

# A VIEW FROM THE VICARAGE

## **A final farewell, and the Vicarage is empty**

At Vicar Catherine's last 11am service at St Mary's, Church Warden Lesley Philpot presented her with a card signed by the congregation, and thanked her for her support and guidance during her time at Winkfield. Catherine gave all three churches an engraved glass, for which we all thanked her.

So the Vacancy is now a reality, and we must look after our churches and congregations and outreach without the guiding hand of a Vicar for the time being. This is a challenge, and a solemn responsibility, as it is our job to ensure that, when a new Vicar had been found and installed, he or she will come to a happy and well-organised parish that will eagerly continue God's work under his or her leadership.

Meanwhile, in this slot, we will try to give guidance and encouragement. Moira Gaw, PCC Lay Chair, has the first word.

## **To every thing there is a season**

*... and a time to every purpose under the heaven. Ecclesiastes 3*

I'm sure that many of us are feeling sad that Catherine has left to take up a new appointment. There are countless memories to treasure and each one of us will have our own special recollection of her ministry.

Now is also however a time to be looking forward, getting excited by the idea that somewhere the Lord will be calling someone to be the next vicar of Winkfield and Cranbourne.

The term used for the period of time without a vicar is "The Vacancy" and no matter how well a Benefice is organised, there is a need for clear planning, with the main focus being on - how to cope and how to flourish.

It is a transitional period in church life, and the churchwardens will work closely together with the PCCs to ensure that everything runs smoothly in the interim. This provides an excellent opportunity to form the basis of collaborative ministry for the benefit of all.

As we start the long process of searching for our new vicar, we ask for your prayers, that we may be guided in this task.

*Heavenly Father, we thank you for the ministry of Catherine, and we pray for your presence and blessing upon her.*

*We ask now that you will help us to share responsibility, grow in faith, love one another, care for those in need, reach out to others and welcome newcomers.*

*Lord Jesus, guard and grow our churches, as we serve you together in this period without a vicar.*

*Please guide those who are seeking the right minister for us,*

*And those who are seeking the right church for their ministry,*

*That together we may discover your way for the future and see your kingdom grow.*

*Amen*

Moira Gaw, Lay Chair, Winkfield PCC.

## From the Registers

No items have been drawn to our attention.

## In Memoriam – Ciss Chapman

Ciss Chapman passed away 21st July 2012.

Thinking of you always – your family and friends

## Bits and Pieces

### Office opening hours (Friday closed):

Mondays: 9:30am to 12:30pm

Tuesdays: 9:30am to 12:30pm

Wednesdays: 9:30am to 3:30pm

Thursdays: 9:30am to 12:30pm

### Contact info

Church Office: c/o St Martin's Church, Church Road, Chavey Down, SL5 8RR Phone: 01344 882933

Website: [www.winkfieldandcranbourne.org.uk](http://www.winkfieldandcranbourne.org.uk)

email: [admin@winkfieldandcranbourne.org.uk](mailto:admin@winkfieldandcranbourne.org.uk)

If you are arranging an event please contact Alison Burt in the Church Office so that it can be noted in the Church diary and mentioned on the website. Alison will endeavour to keep track of activities and timings etc. You may view event details on the website given above.

**Morning office** (daily prayers) – Everyone is welcome to attend.

Tuesdays: 9:15am, usually Mary Knight, will be at St Martin's

Fridays: 9:30am will be at St. Peter's – but check during the Vacancy!

## Events, Notices and Dates for your Diaries

The deadline for articles etc. for the September edition is 15<sup>th</sup> August 2015 (no acknowledgements before 16/8/15). The collation date is 28<sup>th</sup> August.

## **Chavey Down Women's Institute – July 2015**

Our monthly meeting this month is on Monday 20th at which our speaker will be Mr Askew titled “The plant Hunters”. We heard him last year on “Royal landscapes and gardens” which proved to be most interesting.

If you are interested in gardening then do come along: there is always something that you can learn!

Saturday 18th July sees us at Ascot Horticultural show which is held at LVS, with our usual cake, bric-a-brac and gift stall. So please do come and support this local event.

Our August meeting is on Monday 17th at Ascot Priory at 3pm. This will be mainly an outside meeting with games and activities. You are very welcome to bring friends and family along and enjoy a bring-and-share tea. There will be a raffle and bring and buy stall.

Visitors are always more than welcome to come along and join us.

Janey Bethune-Williams 883854

## **World Ship Society**

On 2<sup>nd</sup> July, Allan Onions will give a talk entitled ‘From Liberty to Friendship’. Carnation Hall, 7:45 for 8pm.

On 6<sup>th</sup> August, David Trevor-Jones will give an illustrated talk on the ‘History of CTC’. Carnation Hall 7:45 for 8pm.

All welcome.

