



WINKFIELD PARISH NEWS

November 2021

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Winkfield Parish News – November 2021

Remembrance

Editor: The Revd John Tyler considers what it means to remember.

Have you seen the film 'Saving Private Ryan'? The first 20 minutes of the film is a powerful account of war, portraying the first landing crafts arriving at the Normandy beaches on D Day. The film successfully brings to life the events of that day, as a vivid act of remembrance.

From a biblical perspective, the word *remembrance* means making present a past reality, so that we can benefit from it today. On Remembrance Sunday we think about those who have given their lives in wars over the years, as well as those who continue to grieve over their lost loved ones. We want to make their sacrifice in past conflicts real for us today, so that we can engage with the horror of war and those enduring suffering today.

It involves dealing with the *why* question in the face of relentless tragedies and injustices: *why does God allow such suffering to take place?* One of the great themes of the Scriptures is that God identifies with the suffering. But the Christian faith goes beyond this! It affirms that in Jesus, God's Son, divinity became involved in suffering and death on the cross. It is at Calvary that we see how God Himself knows what it is to lose a loved one in an unprovoked attack. *'I could never myself believe in God if it were not for the Cross. In the real world of pain, how could one worship a God who was immune to it?'* (John Stott).

Although we don't fully understand the reason why God allows evil and suffering to continue, we do know what the reason isn't! It can't be that He doesn't love us! God so loved us and hates suffering that He was willing to come down and get involved in our hurting world. This can be a source of real strength on such an occasion.

However, how can we ensure that those who have given their lives are truly honoured, not forgetting those who are risking their lives in conflicts today? An appropriate response is to actively work and pray for justice in our world, especially where there is inequality and conflict. In a divided world we are also called to renew our efforts to work for peace. We need to be serious about being peacemakers, especially

where it involves those close to us. As Jesus said, *'Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God'* (Matt 5:9).

Notices

From the Parish Registers – August 2021

Baptisms

Ava Isabella Leticia Chance was baptised on Sunday 8 August following the Family Matins service. The Rev. Simon Baynes took the service.

Funerals etc.

An interment of ashes, service at the graveside was held for the late Jeanette Wilkie at St Mary's church on Saturday 4 September 2021.

An interment of ashes, service at the graveside was held for the late Olga Stey Smart and the late Gabriella Smart at St Peter's church on Friday 17 September 2021.

A memorial service followed by an interment of ashes was held for the late Keith Fazey at St Mary's church on Friday 24 September 2021.

A memorial service followed by an interment of ashes was held for the late Revd Huw Mordecai at St Mary's on Saturday 25 September 2021.

An interment of ashes was held for the late Mrs Joan White at St Mary's church on Tuesday 28 September 2021.

Weddings & Blessings

At St Peter's on 4 September 2021

Nathan Hamilton & Tracy Davies

At St Peter's on 10 September 2021

Stephen Luck & Nonglak Ninngam

At St Mary's on 11 September

Charlie Simpson & Rebecca Allan

Other notices and local events

Friday Bible Study

We are currently reading through Paul's first letter to the Corinthians (1 Corinthians)

During the 1st Century A.D., St. Paul travelled into Europe and established the church in Corinth, Greece. At this time, Corinth was a major cosmopolitan city and seaport, heavily influenced by the corrupt morals of passing tradespeople and travelers.

Paul stayed for 18 months to teach and encourage the new, mainly Gentile believers, but after he left, they struggled big time! The church was being undermined and started to adapt to outside influences. Paul wrote to the church to identify and address some of their concerns on marriage, unity, the role of leadership in the church, spiritual gifts and more – concerns which we might still identify with in our churches today.

Sandwiched in the middle of Paul’s letter is that wonderful chapter on LOVE where he shows them “the most excellent way” (chapter 13).

Come and join us on Friday mornings as we read and discuss 1 Corinthians.

WHEN

10-12 am, FRIDAY MORNINGS (this includes coffee and chat time)

WHERE

Venue varies weekly as we meet in one or another’s home. Please contact Cynthia Lane on 01344 621816 to get directions.

Please bring your own Bible, or one can be provided if needed.


A tribute to Huw Mordecai

Reflections on Huw by John Kimbell (who have one of Huw’s eulogies at his memorial Service)

My abiding visual memory of dear Huw is a Zoom tile – a head and shoulders image from a service during the last month of his life with us.

Huw sent me a follow-up message the next day, explaining that Coventry was his home cathedral and that, for him, the theme had provoked particular thoughts.

