

# Winkfield, Cranbourne and Chavey Down Parish Magazine



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<https://fosmw.com/parishmag/booklet-printing.pdf>

# Winkfield, Cranbourne and Chavey Down Parish Magazine – November 2023

## *A message from Patrick*

Although Advent is not a mandated celebration in Scripture, there are potential benefits of adding to our Yuletide rhythm. The expectation of Advent points our gaze to a far bigger story than our sentimental Christmas inclinations. Advent is about Christ and his visitation to an estranged world. It is the expectation of the fulfilment of God's promises of redemption for this world. It's a season of candlelight, reflection, and expectation—a chance to get ready for Christ, the reason for Christmas.

In preparation we think about the first and second coming of Christ and like the Ten Virgins make ready for his inevitable

return. We do not merely look to the one moment God broke into history. We prepare for his coming again in glory when the King's reign shall restore justice on earth as it is in heaven. Handel's Hallelujah Chorus reminds us, 'And He shall reign for ever and ever.'

Like Lent, we deliberately slow down in the midst of manic buying and selling. The commercial pressure makes it harder to sustain the appropriate sense of alert watchfulness. However, we must wean ourselves off the black Fridays and other sales pitches that deprive us of opportunity for rest and serenity with the Prince of Peace. Traditionally we get there by engaging in disciplines of regular prayer, fasting, study and meditation. Corporately, we light an additional candle on each Advent Sunday until the fourth Sunday, and a fifth Christ candle on Christmas Eve. This is symbolic of the unending light with God, brought to us by the death and resurrection of the promised Messianic Child-King.

The Apostle James teaches that we need to become people who are "quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to anger": a recipe for peace. We are channels for the Christmas hope of joy, peace and salvation, as our labour pangs give birth to the Child King in our hearts. Wherever this Child reigns, He brings black and white together, Jew and gentile together, Ukrainian and Russian together and Israeli and Palestinian together in neighbourly love.

That in a sense is what Advent is about: the whole world hankering for "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men"

There will be no peace on earth unless every heart prepares Him room to reign.

I pray peace on this time of reflection, meditation and prayer and that God would fill you with the hope for a world of peace, love, and joy of Christ! Amen.

Patrick Mukholi Advent 2023

### **A note from the editors**

Patrick underlines the importance of what we should be thinking about at this important time of year for Christians. Yet we have to confront the fact that world events have become seriously more alarming in the last few days, and we cannot help but be disturbed at horrors past and horrors still to come.

To us as Christians, we see the Slaughter of the Innocents in Bethlehem, perpetrated by Herod as a totally evil act of power. We fear that a response to such an evil act may lead to more totally evil acts of power.

There seem to be powerful people in this unhappy world who have become inured to the morality of evil acts to the extent that they become legitimate political moves. Legitimised total evil. Hell. We must pray for world leaders to come to their moral senses. Pray to God to guide them.

Dear God, help us all to preserve our own moral compasses and our love of fellow humanity as we live through these times, as we watch with horror, concern and fear, and as we see such misery to so many people.

Eds.

## *From the Parish Registers for September 2023*

### **Baptisms**

Rafe Plumbly was baptised in St Peter's Church, Cranbourne, on Sunday 10 September 2023.

Quinn Plumbly was baptised in St Peter's Church, Cranbourne, on Sunday 10 September 2023.

James Walker was baptised in St Mary's Church, Winkfield, on Sunday 17 September 2023.

### **Funerals etc.**

The Committal of Philip Simmonds MBE took place in the Memorial Garden of St Mary's Church, Winkfield, on Wednesday 20 September 2023.

There were no Weddings & Blessings

## Notices

### 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').

### Friends of St Mary's Winkfield

The Friends of St Mary's Winkfield have been preparing (and saving) for a long time to start renovation of the aged Electrical Systems of St Mary's Church. The DAC (Diocesan Advisory Committee) have at last given their approvals for our plans, and quotes have been supplied. We have consulted with our chosen contractor about a starting date of work in the church. The PCC has given the go-ahead. We have funds in the bank and some funds from the PCC and from the Mercers' Company. It is enough to start work, and we will soon have an identifiable fund-raising campaign, so that our parishioners can help pay the final bill. Details to follow.

