

Looking at God

How is on sick-leave, and we pray for him in his illness and medical treatment. Rev John Tyler reminds us here that Lent starts at the end of February, and needs attention from each of us!

Lent – a good time to deepen your prayer life

Lent is a time to take stock of ourselves spiritually. This includes setting aside extra time for prayer. Here are some helpful things to remember as you settle down to it:

People have been praying since Adam had a grandson named Enosh. The Bible tells us (Genesis 4:26) that it was during his days when ‘men began to call on the name of the Lord’. They have been doing it ever since.

People have had their prayers answered by God since Genesis, too. But if you want to read some beautiful prayers – and answers to them, browse through the Psalms. Again and again the psalmist writes: “the Lord heard my cry”.

So – what do you need to bring to prayer? Just the tiniest amount of faith that God is even there... . Jesus assures us that even faith as big as a tiny mustard seed will be effective.

What gives you the right to come before Almighty God? Jesus does. The Bible is clear that “there is one mediator between God and men, the man Jesus Christ”. (1 Timothy 2:5)

The Bible makes clear that God does not stand on ceremony – in fact, He prefers our personal, spontaneous prayers. Jesus was very matter of fact about it: “When you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.” (Matthew 6:6)

The Bible assures us that prayer will bring us good things: “we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need”. (Hebrews 4:16)

Above all, prayer must be made with a pure heart. “If I had cherished sin in my heart, the Lord would not have listened.” (Psalm 66:18) That simply means that if you know you are doing something wrong, and intend to keep right on doing it, don’t waste your time praying.

Finally, what can be the results of your prayers this Lent? Well, here are seven, for starters

1. Joy and deep happiness. (John 16:24)
2. Relief from your worry, stress and tension (Philippians 4:6,7)
3. Wisdom and more mental clarity (James 1:5,6)
4. Protection and deliverance from temptations (Matthew 26:41)
5. An ability to share the Good News of Jesus to other people (Matthew 9:38)
6. Strength to persevere when you feel under spiritual attack (Ephesians 6:18)
7. A growing thankfulness to God, who is worthy of all glory (Revelation 4:11)

From the Parish Registers

Baptisms

Welcome to the following children, baptised into God's church recently:

Frank Barton-Taylor	17 November 2019	St Mary's
Rupert Beavan	24 November 2019	St Peter's
Chloe Hardy	17 November 2019	St Mary's
Emilia Padbury	1 December 2019	St Mary's

Funerals etc.

A service at the graveside for the interment of ashes for the late Mrs Mary Knight took place at St Mary's church on Friday 22 November 2019.

A memorial service for the late Mrs Jane Cullen was held in St Mary's church on Friday 29 November 2019.

Requiescant in pace

Standing notices

Office opening hours: Monday-Friday 9:30am – 12noon.

Contact info

Church Office: c/o St Martin's Church, Church Road, Chavey Down, SL5 8RR
Phone: 01344 882933 or email admin@winkfieldandcranbourne.org.uk
Website: www.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 recorded on the website. Alison will endeavour to keep track of activities and timings etc. There will be no 9:15am prayers until further notice.

The Parish Mag is going Bi-monthly!!

The PCC has decided that in future the Parish Mag will be bi-monthly, with 6 issues (not 10) per year. This is due to increasing difficulty in finding resources for printing, collation and distribution. So the yearly issues will be Feb/Mar, Apr/May, Jun/Jul, Aug/Sep, Oct/Nov, Dec/Jan etc. Note that the summer holiday version is different to what it has been in the past (Jul/Aug).

The colour versions of present and past parish mag are accessible (without change other than colour from the printed version) on www.fosmw.com/parishmag The webpage also supports flyers for local events. Please use this feature!

Parish Mag compilation & collation c/o www.fosmw.com

The collation date for the April/May parish mag is Friday 27 March 2020. The deadline for articles etc. for this edition is Tuesday 10 March 2020.

Please volunteer to help us with the Parish Mag collation for an hour or so: contact Margaret Smith (Tel: 01344 882433 or mobile: 07709 285291 or email margaret@rosie25.plus.com). We also need help to manage the distribution of the printed magazine: please contact the church office (see page 2).

Electoral Roll – 2020

A review of the Electoral Roll will be made in February 2020. People already on current Roll do not need to re-apply. Anyone wishing to have their name added for 2020 should request an application form from the Church Office or from Marian Stevens on 01344 882918 or anthony.locksride@btinternet.com – Marian can also give any advice necessary.

