



# WINKFIELD PARISH NEWS



**March 2023**

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# Winkfield Parish News – March 2023

## Mothering Sunday is 19<sup>th</sup> March

Mothering Sunday, which coincides with Mid-Lent Sunday, is not to be confused with Mother's Day, a popular modern import from the United States that is celebrated in May. Mother's Day was started in 1908 by Anna Jarvis, a social activist and community organizer during the American Civil War era, to "venerate a mother's private service to her family". This began annual services of celebration and worship at her church in Grafton, West Virginia, and the idea caught on, across the USA and world-wide.

Our Mothering Sunday goes back to the Middle Ages, and at that time was a celebration of one's Mother Church – the church where one had been christened. It became a firm tradition that family servants would be permitted time off for Mothering Sunday to return to their Mother Churches. In more modern days, Mothering Sunday in the church has consciously embraced the sentiment of Mother's Day, in the celebration of mothers but also retains the idea of 'belonging' to our church.

## Mothering Sunday and mothers

*In this piece, Canon Paul Hardingham considers our appreciation of mothers.*

Mothering Sunday is a day of mixed emotions. For many it's a happy, joyous day, but for others it's one of pain and grief. A day to celebrate love, while acknowledging those who cannot have children or have lost them and those who have no relationship with their mother.

In the dying moments of His life, Jesus honored Mary his mother by showing her love and care. He entrusted His mother to John's protection: *'When Jesus saw His mother there, and the disciple whom He loved standing nearby, He said to her, 'Woman, here is your son,' and to the disciple, 'Here is your mother.' From that time on, this disciple took her into his home.'* (John 19:26,27). While affirming the importance of mothers, Jesus reminds us that the love we show on Mothering Sunday is just a token of our continuous appreciation of them.

Jesus also creates a new way of being family, marking the beginnings of the church. People would go back to their *'mother'* church on this Sunday, to acknowledge its importance in their lives. Jesus invites us into this new family of love and mutual belonging, where we can find a place, irrespective of our own family circumstances.

Church is not always an easy place to be, because we are shaped by our own experience of mothering. We may find it hard to give or receive love without ourselves getting in the way. However, God's help is available to change things, *'because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.'* (Romans 5:5)

The mother of three difficult youngsters was asked whether she'd have children if she had it to do over again. *'Yes,'* she replied. *'But not the same ones.'*

## From the Parish Registers for January 2023

### **Baptisms and Confirmations**

None have been reported.

### **Funerals etc.**

On 20 January 2023, a graveside service was held for Roger Moore at St Peter's Church Cranbourne.

On 25 January 2023, a cremation service was held for Doreen Thompson at Slough Crematorium.

### *In memoriam – Ruth Timbrell, née Mayes*

On Thursday 9 February, a moving Memorial service in St Martin's church was held to celebrate the life of Ruth Timbrell, who had died in December 2022 at the age 94. The service was followed by the interment of her ashes in the family grave of her husband Charles in St Mary's churchyard.

Ruth Mayes was born in 1928 in Fulham. For some time, her father had been looking for land on which to build their own house, and they found the right place in 1934 on the edge of the hamlet of Chavey Down, then a few rustic miles from Bracknell. Her father died in 1938 and on the death of her mother in 1949 Ruth inherited her childhood home and this is where she and Charles remained after their marriage in 1954. In her early years, she had been educated by the nuns of Ascot Priory, and those days were clearly a treasured experience, as she loved visiting the Priory, and it became her home in her last days.

Ruth was very much a country girl, and became fascinated by the history of Chavey Down and the surrounding area at an early age. During the 39/45 war, her family grew vegetables in their big garden. She had a pet goat - she loved animals of all kinds – and this love was memorialised by

the 'Timbrell Tunnel' created, at her strong instigation, when Harvest Ride (Bracknell's Northern Distributor Road) was developed, to enable badgers to continue to have access to their traditional foraging grounds.

