



# Yours

Magazine of  
The United Church  
Winchester

April 2022



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## Tim's Letter: On Forgiveness

After a service I recently led at Alresford, I was reminded by one of the congregation of Corrie ten Boom's book, *The Hiding Place*, which deals extensively with the theme of forgiveness. Much of it arises out of her, and her family's, own internment in the Ravensbrück concentration camp for the part they played in concealing Dutch Jews from the Nazis. Those of you who are familiar with the work will remember the moment when ten Boom's preaching on forgiveness was *really* put to the test. After a meeting at which she preaches that God casts confessed sins 'into the deepest ocean, gone forever', she comes face-to-face with one of her former abusers, a camp guard from Ravensbrück turned committed-Christian seeking absolution. I won't recount that story now, but do refresh your memories of it if you have the chance. Regardless of where you stand on the theology, it's a very poignant, moving and real moment of reconciliation despite great pain and enmity.

Instead, I want to recount another formational encounter which ten Boom experienced on forgiveness. Following a dispute she had with some friends later in life, she was traumatised to find that the feelings of pain the episode had inflicted on her continued, even after she'd let go of the grudge and forgiven them. We pick up the story where, after two sleepless weeks agonising over the dilemma, she confesses her distress to a kindly Lutheran pastor. This is his reply:

"Up in that church tower", he said, nodding out the window, "is a bell which is rung by pulling on a rope. But you know what? After the sexton lets go of the rope, the bell keeps on swinging. First ding, then dong. Slower and slower until there's a final dong, and it stops.

"I believe the same thing is true of forgiveness. When we forgive someone, we take our hands off the rope. But if we've been tugging at our grievances for a long time, we mustn't be surprised if the old angry thoughts keep coming for a while. They're just the ding-dongs of the old bell slowing down."

And so (say's ten Boom) it proved to be. There were a few more midnight reverberations, a couple of dings when the subject came up in my conversation. But the force—which was my willingness in the

matter—had gone out of them. They came less and less often, and at last stopped altogether. And so, I discovered another secret of forgiveness: that we can trust God not only above our emotions, but also above our thoughts.'

Forgiveness, and coming to love those that we have previously counted as enemies, is a big ask. Forgiving a loved one when they've said or done something hurtful is hard enough, but asking someone who's been abused to love their abuser is of a wholly different order. Yet, the biblical edict to forgive those who trespass against us and to love our enemies, blessing them when they curse us, and praying for them when they abuse us, remains. It's perhaps worth noting what forgiveness is, and isn't, here. Forgiveness is the willed intention to let go of the rope of whatever grievance we've been holding on to, but *it is not* a state of ease, equilibrium, or indifference to what has happened to you. To the perpetrator, they may indeed take comfort that their sin against another has been cast into the deepest ocean by God. But to the victim, that hurt remains, and there is always the potential for it to resurface as the bell continues to ring out. And yet, there is deep and healing wisdom at work when the rope is finally released; when we finally decide to stop tugging at the grievance and the torment that comes with it. When we hold on to our pain relentlessly, we risk a lifetime of incarceration to its power. We ring the bell without ceasing, calling to mind its impact on our lives whenever we can, perhaps even allowing it to shape our reality. When we let it go, it doesn't mean everything's OK. Things won't automatically be made right, and they rarely go back to normal. But we at least begin a process by which we might start living again, beyond the confines of the pain we are experiencing.

Lent calls us to examine our lives and our hearts. It does so to draw out what is holding us back from a more profound relationship with God, and one another. Easter, on the other hand, demands that we release ourselves back into God's eternal love and care in Christ, freed once again of the sins that have bound us. The one must follow the other. And if we don't, if we consign ourselves to a lifetime of Lent, then one could argue whether there really was any point in Christ dying for our sins, at all.

In Christ, Tim

## Editorial

On our front cover this month we have beautiful textile art by Pauline Brooks. Can you work out where the scene is? Answer on page 9! You can see cropped images of another of her pieces focussed on Spring.

We have received moving tributes to Revd Jonathan Watkins who will be fondly remembered and much missed. Rosie MacMullen follows up her piece on the unveiling of the Licorcia statue with a happy encounter on page 15.

