

JULY-AUGUST 2022

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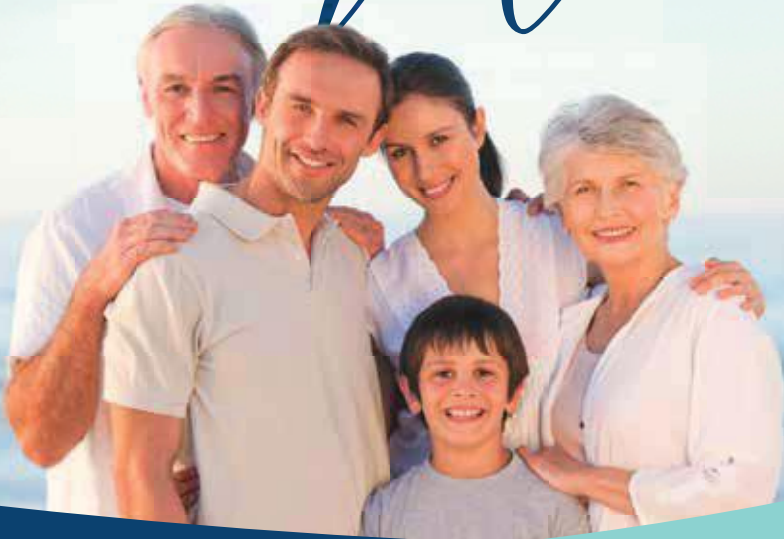


Lymington Parish News



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Lymington Parish News

St Thomas' and All Saints' Churches



St Thomas' Church
St Thomas Street
Lymington
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All Saints Road
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SO41 8FD



Services

For details of Sunday and midweek services, please see the Diary inside.

Enquiries

There is a great deal of information to be found on our website:

www.lymingtonchurch.org

To enquire about weddings, baptisms, funerals, church and hall bookings please contact our **Parish Office** which is open at St Thomas' Church, Monday to Friday, 9.30a.m.—11.30a.m.

You can 'Meet the Vicar' by appointment on Tuesday evenings.

Administrator: Mrs Suzie Napleton

office@lymingtonchurch.org 01590 676194

Contacts

Vicar:	<i>Vacancy</i>
Churchwardens:	Mrs Maureen ('Mo') Penrose, grannymo17@aol.com 07954 908374 Mr Chris Stroud, c.m.stroud@btinternet.com 01590 674677
LLM Emeritus:	Mr Malcolm Ward, 01590 679651
Organist & Choir Director:	Mr Martin Penrose, ARCO, LTCL, penrosemusic@aol.com 02380 864439
Verger:	Ms Helen Pocklington, 01590 673750 helenpocklington@hotmail.co.uk
Tower Secretary:	Mr Larry Stace, 01590 682417

Magazine

Publication date: 1st of each month. Please submit copy to the Editor by the 6th of the previous month; for regular columnists, the date is the 13th.

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MONTHLY EVENTS

Zoom Details – Prayer [1]

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89529902640>
pwd=QVQxTGxjODdwV3ROT1gxM2NWUjN0dz09
or from a landline phone: 0203 481 5240; Meeting ID: 895 2990 2640:

+ St Thomas' Church is open daily for visitors and private prayer +

REGULAR WEEKLY EVENTS:

Sunday: **8.00am** **Early Communion (*not 3 July*)**
 9.15am **Choral Communion (*not 3 July*)**
 11.00am **Life & Soul Informal Service (*not 3 July*)**
Streamed from our shared YouTube channel:
www.youtube.com/channel/UCKRF11-cpB5-m1o5tUNWUw

or from a landline phone: 0203 695 0088
Meeting ID: 971 631 0618# Passcode: 1839#

Monday to Friday: **9.00am** **Zoom Morning Prayer [1]**
Monday: 12 noon Monday Lunch - STH (***Not during August***)
Tuesday: 10.00am Toddler Group - STH (***During term time only***)
 11.00am Zoom *Taketime* Ignatian Meditation [1]
Wednesday: 10.00am Poetry Corner - see Diary of Events for details
Thursday: 10.00am Vistas Café - STH (***Not during August***)
Saturday: 9.00am Prayer for the work of the parish - STC

