



## St Barnabas Bulletin - Autumn 2011

### Thank you!

The great Kempe window in the Chapel, the reredos and the panels of the altar are now splendidly restored, thanks to the generous response to our appeal.



The face of Christ,  
before (right)  
and after (left)  
restoration

As we reported in the last Bulletin, in May the sanctuary became a hive of specialist activity as the stonework of the window was carefully cleaned, repaired and preserved. The three-panel reredos has also been painstakingly restored and the panels of the altar cleaned and re-gilded. Fine details have been revealed which have not been seen for decades, but it is only when one sees the cleaning in progress that the extent of the transformation can be appreciated.



Restoration of the  
Christus Rex panel

As we go to press, work is under way to reveal the hidden glories of the Pre-Raphaelite paintings on the wonderful gallery screen. Before restoration began, the centre panel of a Nativity scene could barely be seen beneath layers of discoloured varnish. It is flanked on either side by a panel with three angels holding scrolls on which are words from the *Gloria in excelsis*, set on a gilded background.

These works of art have not been seen clearly in living memory, and will be an inspiration to visitors as well as in the worship of the community. Our warm and sincere thanks are extended to everyone who contributed to enable this work to be carried out.

## Caring for retired Anglican Clergy



# The 2011 St Barnabas Festival

Only a few occasions in the College's life bring together so many people at the same time for the same reasons.



The annual St Barnabas Festival is a series of events when family and friends of the College who respect our past and care about our present and future gather together to pray, to celebrate and to support our work.

The Festival opened with the service of **Evensong** commemorating St Barnabas on 9<sup>th</sup> June. The Bishop of Southwark, the Right Reverend Christopher Chessun (*left*), who is the College Visitor, preached

and gave the blessing. The service was followed by a **Garden Party** to thank all our supporters, with a traditional afternoon tea, including spectacular homemade cakes produced by a member of College staff.

Our biggest fundraising event took place on the following day. We were delighted to welcome over a hundred guests to the **Festival Dinner**. After joining others from the College community for drinks on the lawns (*right*), new and well-known friends took their places for dinner (*below*). The beautifully decorated marquee provided the ideal setting for the five course banquet which was prepared by the College chefs.



After the main course had been cleared, Mr Peter Ainsworth, a Patron of the College, expertly conducted an auction with a perfect balance of humour and encouragement.



The auction raised over £1000 as guests bought lots including a Murder Mystery Dinner on the Bluebell Railway, Two West End Tickets of the buyer's choice and A Week for Four in a Private Cottage in Normandy.





**The Right Revd Graeme Knowles**

With a telling after dinner speech the Right Reverend Graeme Knowles, Dean of St Paul's, made the audience think deeply as well as laugh while he reflected on his



**Mr Peter Ainsworth**

past ministry and encouraged everyone to ensure the College was well supported into the future.

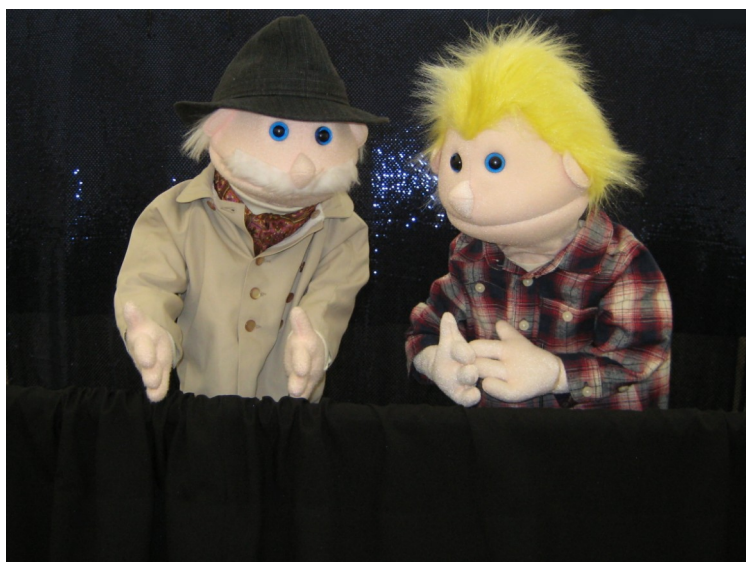
After a College Mass of St Barnabas on the morning of his feast day, Saturday 11th June, our **Open Afternoon** was the final event of this year's Festival. This important occasion gives visitors from near and far the opportunity to see around the College, learn more about our work and form new friendships with others who support us.



Crowds flocked to the College to enjoy private tours of the buildings and the live jazz played throughout the afternoon by the 'RATs' - the Royal Ascot Trio (*left*). In breaks during their performance, Christian puppeteers Peter and Diane Hellyer of Upbeat Puppets entertained the huge numbers of visitors (*see below*). All this plus more afternoon tea, cakes and even a barbeque combined with ideal weather to make a perfect afternoon for old friends and guests from miles away.

### **Plans are already under way for the 2012 St Barnabas Festival:**

The Rt. Revd. Michael Perham, Bishop of Gloucester, will preach at Evensong and the speaker at the Festival Dinner will be Christian writer and humorist Adrian Plass. The Royal Ascot Trio are booked again for the Open Afternoon, along with the East Surrey Morris Men. **Join us next year between 7<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> June for an unforgettable celebration.**



# Some things are easy to forget, don't let charity be one of them ...

You may know that much of our income comes from the generosity of people like you, whether it's through collection boxes, donations from your PCC or gifts you make personally. Some charities, especially the big household names, receive their most vital income from people leaving gifts in Wills. Unfortunately, although the number of smaller charities benefiting from gifts in Wills is growing, the College of St. Barnabas isn't yet one of them. Our income from charitable legacies is small. You can help to change that.

That's why we are taking part in **Remember A Charity Week** from 12 – 18 September to help raise general awareness of the importance of gifts left in Wills, and in particular to help highlight the College's need.

You may think that you have to be wealthy or a little eccentric (or both) to leave a gift to charity in your Will. That's a common myth, but nothing could be further from the truth so please do think again.

After you have taken care of family and friends, you'll be amazed at what one final gift, no matter how big or small, could do. Can you imagine the difference you could make?

Whatever the amount, we're extremely grateful for any gift that's been left to us, as it will help us to continue to care for elderly and infirm Anglicans.

It's very simple to do. Just ask any professional Will provider who will show you how, visit the Remember A Charity website for some helpful information, or contact the College for a free copy of our Will Guide.

Of course we don't expect you to write or update your Will right now. We only ask that you don't forget. So please keep it in your mind, particularly during Remember A Charity Week. You may wish to discuss the subject with your family and friends. Then, when the time comes, please consider including us in your Will in order to help our work live on.

For more information visit [www.st-barnabas.org.uk](http://www.st-barnabas.org.uk) or [www.rememberacharity.org.uk](http://www.rememberacharity.org.uk).



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*A word from the Rt. Revd John Pritchard, Bishop of Oxford, President of the College:*

**'I strongly urge all Christian people to make a Will and keep it up to date. This is not only a way of caring for those who will become responsible for your affairs. It is also an opportunity to continue Christian giving.**

**I hope you will consider including a bequest to the College of St Barnabas in your Will, to ensure that their work of caring for retired Anglican clergy continues after your lifetime.'**

Caring for retired Anglican Clergy