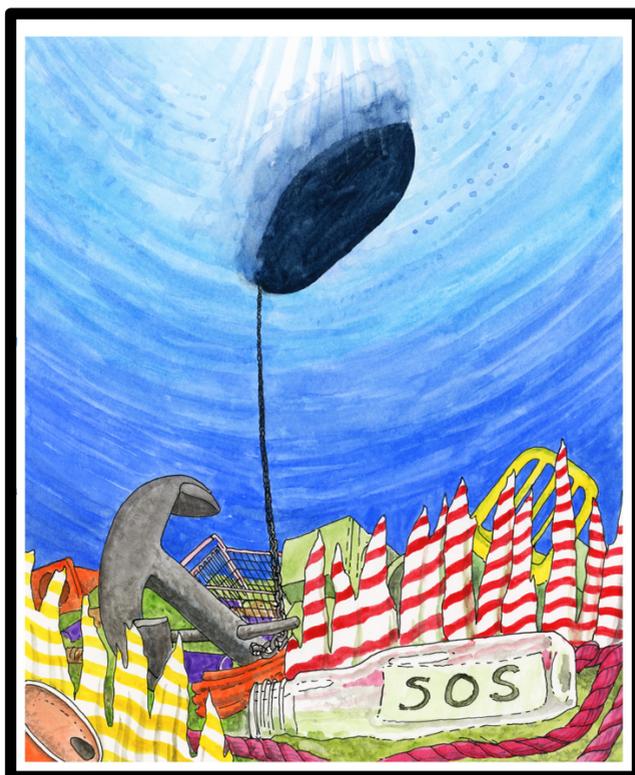


# The Holsworthy Benefice Magazine July 2019

**For the Parishes of the United Benefice of  
Holsworthy, Bridgerule, Hollacombe,  
Pyworthy with Pancrasweek**



[www.holsworthybenefice.org.uk](http://www.holsworthybenefice.org.uk)

Find us on 

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If you have anything you would like to be considered for publication in our magazine please give it to the editor by the 20th of the preceding month. It can be sent by email or hand written. Our printer in Bude can usually reproduce photographs to a reasonable standard. If you want any hard copy or pictures returned please ensure your name and address is on the back.

*This magazine is produced for the churches of St. Peter and St. Paul Holsworthy; St. Bridget's, Bridgerule; St. Petroc, Hollacombe; St. Swithun, Pyworthy; St. Pancras, Pancrasweek; and is the only publication promoting the views and vision of the benefice.*

*The contents of this magazine do not necessarily reflect the views of the individual PCC's but are those of individual contributors.*

## **Mission Community Prayer**

Lord of the Church, hear our prayer for the Holsworthy Mission Community: Set our hearts on fire with love for you. Claim our worship and wealth, our abilities and our time, that we be worthy stewards of all that you have given. Save us from complacency and fear of new ways; inspire us with vision; make us a power-house of prayer, a community of loving service, and faithful witnesses to your kingdom as we grow daily in and through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen

## **(Not) From the rectory - Celebrate let's celebrate!**

Yes, this month for our benefice is one of celebration. It starts on the eve of July, on the 30<sup>th</sup> of June which is a 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month when we will have gathered at our smallest church, Hollacombe, for the Benefice Service. This will be led by our Archdeacon Mark so if you should read this before then please make an effort to go to the service so that this small congregation know they are supported and part of our family.

The celebrations then move to Holsworthy with St Peters fair week. This starts with a Civic Service on the Sunday July 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm. Then on the Wednesday July 10<sup>th</sup> as the clock strikes 12 midday, we have the main event, the presenting of the new Pretty Maid, at the church tower door (who will it be this year?).

Let's hope for better weather for the town and the church than we have had recently but it is a day of festival regardless. It also means that from then 'til the Saturday there will be an exhibition of personal collections in the church, do take time to go and see them. Then on Sunday the 14<sup>th</sup> the closing day of Fair Week there is a Sunday service in the Square at 11am, led by Holsworthy & District Christians Together.

Celebrations continue by travelling down the road to Pyworthy where they have both the celebration of St Swithun who is their patron Saint and yes, it is important that this is a day with no rain if you believe the legend. Though I think we have had all the rain beforehand this year. That is on Sunday the 14<sup>th</sup> then on the following Weekend the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> they have their flower festival and gift day so do go and see it on either the Saturday or Sunday and delight in the beautiful arrangements and thank God for his gift of nature. There will be teas and cakes during both days outside the time of the service.

Then on to Bridgerule and in the village July is carnival time that is towards the end of the month, Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> July to Saturday August 3<sup>rd</sup>. Although the church is not actively involved during the week, they and their fellow Christians from the Methodist Chapel hold a service for the blessing of the Carnival Queen.