The Friends of St Mary's Winkfield present a new

# **Music & Merriment Christmas Concert**

7:30pm Saturday

2nd December 2023

St Mary's Church

Church Road,

Winkfield SL4 4SF

Teenage super-stars:

Darcey - Marimba and singing at the piano

Sarah - violin

children's and adult choirs, brass quintet,  
audience carols, handbells,  
mulled wine and mince-pies

Tickets £14 (£7 for under 13s)!

01344 483347 or purchase at St Mary's services

Online tickets at <https://fosmw.com>

using the [MandM online tickets] button



**Proceeds to support St Mary's church**

# Local reports and events

## Music and Merriment 7:30pm 2 December 2023

November is the time to make a date with a very special community event in our parish. the Music and Merriment Christmas concert. This very well-established concert is far more than a carol service – it is a celebration of the Christmas Season in words and music – voices, instruments, handbells, carols for singers young and old, and much, much more.

Over the years we have given opportunities for very talented young musicians to entertain at the concert with their virtuosity. As in the last few years we will have local violinist Sarah A, now 15, who plays at the level of international master classes.



We welcome a very new talented young lady, Darcey A-B, just 13 years old, who is known widely through Facebook as 'The Voice of ITS Music'; They 'make modern kids' songs and videos for children education and entertainment purposes.' In the first half, she will play and sing from the piano (at which she is an accomplished

jazz player), and later will play her marimba – as in the photo above. The hammers she is holding can't be seen in the photo, so fast is their movement! Her mum has sung in a past Music and Merriment concert.

Our third soloist is Henry Smith at the organ: he has shown his virtuosity many times as the main organist for St Mary's church. He is a student at Royal Holloway College.

And of course, we will be hearing the talent of this year's Junior Choir, our own children from our local schools, trained by Lucy Head, who ran the concert for 9 years, before handing over to her father Anthony Hodson, for whom this is his 12th production. The Senior Choir, now known as the Winkfield Singers, are local singers at St Mary's with core expertise provided by the St John's Singers, our choir in 2022, under Peter Halliday. They will be singing a world premiere of Anthony's beautiful new Christmas anthem 'Christmas hath a darkness' (words by Christina Rossetti).

Our brass instrumentalists the 5Ts Brass, under Len Tyler, will also be playing new Christmas music, and we will enjoy the inspiring result of long practice by our own handbells, under Jill Glennerster.

And in case you feel refreshment essential after a satisfying first half, the



Women's Guld kindly supply mulled wine and mince pies at the interval. Online tickets (card payment) are available now on <https://fosmw.com>.

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

The Introit on Sunday 17 September was 'O come ye servants of the Lord' by Christopher Tye, the communion hymn was the Kyrie from St Anne's Mass by Sir James MacMillan and the organist was Josh Tuffley. The following Sunday 24 September Choral Matins, the introit was 'Come my way, my truth, my life' with the anthem 'Lead me Lord'. It was also good to see Henry Smith again. Harvest Evensong was Saturday 7 October with the Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis by George Dyson with voice part two by Bullard and the anthem 'Sing to the Lord'. Our extra singers joined us for all three services and the singing was glorious. Henry Smith once again played for the service.

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

The October meeting took place a few days after the Harvest Festivities. The flowers in church looked wonderful, and included two floral arrangements from a wedding. The Harvest supper was very enjoyable, with delicious food again prepared by Moira Gaw and served by Sharon Cakebread, Pamela and Jean Brown, and Jean Spratley. Seven of the ladies from Popels attended as our guests and thoroughly enjoyed the evening. Caroline and John Kimbell provided the entertainment, and we wished Audrey de Verinne "Happy Birthday". The Guild meeting continued with early arrangements for the Christmas Tree Festival and final arrangements for our visit to the Foundling Museum later this month.

### **Family Matins**

This service in October was Harvest Festival. The children read the opening words of scripture, two bible readings, the Harvest Collect and then told the Harvest story as it happens in 9 countries around the world. In addition, there was a violinist and pianist. Anthony played the hymns on the organ.