She played a strong leadership role in local organisations, including the Chavey Down Association, of which she was secretary for nearly 60 years. Ruth was fearless in her defence of issues that mattered to her, and, by her leadership, inspired (perhaps by a little not-so-subtle 'fingering') volunteers for many local organisations. She was loved as well as highly respected in her community work.

She became a well-known local historian, and her book 'Chavey Up Down and Around', published by herself in 1983, is still available as 'Rare non-fiction' at prices that probably would have astonished her. She loved communicating her local knowledge, and gave talks to schools on the subject. Her research is still enshrined in a multitude of documents maintained by the Berkshire Record Office.

Her love of the area drew her into a number of public activities that aimed to preserve the local country heritage. She became secretary of NORPAG, a group that endeavoured to prevent thousands of new houses being built around the small villages to the north-east of Bracknell during the tenure of Maggie Thatcher as Prime Minister. She was quite happy to confront Nicholas Ridley, the then Secretary of State for the Environment.

She was honoured in 2012 by Queen Elizabeth, in her Diamond Jubilee Year, together with Mary Knight, when the two of them received Maundy Money from Her Majesty in Christ Church Cathedral in Oxford - a tribute to the unstinting service given to their community by those two remarkable Chavey Down ladies.

## *Other notices*

### **ELECTORAL ROLL – 2023 – and APCM 10:30am 23/4/23 at 10:30am**

A review of the Electoral Roll will take place, before the 2023 Roll is published early in April. This must be done before the Annual Parochial Church Meeting at 10:30am on 23 April 2023, in St Peter's Church.

**People who are on the current Roll do not need to re-apply. Their names will be carried forward to 2023.**

Anyone not on the 2022 Roll, but wishing to have their name added for 2023, can find an application form on the parish website <https://www.winkfieldandcranbourne.org.uk/> by following the links: [Other

Information[, then [Church Membership, Electoral Roll] and then click on [To join the Electoral Roll . . . ]. Alternatively, you can request a form from the Electoral Roll Officer, Marian Stevens, on 01344 882918 or email [anthony.locksride@btinternet.com](mailto:anthony.locksride@btinternet.com).

**The closing date for the receipt of new completed application forms is 31 March 2023.**

The parish website (also accessible from <https://fosmw.com>) also carries information about the Parish Giving Scheme, which we are encouraging everyone to join, Gift Aided if appropriate. There are also some ideas and opportunities for becoming more involved in church activities.

We want everyone to feel that they can share in our Christian community to continue and grow the valuable work of the church in this parish.

If you would like any more information on this, or you no longer wish to be included on the Roll, please ring or e-mail Marian Stevens on the above numbers.

## **Church Office**

Office hours are: Monday-Friday 9:30am – 12noon. The Church Office is open for visitors on Tuesdays & Fridays.

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

Website: <https://winkfieldandcranbourne.org.uk>

If you are arranging an event, please contact Stephanie in the Church Office at the email address above, so that it can be noted in the Church diary and recorded on the website.

Don't forget to use our fundraising links:

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

## **Safeguarding in the Parish**

The Parish safeguarding details are at:

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

Safeguarding is part of our core faith and an integral feature of Christian life. Please be alert to the fact that Safeguarding concerns arise in many different guises. So we should always have faith to question, especially when something does not feel right.

Should you have any Safeguarding concerns, please contact our Parish Safeguarding Officer, Mrs Camille Jeffs, via the Church Office on: 01344 882933, or email [safeguarding@winkfieldandcranbourne.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@winkfieldandcranbourne.org.uk) (please begin message with 'SAFEGUARDING').

### **Bellringing at St Mary's church**

Have you ever thought about having a go at ringing our beautiful bells here at Winkfield? Now is your chance to do just that.

Here, in the bell ringing team, we are hoping to enable a group of people to ring our bells to celebrate the King's coronation in May. It will take a bit of learning to be ready to do it, but we have ringing teachers in our team and are able to offer tuition free of charge. If you might be interested please let us know. Call or text Tony Bish, Tower Captain, on 07759876642. Looking forward to hearing from you!