Now Pancrasweek has no set celebration day but is giving a general celebration that all their refurbishment is finished, their church is waterproof and has a kitchen area and heating!! They still await a date for the rededication but it is still a time to celebrate. As Christians we have so much to celebrate in all God has done for us so let us be thankful. Join with one another and give hearty praise to God for all he has given us and done for us.

*Mary (Reader)*

# News from the Churches in our Benefice

## St. Peter and St. Paul, Holsworthy

By Bob Beckford



**Coffee Morning** This joint event with St Petroc, Hollacombe took place on Wednesday June 12<sup>th</sup>. A big thank you to everyone who helped to make this a success and a special thank you to Kath Durling for organising the event. We raised £412.60 which will be shared equally between the two churches.

As soon as we get the dates confirmed for the next coffee morning, we will let you know when it is.

**Afternoon Tea at The Rectory.** On a very warm and sunny Saturday June 22<sup>nd</sup> we enjoyed a very pleasant afternoon tea on the rectory lawn. This was earlier in the year than last year's event so this time we were not bothered with wasps looking for the strawberry jam.

We are very grateful to Mother Elizabeth and husband Mick for letting us use their lawn, after all it is their home and not really a public park. We were even more fortunate because the lawn had been used the day before for another event and the large marquee that had been in use was left up for us. Although intended for use in the event of rain we actually were glad of it so that we could have some shade.

Thank you to everyone who came along and the many of our readers who donated their time, prizes and food. We made a profit of £321 which I am sure our treasurer will be very pleased with.

Some of you may have wondered who the young man was at the event taking notes. Well that was Sil, a student from the Netherlands who has been staying in Holsworthy and working on his university project which is to do with market research and the social aspect of Church.

\*\*\*\*\*

### The Friend's of Holsworthy Parish Church St Peter's Monthly Jackpot Draw

The winners of the St. Peter's Monthly Jackpot Draw, drawn on 20th June were – 1st Prize, ticket number 114, Vera from Honey Meadows and 2nd prize, ticket number 5, Bob from Kingdon Way.

You can still purchase a ticket, now that there are only ten months left the price of the ticket to be included in the July draw drops to £9. Please speak to Helen Narborough our treasurer or a member of the PCC if you would like to purchase a ticket.

\*\*\*\*\*

## **Tree limb fall in the churchyard**

Well the timber has been tidied up and stacked at the back of the churchyard. It is common practice these days to leave the wood from a fallen or pruned tree for nature.

The trees have been surveyed and there is work to do to on many of them, it is mostly trimming branches. This work will have to go out to tender and I imagine it will be some while before we see anything happening.

Sadly, it looks like five grave stones have been damaged, but far less than we initially thought considering the size of the limb that fell, these will have to be made safe, some of the broken ones could possibly be repaired.

## **St Peter's Fair Week - 6th-14th July**

### ***This year in the church for St Peter's Fair.... Collections!***

If you intend to display your collection in church will you please let us know by July 3<sup>rd</sup> as we have to allocate space. What you display is up to you, be it teddy bears or postcards, model trains or vintage tools or whatever it is you have collected. If you have a collection and would like to put it on display please contact Carol Weston on 01409 259371, [cwcarolweston@gmail.com](mailto:cwcarolweston@gmail.com) and book space.

The church will be open for people to set up on Monday 8th and Tuesday 9th from 2-5pm (others times by arrangement). We do ask that people who would like to display their collections give a couple of hours stewarding in the church at some time during the time the church is open. (see below for times) There will be a rota to sign up on by the door when you come to set up your display.

### ***The church will be open that week as follows;***

Wed 10th July after the Pretty Maid Ceremony at 12:30 until 4pm.

Thursday 11th - Saturday 13th July 12 noon until 4pm.

Drinks and cakes will be served during opening times.

There will be a 2-course ploughman's lunch served on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> at 12 noon or 1.30pm (two sittings). Tickets are priced £7.50 in advance and available from Mary Osbourne and Carol Weston.

If you would like to make a cash gift to the church during fair week you may be interested to know that there will be the usual donations box outside the church on the morning of Fair Wednesday and then inside the church for the rest of Fair Week. We are no longer able to take envelopes around the parish but there will be envelopes by the donations box if you would prefer to use an envelope and not just put your money in the box.

## **St. Petroc, Hollacombe**

*by Margaret Stacey*

It was most unfortunate with Easter being late that our Patronal Festival of St Petroc (June 4th but celebrated on the nearest Sunday, this year, June 2nd, not forgetting the Anniversary of Queen Elizabeth II Coronation) clashed with many other events, end of half term, point to point, other horse events and holidays to name just a few things which meant we were low on numbers but those who did attend the Evensong and Cream Tea were well provided for with ample refreshments thanks to the generosity of the ladies of the regular congregation and everyone went home with a goody bag.



The special St Petroc hymns, dedicated to & naming our special saint were sung and Rev Burke preached on thinking about a saint each one of us could follow and identify with in our own lives.