Note that parishioners do not need to be on the Electoral Roll unless they have a particular job in the church or they may be seeking entry for a child to Ranelagh School. The more the number of people on our Roll the bigger the Parish Share that the PCC has to pay to the Oxford Diocese, so do not apply unless you have a need.

Winkfield and North Ascot Good Neighbours Scheme

We are always looking for people to join us as drivers. If you have some spare time, are patient, caring and in good health, you could volunteer and make a big difference to local people. Interested? Please contact Lynne Wilkes on 01344 884947 or email to lynnebobben@btinternet.com or see our flyer on www.fosmw.com

Become a Trustee – Winkfield Parochial Charities

Winkfield Parochial Charities have been providing Almshouse accommodation in the Parish for over a hundred years. We maintain eight Almshouse flats near to St Mary's Church for retired women who have limited financial means and wish to live independently. We also look after Popel's Hall, together with two rented cottages. The Charities are self-financing, and fund-raising is not needed.

We currently have a vacancy for a new trustee. This entails attending a meeting every three months, on a weekday evening, and working with the other Trustees and Clerk in carrying out agreed actions. The Trustees manage this portfolio of properties with the help of their Clerk. If you feel you could assist and would like more information, please call Richard Wyatt on 07522 306988 or email him at winkfieldparochialcharities@outlook.com

Safeguarding

The welfare of the children, young persons and vulnerable adults within our Benefice is at all times paramount and takes precedence over all other considerations. Safeguarding is part of our core faith and an integral feature of Christian life in our parish and its churches.

Should you have any safeguarding or welfare concerns, please contact our Parish Safeguarding Officer; via the Church Office:

Mrs Camille Jeffs

Telephone 01344 882933 or email: safeguarding@winkfieldandcranbourne.org.uk

In memoriam

John Luck

A service of celebration for the life of Richard John Luck was held in St Mary's on 13 January 2020. It was conducted by the Reverend Huw Mordecai. There were many tributes to John as a much-loved husband, father and grandfather and as a distinguished Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons. He was a much respected surgeon in the Windsor area.

Events, Notices and Dates for your Diaries

Chavey Down Women's Institute

Our meeting in February will take place on Monday 17 February in St Martin's Church Hall at 7:45pm. Our speaker this month will be Jann Bryant from Berkshire Lowland Search and Rescue – with her dogs.

In March our meeting will take place on Monday 16 March; this will be our annual meeting at which new officers for the forthcoming year will be elected.

As well as our monthly meetings we also have coffee/tea get togethers, theatre trips, garden visits and many other outings. We also have craft groups and a book club once a month. New members are always welcome.

Janey Bethune-Williams 883854. Contact the WI either via the website chaveydownwi.com or emailing Alison Bird, President, (alisonsbird@gmail.com)

Woodley Concert Band Spring Concert – 7 March 7:30pm



**LIGHTS
CAMERA
ACTION**

Saturday 7th March 2020 - 7:30pm
REDDAM HOUSE THEATRE, SINDLESHAM

Including music
from **Harry Potter,**
Chariots of Fire
and **Saturday**
Night Fever.

Tickets (after 1/2/20) from www.ticketsource.co.uk/wcb or tel 0870 321 2186 or info@woodleyconcertband.org.uk. Adults £14, Concessions £12, Under 16's £5.

FREE tickets are available for first-timers: go to www.woodleyconcertband.org.uk

Sing Healthy Choirs' Fauré Requiem Concert 7:30pm 14 Mar

Where: Wokingham Baptist Church, RG40 1DE

Tickets: £14/£12 & £11/£9, from singhealthy.co.uk/tickets

Preparations are currently underway for our spring concert featuring Fauré's 'Requiem'. Berkshire Maestros' flagship string ensemble Camerata will join forces with Sing Healthy Wokingham for a concert at Wokingham Baptist Church

on 14 March. The concert will raise money for Berkshire Maestros and local charity The Link Visiting Scheme. It will feature music by Saint-Saens, Gounod, Tchaikovsky, alongside the chamber version of Fauré's Requiem for choir, strings, horns, organ and harp.

Tickets can be bought on the door or online at: singhealthy.co.uk/tickets

Thanks also to all who were able to support our recent Christmas Concert raising money for both Sebastian's Action Trust and Macmillan Cancer Support. It was a super evening with a full house enjoying performances by the combined choirs as well as accompaniment by Ascot Brass. The month also included choir performances at Windsor Castle & St George's Chapel, plus appearances singing live on BBC Breakfast television.