JULY EVENTS

Sun 3 **10.30am** **ST THOMAS THE APOSTLE - TRINITY 3**
 Farewell Communion for Peter and Sarah Salisbury
 followed by refreshments
Mon 4 12 noon Monday Lunch - STH
Wed 6 10.00am Poetry Corner - STH
Thu 7 10.00am Vistas Café - STH
Sat 9 7.30pm New Forest Orchestra Concert - STC
 Music by Wagner, Capuzzi, Sibelius and Dvořák

JULY EVENTS

Sun 10

TRINITY 4

8.00am

Early Communion

9.15am

Holy Communion

11.00am

Life & Soul

Mon 11

12 noon

Monday Lunch - STH

Wed 13

10.00am

Poetry Corner - details to be announced

Thu 14

10.00am

Vistas Café - STH

Sun 17

SEA SUNDAY - TRINITY 5

Services as usual with Mission to Seafarers speaker

9.00am

Messy Church - STH



The Mission to Seafarers

Caring for seafarers around the world

SEA SUNDAY - 17 July

Sea Sunday is celebrated worldwide on the second Sunday of July. In Lymington this year, however, in order to enable us to have the Revd John Attenborough, the Mission to Seafarers' Port Chaplain in Southampton, as our speaker, we have arranged to hold the services on Sunday 17 July.

The Mission to Seafarers, as other organisations, is desperately trying to help Ukrainian seafarers in particular through the provision of trauma brochures and free SIM cards together with the use of WiFi units for frontline staff to assist in communications.

Sadly, most seafarers are still not allowed ashore and the opportunity for ship visitors to go on board is more important than ever.



John will be speaking at the 9.15 and 11.00 services on SUNDAY 17 JULY, having been ordained Priest on Saturday 2 July by Bishop David of Basingstoke.

Peta Walmisley

JULY EVENTS

Mon 18	12 noon	Monday Lunch - STH (last until 5 September)
Thu 21	10.00am	Vistas Café - STH
Sat 23	7.30pm	Nova Foresta Concert - STC

Sun 24

TRINITY 6

Services as usual

Wed 27	10.00am	Poetry Corner - STH
Thu 28	10.00am	Vistas Café - STH (last until 8 September)

Sun 31

TRINITY 7

Services as usual

AUGUST EVENTS

Wed 3	10.00am	Poetry Corner - details to be announced
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Sun 7

TRINITY 8

Services as usual

Wed 10	10.00am	Poetry Corner - Woodside Gardens Café
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Sun 14

TRINITY 9

Services as usual

Wed 17	10.00am	Poetry Corner - Woodside Gardens Café
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Sun 21

TRINITY 10

Services as usual including

9.00am Messy Church - STH

Wed 24	10.00am	Poetry Corner - Woodside Gardens Café
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Sun 28

TRINITY 11

Services as usual

Wed 31	10.00am	Poetry Corner - Woodside Gardens Café
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*We should like to wish
Happy July Birthday to...*



*Benjamin Wright + William McCosh
Alexander Johnston + Freya Applebey*

Cover picture: The Saturday Market in Lymington High Street,
from the top of the church tower. *Photo: Andy Dibb.*



St Thomas' Church
Lymington

Sunday 17 July



Zac's up the tree

*Join us for breakfast from 9.00am followed by
Bible stories, songs and messy fun.*

EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

Info and updates at www.lymingtonchurch.org/messy-church



*We should like to wish
Happy August Birthday to...*



Tommy Foreman + Anton Fraser

SEPTEMBER EVENTS

Sun 4

TRINITY 12

Services as usual

NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT!

A senior citizen was called to have his second Covid booster vaccination at the local medical centre.

He arrived at the appointed time but afterwards on the way home he noticed that his vision was blurred.

Fearing that he was suffering from a serious side-effect of the vaccination, he telephoned the medical centre for advice as soon as he got home and asked if he should go to see his doctor or dial 111.

The receptionist said that he need do neither but to pop back and collect his glasses.