The result and account of the Coffee Morning, held in conjunction with Holsworthy Church I am sure will be reported elsewhere in this edition but our Grateful Thanks to Katherine Durling and Holsworthy Church for sharing this annual event with us, together helping each other as we have for many a year, sharing many events and money raising, music etc etc. It has always been a strong bond.

We are looking forward to welcoming other parishes in the Benefice to the United Benefice Service on June 30th for Holy Communion with The Ven Mark Butchers, our Archdeacon.

News of Rev Stuart Wilson who comes to us regularly is that he is 'on hold' at present from surgery so please pray he can sustain this state and continue to improve. We are indeed indebted to him for his dedication every other month to provide us with H.C., along with Fr Richard Freeman whom we congratulate on becoming Rural Dean. Thank you to you both.

Please note, NO Evensong on Sunday 7th July. Back to normal on 21st at 9.30am for BCP Holy Communion.

Sunday 4th August, 3pm Evensong.

## **St. Bridget, Bridgerule**

**Creative Church at Bridgerule Primary School** every Wednesday 4-5pm.  
Everyone welcome - This is informal church with crafts.

# St. Swithun, Pyworthy

By Liffy Lowes

**Gift Day at St Swithun's, Pyworthy** is to be held over the weekend of July 20th and 21st, a week later than usual so as not to clash with Sports Day. Once again, we are staging a Flower Festival for which the theme this year is "A Song". For the children, it would be lovely if as many as possible could produce a small garden on a plate – we have tried this in the past and have had some lovely entries – for which prizes will be awarded.

Please support our Gift Day – funds raised from this will go towards the upkeep of the churchyard. Our churchyard is beautifully cared for and I know that many of you are very grateful for this.



## Jesus at the lake

The all age worship on the first Sunday of the May had us listening to the catch of fish when the disciples let down the net at Jesus' command.

We then all went to the back of the church and drew fish to represent ourselves coloured fish to represent a friend or someone in need then folded paper fish which caused much merriment.

The fish were then placed in the net and used as a basis for our prayers. The children none under the age of thirty + really enjoyed the interaction and we all went home uplifted.

## General News from The Parish Pump

### ST BONIFACE SET BECOMES PATRON SAINT OF DEVON

Devon County Council has voted in favour of an amendment to adopt St Boniface as the Patron Saint of Devon. The decision was made at a full council meeting on 23 May with a majority of councillors voting in favour.

St Boniface was born in Crediton and the Boniface Link Association has been campaigning to have him officially made the county's Patron Saint.

The campaign has been backed by the Anglican Bishop of Exeter, Rt Revd Robert Atwell, and the Roman Catholic Bishop of Plymouth, Rt Rev Mark O'Toole as well as Crediton Congregational Church, Crediton Methodist Church and the Rector of the Orthodox Parish of the Holy Prophet Elias.

The Rt Revd Mark O'Toole, said: "I am delighted to hear this wonderful news and I congratulate Devon County Council on this momentous decision. St Boniface has many lessons to teach us today and I hope the fact that he is now officially Patron Saint of Devon will inspire us to look more closely at the life of this remarkable Devonian."

The Rt Revd Robert Atwell said: "This is fantastic news; St Boniface was an exceptional man of whom Devon can be proud and we have been delighted to support the campaign to have him made Patron Saint of Devon."



*The St Boniface medal has been designed by Devon priest and artist Father Andrew Johnson, will be given out by the Bishop of Exeter to people nominated by their churches*

St Boniface Day is June 5. On Sunday 9 June, Rt Rev O'Toole jointly lead a special service at Crediton Parish Church alongside the Bishop of Crediton, The Rt Revd Jackie Searle. Following the service, there was a procession to the statue of St Boniface in the park followed by a second service led by Bishop Mark in the Catholic Shrine of St Boniface.

Crediton County Councillor Nick Way, who put forward the St Boniface motion, said: "I am very pleased the council supported the Boniface Link organisation's campaign to adopt St Boniface as Patron Saint for Devon and I would like to thank all those whose efforts made this possible. This is great news for the Crediton area and the county as a whole."

This year the Bishop of Exeter has introduced a new initiative in the name of St Boniface. The Company of St Boniface honours people who have made a substantial contribution to the life of the church in Devon. Up to six Companions of St Boniface will be admitted each year. This year there will be a service of investiture at Exeter Cathedral in September at which the recipients will be presented with a special medal designed by Devon priest and artist Father Andrew Johnson.

Boniface was born with the Anglo-Saxon name Winfrith in Crediton circa 680AD and is often referred to as the First European.

He studied at the monastery at Exeter, later travelling to Europe as a missionary. In 722AD, Pope Gregory made him Bishop of all Germany East of the Rhine. He was martyred in 754AD at Dokkum in the Netherland and buried at Fulda in Germany.

### **Church of England Alexa skill asked 75,000 questions in first year**

A year after its launch, the Church of England's award-winning Alexa skill has been asked more than 75,000 questions, according to recent data. The smart speaker skill was originally launched with prayers, explanations of the Christian faith and details of where to find the nearest church for local events and services based on location.