Even if we were still unaware, he surely knew how quickly his life was drawing to its close. His mother had passed away not that long before, having been nursed with dedication at Ascot Priory, where he too received sensitive palliative care.



FRIDAY BIBLE STUDY GROUP

**We are reading Paul's 1st letter to the
CORINTHIANS.**

**Paul wrote to the church at Corinth to address some
of their concerns on marriage, unity, church
leadership and spiritual gifts - concerns which are still
relevant to us today. Come and join us!**

Friday mornings 10-12noon

Contact: Cynthia Lane 01344 621816



For Huw, genuine relationships lay at the heart of personal life and Christian faith. As a preacher, his inspirational sermons were energised by a talent for theatrical drama, much appreciated also by the Cranbourne Amateur Dramatic Society.

As a teacher, he shared his knowledge of scripture with those of all ages, but perhaps most especially the young – developing discipleship through confirmation classes, and setting up the Exodus Youth Group based both in Chavey Down and in Cranbourne.

Home visits were an integral part of his pastoral care, whether tending to those in need of spiritual encouragement, emotional compassion, or support when suffering from physical difficulties.

Nurturing the natural world was of course another of Huw's concerns, and his love of cats was evident to all who called on him at the Vicarage. It came as little surprise to learn that full arrangements for re-homing had been made well before they were finally needed.

I, too, owe him a debt of gratitude for endorsing my own fledgling ministry. He visited me at home to audition the congregational Eucharist setting which we still sing in Winkfield, as well as to discern, discuss, and encourage my vocation.

Diocesan training has introduced the 'Five Marks of Mission' to me. When I consider Huw's all-too-brief time as our Interim Minister and Vicar, I can recognise all five Marks as essential gifts which he shared with his congregations: Tell; Teach; Tend; Transform; and Treasure.

Although diminished when we suffered the loss of Huw, we feel privileged to have welcomed him among us, and will be blessed by his example – following him as fellow pilgrims on the Christian path of growth and transformation.

Editor's note: Huw's inspirational 'Musings from a Mordecai' have long been available on the Friends website – go to www.fosmw.com and click on the purple [Musings from a Mordecai] button. This button will be removed soon, but the text will still be available on the Parish website, at: www.winkfieldandcranbourne.org.uk/musingsofamordeciai.htm

which accesses their permanent storage site.

Year-end fund-raising opportunity

Ed's note: *We are grateful to Peter von Bergen of Easthampstead Rotary Club for drawing our attention to a new easy scheme to help those running or involved in charities.*

Do you want to raise funds for YOUR favoured charity, non-profit-making community group, or perhaps for a local school?

The members of your local Easthampstead Rotary Club are working hard to bring you this year's Community Christmas Draw. In recent years, groups have raised from £300 to over £1,000 for their causes.

We will be following the same format as previous years with a similar prize fund.

Easthampstead Rotarians and their local sponsors will meet ALL the costs of running the draw.

All you need to do is sell the draw tickets, and you will receive back ALL the ticket money you collect.

We are hoping to have tickets available to collect by the first half of October and the draw will take place just before Christmas.

So now is the time to get your volunteers and members geared up.

For more information, or to register your interest now, contact: Rob Hughes robis62@btinternet.com or by phone 07951 816757

Easthampstead Rotarians - In the Community, For the Community

Safeguarding

The Parish safeguarding page is:

<https://www.winkfieldandcranbourne.org.uk/safeguarding.htm>

The inaugural Safeguarding Sunday took place at all services in the parish on Sunday 4th July. The aim was to provide greater awareness, for everyone, as to what a Safeguarding concern might actually be. Everybody present received a Pocket Guide to Safeguarding to ease the raising of any concerns felt. All feedback was welcomed and feedback received, so far, was very positive.

The Friends of St Mary's Winkfield present a new

Music & Merriment Christmas Concert

7:30pm Saturday

4th December 2021

St Mary's Church

Church Road,
Winkfield SL4 4SF

Carols, talented young musicians,
children's and adult choirs, brass quintet,
handbells,
mulled wine and mince-pies

Tickets £13 (£6 for under 13s)

01344 882918 or at St Mary's services
or available online from the Friends website:
www.fosmw.com



Proceeds to support St Mary's church

Music and Merriment Christmas Concert 4 December

A message from the Friends of St Mary's Winkfield.