THE VICAR'S LETTER

Dear Friends,

This is my final letter for the parish magazine, and writing each one has been a sort of slow ticking month-clock in the background of my life. Another month passes by and another magazine letter is needed. What a debt we all owe to our magazine editors through the years; thank you Nigel! This rather reassuring reflection had me take advantage of the infinitely accurate memory of computers to look out my FIRST magazine letter to you all.

Reading it brought a tear to my eye as it so perfectly put me back to that time and the way we were feeling on arrival. Let me quote a few lines for those of you who have for some reason mislaid your October 2005 edition!

The Vicarage is looking gorgeous – thank you to everyone who helped with the great 'B&Q Cream' [the colour of the paint we chose for all the walls] decorating campaign and to those who so kindly donated provisions for our first days here. It has made such a difference and we feel very warmly welcomed.

It is truly amazing how much stuff you can get into a vicarage if you are given ten years to do it [the time we were in North Baddesley before moving here].

Everywhere I look there is work to do. I have started muttering a mantra: pick up something, put it down in the right place, pick up something, put it down in the right place... My head hurts from remembering where things are supposed to be and where I last saw them. I could now join the Olympic Shelf-Building team. My arms, back and legs hurt from lifting and the steep, steep stairs. Sarah is in similar condition. But...

The strange thing is that we are both wandering around with big smiles on our faces. Chaos maybe, but we are HERE. This is where we are meant to be and we are glad.

"The Lord your God is bringing you into a good land, a land with rivers and pools of water, with springs that flow in the valleys and hills." Deuteronomy 8.7

That assured sense of being where we were called to be has been an essential sustaining force for us when times have been hard, as has the wonderful warmth and generosity of all you who comprise our church.

This letter will be published before my farewell service on 3 July so I won't repeat all that I'll be saying at that event, but I would like to record here my thanks to everyone who has made ministering in this parish such a joy.

By that I don't mean only those who are totally committed to the life of the church, or even those who happen to agree with me when there are disagreements. No, the joy of being here has been the way we have all worked together for something good and worthwhile; listening to one another, contributing in great and small ways, getting things done. In short: being the church.

We have all noticed how the pace of change in the world is ever accelerating, and how that tide of change laps even at the door of the church. At this time we pause to consider how the pandemic changed many things which are only now beginning to return, and we may also consider how some things will not return and will be replaced by something new and better fitted to a changed world.

These are issues which require analysis, deep thought and constant prayer, all of which I know you have in abundance.

While Sarah and I will be embroiled with down-sizing to fit our new circumstances in Bicester, you will be embarking on a journey of discovery as you consider how best to continue serving the people of this amazing place. And then one day choosing the gifted person whom God has called to help you in that glorious work.

Our church mission states that we are here to be "offering prayer and hospitality in Jesus name".

Sarah and I, from the bottom of our hearts, thank you all for the ways in which you have given us the most loving hospitality and supported us with your persistent prayer.

It has been our privilege and great delight to share this ministry with you for these seventeen years. We shall miss you all terribly.

With our love and thanks,

Peter and Sarah

PRAYER THOUGHTS

NEW HORIZONS AHEAD

Lord, as Peter and Sarah view the new horizons ahead of them, we ask you to bless them as they enter this new chapter of their lives.

Help them to seize each sunrise, and to live fully for each day. We pray you will be their guide as they walk into this new landscape with hope and with confidence.

May they engage with the beauty of creation, and reconnect with the passions, hopes, and dreams they had when they were young.

We pray that all they will leave behind will be our fond memories of them. May they walk forwards with you into all they can be, all they can enjoy, and all they can give.

We ask Lord, that this new page of the next chapter of their lives be fully shared with You, and as we say farewell to Peter and Sarah, we entrust them into your care.

We pray for happiness and joy to be ahead of them, for wisdom and guidance to be beside them, and for grace and truth to be behind them pushing them onwards into your goodness.

We ask that You will love and protect them wherever they may be. Amen.

Malcolm Ward

May the road rise to meet you.
May the wind be always at your backs.
May the sun shine warm upon your faces
And the rains fall soft upon your fields.
And until we meet again -
May God hold you in the palms of his hands.