# Local reports and events

## **St Mary's Choir**

Several of our extra singers joined for the Crafty Choral Matins service on 29 January. The Canticles chosen for this service were the Te Deum Part3, Vs 18 - 23 and the Jubilate. The hand bell ringers also performed during this service, ringing 'We three Kings of Orient are', which was appropriate, as we were still in Epiphany. John Kimbell led the service.

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

Our February meeting was held at the home of one of our members. The main topic for discussion was our 60th anniversary in April. It was agreed that on Wednesday 26 April there would be a service in St Mary's followed by lunch. John Kimbell has very kindly agreed to lead the service.

Marking the King's Coronation on a Sunday in May was also discussed along with ideas for HODS in September. The arrangements for our visit to Lambrook school were also finalised.

## **Friends of St Mary's Winkfield**

There have been one or two setbacks with the Electrics project ,but we hope that next month we will have positive news.

The Friends' AGM will be held on Friday 24 March at 8pm in St Mary's Church

## **Crafty Church and Crafty Choral Matins**

The activity for Crafty Church on 22 January was the decoration of drip mats for the candles to be blessed at Crafty Choral Matins on 29 January. The children produced some very artistic designs.

They either took the candles, home promising to return with them on 29 January or left them in the basket ready to be collected on 29 January.

## **Family Matins & Family Praise**

The children told the story of the Flight into Egypt at Family Matins on 8 January, and also read the Bible passages and prayers. Family Praise on 15 January was the story of the Presentation of Jesus in the Temple also called Candlemas. The children once again read the Bible passages and prayers.

Lesley Philpot 427561

## **Bell ringers Report February 2023**

A very dear friend and tower ringer has sadly died. Vic Mitchell was a regular ringer with us at Winkfield (and other towers) for many years. Even when he became less agile he would struggle up our tower steps to help us with different methods. Over the years he has also brought us many vegetables that he had grown on his allotment - something he kept going to the very end. We will miss him.

I am again, lucky enough to be involved with the South East Region Bell Orchestra (SERBO). This entails several whole days of practice sessions with 40+ other ringers working on many different musical arrangements - it is exhausting but enormous fun. If you are able to attend, I would recommend coming to see the concert on Sunday 28th May where you will see hundreds of bells rung from the size of thimbles to those the size of buckets! There will be a poster at the back of church nearer the time.

There is a hand bell rally coming up that several of us are attending - we will enjoy a day of ringing with other groups from around the region, practising five different pieces. As well as enjoying the day we will also have new pieces of music for our library that we will be using throughout the year.

Included in this is a piece specially arranged for the Coronation of King Charles - there is time to learn this if anyone would like to join us for this wonderful event.

Contact Jill or turn up on a Wednesday evening at 6:30pm.

There is a campaign: "Ring for the King".

We are actively recruiting for this initiative, so it is an ideal opportunity to learn to ring the tower bells with the goal of being able to join in during the Coronation celebrations.

Speak to Tony for more information or come along on a Monday evening at 7:30pm.

If all this has inspired you then come along and give it a go...

Take care,

Jill Glennerster 01344-884071



# The Winkfield and North Ascot Good Neighbours scheme



## THE WINKFIELD & NORTH ASCOT GOOD NEIGHBOURS SCHEME

We can help with transport to **hospital**, **surgery**, **dentist**, chiropodist  
for just a small fee per mile towards costs.

*Please give 2 days notice*

Co-ordinators:      Brenda      882975  
                                 Angela      883854  
                                 Pat            886144

Please ring Monday to Friday between 9am and 5pm

*New drivers always needed!!*

## HELP IS AT HAND

For 30 years, Winkfield and North Ascot Good Neighbours have provided a vital Community service taking our vulnerable neighbours to essential appointments. This has made a huge difference to many people who would have had to travel alone, take expensive taxi journeys or use inconvenient public transport.

Our drivers are all volunteers and they claim their mileage at the agreed HMRC rate of 45p per mile, door to door.

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.

Do consider helping us to help others.

