



Parish Magazine
April 2025
No. 464

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(Cover photo: Andrew Kelly)



The Real Easter Egg

We are again raising money to buy supplies of **The Real Easter Egg** for distribution by the Foodbank and Community Food Supply. We want to give 220 eggs (costing £5 each) and we are now **halfway to our goal**: there are special labelled envelopes for your contribution. Thank you for your support!

Families and Children's Events for Easter

Join us for celebration events through April, when regular events (such as the toddlers' group, Muddy Church and Messy Church) will be Easter themed.

Follow the *Easter Trail in the Minster* (7th -21st April) to find the bunnies and chicks and receive a small prize

Sunday 6th April, 2pm-3.30pm, Adult and Teens Easter Crafts in the Minster: a wide range of craft activities including rag wreaths, glass painting, and crochet. Refreshments. Suggested donation of £10 per person

Palm Sunday 13th April, 11.15 am - 12 noon, on the day we celebrate Jesus' entry into Jerusalem on a donkey, come and visit the donkeys on the Green!



Good Friday 18th April, 3pm, Bun Walk. Meet us at the Minster for a family-friendly country walk to St Stephens Pamphill. 4 pm, at St Stephens Pamphill. Crafts, garden games, refreshments, stories, music and family-friendly reflection



Easter Day, 20th April 11.15 am-12 noon, Easter Eggstravaganza in the Minster

Monday 21st April, 11am-3pm, Mini Family Festival on the Green. Garden games, crafts, toys, alpacas, giant junk modelling. Easter themed pop up cafe and Easter Trail in the Minster

Please check the diary for all special services in Holy Week including **Compline** (a short sung meditative service), and the **Dawn Service** on Easter Day, when fire and light are brought into the church to mark the Resurrection.

Contact details

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The Parish office is open Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri 10am-12 noon. Tues evening 6-8pm
email enquiries only, please: parishoffice@wimborneminster.org.uk
 www.wimborneminster.org.uk



socialmedia@wimborneminster.org.uk

Parish Magazine publication details

Co-editors: Rosalind Jensen and Andrew Kelley

Please send articles and information, by email if possible,
 to **parishmagazine@wimborneminster.org.uk** or leave at the Parish Office.

Copy deadline for May issue: **Thursday 17th April.**

For advertising information, contact the e-mail address above.

Services at the Minster

Sundays

8.00 am	Holy Communion (BCP)
9.30 am	Holy Communion (Common Worship) <i>with prayer for healing on the 4th Sunday of the month</i>
11.15 am	Minster Praise <i>with Communion on the last Sunday of the month</i>
6.30 pm	Choral Evensong

Weekdays

Holy Communion	11.00am, Wednesday <i>(in the Minster)</i>
Morning Prayer	8.30 am, Monday to Saturday <i>(on Zoom)</i>

Services at St Margaret's Chapel

11.00 am 3rd Thursday Holy Communion (Common Worship)

We continue to stream the 9.30 am services at the Minster. Look for the 'Wimborne Minster official' Youtube channel for live and recorded services.

Minster Praise offers all-age informal worship every Sunday from 11.15 until noon, and includes Kids in the Crypt for children.
 Come as you are, relax, and enjoy

In March

9th	Baptism of Edward Frederick Paul Griffin
16th	Baptism of Henry James Alexander Easthope
31st	Funeral of Reginald Charles (Reg) Dunningham aged 93 years

Dates for your diary - April

Tuesday 1st	10.30 am-12 noon	Forest Garden for toddlers
	1 pm-2 pm	Meditation Group
	(Minster Crypt)	
Thursday 3rd	10 am-11.15 am	Toddler Easter Party in the Minster
	2 pm	Lent Study Group (Church House)

Friday 4th	12 noon-1pm	Lunch and Chat (Church House)
Saturday 5th	10.30 am-12 noon	Easter Themed Muddy Church (Forest Garden)
Sunday 6th, Fifth Sunday in Lent		
	12.30 pm	Bring and Share Lunch (Church House)
	2pm-3.30pm	Adult and Teens Easter Crafts (Minster)
Tuesday 8th	10.30am-12 noon	Forest Garden Toddler Group
	12.30pm	Lent Lunch (Methodist Church)
Wednesday 9th	1 pm-2 pm	Meditation Group (Minster Crypt)
	4 pm	Prayer Circle (Church House)
Thursday 10th	9.30am-11am	Two by Two Toddler Group (Church House Upstairs)
	2 pm	Lent Study Group (Church House)
Friday 11th	10.30am-12 noon	Forest Garden Home Schooling Group (Forest Garden)
	12 noon - 1 pm	Lunch and Chat (Church House)
Saturday 12th	10.30 am-12 noon	Easter Themed Messy Church