Brenda Mayes, Thames Valley Branch

## **Relay for Life event, Ascot Race Course, 18<sup>th</sup> July 2015**

Plans for this year's Relay For Life event at Ascot Race Course on July 18th are well under way. 40 teams have already registered to take part and are actively fundraising. Over 50 local cancer survivors have already registered to walk the Opening Celebration Lap and enjoy their Vintage Tea Party. A full programme of live entertainment and fun activities has all been planned. All that is left is for us to invite you to please join us on the day for a really inspirational and fun day out. The gates open at 12 noon for the Opening Ceremony and Survivors Lap, led by Reading Scottish Pipe Band. Singers, dancers, live bands, Zumba, Line Dancing and a very special visit from the Frozen Princesses Elsa and Anya will happen from 4pm.

By 9:30pm everything quietens for the beautiful Candle of Hope Ceremony where we light the word HOPE and dedicate candles around the track to

those lost to cancer. Everyone is welcome to join us for this beautiful ceremony and also to dedicate their own tribute.

Please join us for a very enjoyable and inspirational day out and help us raise funds for Cancer Research UK. Saturday July 18th from 12 noon at The Silver Ring, Ascot Race Course. [www.relayforlifeascot.co.uk](http://www.relayforlifeascot.co.uk)

Rose Dalton 36a North Road, Chavey Down SL5 8RP or Tel 07799114868.

## Ascot Horticultural Society

Is summer really here? Some of us are still waiting.

**Hilliers** is a well known name on the national horticultural scene. Last year the company celebrated 150 years in the business of growing plants and serving gardeners and so we are especially privileged to welcome Kevin Hobbs, the current Wholesale Nursery Director to our meeting on **Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> July**. He will present a 'potted history' of this family business and a talk on **"The Discovery, Creation, Trial and Introduction of New and Unusual Plants"**, and may also bring along some interesting plants for sale in aid of charity.

**"Cacti & Succulents"** Many of us almost neglect them and yet somehow they seem to survive and often even thrive. On **Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> August** Alice Vanden Bon, from the Berkshire Cacti & Succulent Society, has kindly agreed to enlighten us on this enormous and fascinating group of plants adapted for some of the most diverse and demanding of environmental conditions.

**Ascot Summer Show.** High Summer is show time and this, the major event of the Society's year, will take place on **Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> July at the LV School, London Road, Ascot, from 1pm**. As usual, besides horticulture, the show encompasses floral art, cookery, handicrafts and photography and is a real celebration of the achievements and creative talents of local people be they members or non-members, adults or children. Refreshments will be available and additional attractions will include displays by various local organisations, craftsmen and traders and also entertainment for children - altogether an excellent afternoon outing for the whole family. [If you would like to enter exhibits in the Show or reserve a place for a stall for yourself or an organisation, and the more the better, full details can be found on the society web-site or by calling the Show Secretary on 01344 884637.](#)

Peter Cleare

## St Mary's Women's Guild Open House

The open house will take Tuesday 4 August 1100 - 1600 hrs. at 25 Huntsmans Meadow. Tickets £10 to include bumper raffle prize. Proceeds

to the Electrical Improvement Works fund for St Mary's. Contact any Guild member for more details.

## *News from around the Parish*

### **St Mary's Junior Choir**

The junior choir has performed solo items at two recent important services. The first was Catherine's last 11am service at St Mary's on 24<sup>th</sup> May, when they sang the 'Spirit of God'. It was an excellent rendering and delighted Catherine. The second important one was the Magna Carta service on 14<sup>th</sup> June when the Junior Choir's contribution was "When a Knight won his spurs". It was another splendid performance. The choir will sing again at the Family Matins service on July 12. Several of the children have asked to join the adult choir and so now sing at other 11am services.

Rehearsals, taken by Marilyn Rogers, are at **7pm on Thursdays, in St Mary's Church**. For more information, please contact Lesley Philpot 427561 or [lesleyphilpot@btinternet.com](mailto:lesleyphilpot@btinternet.com)

### **Popel's Cottages Almshouse Vacancy**

We are pleased to report that the vacancy has been filled.

### **Bracknell Flower Club**

Congratulations to this club! Their Chairman Alison Phillips, a St. Martin's Flower arranger, and Sally Hardy, their designer, staged a flower arrangement in the Pavilion this year at Chelsea named 'Mirror Image' and were awarded a Silver Gilt. Well done.

Ruth Timbrell

### **St. Mary's Choir**

The Parish of Winkfield lies within the old royal hunting park of Windsor Forest and, being so close to Windsor Castle, a favourite residence of many monarchs, must have seen and known about a lot of important historical events over the centuries. It would be fascinating to glimpse what life was like in Winkfield at the time King John sealed Magna Carta 800 years ago at Runnymede.

Our special Evensong on June 14<sup>th</sup> was to celebrate this event, which did much to establish rights and liberties still enjoyed today, both here and in other democratic countries. The service contained readings from scripture and excerpts from Magna Carta itself, and our hymns and anthems were chosen to reflect the subjects of the readings. The choir, with the help of

our loyal “Friends”, sang pieces that included a setting of “Kyrie Eleison” (Lord have mercy upon us), “Lead me Lord” by S.S.Wesley and “If ye love me” by P.Wilby. We also sang a delightful setting of a Hebrew song “Al shlosa d’varim” by A Naplan. Our hymns included ‘Thy hand O God has guided’, and ‘Judge eternal, throned in splendour’; and the service ended with a rousing singing of ‘Jerusalem’. It was a delight to hear St. Mary’s Handbell Ringers again: they gave us a lovely and beautifully performed version of ‘Sumer is icumen in’, just right for a sunny June afternoon.

