

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH TAUNTON

Including news from The Good Shepherd, Furnham

Outlook



July 2026

Holy Trinity Church, Trinity Street, Taunton TA1 3JG

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**Fr JAMES FINNEMORE
WRITES...**



July 2026

Saint Paul advises 'always be thankful' (1 Thess 5:18).

If we learn a foreign language then probably the first and most important expressions we learn is 'thank you'. When I was a child I spoke English and little bits of isiXhosa. Even after we came to live in this country,

the word 'enkosi' stayed with me. My mother, (who left Taunton to live in Durban) used to say 'Ngiyabonga Kakhula' to me instead of 'thank you very much'. She was better at speaking isiZulu!

In whatever language, saying 'thank you' oils the wheels of life.

Not saying thanks is a sign of entitlement. We can all take other people for granted, if you give way to a motorist and they drive by without raising a hand ... or step into the gutter for a person pushing a pram who doesn't even give a nod ... then you feel taken for granted and perhaps inclined not to be helpful in the future.

Both of those examples are occasions when we don't have to be considerate to others, but if you cross the road on a pedestrian crossing (at a Belisha Beacon) you then have the right of way and a motorist must stop. Even so, its good manners to raise a hand – thanks.

Some recent research by academics seemed to show that people who do say 'thank you' even when they have the right of way, are happier than people who don't bother. Interesting!

Is it happy people who give a 'thank you' or does saying 'thank you' make you happy? Food for thought!

As Saint Paul suggests: Always be thankful.

He wrote in Greek and the Greek word for thanksgiving is Eucharist... which of course, is the offering which the church makes at the altar.

We often call this The Mass (because its shorter) but when we come to Church it is as thankful people to offer thanks for all that God has done in the life, sacrifice and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

We come remembering the blessings we have received ... Come ye thankful people come ...

may it be the hallmark of our lives day to day.

It's a good practice to end each day by making a little list of things to be thankful for before we go to sleep.

Fr James Finnemore

Afternoon Tea

25th July

(the Feast of St James) - 2pm-5pm

Cake & Produce stall. Raffle in aid of Holy Trinity Church.

(donations for the raffle & cake stall always welcome)



32 Holway Road TA1 2EY

Some parking tickets are available.

Everyone very welcome

Local History by John Clarke

Holway Hill is a quintessential slice of Victorian Taunton being a terrace of steeply inclined red brick houses that climb the southern ridge of the town with views across the Vale of Taunton Deane.

A development from ancient rural farms, owned by the Bishops of Winchester to an Industrial Age suburb. Holway Hill was one of the wealthiest rural areas outside of the town gate in Medieval Times with livestock and grain stores. Holway Farm was the Manor Farm. High status living at the farm dates from the sixteenth century, with glazed windows and fine furniture, rare for rural Somerset.



By the mid eighteenth century Holway Lane (now Holway Avenue) was a key route for the Taunton Turnpike. Holway Gate toll house collected tolls from travellers heading south from Shoreditch and the Blackdown's. The change from green fields began in the mid to late nineteenth century spurred on by Taunton's Industrial Revolution, specifically silk and collar making industries. As Taunton expanded the open fields of the Holway Estate were sub-divided for housing and Holway Hill was built to accommodate the towns growing professional class and skilled tradesmen.

These were not the cramped "court houses" found in the town centre. They were substantial homes with high ceilings, bay windows and most importantly elevated on higher ground with magnificent views symbolising a "step up" in social status.

The red brick characteristic of the Hill came from local clay pits within ½ mile (Trinity School playing field had a brick and tile works in Victorian times) as well as yellow brick detailing around the windows and doors. However, in the late c19th during excavation at nearby Hillyfields, historians discovered Roman occupation:-Roman coins, charcoal and burial pits suggesting the Hill was a desirable place to live 2000 years ago!

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Walking the Christian Year Together

A journey through faith, season by season, in the life of the parishes of Holy Trinity Taunton and The Church of the Good Shepherd, Chard.

Part 1: Finding God in the Ordinary (July)

There is something rather reassuring about what the Church calls *Ordinary Time*. After the great festivals of Easter and Pentecost, after the colour and celebration and movement of the previous months, we return to the steady rhythm of everyday life. And perhaps that feels familiar to many of us.

Life is often made up not of dramatic moments, but of routines. School runs, work commitments, shopping lists, gardening, making meals, walking the dog, checking in on neighbours, cups of tea shared around kitchen tables. Much of life unfolds quietly and without fanfare.