We are all thinking of the terrible situation in Ukraine and Chris Roles' helpful words, spoken at the Vigil in the Cathedral, can be found on page 21. He echoed them during the service at the United Church on 13 March following Neil Messer's must listen service, which you can find on the website: [ucw.org.uk/streamed-services/](http://ucw.org.uk/streamed-services/).

As we look forward to the Platinum Jubilee celebrations several of you have sent memories of Coronation Day and we will publish any others we receive in future editions.

Many thanks to all our contributors.

**The Yours Team—Sophie Armstrong, Bob Lord  
and Dorothy Lusmore**

## Space in the City.

The Space in the City talks have not been held since the start of the pandemic, but it is hoped that we may be able to arrange a short series during May.

The talks will be held at St Lawrence in the Square, at 12.30 on Wednesdays May 4, 11 and 18.

The speaker will be Revd Dr Andreas Andreopoulos, Reader in Orthodox Christianity at the University of Winchester.

His subject will be: 'Orthodox Christianity – a voice from the past and a dialogue with the future'.

Please note the dates and watch out for further details.

**Graham Rolfe**

## News of the United Church Family

We were saddened to learn of the death of Revd Jonathan Watkins on Ash Wednesday (2 March) after a period of ill health.

Jonathan spent many years in Winchester – as Chaplain at the University and, among other roles, as a trustee of Olive Branch.

Subsequently he was incumbent of Stockbridge and then on the staff of Romsey Abbey. In 2018 he became Vicar of Knutton near Newcastle-under-Lyme in Staffordshire. He will be best remembered at The United Church for the time he spent with us as part of the ministerial team in the months before he went to Stockbridge. We greatly enjoyed his considerable musical gifts, his leading of worship and his pastoral skills. A gentle and compassionate man. We send our sympathy to his family and friends. (See tributes on pages 11–14.)



**Congratulations** to Pat Fry whose 25 years of service as a Local preacher was celebrated at a Circuit service at Wesley Methodist Church on 6 March. There was a large congregation to hear the testimonies of Pat and also of Nick Langham and Barbara Hillier. You will have read Pat's article on her local preaching in last month's magazine.

**Centenarian** – Congratulations to a former United Church member, Marie Briggs, who celebrated her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday recently! Some years ago, Marie and her late husband Bill transferred to Wesley Methodist Church which was nearer to home for them.

### Pastoral Review

At September Church meeting the Church Council's paper on Future Priorities was presented. Item 4 was to review the way we deliver pastoral care in the church. This has now been started and a survey of current Pastoral Visitors is underway. More details are in the Pastoral Annual Report.

Helen McTiffin,  
Pastoral Co-ordinator

## Wednesday Becomes the New Friday!

Covid and lockdowns have changed the face of our church in many ways, including our pattern of services. A number of people have asked when and if the Friday morning service will return and others have expressed the need for greater opportunities for quiet reflection which the 9 am Sunday service used to provide.

In response to this, the 'Friday morning service' will resume after Easter – but on a different day and in a more varied format.

**From Wednesday, April 27 there will be a weekly service at 11 am in the Sanctuary for just 20 minutes.**

Some weeks will follow the established pattern that people are familiar with, but some weeks will be different, using music, readings and reflections and allowing more space for meditation and prayer. We hope that, over time, the different ways of using this time will evolve as we seek to respond to current concerns and people's needs.

So, if you would value a 'quiet time' in the middle of a busy week, do consider joining us on Wednesday, 27 April at 11 am.

**Graham Rolfe and Margaret Axford**

## Easter crafts.

**Tuesday 12 April 10 am to 12 noon**



Come and join us for **Family Easter Crafts**. There will be a selection of crafts available that all can have a go at doing (they are not just for the children, adults can do them as well).

We will be running the same time as the coffee bar, no need to book just pop along and join in the fun.

**Sam Barnes**



## Art from the United Church Community

### ‘Spring – a Favourite Season’



This is such a joyful time of the year, after the challenges of winter. Full of new life and hope for the future. There's much to fill the senses, including the touch of warm sunshine, the sound of bees and the heady scent of wisteria. This inspired the textile piece here. The background is hand-dyed silk. The wisteria uses machine



embroidery and cut work, with the bees hand-stitched in gold thread. It is part of a set of seasonal place mats produced for a City and Guilds textile art course.



### **'Winchester's Water Meadows – a Favourite Place' (Front cover)**

At all times of year I enjoy this river walk. It's also where my son Harry chose to propose to his wife Laura!

