



St Barnabas Bulletin - Summer 2012

An embodied promise

This was how the Archbishop of Canterbury encouraged the College to live when he visited us in March.



At coffee in the Common Room

As part of a hectic day, Dr Rowan Williams, who is one of our Patrons, came to the College on Mothering Sunday. After having lunch he was able to fulfil his long-held wish to spend time with the Residents and to worship in the chapel.



and in the Library

In fact, during his visit of several hours, he joined the residents for coffee after lunch, toured the College to view the refurbished rooms and the renovated artworks in the Chapel, and then preached an inspiring address during Evensong. Before he left he also visited some of the Nursing Wing residents who had listened to the service in their rooms, giving them a personal blessing.

“What God asks of us is that we be a place where he can speak and act,” he taught. **“We pray for ourselves that we may continue, to our life’s end, to be promise-made-flesh, to be an embodied word from God ... Only an embodied promise changes things.”**



All who met Dr Williams are grateful that he embodied his own promise to be with us for a while. No one who listened to him could fail to be changed by what they heard.

Caring for retired Anglican Clergy

A change of Chairman

On 26 March, Sir Paul Britton was elected as Chairman of the Association of St Barnabas and the Chairman of the Council.



He writes:

It is with both pleasure and slight trepidation that I assume the Chairmanship of the College Council; pleasure because I have been so impressed by the warm and caring atmosphere at the College and trepidation because as a new trustee I am conscious of how much I have to learn about the College.

My background is that of a career civil servant. I was Deputy Secretary to the Cabinet in 2001-09. I now work part-time as the Prime Minister's secretary for senior church appointments. The rest of my time is spent on voluntary work.

I pay particular tribute to my predecessor, Dundas Moore, and thank him for so many years of service to the College. The College has developed greatly during his period of office and he leaves it well placed to serve the needs of today's Church.

I want to help the College to continue its success, to complete the refurbishment of its buildings and to be a place where Anglican clergy and lay people want to live in retirement. I have already enjoyed getting to know some of the staff and hearing their views and look forward to becoming more involved with the life of the community.

As Dr Moore was presented by the Council with a beautifully framed picture of the College, he paid tribute to those with whom he had worked during his twelve years chairmanship:

When the Archbishop visited us for lunch recently, you could see how he was able to relax completely, not only in the absence of the press and media, but in the unique atmosphere of peace and security, which so many of those who visit us immediately sense on coming up the drive and into the College.

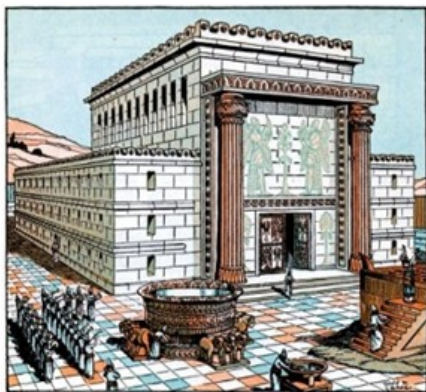
I have experienced this, with the added component of happiness, all the time I have been with you. I pray that this will always continue to be so, for visitors and Residents alike, and thus illustrate to outsiders what real Christianity is about.

This is "Thank-You" but not "Goodbye", as I hope to become a more active member of The Friends of the College in the future!



The Temple of Solomon

(Inspired by an article by Ian Clark)



One amazing night was all that it took to raise the money to build Solomon's Temple.