### **Family Praise and Crafty Church**

Family Praise in September told the story of the Wise and Foolish builder and Crafty Church the story of Moses and the Ten Commandments. The children read the bible passages and prayers. Very often they will also play an instrument.

### **Bell Ringers September 2023**

Another busy month for the bell ringers!!

An interesting rally was held at St Mary's Teddington, who were celebrating their 20-year anniversary of hand bell ringing - there was some lovely music which I will introduce to our church at some stage.

There was a branch practice for the tower bells at Clewer, so nice and local, which was well attended. We rang some tricky methods as there was plenty of help available.

The highlight of the month was our 300th Birthday Bash after Church on 24 September. We had a lovely meal with fellow ringers at the White Hart followed by a fab cake!

This occasion was to celebrate Tony, myself and Judy who are all 70 years young this year – plus the years of Audrey Vaughan who is 90 years young this year. Audrey was both a tower and a hand bell ringer for many years here at St Mary's.

The Harvest service and followed by a afterwards - well team!! This was entertainment and in your diaries for be lovely to have congregation

Several of us Musical Jonathan Holl, most amazing

was always so supportive of the bell ringers, making time to talk about our music choices.

The hand bells will be ringing during the service at the end of October as it is a 5th Sunday, and we have a lovely piece of music planned.

We are also practising hard for the Music and Merriment concert in December - remember to book your tickets for what is always a fabulous event!

There is a hand bell workshop at Binfield Church on Thursday 26 October as part of Arts Week that I will be helping to run - do come along and have a go. There will be tuition and simple music, so no need for experience.

Take care.

Jill Glennerster 07821131303



was, as always, lovely delicious meal done the kitchen followed by singing! Make a note next year – it would even more of the involved.

attended the Celebration for which had the music. Jonathan




# Services in the Parish – November 2023

NB. All content in these lists may be subject to change.

Please note the tagged items in the service tables. See below the tables for the relevant information about the tags.


## ST MARTIN'S CHURCH

## Common Worship Services

Date	Day	Time	Service
5	4th Sunday before Advent	10am	Patronal Service
		4pm	Family Craft Café Service
12	3rd Sunday before Advent	9.30am	Remembrance Service 
19	2nd Sunday before Advent	9.30am	Family Communion
26	Christ the King Sunday	9.30am	Advent Carol Service


## ST MARY'S CHURCH

## Book of Common Prayer Services

Date	Day	Time	Service
5	22nd Sunday after Trinity	<i>No service at St Mary's Please join St Martin's for their 10am Patronal Service</i>	
12	23rd Sunday after Trinity	8am	Said Holy Communion
		10.45am	Remembrance Service 
19	24th Sunday after Trinity	9.30am	Family Praise
		11am	Holy Communion
26	Sunday next before Advent	8am	Said Holy Communion
		9.30am	Crafty Church
		11am	Morning Prayer

## ST PETER'S CHURCH

## Common Worship Services

Date	Day	Time	Service
5	4th Sunday before Advent	<i>No service at St Peter's Please join St Martin's for their 10am Patronal Service</i>	
12	3rd Sunday before Advent	10.45am	Remembrance Service 
19	2nd Sunday before	11am	Morning Prayer

Date	Day	Time	Service
	Advent		
26	Christ the King Sunday	11am	Holy Communion



The Remembrance Services at St Mary's and St Peter's will start at 10.45am in church. During the service the Service Leader will direct us outside for 5 minutes silence by the War Memorial

## Thoughts of all sorts

### St Martin, the Saint

The 11th of November is the Saint's Day of St Martin of Tours, who gave his name to our dear St Martin's church, Chavey Down. He is the Saint who gave half his fine cloak to a beggar.

This winter, when you next see someone who looks both poor and cold, think of Martin of Tours. This monk bishop, born in Pannonia (now Hungary) became one of the most popular saints of the Middle Ages.

