

OCTOBER 2022

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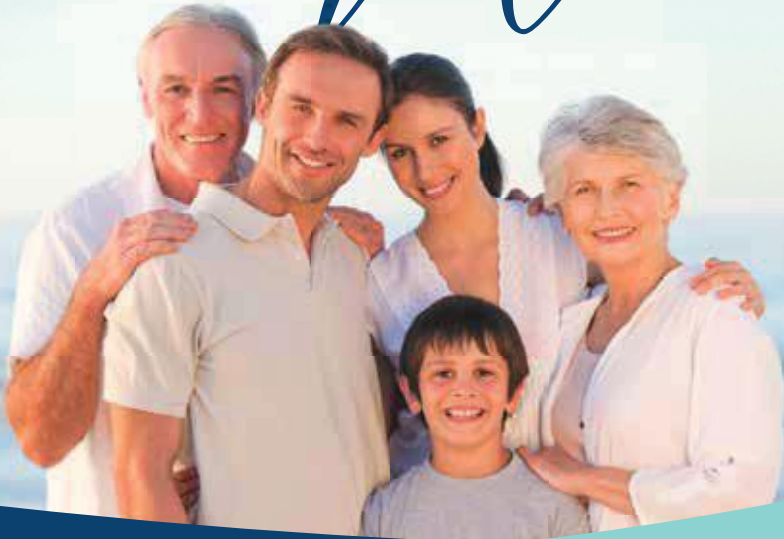


# *Lymington Parish News*



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# *Lymington Parish News*

## *St Thomas' and All Saints' Churches*



**St Thomas' Church**  
**St Thomas Street**  
**Lymington**  
**SO41 9ND**

**All Saints' Church**  
**All Saints Road**  
**Lymington**  
**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](http://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 Churchwardens' by appointment on Friday evenings.

**Administrator:** Mrs Suzie Napleton

[office@lymingtonchurch.org](mailto:office@lymingtonchurch.org) 01590 676194

### *Contacts*

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

### *Magazine*

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

**Editor and Advertising:**

Nigel Mussett, [nigelmussett@gmail.com](mailto:nigelmussett@gmail.com) 07531 179544

**Subscriptions:** Susan Canter-Visscher 01590 679666

## 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:  
Passcode: 2020

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

### REGULAR WEEKLY EVENTS:

<b>Sunday:</b>	<b>8.00am</b>	<b>Early Communion</b>
	<b>9.15am</b>	<b>Choral Communion</b>
	<b>11.00am</b>	<b>Life &amp; Soul Informal Service</b>
Streamed from our shared YouTube channel: <a href="http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCKRF11-cpB5-m1o5tUNWUw">www.youtube.com/channel/UCKRF11-cpB5-m1o5tUNWUw</a>		
or from a landline phone: 0203 695 0088 Meeting ID: 971 631 0618# Passcode: 1839#		
<b>Monday to Friday:</b>	<b>9.00am</b>	<b>Zoom Morning Prayer [1]</b>
<b>Monday:</b>	12 noon	Monday Lunch - STH
<b>Tuesday:</b>	10.00am	Toddler Group - STH
	11.00am	Zoom <i>Taketime</i> Ignatian Meditation [1]
<b>Wednesday:</b>	10.00am	Poetry Corner (not 2nd Wednesday of the month)
	<b>11.00am</b>	<b>Wednesday Communion</b>
<b>Thursday:</b>	10.00am	Vistas Café - STH
<b>Friday</b>	6.00pm	Meet the Churchwardens - STC (by appointment)
<b>Saturday:</b>	9.00am	Prayer for the work of the parish - STC

## OCTOBER EVENTS

<b>Sun 2</b>		<b>HARVEST</b>
		<b>Services as usual</b>
<b>Wed 5</b>	<b>11.00am</b>	<b>Wednesday Communion</b>
<b>Fri 7</b>	6.00pm	Meet the Churchwardens (by appointment)
<b>Sat 8</b>	7.30pm	Encore Choir Concert for Oakhaven Hospice - STC