Here in Somerset, July has its own particular atmosphere. The days stretch into long evenings, the hedgerows are thick with life, and the fields around us carry the slow, patient signs of growth. There is something deeply comforting in these familiar rhythms of the countryside and community. And yet, we can easily overlook the spiritual significance of ordinary life.

We sometimes fall into the habit of imagining that God is most present in the extraordinary moments – in the great festivals of the Church, in powerful acts of worship, or in moments of deep joy or sorrow.

But the Christian faith teaches us something far more profound: that God is not confined to the extraordinary. He is present in the ordinary too.

In fact, much of Jesus' own life was lived in what we might consider ordinary circumstances. Before the miracles and the crowds, there were

years of quiet daily life. Work. Family. Meals shared with others. Journeys taken on dusty roads; Conversations held with ordinary people living ordinary lives. And perhaps there is reassurance in that.

Because many of us know what it is to live quietly faithful lives. To keep going. To care for others. To carry responsibilities that may never be publicly noticed. To continue in prayer even when faith feels more steady than dramatic. These things matter deeply.

The danger in modern life is that we become so busy, so distracted, or so focused on what comes next that we fail to notice the presence of God in what is already before us. "Be still, and know that I am God." (*Psalms 46:10*)

Stillness does not always mean silence or retreat from the world. Sometimes it simply means paying attention.

The 17th-century monk Brother Lawrence spoke of "practicing the presence of God" while carrying out the simplest tasks in the monastery kitchen. He discovered that even washing dishes could become an act of prayer if done with awareness of God's nearness.

That idea may sound simple, but perhaps it is also deeply challenging.

Can God be found in the school run?

In the office?

In the supermarket queue?

In the quiet care of an ageing relative?

In the familiar routines of parish life?

I believe He can.

Perhaps holiness is not always found by escaping ordinary life, but by entering it more attentively. Perhaps God meets us not only in grand moments of revelation, but in the quiet faithfulness of daily living.

And perhaps one of the greatest invitations of Ordinary Time is precisely this: to slow down enough to notice.

To notice beauty.

To notice kindness.

To notice the needs of others.

And above all, to notice God.

Here in our parish communities, so much faithful living happens quietly and without recognition. Acts of service, visits made, prayers offered, practical help given, conversations shared after the service over coffee. These things may seem small, but they form the fabric of Christian community. The Kingdom of God is often built not through dramatic gestures, but through quiet faithfulness. So perhaps this month we might try something simple.

Choose one ordinary moment each day and pause intentionally within it. A morning cup of tea. A walk outside. Sitting in the garden as evening comes. Before rushing on to the next thing, simply stop for a moment and acknowledge: *God is here.*



Not distant.
Not absent.
But present in the life we are already living.

And over time, we may begin to discover that the ordinary is not ordinary at all – but quietly filled with grace.

A prayer for July

*Lord of all our days, in the stillness of summer
and the rhythm of ordinary life, help us to recognize your presence.*

*Teach us to see you not only in the extraordinary moments,
but in the quiet faithfulness of each day.*

*Open our eyes to the beauty around us, our hearts to the needs of others,
and our lives to the gentle working of your grace.*

Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Next month:

as summer deepens, we will reflect on rest, renewal, and the gift of Sabbath in our busy lives.

Dr Lindsay Edmunds

NEWS FROM THE GOOD SHEPHERD, FURNHAM

'Board Games Morning' 16th May. More people could have been present but those who came were able to choose between Chess, Draughts, Monopoly, jigsaws, Cluedo, Scrabble & indeed, a whole host more. Those who attended had great fun, whether it was to take part in the games or to simply sit, chat and drink coffee. The cakes were also VERY good. Big thanks to all who attended and helped to make it such an enjoyable occasion'.

Laura Wishart

Goatfell - Highest peak on the Isle of Arran, 2,867 feet. It takes 4.5 to 6 hours, is 6.5 miles with an 874m ascent. It offers breathtaking views, the path winds through beautiful woodland, opening into heather moorland & changes from loose, waymarked tracks to a steep, rugged boulder field. I am told by my grandsons that the final 200 yards are a scramble over large granite boulders! I hope to climb Goat Fell with my family at the start of July - or in autumn, as a SPONSORED WALK. On June 1st after 35 years, Project Romania, Chard became part of the 'Smiles' Foundation (thesmilesfoundation.org) Both charities have prayed over this for 2 years. We know it's where the Lord has led us. We're still a 'Chard charity' with our name & prayer group, but handing the admin to Smiles (a much younger group!). If you wish to sponsor me there will be a form at the back of church. Thank you.

