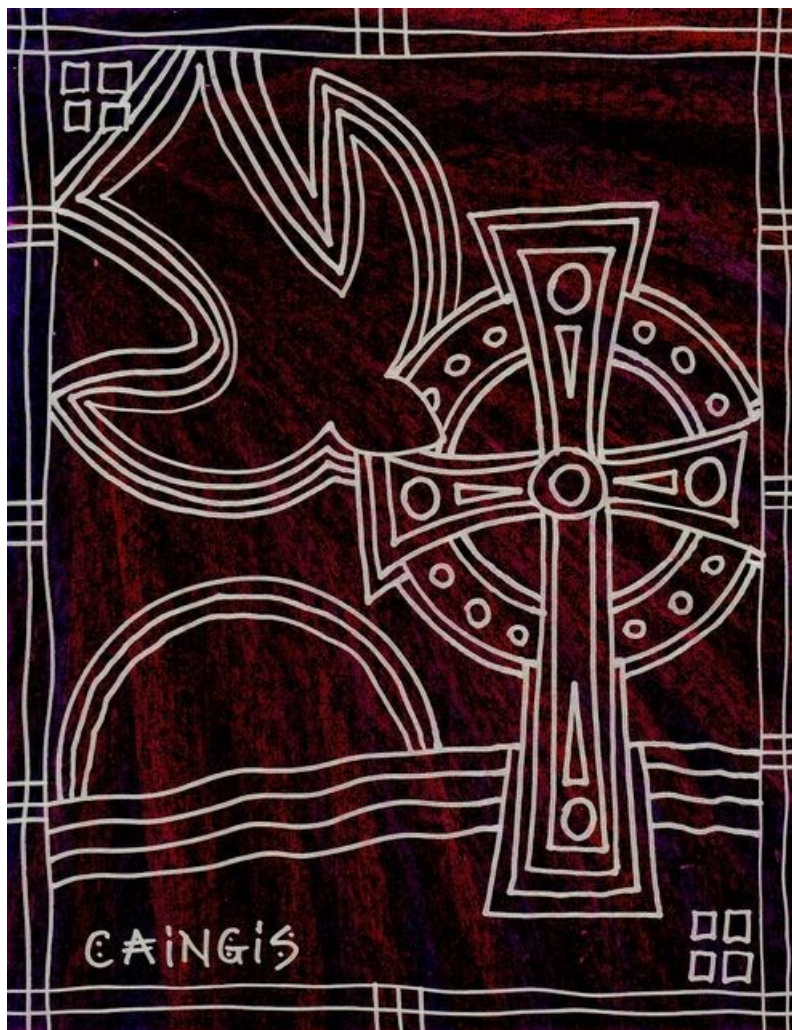


# OUTPOST

The magazine of the Anglican Chaplaincy in Norway

**JUNE–AUGUST 2017**



Caingis is the Gaelic word for Pentecost

# Who's Who

SENIOR CHAPLAIN	The Ven Dr Brian Russell Harald Hårfagresgate 2, 0363 Oslo oslochaplain@osloanglicans.no	22 69 22 14
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READER IN BERGEN	Iris Evans-Bjørnø	55 18 67 34
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Other clergy holding the Archbishop of Canterbury's Permission to officiate at Anglican Services in the Chaplaincy are:

Trond Bakkevig, Geir Barlaup, Andreas Hilmo Grandy-Teig, Harald Grønnevik, Janet Heil, Stian Heggedal, Vebjørn Horsfjord, Ragnhild Jepsen, Siv Limstrand, Jørund Middtun, Jan Otto Myrseth, Tracy Rishton, Geir Sakseid, Steinar Skaug, Bodil Slørdal, Mary Strømme, Harald Svendsen, Julius Tabi, Helene Selvik Thomas, Fredrik Ulseth.

Persons authorised by the Bishop to assist in administering the sacrament of Holy Communion are:

all readers, Ekene Aqbalakwe, Abbas Bahiraei, Helen Campbell, Joseph Chidindi, Eirik Duerr,  
Torhild Fikseanet, Cheryl Hogarth, Sigrid I Kvaal, Peter Lane, Penny Mietle,  
Philip Ringrose, Betty Short, Rune Torsvik, Linda White.

