

Winkfield, Cranbourne and Chavey Down Parish Magazine



July 2026

CONTENTS

St Christopher - patron saint of motorists	2
From the Parish Registers for April 2026	3
Notices	3
APCM report	5
Local events and reports	6
Services in the Parish – June 2026	9
Thoughts of all sorts	10
Crossword Puzzle	18
Children's Corner	20
Annex (Web only)	21

This magazine is available on the web at www.fosmw.com or www.winkfieldandcranbourne.org.uk For correspondence with the Editors, please write to aeh@xdotd.co.uk or info@fosmw.com including 'parish mag' somewhere in the subject. Some paper copies are available in the Winkfield churches on or after the last Sunday of each month. The printed magazine has 20 pages this month. The Web version has 28 pages.

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Winkfield, Cranbourne and Chavey Down Parish Magazine – July 2026

25th July St Christopher - patron saint of motorists

The legend goes that St Christopher was a Canaanite who lived in the 3rd century. He was a giant of a man, of fearsome appearance. At first, he decided to serve the devil, but when he discovered that the devil was afraid of Christ and His Cross, Christopher decided to serve Christ instead. A nearby hermit instructed Christopher in the Christian faith and assigned to him a place near a river: Christopher's job was to help travellers cross it safely.

All went well, and Christopher helped lots of people on their way until one day a child came along and asked to be carried across. Christopher put him on his back and set off but was soon staggering under the astonishing weight of this child. The child then told him that He was in fact Jesus Christ, and that He carried the weight of the whole world. The Christ-child then told Christopher to plant his staff in the ground: the next day it bore flowers and dates – confirmation that the child was indeed who He claimed to be.

After some time more of helping travellers cross the river, Christopher went to the city of Lycia, where he preached the gospel with such success that the Roman emperor (Decius?) had him arrested and imprisoned – especially when Christopher refused to sacrifice to the gods. Two women sent into his cell to seduce him came out converted Christians instead. So, Christopher was beaten, shot with arrows and finally beheaded.

Christopher has been well-loved by the English down the centuries. Many wall-paintings of him have been placed on the north wall of churches, opposite the porch, so that he would be seen by all who entered. There was good reason for this: as patron saint of travellers, it was believed that anyone who saw an image of St Christopher would not die that day. As the ancient saying goes: 'Behold St Christopher and go thy way in safety'.

A kind of daily insurance policy against death – this was so good that in due course St Christopher became the patron saint of motorists. There is even a church in the Javel area of Paris, where Citroen cars are made, that is dedicated to St Christopher. In modern times, with the increase

in air and motor travel, Christopher has remained popular. When in 1969 the Holy See reduced his feast day, there was a sharp protest in several countries, led in Italy by a number of popular film stars. If you ever travel in a taxi on the Continent, look out for a little St Christopher hanging from the rear-view mirror beside the driver. Now you know why it is there! (*With acknowledgements to Parish Pump*)

From the parish registers for May 2026

Baptisms

Leo Maunder was baptised on Sunday 3 May at St Mary's Church, Winkfield.

Isla Phoebe Brown was baptised on Sunday 17 May at St Mary's Church, Winkfield.

Interments

The interment of the late Christopher Warren took place on 26 May 2026 in St Mary's Churchyard, officiated by Reverend Luke Taylor from the Parish of Binfield.

The interment of the late Joyce Thurmer took place on 29 May 2026 in St Mary's Churchyard, officiated by Reverend Luke Taylor from the Parish of Binfield.

Confirmations, Weddings and Blessings

None have been reported for May 2026.

Notices

Church Office

Office hours are Monday-Friday 9:30am-12noon. The Church Office is open to 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. The website is: www.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: www.winkfieldandcranbourne.org.uk/donate.htm

Safeguarding in the Parish

The Parish safeguarding details are at:

www.winkfieldandcranbourne.org.uk/safeguarding.htm

Safeguarding is part of our core faith and is 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 the Church Office at safeguarding@winkfieldandcranbourne.org.uk (please begin the message with 'SAFEGUARDING'), or on 01344 882933.

Awareness of young people's AI companions

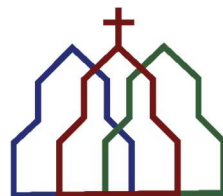
An additional safeguarding-related article is published on the subject at www.fosmw.com/parishmag/2026/2607-additional-article.pdf

St. Martin's Church Hall

St Martin's Church Hall is available for hire, Weekday Evenings & Weekends:

£17.50 per hour (community/charity rate also available). Sorry – no 'bouncy castles'!

For enquiries, please contact Amanda Carter at churchhallstmartins@gmail.com



The Parish of
Winkfield Cranbourne & Chavey Down

Winkfield and North Ascot Good Neighbours Scheme

Since 1993, we have been providing a vital, low cost, community transport service. The Scheme is run entirely by volunteers, and its aim is to provide a helping hand to our neighbours. We provide door to door transport to essential medical appointments for our less mobile residents. For over 30 years we have made a huge difference to many of our neighbours who would have had to travel alone, take expensive taxi journeys, or struggle using public transport.

Should you need help to attend an appointment, simply call one of our friendly coordinators to discuss your requirements Monday to Friday, giving two days' notice.

Brenda - 01344 882975

Pat - 01344 886144

PS. We are always keen to hear from anyone interested in volunteering as a driver. Volunteers are paid the HMRC mileage rate to cover fuel and running costs. If you have some time to spare, have a clean driving

licence, and are patient and caring, you too could volunteer as a driver and make a real difference to the lives of local people. For more information, please in the first instance contact the Secretary on 01344 412490 or email winkfieldgoodneighbours@gmail.com

APCM report

The Lay Chairman of the PCC, Andrea Stephens, opened the APCM meeting with a warm welcome, and the PCC Prayer was said.