We are working up to yet another great evening of entertainment with the Music and Merriment concert at St Mary's church on Saturday 4 December – a must for your diaries – whether you are young or old. This occasion is a major fundraising event for St Mary's church.

We will be presenting the concert in essentially the same format as previous years, following popularity as a community concert. There will, as before, be a celebration of young talent.

We will be welcoming our brilliant violinist Sarah Aizawa for her third performance with us. Sarah is now aged 12, and, as a regular member of international junior master classes, she is quite a seasoned musician.

We are also welcoming David Shao, a hugely talented 9-year-old pianist, who has already achieved the ABRSM Diploma and won first prizes at international festivals. He is a pupil at Papplewick School,

The 5T's Brass Quintet will be with us again, and will give the world premiere of Len Tyler's 'Liliburlero variations'. Older people may remember that 'Liliburlero' was the BBC World Service theme tune.

John Kimbell will lead the Morgan Singers, who will be the adult choir: they were founded as a tribute to Tim Morgan, who supported the concert for some years as an organist, and died tragically young.

There will be old favourites, including the ever-popular handbells, and of course, the Women's Guild mince-pies, washed down with mulled wine. The Junior Choir of local children will charm you, as always!

You can buy tickets online on www.fosmw.com, the website of the Friends of St Mary's Winkfield. Look for the concert's orange button near the top of the page.

St Martin's Chavey Down Charity Lottery

You may well win a prize on this local lottery to help support St Mary's church. Details and entry forms can be found in the October Parish magazine, still available on www.fosmw.com/parishmag. Or press the purple [St Martins Charity Lottery] button on the same page, or on the Friends home-page www.fosmw.com

Vacancy as Clerk to the Trustees of the Winkfield Parochial Charity

A vacancy is arising for a clerk to the Trustees of the Winkfield Parochial Charity.

Our Charity owns 11 properties in Winkfield next to St Mary's church, including 8 Almshouses, Popels Hall and 2 cottages.

The role of clerk includes liaising with our residents and tenants to ensure any property related issues are rectified quickly, and to ensure that our regular maintenance contracts are carried out effectively. The clerk will report to the Trustees and take minutes of our meetings, which occur 3 to 4 times a year. In addition, the clerk is responsible for maintaining the financial records of the charity (which are audited by a local accountant), and jointly making payments on the charity's behalf with a Trustee.

The role is flexible, mainly working from home, but will require visits to the charity's premises. It is rewarding as it enables the individual to help out a local charity on behalf of our residents, in addition to solving property related issues. A monthly honorary payment is available to the individual.

For more details, please contact Richard Wyatt on 07522 306988 or email winkfieldparochialcharities@outlook.com

Chavey Down Women's Institute

We have resumed our monthly meetings in person, and the next meeting will be on Monday 15 November 2021 at St Martin's Church Hall with doors opening at 7:45pm. This will be a craft evening with an opportunity to try out making a seasonal craft.

As well as our monthly meetings we also have coffee/tea get togethers, walks, garden visits and many other outings. We also have a book club which currently meets once a month via zoom. New members are always welcome and much more information is available on our website.

Contact the WI either via the website: chaveydownwi.com or emailing Alison Bird, President, (alisonbird@gmail.com)

Christine Armstrong, Secretary

Services in the Parish – November 2021

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

ST MARTIN'S CHURCH – SUNDAY SERVICES IN NOVEMBER 2021

Date	Day	Time	Service
7	The Third Sunday before Advent – ST MARTIN'S PATRONAL	9:30am	No 9.30am service in St Martin's today. Please join instead the 10am Patronal Service (joint congregations) at St Martin's
		10am	Patronal at St Martin's (Joint congregations)
14	Remembrance Sunday	9:30am	Remembrance
21	Christ the King	9:30am	Holy Communion (CW)
28	The First Sunday of Advent	9:30am	Holy Communion (CW)
		5pm	Advent Carol Service

ST MARY'S CHURCH – SUNDAY SERVICES IN NOVEMBER 2021

Date	Day	Time	Service
7	The Twenty-third Sunday after Trinity	10am	No 10am service in St Mary's today. Please join instead the 10am Patronal Service (joint congregations) at St Martin's Church Road, Chavey Down, SL5 8RR
		11:45am	No Baptism service today
14	Remembrance Sunday	10:45am	Remembrance
21	The Twenty-fifth Sunday after Trinity	9:30am	Family Praise
		11am	Holy Communion (BCP)
28	The First Sunday in Advent	8am	Holy Communion (BCP)
		9:30am	Crafty Church
		11am	Advent Morning Prayer