For further information see our websites: [www.osloanglicans.no](http://www.osloanglicans.no), [www.bergenanglicans.net](http://www.bergenanglicans.net),  
[www.stavangeranglicans.net](http://www.stavangeranglicans.net), and [www.trondheimanglicans.net](http://www.trondheimanglicans.net). The diocesan website is  
[www.europe.anglican.org](http://www.europe.anglican.org), and the Church of England's website is [www.cofe.anglican.org](http://www.cofe.anglican.org).

**Donations and payments to the Anglican Chaplaincy  
may be made to bank account 7029.05.14973.  
For further details see page 10.**

## The Senior Chaplain's Notes



### Being havens of Hope

On Sunday 5 March I announced that I had let the Bishop know that I would be retiring during June this summer. My last Sunday will be 4 June. The demands of the post are very high and I become aged 67 this summer.

I am very glad to have been part of a period of development in the Chaplaincy in Norway. I am immensely proud of all that we have achieved together in Oslo and in all our congregations. Pam and I will leave part of ourselves behind with you, and this reflects how deeply we have worked with you all. The Bishop has very much in mind how best to build on all that we have done together since January 2014.

### Memorable times this last year

The carol service in Drammen last December was very memorable, and it was the fiftieth year of the service. I especially valued working with the members of the Drammen Ladies Guild on their shared history to produce our booklet, 'Singing the carols of Christmas for the fiftieth time'. In the preface, I give my own tribute and I think it may say something for all who have, over the years and recently, made their way to Norway from abroad and made their home in Norway:

'To move to another country is an Adventure. It calls for courage, a conviction that it is the right thing, and lots of flexibility. Being amongst a different culture and way of life, not knowing the people or the language at first, are real challenges. On such an adventure, support is always vital. Support from those who share something of your experience; support from those who know your culture and background; time to be with those in a place in which you can share your thoughts in your own language. People find it easier to share their personal feelings in the language in which they were brought up.'

I hope our congregations in the Anglican Chaplaincy continue to be a haven and a place of hope in these ways, and I often hear that this is the case.

Another memorable event in 2017 has been the fact that the Porvoo steering group asked to hold their study conference at the end of February in Norway and specifically in Bergen. A stop press picture of the delegates appeared in the last Outpost. This conference had great significance. It brought to Norway the two Archbishops who co-chair Porvoo, namely the Anglican Archbishop of Ireland and the Presiding Lutheran Bishop of Denmark, together with church leaders and teachers from the UK and from across the Nordic and Baltic States, both Lutherans and Anglicans. They chose Norway because we are making a major contribution to Porvoo, such as in our new appointment and ordination in Trondheim, and they chose Bergen because of our new mission partnership in Bergen with the Church of Norway, which is seen as a very good example of the ecumenical cooperation that Porvoo can inspire. I have received many notes of appreciation since the conference, and they found the worship in Mariakirken immensely uplifting. We were all very impressed as well with the service in Bergen Cathedral on Sunday morning, when the Bishop of Bergen preached, supported by the two Archbishops. The Bishop of Bergen is himself an honorary Canon of the Anglican Southwark Cathedral in London. As a tribute to Porvoo, he chose to preach entirely in English, linking the film 'Love Actually' with I Corinthians 13 and the nature of Christian love as a communion which binds together Father, Son and Spirit and which binds us all together in the worldwide Church. It was a vision of hope, of ecumenical cooperation and of the values that can guide our daily lives.

Our theme for the conference was how the Reformation, at the time of the 500th year anniversary, can continue to inspire us in our mission as we reach out to connect with a very different world in 2017. It reminded our Chaplaincy that each congregation needs to be a church with a mission, seeking to serve God and to grow our congregations in number, depth and impact. This has been my guiding vision in my time with you all.