The first item on the agenda was the Parishioners Meeting: Lesley Philpot and Anne Crewe were thanked for their very hard work as Church Wardens, and each was presented with a plant. Both were elected unanimously to serve for next year.

The APCM then started with acceptance of the minutes of the previous APCM.

The PCC now comprises Andrea Stephens (Lay Chairman), Anne Crewe (Warden), Lesley Philpot (Warden), Colin Yates (Treasurer), Margaret Smith, Marian Stevens (Electoral Roll Officer) and Terry Allen. Penny Stringer (Secretary) was also elected on to the committee (rather being a co-opted member).

Lesley Philpot was elected as the Deanery Synod Lay Representative.

The Electoral Officer's report is on the parish website, with nothing extra to add, and Marian Stevens was happy to remain in this role.

Colin Yates presented the annual accounts, which had been independently reviewed and signed by Rachel Bentley, an independent examiner, and approved by the PCC. As income has dropped, we need to focus on building up our general reserves and on fundraising events.

The accounts were proposed and all present were in favour of accepting them. A big thank-you was given to Colin, with a small gift of appreciation. Rachel Bentley was appointed to be the independent examiner for next year.

The Lay Chair's report is on the website, with a few updates and thank-you's to everyone who had worked so hard in the Parish, particularly to Stephanie Lund for all her extra work in the office and to Penny Stringer, secretary to the PCC.. They both received small gifts of appreciation.

Despite a year of hard work on the Parish Profile and three adverts going out, it was very demoralising to have received no viable applicants

for our ministry. After a re-think, Bishop Mary of Reading had emailed a suggestion for a way forward that would involve a 'placement' for a year; that is, someone qualified to take Communion services and to work for part of the week plus Sundays. The wardens and the Lay Chairman had agreed to explore the idea further and had met by zoom with the Archdeacon earlier that day.

At this stage, it is not clear what would happen after the placement year, but we were feeling slightly more positive following the bishop's suggestion. No further details are allowed by the Archdeacon to be published at this stage.

The Parish Wardens' reports, Deanery Synod Report and Safeguarding report had been recorded in the APCM booklet on the website and there was nothing further to add. The meeting thanked Andrea for all the work that she has had to put in, not only in the profile, but also in leading the Parish and working closely with the church wardens during the vacancy. Penny had a small gift for Andrea.

The meeting closed with the Grace and was completed in 36 minutes. The date of the next meeting is to be decided, but will be before 31 May 2027.

Local events and reports

Joint Communion with the Bishop of Reading, 14 June

Rt Revd Mary Gregory, Bishop of Reading, led the joint Holy Communion Service for the parish at 11am on 14 June in St Peter's church. This was a well-attended service, with parishioners present from all three of our churches.

Parishioners were welcomed by expressive piano music played by Andrea, St Peter's pianist and organist (as well as her other big parish responsibilities), and the service began with an introit sung enthusiastically by the 14-strong St Peter's choir (including singers from the other parish churches).

In her sermon, +Mary introduced herself, as it was her first visit to Winkfield (with visits to St Mary's and St Martin's to come). A one-time prison governor, she was previously Canon for the Arts and Reconciliation at Coventry Cathedral, and became Bishop of Reading in February 2025. In her sermon, she acknowledged the fact that no minister has yet been found to lead our Parish. She knew, she said, that we wanted someone to love us and our Parish again and she referred to

the Epistle to emphasise that tribulation is an important part of life, and said that she understood our disappointment. She did appreciate the steadfastness and commitment of our Parish leaders and parishioners in difficult times, and indicated that she had a plan that could not be revealed just now.

In final prayers after the taking of Communion, with the Host delivered by the bishop to each communicant, John Kimbell led the congregation through the prayer of reconciliation, echoing +Mary's past work in Coventry.

After an uplifting service, +Mary met members of the congregation at the door and over coffee and cakes. We are very grateful that she was able to be with us at a period when we are still looking, with anxiety, for a minister to lead us.

Ascot Horticultural Society

Our next meeting will be held on 8 July at 7:45pm in the King Edwards Hall, North Ascot SL5 8PD. The speaker will be Anne Dowling, who is a nature and flower photographer. (See flyer on next page.)

This month our meeting was held at Landshare at Jealott's Hill. This should have been a summer picnic but, due to unseasonal weather, we had the protection of a marquee. If you are interested in volunteering at Landshare, please visit their website jealottshillandshare@gmail.com.

Up and coming in August is our summer show. To see the schedule, visit our website <http://www.ascorthorticulturalsociety.co.uk>. Or phone the show secretary 07999 513263.

Woodley Concert Band Saturday 11 July

The award-winning Woodley Concert Band, who for some years have been partners in providing musicians for the St Mary's Music and Merriment concerts, are putting on an exciting Summer Concert, sharing it with the visiting West Virginia University Concert Band from the USA. See flyer on page 24, in the Annex.

The concert will take place in the Great Hall of the University of Reading on Saturday 11th July at 7:30pm. This is an excellent venue, with good parking, and easily reached, just beyond the Royal Berkshire Hospital.

Tickets are available by telephoning 0118 211 8261 or accessing: <https://www.woodleyconcertband.org.uk/joint-concert-with-west-virginia-university-wvu-alumni-band/>

Tickets: are £15 for Adults, £13 Concessions (over 65's), £5 Under 16's

Ascot Horticultural Society



**A talk on photographing flowers by
Anne Dowling**
(Nature and Flower Photographer)

Wednesday 8th July

Doors Open at 7:45pm

King Edward's Hall, King Edward's Road, Ascot, SL5 8PD
(200m on right hand side of King Edwards Rd)

Entrance: Members £1 Visitors £3 Includes
refreshments

www.ascothorticulturalsociety.co.uk
facebook.com/groups/276880418187911



St Mary's Choirs

The adult choir, with several of our extra singers, continues to perform at our services. Family Communion in June was led by Revd Alan Dibden. It was good to see him again.