Please contact Lynne Wilkes on 01344-884947

Or email [lynnebobby@btinternet.com](mailto:lynnebobby@btinternet.com)

# Services in the Parish – March 2023

These services may be subject to change or cancellation depending on the latest guidelines

## ST MARTIN'S CHURCH

## Common Worship Services

Date	Day	Time	Service
5	The 2nd Sunday of Lent	9.30am	Family Praise
		4pm	Family Craft Café
12	The 3rd Sunday of Lent	9.30am	Family Praise
15	Wednesday	11am	Lauds - Service of Reflection
19	Mothering Sunday	9.30am	Celebrating Mothers & Women in our Lives
26	The 5th Sunday of Lent		Family Communion
29	Wednesday	11am	Lauds - Service of Reflection

\* Family friendly services

## ST MARY'S CHURCH

## Book of Common Prayer Services

Date	Day	Time	Service
1	Wednesday	11am	Lauds - Service of Reflection
5	The 2nd Sunday in Lent	10am	Family Communion
12	The 3rd Sunday in Lent	8am	Holy Communion
		10am	Family Matins
19	The 4th Sunday in Lent	10am	Mothering Sunday Service
		11am	Said Holy Communion
26	The 5th Sunday in Lent	8am	Holy Communion
		9.30am	Crafty Church
		11am	Morning Prayer

## ST PETER'S CHURCH

## Common Worship Services

Date	Day	Time	Service
5	The 2nd Sunday of Lent	11am	Family Praise
8	Wednesday	11am	Lauds - Service of Reflection

Date	Day	Time	Service
12	The 3rd Sunday of Lent	11am	Holy Communion
19	Mothering Sunday	11am	Mothering Sunday Service
22	Wednesday	11am	Lauds - Service of Reflection
26	The 5th Sunday of Lent	11am	Holy Communion

## *Services for Easter Week*

Date	Day	Time	Service	Location
2	Palm Sunday	9.30am	Family Praise	St Martin's
		10am	Family Matins	St Mary's
		11am	Family Praise	St Peter's
3	Holy Monday	7.30pm	Compline	St Martin's
4	Holy Tuesday	7.30pm	Compline	St Mary's
5	Holy Wednesday	11am	Lauds, Service of Reflection	St Peter's
		7.30pm	Compline	St Peter's
6	Maundy Thursday	2.30pm	Said Holy Communion & Coffee served by Patrick	St Mary's
		7.30pm	Said Holy Communion & Foot washing / Servanthood	St Peter's
7	Good Friday	10am	Stations of the Cross	St Peter's
		2pm	Meditation at the Cross	St Mary's
		4pm	Eastingle	St Martin's
9	Easter Sunday	8am	Said Holy Communion	St Mary's
		9am	Holy Communion	St Martin's
		10am	Family Communion	St Mary's
		11am	Communion	St Peter's

# Thoughts of all sorts

## A reflection on The Lord's Prayer ((Matthew 6:1-18)

*By Daphne Kitching*

Our Father in heaven, please help us.  
We, your children, learn slowly.

So often we say nothing when your name is mis-used.  
Often our lives do not reflect your ways,  
Mostly we do what we want on earth,  
And this can make heaven unimaginable.

We expect so much more than we actually need each day.  
Sometimes we think we don't need forgiveness,  
Sometimes we think we are unforgivable,  
And we forget that other people make these same errors of thinking.

When it comes to temptation, we find our own ways,  
We are confused about what is and is not evil,  
We are confused about deliverance,  
We are confused...

And here is the wonder, the grace and the mystery,  
That you know us completely,  
Our failings, our secrets,  
And still love us forever and ever,

Amen.

## **Mark Hichens 1928 to 2022**

### ***Memories of a special friend***

If we were lucky at school, we would have had at least one inspirational schoolmaster, who would have gripped us with his or her enthusiasm, contributed at every stage to our learning, and passed on the passion to understand. Such people are rare, and their life work lives on after them.

Mark Hichens, who died aged 96 on 26 November 2022, was one – an inspirational school master at Kings College School, Wimbledon, where he was Head of History for the Junior School. He crowned his teaching career as the author of 10 books, based on history, which satisfied and informed many adults (as well as young people), who, lacking the background to be avid historians, nevertheless enjoyed history that pointed at the causes, showed their effects, and clarified the trends.