The data also reveals a trend of highest numbers of people using the skill in the evening. As a result of this, the Church's Digital and Church House Publishing teams added a wider range of mealtime, evening and night prayers during the year.

More family prayers have also been added, and integration improved with A Church Near You, the national church finder tool, to show maps of where the nearest church is. A range of videos have also been added to bring the Christian faith to life and showcase the social action work of churches across the country.

In a typical week people ask the following questions by topic area:

Read today's daily 'EasterPilgrim' reflection – 16%

Say a prayer – 40%

Explore the Christian faith – 31%

Share a grace before a meal – 6%

Where is my local church? – 7%.

The skill is average 4.2 out of five stars on the Alexa store, with comments such as "Love it - great example to the kids on how to pray".

The Archbishop of York, Dr John Sentamu, said: "The aim of the Alexa skill is to help users to know more of the love of Jesus Christ, to enable regular churchgoers and those exploring faith to connect with God in another way and at a time that's right for them."

Adrian Harris, Head of Digital at the Church of England, said: "We are pleased with the levels of engagement in the first year of launching the skill, which was built in just three months in 2018." The skill has also been recognised at a number of leading digital industry awards.

To activate the Church of England skill "*Alexa, open the Church of England*". A full list of commands is available on the C of E's dedicated Alexa page at

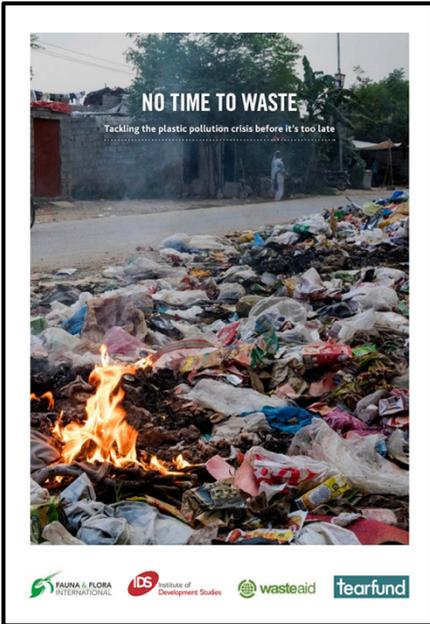
<https://www.churchofengland.org/our-faith/try-church-englands-alexa-skill>

## **Sir David Attenborough backs major new report on plastics from Tearfund**

A new report has revealed for the first time that one person is dying every 30 seconds in developing countries from diseases and illnesses caused by plastic pollution and uncollected rubbish dumped or burnt near their homes.

The new figures were released in *No Time to Waste: Tackling the Plastic Pollution Crisis Before it's Too Late*, by international relief and development agency Tearfund, in collaboration with conservation charity Fauna & Flora International (FFI), the Institute of Development Studies and waste management charity WasteAid.

The report looks at the health impact of plastic pollution and rubbish on the world's poorest people for the first time.



It found that each year between 400,000 and a million people (at the upper end one person every 30 seconds) are dying in developing countries from illnesses and diseases like diarrhoea, malaria and cancers caused by living near uncollected waste and plastic pollution.

The report calls on multinational companies to fundamentally change their business models by committing to reporting the number of single-use plastic items they distribute in developing countries by 2020, and halving this by 2025.

“This report is one of the first to highlight the impacts of plastic pollution not just on wildlife but also on the world’s poorest people,” Sir David, a vice president at Fauna

& Flora International, said.

“It is high time we turn our attention fully to one of the most pressing problems of today – averting the plastic pollution crisis – not only for the health of our planet, but for the wellbeing of people around the world.”

“We need leadership from those who are responsible for introducing plastic to countries where it cannot be adequately managed, and we need international action to support the communities and governments most acutely affected by this crisis.”

Globally two billion people (one in four), don’t have their rubbish collected. This often leads to disease and death. When rubbish isn’t collected it often builds up in rivers and causes flooding, which can lead to diarrhoea and a host of infectious diseases.

Often the only other way to dispose of waste is to burn it in the streets, with the resulting fumes being extremely damaging to health as well as - in some countries - being the single largest source of carbon emissions, contributing to climate change.

Dr Ruth Valerio, Global Advocacy & Influencing Director at Tearfund said: “Tearfund’s new Rubbish Campaign calls for urgent action from four multinationals - Coca-Cola, Nestlé, PepsiCo and Unilever.

“They sell billions of products in single-use plastic packaging in poorer countries where waste isn’t collected, in the full knowledge that people will have no choice but to burn it, discard it in waterways or live among it.