A walk up St Catherine's Hill, around the MizMaze and views over Winchester is refreshing when feeling more energetic.

This was the inspiration for my piece of textile art (on the cover). The background consists of a variety of procion dyed materials. The stitching is mainly free machine embroidery plus some hand couching. It was produced on a weekend course with Wendy Dolan at West Dean College.

**Pauline Brooks**

there is  
neither

JEW

nor

GENTILE

...

GALATIANS 3:28

Amy Crocker

## Tributes to Revd Jonathan Watkins

I first met Jonathan just after he moved to Winchester, and I had arrived from Papua New Guinea. He took up the position of Chaplain at the University of Winchester (previously King Alfred's Training College) and joined the congregation of Christ Church Winchester, the Uni parish church. We came to know each other well when he joined the House Group I was leading as well as through various church activities. When I later left my position as Administrator of Christ Church, he asked me to work with him in the University Chaplaincy to manage his administration – so we were together almost every day. When Jonathan left the University and decided to take a break from work he came to live with my husband and me for two years. Living in the same house for some time certainly either cements or breaks a friendship and I can only say that ours grew stronger.

Jonathan was a talented musician and frequently played the keyboard at Sunday morning services. However, he was also a very good singer with a strong voice and I personally enjoyed times when he led with his voice rather than the keyboard – very encouraging to one who can't really hold a



tune! He also performed at concerts, playing his own arrangements of Christian melodies on the piano. People from Stockbridge may remember him playing for an hour at a time during the church Flower Festivals. Enjoying all forms of Christian music, his heart was always with Gospel Music, and one of the highlights of his week at the University was to accompany the Gospel Choir during their rehearsals. Jonathan particularly enjoyed Southern Gospel and the music of Andraé Crouch, who he managed to see in person when visiting the Memorial Church of God in Christ during a visit to the

United States. Jonathan had wanted to travel to America for some time and fulfilled this dream during his time living at my home. His desire was to visit some of the larger churches and particularly Andraé Crouch, as well as to attend a conference.

Following Crouch's death, Christian recording artist Michael W. Smith told *Billboard* magazine, '...I'll never forget hearing Andraé for the first time. It was like someone had opened a whole new world of possibilities for me musically. I don't think there is anyone who inspired me more, growing up, than Andraé Crouch. The depth of his influence on Christian music is incalculable. We all owe him so much.' I think Jonathan would probably have echoed those sentiments.

Another one of his enthusiasms was cars, but many people meeting Jonathan for the first time would not have thought of him as a 'petrol head'. He changed his car every couple of years and carefully considered the most practical model – except during his official two year break when he could be seen buzzing around in a bright yellow vehicle! He loved looking at pictures of shiny American beasts.

Another memory is of his up-to-date clothing, particularly his selection of jackets. A few years ago as he was preparing to leave Romsey, and was approaching the age of 60, he decided he was too old to continue wearing his trendy leather jackets (Cliff Richard take note) and asked me to dispose of them. My grandsons were delighted!



Of course, the most important thing in Jonathan's life was his strong faith and his pastoral heart – appreciated by so many within the churches where he served. His sensitivity in taking funerals was also a strength on which many relied – he took my mother-in-law's funeral and really made an impact on relatives travelling from around the country. Probably the last journey he made was to visit the site on Dartmoor last year where we had scattered my husband's ashes. He and Brian had become very close over the years. His time at The

United Church in Winchester, bridging the gap between incumbents, was also marked by his sensitivity, and he was a Trustee of a Christian counselling service. Jonathan was at ease with any level of churchmanship and would adapt his services so that everyone felt at home, working in the last few years with middle-of-the-road Anglican churches, Romsey Abbey and The United church – Methodist and United Reformed. While working as Priest in Charge of Test Valley Benefice he developed strong links with the Methodist Church in Kings Somborne. He was also a strong supporter of Churches Together in Winchester.

I was so pleased that I was able to visit him just three days before he died and we had a long chat remembering different events and laughing about our trip to Spring Harvest when he planned to stop for lunch on the way and was so long getting organised to leave that we actually stopped for lunch just 10 miles along the road!

I will miss our long conversations – often late into the night; he was my friend for more than 25 years and I will miss him.