The Junior Choir led the singing for the Family Matins services in May and June with Hanna Kincses as Crucifer for the May service. She is away on a Duke of Edinburgh course for the June service.

We welcomed Henry Smith as organist for two services in June.

St Mary's 9:30am Services

Family Praise and Crafty Church continue with the children reading all the Bible passages and prayers. New members regularly ask to join the list of readers. Music Sunday took place on 14 June, although there were not as many instrumentalists available as usual. The Lord's prayer as performed by the children in the Chancel still continues to be popular.

Holy Communion at St Mary's church

This service continues to be led by Canon Bernard Dagnall, and we are very grateful to him. The service in June also included a baptism as will be the case in July.

Morning Prayer and Crafty Choral Matins

These services are taken by John Kimbell, with Crafty Choral Matins being usually a continuation of the Crafty Church theme of the previous week. The children read some of the prayers.

St Mary's Women's Guild

The July meeting at the home of a member has been changed from 14 July to 21 July – so please note that there is no meeting on 14 July.

A new date for Greys Court or another venue is still to be confirmed.

The son of one of the 9:30am service members has offered to clean the brass. Date to be arranged and confirmed.

Friends of St Mary's Winkfield

FOSMW hosted the Founders Choir concert on June 5. The concert was excellent and was followed by canapés and Prosecco. See full report on page 12.

St Mary's Bellringers - June

As well as being busy with regular ringing this month, the ringers held their annual 'Bells and Curry' evening. We all brought along a curry to share after ringing the tower bells, and then had a go at the handbells.

Many thanks to Rhonda and Dave for hosting the event and organising everything so beautifully – we all had a wonderful time.

Services in the Parish July 2026

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

ST MARTIN'S CHURCH

Common Worship Services

Date	Day	Time	Service
5	5 th Sunday after Trinity	9:30am	Morning Prayer
		4pm	Family Craft Café
12	6 th Sunday after Trinity	9:30am	Family Praise
19	7 th Sunday after Trinity	10am	Community Coffee Morning <i>in St Martin's Church Hall</i>
26	8 th Sunday after Trinity	9:30am	Holy Communion

ST MARY'S CHURCH

Book of Common Prayer Services

Date	Day	Time	Service
5	5 th Sunday after Trinity	10am	Family Communion
12	6 th Sunday after Trinity	10am	Family Matins
19	7 th Sunday after Trinity	9:30am	Family Praise
		11am	Holy Communion
26	8 th Sunday after Trinity	9:30am	Crafty Church
		11am	Morning Prayer

ST PETER'S CHURCH

Common Worship Services

Date	Day	Time	Service
5	5 th Sunday after Trinity	11am	Family Praise
12	6 th Sunday after Trinity	11am	Holy Communion
19	7 th Sunday after Trinity	11am	Morning Praise & Prayer
26	8 th Sunday after Trinity	11am	Holy Communion

(St Mary's Bellringers continued from page 9)

May included a fifth Sunday, so the handbell team performed during the service. We rang the folk song *Early One Morning*, which the congregation did not seem to know. I recommend listening to it on

YouTube – there are two particularly lovely versions, one by an Irish singer (uncredited) and another by Nana Mouskouri.

The handbell team is looking to expand and would be delighted to hear from anyone interested in joining us. Please contact me if you would like to find out more.

The Founders Choir performance in church presented a choral journey from darkness to light and was absolutely wonderful. Those who were unable to attend missed a real treat.

This weekend, the tower ringers completed the annual tower clean-up, starting in the bell chamber at the top of the tower, working down through the clock chamber and finishing in the ringing chamber. We also repainted the ringing chamber, which had not been decorated for many years. We also found an interesting photo that had been hidden for years – we would love to know where it was taken, and who is in the picture – do you know? (See Annex in the Web edition, page 21).

A huge amount of work was completed by a willing team of helpers, and the tower now looks amazing. Do come and have a look! Bell Sunday will be held on 13 September, but you are welcome to join us at any time for a tour or even to have a go at ringing.

Jill Glennerster 07821131303

Toby Wright's Organ Recital at St Peter's on 30 May 2026

Toby Wright gave a very accomplished organ recital to an enthusiastic audience at St Peter's church on Saturday 30 May 2026.

Toby started off his recital with Karg Elert's Nun Danket – a much played grand classic of the serious organist's repertoire. It is subtitled 'Marche triomphale', and from the start it asserts: "This is what organs are all about!" with big chords and doubled pedals; then there is a quieter section, before the full organ reasserts itself after by a ferociously fast rising run of notes. After a middle section, the piece repeats itself, leading to a grand ending in the enthusiastic mood with which it starts. It's a piece that you hear with joy - and particularly appreciate the fluency of the fast runs – and Toby's performance on St Peter's beautiful organ lived up to every hope and expectation.

It was followed by a really imaginative selection of pieces that included major and favourite pieces of the organist's repertoire, such as Bach's Prelude in G and Dubois' cheerful Toccata. The programme evolved into groups of pieces that included film music (e.g. from 'Pirates of the

Caribbean'), and favorite popular songs, including 'Singing in the Rain' and Frank Sinatra's 'My Way', and there was folk-music that culminated with a memorable version of 'Waltzing Matilda', the Australian contribution to the genre.

Toby explained each item his programme interestingly in their groups, and then played the pieces, bringing the audience through the serious, the charming, and the fun, demonstrating rapport with each genre and impressive technical skill.

The concert finished with the Widor Toccata, a piece very familiar as a wedding-service piece, with the theme striding forcefully over the flurry of manual notes that are a common feature of toccatas.