We must make a particular mention of our junior choir who bravely joined in the senior choir’s items and then, on their own, sang “When a knight won his spurs” most beautifully.

Our sincere thanks go to Mary Knight, Lay Minister, who led the service, John Kimbell who arranged the programme, Maurice Rogers, organist, and Marilyn Rogers who trained the children. Thanks also to everyone else who helped, including readers and singers, who, I hope, will forgive me for not naming them all individually. It was another very lovely and memorable occasion at St. Mary’s.

We were sorry to say goodbye to our Vicar Catherine Blundell at her final Communion Service at St. Mary’s on May 24<sup>th</sup>. We gave her a good musical send-off and wish her, David and John the very best for their ministry in Chalke Valley. We hope that her replacement will not be too long away, but in the meanwhile, services continue. The senior and junior choirs will take a break during the month of August, but will be practicing as usual during July and September.

Juniors – Thursdays 7 to 7:30pm

Seniors – Thursdays 7:30 to 8:30pm

Come and join us!

Marian Stevens 10344 882918

**Don’t forget “Music and Merriment” – Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2015, 7:30pm at St. Mary’s – our great Christmas Concert with a great new look! More details in the next Parish Mag.**

## **My Confirmation**

On 4<sup>th</sup> April, I was confirmed at Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford by the Rt Revd Colin Fletcher OBE who is the Bishop of Dorchester and known as Bishop Colin. I had spent a day with Catherine at St Peter’s church a couple of weeks before the event, to prepare for it. We made bread and talked about our faith and making the decision to be a full member of the church.

I went to the Cathedral with my Mum, Dad, Grandma, Nan, Auntie Shirley, (my godmother), cousin Rosanne and family friend Patricia. Mary Knight and Lesley Philpot were also there and two others from St Mary's who were being confirmed. All the candidates went to a rehearsal at 6 o'clock so we all knew what to do during the service. There was a buffet for all the candidates and their family and friends in the Vestry before the service.

Just before 8pm we made our way back to the cathedral. Our Confirmation service was part of the Easter Liturgy; the service itself was in three parts. The first part was 'The Service of Light' with the cathedral in darkness. Everyone was given a candle, and the first candle was lit and then passed to the next person to light theirs, and so on, until all the candles were alight.

The second part was called 'The Vigil', and we had readings and sang psalms. Two thirds of the way through 'The Vigil', we had the Easter Acclaim. There was a fanfare; some people had brought along small musical instruments, others banged saucepan lids or clapped. It was very uplifting! The cathedral lights were then switched on and we blew our candles out.

The last part of the service was 'The Liturgy of Initiation' – in other words our Confirmation. The candidates came from various parishes, and we were presented to the Bishop in turn by our clergy; in my case this was Mary Knight. When it was my turn I felt very excited. I knelt before the Bishop and he laid his hand on my head and drew the sign of the cross on my forehead. It was a special moment. After the service I had my photo taken with the Bishop and then we went home as it was getting late.

The next morning, on Easter Sunday, I took my first communion. I liked the bread and the wine was OK, although it tasted a bit sharp! I was glad that my dad was serving that day, because, at the end of the service, the other two candidates and I lit a candle, and dad, carrying the cross, led us down the aisle, past the welcoming congregation, to the church door. I felt happy that I had been confirmed and would be able to take communion from now on.

Duncan French

## **St Mary's Women's Guild**

Jean Spratley's operation had been successful, and it was hoped she would be transferred to Frimley hospital. Mary Knight told the meeting that she had given Communion to Betty Edy who was not well. Joan Doughty's operation was to take place on June 2, the date of the Guild meeting.

June Trainor discussed the Treasurer's report. Doreen Potter advised members of the flower rota.

John Kimbell, a Master at Lambrook and as 'extra member' of St Mary's choir, gave a fascinating talk on the work involved in putting together a service to commemorate the 800th Anniversary of the Sealing of the Magna Carta on 15<sup>th</sup> June 1215. He reminded members that he had been involved in the solemn commemoration service, last August, on the Centenary of the outbreak of the First World War and explained the rationale behind the structure of that event.

The Magna Carta service would run on similar lines: Mary Knight would welcome the congregation with lines from the opening of Magna Carta 1215 and use lines from Clause 62 following the prayers. There would be nine readings from seven numbered Clauses of the Magna Carta plus the Opening and Preamble. All these clauses emphasise freedom. There would also be six bible readings and several choir items, including two plainchant pieces, a form of medieval church music that involves chanting and that emerged at around 100AD. Plainchant doesn't use any instrumental accompaniment, just solo voices. It was the only type of music allowed in Christian churches in medieval times, and survives in harmonised forms in some hymns and in the Merbecke setting of the Creed that we sing today.

There would also be several congregational hymns.

