



The College of  
St Barnabas

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## St Barnabas Bulletin - New Year 2015

### Going the Extra Mile is a Huge Leap of Faith!

On Saturday 7th March 2015, College Fundraising Assistant, Vicky Jones (below, right) will skydive from a plane to raise funds to help the College care

“It’s shattering my nerves just thinking about it,” she says, “but I want to do something personally to help the College. This is really a wonderful place and is home to some amazing people, but we need help to look after them. No one is turned away if they can’t meet the cost of living here, but the College receives no government grants or financial support from the Church of England.

“This is why I have decided to do something extreme ... I have agreed (despite my mind and body telling me I must be crazy!) to jump from the skies to raise some much needed funds to benefit the lives of the elderly here who have given so much for others.”



If you would like to sponsor Vicky, you can do so by visiting her Just-Giving page at [www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Vicky-Jones17](http://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Vicky-Jones17), sending a donation by texting **VJSD80** and an amount of £1, £2, £3, £4, £5 or £10 to 70070, or send a cheque payable to “*The College of St. Barnabas*” to: Vicky’s Jump, The College of St. Barnabas, Blackberry Lane, Lingfield, RH7 6NJ. Please, make her jump worthwhile!

Caring for retired Anglican Clergy

# CHARACTERS FROM THE COLLEGE:

## Miss Myrtle Hall

“It’s a great relief to know I’m not alone ...”



Myrtle (*left*) has lived at the College since November 2013. She was a trained primary school teacher, spending 20 years as a missionary in Nigeria and fundraising tirelessly to establish Atunda-Olu School for physically handicapped children. Next year the School celebrates its 50th anniversary.

At the age of 48 Myrtle came back to England to attend university, gaining an Advanced Certificate in the Education of Handicapped Children. She then went back to rural Nigeria, setting up a second school, before returning to the UK to work with mentally handicapped adults.

It was after retirement that Myrtle began to have mobility problems. An operation on her right knee followed by a broken left leg ushered in a gradual decline in movement to the point that Myrtle struggled to walk. She managed to retain a degree of her independence by investing in a mobility power chair. This proved to be invaluable to her, greatly improving her quality of life.

Since then the power chair has been in constant use. Sadly it is now wearing out. This has made Myrtle feel particularly vulnerable, because if the chair broke down she would need a hoist to transfer her to a wheelchair. This would make venturing outside the College a daunting prospect and would limit her precious independence.

Sadly, because of her financial situation, Myrtle could not afford to replace her power chair. As a missionary, devoting her life to others, Myrtle never had either the opportunity or the means to save for her future. She has virtually no savings and Social Services cannot help.

Without the power chair Myrtle would become completely reliant on the nursing team, unable even to leave her room without help. She would no longer be able simply to visit her many friends both inside and outside the College.

Fortunately, the College’s fundraising team heard about the problem and set about identifying sources and securing some charitable grants towards the £2,000 needed for a new chair. It is essential for Myrtle to be able to live as independently as possible. “I was thrilled when I found out that the College would be able to help me,” says Myrtle. “I would become so isolated without my power chair. “It’s a great relief to feel I’m not all alone in this”.

# General Sir Hugh Beach, GBE KCB MC

**The College is perhaps not the first place one might expect to find a retired military officer among the residents.**

Yet in June 2014 we welcomed General Sir Hugh Beach (*right*) to the community.

Sir Hugh is a member of the Third Order of the Society of St Francis. It was while attending a meeting of the Order in 1949 that he met his future wife of 38 years, Estelle. They married when she completed her medical training and she became a GP, a calling which she followed throughout their marriage. They had four children, who between them became a medical writer, a prize-winning molecular geneticist, a property developer and a wild-life photographer.

After distinguished wartime active service during which he was awarded the MC, Sir Hugh became successively Commandant of the Staff College at Camberley, Deputy Commander-in-Chief UK Land Forces and Master-General of the Ordnance.

In younger days, Sir Hugh was an oarsman for his Cambridge College. Later, in his mid-forties, he took up sailing and skiing. "I loved skiing, and went on into my mid-eighties," he says, "but never achieved more than modest competence. The children are much better and two of the grandchildren are excellent.

"We began sailing boats larger than dinghies in 1970 and took it quite seriously for about ten years. We had a 35-foot Catamaran, but sadly we capsized her in the Round-the-Island race in 1978 and she was lost. Next year, having bought a keel-boat, we survived the great Fastnet storm, though failed to complete the course. We won our class in a cross-channel race organised by the Royal Ocean Racing Club. When I left the army I sold our boat, but several of the family have continued to enjoy sailing holidays ever since."

After his retirement from the army in 1981 he became the Warden of St George's House, Windsor, where many clergy have studied as part of their continuing ministerial development. He has also chaired boards of Church Army and SPCK, the Advisory Committee for the Care of Churches of the Diocese of Winchester, and the Fabric Advisory Committee of the Cathedral there.

Sir Hugh's particular area of expertise is in the field of ethical issues of peace and war. He has contributed chapters to more than two dozen books and was co-author of a book on British nuclear weapons policy. He is a member of the Executive Committee of the Council for Christian Approaches to Defence and Disarmament. With such experience and knowledge, it was no surprise that the paper he delivered to the College Theology Group raised some exceptionally thought-provoking issues and produced a lively discussion.



# Important news and forthcoming events

This year the College will be exhibiting at three

## Christian Resources Exhibitions

Come and see us first on **Stand A13** at the  
**Westpoint Centre, Exeter on 10 and 11 February**

To order complimentary tickets as our guests, visit:  
[www.creonline.co.uk/southwesttickets](http://www.creonline.co.uk/southwesttickets)

### Advance Notice:

Make a date to visit the College  
during our

### Patronal Festival Open Afternoon

**Saturday 13 June from 2.30 pm.**

Live jazz from the Royal Ascot Trio,  
the East Surrey Morris Men,  
personal tours of our historic buildings,  
homemade afternoon tea

Q. What can I do  
to really help the College?

A. That's easy.

Make your gift by  
regular standing order.

No post. No cheques.

No fuss.

*More and more people are making a final gift to charity in their Will.  
You don't have to be rich or eccentric to help your favoured causes in this way.  
It is quick and it's easy.  
And it's an enduring statement of your commitment and compassion.*

Please contact us for more information about setting up a standing order,  
leaving a gift to the College in your Will  
or for details of the other ways in which you can help our Residents.

Email: [fundraiser@collegeofstbarnabas.com](mailto:fundraiser@collegeofstbarnabas.com)

Tel: 01342 872813

Post: FREEPOST RLXB-KZXX-SZXJ, (no stamp required)

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