ST PETER'S CHURCH – SUNDAY SERVICES IN NOVEMBER 2021

Date	Day	Time	Service
7	The Third Sunday before Advent	8am	Holy Communion (BCP)
		11am	No 11am service in St Peter's today. Please join instead the 10am Patronal Service (joint congregations) at St Martin's Church Road, Chavey Down, SL5 8RR
14	Remembrance Sunday	10:45am	Remembrance
		12:45pm	No Baptism service today
21	Christ the King	11am	Morning Prayer (CW)
28	The First Sunday of Advent	11am	Holy Communion (CW)

Around the Parish

Harvest at St Mary's - October 2021

The Harvest weekend began on Saturday 9 October with Harvest Evensong led by John Kimbell. St Mary's choir, with several extra singers, led the congregational hymns and sang Psalm 65, verses 9-14 and The Thomas Morley Magnificat and Nun Dimittis. John spoke on the parable of the Sower, Luke Chapter 4.

The Harvest Supper followed the service in Popels Hall. The delicious supper was once again prepared by Moira Gaw, assisted by her son George. The MC for the evening was Tony Bish. The Hand Bell Ringers began the evening's entertainment, followed by Sue Bish doing a wonderful reading and then Trevor Scott, who taught us all a song. The evening ended with community songs accompanied by William Taylor.

The Harvest Festival service on Sunday 10 October was Family Matins with bible reading, a harvest reading, and prayers read by the children. At the sermon slot there was a wonderful concert with many more children reading harvest poems, playing the piano, the violin and recorder. It was glorious.

The idea of the concert, of the cake stall that followed, came from one of the children. £155 was raised for church funds. It was a very successful Harvest weekend.

St Mary's Women's Guild

Our October meeting was back in church! Arrangements for the Harvest supper were discussed along with early arrangements for the Flower Arranging evening in November.

For the first time since March 2020, we were able to have refreshments at the end of the meeting. These were rather special refreshments, as the meeting date was just two days after Audrey de Verinne's 95 birthday. There was a wonderful cake, and we sang 'Happy Birthday'.

Since the meeting we have had the Harvest Supper – see the special report on page 12. It was a very special evening, and so good to be able to hold it this year!

Friends of St Mary's Winkfield

We have not met since the October magazine was published so Information regarding the next FOSMW project, 'The Electrics', will be available after our meeting later this month. Our thanks again to Anthony for keeping the website up to date and relevant.

The website has continued daily to record the local corona-virus statistics, with occasional comments (go to the website www.fosmw.com and press the red [Corona News] button. These figures have allowed us to identify the general Covid situation in our area, including the impact on local infections caused by the Reading Festival. (Bracknell forest was not much affected by the festival, but Wokingham and regions to our north west, have had a first and second wave, with, now, a possible third wave at the time of writing. These new infections seem mostly to be for unvaccinated people, so do be vaccinated, and take your booster, to give the best chances of safety.)

Family Matins, Family Praise and Crafty Church.

These services are working well. The ingenuity of the activities for Crafty Church never ceases to amaze me. The children don't seem to have any trouble following the instructions to 'make it work'. The Harvest Festival Family Matins hosted a concert and cake sale at the sermon slot. This idea was suggested by one of the young members of the congregation. Several children read the Bible passage, the chosen Harvest reading and the prayers in the service and then they and other

children recited poems, played the piano, the violin and the recorder. The cake sale raised £155. An excellent Harvest service.

St Mary's Choir

The choir, with choir members from St Martin's and St Peter's sang at the Memorial service for the Rev Huw Mordecai. The choir anthem was 'Lead me Lord'. A very memorable service. Apart from Sunday services, the choir sang at a Funeral service and at another Memorial service in September. They also sang splendidly at the Harvest Evensong service on Saturday 9 October, Harvest festival.

Bellringers Parish Mag Report October 2021

The bell ringers have had a busy month!

We enjoyed ringing the tower bells for our neighbours' wedding and what glorious weather they had!

Bell Sunday was fun, as always. Tony gave us an interesting talk on the history of the bells, and Trevor explained the intricacies of bell handling, before we gave a demonstration. After that we welcomed people to the top of the tower to see the bells, and also to have a go at 'donging' the bells.

Anyone who would like to have a proper go at ringing would be warmly welcomed – Monday evenings at 7:30pm or speak to Tony.