New singers, whether experienced or novice, are always welcome to join our non-auditioned community choirs (public performances encouraged but always optional!) – please see our website for further details; and whether you are singing or listening, we very much hope to welcome you to our next Sing Healthy Choir event.

**SING
HEALTHY
CHOIRS**
ALL TOGETHER NOW

Requiem

Fauré Requiem
with Berkshire Maestros Camerata

Saturday 14 March 19:30
Wokingham Baptist Church
£14/£12 & £11/£9

Anne Boleyn, 18 March at the Wokingham Theatre

Wokingham Theatre is staging on Wednesday 18 March a charity performance of its new play, Howard Brenton's *Anne Boleyn*, which portrays the life and legacy of Henry VIII's second wife, who helped change the course of the nation's history.

The play starts after her death, when the newly-crowned King James I is rummaging in the possessions of the late Queen Elizabeth. Among them he comes across startling evidence that Anne was a religious conspirator, and was as much in love with some of the most dangerous ideas of her day as she was with her husband. She comes alive for the new king – and for our audiences – as we meet a brilliant but reckless young woman whose life and death transformed England forever. Tickets cost £15 – visit www.wokinghamtheatre.org.uk/how-to-book/

Ascot Horticultural Society

As we enter February we reach the mid-point of the season formally designated as 'Winter' – exactly halfway between the winter solstice on 21 December and the spring or vernal equinox on 20 March. In antiquity, pagans welcomed the daily increasing power of the sun with a Feast of Lights which has subsequently been adopted as the Christian Festival of Candlemas celebrated on 2 February. According to folklore, adverse weather on Candlemas Day heralds a relatively benign period during what remains of Winter, and vice-versa.

In reality we know that February can be quite unpredictable weatherwise. On fine warm days morale can be significantly raised by the sight of hitherto dark ground carpeted with delicate snowdrops – also known as Candlemas bells, cyclamen, shy multi-coloured hellebores and dazzling clusters of crocuses all shortly to be dominated by swathes of golden daffodils. Spring really seems to be 'just around the corner'.

Each Autumn members of our society routinely plant daffodil bulbs, supplied by the Royal Borough of Windsor & Maidenhead, at local sites within view of the general public. The results of our most recent efforts should shortly be evident on both sides of the main road approaching the Heatherwood Roundabout from the direction of Bracknell.

Many of our familiar garden plants, including popular spring bulbs, are derived from wild species originally found in Central Asia. It is likely that many more remain to be discovered. Two years ago, in such a quest, Andrew Radgick joined a small plant-hunting expedition to Iran. Along the way he also had a rare opportunity to see something of this somewhat enigmatic land. On Wednesday 12 February he will be sharing some of his experiences and impressions of the country – its flora, architecture and culture - with a superbly illustrated talk entitled 'Bulbs and Dionysias – travelling and plant hunting in Iran'.

We remain in this part of the world for our meeting on Wednesday 11 March. During an extremely varied international career in commercial horticulture Greg Cullen spent several years working in war-torn Afghanistan to develop a national collection of fruit and nut varieties. His talk, intriguingly entitled 'Tastier Almonds,

Sweeter Apricots - ten years breeding improvements in Afghanistan' will provide first hand insight of patient attempts to develop varieties best suited to the growing conditions of the region.

Back in the UK we hope that our parks and gardens will soon once more be bursting with life in time for us to stage another really stunning Spring Show on Wednesday 8th April.

Our events and activities are open to all. For further details log on to www.ascohorticulturalsociety.org.uk or call 01344 622086.

Peter Cleare,



**original
innovative
Art** **Exhibition**

meet our local artists & buy direct

Saturday 1st February & Saturday 18th April 11.00 - 5.00pm
Windsor Parish Church, High Street Windsor SL4 1LT
Near the Guildhall (Free Entry)

For details of more exhibitions and gallery pages for all our artists...
www.windsor-artists.org

Windsor Artists

Windsor Artists Collective launch their 2020 exhibition programme with six exhibitions this year at the Windsor Parish Church as well as many other in the local area. A selection of our experienced and talented artists hold their first exhibition on Saturday 1st February 2020 at the Windsor Parish Church the second one is on Saturday 18th April. For many more exhibitions and opportunities to meet the artists, discuss your art requirements and buy direct go to the website www.windsor-artists.org – which also features gallery pages for each artist

Jonathan Greenyer Founder

Easthampstead Rotary Club

We have again been amazed in the run up to Christmas by the kindness of local shoppers in Wokingham and Bracknell this year who engaged with us and gave so generously to Easthampstead Rotary Club causes. The total added up to a staggering £3,120. Every penny collected is given to our charities.