All these elements would be grouped together as a succession of thematic clusters consisting of a reading from Magna Carta itself, a congregation hymn, a scripture reading and a musical piece performed by the Church Choir, the Children's Choir or the Handbell Ringers, who were preparing "Sumer Is Icumen In": a medieval composition of the mid 13th century. The Tower Bells would also ring before the service on 14<sup>th</sup> June.

The Magna Carta - the Great Charter - is a charter agreed by King John of England, drafted in part by the Archbishop of Canterbury, to make peace between the unpopular King and a group of rebel barons. The clauses still in force today guarantee the autonomy of the English Church, the liberties of the City of London, the right to freedom and the entitlement to justice. Mention will be made of these as well as additional clauses relating to the King's forgiveness of the Barons' actions and the establishment of a council of Barons to enforce the King's promises. (An article on 'The Church and the Charter' can be found on page 16; this clarifies the archbishop's role.)

It was a very interesting and informative talk and we very are much indebted to John for agreeing to be involved with the service. John took questions at the end of the presentation and Mary Knight closed the meeting with prayers.

Lesley Philpot

# SERVICES ACROSS THE PARISH

**NOTE.** Holy Communion, Holy Matrimony and Baptisms services are taken by Clergy. Other services may be taken by Lay or Clergy. Lay ministers include: Stuart Ager, Paula Darrall, Mary Knight, Jacki Thomas, and Mike Thomas. Service information given below is correct at time of going to print – **but please check the website for up-to-date information!**

## St Mary's – July and August services

July	Day	Time	Service
5	5 <sup>th</sup> Sun. after Trinity	9:30am	Messy Church
		11am	Holy Communion (BCP)
12	6 <sup>th</sup> Sun. after Trinity	8am	Holy Communion (BCP)
		9:30am	Family Praise
		11am	Family Matins
19	7 <sup>th</sup> Sun. after Trinity	9:30am	Family Praise
		11am	Holy Communion (BCP)
26	8 <sup>th</sup> Sun. after Trinity	8am	Holy Communion (BCP)
		9:30am	Family Praise
		11am	Matins
<b>August</b>			
2	9 <sup>th</sup> Sun. after Trinity	9:30am	Summer Praise – no Messy Church
		11am	Holy Communion (BCP)
9	10 <sup>th</sup> Sun. after Trinity	8am	Holy Communion (BCP)
		9:30am	Summer Praise
		11am	Family Matins
16	11 <sup>th</sup> Sun. after Trinity	9:30am	Summer Praise
		11am	Holy Communion (BCP)
23	12 <sup>th</sup> Sun. after Trinity	8am	Holy Communion (BCP)
		9:30am	Summer Praise
		11am	Matins
30	13 <sup>th</sup> Sun. after Trinity	8am	Holy Communion (BCP)
		9:30am	Summer Praise
		11am	Matins
		1pm	Baptism

## St Martin's, Chavey Down – July and August services

July	Day	Time	Service
5	5 <sup>th</sup> Sun. after Trinity	9:30am	Family Service
12	6 <sup>th</sup> Sun. after Trinity	9:30am	Holy Communion
19	7 <sup>th</sup> Sun. after Trinity	9:30am	Morning Prayer
26	8 <sup>th</sup> Sun. after Trinity	9:30am	Holy Communion
<b>August</b>			
2	9 <sup>th</sup> Sun. after Trinity	9:30am	Family Service
9	10 <sup>th</sup> Sun. after Trinity	9:30am	Holy Communion
16	11 <sup>th</sup> Sun. after Trinity	9:30am	Morning Prayer
23	12 <sup>th</sup> Sun. after Trinity	9:30am	Holy Communion
30	13 <sup>th</sup> Sun. after Trinity	9:30am	Morning Prayer

## St Peter's, Cranbourne – July and August services

July	Day	Time	Service
7	1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday after Trinity	8am	Holy Communion (BCP)
		11am	SPAS/All Together Service
14	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Trinity	11am	Holy Communion
		12:45pm	Baptism
		1:30pm	Baptism
21	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Trinity	8am	Holy Communion (BCP)
		11am	Morning Prayer
28	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity	11am	Holy Communion
<b>August</b>			
2	9 <sup>th</sup> Sun. after Trinity	8am	Holy Communion (BCP)
		11am	SPAS/All Together Service
9	10 <sup>th</sup> Sun. after Trinity	11am	Holy Communion
16	11 <sup>th</sup> Sun. after Trinity	8am	Holy Communion (BCP)
		11am	Morning Prayer
23	12 <sup>th</sup> Sun. after Trinity	11am	Holy Communion
30	13 <sup>th</sup> Sun. after Trinity	11am	Morning Prayer

# Winkfield Row Methodist Church – July and August

## How to find the Winkfield Row Methodist Church:

We are located in Winkfield Row opposite Lambrook School: Winkfield Row, Bracknell RG42 6NE.  
Telephone: 01344 411417



Morning worship 10:30am (unless stated). **All are welcome!**

### July services

5<sup>th</sup> Holy Communion: Revd Jackie Case  
12<sup>th</sup> Maggy Garton  
19<sup>th</sup> Local Arrangement  
26<sup>th</sup> Jonny Cunningham