*The Ven Dr Brian Russell  
Senior Chaplain*



## Bergen notes

It is hard to believe that I have been serving the Bergen congregation for nearly ten months! As we entered into 2017, the season of Lent proved to be a time of deep reflection and prayer for many in our congregation as we began the season with a well attended Lent study which met for five consecutive Mondays. We delved into an interesting and spiritually enriching book by the former Archbishop of Canterbury Rowan Williams entitled *Being Disciples: Essentials of the Christian Life*. The study also served as an important time for Christian fellowship as the study was bookended with a soup and bread supper and compline service. We also held the first ever joint Ash Wednesday service with the Norwegian congregation this year. This was deemed very appropriate as we began Lent with the Norwegian congregation on Ash Wednesday and then concluded the season with them on Easter morning. The church held two special Holy Week services. A Maundy Thursday foot-washing and communion service in Mariastuen and a Good Friday Tenebrae service in Mariakirken.

Then on Easter morning we had a beautiful ecumenical service together with the Norwegian congregation in which over a hundred people were in attendance. After a busy Lent and Easter season we are looking forward to Pentecost and the summer months that follow.

While congregational life typically slows down over the summer in most churches, in Bergen it feels like things are just getting started! This is because our average attendance on Sunday mornings increases significantly with the many tourists who come by boat, plane or RV to visit Bergen. We are very glad to welcome these sojourners into our community of faith and offer them a worship experience that will help to sustain them in the life of the Spirit during their travels.

The spring is also an important time to welcome those who have made our congregation their spiritual home over the course of the past year. We will again hold another Newcomers Dinner one Saturday in June to welcome a number of new members into our congregation.

However, as we begin to meet new people in Bergen during the summer months, we must unfortunately say goodbye to two familiar friends as well, our Senior Chaplain Brian Russell and his wife Pam, who serves



as the Safeguarding Officer for the Chaplaincy. We are sincerely grateful for all of the leadership, love, and care that Brian and Pam have shown to the Chaplaincy over the past three years. Brian's leadership and support to the Bergen congregation after the sudden departure of Revd Sammy Masemola was nothing less than vital in sustaining our congregation during a very challenging time of transition. Brian organised numerous locum priests to take services until I was appointed, and helped to build up and nurture the strong partnership we now have with the Bergen Cathedral Parish. We hope that the Hetland picture depicting Bergen that was presented to Brian and Pam at Balestrand will remind them often of how their leadership helped to greatly strengthen our congregation. Thank you, Brian and Pam. You will indeed be missed! We wish you all the best as you enter into the next chapter of your life together. God bless you both.

Revd Kirk Weisz  
Bergen locum chaplain





## Stavanger notes

Since our last Outpost we have of course heard the news of Brian's retirement in June. Brian has been a great support with his many visits to our community and his help on numerous matters, especially helping us appoint our Youth and Children's Worker Denise. He has worked hard at developing Norway as a whole chaplaincy, and his work should help us move forward in strengthening and growing the chaplaincy as a whole. It has been a busy task, and we are delighted that Brian and Pam can move on to enjoy a happy and blessed retirement.

This Summer we shall again be 'Bethel on tour' having our summer services from 25 June to 30 July at 10:30 each Sunday in the Bishop's Chapel next to Stavanger Cathedral. It is a lovely historic place with a peaceful atmosphere, and suits us well for the summer months when so many of our families are away.

Our First Sunday café churches have been a great success so far this year, and many of our people now look forward to what has become our most popular regular service. Café church will start again on the first Sunday in August after the summer break.

Preparations are moving on organising the deanery synod, which will for the first time be held in Stavanger from 8 to 10 September. We are looking forward to welcoming our guests, and hope they will enjoy their time with us.

It has been a difficult few years in our community, with the slump in the oil industry hitting the Stavanger area hard. We have sent many people on their way abroad to new things with our blessings, leaving us here somewhat diminished. We pray that the situation here is now stabilising and that we can welcome new people to our community.

The summer is a time when many new people arrive, and we shall be busy and active over the summer months. In particular we will be part of the Cathedral's initiative to have English language services over the summer, and we hope that from that many people will find and discover a new spiritual home with us.