Dawn Fletcher



JIM - with thanks to Father Hugh at Furnham Corpus Christi Mass

He was – scruffy, shabby, nondescript!
Just an old man I'd seen around, a time or two.
But lately, I'd seen him going into our church - 12md - on the dot.
He'd stay for a few minutes, come out - and shuffle home,
with a happy look on his face.
I was intrigued.
One day I went in, and there he was - sitting quietly at the back.
I asked, gently, if I could help ... why had he come in ...?
He smiled and said "I comes in - and sits down - and says
'Jesus It's Jim'.
"Then I goes out again - and walks home".
A beautiful smile lit up his wrinkled face.
Peace radiated from him. He shuffled off.
I thought of him (often at first), but ... life took over.
I heard he was in hospital.
I visited and asked the nurses how he was.
"He is ill" they said, "but he's always smiling, especially at 12
o'clock."
I sat with him, held his hand; asked how he was feeling.
"I'm good" he said. "My visitor helps me."
I knew he hadn't had a visitor. I must have looked surprised.
He looked at me, gently ... and smiled his beautiful smile.
"He comes each day at 12
He stands at the end of my bed ... and says,
"Jim. It's Jesus".



Pentecost Sunday at the Good Shepherd

....when we celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit to the amazed disciples, who led at least 3000 people to faith in Jesus in one day; Jesus, whom God had raised from the dead; who ascended into heaven!

They were still reeling **BUT** they were empowered by the Holy Spirit –

and on this Pentecost Sunday evening the churches of Chard, gathered at Forde Abbey, were also empowered –

to praise and worship our Lord – in idyllic surroundings.

This year, as it was so hot, ForeFront Community Church had put the group of approximately 80 people, in the shade of the building you can see above.

The singing was great and the joy of Pentecost was felt as we sang praises to our Lord. As it says in the Bible – ‘It’s so good when brothers dwell together in unity’ – and picnic together too!!



Thank you, Father, for Chard Churches Together.

We are so grateful for being able to use this wonderful venue year after year.

Dawn Fletcher

June 7th Father John Fairweather retires from The Good Shepherd



.... for all the journeys from Honiton during three vacancies at Good Shepherd;
.....for all the sermons 'sorting us out' over those years;
.....for the time and care you gave us as a congregation, and as friends whom you came to know and help

We'll miss you and pray that you'll be blessed for many years.



Prayer of St. Augustine

*Breathe in me, O Holy Spirit
That my thoughts
may all be holy.
Move in me, O Holy Spirit
That my work, too,
may be holy.
Draw my heart, O Holy Spirit
That I may love
only what is holy.
Strengthen me, O Holy Spirit
That I may defend
all that is holy
Guard me, then, O Holy Spirit
That I may always be holy.
Amen.*

John Godley... on time...



'Tempus Fugit', or so the saying goes. I think this translates to 'Time Flies' or 'Flees' - well it certainly seems to.

It was at some point in 2008, that the now Late Rev. Michael Curragh, asked me if I would like to look after the Holy Trinity Church Clock, as he was in

the process of moving away to Market Harborough, for a long-awaited relaxing retirement, due to health grounds and to be nearer to his family.

I asked why Michael was asking me to be the keeper/carer of the clock and he replied to the effect that, I knew what a screwdriver was for and which end of a spanner to use, if needed.

Michael also knew that I was restoring an old Dennis Fire engine at the time and that gave him the idea of acquiring my services for the clock keeping, when he had moved away. I said of course I would and he had better show me the 'ropes' as it were, as I had no idea what was involved with such things. There were three 'ropes', as it happens and some very heavy weights to go with them. Turret clocks are very 'strange animals', they have a mind of their own at times, as one discovers, very often.

And so, another chapter of history was about to begin for myself. Clock repairing. I informed the then PCC committee, that I would look after the Clock on one principal condition - and that was 'that no one, but no One, would touch the clock, not even the Vicar - while I was the keeper'. That Clock on one principal condition - and that was 'that no one, but no One, would touch the clock, not even the Vicar - while I was the keeper'. That did not go down too well at the time, but it worked and had the desired effect.