In recent years, Easthampstead Rotarians have donated some £40,000 each year (plus hundreds of volunteer hours to our causes), at least 75% going direct to local charities, helping the elderly, the sick, the homeless, and our young people, with the balance supporting international Rotary projects fighting global diseases, providing clean water, and promoting peace around the World.

As Easthampstead Rotarians, we work with our communities for our communities.

Visitors and new members are always welcome. We meet most Mondays at The Coppid Beech Hotel.

For information on our Community Christmas Draw and upcoming events, do check out our website www.easthampsteadrotary.org or follow us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/easthampsteadrotaryclub>

Interested in Cricket??

Royal Ascot Cricket Club is keen to see new players and colts for 2020. It is a family club playing matches at Locks Ride Recreation ground Winkfield Row, with our main clubhouse and pitch inside Ascot Racecourse where all outdoor training takes place.

We run 4 adult teams in the Thames Valley Cricket League, 1 team in the Bracknell Midweek Cricket League, with friendlies on Sundays.

Senior indoor nets will commence Wednesday 26th February for 5 weeks, whilst outdoor nets are held on Tuesday evenings at the main Ascot ground.

We have an active boys and girls colts section from under 7s upwards playing competitive matches locally with a number representing the county. We are also involved in the All Stars Cricket Programme for 5-8 year olds organised via the ECB (English Cricket Board) ecb.co.uk Coaching for all colts is provided by outside coaches.

For further details please visit our website www.royalascotccc.co.uk or contact

- Club Chairman Mark Wiggett on 07717 718506
- Club Treasurer Richard Wyatt 07974 824583

4th Team and Midweek Captain Richard Baker 07894 983563



SERVICES ACROSS THE BENEFICE – FEBRUARY 2020

St Mary's Annual Parochial Church meeting (APCM)

St Mary's APCM will take place at 8pm on 19 March 2020 at Popel's Hall.

St Mary's, Winkfield –February 2020

Date	Day	Time	Service
2	Presentation of Christ - Candlemas	10am	Family Communion
		11:45am	No Baptism service today
9	Septuagesima	8am	Holy Communion (BCP)
		10am	Family Matins
16	Sexagesima	9:30am	Family Praise
		11am	Holy Communion (BCP)
23	Quinquagesima	8am	Holy Communion (BCP)
		9:30am	Messy Church
		11am	Morning Prayer
26	Ash Wednesday	11am	Holy Communion (BCP)

St Martin's, Chavey Down - February 2020

Date	Day	Time	Service
2	Presentation of Christ - Candlemas	9:30am	All Together
9	3 rd Sunday before Lent	9:30am	Holy Communion
16	2 nd Sunday before Lent	9:30am	Morning Prayer
23	Sunday next before Lent	9:30am	Holy Communion

St Peter's, Cranbourne –February 2020

Date	Day	Time	Service
2	Presentation of Christ – Candlemas	8am	Holy Communion (BCP)
		11am	SPATS – All Together
9	3 rd Sunday before Lent	11am	Holy Communion
16	2 nd Sunday before Lent	8am	Holy Communion (BCP)
		11am	Morning Prayer
23	Sunday next before Lent	11am	Holy Communion
26	Ash Wednesday	7:30pm	Holy Communion

SERVICES ACROSS THE BENEFICE – MARCH 2020

St Mary's, Winkfield – March 2020

Date	Day	Time	Service
1	1 st Sunday in Lent	10am	Family Communion (BCP)
		11:45am	Holy Baptisms
8	2 nd Sunday in Lent	8am	Holy Communion (BCP)
		10am	Family Matins
15	3 rd Sunday in Lent	9:30am	Family Praise
		11am	Holy Communion (BCP)
22	4 th Sunday in Lent Mothering Sunday	8am	Holy Communion (BCP)
		There will be no 9:30am or 11am service today – please join the 10am Patronal Service	
		10am	St Mary's Patronal service. All are welcome
29	5 th Sunday in Lent	9:30am	Messy Church
		11am	Morning Prayer

St Martin's, Chavey Down – March 2020

Date	Day	Time	Service
1	1 st Sunday of Lent	9:30am	Family/ All Together
8	2 nd Sunday of Lent	9:30am	Holy Communion
15	3 rd Sunday of Lent	9.30am	Morning Prayer
22	4 th Sunday of Lent/Mothering Sunday	No 9.30am service in church today – please join the 10am Patronal Service at St Mary's	
29	5 th Sunday of Lent	9:30am	Morning Prayer