HOLY WEEK



Sunday 13th, Palm Sunday		
	9.15 am	Palm Sunday Procession (starting at the Allendale Centre)
	11.15 am-12 noon	Donkey visit on the Green
	6.30 pm	Taize service
Monday 14th	8 pm	Compline
Tuesday 15th	8 pm	Compline
	10 am-12 noon	Forest Garden Toddler Group
	12.30pm	Lent Lunch (Methodist Church)
Wednesday 16th	10 am-12.30pm	Experience Easter (Minster)
	1 pm-2 pm	Meditation Group (Minster Crypt)
	4 pm	Prayer Circle (Church House)
	8 pm	Compline

Thursday 17th, Maundy Thursday

7.30 pm

Holy Communion

Friday 18th, Good Friday

12 noon - 2 pm

2 pm

3 pm

4 pm - 5 pm

The Way of the Cross Solemn Liturgy

Bun Walk to St Stephen's, Pamphill,
Music, reflection and family activities at St Stephen's, Pamphill

Saturday 19th

10.30 am-12 noon

Coffee morning in aid of the Flower Festival (Church House)

Sunday 20th, Easter Day

6am

8am

9.30 am

11.15 am

Minster

6.30 pm

10 am-2 pm

11am-3 pm

Monday 21st

Tuesday 22nd

10 am-5 pm

Wednesday 23rd

1 pm-2 pm

Thursday 24th

9.30am-11am

Friday 25th

10.30 am-12 noon

12 noon-1 pm

Saturday 26th

10.30 am-3 pm

12 noon - 2pm

7.30 pm

3 pm

Sunday 27th

Tuesday 29th

Wednesday 30th

1 pm-2 pm

4 pm

Dawn service followed by breakfast in Church House

Holy Communion

Holy Communion

Easter Eggstravaganza in the

Festal Evensong

Bell Peal

Mini Family Festival on the Green

Dorset 2020 Art Society exhibition (Church House lounge) until Tuesday 29th
Meditation Group (Minster Crypt)

Two by Two Toddler Group (Church House Upstairs)

Forest Garden Home Education Group (Forest Garden)

Lunch and Chat (Church House)

Earth Day: activities on the Minster Green

Donatelli (St George's Chapel)

Concert by Orlando Singers

Saying Goodbye service

Forest Garden Toddler Group

Meditation Group (Minster Crypt)

Prayer Circle (Church House)

May I ask, when did you last renew your baptismal promises? Don't miss the opportunity to come to Salisbury Cathedral on Maundy Thursday 17th April at 11.00am.

Along with laity and all the clergy from the Diocese, renew your commitment to Christian life and service, as the clergy renew their Ordination vows.

The procession of all the robed clergy of the Diocese is spectacular and the actual service, along with the Cathedral venue, is awe-inspiring. The Bishop will bless the holy oils that are used in worship. These are the oil for anointing the sick and dying; the oil for signing with the cross at baptism; and the oil of chrism which is used for

confirmation and at the ordination of priests, representing the Gift of the Holy Spirit. These oils are then carried out to parish churches across the Diocese and used through the year.

After the service the Bishops and Archdeacons are available to offer prayer ministry to any in the congregation, and refreshments are served.

- Reverend Elise Harding



The Easter Garden at Salisbury Cathedral, designed by Andy McIndoe (Photo: Finnbar Webster)

Lent Lunches in support of Christian Aid

The traditional Lent Lunches on Tuesdays continue until April 15th, 12.30pm to 1.30pm at Wimborne Methodist Church. A light meal will be available (bread, butter, cheese, fruit, tea and coffee), with a short talk by a member of one of the local churches at 1.00pm. There is no admission charge; donations to Christian Aid are welcome. The Minster is providing the food and the guest speaker on April 8th.

Flower Festival Coffee Morning

The next fundraising event for the Flower Festival is a Coffee Morning in Church House on Easter Saturday, 19th April, 10.00am until 12 noon. Everyone is very welcome. All proceeds from the Flower Festival in September will be for Minster funds. Donations towards Festival costs will be very much appreciated. Further details on the Festival and those taking part (including of course the Minster's own flower arranging team) can be obtained from Christine Oliver on 01202 888703 or by e-mail: witsend@familyoliver.org.uk