Other key facts in the report:

- Every second a double-decker busload of plastic waste is burned or dumped in developing countries.
- Global plastic production emits 400 million tonnes of greenhouses gases each year – more than the UK’s total carbon footprint.
- An estimated 8 – 12.7 million tonnes of plastic is entering the oceans every year.
- Every 30 seconds the UK throws away 2 double-decker busloads of plastic waste.
- Living amongst plastic pollution and uncollected waste doubles the incidence of diarrhoeal disease.

To read the report log onto

[www.tearfund.org/notimetowaste](http://www.tearfund.org/notimetowaste)

## **Smile Lines**

### **Too grand a piano**

The story is told how after the concert hall at Broadcasting House was built there was doubt whether the door would admit a concert grand. “Try it,” said somebody. But the musical director objected on the ground that if his beautiful Bechstein got stuck it would be damaged. So they instructed the carpenter to take measurements and make an exact replica in plywood. This was done, and then they found they couldn’t get the model out of the carpenter’s shop. (from Alexander Donald)

### **Water**

“I was intrigued to discover a bottle of natural water claiming to come from a source ‘fully protected from the environment’.” (from Emma Coleman)

### **Intelligence?**

Should we be surprised to read in a guide to degree course vacancies that the place to study Artificial Intelligence is at Westminster?” (from P C Holderness)

### **Name three collective nouns.**

Dustpan, dustbin, and vacuum cleaner.

## Benefice Services for July - <http://www.holsworthybenefice.org.uk/services/benefice-calendar/>

	<b>Bridgerule</b>	<b>Hollacombe</b>	<b>Holsworthy</b>	<b>Pancrasweek</b>	<b>Pyworthy</b>
7th July	11.15am Sung Eucharist		9.30am Sung Eucharist 6pm St Peter's Fair Civic Service		9.30am All Age Service
14th July	11.15am Morning Prayer		9.30am Sung Eucharist		11.15am Sung Eucharist (Patronal)
21st July Mary Magdalene	11.15am Sung Eucharist -	9.30am Sung BCP Holy Communion	9.30am Sung Eucharist		9.30am Morning Prayer
28th July	6.30 Evening Revel Service - Methodist Chapel		9.30am Sung Morning Prayer (MA)	9.30am Sung Eucharist	11.15am Sung Eucharist
4th Aug	11.15am Sung Eucharist	3pm Lammas Sung BCP Evensong	9.30am Sung Eucharist		9.30am All Age Service

**All are welcome at any of the services**

Sunday July 14<sup>th</sup> 11:00am an Open-Air Service in the Square led by Holsworthy & District Christians Together. This chart was correct at the time we went to press. Please check on the back of your weekly service sheet for any last-minute changes or take a look at the Benefice Calendar on our [www.holsworthybenefice.org.uk/services/benefice-calendar/](http://www.holsworthybenefice.org.uk/services/benefice-calendar/)



**SAINT PETER'S FAIR  
at the CHURCH**



**"Collections"**

Come and browse lots of collections  
from crystals, dolls, trains and many more

**St Peter and St Pauls church will be open as follows;**

**Wed 10th July - 12.30pm to 4pm**

**Thur 11th, Fri 12th Sat 13th July - 12noon to 4pm**



**Come and enjoy;**

**Thur 11th July - 2 Course Ploughman's Lunch  
12noon or 1.30pm, £7.50 Tickets in advance from  
Mary Osborne or Carol Weston**

**Fri 12th July - 10am St Peter's Eucharist**

**Sunday 14th July - 9.30am Sung Eucharist**

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## **Musicians (and singers) Wanted**

For Occasional Playing for free at  
the Sunday Service in  
Holsworthy Church



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## High Days and Holy Days in July

### 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.

### 25th July      **St James the Apostle - apostle to Spain**

James and his brother John were sons of Zebedee and fishermen from Galilee - the 'sons of thunder', as the gospel writers describe their impetuous characters and fiery tempers.

James stands out on three accounts: he was one of the three disciples who witnessed the Transfiguration of Christ. Jesus took him, along with Peter and John, to 'watch' with him in the garden of Gethsemane. Finally, he went on to be the

first apostle to die for the Christian faith, when in AD 44 King Herod Agrippa put him to the sword in Jerusalem at Passover time.

In the centuries following his death, James became associated with the evangelising of Spain, and as a powerful defender of Christianity against the Moors. The heyday of the cult of Santiago de Compostela was from the 12th to the 15th century, and the pilgrimage to Compostela became one of the most important of medieval Christendom. This in time transformed the iconography of James, and his emblems became the pilgrim's hat and the scallop-shell of Compostela. Over 400 English churches have been dedicated to James.

### **29th July      Olaf – king & patron saint of Norway**

If you led a wild life before your conversion, then Olaf is the saint for you. Indeed, anything you have done could hardly match him, for he was a brigand and pirate who roamed the Baltic and Normandy around 1015 AD, maiming and killing, stealing and destroying, feared by all.