I could probably write a book on the topic, but suffice to give you a flavour of how such an object can become obsessive, attract a large variety of well-wishers, so called experts, and also learn how to annoy the neighbours in one easy go. There was much to-ing and fro-ing to the Clock over the following years, and to the present day, all in the name of 'a good cause'.

I must have saved the Church thousands over that time. Pounds sterling that is, Spondulix, Readies, Green backs, however you want to describe your piggy bank savings. What payment for my services, you may ask? I also ask the same, but to no avail. Oh well. A pay increase of nothing, equals no need for any pay increases then!

So, a little bit of background. The clock chimed for the first time on 16th June 1858 and our clock has therefore just passed the 168 years old mark, this year. Did anyone notice? No might be the answer. The clock movement is a splendid example of a mid-19th century



Turret clock, built in 1858 by local builders, Robert Savery, (who now rests in peace in the St Margaret's church yard.) The description of the clock machinery would run on the lines of, it is a Three Train, Posted Frame, Deadbeat Escapement, Birdcage style, Turret Clock. The clock was fully restored by Michael Curragh in 1993 -1995.

In the words of a paragraph from the Turret Clock Keepers Hand Book, 'As the turret clock keeper, you are one in a succession of keepers who have looked after your clock; this is often a role that is rarely noticed, until things go wrong, or the time shown on the dial is inaccurate.

John Godley



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Goodbye Fr Julian & Jane

On Sunday 31st May not only did we celebrate Trinity Sunday, but we also said farewell to Fr Julian who has guided and led us for nearly 32 years. Fr Julian and his wife Jane are retiring to Norfolk and will be sadly missed.

At the end of the service our Church Wardens, on behalf of all of us, presented gifts to both Father Julian and flowers for Jane. They



seemed to down well ! As indeed did the gift from our craft group, to help Fr Julian keep out the cold in Norfolk – a knitted woolly hat that bears a strong resemblance to his Baretta worn on high days and holidays.



But we were not alone - we were joined in the farewell by our sister Church, The Good Shepherd in Chard, who had their own gifts to present. In return Fr Julian presented both Churches with a Missal and a set of year books.



... and then it was time to party!
Let's let the photos speak for themselves...



A Party isn't a party without a buffet or cake ... nor without the excellent team who made it all possible.



But now it's time to say farewell. We wish to you both, a very happy and peaceful retirement in Norfolk. Thank you for your ministry and for the care and dedication that you have both shown to all of us over the past 32 years as our guides and 'parent' to our Church family.

*Your forever friends at Holy Trinity
Taunton and
the Good Shepherd, Chard.*



HOLY TRINITY CALENDAR FOR JULY

Date			Time
1 st	Wed	No Service	
2 nd	Thu	Mass	10.00am
3 rd	Fri	Mass followed by soup lunch	12.30pm
4 th	Sat	Vigil Mass	6.00pm
5th	Sun	TRINITY 5	8.00am
		Mass	10.00am
		Evening Prayer & Benediction	6.30pm
6 th	Mon	No Service	
7 th	Tue	Mass	10.00am
8 th	Wed	Mass. Joint service with Chard Clergy	7.00pm
9 th	Thu	Mass	10.00am
10 th	Fri	Mass followed by soup lunch	12.30am
11 th	Sat	Vigil Mass	6.00pm
12th	Sun	TRINITY 6	8.00am
		Mass	10.00am
		Evensong	6.30pm
13 th	Mon	No Service	
14 th	Tue	Mass	10.00am
15 th	Wed	Mass followed by PCC meeting	7.00pm
16 th	Thu	Mass	10.00am
		School Church Service	2.00pm
17 th	Fri	Mass followed by soup lunch	12.30pm
18 th	Sat	Vigil Mass	6.00pm
19th	Sun	TRINITY 7	8.00am
		Mass	10.00am
		Evening Prayer & Benediction	6.30pm
20 th	Mon	No Service	
21 st	Tue	Mass	10.00am
22 nd	Wed	Mass	7.00pm

Continued:

23 rd	Thu	Mass	10.00am
24 th	Fri	Mass followed by soup lunch	12.30pm
Sat	25 th	Mass for the Feast of St James	9.00am
25 th	Sat	Vigil Mass	6.00pm
26 th	Sun	TRINITY 8	8.00am
		Mass	10.00am
		Evening Prayer	6.30pm
27 th	Mon	No Service	
28 th	Tue	Mass	10.00am
29 th	Wed	Mass	7.00pm
30 th	Thu	Mass	10.00am
31 st	Fri	Mass followed by soup lunch	12.30pm
August			
1 st	Sat	Vigil Mass	6.00pm
2 nd	Sun	TRINITY 9	8.00am
		Mass	10.00am
		Evening Prayer	6.30pm

Sunday 10.00am services are streamed on Facebook.