Praying for the Minster and the Northern Villages, Wimborne and the world

Prayer diary for April

1	Our Rector	17	East Dorset Heritage Trust
2	Those in training for ministry	18	The police, PCSOs, the Probation Service
3	The OASIS group; the widowed	19	The Sudan Medical Link
4	The Lunch and Chat team	20	Ambulance services, paramedics and firefighters
5	The Society of St Francis at Hilfield	21	Churchwardens
6	Wimborne Deanery; the Rural Dean	22	Young people in the Wimborne area
7	Wimborne Town Council	23	PCC members
8	Dorset County Council	24	The Chained Library: custodians, volunteers
9	Christian Aid	25	The MARS Trust
10	Victoria Hospital; Streets Meadow	26	Diocesan links with Evreux and Latvia
11	Our Associate Clergy	27	The Citizens' Advice Bureau
12	Parish Office staff	28	New housing developments
13	The Mothers' Union	29	Wimborne Dementia Action Alliance
14	Housegroups: prayer and study	30	Wimborne First School
15	The Bible Society		
16	Staff of the Diocesan offices		

Please use this diary as a part of your own prayers. In this way we can pray together as a parish for our common concerns.

Introducing our new part-time vergers

We have recently welcomed two new members to the Minster verger team. They will be sharing duties across the week, as Martin takes on some additional administrative responsibilities.

Gerald Chissell has lived in Wimborne all his life. As a retiree, he attended the 8am service and felt the call to serve. He will work Fridays, Saturdays and some Sunday services.

Elton Barker was born in the USA, came to England age 11 and attended QE School. After a few years working in the US he has now made his home in Wimborne. He will work Wednesdays, Thursdays, and some Sunday services.



A matter of choices

During my recent bible study, the notes used this quote to summarise the central thoughts of the passage in the Old Testament

(2 Chronicles 10) I was reading.

'Life is a matter of choices, and every choice makes you.'

(from Success is a Choice by John C Maxwell) I haven't read the book but John Maxwell appears to be a global success in helping leaders be good leaders. Amongst other things he lists the steps leaders need to take, along with their talent, to make the greatest difference.

For example;

- Believing in themselves
- Firing up their passion
- Initiating action
- Focusing their energy
- Cultivating good relationships
- Embracing practice

In this month of April, we will be celebrating Easter. We will hear again the events leading up to Easter and hear the narrative of leaders being leaders.

Everyone involved in that drama made choices.

The Pharisees were leaders who believed in themselves. They fired up the crowds against Jesus. They initiated action by dragging him the Pilate. They focussed their energies for weeks to plot on how

to eliminate Jesus. They cultivated relationships with the Sadducees and the Romans. And embraced the practice which would lead to crucifixion.

They made their choices, and every choice made them. But what was driving their choices?

Jesus too is a leader throughout the narrative – but he makes a different and a very difficult choice. By submitting to them, his death led to something that human leaders may aspire to but never reach – a choice that changed the world forever. What was driving Jesus was not personal gain but the opposite – to sacrifice himself to open the way, by defeating death, to eternal life with him.



To follow Jesus and his way of doing things is a choice. It is a life choice. And like all life choices, John Maxwell, I believe, has captured a truth ... *'every choice makes you.'*

So, let's make this our prayer for this Easter and beyond – 'Lord, we now submit to you – help us learn to choose wisely'. For the choice we make in this will shape us.

- Revd Derek Butler

A choice to serve?

New members will be elected to the PCC at the Annual Meeting in May.

Please consider whether you would like to serve on this vital and active body.

You need to be on the electoral roll at the Minster to stand for election: ask for a form from the parish office if necessary.

Modernising the Minster - Have Your Say!

Our Vision for the Minster is a centre for mission, traditional and modern worship, musical excellence, and community resource, with imaginative interpretation. For that we need toilets, a welcoming, safe, and accessible entrance, servery, reconfigured shop, accessible Chapel of Remembrance and Reflection, more storage, a central dais, choir school, music library, and a heritage zone. (A first informal consultation within the Minster on different options took place in March 2023, and further informal consultation has taken place with the DAC and outside bodies between October 2023 and September 2024.) This is a lot to handle, so we are proceeding in manageable phases.

Phase 1A proposes Toilets in Trinity and refurbishing the Welcome Zone with servery, revised shop, safer steps, ramp, and glazed main doors. If you and the Diocese approve, we may be able to implement this stage in 2026-7.

Toilets in Trinity

'General use' toilets are urgent for mission and safeguarding; the public toilets are sometimes now closed. The only readily available sewer connection is south-east of the Minster, so we first explored in

detail a bigger vestry block incorporating 'general use' toilets. The Planning Officer's 23-page report outlined all the reasons against granting planning permission; much time, hassle and money might achieve nothing but several years delay.

After Diocesan Advisory Committee informal advice, we therefore propose a "toilet pod" in Trinity (which is no longer used for worship): *see the visualisation below.*



This would not need planning permission. Based on experience elsewhere it should be soundproof. It would be plumbed in, drained, and ventilated via the existing heating duct, which is big enough, and connects to both scullery and outside wall. Reflecting the organ casing in appearance, it would be

out of sight of the main body of the church, especially the Nave and High Altar.