Traditional Gaelic Blessing

Churchwardens' Notes

Mo Penrose writes ...

As I write these notes I am preparing to be inducted officially as a Churchwarden. But what does that mean? I thought I would put my historian hat on and use the column this month to explain what the job involves.

The role of Churchwarden is one of the oldest offices in the country. Mention of the word 'Churchwarden' appears in parish records around the 13th century but people taking on the duties of Churchwardens go back to the 4th century, in St Augustine's time.

Since Medieval times the Churchwardens have been elected. Up until the 20th century quite often the priest chose one warden and the people chose the other. In some churches, especially the larger ones, there might be up to eight wardens – four chosen by the priest and four by the people. Even now, although the wardens are chosen by the congregation, many churches consider that there is a Priest's Warden and a People's Warden. As far back as Tudor times wardens could be either male or female.

Wardens have always been responsible for compliance with the latest government and/or Bishops' measures. So it was them that could be jailed or hanged if they didn't comply with moving the altar from the east end in Edward VI's reign, or moving it back under Queen Mary!

Since the 14th century Churchwardens have been in charge of the furnishings and fabric of the building ('warden of the goods'). But they have also been, and still are, the legal officers of the church, with a 'duty to present moral delinquents to the ecclesiastical courts'. In today's society this also means keeping on top of health and safety and safeguarding issues.

Whether a priest is attached to the church or not, it is the wardens' duty to ensure that services are covered by appropriate clergy, and if not, it would be up to them to take the service. During the vacancy we are lucky to have an amazing group of clergy who have offered to help, so hopefully this won't happen.

On gaining office, wardens are usually presented with a short wooden pole that has a silver or brass ornate topper. It is the staff of office, also known as a stave, a wand or a prodder. Its original purpose was to arm the wardens against unruly crowds and protect the clergy from attack.

As Chris and I start our journey as Churchwardens and help steer the parish through the vacancy we are assured of the prayers and help of so many in the parish. We can't promise to get it right all the time but we do promise to uphold this most ancient of appointments to the best of our ability.

Chris Stroud writes ...

Mo has just delivered a short history lesson and my part of this joint Churchwardens' submission has a little history too.

I have just returned from the Parish pilgrimage to Oberammergau where the famous Passion Play performance occurs every ten years. The year was 1632. The Thirty Years War had been in full swing for ten years and this brought with it outbreaks of bubonic plague. Oberammergau managed to avoid the plague until a certain Kaspar Schisler brought it into the village whilst returning home for Easter. Some 80 villagers lost their lives until the village councillors convened a meeting and vowed to perform the Passion Play every ten years if the village was spared further deaths. The vow worked and not a single person died after that time. We began our visit at St Gilgen, a town close to Salzburg, which looks out over a beautiful lake and countryside. A six-hour return hike will take you high up in the hills to an iron cross dated 1969 and the reward of a magnificent panorama out over the lakes. A coach tour allowed us to experience several local churches with interiors decorated in a highly ornate fashion. Whilst I was struck by the artistic merit of the workmanship, I couldn't help pondering where the humble carpenter from Galilee fitted in with this. My query was duly addressed by a visit to a Benedictine monastery sporting a chapel constructed mainly of wood with a beautiful simplicity and serenity.

So what of the Oberammergau Passion Play? The Playhouse is a wonderful structure in itself. The orchestration and choral parts were magnificent. The play takes you on a journey with real individuals from the glory of the triumphant entry into Jerusalem to the pain and suffering of Calvary. I believe the experience has given me many new perspectives to reflect upon and has brought me closer to just what might have been the thoughts and the motives of the people who were there around 2,000 years ago. The whole play was a highly emotional experience. The crucifixion scene was incredibly moving and disturbing and one which I shall never forget. I would recommend anyone, if they have the opportunity, to go and see the play. It is probably a once in a lifetime experience. For me it was also a wonderful chance to share time with, and get to know, fellow parishioners better. As a new Churchwarden I was able to learn more about how our church functions! A big thank you to Ron and Celia Swan and also Daphne Johnston for organising the trip.