St Peter's, Cranbourne

Date	Day	Time	Service
1	1 st Sunday of Lent	8am	Holy Communion (BCP)
		11am	SPATS – All Together
8	2 nd Sunday of Lent	11am	Holy Communion
15	3 rd Sunday of Lent	8am	Holy Communion (BCP)
		11am	Morning Prayer
22	4 th Sunday of Lent Mothering Sunday	No 11am service in church today – please join the 10am Patronal Service at St Mary's	

Date	Day	Time	Service
29	5 th Sunday of Lent	8am	Holy Communion (BCP)
		11am	Morning Prayer

Flowers & Cleaning Rotas – February and March 2020

St Mary's – February

Dates	Flowers
7 February	Esther Bond and Doreen Potter
14-21 February	Penny Cardwell and Nyla Heighes
28 February	Arabella Cameron and Doreen Potter

St Mary's – March 2020

Dates	Flowers
6 March	Arabella Cameron and Doreen Potter
13 March	Jane Hodgson and Anna Clayton
20 March Mothering Sunday	Jane Hodgson and Anna Clayton
27 March	Esther Bond and Doreen Potter

St Martin's – February 2020

Dates	Flowers	Cleaning
2 Feb (Candlemas)	Emma Zerilli/Suzanne Randell	
9 Feb	Hilary Atkinson	Caroline Dickinson
16 Feb	Alison Phillips/Lindy Logan	
23 Feb	Alison Phillips/Lindy Logan	Katie Paramor

St Martin's – March 2020

Dates	Flowers	Cleaning
1 Mar	Adelaide Bunker/Margaret Smith	Katie Paramor
8 Mar	Adelaide Bunker/Margaret Smith	
15 Mar	Hilary Atkinson	
22 Mar		
29 Mar	Mo Stockdale/Betty Elliott	Sarah Luff

What's on in February / March 2020

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

Special events – February 2020

Day	Feb	Event	Time/place
Sat	1	Windsor Artists Collective exhibition (p7)	
		Baptism Preparation	9am at St Mary's
		Marriage Preparation	1.30pm at St Mary's
Wed	12	Ascot Horticultural Society talk: 'Bulbs and Dionysias' (p6)	
Mon	17	Chavey Down WI	7:45pm St Martin's Church Hall
Fri	21	AGM of FOSMW (Friends ...) 8pm, Popel's Hall (p15)	
Wed	26	ASH WEDNESDAY	
Sat	29	Bellringers' Quiz, 7:30 pm in St Martin's Church Hall	

Special events – March 2020

Day	Mar	Event	Time/place
Wed	11	Ascot Horticultural Society Meeting: "Tastier Almonds, ..." (p6)	
Sat	14	Fauré's Requiem'. 7:30pm, Wokingham Baptist Church (p4)	
Mon	16	Chavey Down WI	7:45pm St Martin's Church Hall
Wed	18	'Anne Boleyn' 7:30pm at the Wokingham Theatre (p6)	
Thu	19	APCM Meeting	8pm Popel's Hall
Sat	28	Cats' Protection Spring Fair, Carnation Hall (p17)	

Regular events (see also www.fosmw.com/parishmag)

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 www.ascotbridge.org.uk
	Pilates with Amanda Mann at St Martin's Church from 9:30-10:30am & 10:45-11:45am. Visit the website: www.amandamann.uk.com or email info@amandamann.uk.com or call Amanda on 07767 816499
	Ballet With Victoria Lyons at St Peters Hall. For more information call 638538.