The Welcome Zone

Our entrance must be welcoming, safe, and accessible for all. The main doors are dark, heavy, and difficult to open. The steep steps are a potential hazard, difficult for buggies and mobility aids. So, we propose glazed main doors, shallower carpeted steps away from the doors, a carpeted ramp for buggies and mobility scooters, and push-button door operation. The old shop counter is important to our mission as it acts as a make-shift servery for Minster Praise,

Messy Church, and concerts, with potential for more. But it is far too small, with no plumbing or drainage. The shop units are partly redundant.

So, we propose reducing the shop units to enable a large "tea and cake" servery, plumbed and drained (but with no cooker, fridge or dishwasher). Glass or perspex would protect the Jacobean panelling.

We encourage you to see the proposed drawings on show in the Minster until Easter Day, and fill in the response forms, please!

Andrew Patrick, Church Warden and Lay Worship Leader

Singing Evensong in the Cathedral



The Minster Choristers, and a few of the Lay Clerks, had the privilege of singing Choral Evensong in Salisbury Cathedral on Saturday March 15th, with the Cathedral Choir. Some of the music was very familiar to our choir, particularly Stainer's anthem *God so loved the World*, while the setting of the responses, and the chant for Psalm 77, had to be learned. During rehearsal, everyone was charmed by the dog belonging to the voice coach!

Some comments from parents: 'Thank you for such a lovely opportunity!' 'They sounded incredible and we enjoyed every second of it.'

Some comments from choristers: 'Our voices sounded really big.' 'Good acoustics. The font was cool.' 'We sang well.' 'All the choristers were really welcoming.' 'It was good. I loved the dog.' 'I felt quite small in the building.' 'I really enjoyed it.' 'We're looking forward to a return visit from the Cathedral Choir before too long.'

Thank you to Colin Davey and to Rev. Heather Waldsax for arranging this!

Edmund Barnes, benefactor of the Minster

Philippa Forsey and Sarah Whiting, great-great grand-daughters of Edmund Barnes, dropped by the Minster to see the church and the organ. They were shown the choir vestry where they found a photo of Edmund Barnes they had not seen before. Edmund Barnes was a chorister at the Minster as a boy in the 1850s. Although his father was a cobbler, he had no proper shoes growing up. When he came of age, the choir paid for a new pair of shoes and the fare for his trip to London. He vowed that if he ever made his fortune, he would repay



their kindness. He became organist at St. Clement Danes, then a headmaster of their school, and eventually Mayor of the Metropolitan Borough of St. Pancras. He died a wealthy man, and left a legacy for the choir and the organ which

sustains the music program of the Minster to this day. Sarah's father David Whiting gave the Minster the photo of Edmund Barnes in formal dress as Mayor, which also hangs in the choir vestry. Read about Edmund Barnes at https://london.fandom.com/wiki/Edmund_Barnes

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Join us for an afternoon concert of classical music by the students of the Dorset Cello Classes.

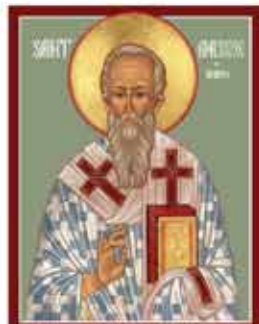
Saturday April 26th at 2.30pm.
Merley House, Merley House Lane,
Wimborne, BH21 3AA

Presented by Rebecca Gilliver, principal cellist of the London Symphony Orchestra, with Paul Janes, pianist. A talented group of young professional cellists, residents of the Dorset Cello Classes, perform their show pieces in a fabulous concert of cello and piano music. Some fun cello ensemble numbers conclude the concert.

Entry is free, retiring collection to help support the Dorset Cello Classes gratefully received. Tea and coffee available to purchase in the interval.

For more information, visit
www.TheDorsetCelloClasses.co.uk
or call 07971440850

Music Notes: April



We begin this month with congratulations for two of our choristers, Esther & Rafa who have successfully passed their Music Theory Examinations. **During Holy Week**, we end the day with a service of Compline at 8 pm on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. This is an ancient office, no doubt sung in the Minster hundreds of years ago, and uses plainsong. The hymn *Before the Ending of the Day*, which is used in the service, is a translation of the Latin hymn usually attributed to St Ambrose of Milan (d. 397AD). Ambrose became bishop by popular acclamation (although he wasn't even baptised) and is considered one of the four great theologian Church Fathers.