Mo and I will soon be inducted into our new roles and I have been struck by the good will which we have received from everyone. Conversations I have with people are often "Congratulations on your appointment, I think it's going to be a big job!". Well, yes, we know that becoming a Churchwarden at the start of a vacancy period is likely to have its fair share of challenges. From my perspective, please don't feel sorry for your new Churchwarden as you can be sure that in all sorts of ways I shall be getting a great deal out of my new duties.



THE ORGANIST PIPES UP!

On the face of it, my choice of a piece by Frenchman Charles Gounod (1818-93) might have seemed an odd one for my concluding organ voluntary on the Sunday marking The Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

However, the piece in question, Wedding March No 1, was written for the marriage of the Duke of Albany to Princess Helena of Waldeck in 1882, and contains two passages in which the National Anthem is soloed out on a loud reed stop. The marriage took place at St George's Chapel, Windsor, and the wedding march was written for organ and three trombones. I have a manuscript copy of the arrangement later made for solo organ by Sir George Clement Martin, who was at the time sub-organist of St Paul's Cathedral and played for the wedding in Windsor.

Gounod moved with his family to England in 1870, at the outbreak of the Franco-Prussian War, and during his time in London had a holiday home in Milford on Sea. I have often wondered whether he visited Lymington while staying there.

My copy of the piece – there is an original printed one in a library in the USA – was made by one of my predecessors at Holy Trinity Church, Millbrook, Southampton, where I was organist for 19 years before moving to Lymington in 1998. Mrs Agnes Reeve was organist of Millbrook Church in the 1930s and two of her manuscript books came to me via my first organ teacher, the late Edwin Henning, who sang in her choir and was one of her organ pupils. The copy is now getting rather difficult to read as it was written in black fountain pen and the music on the reverse of the pages of the copy is showing through. I have made a photocopy of it so that if it continues to deteriorate I can still play the piece, which I consider to be rather fine. The manuscript is illustrated on the page opposite.

Martin Penrose

March Triomphale

The image shows a handwritten musical score on aged paper. The title 'March Triomphale' is written at the top. Below it, there are three staves of music. The second system is titled 'Wedding March (No 1)' and includes the tempo 'Moderato' and a note 'Char. Gounod : arranged by J. P. Martin'. The score continues with several more staves, including a section marked 'Molto' and another marked 'Cresc.' (Crescendo). There are various musical notations such as notes, rests, and dynamic markings like 'p' (piano) and 'f' (forte). The paper shows signs of age, including foxing and staining.

The musical score of Gounod's Wedding March referred to in
Martin Penrose's column, *The Organist Pipes Up!*



MONDAY LUNCH JUBILEE CELEBRATION

Monday 30 May

Sixty people sat down to a lunch of Coronation Chicken and salad followed by Platinum Jubilee Pudding after enjoying a glass of Bucks Fizz. Mikki, our wonderful cook, organized the event, ably assisted by the usual group of volunteers and with her sister and daughter joining in for the occasion. Juliet created the table decorations and Derek Lee put up the bunting. Mary Fagan is seen with the pudding she helped to make which included 10 pints of jelly.

Glasses were raised to toast The Queen and the National Anthem was sung. A big "Thank you" to everyone who helped to make such a lovely celebration to our Queen.

Sarah Bunce



Photos: Sarah Bunce



Table decoration by Juliet Lexi Wilford prepares the salad

Mary Fagan



Some of the sixty diners



Ollie and Lee



THE MAIN COMMUNITY EVENT WOODSIDE GARDENS - SUNDAY 5 JUNE



The Churches Together ecumenical service.



**The Church Worship Band led the music
in the service.**



**The Mayor,
Cllr James Hoare,
joins in the worship.**

*Photos:
Brian Cox
(above) and
Kate Mussett
(left)*



**The emergency services brought
their vehicles which proved to be
popular side attractions for the
youngsters.**



Sarah Standage reports that on Wednesday 9 June eleven members of the Poetry Corner met at Passford House Hotel. They celebrated The Queen's Platinum Jubilee by reading poems relating to the subject, some of which had been written by members of the group. Two of them are reproduced below.