Then on one particular raid off Normandy, Olaf met his match: he boarded a ship with Christians on it and was converted to Christianity. The shock of this sent him inland, off the ships, to England, where he joined forces with Ethelred II for a time. But soon his entrepreneurial spirit was asserting itself, and an ambition was born: to return to Norway and convert the country to Christianity.

Olaf was never a man to do things meekly: he sailed for Norway and, helped by his own military ability and the flight of his rivals, seized power and became King. Once king, Olaf gave his subjects peace and security. He remade old laws, and insisted on their just execution, ignoring all bribes or threats.

Above all, Olaf began to convert the country. He was helped by a number of Viking converts and English monks who were missionaries to Norway. But the old paganism was strong in many places, and soon there was a rebellion. Olaf was exiled in 1029 and died the following year in a battle to regain his throne.

He was buried, but his story did not end there. For Christianity had established a foothold that would grow and grow. And it was soon reported that springs of healing water flowed from Olaf's grave, and miracles happened. So Grimkell, the English bishop of Trondheim, built a chapel on the site of his grave and declared him a saint. Olaf's cult grew in popularity until by 1070 his feast day was celebrated throughout Scandinavia. He was popular in England too, with about 40 ancient churches dedicated to him, possibly due to benefactors of Viking origin.

## God in the Arts

*Editor: The National Gallery at Trafalgar Square in London houses one of the finest collections of European paintings in the world. It is home to 2,300 works spanning the centuries of artistic creation. During this year we shall be journeying through the gallery to explore one of those treasures each month. By the Rev Michael Burgess.*

'Beach scene' by Degas  
'Mindfulness' seems to be the 'in' word. In a world where people are moving faster and faster, we are called to slow down, to attend to the present moment and enjoy it for its own sake, whatever the pressures of work and family



around. For Christians it is a call to live a simple and sacramental life, and an invitation to attend to what is holy there in front of us: it might be a meal, the countryside, a piece of music, family and friends, a pet or a painting. They are all avenues for God's refreshing grace to touch us.

In this month of July we are probably planning our holidays. It may be in this country or abroad. Sometimes a holiday can be a frenetic rush of journeying and queues, or it can be a 'mindful' time, when we can relax and allow the days to refresh and renew us. Degas has captured that sense of rest and enjoyment in his painting of 1870 which is in the National Gallery: 'Beach Scene.'

He is famous for his studies of ballerinas and racehorses, but he was also fascinated by the advent of the snapshot camera. This painting is like a holiday photograph. We see a maid combing the hair of a young girl. Her hat and swimming costume are nearby, and we can see bathers in the distance where the shore meets the sea. Families and a dog, yachts and a steamer: they are all captured in this moment.

The sky looks misty but warm, and for those on the beach, it is a time to lie and relax, to bathe and swim – to live simply, enjoying the sun above and the sand beneath. The ordinariness of a restful day calls us to be patient and enjoy the good gifts of God's creation. Wherever we are on holiday this summer, I hope we find time to savour the delights of the world around, as we see young and old doing exactly that in this painting.

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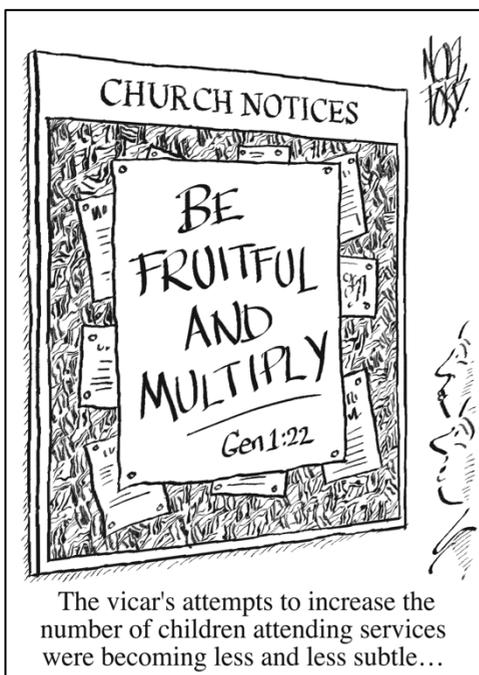
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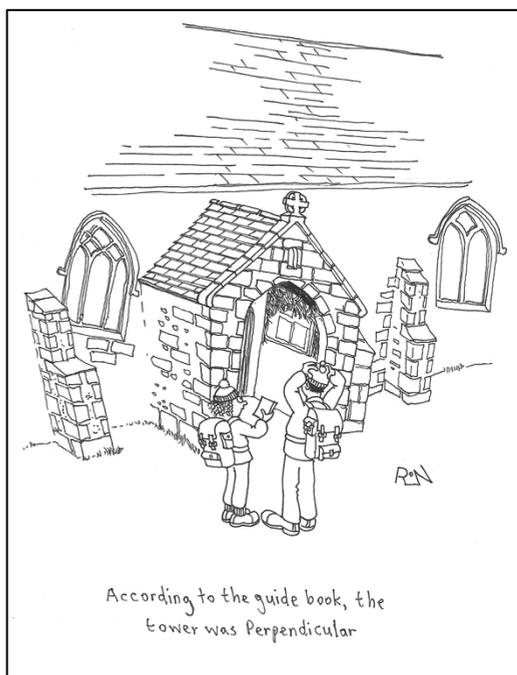
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The vicar's attempts to increase the number of children attending services were becoming less and less subtle...