To access streamed services:



@ Holy Trinity Taunton

service times will occasionally vary – please see weekly notice sheet for details.



Please use this QR code if you would like to make a donation to Holy Trinity

The deadline for the August magazine edition is Friday 17th July

SAFEGUARDING



At Holy Trinity we take safeguarding very seriously and are committed to the safety of all our members.

If you have any safeguarding concerns, please contact the Parish Safeguarding Officer by email htsafeguarding@outlook.com, or through the dedicated Safeguarding Line

All contacts are confidential unless you give us permission to share it, or unless someone is at immediate risk.

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References available

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But NOTHING ever happens in Taunton in July ...

Friday July 3rd – Sat 4th the Handlebards present Macbeth. Energy filled open air performance at Hestercombe Gardens tickets £26 on the gate, opening 6pm, performance 7.30pm. Take a picnic!

Saturday July 4th Somerset Armed Forces Day in Vivary Park. Parades, stalls and family fun . Free community event .

Friday July 10th St Johns Church, Park Street. Winners and runners up from the Taunton Festival of Arts singing competitions. Doors open at noon, performance at 12.45pm – 1.45pm. Free entry.

Saturday 11th July free guided tours of Taunton Minster at 10am & 11am.

Sunday 12th July - Taunton Independent Market, Castle Green – free admission.

Friday July 16th Brewhouse - textile moth sculpture 10.30am. Cost £50 (18+) using fabric, wool beads and wire. Decorate with hand embroidery. Booking recommended.

Thursday 23rd July – Focus Town Tour – The Parade. Concise one hour tour on the historical significance of the Parade area. 1pm-2pm. Tickets £3.50 from the Museum of Somerset.

Saturday 25th July – Afternoon Tea at 32 Holway Rd TA1 2AY. Proceeds in aid of Holy Trinity Church. 2-5pm, cake stall & raffle. All welcome.

Friday 31st July National Youth Brass Band of Great Britain, Summer Concert at the Brewhouse. 2pm-4pm. Tickets £26.25.

Poetry Corner ...

The Definition of Love Andrew Marvel (1621 - 1678)

Andrew Marvel was born in Winestead Yorkshire and moved to Hull where his father was appointed Lecturer at Holy Trinity Church. He went to Cambridge at the age of 13 and quickly mastered Latin and Greek, writing poems in both. He was elected to Parliament and was a Cromwell supporter during the Commonwealth. He became friends with John Milton and is credited with persuading James II, after the restoration, not to execute his fellow poet for his support of Cromwell.

My love is of a birth so rare
As 'tis for object strange and high
It was begotten by despair
Upon impossibility.

Magnanimous Despair alone
Could show me so divine a thing
Where feeble hope could ne'er have flown
But vainly flapped it's tinsel wings.

And yet I quickly might arrive
Where my extended soul is fixt,
But fate does iron wedges drive
And always crowds itself betwixt.

For fate with jealous eye does see
Two perfect loves, nor lets them close;
Their union would her ruin be,
And her tyrannic pow'r dispose.

And therefore her decrees of steel
Us to distant poles have plac'd,
(Though love's whole world on us do wheel)
Not by themselves to be embrac'd.

Unless the giddy heaven fall,
And earth some new convulsion tear;
And, us to join, the world should all
Be cramp'd into a planisphere.



As lines, so loves oblique may well
Themselves in every angle greet;
By ours so truly parallel,
Though infinite may never meet.

Therefore the love which us doth bind,
But fate so enviously debars,
In the conjunction of the mind,
And opposition of the stars.

Marvel by name and by nature, a metaphysical poet who could convey ideas in verse allegorically and yet was also well able to introduce the new ideas from the then fledgling sciences of astronomy and physics into his poetry. Two impossible loves likened to two infinite parallel lines, marvellous.