His books were written to present their subjects with presence, clarity and immediacy, founded on the necessity to engage young minds, and he had the skill to do this.

He was born in 1928 as the second son of leading industrialist Lionel Hitchens (1874-1940). Lionel acquired North Aston Hall in Oxfordshire in the 30's and had three sons (of which Mark was the second), and three daughters. This is where Mark spent his early boyhood, but the promise of those days was hit by tragedy when Lionel was killed in his London office by a wartime bomb in 1940. Mark's older brother John was also killed in action in 1944 in Normandy, just a few weeks after D-Day.

Mark went to Winchester School in 1941, where he became a competent musician as well as classicist and historian. Afterwards, he had to do National Service and joined the Royal Navy. He was not selected as an officer, and so had two years that must have been difficult for him, but broadening, living in cramped conditions with young people from wide social backgrounds. This may well have had positive effects on his handling of his later career as a schoolmaster. All the same, his university time at New College, Oxford would have been a huge relief.

The family advice for Mark's career was to become a Chartered Accountant. He tried it and hated that and left when he could. His mother, struggling to keep the North Aston Hall farm going, suggested that he help with the dairy milk-round, but this also was disastrous (although Mark's much younger brother Andrew, 8 years his junior, was hooked on farming from a young age). Mark was very tall, and subsequently became a promising tennis player, but then decided to try his fortune in London, where he could live in a flat left to his mother Hermione by her mother.

There, Mark joined the staff of Westminster Underschool, where he found a real flair for teaching. After teaching for a period in the USA, he returned to England in 1970, where he was offered a staff job teaching English and History with Kings College School, Wimbledon. In 1974, he published his first book, a history book for GCSE students that became required reading in a number of schools.

Later, after his retirement from Kings College School in 1987, his flair for history and English led him to publish a new book – later writing one almost every year – and he continued writing into his 90's. His readable books follow a genre that gave him many devoted followers. Many of his books are on Amazon <https://www.amazon.co.uk> – search 'Mark Hitchens'.

Mark was a very tall man, and must have seemed formidable at first to his young pupils. They would soon have realised that he was a person of great gentleness, although expecting good results; he was interested in everybody that he spoke to, and was intellectually alert, funny and interesting. It was a privilege to have him as a friend from childhood right into his old age. He retained his intelligence, charm and wit to the end.  
Anthony Hodson

### **Episode 25– Montebello atom tests ('Mosaic' tests, 1956)**

What was it like being on the lower deck of Her Majesty's Navy? By March 1956, when HMS Diana was commissioned, I had experienced six months of a new social experience. Although there had been some bad moments that had nothing to do with social 'status', I was comfortable and generally happy to be 'one of the lads'.

And, in a naval messdeck, where there is little privacy, I had been accepted as such - as 'Clarence' with my 'posh' accent and all. In any random section of society, one will probably find the same mix of intelligence and decency, as well as of the opposite, and in the 30 people that shared my messdeck towards the 'stern' (rear end) of HMS Diana, virtually all were of the former. I just got on with whatever were my social and mess-related duties (e.g. washing up in a rota after meals and keeping the messdeck clean and tidy), and grew to like and appreciate my companions, who were about half-and-half national-servicemen like myself. I remember only one or two instances of overt dislike shown to me. The messdecks were cramped - at night they were completely filled from above chest level by sleeping sailors, jostling in their hammocks with just a few inches between one sailor's hammock and the next. There was no sensible alternative to embracing a peaceful and cheerful acceptance of how things were.

There was a strong musical presence on the ship, and we had a Ship's Band of about 10 sailors, with a very talented leader, who did lots of ad-hoc arrangements for a slightly unconventional ensemble. Originally, with my oboe, I was the only woodwind player, the remainder being brass, but after we reached Singapore, my oboe seized up in the salt air. So Tom, our leader, said, why don't you blow this (handing me a tuba); this will allow Fred (our former tuba player) to play the trombone, his main instrument. So I did, and enjoyed the tuba - and it cropped up again in my life about 25 years later. We played at ceremonial occasions, and social gatherings for the officers when they met top people at ports visited.