## OCTOBER EVENTS

<b>Sun 9</b>		<b>TRINITY 17</b> <b>Services as usual</b>
<b>Wed 12</b>	<b>11.00am</b>	<b>Wednesday Communion</b>
<b>Fri 14</b>	<b>6.0pm</b>	Meet the Churchwardens (by appointment)
<b>Sun 16</b>		<b>TRINITY 18</b> <b>Services as usual including</b>
	<b>9.00am</b>	<b>Messy Church - STH</b>
<b>Wed 19</b>	<b>11.00am</b>	<b>Wednesday Communion</b>
<b>Fri 21</b>	<b>6.00pm</b>	Meet the Churchwardens (by appointment)
<b>Sun 23</b>		<b>BIBLE SUNDAY</b> <b>Services as usual</b>
<b>Wed 26</b>	<b>11.00am</b>	<b>Wednesday Communion</b>
<b>Thu 27</b>	<b>10.00am</b>	Woolly Hat Day (Mission to Seafarers) - STH
<b>Fri 28</b>	<b>6.00pm</b>	Meet the Churchwardens (by appointment)
<b>Sun 30</b>		<b>ALL SAINTS'</b>



***02.00 SUNDAY MORNING - 30 OCTOBER***

***CLOCKS GO BACK ONE HOUR!***

**Services as usual**

## NOVEMBER EVENTS

<b>Sun 6</b>	<b>3 BEFORE ADVENT</b> <b>Services as usual</b>
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*We should like to wish  
Happy October Birthday to...*



Chloe Sloper + Lily-Rose Smith



Cover picture: Inquisitive seagull and The Needles  
from Hordle Cliff. *Photo: Sylvia Pepin.*

**Sunday 16 October**



St Thomas' Church  
Lymington

**EVERYONE  
IS WELCOME!**



**What a wonderful world!**

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

Info and updates at [www.lymingtonchurch.org/messy-church](http://www.lymingtonchurch.org/messy-church)



## Woolly Hat Day

### Thursday 27 October

## Another year, another Woolly Hat Day!

Once again Vistas Café in St Thomas' Church Hall has kindly agreed to host this event in support of the Mission to Seafarers in Southampton. We look forward to seeing as many people as possible, coming to enjoy the company as well as delicious drinks and home-made cakes.

In the meantime, please get knitting: hats, balaclavas, neck warmers and fingerless mittens or even scarves - the brighter the better! These will be taken aboard the ships which dock in Southampton by volunteer ship visitors. The items are particularly well received by the seafarers who are amazed and touched by the fact that so many people care about them. There will be a prize for the most outstanding example.

If you need help, you could join the Stitch and Knit sessions which are held at Vistas on Thursday mornings between 10.00 and 12 noon. Alternatively, I can provide patterns and wool. This was a great event in 2021 but it would be lovely if we could make it bigger and better now that things have opened up a bit more this year following the Covid pandemic.

I understand that small knitted teddy bears have also hit the spot, and so I will research a pattern for anyone who wishes to undertake to knit one this year.

*Peta Walmisley*

*Tel: 01590 670247*

*Email: [peta\\_walmisley@btinternet.com](mailto:peta_walmisley@btinternet.com)*





# Churchwardens' Notes

## ***Mo Penrose writes...***

However much I love the summer holidays, returning to clubs and groups in September is always exciting - catching up with friends and meeting new ones. As I write we have welcomed the return of Monday Lunch, Messy Church, Toddler Group, choir practice, the poetry group, etc. I thank God for all those paid and unpaid people who run these activities and give many around the town and beyond a lifeline of companionship.

I have always loved the colours and smells of autumn. I am aware that many worry that we travel a little further to come to church. But Martin and I see the travelling through the Forest, viewing the different seasons, a joy and privilege. Autumn is a time for horse roundup and the delight of seeing the hogs being let out, snuffling up the acorns - sad, but Martin and I compete to see who sees the hogs first! But this year, with the worry of war in numerous areas of the world and environmental disasters such as the Pakistan floods, we realise more how very lucky we are.

Nearer to home, the cost of living concerns, especially the cost of energy, leads to much prayerful worry and concern. As a church and town community there is help available if you ask – yes, I am well aware that asking for help is the hardest thing. I know that the Church and other groups around Lymington are formulating things to help further and as soon as we are aware of them we will make them known to you. Please keep an eye on not only your concerns but also people around. For those who are able, please remember to buy an extra item of dried food to put in the Lymington Food Bank box at the back of the Church.