On Saturday 26th April the Orlando Singers, conducted by Sam Hanson will perform Bach's B minor Mass written in 1749, a year before his death. As usual for its time, the composition is formatted as a Neapolitan mass, consisting of a succession of choral movements with a broad orchestral accompaniment, and sections in which a more limited group of instrumentalists accompanies one or more vocal soloists. More unusual is its length as it was more common at the time for a Lutheran composer's mass setting to be only the Kyrie and Gloria. With many dozens of recordings, it is among Bach's most popular vocal works. The performance will start at 7.30 pm, and tickets are available through the Orlando Singers website. (Icon: <https://oca.org> . Photo: The Orlando Singers outside the Minster, 2022)

- Peter Cook



Thank you

Two by Two Toddler Group, which I have had the honour to lead for 19 years, is passing into a new phase; from April 3rd Claire will be taking over and injecting new ideas into the group. And I shall put my feet up, a lot. I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge and thank all the kind and caring people who created and supported the group in the forty plus years since it was started – you know who you are, and I'm not going to risk leaving anyone out. We have been truly blessed. It has been wonderful getting to know the children, parents, grandparents and carers and watching the little ones grow. Thank you all from the bottom of my heart.

- Ruth Edgar



Planet Wimborne Spring Green Earth Day



Seedy April 1st–30th April

Fair Ground Shop, Cornmarket.

Wimborne Win on Waste 12th April 10.30-12 noon

Wimborne Methodist Church

Wimborne War on Waste party dECOrations

23rd April 5-8pm Community Centre, Kings Street

Plant Swap 23rd–27th April Walford Mill

Spring groups on the Green 26th April

10.30am–3pm, Minster Green

MEG DonateIT 26th April 12noon–2pm

St George's Chapel, Minster

War on Waste Litter Pick 27th April

11.30am–1pm Fair Ground Shop

Wilding Bird walk – 27th April 8.30am

Colehill Burial Ground

Hedgehogs in Wimborne talk 30th April 7pm

Wimborne Methodist Church



For further details on these event please see



Planetwimborne.org or

Email planetwimborne@gmail.com

<https://www.earthday.org>





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Shrove Tuesday Pancake Race



The weather was perfect for the race (after four years when it had to be run inside the Minster). First up were the toddlers, running 3 heats, with the winner, Edith Crabb, receiving a prize of £5. Angus Craig won the next race (Wimborne First School), with a prize of £20 for the school kindly donated by Jeremy from Hearnies. The Middle Schools ran next, in three heats and a final; Ryan Tope (St Michaels Middle School) won £20 for the school, kindly donated by Dan from the Card Gallery. The final of the Schools section included runners from Beacroft Foundation School and Innovate Dorset, with the winner, Will Parrish, receiving £20 kindly donated by Maurice from Piccolo Mondo. Wheelchair Races followed with entries from Streets Meadow, Hyacinth House, Aldbury Care Home and two who are looked after at home. The winner was Christopher Rolfe pushed by Daniel Bennett, taking home a large sack of wild bird food kindly donated by the Wimborne Pet Centre. Finally it was the turn of the adults - 23 competitors including the headteachers of Wimborne First School and St Michael's Middle School, the Rector, members of other churches in the Benefice, and staff from local businesses. After a number of heats

and a final, the winner, and Wimborne Minster Pancake Champion 2025, was Daniel Bennett. He received a storage container decorated with bees from Dorset View and Viewpoint Magazine News Editor Marilyn Barber, which he retains, and the John Loader Memorial Trophy from Kathy and Martyn Curtler which he holds for a year. Mayor Cllr Jeff Hart, Town Crier Chris Brown and his deputy started off all the races and the Mayor presented the prizes; refreshments were served in the rear of the Minster, organised by Claire Lehmann, Minster Families Worker. Anthony Oliver thanked all the organising team and all the donors of



of prizes. A collection taken for Minster Funds raised £227.39 and we hope that the fine weather will be with us again next year, on Tuesday 17th February 2026.

(Photos by Gordon Edgar: Wheelchair winner Christopher Rolfe being pushed

by Daniel Bennett; Richard Skinner, Head of Wimborne First School leads a heat, while the Rector is handicapped; Darren Ayling, Head of St Michael's Middle School (on the left) beaten in his heat by Connie from MJP Law; Daniel Bennett receives his prizes.)



Following on from last month's article about our Eco Church survey, here is the first of our **Eco Tips**

Do we recognize as a church and as individuals that the waste we produce has a significant effect on climate and nature?

Are we:

- Continuously reducing our consumption of materials and resources?
- Avoiding the use of disposable and single use plastic wherever possible?
- Re-using or buying second-hand wherever possible?
- Recycling materials and equipment wherever possible?
- Composting food waste (at home or in the Council's brown bins)?
- Working towards sending zero waste to landfill?
- Minimizing wastewater?