A truly memorable recital that demonstrated a strong and meticulous technique, broad musicality, and a showman's flair in devising and performing such interesting and enjoyable pieces.

When he was a student at Holloway College, Toby established a relationship with St Peter's church by being a regular player of its fine organ. This organ, with about 1500 pipes, was built by Peter Collins to replace a small Father Willis organ that had been destroyed by the fire in 2006. He stated that "it was his favourite organ", and was clearly adept at using fully its sound-world.

Toby writes:

"I first began playing the organ as a teenager at my parish church, where I was heard by a local benefactor who encouraged and supported me to pursue my musical studies further, ultimately helping me to secure a bursary and music scholarship at St Edward's School, Oxford.

"Since first coming to St Peter's, I have given a number of recitals, including my first in August 2024 and another during Cranbourne Arts Week later that year. It has been a very special place for me to develop as a musician.

"I am now hoping to begin offering piano, organ and singing lessons locally, and would be very happy to hear from anyone interested, whether beginner or advanced, child or adult."

Those interested in Toby's offer should contact Andrea Stephens at wychwoodstephens@gmail.com

Founder's Choir concert at St Mary's, 5 June 2026

The Founders Choir gave a concert of choral music, plus two organ solos on at St Mary's church, with 20 young singers from Holloway College who

gave a very accomplished recital of choral music that covered a wide range of composition times and styles. This was the second time that the Founders Choir has performed at St Mary's Church in a fundraising concert sponsored by the Friends of St Mary's Winkfield, and we are deeply grateful to Holloway College and the choir for bringing music of such high standard to our church for the benefit of the Parish of Winkfield.

The title of the programme was 'Lux in Tenebris' (literally 'light in the darkness'), and the choral pieces focused on the idea of the Light of the World' in Jesus Christ lighting up our darkness. The choral pieces were augmented by thoughtful organ solos played by Logan Williamson and William Bishop (St Mary's current organist and choir director).

'Abendlied' - 'evening song' - started the concert - a beautiful contemporary piece from Matthew Coleridge's Requiem that combined lyricism in the parts with harmonies that resolved striking dissonances as the vocal lines interwove. Not an easy piece to sing (said one of the choir members), but convincing and self-contained in its style. Like many of the other choral pieces, it was sung a capella.

The variety of styles in the concert was striking, ranging from complex 16th century polyphony (Tallis) and baroque hymn homophony (Praetorius) to works by living composers. These contemporary pieces included also Joanna L'Estrange's beautiful Nunc Dimittis from 'The King's College Service', with its long opening tenor solo, and Dearden's 'My spirit sang all day' whose premiere performance by the Founder's Choir took place earlier this year. Here, upper voices declaimed the words in rhythmic musical phrases over a lower-voice harmonic background.

Most of the other repertoire sung was from the late 19th century to the mid-20th century, the concert ending with Charles Woods joyful 'Hail, Gladdening Light' for double choir, with the two choirs facing each other in the choir stalls. There were two beautiful uplifting pieces by Stanford, a giant in England's 20th century choral tradition, and a favourite composer for many choirs and their congregations, and Murrill's glorious Magnificat was enthusiastically sung. There were two movements from the St Joseph Mass by the well-known Belgian 20th century composer Flor Peeters.

The Founder's choir's balance, control, intonation and sensitivity to the ranges of style were of the highest quality, and it was such a joy to hear them sing at this standard in our own St Mary's church. Their skill was complemented by the two short organ solos, which combined a thoughtful but gentle lyricism with confident performance. Many thanks to Holloway College and the choir's managers Rupert Gough and Kotaro Blake and

organ Scholar Daniel Ayers, and also to William Bishop for our excellent relationship with the College.

The Choir which has already established an international reputation, will soon be starting their summer tour to Budapest. We are glad to have been part of their work-up for this adventure to the country of Liszt, Kodaly and Bartok (and Dohnanyi, famous for his piano exercises), and we send them our best wishes for their tour and their musical future. (See also page 27.)

Windsor Lions Club, supporting the local community.

The Early May Bank Holiday saw the club partnering with Rotary and St Michael's school Parent Teacher Association to stage the Annual Wheelbarrow Race in Sunninghill. Eighteen teams entered into the fun – all dressing up in wonderfully imaginative costumes – as the date was May 4th, many Star Wars themes were on show! In all a total of over £7,500 was raised for the Ascot Day Centre.

Following close on its heels was the Riding for the Disabled Fancy Dress Competition – a part of the Royal Windsor Horse Show held within the grounds of Windsor Castle. Windsor Lions have long organised and sponsored this event and this year saw six teams enter both horses and riders wonderfully dressed in a variety of costumes on the theme of 'Space'. The competition was judged by Dr Who and Strictly star Alex Kingston who awarded the first prize to RDA Penniwells Riding Club.

Windsor Lions once again distributed Marie Curie daffodil collection boxes throughout many outlets over the area during the Spring period, and they raised £2,300.

Thoughts of all sorts

Holiday soothies

For dealing with motion sickness, ginger capsules are your new friend. Available from any health store, they do a wonderful job in calming upset tummies.

For fever or frayed tempers, take some camomile tea bags with you. Camomile tea doesn't just calm your nerves; cooled down, the tea also soothes sunburn.

For banning mosquitoes & insomnia, take some essential oil of lavender. Mosquitoes hate the smell, so if you put a few drops around your pillow at night, you can help keep them at bay – and help yourself drift off to sleep.

Episode 65 – More Directory travels

Continuing Anthony Hodson's serial memoirs

The primary standards for the X.500 Directory, which still exist in evolved form – as the hidden support for 'identity management', were first approved in 1988. This was the culmination of several years of work by many groups of experts from all over the world, and I had the privilege to be a member of a small number of these groups

After the approval of the standards, there were international Meetings that took place in various areas around the globe to make practical decisions about how the new directory technology was to be used. These were termed the secondary standards. I took a very active part in the European and US workshops that created these new standards and acted as chairman of the Directory committees on many occasions.