**Dorothy Lusmore**

Carol and I were saddened to hear of Jonathan's death. We first encountered him when we became involved with The Olive Branch twenty-odd years ago. He was a trustee and at meetings he was the quiet one who didn't get caught in the crossfire of discussion but would come in as everyone else had run out of things to say and quietly make profound conclusions which we could only go along with. He was a valuable member of the management team, which for a long time needed all the help it could get.

He cared for the charity and understood its aims as well as its Christian heritage. He also cared for every member of the team especially as he saw counselling as a taxing role for counsellors. I remember him arranging a Saturday away day for the trustees at Furzey Gardens, near Lyndhurst. We talked about the 'business', but during our stay there he wanted a one-to-one chat with each of us. His perception of who we were was accurate and helped us as individuals to function better.



When he joined The United Church ministerial team alongside Howard Mellor he added another dimension with his amazing piano playing which we first encountered at a university concert. For me as a not so good pianist who does read music his playing in some kind of auto mode was impressive. His preaching was pretty good as well. A pity he was Anglican or he might have replaced Howard.

Someone to be remembered by so many people.



**Ralph and Carol Jessop**



**The Bishop of Stafford**, the Rt Revd Matthew Parker, said: 'Jonathan was a gentle, prayerful and faithful parish priest with a great love for the gospel and a pastoral heart for God's people. His untimely death is the cause of great sorrow to both his family and friends and to the congregation at St Mary's, Knutton. Jonathan's faith held firm even in the midst of his final illness and suffering and he knew himself to held in the Everlasting Arms and eagerly looked forward to sharing in the joys of heaven.'



## Meeting Prince Charles

If you were going to meet a member of the Royal Family you would take care to look your best. Not wrapped up in a nondescript coat, woolly hat and scarf and no lipstick.

I had not intended to go downtown again to see Prince Charles, and watched the proceedings through binoculars from my window which was interesting. Then the sun broke out and do did I.



Grabbing my key and the nearest outdoor clothes, I hurried along and found a space. Only five minutes later the car arrived and HRH got out. He came over the road and spoke to people in the crowd but I was able only to catch glimpses. I thought after a while I would go home. Then I noticed children lined up at the front door, so I stayed after all. To my surprise Prince Charles came across and said 'You are very brave to have waited in the cold.' I replied, 'Yes at my age!' and he laughed. I whipped off my glove and he shook my hand, smiling warmly and looking straight at me. He had discarded his coat and looked smart in a grey suit with a lilac pocket handkerchief. I was sorry I must have looked a poor old ancient but as that was why he chose me to speak to, it was a piece of luck.

I was tempted to tell him that I had shaken his father's hand over six decades ago but bit my tongue in time. They say things go in threes so maybe I will make sure to be looking my best if Prince William comes to Winchester, just in case.

**Rosie MacMullen**

## News of the Wider Church

### The War in Ukraine

**Widespread protest against Russia's invasion of Ukraine.** Ukrainian Archbishop Kenneth Nowakowski, Papal Nuncio Archbishop Claudio



Gugerotti and Coptic Archbishop Angaelos joined hundreds of people gathered in Trafalgar Square, central London. The demonstration started with a prayer led by Archbishop Claudio, he said: 'Today we are all Ukrainians.' The church leaders also led the crowd in singing a hymn for peace.

People draped in the blue and yellow national flag of Ukraine held rallies and prayer vigils across the country as well as in Tokyo, Rome and Berlin, among other places, demanding an end to the conflict.

**Russian church leaders** have taken a stand against their country's invasion of Ukraine. Dozens of prominent Russian Evangelical church leaders have signed a letter, which condemns the 'senseless bloodshed' taking place. It states: 'No political interests or goals can justify the death of innocent people. Old men, women, children are dying. Soldiers on both sides are dying, cities and infrastructure are being destroyed. In addition to military targets, shells and bombs destroy hospitals, civilian buildings and residential buildings. Many people have become refugees, the war zones are on the verge of a humanitarian catastrophe...hatred is being sown between our peoples, which will create an abyss of alienation and enmity for generations to come. The war is destroying not only Ukraine, but also Russia – its people, its economy, its morality, its future.'

A spokesman admired their bravery. 'They will be prosecuted, but they are stepping forward against this war.'