Pat Hitchcock

*** **



News from the PCC

Annual Meetings

At the Parochial Church Council meeting on 20th May the Chair welcomed new members Simon Gaunt and David Gill, and also Jane Laurence, who was in attendance for her last PCC meeting.

Reported items:

- PAT testing done and paid for;
- Holy Trinity's contribution to Benefice Share (parishes of Holy Trinity and The Good Shepherd) paid quarterly. Legally the parishes are two 'held in plurality', and Fr Julian advised that care had to be taken with the legalities;
- Raised bed burial area now cleared and filled with topsoil; the first interment made.

- Both informal and formal (with the bishops of Bath and Wells and of Oswestry) meetings of the two PCCs on the list for action.

Approvals:

- £450 on replacement office lighting and sockets;
- Liz Hathway confirmed as Assistant Churchwarden.
- A mobile phone to be provided in support of the fixed-line office phone, and in advance of the disconnection of the present Vicarage landline.

Discussions

Legacies: Fr Julian recommended to the PCC that legacies should be designated for particular purposes.

Lay Ministry: Fr Julian had talked with the Archdeacon about the possible appointment of Keith Penny and Lindsay Edmunds as Lay Worship Assistants, who could lead non-eucharistic services such as Evensong. The PCC broadly supported this suggestion, though more information would be needed.

Sides persons and the Audio-visual system: Liz Hathway needed help both with operating the AV system and with the welcome ministry. More sides persons were needed.

Keith Penny, PCC Secretary

HOLY TRINITY WINNERS

June 2026

1 st	Jenni Llewellyn	£61.25
2 nd	Andrew Puckett	£36.75
3 rd	Aart Dourleyn	£24.50

Holy Trinity Church, Taunton

SUMMER FAIR



Well, on 13th June the day arrived for the Annual Holy Trinity Church Fayre, for 2026.

The weather was reasonable with lots of sunshine, but a cold North Westerly wind. Anyone in the shade had to move to a sunnier location in order to keep warm. The bunting kept blowing about and some of the paper items were scattered from time to time.



The Barbecue stand was the best place to be, early in the day! (for warmth as well as food), and was well supported throughout the day. Lots of good comments made, as there were with the other stalls.

Lots of cakes, Plants, Pic a Bottle stall, Jewellery and a number of other stands were available and they all did very well.

The final take is yet to be finalised but we raised around £1980 with more to come.

The Fayre got off to a slow start, but eventually, had a steady trickle of visitors through the day with friends both old and new visiting to support us and the church. We met quite a few new people and the atmosphere was very welcoming.

The distribution of posters before the day probably contributed to the number of



newer attendees, and we will consider this arrangement for future events at Holy Trinity.

All in all a good day and worth the effort by everyone concerned, both organisers and stand holders.

Very many thanks from the Church Wardens to all those who contributed in any way and to all those that turned out to support us. Well done.



John Godley, Jenni Llewellyn Church Wardens



THE SUNDAY LUNCH CLUB

will be visiting the following:

- | | |
|--------------|------------------------------------|
| 12 July | The Greyhound, Staple Fitzpaine |
| 9 August | Pickeridge Golf Club |
| 13 September | The Merry Monk, Monkton Heathfield |
| 11 October | Pickeridge Golf Club |
| 8 November | Rumwell Farm Shop |
| 13 December | Pickeridge Golf Club |

All bookings are for 12.15. Please sign the list at the back of Church if you would like to join us. If you need a lift please ensure you arrange this before signing up.