But let me return to the main story, which had taken HMS Diana to Fremantle, W. Australia, for a quick relaxation for a few days.

Fremantle is the most important seaport for W. Australia, and not far from the beautiful city of Perth, on the Swan River. It was not an exciting place to visit although I am sure that good beer was available – and more. The place was memorable, though, for the two expeditions laid on for the ship's company, one to the Swan Brewery in Perth, and the second to the big oil refinery for that region. The Swan Brewery was most enjoyable - a modern plant that made a lager that was quite distinctive in taste - perhaps because of the sea-miles that the hops had taken in their journey from England's Kentish hop-fields. The tour finished with refreshments: as much Swan lager as we could decently manage. I never saw the oil refinery the next day, as there was a bus mix-up, and I had a second visit to the Swan Brewery, and I didn't complain (as perhaps some did).

We were soon off back to the Montebello Islands to take part in a test with real nuclear explosions. We had been preparing for this for a long time, now, and I had enjoyed working in the Scientific Party with the scientists.

Of crucial importance, practical and scientific, was the preparation of the ship to keep its crew as safe as possible. A ship near a nuclear explosion would risk passing through air (and perhaps rain) that had been contaminated with radioactive dust. This required that all the living and working areas other than the engine room area were maintained at a pressure just above atmospheric pressure by being filled with air passed through filters to remove the radioactive particulate matter. In the event, this worked very well, and later warships use the technology.

Unfortunately, providing enough filtered air was not a possibility for the engine room and adjacent areas. The engines, twin 35,000HP steam turbines, were driven by oil-burning steam boilers drawing huge amounts of air through the engine room area. This meant that engine-room staff had to rely for protection on what they could wear – masks and protective clothing. No figures are available to pinpoint disastrous effects of all this, but an article currently on Wikipedia states: "Since the exposure, around two-thirds of the crew have died, and survivors attest that a variety of fallout-related diseases are responsible."

It was clear that the weather was deteriorating as we left Fremantle, and we soon found ourselves through huge seas that were the result of a typhoon (locally called a 'willy-willy') that had blown through the area. For

crew members, particularly for those prone to seasickness, it was a horrible experience with the ship being thrown about all the time.

My messdeck and the adjacent one in the stern, were just over the propellers, and when the ship's bows dipped down, the stern rose up, raising the big propellers half out of the water, which they violently flailed in their half-submerged state. I was on a four-hour watch that evening, the Midnight Watch, and lost such dinner as I had been able to eat several times. Going off watch at midnight, it was necessary to leave the enclosed bridge area and go out on the stormy open deck to reach the living accommodation areas near the stern. There was no covered passageway linking them. When I reached my messdeck, having gone on watch before hammocks were set up, I could not find the physical energy to rig my hammock, so I just lay down on the deck (floor in landsmen's terms), and passed a long night being bumped up and down every few seconds when the ship's stern came out of the water and the propellers flailed.

Fortunately, the weather calmed down overnight, which was just as well, as damage had been done, fortunately not critically, and the Montebello islands were calm when we reached them.

HMS Diana had two big gun turrets near the bows, each containing 4.5in guns, quick-firing – a round every few seconds – for ship/shore or anti-aircraft combat. Their shells weighed about 80lb. The turrets were big fully enclosed structures nearly 20ft wide, and could rotate by about 220 degrees. The second turret was set on a 10ft high metal structure that allowed it to range over the first turret. The forward wall of this structure had attached to it a big aluminium locker used to store deck equipment; this was placed directly behind the foremost gun turret.

Although it was almost completely sheltered by the turret from waves coming over the bows, the storm waves over the bows still smashed powerfully into the locker, which looked as if it had been run into by a bus.