The PCC is preparing to welcome Bishop Debbie, Bishop of Southampton, to one of their meetings which will provide the opportunity of listening and advising us about finding a priest to take us forward in faith. What is said will inform and direct the Vacancy Team to move forward. We are also preparing to welcome Bishop Debbie at our 9.15a.m. and 11a.m. services on Sunday 6 November, allowing time for parishioners to speak to her and for her to view our fantastic Church families.

Chris and I are available on Fridays at 6p.m. to discuss any matters. Please speak to Suzie in the Office to make an appointment.

Blessings to you all. *Mo.*



# Churchwardens' Notes

## A Reflection on Recent Events

The news of the death of Queen Elizabeth II on 8 September came as a shock to the nation. The numerous accounts of her dedication to duty, service to the country and the Commonwealth are extremely moving. The Queen's faith in Christ was reflected in all her actions throughout her life and is an example to us all. We continue to pray for the Queen and her successor King Charles III. May God give him the strength, courage, faith and compassion to continue his mother's legacy.

The scenes of affection and emotion that we see around us and through the media have brought home to me how much a life of service to the country and Commonwealth touches so many people of all faiths and nationalities. The Queen was certainly a living example of inclusivity.

I write this piece as an adjunct to my colleague Mo Penrose's article as her submission was written prior to her going on holiday. Conclusive proof that momentous events often occur when they are least expected! We are preparing for a choral memorial celebration and a live screening of the royal funeral in the Church. The latter event was originally conceived by Lymington Baptist Church but it was agreed by both parties that screening the occasion in the Parish Church of Lymington was the most appropriate way to proceed. A good example of Churches in Lymington working together.

I have been extremely touched during this time by just how willingly people quietly volunteer to make things happen and this has been an unexpected joy of being the Churchwarden at St Thomas'. The protocol for this event as defined by the Diocese of Winchester has been followed to the letter by our Church and parishioners. Whilst I like to think that I have had something to do with the smooth running of the last week or so, I am a simply a cog in a much larger wheel of volunteers, clergy, parishioners and administrators. I believe that in whatever part we have played, we have reflected some of those virtues that our late Queen so frequently displayed.

May our late Queen rest in peace and rise in glory and may God Save the King!

*Chris Stroud*



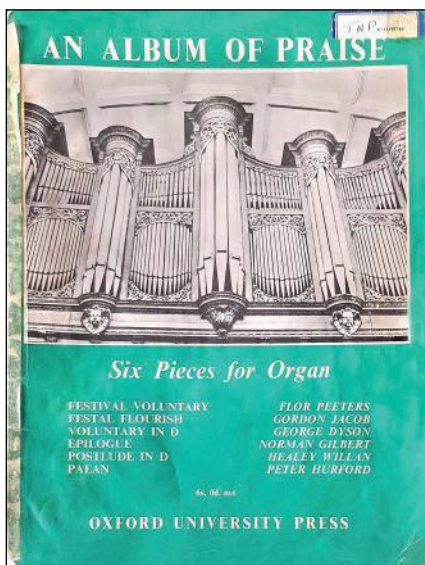
# THE ORGANIST PIPES UP!

I have a book of organ voluntaries published in 1958 – the year in which I was born – which I inherited from my older brother Tim when I started playing for church services in the early 1970s.

The book, *An Album of Praise*, cost my brother six shillings (30 pence) and was left behind in the piano stool at home when he went off to music college in London in the late 1960s.

Five of the six pieces were penned by people I had heard of, including the Belgian organist Flor Peeters and the noted English composer Gordon Jacob. However, there was one composer who I knew nothing about until I was at last able to find a little information about him on the internet a few weeks ago.

Norman Gilbert (1912-1975) was a pupil of Sir Edward Bairstow at York Minster during the 1930s and later became organist of St Paul's Church Llandudno, north Wales, and music master at a local school.



He wrote several pieces for the organ and a few songs. The piece in my book is called 'Epilogue' and I played it as a concluding voluntary at one of the 9.15am services in August. It is very English in style and always proves popular with listeners. On this occasion several members of the congregation asked what I had played, which is what prompted me to redouble my efforts and try to find out something about him.