Harvest Supper was a super event – a lovely service that ended with a fabulous organ piece by William. After a delicious meal, cooked by Moira, we enjoyed a variety of entertainment – a poem by Sue, a song by Trevor and communal singing. The hand bells were short of a ringer, so we were grateful to William for stepping in and playing two bells for us with no practice at all!

Remember that we have booked St Martin's hall on 13 November 2021 for our very popular quiz night. Book your team with any of the bell ringers! Just £10 for a ploughman's supper and a quiz. There will be a 'roll a £1 coin' competition – the nearest to the bottle of scotch wins the bottle. Bring plenty of coins!!

New this year is the Christmas Tree Festival – very exciting!

Book your space with Lesley or Jill – £100 and you can decorate it as you wish, either as a group or individually. The church will be open on

Friday 17 December to decorate your tree, and the festival will continue up till Christmas.

ST MARY'S BELLRINGERS

QUIZ

IN AID OF St MARY'S CHURCH

7.00pm

ST MARTIN'S HALL

SATURDAY 13TH NOVEMBER 2021

£10 per ticket
4 persons per team

INCLUDING PLOUGHMANS SUPPER
(B·Y·O·B)

TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM
01344 886087 OR ANY BELL RINGER

Raffle – Prizes to be drawn on the night

Please purchase your potted tree from Oaktree Nursery – the cost to be taken from your £100, the rest going to the church.

We are delighted to have been asked to ring our bells at the Music and Merriment evening in church on 4 December – always such a great event; we are practicing hard on some lovely pieces of music.

We were all deeply saddened to hear of the death of Daphne Hutson, who was a tower ringer at Winkfield for many decades, and joined with us until recently when ill health prevented her doing so. She will be badly missed. There is to be a memorial service for Daphne at St Mary's on 30 October.

Take care and keep well,

Jill Glennerster 01344-884071

Thoughts of all sorts

Caring for Creation

Editor: Canon Paul Hardingham considers the COP26 climate conference

This month sees the eagerly anticipated COP26 climate conference in Glasgow. As Christians, we need to hold together two key insights, if we are to engage with the challenge of climate change:

The world is not ours:

'The earth is the Lord's and everything in it' (Psalm 24:1). The world is not ours, but God's! If we understand this, we will rediscover the responsibility of our calling to care for God's world: 'The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it' (Genesis 2:15). This challenges our consumer mindset, that says the resources of the earth are both limitless and exist for our pleasure. As well as caring for the planet, we also need to care for its people, for it's the poorest who will suffer the most from climate change. According to the World Bank, 100 million could fall into poverty by 2030. We cannot properly address the climate crisis until we re-learn our place in God's world!

We belong to Christ:

We also belong to the one in whom: 'all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers

**Cats Protection
Bracknell and Wokingham
Districts Branch**



Festive Pawsome Tea 2021

Date: Saturday 13th November 2021
Time: 2.00pm 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

This will be a very scaled back event where we will be selling Christmas Cards, Calendars, CP goods, along with a raffle. Sadly we will not be offering lunch, but some refreshments will be available, along with a variety of cakes. Social distancing will be observed. 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)

or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him.' (Colossians 1:16). We can look forward to the climax of history when God will restore the broken world and make everything new. We are empowered by Christ to take our proper place as stewards of the earth, as we share in this hope. We are called to love God and neighbour, and care for the planet by living simply, recycling, conserving energy and choosing reusable options.

However great the climate crisis gets, as Christians, we can engage in it with faith and not with fatalism!

An interesting life Part 9: In wartime London

Anthony Hodson continues the tale – shortages– from 1942 to 1945

In wartime London, daily life went on as best it could, despite the bombing raids, and the scarcity of food and much more. Of course, back in the 1940s, there were many familiar things that had not yet been invented. There was no Internet, no personal computers, no mobile phones; TV (although invented) was primitive and unavailable anyway.

Few people had cars - doctors who had to visit patients were one exception. Petrol was in any case scarce, and many cars that did run had big gas-bags on their tops, having been adapted to use the coal-gas then available for cooking and heating. We had bicycles to get about with, although the poor quality of rubber tyres led to frequent punctures. Milk was delivered on horse-drawn floats.

Fuel - and that included coal or coke for fires in people's homes - was rationed. Houses were cold in winter, and people wore woolly clothing if they could get it. Electricity was expensive and subject to cuts. We sometimes stayed with my much-loved paternal grandparents in Wiltshire. They avoided using electricity when possible, and we went to our rooms to go to bed by the light of little paraffin lamps. The smell of burning paraffin (which is a light oil used for lamps and heaters) has become a romantic memory in later life.