The violent ship's motion had also dislodged anything that had not been fastened down adequately. The bridge area, behind the second gun turret had a room perhaps 10X20ft that was made into the scientists' laboratory - and it was here that I had spent a lot of time with the Scientific Party helping put together small electronic devices to perform recording functions. In those days, much of the electronics used 'thermionic valves', and these used 'accumulators' - small lead-acid batteries that powered the glowing cathodes of the valves. (Transistors had only recently been



invented, so domestic radios of the time also used accumulators and well as special graphite/zinc batteries that provided high voltage ('high tension') for the valves. Unfortunately, in the storm, quite a few of the accumulators had been thrown about and broken, so our precious laboratory was a mess, running with sulphuric acid, and everything had to be cleared up before the atom tests began in a short two days' time.

HMS Diana's primary task for both of the two atomic explosions of the tests codenamed Operation Mosaic was to sail through the fallout cloud when it reached sea level. Her task for the experiment was to evaluate the effectiveness of a pre-wetting system in preventing excessive contamination and in helping cleanup afterwards. Hoses were rigged up over and above areas of the ship that would need to stay relatively decontaminated, the idea being that contaminated droplets would not stick and dry onto a pre-wetted surface. The pre-wetting system continuously pumped seawater until measurement showed that contamination rates had abated.

I think that we were about 20 miles away from the first explosion, which took place on a scaffold structure on one of the islands. The test took place just after lunchtime, and those who could went up onto the ship's deck above our heads. The mess-decks themselves had only small, closed portholes that (although openable) would have been closed for all operational occasions like these.

It so happened that it was my turn in the after-lunch washing-up rota, so, arms covered with soap suds, I did not see the explosion itself. This could have been life-saving good fortune, as I was protected from the explosion and the resulting flash of atomic radiation by the ship's structure. At the time, I was disappointed, but I told myself that I would have my turn after the second test, which was to take place a month later on 19 June. Because of the weather, I missed that one too.

I completed my task and only then went up on deck to witness the mushroom-cloud spectacle, and it was just as spectacular as pictures of atomic explosions suggest. The seething head of the mushroom rose high, and the stem of the mushroom bent as the various wind-layers blew in their own direction. The mushroom soared to 21,000ft - about 4 miles high: still impressive even from 20 miles.

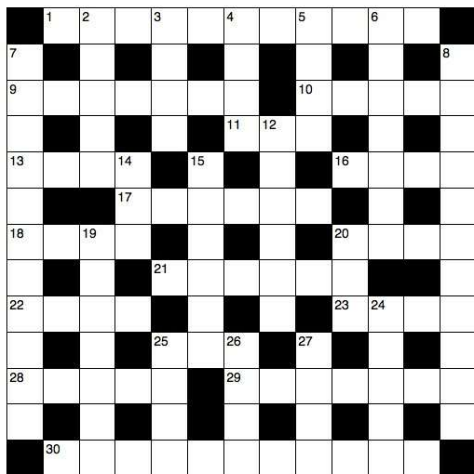
Many instruments were there to monitor contamination levels, and personnel in particular need of monitoring had badges with sealed-

photographic-film so that their total exposure to radiation could be measured. And the ship was contaminated. But there is little more to report at this point. After the first test, we sailed for a recovery period to Singapore, where the next episode will resume the story.

Anthony Hodson <https://fosmw.com/parishmag/an-interesting-life.pdf>

## Puzzles

### Crossword Puzzle



### Crossword Clues and Answers

#### Across

- 1 These letters come between Romans and Galatians (11)
- 9 'You will not — me to the grave' (Psalm 16:10) (7)
- 10 King of Moab to whom the Israelites were subject for 18 years (Judges 3:14) (5)
- 11 Town possessing mineral spring (3)
- 13 Mede (anag.) (4)
- 16 High-fidelity (abbrev.) (4)
- 17 He succeeded his father Rehoboam as king of Judah (1 Kings 14:31) (6)
- 18 A son of Simeon (Genesis 46:10) (4)
- 20 Controversial religious book of the 1970s, The — of God Incarnate (4)
- 21 'He has received from the Father the promised Holy Spirit and has poured out what you — — and hear' (Acts 2:33) (3,3)
- 22 'You — me together in my mother's womb' (Psalm 139:13) (4)