*Martin Penrose*

## **ST THOMAS' CHURCHYARD MEMORIALS PROJECT**

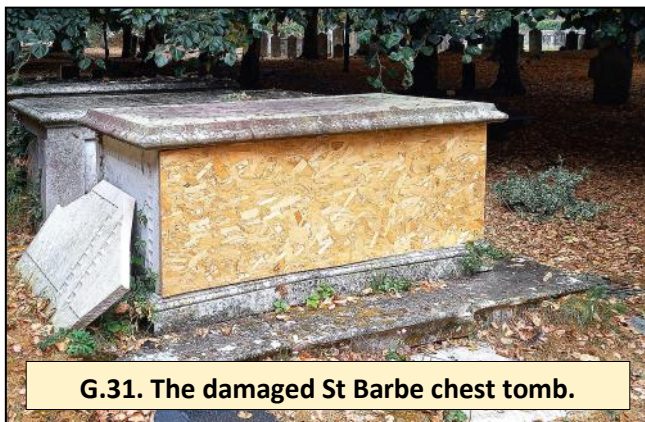
### **Update No. 5**

Much has happened in the churchyard since we published the last update in November 2021.

The wildlife has continued to be monitored, the tree survey updated and all of the memorials in the large Area A to the north checked again over the winter. Fifteen up-to-date plans have been produced which show for the first time the location of the 783 memorials in this part of the churchyard. Each memorial has been given a unique reference number and Robert Barrett has joined in the task of recording some of the inscriptions, where legible, and has provided useful biographical details to many of the individuals identified.

Andrew Foster, in addition to his other duties, has been transcribing the inscriptions on the first cremation plaques dating from 1954; these are in Area G north of the Garden of Remembrance and the composting area. Some of these square plaques are weathering badly and are difficult to read in places; in many instances they have had to be uncovered from encroaching vegetation and gravel.

The safety of some memorials has in the past given rise to concern and a fresh safety check was undertaken by Peter Salisbury and Chris Stroud on 18 June. Three chest tombs at the top of Area G near The Tins were found to require immediate action. One of these was the St Barbe memorial, the south side panel of which had recently been damaged. The Town Council has boarded this up temporarily pending further attention. In the meantime, efforts are being made to trace surviving members of the families involved and to seek advice on how best to undertake their maintenance in the future.



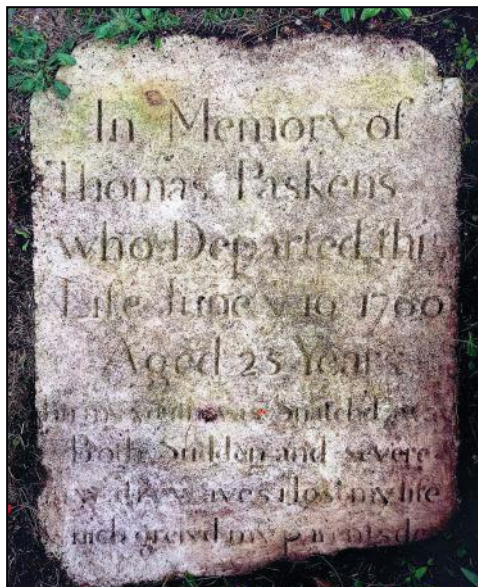
**G.31. The damaged St Barbe chest tomb.**

Legally, all memorials belong to the families who erected them and it is primarily their responsibility to see that they are properly maintained. After long periods of time it becomes increasingly difficult, and sometimes impossible, to trace living members of the families concerned and inevitably the memorials fall into disrepair. Safety is paramount and so either the PCC or the local Council then has to step in where the families cannot be traced or decide to take no action.

The Town Council, in addition to mowing the southern half of the churchyard, has also this summer pruned low-lying branches of the lime trees, making for easier access for those passing through on foot.

Further examination of the 96 memorials in Section E on the eastern side of the churchyard showed that the majority of them date from the 18th century. In one case a headstone had been laid flat, become overgrown and had previously gone unrecorded. On being uncovered this summer, the inscription revealed that it related to Thomas Paskens aged 25, who was drowned at sea on 16 June 1760. His body was evidently recovered and buried at St Thomas'. The sad epitaph reads:

*I in my youth was snatched away  
Both sudden and severe.  
In watry waves I lost my life  
Which grieved my parents dear.*