Martin's father was a pagan officer in the Roman Army, and Martin was intended for the army as well. But from an early age Martin wanted to be a Christian, and felt that as a Christian he could not serve the Roman Empire. Martin was imprisoned for this early 'conscientious objection', and not released until 357, when he was nearly 40.

One day Martin met a nearly naked beggar at Amiens. He took off his cloak, cut it in half and gave the half to the beggar. Soon after this, he had a dream in which Christ appeared to him, wearing the half of the cloak which Martin had given away.

Martin was the pioneer of western monasticism: he founded the first monastery in the whole of Gaul about 360. He was made bishop of Tours in 372 – by popular demand of both his clergy and his people.

As bishop, Martin continued his simple life as a monk, – and evangelist. Christianity had been largely confined to the urban centres of population, but Martin went further, and took Christianity to the pagans (countrymen). For the next 25 years this greatly loved bishop travelled his diocese by donkey and by boat, preaching the good news of Jesus Christ, and helping his people to tear down their heathen temples and sacred trees. He was sought out for his healing prayers for the sick, and also his defence of the faith from heretics.

Martin's emblem in English art is often that of a goose, whose annual migration is about this time of year. 'St Martin's Summer' in England is a spell of fine weather that sometimes occurs around 11th November.

*As requested by Margaret Smith*

## **Wineka's Field – a Pageant to celebrate St Mary's Church**

The pageant 'Wineka's Field' was written by the late Revd Simon Baynes, Vicar of St Mary's church Winkfield 1984-99, to celebrate the 700th anniversary of the first recorded vicar, Galpidus de Pickeforde in 1298.

This pageant was performed by members of the congregation in about 2002. A eulogy to Simon is on page 3 of the July 2022 parish mag, available on the parish mag web pages <https://fosmw.com/parishmag/>

To celebrate 725 years of St Mary's church and its vicars, we plan to publish the text of the pageant as a serial in the 'Winkfield Parish Mag' – here is the first episode: the three scenes of Act 1:

### **THE STORY OF WINECA'S FIELD - A play for voices**

**to celebrate 700 years of history of St Mary's Church, Winkfield**

**ACT 1** Up to 1300

#### **SCENE 1**

Pickford: What strange chances have brought us here today to eavesdrop on history! Each with our personal story of birth, or house-hunting; the random accident of our coming to live here. We are those, as the Bible says, 'those upon whom the ends of the world have come'. We are neighbours. And no one can escape the challenge of the unchanging word: "Love your neighbour as yourself". So we are the story. These half—remembered names – Pickford, Popel, Ranelagh, Lyford, Lock, Montague, Towry, Waterson, Keppel and Blane – are not strangers. They are not other than us. It is our history. It is all the weaving together of chance and decision and the commonness of humankind, neighbour chatting to neighbour over the roses.

Pickford: So this is your story; the story of Wineka's Field,

Popel: a story that has no end, because we are the end;

Montague: a story without beginning, because no one can see the beginning, in the dark ages; but the song is the same; music is an endless circle, out of the heart of man, to the praise of God.

Lyford In 1753 William Waterson, the Vicar, wrote an account of the ancient Parish of Winkfield. About its beginning he had this to say:

Waterson: When the church was built, and by who, is a secret that for ever, I imagine, must be unrevealed. In the year 942 we are told that King Edmund gave or granted to a certain favourite lady named Sethrytha Winecanfield and Swinley together with a manse and farms, and that the said lady with the King's approbation and consent gave the same to the Abbey of Abingdon.

Lyford: The story is the story of Windsor Forest; its history is like the beginning of trees, unknown and unrecorded. Waterson says:

Waterson: The reader must not wonder if he finds him in a wood or rambling out of the road in a desolate wilderness where no man living has ever been before, and where nothing was to be seen but an obscure antiquated landmark to show that the Saxons had been there and in spite of the Norman Conqueror still stood their ground."

## SCENE 2

Pickford The year 1086. King William the First, the Conqueror, orders a survey of his lands – "The Book of the Day of Assessment" - to be made. We call it The Domesday Book and it records: "The Abbey itself holds Winkfield and always held it. It is and was always worth £4."