### August services

2<sup>nd</sup> Holy Communion: Revd Jackie Case  
9<sup>th</sup> Mary Elms  
16<sup>th</sup> Peter Whalley  
23<sup>rd</sup> Kim Tame  
30<sup>th</sup> Rosi MorganBarry



## Flowers & Cleaning Rotas

### St Mary's – July and August 2015

Dates	Flowers
3 <sup>rd</sup> and 10 <sup>th</sup> July	Jane Hodgson and Anna Clayton
17 <sup>th</sup> and 21 <sup>st</sup> -July	Jane Cullen and Penny Cardwell
31 <sup>st</sup> July	Doreen Potter and Esther Bond (wedding 1 <sup>st</sup> Aug)
August	
7 <sup>th</sup> August	Doreen Potter and Esther Bond
14 <sup>th</sup> and 21 <sup>st</sup> August	Jean Brown and Alex Jolly (wedding 15 <sup>th</sup> Aug.)
28 <sup>th</sup> August	Doreen Potter and Mary Haines

### St Martin's – July and August 2015

Dates	Flowers	Cleaning
5 <sup>th</sup> July	Mrs Bunker/Mrs Smith	Mrs Paramor
12 <sup>th</sup> July	Mrs Bunker/Mrs Smith	Mrs Paramor
19 <sup>th</sup> July	Mrs Fanning /Mrs Logan	Mrs Jenkins
26 <sup>th</sup> July	Mrs Fanning /Mrs Logan	Mrs Jenkins

Dates	Flowers	Cleaning
2 <sup>nd</sup> August	Mrs Atkinson	Mrs Dickinson
9 <sup>th</sup> August	Mrs Sawdon/Mrs Greenfield	Mrs Vicos
16 <sup>th</sup> August	Mrs Sawdon/Mrs Greenfield	Mrs Vicos
23 <sup>rd</sup> August	Mrs Zerilli/Mrs Randall	Mrs Luff
30 <sup>th</sup> August	Mrs Zerilli/Mrs Randall	Mrs Luff

## What's on in July and August 2015

*NB. All content in these lists may be subject to change without notice.*

### Regular events

Day	Event
Mondays not including Bank Holidays	Ascot Bridge Club – Chavey Down, Ascot. For more information please call David Calcutt on 886412, or visit the web site <a href="http://www.ascotbridge.org.uk">www.ascotbridge.org.uk</a>
	Pilates with Amanda Mann at St Martin's Church from 9:30-10:30am & 10:45-11:45am. Visit the website: <a href="http://www.amandamann.uk.com">www.amandamann.uk.com</a> or email <a href="mailto:info@amandamann.uk.com">info@amandamann.uk.com</a> or call Amanda on 07767 816499
	Ballet With Victoria Lyons at St Peters Hall. For more information call 638538.
	Ascot Yoga 7:45-9pm at Carnation hall. Visit <a href="http://www.ascotzumba.co.uk">www.ascotzumba.co.uk</a> for more info or contact Flo Young on 07711077038 email <a href="mailto:Flo@ascotzumba.co.uk">Flo@ascotzumba.co.uk</a>
Mondays not including Bank Holidays	Fun Adult Jive Classes at King Edwards Hall, SL5 8PD. Contact Debra on 07748 391776 or email <a href="mailto:john@jive-cats.co.uk">john@jive-cats.co.uk</a>
Tuesdays	Short Mat Bowls at Carnation Hall at 7pm. For more information please ring 882916 or 884553.
Wednesdays	EXTEND – fun, fitness & movement classes for the over-60s. 10:30-11:30am at St Martin's Church Hall, SL5 8RR. Please contact Elizabeth Wright AISTID tel: 883078 or email: <a href="mailto:lizziewright25@hotmail.com">lizziewright25@hotmail.com</a>
	Zumba gold class at St Peter's church hall 7-8pm
	Pilates classes at Carnation Hall: Contact Rebecca on 0774 860 3145, email: <a href="mailto:pilatesascot@btinternet.com">pilatesascot@btinternet.com</a> or visit <a href="http://www.pilatesascot.co.uk">www.pilatesascot.co.uk</a> .

Day	Event
2nd Wednesday of the month	Ascot Horticultural Society meets at 7:45pm in King Edward's Hall, North Ascot (unless otherwise stated). All welcome. Admission: members £1.00 and visitors £2.50. Details on <a href="http://www.ascothorticulturalsociety.org.uk">www.ascothorticulturalsociety.org.uk</a> or call Peter Cleare on 01344 622086.
Thursdays	Indoor carpet bowling (no skill required) 2pm to 3:30pm at St Peter's church
	The Carnation Badminton Club plays on Thursdays at Carnation Hall, 8-10pm. New members welcome.
	Ballroom and Latin American dance classes, at the British Legion Hall in Hatchet Lane, Cranbourne, Pay as you go. To find out more, call 621353 or e-mail <a href="mailto:dancejanet@hotmail.com">dancejanet@hotmail.com</a>
1st Friday of the month	Pebbles at 10:30am - a new praise time for pre-schoolers and their parents/carers, with stories, songs and prayers at St Peter's Church, Hatchet Lane, Cranbourne SL4 2EG. Please contact Paula Liverseidge 07584 375386 or email <a href="mailto:paula_liverseidge@hotmail.com">paula_liverseidge@hotmail.com</a>