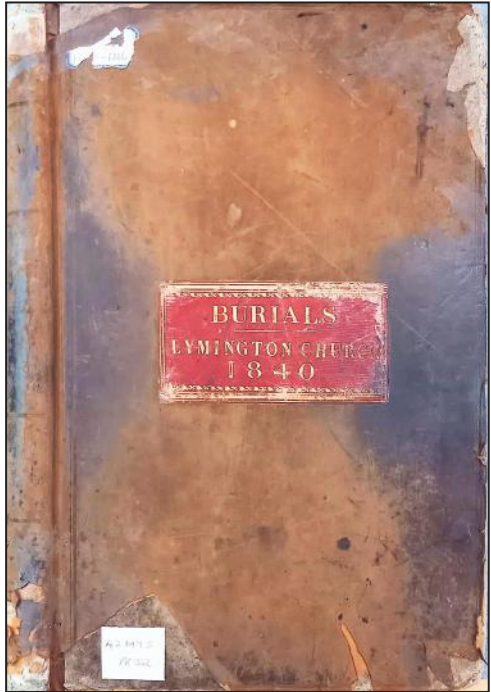


An important aspect of the Project involves matching the names on the memorials with the names recorded in the Burial Registers. Most of these are held at the Hampshire Record Office (HRO) in Winchester and several visits were made to the HRO in the early part of the summer. The authorities were most accommodating and allowed me to search and copy the pages of the original Registers. Normally, visitors there have to make do with the laborious task of examining inferior copies of them on film. We can now use these records alongside the inscriptions to help fill in details lost or obscured on the memorials themselves.

The Hampshire Genealogical Society has made transcripts of our Burial Registers and published them on two CD-ROMs. These are a useful publicly available resource but their transcripts only go up to 1865: we need the records at least up to the end of the 20th century! So there is plenty there to keep us busy for some time to come, and any extra help in carrying this work forward would be much appreciated.



We hope that in time we shall be able to assemble as complete a record as possible from the evidence being uncovered. No full or systematic record of the memorials seems to have been made in the past, although several incomplete attempts have been made to do so with varying degrees of success. Over 900 memorials of the 2000 or so at St Thomas' Churchyard have now been posted on the *findagrave.com* website, a link to which is given on St Thomas' own website. This might be a useful starting point for those researching their family history. Although each memorial has been given a geographical co-ordinate and reference number, and is accompanied by a small photograph and 'map', the precise location of each is not clearly shown, nor is there a record of any of the inscriptions.



**Burials Register for Lymington Church  
from 1840 to 1886.**

It was to address all of these limitations that the present St Thomas' Churchyard Memorials Project was launched in the summer of 2020. To date, fourteen individuals, six of them young people, have been involved in some way or other and great progress has so far been made. However, much remains to be done to enable the Project to achieve its aims as thoroughly as possible.

We plan to issue an Interim Report of the Churchyard Memorials Project. This will mean that all interested parties and anyone researching family history will be able to use a commonly adopted reference system when identifying individual graves. The detailed plans of each area will help to show exactly where each memorial is to be found. Copies will be sent to stakeholders and deposited where they will be available for public use. Copies may also be purchased from me if required. The publication date will be announced in due course.

*Nigel Mussett, Church Archivist*

**Anyone wishing to get involved with any aspect of the Project  
is invited to contact the Churchyard Memorial Project Co-ordinator:  
*nigelmussett@gmail.com* or at St Thomas' Church.**

## Building our links with younger people

It is a year since a group of parishioners requested a meeting with the Vicar to share their concerns about the need to more actively develop links with younger people. We felt that if we failed to engage with young people and families there might not be a long-term future for our church. International research showed that lockdown due to Covid-19 had accelerated the disconnection of young people and families from the church and it was felt that we had to do something to address it.

Our initial thoughts were for the recruitment of a Children and Families Worker but it became clear that there was exploratory work to be done before we could consider such an appointment if, indeed, it is the right thing to do. Going into the Vacancy meant that we would not be able to progress the idea until a new Incumbent was in place. So, slowly and steadily, we have been taking steps that we hope will take us in the right direction.