Don't forget the Win on Waste

collections on the second Saturday of each month in the Methodist Church Hall. You can check on the website to see which items are being taken and which charities benefit: please bring your contributions already sorted! <http://winonwaste.org/wimborne-2/>

There will be another Donatell

collection of computers and phones in the Minster on Saturday April 26th. Where possible, donated equipment is wiped and repaired, to be distributed to families and young people locally. Other donations are taken apart for recycling.

Keep an eye out for **children's clothes swaps** in the Minster, organised by Claire from time to time, and the swap rail for children's dressing up clothes in the Fair Ground shop.

Wimborne Repair Café will help you learn how to fix your household items so they last longer: look out for the next date, announced on the Planet Wimborne website: <https://planetwimborne.org/wimborne-repair-cafe>.

Reg Dunningham, 20th December 1921-2nd March 2025



Reg was born in Ongar, Essex and grew up in nearby Navestock before moving to near Lechlade.

After the war in September 1946 the family moved to Leatherhead in Surrey and Reg attended an 'upmarket' secondary school. Leaving school on his 14th birthday he joined a local Riding School. On enquiring when he would get his wages the boss said "Oh I thought you would be like the weekend girls and boys and just do it for love." However the boss relented and he was paid 10 shillings a week less 4d stamp money! February 1947 and a new job beckoned as tea boy at the Crescent Cinema, 15 shillings a week but still 4d for his stamp. Reg spent his National Service with the Royal Armoured Corps Menin Lines and later the Royal Signal Corps Vimy Lines. After demob he worked for the Co-op then took a job as a long distant lorry driver. At a Methodist youth club he met Eleanor and they married in 1955. A job then as a sales representative first with Kraft Foods and then with 'Brillo'. On promotion in 1961 Reg and Eleanor with son Mark moved to Dorset, first in Corfe Mullen then to a new-build bungalow

in the Vineries, Colehill. Sarah, and then Matthew arrived in the following years, though Matthew sadly passed away in 2004.

Reg and Eleanor were well known in Wimborne, through Eleanor's many activities and both of them being involved in the Riverside Mews café, the Chamber of Trade (Reg as Secretary for 20 years), and Ochsenfurt Twinning. Anthony Oliver, who has known Reg for well over 30 years recalls the time in the early '90s when Wimborne was awarded the 'Wooden Spoon' for its lack of Christmas Lights in the town. Over the years Reg as Chamber of Trade Secretary collected raffle prizes from Traders to run a free raffle in the run up to Christmas. In 1992 the raffle was changed to a paying one, which raised money for the start of the Christmas lights which we see today. Reg would always be dressed in his Pearly King outfit to collect and deliver the prizes!

In 2018 Eleanor died, which Reg took very hard. He was often seen around Wimborne on his buggy, sometimes parked up in the Square to sell his book *My War Aged 8 to 13 Years Old and Beyond*. He was very proud to lay a wreath at the 2024 Remembrance Service in Wimborne, and had been looking forward to taking part in the in honour of 280 (NATO) Signal Squadron on 22 March. Sadly he passed away in Poole Hospital, with his family at his bedside. Reg will indeed be sorely missed by his family and his many friends and he will be buried with Eleanor in Wimborne Cemetery.

Graham Mallett and Anthony Oliver

Credo in unum Deum - exploring the faith of the church: Part 2

The Nicene Creed is 1700 years old, as mentioned in last month's magazine. This series will look more closely at the Creed, what it means, and the questions it raises. This is an edited version of articles written by the Rector in 2008.

4. God and the Trinity

Nicene Creed: "I believe in one God, the Father Almighty...And in one Lord Jesus Christ...And I believe in the Holy Spirit"
Apostles Creed: "I believe in God...and in Jesus Christ...I believe in the Holy Spirit..."

In last month's article, I stressed the oneness of God, but the creeds also say something about each of the persons of God. The beginning of John's Gospel speaks of the Word which 'was with God and was God' from before Creation, and was then 'made flesh'. Christians speaking of God talk of persons with characteristics, a Father (or, equally, a Mother) figure; a Son, God with us as Jesus; and a Spirit which turned the 'dithering disciples' into 'authoritative apostles' at Pentecost. But these three are not separate 'persons' in a human sense. It might help to consider how we experience a common substance, H₂O. It is known to us as three different substances, with different characteristics: steam, water and ice. Steam is a colourless, invisible gas, and the vapour only becomes visible as it cools to become water. In its liquid form, water is wet and flows, but cool it further and it forms a solid mass, ice. Each state of H₂O has a different effect on us and a different function in life. Similarly, God is one, but known to us in three ways.

Consider how a single person can be a mother, a daughter and a sister. The same person has a distinct role in each case, but the relationship is cemented together by love. In a similar way God,

Father, Son and Holy Spirit is one divine loving community, both three persons and yet undivided. Christians know God by the exemplary life of Christ and are convinced of his personal relevance by the Holy Spirit.

