

BROMLEY & SHEPPARD'S COLLEGES



Herald

October 2025



*The Archdeacon, David and OUR NEW CHAPLAIN
The Revd Nick George*

Welcome

Dear Collegians and
Friends,

This is the season for
Michaelmas daisies,
however the big event of
September has been the
Licensing of our new



chaplain, Nick George. It seems fit to put his picture on
the front cover, with the Archdeacon and David Darling,
the Chair of the Collegians. Welcome to Nick and his
partner, Mark as they settle in to College life.

Cecil and Michael visited Derry, Valerie and Barbara met
Rt Revd Mariann Edgar Budde, and Valerie encountered
champion golfer, Rory McIlroy. Clare and Michael visited
the other Bromley High Street. Bob Jones threw a
cocktail party so we could celebrate his 80th birthday.
There is no end to the variety of life at Bromley and
Sheppard's Colleges!

As a confirmed arctophile (lover of teddy bears) I could
not resist including Joanna's photo of her brother's very
old bear.

The next Herald will be for November and the deadline is
Saturday October 26th. Please send contributions to me,
preferably by email to: therevvedbee@hotmail.co.uk Thank you
to Jo for printing and distributing them, to Rob for his
support, and to all our contributors!

Brandy Pearson

A Strange Visitor to our Bird Feeder

A few weeks ago, just before we went on holiday, we had an unusual bird come to visit our bird feeder. We didn't have a clue what it was. It did look a bit like a small woodpecker. I managed to get a photo of it, which was quite difficult as it wouldn't stay still for a second!



I sent the photo to the RSPB and they came back fairly quickly to tell me that it was a lovely Nuthatch. On researching the Nuthatch it appears that they live mainly in woods and the reason it kept coming to our feeder was to store up food for the winter, usually in a crevasse in a tree. Jill and I were so impressed with the RSPB's quick response that we decided to become members.

George Baisley

Recital

I am resuming my series of informal piano recitals
"Grace abounding"
on Thursday 9th October at 3.00pm, followed by tea.
Includes:
Schumann "Fantasie" Pieces

Mendlesohn's "Rondo Capricioso"
and other pieces.

I am limited to 8 places - some have been taken.
If you would like to come, please let me know soon!
Michael Keen

My flat is on the first floor, so if you would like to come
but find stairs difficult, let me know - as a future recital
could take place in the Board Room.

Fred Bear and Friends

This is Fred Bear, Joanna Yates' brother John's old teddy (older than he is, probably 100 or so), explaining to the other creatures what he has learned about cardiology, in support of Joanna's sister-in-law, who is about to undergo surgery.



Brandy Pearson

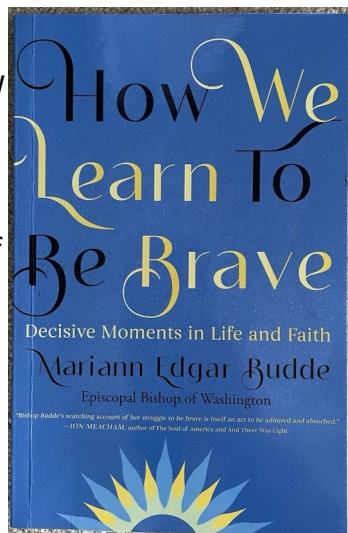
Bishop Mariann Edgar Budde

On the evening of Sunday 14th September, Barbara and I were very privileged to meet the Bishop of Washington, the Rt Revd Mariann Edgar Budde. She was in England for a brief visit and was interviewed by the Vicar of St Martin's in the Fields as part of their Autumn Course - Here I Stand. If you remember, she preached at the Service at Washington Cathedral after President Trump's Inauguration, during which she asked him to have mercy on many people who were feeling afraid and vulnerable at that time. She had also commented publicly when he had stood in front of one of the churches in her Diocese with a Bible in his hand after the killing of George Floyd.

We found her to be a very humble person, who spoke very powerfully about her role as a Bishop in a high profile Diocese, which yet was in reality very poor, housing many immigrants doing vital work on low pay.

Afterwards we went to the Reception where she signed one of her books, "How we learn to be Brave". There's a queue waiting to read it, and I'm sure Barbara would be happy to put you on the list to borrow it!

Valerie Pearce





"I want to be among the coalition of the faithful. I want to be among those working for the change we need now. That's the decision with which I need to align my life every day."

— Mariann Edgar Budde, *How We Learn to Be Brave: Decisive Moments in Life and Faith*

Bromley High Street(by Bow) and the Peace Pathway at Kingsley Hall.

Have you ever wondered about the other Bromley, Bromley-by-Bow? Or been there? I went there last September with Michael Hewitt to visit Kingsley Hall Community Centre on the Open House weekend. As there is always so much happening at Bromley College and there is much to send to the Herald, it is not always possible to report at the right time so I would like to tell you about it now.

Michael and I took the DLR to Bromley-by-Bow and eventually found our way, having passed a road named Bromley High Street, to Kingsley Hall, a community centre founded in the 1920's in East London by two remarkable sisters, Muriel and Doris Lester, who were from a middle class family in North London. Muriel was a



committed pacifist and member of the Fellowship of Reconciliation. She even visited Gandhi in India in 1926 and when he came to London in 1931 for a Conference on the future of India he requested to stay at Kingsley Hall in the East End rather than in an expensive Hotel.