Popel Edward, by the grace of God, King of England, Ireland, and our dominions in France, holds court in his Castle of Windsor.

Lyford In Windsor Forest the mistletoe grows on the oak, and hogs for the royal table fatten on acorns.

Lock The deer breed, and wild boar roam in the forest. Lords and ladies gather for the hunting party.

Popel: The king rides out, and the woods echo to the horn. on moonless nights in winter, some folk say,

Lock: Herne the Hunter is seen flitting from tree to tree.

Ranelagh: There is an old tale goes, that Herne the Hunter, sometime a keeper here in Windsor Forest, Doth all the winter time, at still midnight Walk round about an Oak, with great ragged horns, And there he blasts the tree, and takes the cattle, And makes milch-

kine yield blood, and shakes a chain In a most hideous and dreadful manner.

### SCENE 3

Towry:: England, struggling to freedom from the dark ages; the thirteenth century of our salvation. The Thames flows on, liquid history.

Waterson: Downstream, the Palace of Westminster, and the Abbey Church of St Peter are towering beside the river. Upstream, where the oxen cross the ford, John of Baliol has founded his new college of learning.

Keppel: At Windsor Castle, the building work goes on. The barons at Runnymede lay the foundation stone of freedom, law and justice: the Great Charter.

Blane: Here at Winkfield, the old wooden church decays; the monks of Abingdon are busy with new plans. Builders, masons, carpenters, gather to the work; horses are labouring through the muddy rides, wagons loaded with rough, tough puddingstone.

Towry: The building grows, chancel and quire and nave, in honour of the Virgin, solid and enduring, in the thirteenth century of our salvation.

Towry: In the twenty-sixth year of our sovereign Lord, Edward III,

Blane: by the grace of God, King of England, Ireland, and our dominions in France, this church of St Mary is consecrated, and the holy mass is sung.

Pickford: Almighty God, to whose glory we celebrate the consecration of this house of prayer: we praise you for the many blessings you have given to those who worship here; and we pray that all who seek you in this place may find you, and being filled with the Holy Spirit may become a living temple acceptable to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*Pickford turns and kneels at the chancel step, facing East.*

Montague (Representing the Bishop at an Ordination Service.): Do you think In your heart that you be truly called, according to the will of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the order of this Church of England, to the Order and Ministry of Priesthood?

Pickford: I think it.

Montague: Will you then give your faithful diligence always so to Minister the Doctrine and Sacraments, and the Discipline of Christ, as the Lord hath commanded, and as this Church and Realm hath received the same, according to the Commandments of God; so that you may teach the people committed to your Cure and Charge with all diligence to keep and observe the same?

Pickford I will so do, by the help of the Lord.

### **END OF ACT 1 and end of the first episode**

#### **Alternative definitions**

Here are a some more examples from our collection:

- Keyboard → After all that typing
- Chipped bark → A dog with an electronic tag
- Propaganda → A really good look (at something)
- Peccadillo → An armadillo with a beak
- Upright piano → One raised in a strictly musical home

Send in your favourite examples to [info@fosmw.com](mailto:info@fosmw.com), so that we can publish the best of these in future editions of this mag. Over to you!!

**“My circumstances have changed, should I make a new Will?”**

*Some useful Professional legal advice from a solicitor working locally.*

Life is a journey full of twists and turns and so our circumstances are always evolving. As such our Wills need to change throughout our lives.

Firstly, consider major life events such as marriage, divorce or the birth of a child. All of these could trigger the need to create a new Will. These milestones not only alter your personal landscape but can have profound implications for your inheritance wishes.

#### **Marriage**

A new marriage revokes a previous Will so it is important to make a new Will to ensure that your wishes are met and not left to chance.

#### **Children**

The birth or adoption of a child is a pivotal moment in your life. You are likely to want to provide adequate financial support for new children as well as appointing a guardian.



## **Separation**

Separation before a divorce is finalised means that your former partner would still be entitled to inherit from your estate, either under your Will or via intestacy rules. Divorce once finalised, doesn't automatically invalidate an existing Will. Instead, your previous spouse or civil partner will be considered to have died before you. If you wish a former spouse to still inherit you will have to create a new Will.