*God bless you this summer.*

*Revd Peter Hogarth*

*Stavanger assistant chaplain*

## Trondheim notes

### Hide and Seek

Ready or not, you tell me, here I come!  
And so I know I'm hiding, and I know  
My hiding place is useless. You will come  
And find me. You are searching high and low.  
Today I'm hiding low, down here, below,  
Below the sunlit surface others see.  
Oh find me quickly, quickly come to me.  
And here you come and here I come to you.  
I come to you because you come to me.  
You know my hiding places. I know you,  
I reach you through your hiding places too;  
Feeling for the thread, but now I see –  
Even in darkness I can see you shine,  
Risen in bread, and revelling in wine.

—*Malcolm Guite*

Here in Trondheim we awoke to snow on the ground in May this year. Now however it seems as though summer is finally on her way. This year our congregation will continue our tradition of taking a day away, before summer vacation begins, to celebrate Pentecost up in the mountains at *Fjellseter Kapell*. During the service we celebrate the arrival of the Holy Spirit by reading a Bible text in as many languages as our congregation knows (last year we had nine languages), the children help to make the sound of rushing wind with maracas and the youth wave a 'wall of fire' over the congregation. After the service we will grill outside and play games such as *Lille Per i Midten*, Freeze Tag and Hide and Seek.



You will note that *Hide and Seek* is the title of the poem printed above. This is a poem by Revd Malcolm Guite, an Anglican priest serving in Cambridge. He wrote it for Corpus Christi and

			Oslo		Bergen		Readings	Stavanger		Trondheim	
JUNE											
Sun	04	Pentecost	11:00	Family Communion	11:00	Family Communion	Acts 2:1-21 John 20:19-23	10:30	Bethel unless specified Café Church	11:15	All Age Communion Fjellseter Kapell
Sun	11	Trinity Sunday	11:00	Sung Communion	11:00	Communion	2 Corinthians 13:11-13 Matthew 28:16-20	10:30	Communion with Children's & Youth Church	11:00	All Age Communion Vår Frue Church
Sun	18	Trinity 1	11:00	Sung Communion	11:00	Communion	Romans 5:1-8 Matthew 9:35-10:8(9-23)	10:30	Family Communion	18:00	Communion Cathedral
Sun	25	Trinity 2	11:00	Sung Communion	11:00	Communion	Romans 6:1b-11 Matthew 10:24-39	10:30	Family Communion Bishop's Chapel	11:00	All Age Communion Vår Frue Church
JULY											
Sun	02	Trinity 3	11:00	Sung Communion	11:00	Communion	Romans 6:12-23 Matthew 10:40-42	10:30	Family Communion Bishop's Chapel	18:00	Evening Prayer Chapter House
Sun	09	Trinity 4	11:00	Sung Communion	11:00	Communion	Romans 7:15-25a Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30	10:30	Family Communion Bishop's Chapel	11:00	Service of the Word Vår Frue Church
Sun	16	Trinity 5	11:00	Sung Communion	11:00	Communion	Romans 8:1-11 Matthew 13:1-9,18-23	10:30	Family Communion Bishop's Chapel	18:00	Communion Cathedral
Sun	23	Trinity 6	11:00	Sung Communion	11:00	Family Service	Romans 8:12-25 Matthew 13:24-30,36-43	10:30	Family Communion Bishop's Chapel	11:00	All Age Communion Vår Frue Church
Sun	30	Trinity 7	11:00	Sung Communion	11:00	Communion	Romans 8:26-39 Matthew 13:31-33,44-52	10:30	Family Communion Bishop's Chapel		Sorry, no service (5th Sunday)
AUGUST											
Sun	6	Trinity 8 Transfiguration	11:00	Sung Communion	11:00	Communion	Romans 9:1-5 Matthew 14:13-21	10:30	Café Church	18:00	Evening Prayer Chapter House
Sun	13	Trinity 9	11:00	Sung Communion	11:00	Communion	Romans 10:5-15 Matthew 14:22-33	10:30	Communion with Children's & Youth Church	11:00	Communion Vår Frue Church
Sun	20	Trinity 10	11:00	Sung Communion	11:00	Communion	Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32 Matthew 15:(1-10), 21-28	10:30	Family Communion	18:00	Communion Cathedral
Sun	27	Trinity 11	11:00	Sung Communion	11:00	Communion	Romans 12:1-8 Matthew 16:13-20	10:30	Communion with Children's & Youth Church	11:00	School Start Service Vår Frue Church