We were shown the small narrow room where he slept. Due to this connection with peace, an installation known as the World Peace Pathway is situated in the garden of Kingsley Hall. It contains a piece of rock or soil from every country in the world set in a circle and the words for Peace in 42 languages are inscribed all around the outer ring. In the centre is a solar powered peace flame. See the picture on the back cover).

It is similar to the Peace Pathway outside the International Court of Justice at the Hague. The World Peace Flame movement and the Week of Prayer for World Peace were responsible for this installation. The Week of Prayer for World Peace takes place every October and this year runs from 12th to 19th October. There is a leaflet in the chapel.

Clare Preston



Bromley High Street (the other one!)

Bob Jones' 80th Birthday - Cocktail Party

To celebrate
his birthday,
Bob – and a
group of
skilled
Collegians
threw a
cocktail party
for us all.

Thank you to
them all,

*Brandy
Pearson*



Sharing the glory with Rory McIlroy!

On Sunday 7th September this year I found myself staying with my friends in Holywood, Northern Ireland, which is the home of Rory McIlroy, the champion golfer. At the time of this photo he was actually playing in the Irish Open Golf Championship and I was having lunch at his Golf Club in Holywood! Needless to say, there was a lot of excitement in the Golf Club and everyone was glued to the various TV Sets around the club. This photo was taken in the room containing all his trophies. After lunch I went back to my friends' flat and watched the game to its nail-biting play-off finish... And guess what? He won!!



Valerie Pearce



C D's available in the Boardroom

Dear neighbours

At the risk of breaking a rule or two I have today put a number of classical music CD's in the Board Room.

Please help yourself if you would like to. I can't bear the thought of them just going to the Charity shop before Collegians have first been able to see them.

I was left them in a legacy - from someone who had a deep knowledge particularly of Opera, but the collection also contains, I believe, other fine recordings of performances, and studio recordings.

Do please take a look and help yourself - and perhaps then donate something to your favourite charity - or not - no pressure.

I will take them away in around 10days time, and I apologise for any inconvenience they may cause in the meantime.

With all good wishes

Nick

Cecil's Visit to Derry

In September I made what will probably be my last visit to Derry, the town I grew up in. I was pleased to be able to preach in St. Augustine's where I began my faith journey. I was also able to visit the archives at Foyle College Grammar School which I attended. It started off as a Free School in 1617, founded by the Merchant Taylors Society of London for the sons of the plantation in which hundreds of Scots were transported to Ulster to ensure a Protestant presence in Ireland. Janet didn't feel up to the journey so Michael Hewitt came to help me on the journey. He now knows Derry better than I do! Many thanks to him.



Cecil Heatley

An African History of Africa

From the Dawn of Humanity to Independence

by Zeinab Badawi

Malcolm recommended to us all this fascinating book.

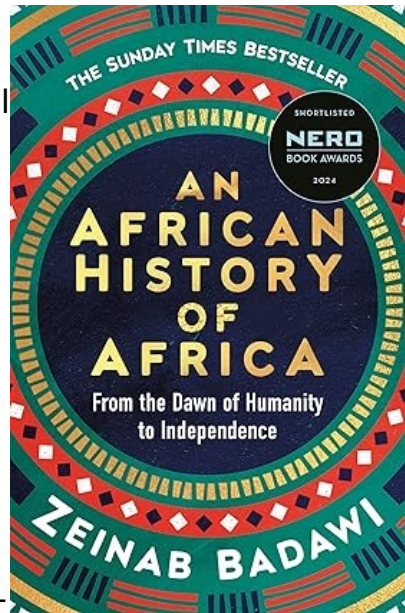
“For too long, Africa’s history has been dominated by Western narratives of slavery and colonialism, or simply ignored. Now, Zeinab Badawi sets the record straight.

She guides us through Africa’s spectacular history – from human origins, through ancient civilisations and medieval empires, to the misery of conquest and the elation of independence.

Visiting more than thirty African countries to interview countless historians, anthropologists, archaeologists and local storytellers, Badawi weaves together a gripping new history of the oldest inhabited continent on the planet, told through the voices of Africans themselves.”

Malcolm said this is a good book to dip into. At the moment Rob has it, if you would like to borrow it.

Brandy Pearson



Music and Dementia

An illustrated talk by music therapist,
David Nicholson

In the Common Room followed by
refreshments

3pm Saturday, 1st November

Music is recognised as having an important role to play for someone with a diagnosis of dementia. This talk will describe how music therapy can use the different attributes of music (pulse – rhythm – melody - song) to bring people together as a group, enabling them to express themselves and their feelings in ways which may be increasingly difficult to do verbally.

In the Dementia setting, people come with more fragmented connections to their past and to the potential of the future as well as to others around them.

Interactions take place in the moment, and clients themselves live much more in the present moment. Music itself also takes place in the moment, and playing together with sounds and music, as opposed to words, can be a powerful way of actively being able to feel connected to others in a way that is spontaneous, creative and meaningful. This in turn may enable people to reconnect with their own capacity to be alive, and through this, to reconnect with their emotional sense of self.

Dorothy Nicholson





The World Peace Pathway at Kingsley Hall

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