The standards (primary and secondary) entailed a lot of travel, often to interesting places, and in the last episode I wrote about visits to Japan.

Staying in the Far East, one meeting took place in Beijing in a huge international hotel. In those days, China was much more open than it is today. After a night flight I arrived in the hotel in mid-morning and switched on the television. The screen came up showing CNN international news, and there doing the presenting, was my youngest brother who worked for CNN as an 'anchor-man' at the time.

We were able to visit Tiananmen Square during our time there, but were advised to carry the hotel address in Chinese characters with us in writing, to show to the taxi driver for the journey back to the hotel (few Chinese people are able to speak English or read European text).

Over the weekend, we went on an outing to the Great Wall of China, not far from Beijing. It's hard to overstate how impressive the wall is, particularly in the mountainous territory that we visited, as it climbs mountains with the same ease that it crosses plains, with small forts every few hundred yards, all of this over its 21,000km length

The final session off the standards workshop took place in the hotel's big auditorium. Every seat not otherwise used by conference delegates was taken by Chinese men ready to vote as they were told by the Chinese hosts. (There *was* no confrontation, and the session ended peacefully.)

Visiting Korea for another conference was also interesting. Although we didn't manage to go outside Seoul, the capital, with a population approaching 10 million, and located on a plain surrounded by mountains. The conference hotel in Seoul was quite expensive, and I looked at the

possibility of staying at a cheaper one. Looking at a map of the city, it seemed big and complex to travel, even by taxi, so, wisely as it turned out, I decided to stay at the expensive hotel anyway.

I can't say that Seoul was a beautiful city, but it is an interesting mix of old, including temples, and new high-rise buildings. Street-markets and whole buildings containing markets were prominent. The atmosphere was a little unsettled at the time (about 1987), with armed people alert in every street: it was not so very long ago that Korea had had a devastating civil war that had separated North and South, and social tensions still existed then (as they still do today). The everyday people were pleasant enough, but there was an unsettled atmosphere that contrasted with the open generous hospitality of the Japanese.

Having said that, our host for the Korean meeting, Prof. Sun-Shin Anh, engineering professor from Korea University was delightful (and I corresponded with him for a few years after the visit). He took our work-group to a good Korean restaurant, to introduce us to Korean cuisine, kimchi and all, and we enjoyed the novel experience.

One of the Directory conferences took us to Sydney Australia, and this was particularly exciting as it was my mother Margaret's home-town: I had not been to Australia since wartime in 1942, and, when I could escape from conference duties over the weekend, I had a great welcome from my Australian cousins Jim and Prim who still live in Sydney. Prim and her late husband John took me to the many sights, including the Bridge and the world-famous zoo, and we even visited the harbour-side house on Darling Point where my grandmother 'Mudder' and my great-aunt 'Auntis' had lived when we stayed with them in 1942.

Over those years – mid 80s to mid 90s – our conferences took place in many European towns and cities, including Athens, Bonn (the capital city of Germany for a few years after The Wall came down), Berlin just after that event, Copenhagen, Delft, Geneva, Helsinki, London, Paris, Turin and other smaller places (including one in rural Norway). There were too many locations to describe fully here.

Many of the meetings took place in Brussels, the centre of the EEC (European Economic Community), and our Directory conferences were part of EWOS (European Workshop for Open Systems), a venture sponsored by the EEC. The Brussels meetings were from time to time entertained by the EEC who hosted with lavish dinners, which we considered extravagant – but our favourite place to eat was the popular Chez Léon, which specialised in 'moules frites' in the traditional manner.

There was also a favourite shop that specialising in yummy Belgian chocolates – a taste that is hard to abandon!

A favourite destination for me was Scandinavia, particularly Copenhagen and Stockholm, and we still keep up with friends from those days.

Many Directory conference meetings took place in the USA. One of the first meetings took place in Palo Alto, near San Francisco. I had a very bumpy journey across the Atlantic and the USA and the following morning the conference started.

As we were being welcomed by the chairman of the conference, she stopped for a moment and said: “By the way, we are having an earthquake.” After the previous day’s bumps, I hadn’t really taken that in, but true enough, the pictures on the wall were swinging. It was a mild earthquake, but two weeks later, sitting in my office in Bracknell, I suddenly thought: “If I wasn’t sitting in my office in Bracknell, I’d be thinking that we were having an earthquake” as indeed we were. (In fact, many small but significant earthquakes have been recorded since 2000.)

That visit was notable in being introduced to the proper Japanese way of eating sushi, with chopsticks, and a little side-bowl for (carefully) dunking the sushi in a mixture of wasabi, pickled ginger and soy sauce.

Another later conference took place in Monterey, not far from Palo Alto. Monterey was notable for a world-famous aquarium at Cannery Row, a place notable by the novels of John Steinbeck (‘Cannery Row’ and ‘Sweet Thursday’. It was midsummer then, and I had gone out, expecting heat, with thin summer pyjamas. This was a mistake, as that part of the world is notable for a chilly Pacific fog that rolls in waves up the streets. Other US places included Phoenix and Orlando, which was close enough to the conference room for us to see a big rocket launch from Cape Kennedy.

The US secondary standards were run by NIST (the National Institute for Standards and Technology) in Gaithersburg, Maryland, not far from Baltimore, and I attended several conferences there as chairman of our Directory group, but it ended badly. There was a rather disagreeable member of the committee, a NIST employee, who told his boss in NIST that he didn’t like my unusual chairmanship style (although I had successfully chaired many meetings around the world). So I was told by the boss that I was fired as chairman, and that was that. My group protested, led by another US delegate, Luis Valente (who remains, with his wife Louise as an active friend to this day), but to no avail. So in my oral report to the conference at the end of the meeting, I thanked my

colleagues, explained that I had been asked to give up the chairmanship, and took my leave of the NIST conferences.

