



Outlook Magazine 2015-2016

As in previous years, *Outlook*, the church magazine, has been published monthly, with double issues in the summer and at Christmas. It contains articles on a range of issues, spiritual topics, current issues of interest to Christians and local interest stories, with occasional contributions from the children at BWI School

In May 2014, Tim Rollin joined the editorial team, followed in June by Colin Green, of Wildfire Design, who overhauled and professionalised the magazine's layout and appearance. The *Outlook* production team now consists of Tim Rollin as editor, Karin Farnworth and Mark Birch as assistant editors, Colin Green who designs and produces the magazine and Nicola Parsons, who designs the covers. The actual printing of the magazine is carried out by Mail Boxes Etc., in the High Street

In the last year we have been able to publish quite a few contributions from our clergy – apart from our regular monthly slots of 'Fr Simon Writes' we have had regular contributions from Fr Jack: 'Ask St Martin', one from Fr Nick (July 2015), on his departure, and Fr Peter in Sicily (Dec 2015). And then of course, the Wedding! (Sep 2015). There has also been in the April 2015 edition, a more profound view of where the CofE is going – 'Facing the Future' from Fr Simon. We also have a regular short piece 'Observations on Prayer' from the teachings of Fr Ken Toovey, which started in November 2015.

Most articles are from regular contributors within the St Martin's congregation. We regularly try to persuade members of the congregation to contribute something, and are always pleased to receive articles, features, photos and drawings of whatever merit. Nevertheless, it is still something of an uphill struggle. Everyone is invited to submit material or ideas for future issues.

In March 2014, the price of Outlook was increased from 50p, the charge since 2008, to £1 per issue. This is still something of a drag on sales.

Different people are looking for different things in a church magazine. People I have asked have indicated that there seems to have been an improvement in the quality both of the production and editorial content since 2013. I am convinced that Outlook magazine is on the right track and is getting better

Tim Rollin