The Platinum Reign (a Cinquain)⁺

Happy
and glorious
these years have been; now we honour
Elizabeth
our Queen.

© Judith Jupp



Haiku^{*}

Seventy years Queen
A long time in the limelight
Pray peace be with her

© Sue Sterndale

⁺ A poetic form comprising a five-line pattern.

^{*} Readers may recall that a haiku is an epigrammatic Japanese verse form comprising seventeen syllables. (Collins English Dictionary)



Summer Cruise in support of the Mission to Seafarers - 11 June

An ambitious cruise incorporating four rivers was planned for this year but due to the state of the tides, last-minute alterations meant that our new destination was to be Portsmouth Harbour, followed by a cruise up the River Hamble and a final look at the ships moored up along the new docks.

Once again, the m/v *Ocean Scene* of Blue Funnel Cruises was chartered by the Mission to allow up to 150 supporters to join the excursion for a five-hour venture in aid of the Southampton Branch. This year's cruise had again been planned in great detail by Bob Joughin but posed many logistical problems and the tides were not in our favour. With the good will and support of Blue Funnel staff, both on *Ocean Scene* and the Hythe Ferry (also operated by Blue Funnel), all logistical problems of getting many of the participants across to Town Quay at Southampton from Hythe and back were overcome with generosity and good humour, and a great day was enjoyed by all. A substantial Ploughman's Lunch was provided on board as we approached Portsmouth and on the return leg tea and cake were served as we passed Warsash and Hamble. Several cruise ships were in port awaiting their passengers and in Portsmouth Harbour we had the opportunity of seeing many naval facilities and warships at close hand, including the Fleet Flagship HMS *Queen Elizabeth*, the first of the two new aircraft carriers to have joined the Fleet in recent years. An informative commentary gave detailed information on many of the features of interest we passed along the way. As a result of this year's cruise, a considerable sum was raised in support of the Mission and our thanks are due once again to Bob Joughin for all his efforts. Early booking is advised for those intending to join next year's cruise which, tides permitting, will aim to sail up the Beaulieu River.



Passing Fawley Refinery



A tanker off-loads liquid petroleum gas at Fawley



**HMS Warrior, the
Royal Navy's first
iron-hulled
armoured frigate,
built in 1860**



**The Spinnaker Tower,
170m tall and opened
in 2005**



The aircraft carrier HMS Queen Elizabeth - 65,000 tonnes



HOLIDAYS

“August is for the people and their favourite islands...”

“August the thirteenth. Hurrah! At Broadstairs. Very nice apartments near the station. On the cliffs they would have been double the price. The landlady had a nice five o’clock dinner and tea ready, which we all enjoyed, although our son Lupin complained because there was a fly in the butter. It was a very wet evening, for which I was thankful, as it was a good excuse for going to bed early.”

So Mr Pooter, in the wonderful *Diary of a Nobody*, starts his summer holiday. The fly and the rain a bit on the debit side, but still “Hurrah” in the apartments near the station.

And so in all sorts of places we take up the refrain and continue it. In hotels, on boats, in tents, caravans, cottages and *gites*, further and further afield, we seek to get shot of the daily grind and seek, in those lovely words from the New Testament, “to come to ourselves”, to have a spell of “twopence coloured” instead of “penny plain”.

A holiday is meant to be a time of re-creation, a time for staking a claim on something that for much of the year goes by default. On holiday we can know ourselves as people again instead of as employees (nasty word! - it means those we use as workers, timekeepers, teachers, housewives and the rest). The labels can come off and we can know ourselves in a fuller context. “Oh Dad!” my children used to say when I sported a bow-tie, “Isn’t it lovely! It’s just like being on holiday!”.

And this is important. The way we think and feel about ourselves and what we have it in us to be, comes from many sources, some of them serious, demanding and forbidding. But it also comes to us through laughter, colour and freedom, from breaking out of customary habit, from variety, spaciousness, delight and the opportunity to climb the staircase of surprise.

That, surely, is what we’re after when we take the road or train to Broadstairs and beyond and shout “Hurrah!”. We want time to take its proper place, as servant rather than master, to be serious or clown around in a time and way we can call our own. But of course that spaciousness and delight should not just belong to Broadstairs and holidays, but should be nurtured all the year round in our living and worshipping.