- With the PCC's support, Objective 1 of the Parish Mission Action Plan (PMAP) was strengthened with more specific actions and a group was formed to progress them.
- We arranged a workshop with the Diocesan Adviser on young people and families and members of the group have met with him again to seek help in shaping the way forward.
- With the help of the Foundation Governors, we are progressing plans to increase the frequency of contact between the Church and the Lymington Infants' School.
- In the spirit of early collaboration, St Mark's, Pennington, has accepted an invitation to join our planning group to explore opportunities for joint work.
- To ensure continuity of our Messy Church following the departure of its coordinator, volunteers have formed a team to plan and lead its services through the Vacancy.
- We have agreed to review the operation of our Messy Church to see if we can grow its numbers. Contact has been made with other Messy Churches.
- A member of the planning group is now on the Children and Youth Ministry programme of the Bishop's Commission for Mission.

There are many more things that we can explore, such as the re-introduction of an all-age service, links with other schools, and an audit of how child and family friendly we are. But the volunteers working on this are at present relatively few in number and we have to tailor our ambitions to our current resources.

If you would like to add your support or offer ideas, please feel free to contact the planning team via me in person or at the email address below.

**Andy Clapper**  
[andy.clapper@btinternet.com](mailto:andy.clapper@btinternet.com)

# The Ten Commandments

*"Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain; for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain." (Exodus 20.7)*

It is commonly claimed that the Ten Commandments divide into two parts, with five Commandments in each. The first five Commandments relate to our duty towards God, and the latter five relate to our duty towards our fellow men. However, it could be said that the Fifth Commandment, "Honour thy father and thy mother", does double duty as a transition between the two halves.

Our father and mother must be honoured in a special way because it is through them that our life has been given to us — but it is God who has given that life.

This Third Commandment is often assumed to be a Commandment against swearing, but many swear words seem to have nothing to do with God; and much swearing could seem to belong to the category relating to offences in society. In fact, "taking the name of the Lord our God in vain" is about much more than swearing.

Place the Third Commandment as printed in the Bible alongside the Third Commandment as printed in the Prayer Book. You will notice that King James's translators of the Bible in the early seventeenth century have printed the word "name". But the sixteenth century Thomas Cranmer, compiler of the Prayer Book, has printed the word "Name" with a capital letter. It's the same in the Lord's Prayer, or the Psalms, or wherever God's "Name" features in both volumes. What did Cranmer know that Lancelot Andrewes did not know?

God's "Name" (with a capital "N") was in the Hebrew mind the equivalent of God himself; everything that exists, or upholds the existence that we know, manifests God's "Name". Mystery, glory and inescapable godly fear glow out of everything that exemplifies God's "Name". There is nothing that our Maker promotes, evolves, creates or touches — in other words, nothing whatsoever — that does not represent his "Name". God's "Name" is coterminous with everything that God is.

In saying the Lord's Prayer, we should tiptoe past the wording "Hallowed be thy Name" in awe and holy terror. There is no "Name" like our Creator's "Name" and none of God's creatures should — or can — take it in vain.

*William Cummings*





## OYEZ! OYEZ! OYEZ!

### *Christian essays inspired by the New Forest*

#### **8. The Inclosures**

These are not simply enclosures as in the great majority of rural England since the Enclosure Acts of the eighteenth century. They are the Crown's statutory Inclosures, lands fenced off from the Commoners' stock and intended for the growth of timber for commercial and governmental purposes. There is a long and contentious history behind the Crown's power to inclose and the present results of it.

But we need not dwell too much on contention when listening to the Forest. Open an Inclosure gate, step inside and you are in a different world. You leave behind motor vehicles, except those needed for forestry, and you also leave behind the Commoners' stock, which is not allowed in an Inclosure. Instead, you have the essence of woodland peace and healing. Depending on the place and the season, you never know what you might hear. It might be the rut of the deer, the call of the cuckoo - male or female, the latter sounding utterly different from her mate - the fall of an acorn or the sighing of the wind in the tops of the trees.

As for what you might see, that would depend on the nature and history of exactly where you were. There might be a spacious and majestic ride in front of you, or your path could twist and turn through exciting secret glades and thickets. On the small scale see and hear the handsome hornet fly by, watch the myriad butterflies, enjoy the big black beetles and the ever-busy ants. In the Book of Proverbs there is the advice, 'Go to the ant, thou sluggard, consider her ways and be wise' (chapter 6, verse 6).