### **Why should I make a Will, my family will inherit without one?**

A Will is useful at almost any stage of life and even if you are not worried about who will inherit from your estate, you may want to stipulate things such as funeral arrangements. You may also want to consider friends or charities that would benefit from a gift from you.

Regardless of the size of your Estate, if you are in a relationship but are not married or in a Civil Partnership you should put a Will in place to stipulate who your beneficiaries will be. Without a Will there is no right for unmarried partners to inherit.

Taking legal advice is invaluable as every individual's circumstances are different. A specialist will be able to provide advice tailored to you and your current circumstances.

MH October 2023

### **Episode 33 of 'An Interesting Life' – Oxford life Part 2**

University life is a great opportunity. Not only do you gain knowledge that will be a resource for the rest of your life, you also have valuable experiences of encounters and activities, and the making of friends. There may well be romances and more - although we should remember that nearly 70 years ago all this preceded the Pill and the resulting sexual revolution. Sex was for after marriage at those times - a rule very often broken, but with practical risk of disaster. I think that young men like myself hoped for occasions when breaking the rule became an inevitability, but I was not lucky (or unlucky) enough for this to happen. There will be no racy accounts in these memoirs.

I made some lasting friendships at Oxford, and of these, the most memorable was with Adrian Firth. I arrived at Oxford as a gauche and uncultured 20-year old, socially shy, and a little reluctant to go out and seek friends. I was fortunate not to have to take lodgings: I was allocated rooms in Balliol College itself for the first two years, extended by chance to my third and last year. College rooms were organised in vertical blocks,

aptly labelled 'staircases'. Soon after arrival at Balliol, there was a knock at the door, and it was Adrian. We sat down to chat, got on well, and Adrian soon realised that there was work to be done on me!

Adrian was a good-looking young man, socially adept, very popular with girls, and an alumnus of Stoneyhurst College, which was a well-known Catholic public school, run by Jesuits. There was a strong Jesuit community in Oxford, which gave Adrian a fraternity that he immediately belonged to. He was studying 'Greats', a four-year course based on the classics and history, and was in his second year. As he had not done National Service (which could be deferred to after University), he was in fact a year younger than me.

Endless were our meetings thereafter, as Adrian gave me the blessing of being his project for becoming at least half-way cultured. We discussed religion a lot - he was (and is) a strongly religious person. We looked at art with enthusiasm, and we read poetry together (particularly Gerard Manley Hopkins). Adrian was not actively musical, as I was, but together we listened endlessly to classical recordings, and a particular composer that we chose to listen to was Jean Sibelius the great Finnish composer, who had only recently died. On the artistic side, we studied the works of many artists, including Edvard Munch, the Norwegian 'German Expressionist' well known for 'The scream'. You can imagine that I was greatly transformed by the wealth of cultural knowledge and ideas that Adrian led me through and. although he has lived in Provence for years, our friendship remains, and I appreciate him irrevocably as an important influence in my whole life.

Oxford Music became a major part of university. My musical mentor at Eton, Dr Sydney Watson, had taken up the job of Organist and Director of Music at Oxford Cathedral, and directed the Orchestral Society, a good amateur orchestra that was not a part of the university, and when my oboe skills had returned, I joined that as 2nd oboe. Dr Watson became a personal friend. John Aris was another musical friend from Eton days, and helped me establish myself as a known musician, and this led to many opportunities, including becoming a friend of László Heltay, an ex pupil of the great Hungarian composer Zoltan Kodaly, who established the Kodaly Choir at Merton College. I had the privilege of playing in the orchestra under the baton of Kodaly himself, in a performance of his 'Budavari Te Deum'. Hungary had fairly recently been closed down by the USSR, so these were troubled times: László, a brilliant musician, was a refugee.

I became friends with several girls, including, of course Tomt (see previous episode), and was particularly fond of attractive and intelligent Jo Tod, dating her several times. I dreamed of going for a summer holiday with her on my motorbike, but when I suggested this, she said: "You didn't really expect me to say Yes, did you??" and I said (truthfully) "No". I wonder now at my confidence (or naivety) in even making the suggestion.