According to the guide book, the tower was Perpendicular

## **All in the Month of July**

It was:

175 years ago, on 28th July 1844 that Gerard Manley Hopkins, British poet and Jesuit priest, was born.

100 years ago, on 20th July 1919 that Sir Edmund Hillary was born. This New Zealand mountaineer and Antarctic explorer, along with the Sherpa mountaineer Tenzing Norgay, were the first two people to conquer Mount Everest. (Died 2008.)

90 years ago, on 3rd July 1929 that foam rubber was invented by British scientist E.A. Murphy at Dunlop Latex Development Laboratories.

80 years ago, on 9th July 1939 that Winston Churchill urged the governments of Britain and France to form a military alliance with the Soviet Union.

75 years ago, on 20th July 1944 that the July plot took place. The German Resistance movement attempted to assassinate Adolf Hitler in Berlin and remove the Nazi Party from power in a coup. The attempt failed, and the movement's central figure, Claus von Stauffenberg, was executed the following day.

65 years ago, on 5th July 1954 that the BBC launched the first daily TV news programme in the UK.

50 years ago, on 1st July 1969 that Prince Charles was invested as the Prince of Wales.

Also 50 years ago, on 21st July 1969 that the American astronauts Neil Armstrong and Edwin 'Buzz' Aldrin became the first people to walk on the surface of the Moon.

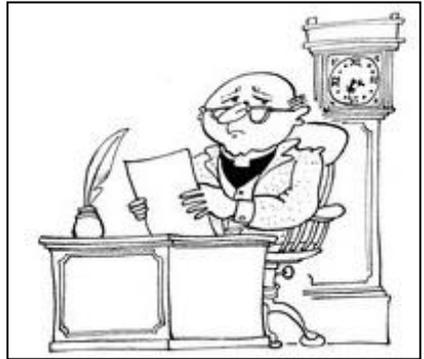
25 years ago, on 21st July 1994 that Tony Blair was elected leader of Britain's Labour Party. He became Prime Minister in 1997.

20 years ago, on 1st July 1999 that the Scottish Parliament was officially opened.

10 years ago, on 31st July 2009 that Sir Bobby Robson, British footballer and manager, died. He played for, and managed, several teams, and managed the England national team between 1982 and 1990.

## July 2019 – Letter from St. James the Least of All

*The Rev Dr Gary Bowness continues his letters from 'Uncle Eustace'... Happily, the Church of England still retains some singular parish clergy. Take the parish of St. James-the-Least in the county of C..... for example. Here the elderly Anglo-Catholic vicar, Eustace, continues his correspondence to Darren, his nephew, a low-church curate recently ordained...*



### **On the delights of the parish jumble sale**

The Rectory  
St James the Least

My dear Nephew Darren

The estimate for re-hanging the bells in our church tower came as a great shock. The church council discussed fund-raising at length. Someone suggested selling part of the Rectory garden for building, another for getting 200 parishioners to loan £1,000 each, interest-free. Then Mrs Ffrench suggested holding a jumble sale. The jumble sale won – mainly because it was achievable without a great fight, and also gave everyone an opportunity to see what their neighbours think of as junk.

Expensive articles were brought with an ostentatious show of modesty when everyone was sorting donations. Genuine jumble, such as odd plates, old blankets and mysterious kitchen gadgets, were left at the church door in the dead of night.

On the day of the jumble sale, our helpers were ready behind wobbly tables stacked high with stuff. Had the tables collapsed, half the congregation would have been smothered. Little Miss Faversham was having a wonderful

time flitting from table to table like a woolly bumble bee, kitting herself out for another year.

When the doors opened and the customers poured in, I realised how the Italians must have felt when they saw Hannibal with his elephants pouring down the sides of the Alps. That is when the mettle of our ladies really showed. They were tremendous - haggling at great length over whether something worth £10 should go for 10p or 11p. I noticed that those who are used to riding with hounds seem best able to control the crowds - even if they occasionally tended to regard the customers as the fox.