These conferences left me with another great US friendship, Ted Myer and his wife Mary Gene, and we zoom from time to time.

The conferences were interesting, challenging, and a good way to see the world and to work with people all over the globe, and they achieved the identity management framework that exists today, even if the X.500 Directory could never become the universal directory system that was in the minds of its original architects.

All these meetings were a side-show, but an important one for my reputation as X.500 matured, and in later years, I gave many lectures and seminars on Directory technology, and took on consultancy work as well.

In 1988, ICL had no plan for a Directory product. However, my own ambition was to build and develop a competitive and compliant X.500 Directory system that ICL could adopt as its official X.500 offering.

That was my entrepreneurial mission at that time, and the next episode will describe how that did come about.

Crossword puzzle

Across

1 Proverbs describes her as being 'of noble character' (Proverbs 31:10) (4)

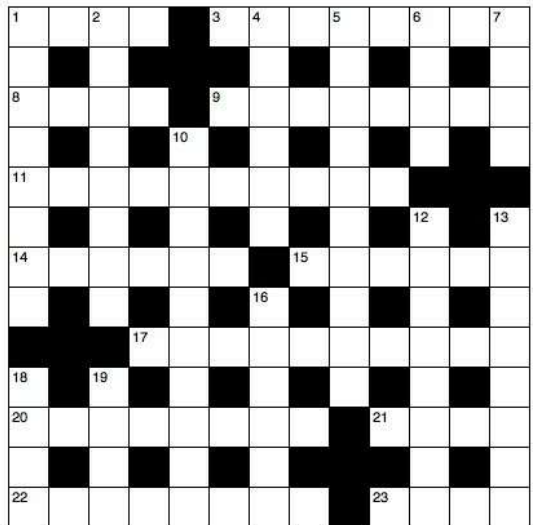
3 'Shall we go up again — — against the Benjamites, our brothers?' (Judges 20:23) (2,6)

8 A descendant of Shem (Genesis 10:28) (4)

9 'Anyone who does not carry his cross and follow me cannot be my —' (Luke 14:27) (8)

11 Resentment (Ephesians 4:31) (10)

14 In Cain(anag.) (6)



15 'Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, too lofty for me to—'
(Psalm 139:6) (6)

17 Intense (1 Thessalonians 4:5) (10)

20 Third Order of the Roman Catholic Church (8)

21 'At midnight the cry rang out, "Here's the bridegroom! Come out to — him"' (Matthew 25:6) (4)

22 'My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in — ' (2 Corinthians 12:9) (8)

23 'As the — pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, O God' (Psalm 42:1) (4)

Down

1 Nickname of popular First World War chaplain, the Revd G.A. Studdert Kennedy, — Willie (8)

2 Occasion of religious joy (Lamentations 2:22) (5,3)

4 'We three kings of — are' (6)

5 Allegation or charge (Jude 9) (10)

6 Kind (1 Chronicles 12:33) (4)

7 'Open your — and look at the fields!' (John 4:35) (4)

10 Also known as the Feast of Lights (John 10:22) (10)

12 Area that saw the healing of two demon - possessed men and a herd of pigs stampeding to their deaths (Matthew 8:28) (8)

13 Forebear (James 2:21) (8)

16 Name given to the first two books of the Apocrypha (6)

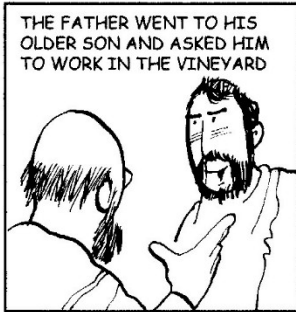
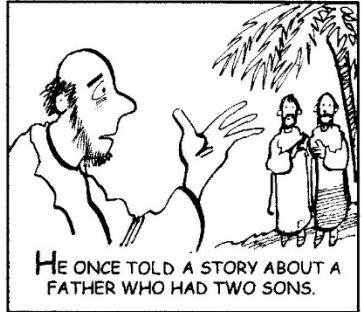
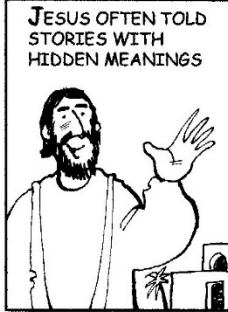
18 Esau sold his birthright for this (Genesis 25:34) (4)

19 Rear(anag.) (4)

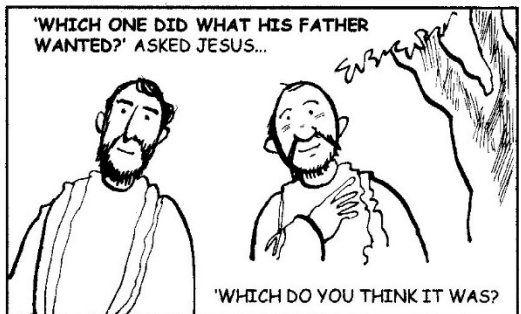
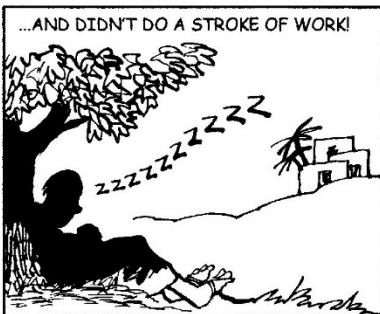
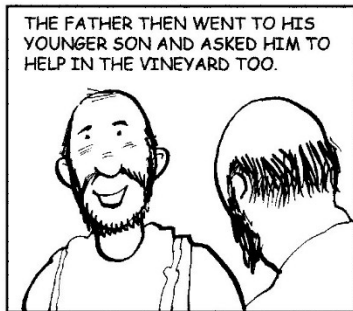
ACROSS: 1, WIFE, 3, To battle, 8, Obal, 9, Disciple, 11, Bitterness, 14, Niacin, 15, Attain, 17, Passionate, 20, Tertiary, 21, Meet, 22, Weakness, 23, Deer. DOWN: 1, Woodbine, 2, Feast day, 4, Orient, 5, Accusation, 6, Type, 7, Eyes, 10, Dedication, 12, Gadarene, 13, Ancestor, 16, Esdras, 18, Stew, 19, Area.
--