## Other events

Day	July	Event	Time/place
Thu	2	World Ship Society: talk by Allan Onions 'From Liberty to Friendship'	7:45 for 8pm Carnation Hall
Thu	2	Church Wardens Tea – hosted by St Martin's Church	2-3:30pm at St Peter's Church
Sat	4	Baptism Preparation	9:30am St Mary's Church
Sat	4	Ascot Horticultural Society: Kevin Hobbs of Hilliers talk on "The Discovery, Creation, Trial and Introduction of New and Unusual Plants" (see p4 and under Regular Events above)	
Wed	8	Ascot Horticultural Society: Kevin Hobbs of Hilliers talk on "The Discovery, Creation, Trial and Introduction of New and Unusual Plants" (see p4 and under Regular Events above)	
Sat	11	Cats Protection – Summer Fete	1-4pm Carnation Hall, Chavey Down Road RG42 7PA
Sat	18	Relay for Life event (p3 & <a href="http://www.relayforlifescot.co.uk">www.relayforlifescot.co.uk</a> )	12 noon to 10pm at The Silver Ring, Ascot Race Course.

Day	July	Event	Time/place
Sat	18	Ascot Horticultural Show (See pages 3 and 4)	LVS
Mon	20	Chavey Down WI: talk by Mr Askew: see p3	7:45pm in St Martin's Church Hall.
<b>August</b>			
Sat	1	No Baptism preparation today – back in September	
Thu	6	World Ship Society: talk by David Trevor-Jones on the History of CTC	7.45 for 8pm Carnation Hall
Thu	6	No Church Wardens Tea today – back in September	
Wed	12	Ascot Horticultural Society talk by Alice Vanden on Cacti & Succulents – see p4	
Mon	17	Chavey Down WI – see p3	3pm at Ascot Priory
Mon	24	Holiday at Home at St Peter's – Classic Film Show	
Tue	25	Holiday at Home at St Peter's – Vintage Tea Party	
Wed	26	Holiday at Home at St Peter's - Bingo & Sing-along -	
Thu	27	Holiday at Home at St Peter's - Indoor Bowling	

## *More news from around the Parish*



**KEEP CALM  
AND  
CARRY ON  
BELLRINGING**

**ST MARY'S WINKFIELD TOWER BELL RINGERS**

**PRACTICE EVERY MONDAY**

**Beginners: 7.30pm – 8.00pm**  
**Full practice: 8.00pm – 9.15pm**

**For details call Tower Captain Tony Bish on  
01344 886087 or why not just come along!**

### **St Mary's Bell Ringers**

Following on from last month I can report that we were, sadly, beaten by a better team in the striking competition! However we had a very enjoyable evening's ringing with the other team and Graham, who kindly judged for us.

We also enjoyed our " Give it a Go" session, which was well attended, with people climbing up the tower to see the bells, having a ring and then joining us on the hand bells. Also partaking of the excellent home-made

cakes – well done and thanks to all who contributed. If you missed the day and would like to have a go then do get in touch, and we will organise things for you.

The bells and curry evening went well with the most amazing selection of wonderful dishes! Nothing is planned but we always get a huge variety of food and nothing duplicated!!

Next for us is the Magna Carta service where we are performing a piece that we have been working on for many weeks - hopefully you will enjoy it. We are certainly looking forward to this service.

*They did a superb job! We all enjoyed a very professional performance. Eds.*

We have received the music for the hand bell service at Guildford Cathedral on November 14th which we still start to practice. I can recommend this service to you if you are free - it involves many teams of hand bell ringers in the service and is always very moving.

Jill Glennerster 01344-884071

## **Another anniversary.**

This year, the St. Dunstan's Charity celebrates its anniversary – it was established 100 years ago for soldiers who lost their sight in the First World War. It is now named Blind Veterans U.K.

On 4<sup>th</sup> June 2015, a special Garden Party was held at Buckingham Palace with the Duchess of Wessex in attendance. Jane Hore from Locks Ride was invited to this party in memory of her husband Cyril (father of Timothy) who in his later years went blind and who had been supported by the original St. Dunstan's. Cyril has a Pavior in a walkway at the National Arboretum named the St. Dunstan's Walkway which Jane visits by special invitation.

In this, the 70th Anniversary of the end of WW2, it is well to remember not only those who gave their lives in this conflict but also those whose lives were blighted afterwards. Cyril was the sole survivor of a Wellington Bomber crash in which all the crew were burnt. They had been on a bombing mission and, being a devout Christian, Cyril found this very difficult to live with. A year after the event, Cyril was admitted to Hospital suffering from severe depression, but he picked himself up and obtained a high position as District Treasurer for Ashford Hospital Middlesex. His wife Jane was a Nursing Sister, and their son Timothy is an accomplished musician and organist, and played the organ at St. Peter's Church, Cranbourne, for several years.