More than 270 Russian Orthodox priests and deacons have also signed a joint letter appealing for reconciliation and an immediate ceasefire in the war. The letter highlights the importance of repentance and salvation. A statement said, 'Our message was not to condemn, our message is not to judge... but show the way to repentance and to salvation. We remind the state authorities of the fact that even if they avoid human judgment, they will not avoid the divine judgment.' The Dean of St Mary Magdalene Cathedral of the Russian Orthodox Church in Madrid said it was important for the Gospel message to be at the forefront during these turbulent times.

**The Vatican's Secretary of State** told Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov in a phone call on 8 March that the Holy See wants armed attacks in Ukraine to stop and humanitarian corridors to be guaranteed.

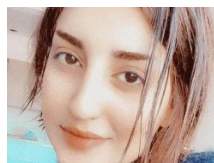
A Vatican statement said Cardinal Pietro Parolin also repeated the Vatican's willingness 'to do anything' to help bring about peace. The statement said the cardinal told Lavrov that Pope Francis was 'deeply worried' about the war.

Ukraine has said it would welcome Vatican mediation and Parolin, who ranks second to Pope Francis in the Vatican hierarchy, has said previously it is willing to 'facilitate dialogue' between Russia and Ukraine. 'This is not just a military operation but a war which sows death, destruction and misery,' Francis said in his weekly address to crowds gathered in St Peter's Square.

In 2016 Francis became the first pope to meet a leader of the Russian Orthodox Church since the great schism that split Christianity into Eastern and Western branches in 1054.

## Other News

**Christian convert murdered:** Iman Sami, a 20-year-old girl who converted to Christianity, was killed on 7 March in Northern Iraq following a TikTok video she posted where she was singing Christian spiritual songs. Iman was a daughter of a Muslim cleric.



A statement said, 'She suffered in her life because of her early marriage, where she drowned in marriage at the age of only 12 years. After separation from her husband, she lived alone. She was an activist in the field of women's rights and a brave woman. She has videos on the TikTok app that reached hundreds of thousands of views. Her brother and uncle killed her yesterday!'

The Christian community in Iraq continues to suffer severe consequences of the ISIS genocide, and Muslim Background Believers are specifically at a high risk of targeted violence because of their conversion to Christianity. The persecution faced by Iraq's Christian community has forced most to flee the country.

**The Catholic Church in England** has come under fire after cancelling a planned visit by a gay author to a Catholic school in south London. Author of *Noah Can't Even*, Simon James Green, was due to speak and sign books for World Book Day at The John Fisher School, a Catholic boys' secondary school in Croydon. But Southwark Archdiocese, which oversees the school, decided to cancel a few days before the event. In a statement, the education director Simon Hughes said that the author's visit fell 'outside the scope of what is permissible in a Catholic school. In such circumstances, we have no alternative but to affirm our unequivocal and well-known theological and moral precepts and to act in accordance with them.'

The Archdiocese also made redundant several governors, who had backed the event, from the school's leadership. The National Education Union has called for them to be reinstated and the visit to be rescheduled. Green is an award-winning author, who writes books for a range of age groups. WH Smith describes him as 'one of the UK's leading writers of LGBTQ+ teen fiction'.

### **Kingdom Choir's Karen Gibson and Messy Church's Lucy Moore**



honoured by Archbishop among the 37 individuals honoured for their work in spreading the Gospel. They both received The Alphege Award for Evangelism & Witness.

**The Prince of Wales prays for refugees:** Prince Charles visited St Luke's Church in Earls Court in London to find out more about the Refugee Response Programme. After meeting with those who've received practical support through the project, he made an address in which he said he would continue to pray for them. 'I pray you have been welcomed... the fact that there are people here to help you learn English, to find your way through the inevitable difficulties that there are, is – I hope – something that will make a difference to your lives.'

Concluding his speech, he said: 'Ladies and Gentlemen, it has been such a pleasure to meet you. I keep praying for you. There are so many people wanting to help you and, as I say, I hope you feel welcome.'

**US actor Mark Wahlberg** has opened up about his Christian faith and the way it has impacted his career. 'God has continued to bless me and put me in this situation...to continue to grow and to do His work ... giving me the skills and tools to go out there and articulate the message that He wants me to articulate,' he said. He acknowledged some of his earlier movies did not honour God and he is now working to change that and has teamed up with Mel Gibson to produce, *Father Stu*, a biographical movie based on the life story of Father Stuart Long, a boxer-turned-priest.