Children's Corner

The tale of the Two Sons



..NO I WON'T! SAID THE OLDER SON...



Annex

Who are these people?



This photo was found by Tony Bish when changing a broken window frame.

Do you recognise the property or any of the people in the picture? Please advise Jill Glennerster at jill.glennerster@gmail.com if you have any ideas.

The harvest is plentiful (Matthew 9:35-38)

This Sermon was preached by Bishop Michael Colclough on Trinity 2, 2026 at St Paul's Knightsbridge, and is, as it were, the reverse of the coin with the sermon of Bishop Mary, referring to our lack of minister in the Parish of Winkfield, as it is a sermon with the ordaining of 34 women and men, who have chosen the vocation of the Church of England. +Michael is the recently retired Chaplain of the Mercers' Company of the city of London, the Company of William Mountague whose tomb is just below the chancel steps of St Mary's church

“The harvest is plentiful” are words of Jesus in today’s Gospel Reading.

Later this month in this Diocese of London 34 women and men will be ordained Deacon in the Church and, a year later, most will go onto be ordained priests. It’s a happy day of personal fulfilment but they are

called not simply for their own fulfilment but with the task of helping all of us to become “a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s own people”. Priests’ lives are to inspire and challenge us on our Christian path, and, at their ordination, they are commissioned and given grace to represent Jesus and make Jesus present, especially here, at God’s altar, in the Eucharist.

Today’s Gospel reading begins with a sense of purpose, urgency almost, as we’re told of Jesus seemingly rushing round towns and villages, teaching, proclaiming the good news of the Kingdom and curing ‘every disease and every sickness. Hectic: can Jesus go on like this? But then we hear Jesus’ answer to my question: “The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few; therefore, ask the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest”. This is Jesus asking the disciples of his day, and us, to pray for labourers to share in his ministry to reap a harvest that he sees as “plentiful”. And all of this because Jesus “had compassion” for the crowds: Jesus revealing God’s deep and involved love for His people.

And Jesus’ immediate solution? We’re told that he called out twelve disciples to share in his ministry. And their task? To proclaim the good news, ‘The Kingdom of heaven has come near.’ To cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons”. They are to go out and bring new understanding, new meaning, new life to people. It’s a sacred, God-given task, that Jesus shares with those apostles whom he sends out. The focus is on the importance of activity in ministry: doing the Jesus thing, extending his ministry. But those early apostles and today’s clergy are not called simply to be doing; their vocation is also a vocation of being.

I want you to hold onto today’s Gospel picture of activity in ministry while we look at St John’s picture of Jesus being more reflective with his disciples on the night of the Last Supper, the night of his betrayal. Jesus knew that his death was imminent, that the disciples would soon lose his physical presence and leadership, but the call still had to be answered, the ministry must be fulfilled. “I have appointed you” says Jesus, “to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last”. So, the instruction to “go” remains but, in the intimacy of the Last Supper, we are given images of how that ministry will be effectively sustained and be fruitful.

Jesus begins his guidance by washing the disciples’ feet. “If I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another’s feet. For I have set you an example ...”. Bishops, priests,

deacons and all of us are called to be brave and take off our outer garments of status and security and to kneel at the feet of those in need of Christ's love. Needs that will differ from day to day and person to person, but they will be there for each of us. Lay and ordained, we are called to let humility flavour our attitude and service towards others.

“Little children, I am with you only a little longer.” says Jesus to his chosen ones. “I give you a new commandment: that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you should also love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples”. Words that take us back to St Matthew's recording of the compassion that Jesus had for people. Compassion, a loving awareness of others and their needs. Compassion leading to love in action: going to help fulfil and heal those needs. Jesus creating a community of love, a community abiding in his love, and, in turn, sending out new disciples as missionaries and ministers of that love.

Of course, no one can be compelled to love, and, at the table, Jesus tells his disciples, “I do not call you servants any longer ... but I have called you friends”. “I have called you friends”. Friendship is something we all value, a personal sharing that enriches our lives with people we love: how much more our friendship with Jesus? It reminds me of that beautiful description Moses' encounter with God in the Book Exodus: “The Lord used to speak to Moses face to face, as one speaks to a friend”. Intimacy with God.

Our clergy are called, first and foremost, to be friends of Jesus. Speaking and listening to Jesus ‘face to face’ in the intimacy of friendship. So, they must be people of deep and regular prayer. We expect our parish priests to do so many things: lead the services, teach and preach, publish the news sheet, visit the sick, baptise, marry and bury folk, chair the PCC and go to innumerable meetings. But before doing all those things and in order to prioritise those things in a Christ-like way, they must nurture their friendship with Jesus in prayer – part of which is holding you, God's people, before God with your joys, hopes, fears and expectations. Prayer which also takes them into the very life of the Trinity. Jesus ends his supper-table prayer to the Father by praying that, “the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them”. That's true sustenance for discipleship: embracing God's love.