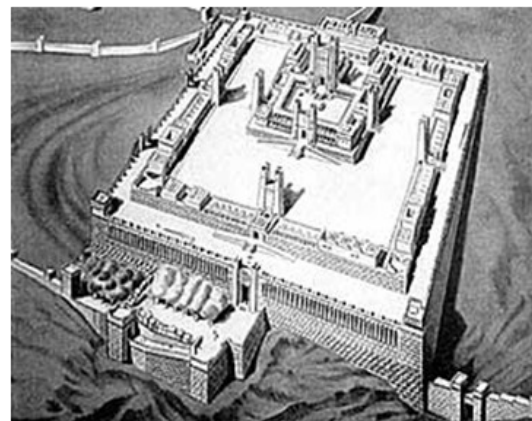
The Torah tells how, on that one night some 3,000 years ago, King David hosted a special dinner at his palace for the gathered heads of families and tribes – the people in his Kingdom most likely to give. In his after-dinner speech he shared with them his compelling vision for a highly-ornate temple sheathed in gold. King David ended his speech with the announcement of his own contribution to the building project and a challenge to his guests to follow his example and to give what they could, before going back to their communities and spreading word of the appeal to others. **The money raised in that one night of fundraising has been estimated to be the equivalent of £250 million in today's money.** Not bad for a night's work!

The story is recounted in the Jewish Torah and forms an important part of both the Old Testament and the Islamic Qu'ran. The chronicles written by official court historians give a detailed account, from chapter 13 of the first book of Chronicles to chapter 7 of the second book. You can find King David's description of his contribution to the building work and his request to others for their help in 1 Chronicles 29:

King David said to the whole assembly: "My son Solomon, the one whom God has chosen, is young and inexperienced. The task is great, because this palatial structure is not for man but for the LORD God. With all my resources I have provided for the temple of my God ... Besides, in my devotion to the temple of my God I now give my personal treasures of gold and silver for the temple of my God, over and above everything I have provided for this holy temple: three thousand talents of gold (gold of Ophir) and seven thousand talents of refined silver, for the overlaying of the walls of the buildings, for the gold work and the silver work, and for all the work to be done by the craftsmen."

"Now, who is willing to consecrate himself today to the LORD?"

Then the leaders of families, the officers of the tribes of Israel, the commanders of thousands and commanders of hundreds, and the officials in charge of the king's work gave willingly. They gave towards the work on the temple of God five thousand talents and ten thousand darics of gold, ten thousand talents of silver, eighteen thousand talents of bronze and a hundred thousand talents of iron. Any who had precious stones gave them to the treasury of the temple of the LORD.



The people rejoiced at the willing response of their leaders, for they had given freely and wholeheartedly to the LORD. David the King also rejoiced greatly.

Calling all Golfers!

On Friday 31 August the Eleventh Charity Golf Day for the St Barnabas Plate will take place at Chartham Park Golf & Country Club.



The day begins at 12 noon when arrivals will be greeted with coffee and bacon rolls. After the drawing of starting tees, the golf will begin with a 'shot-gun start' at 1 pm.

A 'sit down' buffet meal will be served at 6.30 pm, and at 7.15 pm the prizes will be awarded and the results of the raffle announced.

For the technically minded, the format will be similar to that of previous years, a four-ball

Stableford team competition for the St. Barnabas Plate, together with prizes for best individual score, best lady's score, longest drive, nearest the pin on a par 3 and for a third shot to a par 5. There will also be a putting competition for you to have a go at!

The day is always a very happy occasion and we will be delighted to welcome new players to join our regular supporters. A shot-gun start can only accommodate 24 teams, so early booking is advised, especially as the event has only been held once before at this course and we have already had many requests for details of the day.

The cost for the whole day represents excellent value, and remains at £50 per person. This is possible through the generous support of Chartham Park Golf & Country Club (see *picture above*) who are providing the venue for the second year running.

The Club is about a mile from the College on the Lingfield to East Grinstead Road; the address is Felcourt Road, Felcourt, East Grinstead, RH19 2JT.

For more information, to book places for a team or to enquire about other ways to support the day, please contact the College Bursar, Mr Paul Wilkin, on 01342 870260 or complete the form below and return it to him at the address on the front of the Bulletin.

Please send me more information about the Charity Golf Day.

Name:

Address:

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Phone: email:

Caring for retired Anglican Clergy