Wendy Burge

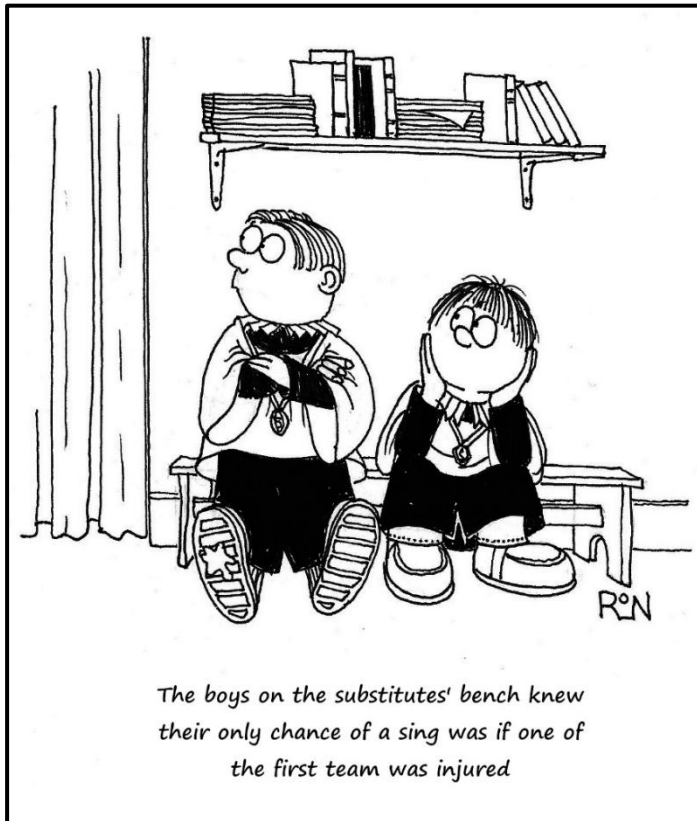
Who's Job?

This is a story about four people named Everybody, Somebody, Anybody and Nobody.

There was an important job to be done and Everybody was sure that Somebody would do it. Anybody could have done it, but Nobody did it. Somebody got angry about that, because it was Everybody's job. Everybody thought Anybody could do it, but Nobody realised that Everybody wouldn't do it.

It ended up that everybody blamed Somebody when Nobody did what Anybody could have done!

Supplied by Jenni Llewellyn



From the Parish Pump

Ringling the Changes



Left to right. Margaret Jordan, John Godley, Yuka Jones Leila Emms, Andy Glendinning, Mike Hansford (conductor).

Holy Trinity only has three ringers, so we are unable to ring for services. We belong to the Taunton branch of the Bath & Wells ringing association so we can practice every Wednesday evening with members from other towers under the instruction of Mike Hansford who is our branch chairman. We are always looking for new recruits and beginners are always welcome to come join us.

The regular ringers are now ringing several methods and we recently, welcomed two new ringers, Rupert and Sarah and we hope to get them on the path to method ringing soon. In addition, two of us go to help less experienced ringers at Staplegrove every Monday.

Occasionally our bells are used for quarter peals to celebrate some event or anniversary like Fr Julian's last service held on 31st May. We rang before Evensong and started at 5.30pm finishing just before the 6.30pm service. A quarter peal is 1,250 continuous changes of 1 or more methods. We decided on 2 methods Reverse Canterbury and Bob Doubles, which we achieved in 44 minutes.

It's always a relief when the final call of "that's all" comes up, because at the start we are very anxious as you don't want it to be you who loses concentration, goes wrong, and the band loses the quarter.

Margaret Jordan, Tower Captain

All in the month of JULY

It was:

- 250 years ago, from 12th July 1776 to 4th October 1780, that the British explorer Captain James Cook made his third and final voyage. He travelled to New Zealand and Hawaii, where he was killed in a violent exchange with the local people.
- 175 years ago, on 3rd July 1851 that Charles Bannerman, British-born Australian cricketer, was born. He scored the first-ever run in Test cricket, and also scored the first century in Test cricket.
- Also 175 years ago, on 24th July 1851 that the Window Tax was abolished in England and Wales. The tax was introduced in 1696 and was based on the number of windows in a house. It led to many windows being bricked up. It was replaced by a tax on inhabited buildings.
- 90 years ago, on 24th July 1936 that the speaking clock telephone service was launched in the UK.
- 75 years, on 13th July 1951 that Arnold Schoenberg, the Austrian-born American composer died. One of the most influential composers of the 20th century, though the Nazis considered his music degenerate, because he was Jewish.
- 40 years ago, on 28th July 1986 that British estate agent Suzy Lamplugh failed to return from an appointment in London, sparking the biggest missing person investigation since Lord Lucan. She has never been found.
- 30 years ago, on 5th July 1996 that Dolly the sheep was born. She was the first cloned mammal at the Roslin Institute in Edinburgh. Died in 2003.
- 20 years ago, on 1st July 2006 that Fred Trueman, cricket player and broadcaster died. Seen as one of the greatest bowlers in cricketing history.
- Also 20 years ago, on 15th July 2006 that Twitter, the online micro-blogging service, was launched.
- 10 years ago, on 13th July 2016 that Theresa May became Prime Minister (until 2019) after David Cameron resigned following the UK's referendum on leaving the European Union.

From the Parish Pump

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