Cottrell and Guli Francis-Dehqani; from 29th November until Christmas. You are welcome to join us in the new year, when we will be starting another study. *Gillie Lewis*

Past Event

Remembrance Visit

The Chinese Cemetery at Noyelles-sur-Mer



Photos credited with thanks, to Chris Hadden.



the way from Lille, led us in prayer.

On November 12th, the day after Remembrance Day, Hesdin congregation, led by Daphne Power, paid a memorable visit to the WWI Chinese cemetery at Nolette, just outside Noyelles-sur-Mer. This peaceful site set in Somme farmland is approached along a narrow road from the village, flanked by two Chinese lion statues, gifts from the Chinese Government. The cemetery, maintained immaculately by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission, was designed by Sir Edward Lutyens and inaugurated in 1920. It commemorates 842 Chinese workers buried there. These were members of the 180,000-strong volunteer Chinese Labour Corps formed in 1917-18 by the British and French governments to relieve the huge manpower shortage that had developed by then. Well wrapped up against the cold, twenty of us arrived at 11:00 am on a beautifully clear autumn morning for a moving service of remembrance. After a brief historical introduction from myself, Michael Spriggs, Father Simon Walker who came all

There followed two readings: the beautiful poem 'The Fallen Limb' read by Sue Nash and then Laurence Binyon's familiar 'Ode of Remembrance' read by John Bosworth. Our Churchwarden, David Sergent, laid a Royal British Legion wreath by the low wall surrounding the majestic China cedar tree, the centrepiece of the cemetery. *The trees planted here are all native Chinese species.* Finally, a two-minute silence was observed and a blessing from Father Simon. Two aspects in particular struck everybody that day: the powerful sense of tranquillity at this memorial; and the fact that dozens of wreaths had already

been laid here from a host of organisations representing Chinese associations and businesses throughout France. They formed a poignant tribute to the Chinese workers who died in that war; a tragically large number from the 1918-19 'Spanish Flu' epidemic, but also from poor conditions and from carrying out dangerous support work on the battlefields. Some in our party admitted they were unaware of the existence of this cemetery; but all were deeply impressed and resolved to return.

Our thanks to Daphne and David for organising such a special event; *and for providing much-appreciated hot drinks afterwards!* At the pagoda like entrance is an inscription chosen by the then Chinese Ambassador to Britain, which translates as:

'This site commemorates the sacrifice paid by 1,900 Chinese workers who lost their lives during the 1914-1918 war; these are my friends and colleagues whose merits are Incomparable'. **Michael Spriggs**

Please read the full article by Michael Spriggs attached in the newsletter email. (mcd)

More details here - www.cwgc.org/.../noyelles-sur-mer-chinese-cemetery

Carol Service Invitations



Christmas Carol Service



Church Hall in Rue de Arsenal, Hesdin
on
Sunday 19th December 2021
at 5pm.



Everyone Welcome, Come and Join us.
The service will be followed by Mulled Wine and Mince Pies

INVITATION FROM THE ANGLICAN CHURCH IN PAS DE CALAIS

Sing Christmas Carols Together
Chantons Ensemble Noël

Lundi 13 décembre 2021, 19h00 au Temple, 11, rue du Temple, Calais



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Les Traditionnels Mince Pies et les boissons chaudes seront servis après la célébration dans la salle du Temple

The Event will comply strictly to the current regulations appertaining to the Covid 19 pandemic relating to hygiene, wearing of masks and vaccination certificates.

Pour votre sécurité, la porte des masques est obligatoire

Please/ SVP contact Pat Page 06 67 37 82 49 or email pat.page@wanadoo.fr

If you and yours are coming / si vous comptez venir