23 Edit (anag.) (4)

25 'Who has believed our message and to whom has the — of the Lord been revealed?' (Isaiah 53:1) (3)

28 Abraham's brother (Genesis 22:23) (5)

29 'When Mordecai learned of — that had been — , he tore his clothes' (Esther 4:1) (3,4)

30 Sympathetic (Proverbs 11:16) (4-7)

### Down

2 'That was why his parents said, "He is — —; ask him"' (John 9:23) (2,3)

3 Integrated Services Digital Network (1,1,1,1) 4

4 'Saul has slain his thousands, and David his — of thousands' (1 Samuel 18:7) (4)

5 Concept (John 8:14) (4)

6 'Do we, then, — the law by this faith? Not at all! Rather, we uphold the law' (Romans 3:31) (7)

7 Industrious (2 Timothy 2:6) (11)

8 'I pray also that the eyes of your heart may be — in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you (Ephesians 1:18) (11)

12 'Out of the same mouth come — and cursing' (James 3:10) (6)

14 This was how many of the Jewish leaders described Jesus (John 10:20) (3)

15 Vitality (Job 20:11) (6)

19 He urged David to kill Saul at Hakilah (1 Samuel 26:8) (7)

20 'So for a whole year Barnabas and Saul — with the church and taught great numbers of people' (Acts 11:26) (3)

24 'Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord — — ' (Deuteronomy 6:4) (2,3)

25 Parched (Matthew 12:43) (4)

26 'In the image of God he created him; — and female he created them' (Genesis 1:27) (4)

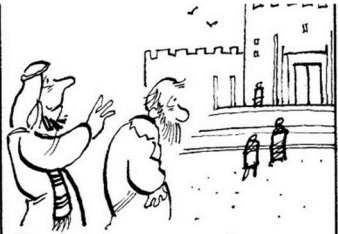
27 Disparagement (Psalm 15:3) (4)

ACROSS: , Corinthians. 9, Abandon. 10, Eglon. 11, Spa. 13, Deem. 16, Hi-fi. 17, Abijah. 18, Ohad. 20, Myth. 21, Now see. 22, Knit. 23, Tide. 25, Arm. 28, Nahor. 29, All done. 30, Kind-hearted. DOWN: 2, Of age. 3, ISDN. 4, Tens. 5, Idea. 6, Nullify. 7, Hardworking. 8, Enlighthened. 12, Praise. 14, Mad. 15, Vigour. 19, Abishai. 20, Met. 24, Is one. 25, Aird. 26, Male. 27, Slur

# Children's Corner

## The Tale of the TWO MEN SAYING THEIR PRAYERS

JESUS OFTEN TOLD  
STORIES WITH  
HIDDEN MEANINGS



ONE WAS ABOUT TWO MEN WHO  
WENT TO THE TEMPLE TO PRAY



ONE WAS A PHARISEE  
(A MAN A BIT LIKE A PRIEST)

THE OTHER WAS A TAX  
COLLECTOR. (NOT A POPULAR  
MAN IN JESUS' DAY!).



THE PHARISEE BEGAN  
TO PRAY



WHAT A GREAT CHAP I  
AM! I NEVER DO  
ANYTHING WRONG!!



I AM SO PLEASED WITH MYSELF,  
ESPECIALLY AS I AM NOT A SCOUNDREL,  
LIKE THIS TAX COLLECTOR!



BUT THE TAX  
COLLECTOR COULDN'T  
EVEN RAISE HIS HEAD



DEAR GOD... I AM VERY SORRY!  
PLEASE FORGIVE ME FOR  
ALL THE WRONG THINGS  
I HAVE DONE.



IT WAS THE TAX COLLECTOR,  
NOT THE PHARISEE, WHOSE  
PRAYERS WERE HEARD!



JESUS EXPLAINED -  
'DON'T BE PROUD WHEN YOU  
PRAY - INSTEAD BE HUMBLE!'