5. Jesus is Lord

Nicene Creed: "And [we believe] in one Lord Jesus Christ, only begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all worlds; God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God; begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made."
Apostles' Creed: "...and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord."

What does it mean to call Jesus 'Lord'? Unlike other titles he is given in the Scriptures, 'Lord' is relatively common. If anyone recognises Jesus as their Lord, then the first requirement from them is complete obedience – given to Jesus because of the authority granted him. Jesus gains this authority because of his own surrender of himself in obedience to God, as both Peter (in Acts ch.2) and Paul (in Philippians ch.2) stress.

This is how our walk with Christ should begin, by recognising and confessing that He is Lord, and this is how salvation is received: "...if you confess with your mouth 'Jesus is Lord', and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved." (Romans ch.10, v. 9).

6. Jesus, God With Us

The Nicene Creed is clear about the nature of Jesus (see the text cited in section 5). Everything created has its origin in God and is subordinate to God, Jesus was not created, but is one with God. He is God [begotten] from God, Light [begotten] of Light, of one substance with the Creator. These statements

are to counter various heresies which considered the Son as a lesser being, or a creation, or even a separate God. There is room for debate here about different world views – the Platonic (Hellenic) view and the Jewish (and thus early Christian) doctrine. The detail describing Jesus in the Nicene Creed reflects Platonic philosophy, where the pre-existence of Jesus is essential, while Jewish thought saw Jesus as a great prophet. Paul in his writings says little of Jesus, but much of 'the Christ', the man who God resurrected from the dead, and the implication this has for all mankind.

- Revd. Andrew Rowland



(Image: 4th century fresco from the Catacomb of Marcellinus and Peter; Wikimedia Commons)
Next month: The incarnation, life and death of Jesus