'People need to have faith and hope. Young men need to know what it's like to be a real man'. The film will be released in cinemas on Good Friday.

## Link to Hope



In Moldova Ukrainian people have escaped with very few possessions and very little clothing and are pleased to see washing machines and dryers have been installed at the Community Centre where refugees are staying. They now can wash their clothes due to generous donations. Many only stay a few days before heading to other countries.

Link to hope have a contact in Oradia in Romania. Every few days they take supplies to the Ukrainian border and take people back to Romania. The bus drivers are volunteers from West Ukraine. Last night 3,500 people were transported between midnight and 5 am – that is just people helped by churches.

Please pray for the teams out there and everyone helping. Donations are vitally important and directly contributing to ensuring the safety and support of refugees.

These pictures show beds, mattresses and bedding that has arrived in Moldova thanks to donations received. They are being housed in Link to Hope's Community centre.



Check out Facebook and Link to Hope's website for further updates.  
DONATIONS URGENTLY NEEDED.

[www.linktohope.co.uk](http://www.linktohope.co.uk) or [ucw.org.uk/ukraine/](http://ucw.org.uk/ukraine/)

**World Mission Group**



## Crisis in Ukraine – What can I do to help ?



There is a very useful list on the URC website of ways to help from donating to the DEC appeal, prayer and other actions. There is a link to this on our Ukraine page [ucw.org.uk/ukraine/](https://ucw.org.uk/ukraine/)

Listen to Neil Messer's helpful sermon on the church website: [ucw.org.uk/streamed-services/](https://ucw.org.uk/streamed-services/).

**Chris Roles** spoke movingly at the Vigil for Ukraine in the Cathedral on 12th March. He is a trustee for the Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC) and Director of one of its member agencies. He explained how the DEC is helping in Ukraine and in the neighbouring countries. The Dean asked him this question: 'Many of us feel helpless faced with the enormity of the challenge. What can we do?' Here is his answer:

'One of the DEC's member agencies, Christian Aid, encourages its supporters to give, to act and to pray and I think when we give, we do much more than make a charitable donation. It can also be an act of love and compassion and solidarity, and we do encourage people to give to the DEC with those feelings in their hearts. We can act: Many people are pressing the UK government to lower the restrictions on visas to enable Ukrainians to find safe passage to the UK. And we can encourage the UK government to give more humanitarian aid. And we can pray. I think it's wonderful that today is a multi-faith occasion. In coming today we bring our sorrow and our anger - if you like, our lament - as well as our hope as at this time. And if I can finish on a personal note, I think Christian faith, the faith of Lent, is a faith in a God in Christ, who is with and alongside those who suffer, and present in and through those who are reaching out to somehow respond to their needs. We must go forward somehow grasping that hope that sense will prevail in this terrible situation and people who need humanitarian help will receive it.'

## What I did on Coronation Day, 2 June 1953

My parents took my sister (12 years old) and me (10 years old) up to London to be part of all the celebrations. I am so glad they did take us as it was an occasion I remember to this day. Our older brother went with his school and our younger brother (4 years old) spent the day with neighbours who had a television.

It was a pouring wet day (any celebration involving our Queen always seems to be accompanied by heavy rain and cold wind) so we were all wrapped up in macs and boots. We positioned ourselves in Hyde Park and even though we went early in the morning there were hundreds of people with the same idea. Some had even camped out overnight, brave souls! Positioned just behind us was a detachment of Canadian Mounties so Carol and I spent a lot of time chatting to them and admiring their horses.

Although we were all waiting about for hours everyone round us seemed very happy, chatting and singing. Fortunately my mother had gone prepared with a large picnic and flasks of hot tea, which was most welcome.

Finally we could hear cheers in the distance which gradually got louder and louder until the procession was there, in front of us. I had to sit on my father's shoulders to be able to see everything (either I was small



for my age or he was very strong, not sure which). Anyway, I can still picture the Queen in the beautiful Coronation Coach smiling and waving to us all. A day to remember indeed.

**Barbara Dunton**



Like most people, I watched the Coronation on television. We didn't have a set of our own so we went to the home of one of our neighbours to sit quietly and stare at the small screen in the corner on which we could see a fuzzy picture of what was going on in Westminster Abbey. It was a very moving experience, made much more memorable a few weeks later, when we went to the cinema and saw whole thing in glorious technicolour!