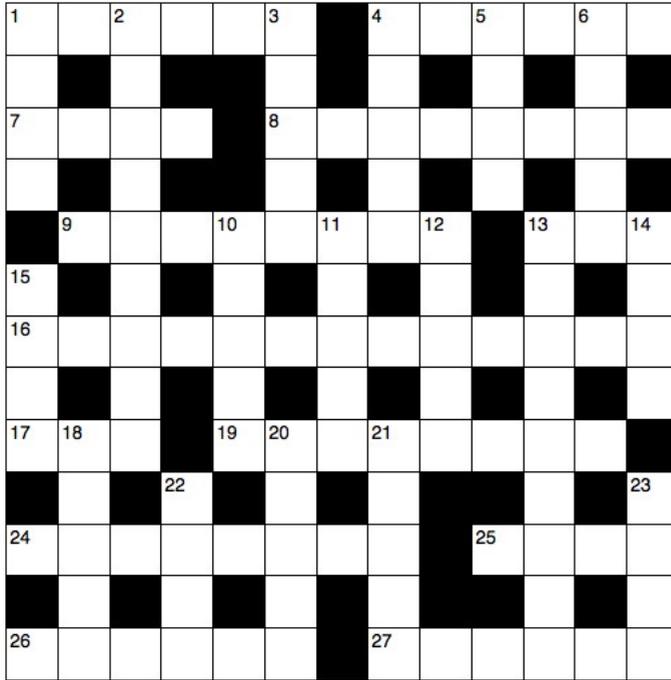
As it happened, the youth club were going pot-holing that day, so most of the teenagers bought complete sets of clothing for 10p which could then be discarded afterwards. But I wondered what their caving instructor would think of teenagers arriving dressed in dinner jackets and tweed skirts.

Two days of preparation yielded a battle that was over in less than an hour. We emerged bloodied but unbowed, with only scraps of jumble left. Then it was home for a bath and a strong restorative, in the knowledge that the first step to saving the bells has been taken. Only another 2,500 jumble sales and we shall have reached our target. Indeed, the only jarring note of the day was to discover someone with a peculiar sense of humour had put a note on my car: "Sold - to be collected later".

Your loving uncle, *Eustace*

# The Puzzle Pages July 2019 Crossword

(The solution to this crossword puzzle can be found on page 28)



## Across

1 'I pray that out of his glorious — he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being' (Ephesians 3:16) (6)

4 'Saul's father Kish and — father Ner were sons of Abiel' (1 Samuel 14:51) (6)

7 'Praise the Lord, O my —' (Psalm 103:1) (4)

8 See 5 Down

9 Laws (1 Kings 11:33) (8)

13 'Who of you by worrying can — a single hour to his life?' (Luke 12:25) (3)

16 Artistry (Exodus 31:5) (13)

17 'Your young men will see visions, your — men will dream dreams' (Acts 2:17) (3)

19 How David described his Lord (Psalm 19:14) (8)

24 'If this city is built and its — — restored, you will be left with nothing in Trans-Euphrates' (Ezra 4:16) (5,3)

25 'The holy Scriptures, which are able to make you — for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus' (2 Timothy 3:15) (4)

26 Intended destination of arrows (Lamentations 3:12) (6)

27 Eve hit (anag.) (6)

## Down

1 'For I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find — for your souls' (Matthew 11:29) (4)

2 Where Peter was when he denied Christ three times (Luke 22:55) (9)

3 Remarkable early 20th-century Indian evangelist, a convert from Hinduism, — Sundar Singh (5)

- 4 'Now the king had put the officer on whose — — leaned in charge of the gate' (2 Kings 7:17) (3,2)
- 5 and 8 Across The Lover describes this facial feature of the Beloved thus: 'Your — is like the tower of Lebanon looking towards — ' (Song of Songs 7:4) (4,8)
- 6 'Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled — your waist' (Ephesians 6:14) (5)
- 10 Trout (anag.) (5)
- 11 Easily frightened (1 Thessalonians 5:14) (5)
- 12 The ability to perceive (Ecclesiastes 10:3) (5)
- 13 One of the clans descended from Benjamin (Numbers 26:38) (9)
- 14 "It is one of the Twelve," he replied, "one who — bread into the bowl with me" (Mark 14:20) (4)
- 15 Resound (Zephaniah 2:14) (4)
- 18 Traditional seat of the Dalai Lama (5)
- 20 Precise (John 4:53) (5)
- 21 Build (Ezekiel 4:2) (5)
- 22 Beat harshly (Acts 22:25) (4)
- 23 Darius, who succeeded Belshazzar as king of the Babylonians, was one (Daniel 5:31) (4)

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*July 2019 Sudoku  
(Solution on  
page 28)*

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### Some miscellaneous observations on life...

The real test of golf and in life is not keeping out of the rough...but getting out after we are in. - Anon

A good scare is worth more to a man than good advice. – E W Howe

It is not by the grey of the hair that one knows the age of the heart. - Sir Henry Bulwer

A bone to the dog is not charity. Charity is the bone shared with the dog, when you are just as hungry as the dog. - Jack London

Selfishness is the greatest curse of the human race. - W E Gladstone

Stretch your purse to the utmost, and do all the good you can. - Richard Baxter

A friend is someone with whom you dare to be yourself. - C Raymond Beran

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*July 2019 Crossword Solution*

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

*July 2019 Sudoku Solution*

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