The motorbike was a core part of life just then. It was 2nd hand Triumph Terrier, a light-weight 4-stroke, in quite good order. I had yearned for a Terrier when at sea (my fellow sailors often had motorcycle mags to study), and saved enough to buy mine in April 1958. When I bought it, home was still Bourton House in Gloucestershire, but later in mid-summer, my parents moved to London. Needless to say, my parents were very concerned at the dangers of motorcycling, but reluctantly tolerated my important gain of mobility.

My big brother Nick (last encountered in 1956 in my memoirs) had given up the Merchant Navy, and started work with Atomic Power Constructions in 1957. We saw a lot of each other, and he had arranged a holiday job with his company at one point.

Nick was brilliant and able, but not one for convention, and he always had a complicated relationship with his parents. They loved him and supported him but found him difficult. His own escape outlet was staying with a farming family in Cornwall whenever he could, and he became skilled at farm business. So, one weekend in early summer 1958, he and I went off on my bike for a weekend with the Plunketts in Cornwall. On the way back to London, at about dusk, on the A30 near Basingstoke (there were no motorways then), a car drove out of a side road onto the A30 just as we came by, and we hit it. The motorcycle was a write-off, Nick landed badly and was unconscious with concussion, and I had a broken thumb. We wore helmets and were lucky to survive.

At the local cottage-hospital, to which we were taken by ambulance, Nick soon recovered, and they wrapped up my hand and told me to see a doctor in 2 weeks' time. When the doctor unwrapped my hand, the thumb-bone in my hand had nearly set with an angle of about 60 degrees between the one end and the other. I exclaimed "I'm a pianist - it must be fixed" So, I had a painful procedure in hospital to rebreak and straighten the bone, which reduced the angle a lot. I did play the piano at that time, but not seriously, and I decided, next term at Oxford, that I must justify the re-breaking by taking adult-piano lessons. Adrian housed my hire-piano in

his bigger room, and the tuition played a very useful part in my later musical life, although I never made Grade 8 piano (I just failed twice).

The summer holiday was long, and Adrian and I (still in plaster) decided to use the time available go on a hitch-hiking holiday in Scandinavia, a venue inspired by my visit to Sweden on HMS Whitby. We took a boat to Gothenberg (Sweden), then hitch-hiked to Oslo (Norway), home-town of Edvard Munch (whose works we enjoyed in the museum) and spent some happy days there, staying in a youth hostel. With some difficulty we got to Copenhagen (Denmark) and (by train) to Hamburg, then home by boat.

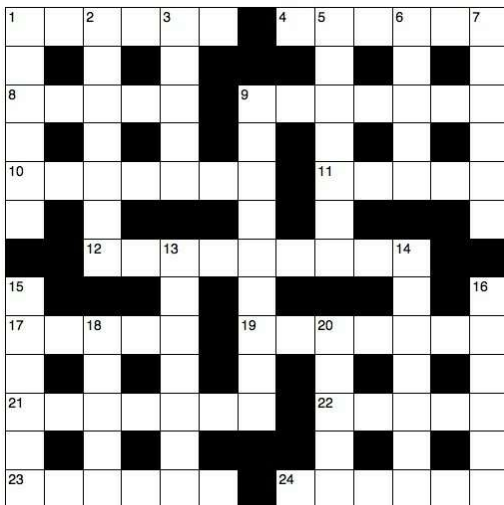
Term came and a court case decided that the motorist who nearly wrote us off should pay us £40 for 'pain and suffering'. Nick very kindly said that he would donate his £40 to me. So I had enough money to accept when Tomt and her group of friends invited me to join them for a skiing holiday in the Christmas holidays – and spent two wonderful weeks among these lovely people in the small Austrian ski resort of Gargellen.

The scene is set for the most important event in my life.