Those are some characteristics that, I think, are important in the life of our clergy: humble compassion and service for others; intimacy



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through prayer with the Lord who calls; receiving and dwelling in that eternal love that is the life of the Trinity. But there's one thing I've missed. In St Matthew's account, Jesus' instruction is That we "ask the Lord of the harvest to send labourers into his harvest". Do please take that to heart and pray both for more clergy and for those clergy you have. But again, be warned of the risk: when we pray to God for labourers He may well turn the tables on us and respond with, "What about you?" This congregation is the seedbed for vocations to ministry: so look about you, look within you, see and pray. Amen.

Head of the Ukrainian church prays for his people

The Primate of the Orthodox Church of Ukraine (OCU), Metropolitan Epiphany (Dumenko) has declared his horror and disgust at the recent mass attacks that Russia has made on civilian targets across Ukraine. Hypersonic ballistic missiles were used to damage water facilities, markets, schools, blocks of flats and churches.

"May God help us through these terrible days, granting quick recovery to the wounded and rest to the souls of the dead. And may He destroy the evil Russian empire and all who cause suffering by shedding the blood of innocents."

He went on to thank Western allies of Ukraine for their help in "fighting the enemy and defending peace in Europe." He also warned his country's Moscow-linked Orthodox Christians that they risked "tasting blood and ashes on their lips" if they continue to pray for Patriarch Krill of Moscow as their "lord and father".

Patriarch Kirill has recently urged young military cadets to help to make Russia "invincible" by being ready to die "in the name of the motherland and its people".

Pope Leo XIV has expressed his dismay at the escalating violence: "I follow with concern the war in Ukraine, which has sharply intensified in recent days. I wish to express my closeness to all those suffering because of the recent attacks, including those against civilians."

15th July St Swithun (or Swithin) - saint for a rainy day

St Swithun is apparently the saint you can blame for rainy summers. It is said that if it rains on his special day, 15th July, it will then rain for 40 days after that. It all began when Swithun was made Bishop of Winchester in 852 by King Ethelwulf of Wessex. It was an important posting: Winchester was the capital of Wessex, and during the 10 years

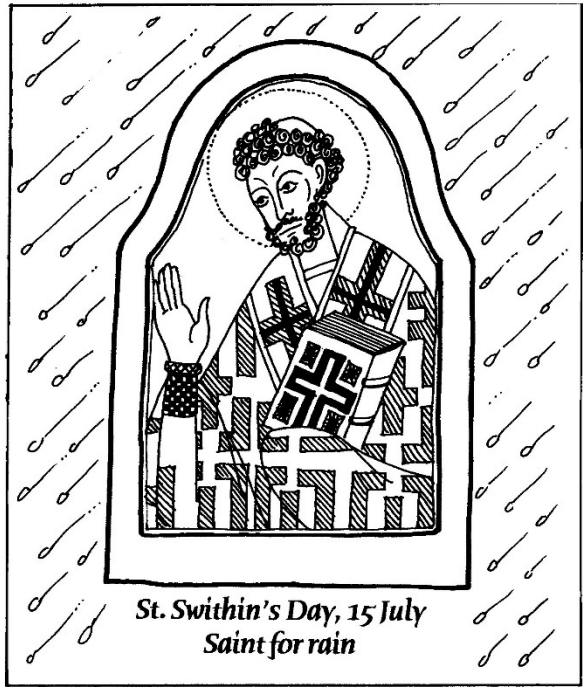
Swithun was there, Wessex became the most important kingdom of England.

During his life, instead of washing out people's summer holidays, and damping down their spirits, Swithun seems to have done a lot of good. He was famous for his charitable gifts and for his energy in getting churches built. When he was dying in 862, he asked that he be buried in the cemetery of the Old Minster, just outside the west door.

If he had been left there in peace, who knows

how many rainy summers the English may have been spared over the last 1000 years. But, no, it was decided to move Swithun. By now, the 960s, Winchester had become the first monastic cathedral chapter in England, and the newly installed monks wanted Swithun in the cathedral with them. So finally, on 15 July 971, his bones were dug up and Swithun was translated into the cathedral.

That same day many people claimed to have had miraculous cures. Certainly everyone got wet, for the heavens opened. The unusually heavy rain that day, and on the days following, was attributed to the power of St Swithun. Swithun was moved again in 1093, into the new Winchester cathedral. His shrine was a popular place of pilgrimage throughout the Middle Ages. The shrine was destroyed during the Reformation and restored in 1962. There are 58 ancient dedications to Swithun in England.



Founders Choir YouTubes (see p12)

Most of the Founder's Choir choral items sing at their concert have youtubes on the Web, including the ones listed below:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U6u3eHUB28E> Coleridge Abendlied

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V-tlDFtpJPA> Lestrangle Nunc dimittis (Holloway)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FAWnihs2MUs> Flor Peeters Kyrie Missa in honorem St. Josephi ()

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_CoI3YgMHil Bairstow Let all Mortal Flesh

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=22J8MiuAsYA> Brahms prelude Herzlich tut

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-4pwX_ru7fc Tallis O nata lux

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ltsoNmLn-pg> Praetorius The Lord ascendeth

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wkhNwzAMfDY> Saint-Saens Improvisation No 7.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mw4RHnxRH5o> Flor Peeters Gloria Missa in honorem Ss. Josephi ()

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wyOI9Caridk> Murrill - Magnificat (Evening Service in E)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L9zggq5qrNGw> Stanford - Beati quorum

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YJRMe5dvQP8> Stanford - Ye Choirs of New Jerusalem (lockdown St Andrew and St Paul, Montreal)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3BPNOKPCaVU> Wood - Hail Gladdening Light

Sudoku for July (moderate)

7	8		2					1
		1	6		4	3		
		6	1		2	7		
		2	5		6	8		
1		9	7		3	2		
	1			3		6	8	7
3								

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