Clothes were also rationed, and resulting tensions were probably behind a sorry incident in the winter of 1944 - forgiven, but never forgotten. My parents had bought me a beautiful overcoat, but one day, just back from school wearing it, my mother found one of its buttons missing. She decided that, as the cut in the thread was clean, I must have

deliberately cut it off with scissors. I was punished (smacked and beaten with a kitchen wooden spoon) when I (truthfully) denied this, and was sent to bed in disgrace. In the morning, I realised that the situation would be resolved if I (untruthfully) confessed, so I did. The matter for the parents was now in the past, but not for me. I became more flexible, avoided confrontations, and became seemingly weaker, gentler and more aware of people-situations. I also became more resilient in difficult times. Inherited stubbornness provided a backstop.

My big brother Nick was a stronger character, and no compromiser; he had his own clashes with our strong-minded parents. His complex personality in later life was, I'm sure, shaped by these incidents.

My parents were good people. Mild physical punishment (I cannot remember being actually hurt by it) was the norm of the day, per Proverbs 13:24. Their love and support for their children was deep and proved by the many ways that they went out of their way on our behalf. On this occasion, they got it wrong, and when I became a parent, I swore to respect what my son or daughter had insisted upon, even if I thought it unlikely to be true – and did so!

Toys were scarce then, and the parents got it absolutely right for Nick and me when they bought, second-hand, a big Meccano set, and a magnificent Gauge-1 clockwork train set, with beautiful carriages and a good supply of rails. Nick was mostly off at boarding school (West Downs, evacuated to Blair Castle in Scotland), so I was rather a solitary boy. But, enjoying making things, I found Meccano in particular a real favourite. It offered steel components (in sheets, beams and many other shapes, including wheels and a clockwork motor), that could be fastened together with little nuts and bolts to form vehicles, cranes and much more – much more exciting than 'Minibrix', the hard-rubber 'Lego'-like toy of the time. All of this fed my enjoyment of 'things that worked', and ultimately led to a practical career in engineering.

The Radio was the main source of news and entertainment, and evidently 'worked'. I had not seen inside a radio set, but concluded that it was a box containing twisted wire. To prove my theory, I found a length of insulated copper wire, twisted it up, and put it into a Minibrix box. Then I took the two ends of the wire and plugged them into a mains socket. There was a big flash, and I found myself on the other side

of the room, unhurt but knowing now that there was a bit more to radio sets than I had thought.

Food was heavily rationed - people were issued ration books to get meat, including bacon, eggs, butter and cheese, and other basic commodities. Queuing for items in short supply was a way of life. However, offal such as liver, kidneys and even brains, was not rationed, but not always available. Black pudding became a favourite in our family - and remains so, when on offer. Fruit, vegetables, and some other foodstuffs, were just scarce. People were encouraged to 'dig for victory' and grow their own vegetables- my godfather Ivison Macadam turned Chesham Place, the London garden near his house, into a 'Victory Garden'.

Paper was rationed, and newspapers were very thin. Toilet paper (thin hard paper in small sheets - quite unlike today's soft tissue) was scarce, and I remember having a child-carer who on several occasions accused me of using 'six double sheets' (I can still hear her indignant voice although I'm not sure that she clearly knew the difference between six and four). For many people, strips made from their newspaper served the purpose.

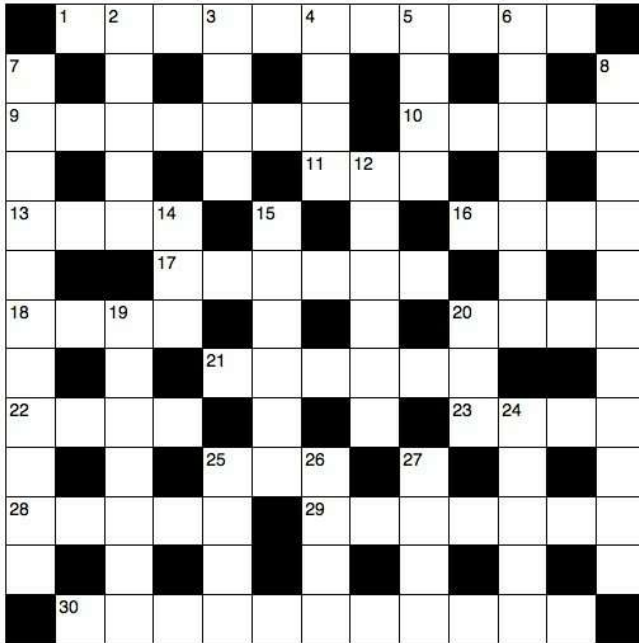
Doctors were in short supply, only to be called for severe conditions. I remember having flu-like illnesses on several occasions, including a childhood disease called 'croup' that impedes breathing. One way of stopping this, the parents found, was to put me under the bedclothes between them in their double bed - and breathing was immediately possible again.