Day	Event
Mondays not including Bank Holidays	Ascot Yoga 7:45-9pm at Carnation hall. Visit www.AscotFitness.co.uk for more info or contact Flo Young on 07711 077038 or email Flo@AscotFitness.co.uk
2nd Monday of the month	Whist Drive at 7:30pm in the White Hart, Church Road, SL4 4SE
Tuesdays	Short Mat Bowls at Carnation Hall at 7pm. For more information please ring 882137 or 301158
1st Tuesday of the month	St Mary's Women's Guild meeting at 2:30pm, now always at St Mary's church.
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: lizziewright25@hotmail.com
	Social Dancing for over 50s with Ballroom Dancing and Line Dancing at 1:30pm-3:30pm at Coopers Hill Hall next to Bracknell Station. £2.50. Phone Lynda on tel no: 01344 451878.
	Zumba gold class at St Peter's church hall 7-8pm
	Chavey Down Association Bingo Club at St Martin's Hall (fortnightly) at 8pm contact Monica or David on 884348.
	The NOMADS Table Tennis Club at Carnation Hall, For more information contact Mike on 773939.
	Pilates classes at Carnation Hall: Contact Rebecca on 07748 603145 or email: pilatesascot@btinternet.com or visit www.pilatesascot.co.uk .
	Soft Furnishing/Dressmaking Courses on Wednesdays. Day and evening courses. Places available. Please contact Sally Beer on tel no: 01344 882528 for further details, the venue schedule and timings.
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 and visitors £2.50. Details on www.ascorthorticulturalsociety.org.uk or call Peter Cleare on 01344 622086.

Day	Event
2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month	Ascot Speakers meet at The Parks Community Centre, 8-10 Nicholson Park, Bracknell RG12 9QN from 7:30-9:45pm. Visit: Ascot Speakers: www.ascotSpeakers.org.uk and Toastmasters International: www.toastmasters.org
Thursdays	CHAT & CRAFT – now including Scrabble and Bridge. Between 2 and 4pm at St Peters Church. Entry £1. Open to all. Finish that project, enjoy a good game, or just come for a cuppa and chat. For more information please contact Anne Crewe on 01344 885091 or email: annecrewe83@gmail.com
	The Carnation Badminton Club plays on Thursdays at Carnation Hall, 8-10pm. New members welcome.
	CLUBBERCISE Dance Fitness class at Carnation Hall 7-8pm, For more info, please see www.AscotFitness.co.uk or contact Flo Young on 07711077038 or Flo@AscotFitness.co.uk

News from around the Parish

Bell Ringers report January 2020

Somehow Christmas is over and seems a long time ago!!

The Music and Merriment concert in St Mary's church was the usual enormous success, enjoyed by many, and the hand bells were delighted to be a part of it.

We also enjoyed ringing our bells at the Savill Gardens where we raised funds for Guide Dogs for the Blind – if you would like more information on this then speak to Helena who is a puppy trainer and has two lovely dogs.

After that we were a part of the Nine Lessons and Carols service in church which was a really lovely service – do come and join in this year.

Our last hand bell event of the year was after the Carols and Candlelight service on Christmas Eve – we carried our bells over to the White Hart and rang Christmas Carols over there – thanks to Steven and Zara who (again!!) stepped in to help us as we had insufficient ringers. Many thanks also to Phil and Jean for inviting us again and very generously sponsoring us.

As usual the ringers got together for a Christmas meal and sing-a-long – thanks to Sue W for all her hard work organising this event. It was lovely to be joined by ex-ringers, visiting ringers and, of course, husbands wives and friends for a very sociable evening.

The tower bells were busy ringing before almost every service and finished the year by ringing out the old year, with half muffled bells before quickly removing the muffles to ring in the New Year. Many thanks to Tony and Sue who hosted a delicious meal beforehand.

The hand bells hosted the annual HRGB Birthday Rally on the first Saturday in January – a wonderful event with over 120 ringers from all over the region.

Looking forwards, it is our annual quiz night on Saturday February 29th which is always very popular (St Martin's Hall). Contact any member of the bell ringing teams for a ticket – still just £8 for the quiz and a delicious Ploughman's supper.

We do need more people to join us ringing, both hand and tower, if we are to continue with all our events. As you can see we are a sociable lot with plenty of events to join in with if wanted. so why not make 2020 the year that you come and have a go??

Bell ringing is a good workout for the mind and the body as well as being very satisfying.

Call Tony for tower bells or Jill for hand bells – or just come along on a Monday (tower ringing) or Wednesday (hand bells) evening.

Jill Glennerster 01344 884071

Friends of St Mary's Winkfield www.fosmw.com

The Music and Merriment concert just before Christmas was a great success and thanks go, once again, to Anthony Hodson who master minded the event.

The Founders Choir of the Royal Holloway College will be performing at St Mary's on Saturday 2 May. This choir is conducted by Luke Saint who has been playing the organ for many services at St Mary's for over two years. Further details will be available very soon.

The Friends AGM will take place at 8pm on 21 February in Popel's Hall.

Please do consider joining FOSMW. Application forms are available in the Church and online (go to www.fosmw.com and press the [Become a Friend] button).