We gather to worship on the first day of the new week, the day of Resurrection, of re-creation, of renewed wonder. “You, O Lord, have set our feet in a large room!”

May we enjoy happy and delightful holidays indeed, and if the weather turns bad on us, like Mr Pooter, early nights!

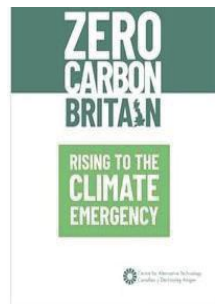
Ron Swan

While recent news has rightly been focused on the war in Ukraine, the climate crisis continues. The June digest from *Pray and Fast for the Climate* notes that amid extraordinary heatwaves in different areas of the world, Met Office research shows a 48% chance that the average global temperature will break the barrier of 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels by 2026. This is terrible news for those of us who still hold out hope that the temperature rise can be kept to 1.5°C.

To make matters worse, some fossil fuel companies are continuing to plan projects that will release massive amounts of carbon. Please continue to pray that these companies will instead plan for a good transition away from fossil fuels and that agreements made at COP26 will translate into effective action to reduce carbon emissions, stop damage to the environment, deal with pollution and take other necessary steps to meet the urgent challenges facing our fragile world.

Sources of Hope

One source of hope is the *Zero Carbon Britain* report, produced by the Centre for Alternative Technology (CAT) in 2014. The report models a technically robust scenario in which the UK has risen to the challenges of the 21st century and has reduced its carbon emissions to net-zero while creating new jobs, increasing our resilience to climate impacts, addressing issues such as loss of biodiversity and fostering a society in which we are happier and healthier.



It's good news because it shows that we already have all the technologies we need, that we can feed a growing population healthily and that the solutions could be replicated across the globe. Such is the significance of the material that the Church of England recently subsidized a special 'Church of England' version of the CAT's two-day course. We were able to explore the material and how its solutions might be implemented.

I found it a fascinating two days. Yes, the predicament we are in is serious. But knowing that the tools to work towards a better future are available is encouraging. Much of what we need to do is familiar to us through Eco Church: reducing energy demand in buildings with temperature control and retrofitting, using cars less and public transport more, switching to electric cars and flying less, eating a healthy low-carbon diet, and providing more room for biodiversity. In short, becoming citizens rather than consumers. Let's continue to review our own

lifestyles and make moves towards a more sustainable way of living. The *Zero Carbon Britain* report is free to read on line or to download, along with a companion one called *People, Plate & Planet*, from:
www.cat.org.uk/info-resources/zero-carbon-britain/

Butterfly conservation

Half of Britain's butterfly species are now classed as Threatened or Near Threatened in the latest update to the Red List. We can help butterflies by providing nectar-rich plants in our gardens. We count the butterflies in the churchyard and you can help conservation by counting butterflies in your garden throughout the year. Find out more at Butterfly Conservation: <https://butterfly-conservation.org>.

Let us give thanks for the stunning diversity of God's handiwork and pray that God will grant us and others wisdom to care for our fellow creatures.

From Green to Blue

While Eco Church looks at 'green' issues, 'blue' issues – the health of the seas – are also important to the future of our planet. Winchester is one of 24 dioceses with a coastal boundary. Our parish has a river and coastal boundary and many of our parishioners enjoy the water. Our



oceans are a massive carbon sink, absorbing some 50% of global carbon dioxide. Perhaps more remarkably, it's estimated that a single humpback whale can remove 33 tonnes of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere over its lifetime! Who knew that whales were quite so important in the ecosystem? So when we are out and about this summer, let's give thanks for the sea and do what we can to protect all the creatures that call it home.

Psalm 101:6 and Psalm Prayer from the Platinum Jubilee Liturgy

My eyes are on the faithful in the land, that they may dwell with me,
and only those who live a blameless life shall be my servants.