Although I was a solitary boy, and used to my own company, I was affectionate with adults that I liked. But I cannot recall the name of any friends of my own age. The closest to a peer friendship until I went to boarding school was still my brother Nick (when he was home from school) - a constant companion, except when he was cross.

The next episode takes me to the birth of my little brother Daniel, and into school life.

The collected episodes, up to and including the present one can be found at <https://fosmw.com/parishmag/an-interesting-life.pdf>

Crossword Puzzle



Across

- 1 In David's battle with the Arameans, 700 of these were killed (2 Samuel 10:18) (11)
- 9 'No — , impure or greedy person has any inheritance in the kingdom of God' (Ephesians 5:5) (7)
- 10 City on the banks of the River Nile (5)
- 11 Stamped addressed envelope (1,1,1)
- 13 Taverns (4)
- 16 'Be on your guard; stand — in the faith' (1 Corinthians 16:13) (4)
- 17 'He will not always — , nor will he harbour his anger for ever' (Psalm 103:9) (6)
- 18 and 27 Down Where the magi came from and what guided them (Matthew 2:1-2) (4,4)
- 20 Ancient Celtic alphabet of 20 characters (4)

- 21 She married Esau when he was 40 years old (Genesis 26:34) (6)
- 22 A great-grandson of Noah (Genesis 10:7) (4)
- 23 Title accorded to certain Roman Catholic clerics (abbrev.) (4)
- 25 'My house will be a house of prayer; but you have made it a — of robbers' (Luke 19:46) (3)
- 28 Annie (anag.) (5)
- 29 Plead with (Zechariah 7:2) (7)
- 30 Tenth foundation of the new Jerusalem (Revelation 21:20) (11)

Down

- 2 'We have a building from God, an eternal house in heaven, not built by — hands' (2 Corinthians 5:1) (5)
- 3 Uncommon excellence (Proverbs 20:15) (4)
- 4 'You have exalted my horn like that of a wild ox; fine — have been poured upon me' (Psalm 92:10) (4)
- 5 — Homo ('Behold the Man') (4)
- 6 'He has given proof of this to all men by — him from the dead' (Acts 17:31) (7)
- 7 'Our — is in heaven' (Philippians 3:20) (11)
- 8 'This is a day you are to — ' (Exodus 12:14) (11)
- 12 Assault (Psalm 17:9) (6)
- 14 'Jesus found a young donkey and — upon it' (John 12:14) (3)
- 15 Liverpool dialect (6)
- 19 'Remember the — day by keeping it holy' (Exodus 20:8) (7)
- 20 Nineteenth-century German physicist after whom the unit of electrical resistance is named (3)
- 24 Nazirites were not allowed to eat this part of a grape (Numbers 6:4) (5)
- 25 'If anyone would come after me, he must — himself and take up his cross and follow me' (Mark 8:34) (4)
- 26 Evil Roman emperor from AD54 to 68, responsible for condemning hundreds of Christians to cruel deaths (4)
- 27 See 18 Across