Ruth Timbrell

# Thoughts of all sorts

## ‘The Church and the Charter’ by Thomas Andrew

The English Church was both a direct and an indirect influence on the Magna Carta of 1215, in its existence, in the ideas that it embraces and even in the wording itself. This article summarises Thomas Andrew’s fine essay ‘The Church and the Charter – Christianity and the forgotten roots of the Magna Carta’<sup>1</sup>, exploring the relationship of the Church to Magna Carta.

### Background history

It is necessary to go back even further, into the 11<sup>th</sup> Century, and the stance of Pope Gregory VII (1015-1085). In very difficult times for the Papacy, Gregory was against monarchs’ traditional right to appoint bishops (‘Investiture’). He was against it even if the Pope or relevant Church authority approved. Investiture, he argued, was a Church matter. The Pope’s stance was a great annoyance to English and other monarchs.

In England under Henry I (1068-1135), the Concordat of London, as a compromise, sharply distinguished the spiritual realm of the priest and the *regnum*, relating to the temporal power of the king. The former was the gift of the Church, but possessions were the gift of the king, to whom fealty was due. So bishops had a sacred duty to be loyal to the king.

In the reign of Henry II, Archbishop of Canterbury Thomas Becket’s assassination of 1170 created new tensions. Thomas had been a fierce critic of the King’s interference in church affairs. Canonised in 1173, Thomas was a popular saint, and Henry II was forced to do humiliating penance at his tomb. The uncomfortable and anti-monarchy atmosphere of those times caused years of later struggle in England (remember Matilda, Stephen, Richard I and his crusades?) and set a difficult popular mood for King John, 5<sup>th</sup> son of Henry II and Eleanor of Aquitaine.

### Stephen Langton

In 1205, six years after John became king, the incumbent Archbishop of Canterbury died, and John nominated John de Gray, Bishop of Norwich as his successor. Maintaining their perceived right to appoint the archbishop, the monks of Canterbury Cathedral independently nominated Sub Prior Reginald. Both candidates arrived in Rome for consecration by Pope Innocent III, who turned both down, and chose Cardinal Stephen Langton (a Paris based theologian), and consecrated him in 1207. John was furious, refused to consent the appointment, and exiled the Canterbury monks.

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.theosthinktank.co.uk/files/files/Reports/The%20Church%20and%20the%20Charter.pdf>

The Pope's response was severe. England was placed under a papal interdict (allowing clergy to perform only baptisms and last-rites), and King John was excommunicated in 1207. John defied the Pope, insisting that the bishops and clergy carry on exactly as before – or lose their estates and privileges. Many senior clerics had to leave the country.

### **John's money problems**

John had no scruples about 'due process' in finding ways of extracting money from his subjects. His father Henry II had established 'the Kings Justice', semi-professional judges who heard cases and made judgements – to replace often arbitrary local justice by barons and lords, and the change had been immensely popular. The system strengthened the monarchy, but gave an often corrupt opportunity for the king to use it to levy fines and heavy fees (e.g. in relation to land disputes). Under King John, this developed in a way that hit the barons hard, and in 1212, matters started to come to a head with a rumour of a baronial plot to murder the king.

One of the reasons for John's demands for funds was to fund a war against France, to claw back Norman territory lost in the early years of his reign. He sent a first army to France in 1214, and in July that year, personally led a second army to Poitou, to carry out a pincer movement with the first army. This plan failed catastrophically when the French routed the first army at the battle of Bouvines. John was obliged to return to England, weak, humiliated and nearly bankrupt. The Barons were now in a position to force him to negotiate.

### **The Pope's protection**

When the rumour of the baronial plot arose, King John was alarmed, and took the dramatic step of appealing to the Pope, making England and Ireland papal fiefdoms. The Pope withdrew the interdict as response.

King John was obliged to admit Langton to Canterbury, and also to restore confiscated church estates. Langton's political position benefitted from the fame of St Thomas – the beatified Thomas Becket – and the strength of the cult that had grown around him. Langton was a theologian, not a politician, so he struggled with an uncomfortable political environment. However, he did secure a royal charter in January 1215, promising free elections for the church, and this is the Charter referred to in Magna Carta's first clause.

### **Langton and Magna Carta**

Langton was in a difficult position, since his acceptance by the king was the result of Papal support for the king following John's appeal to the Pope. The Pope expected his loyalty to the king. Yet in his days in Paris as a

scholar, he had publicly been in favour of a written form of law that would constrain the excesses of kings.

So he would have had sympathy with the complaints of the barons, and for the need for a charter. It is said that it was he that drew their attention to a Charter accepted by King Henry I at his coronation. This charter was, in practice, largely ignored by Henry, but it set a useful precedent. Langton's influence with the barons led to his being named as an arbitrator in Magna Carta (clause 55). However, he never overtly joined the Barons, nor did he ever withdraw his fealty to the King.

Other priests (including Stephen's own brother Simon) were vocal supporters of the barons, and it is likely that a number of people in Stephen's closest circle were supporters.