*Rhinefield. Photo: Sylvia Pepin*



**Dappled shade around the base of a lichen-encrusted tree  
in Black Water Arboretum.**



Then there are the scents and smells. The stinkhorn in the autumn will wake you up as you try to find it. The resinous scent of newly cut softwood is wonderful in the lungs. Late on a summer's day the scent of honeysuckle will fill the air. In spite of fashion, do not despise conifers. Green boughs in the winter months are a blessing. Everyone loves the oaks and beeches. But birds and squirrels need the others, too.

When I have been in one of life's tight corners, the greatest help and balm has come from calling to mind the sound of the wind in the great Douglas Firs of Norley Inclosure. Remarkable also is the effect of rain or snow. A thoroughly wet wood glistens, smells and sounds in a way that can surprise a visitor. Snow is the great bringer of mystery, light and quiet. Fog in the trees: that also does

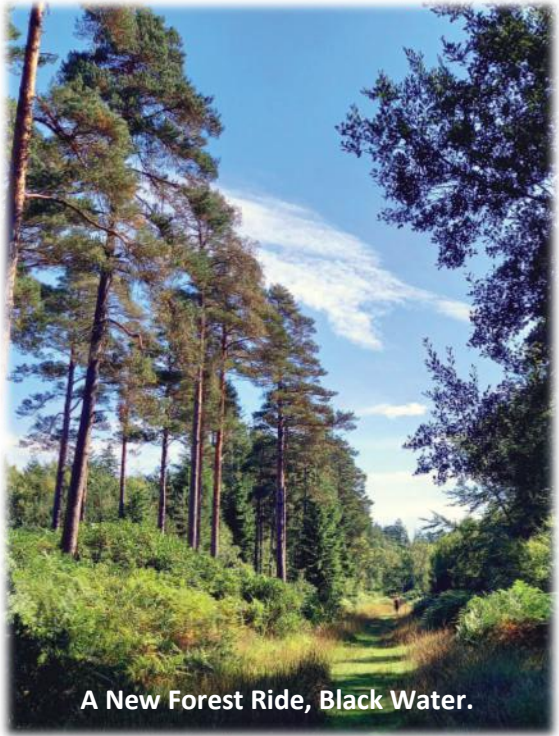
strange things to light and sound. Sunshine cannot be equalled, but it is not the only thing. On a day of dappled shade it is fascinating to see how the sunshine on the path around you is always in small discs. That takes a while to work out.

It is a good idea to sit still in the Forest and see what will come by. As the smaller inhabitants of the place get used to you they will let you in on their lives as they never will a human passer-by.

On one occasion, a foraging badger snuffled right past me on a Forest ride of an evening. He looked at me once and continued on his way. It was worth anything.



Gatekeeper



A New Forest Ride, Black Water.



© Vincent van Zalinge. Image on Unsplash.

Above all, the Inclosures speak to us of peace and healing. Indeed they bring those very things, and who can do without them?

*Gordon Wynne*



# PRAYER THOUGHTS

## A CRY FOR MERCY...

Why, O Lord, is it so hard for me to keep my heart directed toward you? Why do the many little things I want to do, and the many people I know, keep crowding my mind...?

Why does my mind wander off in so many directions, and why does my heart desire the things that lead me astray? Are you not enough for me?

Why do I keep doubting your love and care, your mercy, and your grace? Lord, accept my distractions, my fatigue, my irritations, and my mind's faithless wanderings.

You know me more deeply and more fully than I know myself. You love me with a greater love than I can love myself. You even offer me more than I can desire.

Look at me... and let me become aware of your presence...  
All I can do is show myself to you... yet I am afraid to do so...  
I am afraid that you will reject me.

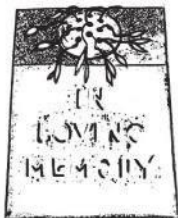
But I know, with the knowledge of faith, that you desire to give me your love. The only thing you ask of me is not to hide from you, not to run away...

Take my tired body, my confused mind and my restless soul into your arms and give me rest, simple quiet rest.

Come, Lord Jesus, come. Amen.

Based on an extract from: *A Cry for Mercy*, Henri Nouwen  
as cited in: *The Lion Book of Famous Prayers*, (Herts: Lion Publishing plc, 1983)

*Malcolm Ward*



## - Memorial Stone Restoration -

Are the words on your loved one's memorial stone clear to see? If not, call me to arrange restoration in situ.

Prices from £60.

Simon: 0800 112 3026 / 0776231392



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