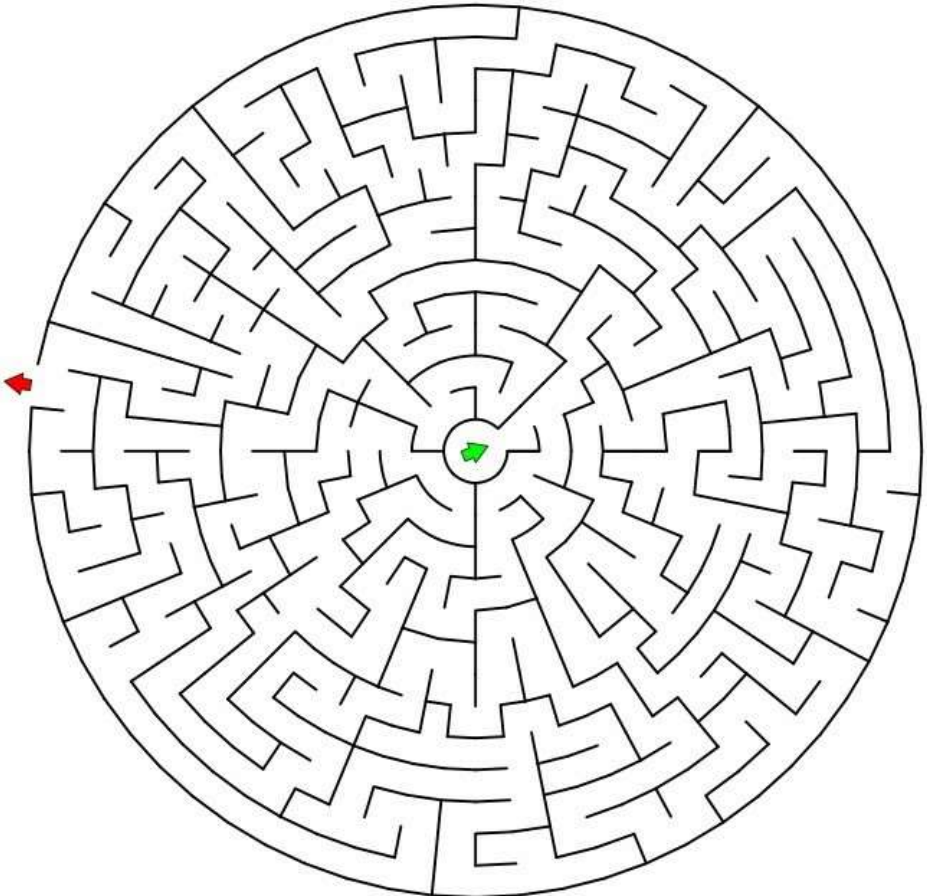
Solutions

ACROSS: 1, Charitoteers. 9, Immoral. 10, Cairo. 11, SAE. 13, Inns. 16, Firm. 17, Accuse. 18, East. 20, Ogam. 21, Judith. 22, Seba. 23, Msgr. 25, Den. 28, Inane. 29, Entréat. 30, Chrysoprase.

DOWN: 2, Human. 3, Rare. 4, Oils. 5, Ecce. 6, Raising. 7, Citizenship. 8, Commemorate. 12, Assail. 14, Sat. 15, Scouse. 19, Sabbath. 20, Ohm. 24, Seeds. 25, Deny. 26, Nero. 27, Star.

Maze

Find your way from the centre green arrow to the red arrow exit!



Children's Corner

The tale of
the
Tower
Builder



JESUS OFTEN TOLD STORIES WITH HIDDEN MEANINGS

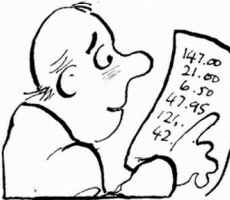


ON ONE OCCASION JESUS EXPLAINED HOW IT WOULDN'T ALWAYS BE EASY TO FOLLOW HIM.



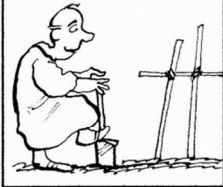
JESUS BEGAN, IF ONE OF YOU PLANS TO BUILD A TOWER....

...YOU'LL FIRST NEED TO WORK HOW MUCH IT WILL COST.



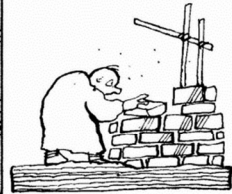
IF YOU DON'T DO THE SUMS....

...YOU MIGHT MAKE A START,

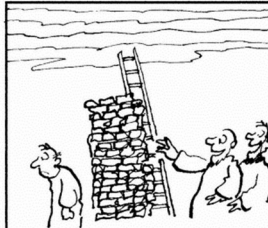


...WORK VERY HARD ON THE FOUNDATIONS.

...THEN START TO LAY THE BRICKS,...



...BUT SUDDENLY RUN OUT OF MONEY!!



THEN PEOPLE WILL LAUGH AT YOU!

TOWER TO BE CANCELLED BUILT HERE

WE NEED TO REALISE THAT ALTHOUGH FOLLOWING JESUS IS THE RIGHT THING TO DO, IT'S ALSO A GREAT CHALLENGE.