Lesley Philpot, Chairman

St Mary's Choir

Rehearsals for St Mary's Choir take place before the services. 0920 on 1st and 2nd Sundays and 1020 on 3rd, 4th and 5th Sundays.

A farewell service for Marilyn and Maurice Rogers who have been associated with St Mary's for many years took place on November 24. The music for this service was chosen by Maurice and several of our extra singers joined Marilyn and the choir for this very special event. We are very grateful for all they have done for us over the years particularly the work with the Junior choir. John Kimbell, who led the service, paid tribute to them both. Several members of the choir joined them for lunch following the service.

John Kimbell prepared and led the very successful 9 lessons and carols service on Sunday 22 December. We are very grateful to members of John's choir who joined with St Mary's choir to produce an excellent sound.

If anyone would like to join the choir please contact Lesley Philpot,
lesleyphilpot50@gmail.com or 01344 427561

St Mary's Women's Guild – December meeting

Members thanked Doreen and her helpers for the floral tributes for the Memorial service for Jane Cullen a Guild founder member. The church looked beautiful and Huw said the service reflected Jane's personality.

The Open House date at Judy Warren's was confirmed as Tuesday 7 July from 2.30pm. There will be a plant stall and a cake stall and of course a raffle. All proceeds will be for St Mary's. Please make a note of the date.

Members agreed to dress the Christmas Tree and provide the mince pies for the very successful Music and Merriment concert.

Tea and Christmas cake, kindly provided as always by Joan Doughty, followed the short Advent service led by the Rev. Tracey Williams. The blessing was given by the Rev. Huw Mordecai.

Lesley Philpot President



ST MARY'S BELLRINGERS
QUIZ
IN AID OF ST MARY'S CHURCH
7.00pm
ST MARTIN'S HALL
SATURDAY 29TH FEBRUARY 2020
£8 per ticket
1 persons per team
INCLUDING PLOUGHMAN'S SUPPER
(B·Y·O·B)
TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM
01344 886087 OR ANY BELL RINGER
Raffle and Roll A Pound for a bottle of single malt Scotch Whisky

**Cats Protection
Bracknell and Wokingham
Districts Branch**



Spring Fair 2020



Date: Saturday 28th March 2020
Time: 1.00pm to 4.00pm
Venue: Carnation Hall
Chavey Down Rd,
Winkfield, Berkshire, RG42 7PA

Entrance

Fee: £1.00 admission per person
or a donation of cat food

**Cats Protection goods, Cat collectables, Toys,
Books, Bric-a-Brac, Raffle, Tombola, Jewellery,
Membership stand, delicious cakes and food,
free parking.**

Cats Protection Bracknell & Wokingham Districts,
PO Box 4054, Bracknell, Berks, RG42 9DE
Telephone: 0845 371 4212 (Monday - Saturday 9.00am – 5.00pm only), www.cats.org.uk/bracknell
Registered Charity 203644 (England and Wales) and SC037711 (Scotland)

The Music and Merriment Concert on 7/12/19

The 2019 Music and Merriment concert took place on Saturday 7 December, and was a great success. We received some enthusiastic comments afterwards, of which the following are typical:

- “It was a lovely event with so much talent and so many inspirational performances.”
- “My family had a wonderful festive evening on Saturday”

The concert started with the traditional children’s choir, processing up the darkened church with their glowsticks, and ended with a rousing rendition of Handel’s Hallelujah Chorus under the direction of Jonathan Holl, with John Halsey at the organ.



The adult choir later sang Jonathan’s own charming setting of ‘Away in a manger ...’ and also Anthony Hodson’s ‘Rejoice, Rejoice’ in its first concert performance. The children’s choir started their performance with the jazzy ‘Something special is happening in the stable tonight’, and, later, they brought the ‘Teddy Bear’s Picnic’ to life over the humorous bounce of Anthony Hodson’s bassoon. Their pieces were all accompanied by virtuoso pianist Su Mei Kong.

Su Mei also accompanied the young soloists. First on was talented oboist Matthew (11) whose expressive Poulenc Sonata changed from lyrical to agitated concentration; this was followed by a lively Baroque allegro, demonstrating fine technique and fast fingerwork. Later Tansy (17) charmed the audience with two beautiful modern carols, Poston’s haunting ‘Jesus Christ the Apple Tree’ and Michael Head’s well-known ‘The little road to Bethlehem’. Two rising stars who performed beautifully.

The 5Ts Brass quintet provided two short recitals that showed off the hugely accomplished musical talent of its players; these included new Christmas Carol settings by their director Len Tyler.