it's based on Psalm 139. I find it especially affecting today, in this age of social media. We live in a time in which all is revealed – even pictures of what we ate for dinner last night – and yet so much of who we really are is concealed. Guite's lines: 'Today I'm hiding low, down here, below, below the sunlit surface others see,' are for me an important reminder that God sees beyond our masks and loves us as we really are.

At our congregational AGM, we heard in the reports from both the Deanery and Diocesan Synods that an important focus area in the Diocese is on our being an inclusive church. We have discussed this in Trondheim and look forward to exploring some of the Inclusive Church resources (recommended last year at the Deanery Synod by our Area Dean, Nick Howe) starting in August.

August will be a new period for the Chaplaincy, as it will be the first month after our Senior Chaplain Brian Russell's retirement. On a personal note, I must say that this is a sad farewell for me. I have enormous respect for the work that Brian has done for the chaplaincy during his time in Norway, and have very much appreciated his wisdom and mentorship. We wish Pam and Brian our very best!

PAX,

*Revd April Almaas*

*Trondheim assistant chaplain*

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## Oslo notes

St Edmunds church building continues to be well used, with many concerts, including ByLarm and the Oslo Jazz Festival, as well as classical music concerts. We were also able to host a newish Church of younger Norwegians, called United Church, during Lent on Tuesday evenings. The Burmese church continues to meet at St Edmunds on the first three Sundays of each month from 14:00.

For the third year running the choir accompanied Brian to Balestrand to give a confident opening to our summer Chaplaincy there on Sunday 21 May (see page 10).

The confirmation on Sunday 28 May at St Edmunds will be taken by Bishop Paul, the Bishop of Whitby, who also came last year to St Edmunds. We have four young people preparing for this occasion in their lives.

Brian's last service as senior chaplain is on Sunday 4 June. After this Revd Julius Tabi and Revd Dr John Roden will take services as locum chaplains.

## Looking ahead

The Deanery Synod plans to come to Norway and hold its meeting in Stavanger from Thursday 7 September until Sunday 10 September. They will be hosted by our Stavanger chaplain Peter and our congregation. Revd Stian Heggedal, a NATO Chaplain, will lead the service at St Edmunds Church. He is based near Lillehammer but accompanies his soldiers abroad in their international duties. While training to be a priest he worshipped sometimes at St Edmunds and is excited to take our service.

Culture Night this year is Friday 15 September and we hope to offer Anglican Choral Evensong at 17:30 in St Edmunds Church. Our Harvest Festival is likely to be Sunday 17 September.

On Sunday 24 September the Council makes a visit to Trondheim for its meeting. The Revd Helene Thomas will cover the St Edmunds Church service.

Remembrance Sunday will be based on the St Edmunds morning service this year, followed by a commemoration at the Commonwealth War Graves, and takes place on Sunday 12 November. The Swedish church has been booked for the annual Bazaar on Saturday 18 November.

The week of prayer for Christian unity will include a local united service as in recent years and this will be on Thursday 18 January.

*Ven Brian Russell  
Oslo Chaplain*



## IMPORTANT NOTICE

Please submit  
material for  
the next edition  
of Outpost  
by  
Sunday 30 July

## From the registers



### CONFIRMATION

#### St Edmunds, Oslo

Sunday 28 May 2017

Four candidates were confirmed by the Right Revd Paul Ferguson, Bishop of Whitby in the Diocese of York in England:

Susanne Bull Nussle  
Elliott Andreas Ottesen  
Nkemdilin Ekene Okolo  
Alexander Sandved

A candidate from St Edmunds, William Holter-Hovind, will shortly be confirmed in England.

