

Kettle & Fish News

August 2013

With temperatures soaring into - and staying in - the 30s - the talk has recently been about nothing but the heat. The Brits are notorious for always talking about the weather, but it's been fully justified of late!

Thank goodness, then, for St Peter's, especially on a Thursday. To come into a cool environment, away from the glaring sun, to sit in the shade beneath that beautiful, serene ceiling is a real blessing. Paradoxically, because the temperature in St Peter's remains fairly constant throughout the year, in the winter folk come into the church not to cool down but to escape the cold and enjoy the glowing radiators!

St Peter's is a place of refuge not only against the extremes of our climate but also as a haven of calm when the world outside whisks along at breakneck speed.

This situation put me in mind of that lovely psalm, Psalm 42, which begins - 'As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, O God.'

The writer of the psalm yearns after God, is desperate to find him, desires to slake his spiritual thirst through contact with God. Many Christians share that urge for communion with God. They know that that is where they will find genuine satisfaction for their 'souls', that Jesus through his life on earth showed the way to God. They may at times drift along in their own sufficiency but in the final analysis they know that a relationship with God is the only way to really deep fulfilment, a fulfilment that is lasting and thrilling.

Malcolm