**Maureen Heath**

I was 15 and lived in the Medway towns. On coronation day I put on my scout uniform and took a train to London. After waiting in Trafalgar Square for quite a long while I took a photo of the Queen as she passed in the royal coach. The photo was not good as I was jammed in a crowd, and it was raining of course, but, in any case, I can't find it now. Afterwards I walked around in the crowds before returning home.

**John Heath**

Early in the morning of the coronation I was going to catch the underground train to central London. By the station I clearly remember the board announcing Hilary and Tensing had reached the summit of Everest. An exciting beginning to an exciting day

**Yvonne North.**

## **My Coronation Present from School**



We were very excited when our gift parcels arrived at the classroom, but they were very small. This meant that they were not the tin of chocolate biscuits which we had all been hoping for, and not even a Coronation mug.

Imagine our surprise when we opened our parcels and found that we had each been given a sugar spoon with a picture of the Queen on the handle, not really what a young teenager would wish for, and we had a sugar spoon at home anyway!

So, what to do with it? Well, it became the first item in my 'bottom drawer', and in the late 1950s it was used for the first time! It is still in use, and we think of the Queen every time we sprinkle our demerara sugar on our porridge!

**Maureen Heath**

I received a coronation mug from school. It was put on a shelf at home and I haven't seen it since unfortunately.

**John Heath**



Vintage Fun

All welcome!



**Monday 11th April**  
**2 - 4 pm**

at the

**United Church**

Jewry Street, Winchester SO23 8RZ  
01962 849559

Anna Chaplaincy is a monthly afternoon of friendship over a cup of tea. Each afternoon will offer a variety of activities, and seasonal entertainment.





## Comedy Corner



The deadline for May Yours is **Monday 12 April** . All contributions welcome. Send to [yours@ucw.org.uk](mailto:yours@ucw.org.uk).





## Sea Fever by John Masefield

I have had a passion for the  
sea all my life, teaching sailing  
and, above all, making five  
Channel crossings from North  
Wales to La Rochelle as 'mate'  
and chief cook.

R

I must go down to the seas again, to the lonely sea and the sky,  
And all I ask is a tall ship and a star to steer her by;  
And the wheel's kick and the wind's song and the white sail's shaking,  
And a grey mist on the sea's face, and a grey dawn breaking.

I must go down to the seas again, for the call of the running tide  
Is a wild call and a clear call that may not be denied;  
And all I ask is a windy day with the white clouds flying,  
And the flung spray and the blown spume, and the sea-gulls crying.

I must go down to the seas again, to the vagrant gypsy life,  
To the gull's way and the whale's way where the wind's like a whetted  
knife;  
And all I ask is a merry yarn from a laughing fellow-rover,  
And quiet sleep and a sweet dream when the long trick's over.

**Contributed by Richard Costard**



## Services for April 2022



In-person and Live-streamed

**3 APRIL**

**PASSION SUNDAY**

10.30 am

**Morning Worship (HC)**

Revd Tim Searle

**10 APRIL**

**PALM SUNDAY**

10.30 am

**Morning Worship**

Revd Prof Neil Messer

**14 APRIL**

**MAUNDY THURSDAY**

7.30 pm

**Tenebrae Service** - *a quiet reflective service which includes a simple meal and Holy Communion.*  
(Booking essential 01962 849559)

**15 APRIL**

**GOOD FRIDAY**

10.00 am

**Good Friday Service**

Revd Tim Searle

*Followed by hot cross buns in the hall*

10.50 am

**Walk of Witness** from St Peter's Church to the Butter Cross for a brief service at 11.15 am.

**17 APRIL**

**EASTER DAY— CHRIST IS RISEN, ALLELUIA!**

8.30 am

**Easter Breakfast & informal celebration of Holy Communion**

Revd Tim Searle

*Children are warmly welcome*

10.30 am

**Easter Celebration & Holy Communion with Dressing of the Cross**

Revd Tim Searle

*Please bring along a few flowers to bring the cross alive as we celebrate the risen Christ.*



**24 APRIL**

10.30 am

**Word and Worship**

Mrs Pat Fry

HC: Holy Communion.

UCW website: [ucw.org.uk/streamed-services/](https://ucw.org.uk/streamed-services/)

YouTube: [tinyurl.com/ucw-services](https://tinyurl.com/ucw-services)