So it is not totally surprising that the very first clause in the Magna Carta should grant the freedom of the English Church, confirming the royal charter of January 1215 (page 17 above). This first clause, interestingly, stands alone, so that it could have been accepted even if the remainder of Magna Carta were to be rejected!

### **Magna Carta's liberties and rights**

The Church's influence also lay deeply enshrined in the important ideas of liberties and rights and, indeed, the idea of justice and proper trial comes very clearly from Church moral arguments.

A horrifying method of determining guilt for serious crimes up to this period had been Trial by Ordeal. This took various forms, subjecting the accused to a painful and sometimes deadly experience. If the accused was innocent, God would work a miracle to save him or her. Theologians now concluded that reliance on God's intervention in such cases was 'tempting God', and so theologically unsound. Under Henry II, legal reforms had moved away from this practice to trial by a jury of peers.

The resulting theological issue now was one of guilt: if a judge condemned someone to death, would the judge be guilty of murder? (With Trial by Ordeal, it had been God himself who 'carried the blame' for punishing the innocent, and this was unthinkable.)

The Church evolved a delicate theological framework that absolved judges of blame, if the legal processes that led to the judgement were sound. Paul's epistle to the Romans, Chapter 13, had established the basic legitimacy of rulers, who were ruled legitimately 'by the grace of God' – but there still remained the issue of legitimacy of a ruler (e.g. King John) who commanded actions contrary to the will of God. Was it right, for example,



# Children's Corner



## TAKING & GIVING

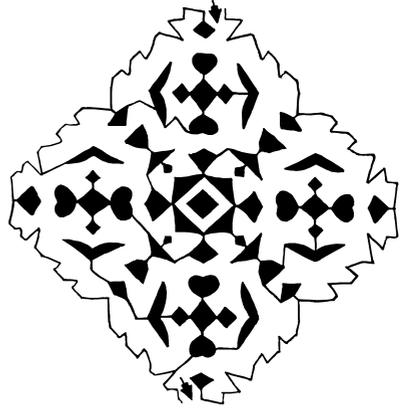
If you look at a map of Israel you will see that there are two small inland seas. And if you look closely you will see that these two seas are linked by the River Jordan. The river starts in the northern hills and goes through the Sea of Galilee, then through the Jordan valley, and ends up in the Dead Sea. But even though the water is all from the same river, the two seas are completely different.

All around the Sea of Galilee are towns and villages, trees and farms. The Dead Sea has no trees or farms, it is dead. What makes the difference? The Sea of Galilee is alive because it has an outlet. It passes the water on as quickly as it flows in. The Dead Sea is dead because it passes no water on.

In St Luke's Gospel we read what Jesus said about giving – 'Give to others, and God will give to you' (chapter 6, verses 27-28). Unlike the two seas we can choose how we want to be: to give and take and be alive. Or just to take - and become sad and lifeless.

## IN & OUT

Can you find your way through this lacy maze?



**Did you hear about the slimy monster who was famous for his farmyard impressions?**

He couldn't do the noises but he could do the smells.



**And what about the monster who went shop-lifting?**

He was crushed under Tesco's.



# Contents

A VIEW FROM THE VICARAGE .....	1	August services.....	11
A final farewell, and the Vicarage is empty .....	1	Flowers & Cleaning Rotas.....	11
To every thing there is a season .....	1	St Mary's – July and August 2015.....	11
In Memoriam – Ciss Chapman.....	2	St Martin's – July and August 2015.....	11
Bits and Pieces.....	2	What's on in July and August 2015.....	12
Office opening hours (Friday closed): .....	2	Regular events.....	12
Contact info.....	2	Other events.....	13
Events, Notices and Dates for your Diaries.....	2	More news from around the Parish .....	14
Chavey Down Women's Institute – July 2015.....	3	Winkfield Bell Ringers Ad .....	14
World Ship Society .....	3	St Mary's Bell Ringers.....	14
Relay for Life event, Ascot Race Course, 18 <sup>th</sup> July 2015 .....	3	Another anniversary.....	15
.....	3	Thoughts of all sorts.....	16
Ascot Horticultural Society.....	4	The Church and the Charter .....	16
News from around the Parish .....	5	Background history.....	16
St Mary's Junior Choir.....	5	Stephen Langton .....	16
Popel's Cottages Almshouse Vacancy.....	5	John's money problems.....	17
Bracknell Flower Club.....	5	The Pope's protection .....	17
St. Mary's Choir .....	5	Langton and Magna Carta.....	17
My Confirmation .....	6	Magna Carta's liberties and rights.....	18
St Mary's Women's Guild.....	7	The Lost Generation by Jonathan Reed.....	19
SERVICES ACROSS THE PARISH.....	9	Children's Corner.....	20
St Mary's – July and August services .....	9	TAKING & GIVING.....	20
St Martin's, Chavey Down – July and August services.....	10	IN & OUT .....	20
St Peter's, Cranbourne – July and August services ...	10	Contents.....	21
Winkfield Row Methodist Church – July and August.....	11		
How to find the Winkfield Row Methodist Church:			
.....	11		
July services.....	11		