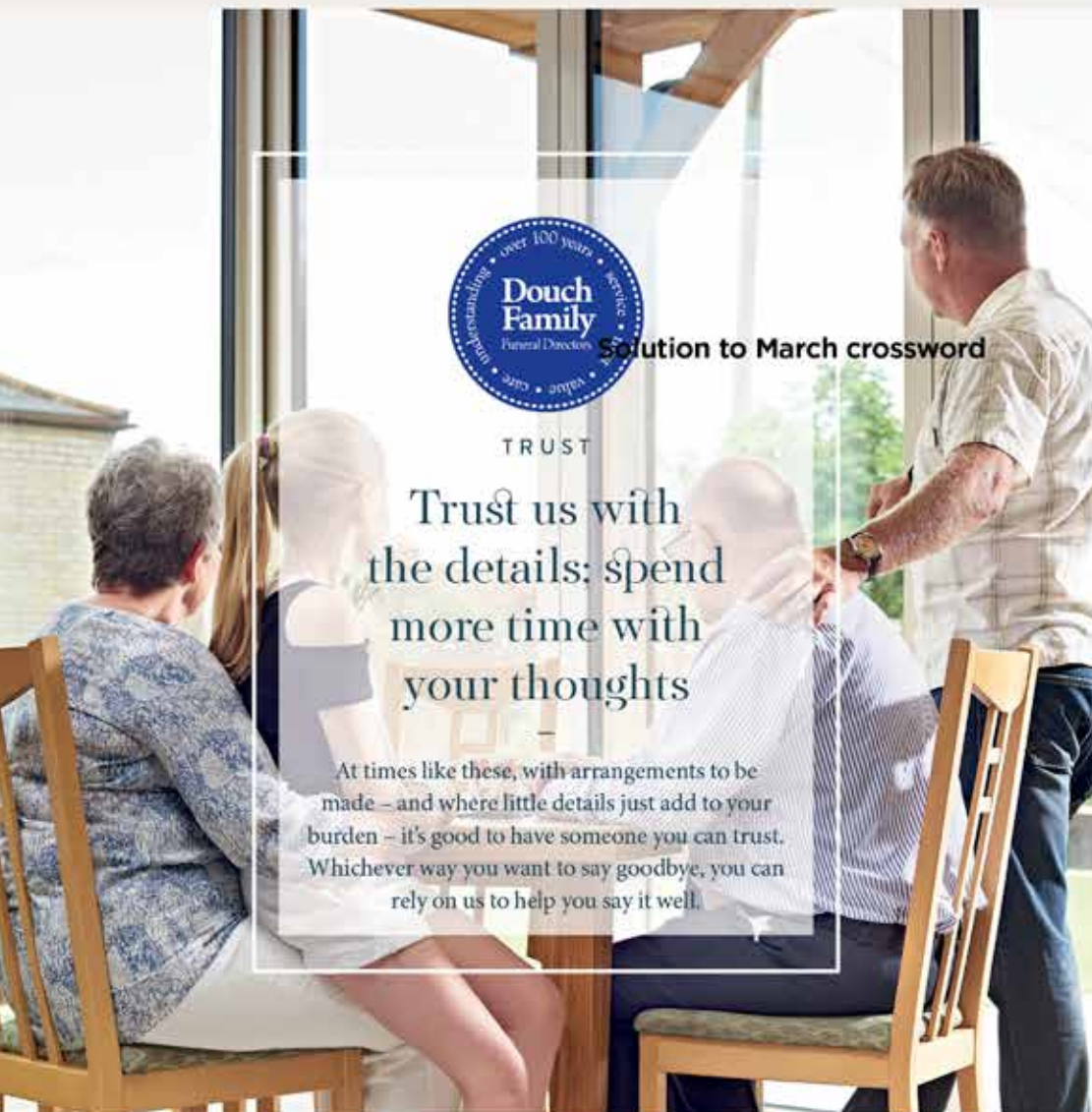
Alpaca entertainment

A delightful addition to the second wedding fair in the Minster were Annabelles Alpacas, from Dorchester. They stayed outside the building, enjoying spring sunshine and much attention. Yes, you can have these calm, friendly animals with you on your wedding day, and at other celebrations! Find out more at Annabelle's page on Facebook. Around a hundred couples visited the fair and, among other discoveries, found out more about church weddings. Congratulations to Claire and all her helpers on another successful event.

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Solution to March crossword

TRUST

Trust us with
the details: spend
more time with
your thoughts

At times like these, with arrangements to be made – and where little details just add to your burden – it's good to have someone you can trust. Whichever way you want to say goodbye, you can rely on us to help you say it well.

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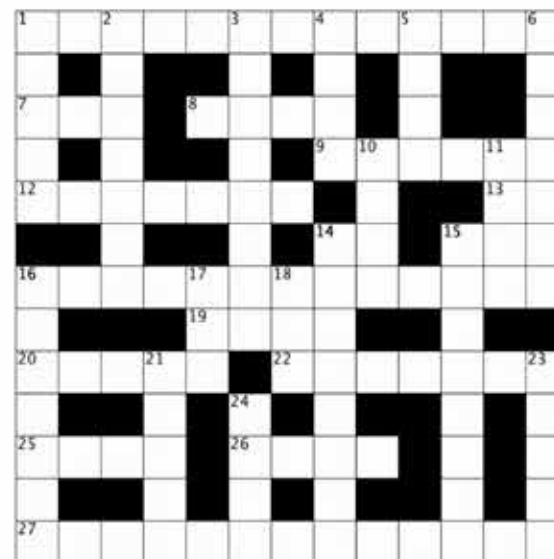
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April Crossword set by Bruce Jensen

ACROSS

1. Where Rover sleeps, or where Sir is put when he forgets Madam's birthday (2,3,3,5)
7. A hoppy brew, in brief (3)
8. To give out, shine (4)
9. The proper way to say octopusses (6)
12. The opposite of an idealist (7)
13. Atop (2)
14. Consequently (2)
15. Enemy (3)
16. A very odd feline, or a cruel whip used for naval punishment (3,1,4,5)
19. What you tap or click on to launch an app (4)
20. Act in response (5)
22. 'Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a _ lion, walketh about...' (7)
25. 'And they lived happily _ after' (4)
26. Stay around until a particular time or event (4)
27. The Three Little Pigs weren't afraid of him, though maybe they should've been (3,3,3,4)



2. A trolley that brings a hot drink (3,4)
3. Of the home: 'She finished her _ chores before leaving for work' (8)
4. Every lullaby has the same message: ' _ _ sleep.' (2,2)
5. _ house, a building designed for drying hops (4)
6. Those things that make cars go (7)
10. A hardening of blood that seals a wound, or a dolt (4)
11. A place to swim (4)
14. Spanish Miss (8)
15. Philippines man (8)
16. Place for a toddler when driving (3,4)
17. A louse egg (3)
18. Companion to 'neither' (3)
21. A bean, sometimes a chocolate substitute (5)
23. Overwhelming sadness due to loss (5)
24. The contents of the burglar's bag (4)

DOWN

1. Frostier (5)

Solution to March crossword

WESTSIDE STORY
I R A H E O E Y E
L A N C E A M O D E L
L J R I D D E N L
I O U I S W I T S
A A F O E H O E D
M A N O F L A M A N C H A
Y I T H R
A N T H E M N N K
N O P S B I N
G O N G I T A C R E
E D G Y C E R A T S
L I E S M I S E R A B L E S



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