*Purify our hearts, O Lord, and teach us to seek your Kingdom first;
that the world may see our good works and glorify you,
our Father in heaven, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

Rosie Ward

The Ten Commandments

It would appear that Moses' Ten Commandments came up late in a Bronze Age (3,400 — 1,100 B.C.) tradition of coalescing nations generating their own codes of law in the interest of civilised community living. Although some such codes were inscribed on stones that still survive, since most populations were illiterate, people would have learned them by heart and passed them down orally from generation to generation. In such conditions, the Ten commandments might not have been written down until the time of Solomon (960-930 B.C.).

Unique to the Ten Commandments was that while other codes were propounded to please a variety or family of supposed gods, in the case of Moses and Israel, they assume one single Maker (Exodus 20.2) and his Chosen People (e.g. Exodus 33.16). They were put together, in other words, not to propitiate protecting gods but to obey God.

The strength of the Ten Commandments today arises not only out of the fact that they prescribe recommendations for integrated living in society, but also out of the belief that these are the Maker's instructions laid down specifically for our benefit and guidance.

The idea that the world and the universe that embraces our galaxy all have a Maker is under challenge from certain specific quarters in today's world. There is a claim that it is impossible to know whether the universe is the creation of some greater Force, or not. From this comes the reasoning that since the question is insoluble, it is not worth asking in the first place. This sounds like an unsatisfactory evasion of the universal human urge to investigate back to earliest origins.

"Evasion" is the accusation put up by those objectors who devalue belief in God because, they claim, such belief ends up, and apparently evaporates, in mystery. But it is plain that any Maker possessed of a higher intelligence than our own must always remain outside, above and superior to the fallibility of all our probings.

Our almighty Maker condescends to accommodate himself to our human inadequacies in (among other disclosures) the Ten Commandments — their lasting value for human life in society and for searching human restlessness.

William Cummings



OYEZ! OYEZ! OYEZ!

Christian essays inspired by the New Forest

7. The Shore

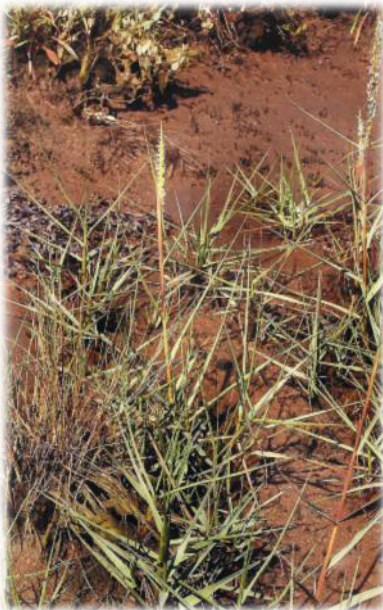


After the streams and the watersheds it makes sense to think for a moment about the shore, where the rain and snow from the Forest flow into the sea. Here we have a treasure second to none. The stretch of coast in question runs eastwards from the Lymington River to Lepe. This is where the Open Forest and the sea are in direct contact, where the one is beside the other, where grazing ponies and cattle rub shoulders, as it were, with calling redshanks and diving terns as a seal looks on. It is a magical place and sometimes it is hard to believe that it is real.



There is no place like the Forest shore. It calls out for a watercolourist all the time. Its music cannot be equalled, soaring skylark with plashing wavelet and the haunting call of the curlew. Here the local meets the global in a unique way. Yet it is all in danger.

There can be few places where within one human lifetime geological change is obvious. But here old, gnarled oaks that seemed for ever to guard the land from the ocean are now uprooted by the advancing sea and lie like beached whales to decay where once there was the sward of the Open Forest.



The land and the mud are fast retreating as the Cord-grass dies off, the sea level rises and the storms hit ever more fiercely. This is the place to learn the meaning of the requirement in Genesis that the human race should be responsible in its stewardship of Creation. In many places the biblical prophets declare that when people sin the earth suffers, but that when they do right the earth rejoices: see the book of Joel, for example. Christian civilisation may be justly criticised for its over-emphasis on human salvation at the expense of the whole created universe.

Now and on the Forest shore make the time and place to think and act differently.

Gordon Wynne

**Cord-grass (*Spartina*) on
the salt marsh**



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The legacy of Glyn
lives on through his
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