### FUNERALS

#### Lier

Friday 21 April 2017

Aksel Arnecke, the husband of Ann, a member of the Drammen Ladies' Guild. Brian participated in the service.

#### Haslum Crematorium

Wednesday 26 April 2017

Irene Cathrine Kristiansen, born 1923 in England, came to Norway as a war bride. Brian conducted the funeral.



## Upcoming events



### Trondheim

- Thu 1 Jun 09:00 A *Thy Kingdom Come* Prayer Walk starting from Vår Frue church.  
Fri 2 Jun *Anglican Youth Gathering*. Contact Priscilla Ringrose for more information.  
Sun 4 Jun *Away Day Service* at Fjellseter Kapell, followed by bring & share, games and BBQ.  
Thu 17 Aug *VBS* (Vacation Bible School for 5–12-year-olds). Free, register with Revd April.  
Sun 27 Aug *Picnic & Play*, a bring and share picnic at the Marinen playground as Church Coffee after the School Start Service.

### Oslo

- Sun 4 Jun *Farewell Service* for Brian  
Sun 11 Jun *Chaplaincy picnic* with Brian & Pam at the home of Michael and Pamela Brooks. Transport provided from church.  
Sat 18 Nov *Christmas Bazaar* at the Swedish Church

### Stavanger

- Sun 4 Jun *AGM* after church service

### Bergen

- Sat 10 Jun *Welcome to newcomers Potluck Dinner* 16:00 in Mariastuen.

### Drammen

- Tue 12 Dec *Carol Service* 16:00 in Bragermæs Church.

### Anywhere else?

As long as there is space, we should be able to include any upcoming event of interest to Outpost readers.





## The Anglican Chaplaincy in Balestrand 18–21 May 2017



Once again this year there was a visit from the Anglican Chaplaincy in Norway to our English church in the village of Balestrand on the Sognefjord. Our main aim was to begin the Summer Chaplaincy there with a sense of spiritual uplift. The choir from St Edmunds in Oslo provided excellent choral music, and we were also delighted to welcome some members of our Bergen congregation.



Our Porvoo communion was strongly in evidence and we had over sixty people both for sung Compline with anthem on the Saturday evening and for the Sunday morning communion service. The Church of Norway Dean is also responsible for Balestrand, and he joined

our senior chaplain Brian for both services, with members of the Church of Norway congregation, as well as international tourists and visitors. The Bergen congregation presented a gift to Brian to mark his forthcoming retirement.



The visit also had a second and significant public impact. On Friday the official opening of the new Cider Museum took place at the Cider House in Balestrand. This is a restaurant and also a factory for Balholm fruit juices. The opening was led by the Norwegian Government Minister for Agriculture and the EU Ambassador to Norway, Helen Campbell, who is a member of our Chaplaincy, our choir and until recently our Council. TV cameras were there as well as a core of our St Edmunds choir. The choir began the event by singing an anthem, which gave a Christian context to the occasion. This was greatly appreciated and gave a focus for the Chaplaincy in Norway, much applauded by the guests, who included government and local authority (kommune) officials as well as many of the people in Balestrand who manage the hotels and facilities for tourists and visitors. As a thank you, the Cider House provided a cider ‘tasting’ for our group on Saturday afternoon – as may be seen in the pictures.



# Pru's

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## HOW TO KNOW YOU ARE GROWING OLDER

Everything hurts  
and what doesn't hurt doesn't work.

The gleam in your eye  
is from the sun hitting your glasses.

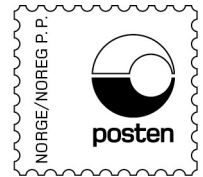
You feel like the night before  
and you haven't been anywhere.

You get winded playing chess.

Your children begin to look middle-aged.

You finally reach the top of the ladder  
and find it leaning against the wrong wall.





Retur: British Embassy  
0244 Oslo