The St Mary's Handbells closed the first half of the concert with settings of two carols and the spiritual-based 'All night, all day' – a popular performance that showed how the players gain in confidence and skill year by year. This was followed by the interval, in which mulled wine washed down the Women's Guild famous mince pies.

The concert has always enjoyed readings dotted through the programme, some humorous, some poignant. This year we enjoyed the hilarious 'Nativity Play' – trials and tribulations of very young performers and their parents, wittily brought to life by Sue and Tony Bish with Marian Stevens. Later on John and Caroline Kimbell brought street-music rap, tamed, in the form of the entertaining 'Rapping Paper – a Christmas Rap'.

Our readings, unfortunately, highlighted a major issue in bringing concerts alive in St Mary's church: the public address system is just not up to the standard that we would like. And this reminds us that the Music and Merriment concerts are community events, and also that the Friends of St Mary's Winkfield are active fundraisers to preserve the church as a community asset.

Funds raised by the concert go to projects associated with St Mary's church's community role, and the Friends' next project is the Electrics. This project will not only cover replacement of the ageing lighting and electrical power systems, but also the provision of high quality microphones and other PA items. That will help all aspects of the Concert to be enjoyed, wherever they are in the church, and very directly contribute to other church activities.

Do joining the Friends to help with this and other projects that, by helping look after St Mary's Church, will enable the Benefice to put its funds to wider use.

Anthony Hodson, Director Music and Merriment

Thoughts of all sorts

JOY

This thought-provoking but anonymous poem was read by Annabel Cullen at the Memorial Service for her mother Jane Cullen on 29 November 2019.

There was never a sunbeam lost, and never a drop of rain;
There was never a carol sweet that was sung, and sung in vain;
There was never a noble thought, but through endless years it lives,
And never a blacksmith's blow, but an endless use it gives.

There was never a child's full laugh, or a woman's cheerful word,
That did not exalt the heart where its tones were felt and heard.
Know, then, that it still holds true from the skies to the humblest soil,
That there is no wasted love, and there is no wasted toil!

Anon

Children's Corner

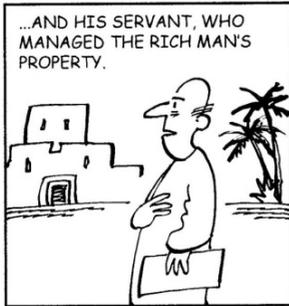
The parable of the Shrewd Manager



JESUS OFTEN TOLD STORIES WITH HIDDEN MEANINGS



ONCE JESUS TOLD A STORY ABOUT A RICH MAN...



...AND HIS SERVANT, WHO MANAGED THE RICH MAN'S PROPERTY.



THE RICH MAN HAD HEARD THAT THE MANAGER HAS BEEN WASTING MONEY.



SO HE CALLED THE MANGER TO ACCOUNT FOR HIMSELF!



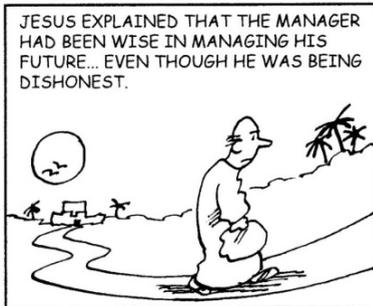
OH NO! I AM GOING TO GET THE SACK!!



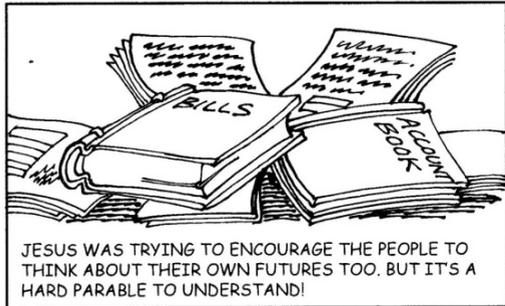
THE MANAGER AGREED TO LET THE RICH MAN'S TRADERS FIDDLE THEIR BOOKS!



SO THEY ALTERED THEIR DEBTS - AND STAYED FRIENDS WITH THE MANAGER.



JESUS EXPLAINED THAT THE MANAGER HAD BEEN WISE IN MANAGING HIS FUTURE... EVEN THOUGH HE WAS BEING DISHONEST.



JESUS WAS TRYING TO ENCOURAGE THE PEOPLE TO THINK ABOUT THEIR OWN FUTURES TOO. BUT IT'S A HARD PARABLE TO UNDERSTAND!

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