*All episodes are in: <https://fosmw.com/parishmag/an-interesting-life.pdf>*

## Puzzles

### Crossword Puzzle



#### Across

1 'The Lord Jesus... took bread, and when he had given — , he broke it' (1 Corinthians 11:24) (6)

4 'He has taken me to the banquet hall, and his — over me is love' (Song of Songs 2:4) (6)

8 Surrey town that hosts the National Christian Resources Exhibition (5)

- 9 Also known as Abednego (Daniel 1:7) (7)  
 10 Liken (Isaiah 40:18) (7)  
 11 A son of Etam, descendant of Judah (1 Chronicles 4:3) (5)  
 12 A part of the temple where the blood of a young bull was to be smeared (Ezekiel 45:19) (9)  
 17 'They make many promises, take false — and make agreements' (Hosea 10:4) (5)  
 19 Roman province to which Paul returned after evangelizing it on his first missionary journey (Acts 16:6) (7)  
 21 Material used to make baby Moses' basket (Exodus 2:3) (7)  
 22 'And feeble as — , in thee do we trust, nor find thee to fail' (5)  
 23 'The watchman opens the gate for him, and the sheep — to his voice' (John 10:3) (6)  
 24 Stalk carrying the sponge of wine vinegar given to Christ on the cross (John 19:29) (6)

### Down

- 1 Elijah dug one round the altar he built on Mount Carmel and filled it with water (1 Kings 18:32) (6)  
 2 'I am not — of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes' (Romans 1:16) (7)  
 3 Buddhist term relating to belief in reincarnation (5)  
 5 Damascus disciple who, at God's command, restored the sight of the blinded Saul of Tarsus (Acts 9:12) (7)  
 6 and 16 Horses: their sound (Jeremiah 50:11) (5) and their gait (Joel 2:4) (6)  
 7 A three (anag.) (6)  
 9 Athenian council addressed memorably by Paul (Acts 17:22) (9)  
 13 Abide by (Galatians 3:5) (7)  
 14 Persian princes (Daniel 3:2) (7)  
 15 Force (Galatians 6:12) (6)  
 16 See 6 Down (6)  
 18 Paste (anag.) (5)  
 20 How the cedars of Lebanon are described (Isaiah 2:13) (5)

**Answers**

**ACROSS:** 1. Thanks. 4. Banner. 8. Esher. 9. Azariah. 10. Compare. 11. Ishma. 12. Doorposts. 17. Oaths. 19. Galatia. 21. Papyrus. 22. Frail. 23. Listen. 24. Hyssop. 11

**DOWN:** 1. Trench. 2. Ashamed. 3. Karma. 5. Ananias. 6. Neigh. 7. Reheat. 9. Areopagus. 13. Observe. 14. Satraps. 15. Compel. 16. Gallop. 18. Tapes. 20. Lofty. 11

# Children's Corner

## The Tale of the TWO BUILDERS



JESUS OFTEN TOLD  
STORIES WITH  
HIDDEN MEANINGS



ONE WAS ABOUT TWO MEN WHO  
BUILT THEIR OWN HOUSES



THE FIRST BUILDER SEARCHED HIGH  
AND LOW FOR A GOOD SOLID ROCK ON  
WHICH TO BUILD HIS HIS HOME.

AT LONG, LONG LAST HE  
FOUND THE IDEAL SPOT.



SO HE BEGAN TO BUILD.



THE OTHER BUILDER  
DIDN'T CARE WHERE HE  
BUILT HIS HOUSE

HE THOUGHT SOME NICE FLAT SAND  
WOULD BE AN EASY PLACE TO BUILD.



BUT ONE DAY THE  
STORM CAME....

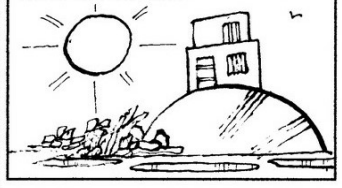


...AND THE WIND BLEW....AND  
THE RAIN FELL....



...AND THE HOUSE ON  
THE SAND COLLAPSED!

BUT THE HOUSE ON THE  
ROCK STOOD FIRM.



JESUS EXPLAINED -  
IT'S IMPORTANT OUR LIVES HAVE  
A FIRM FOUNDATION.