

SERVICES

<u>SUNDAYS:</u>	8.00 am	Eucharist (said)
	9.15 am	Children's Sunday Club in Church House
	9.30 am	Sung Eucharist
		The service is followed by refreshments in the Church Hall, on the Pallant.
	6.30 pm	Sung Evensong

Eucharist is generally celebrated at St Nicholas, Langstone at 8.00 am on the first Sunday in the month.

WEEKDAYS:

Eucharist : 9.00 am Monday & Saturday

Holy Communion (BCP) 10.30 am Thursday

Morning Prayer: 9.00 am Tuesday & Friday.

For all other services, please see dates in this magazine, on the church notice board, or on our web-site.

Confessions, Baptisms and Marriages:

By arrangement with the Rector - Telephone 023 9248 3485.

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Havant, PO9 1BY
Telephone: 023 9247 1398

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Please notify the Rector, one of the Churchwardens, the PCC secretary or the Parish Office Administrator

Parish Magazine of St Faith, Havant with St Nicholas, Langstone

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Articles, notices, letters or other items for inclusion in our magazine are always welcome and should be sent to the Editor, 'faith matters' c/o the Parish Office. Published on the 1st of each month, print deadline 15th of previous month.

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From the Rector

This month sees the beginning of Lent – that season of the Church’s year, which encourages us to repent of our sinful ways! But just what do we mean by this? How much do we really want to change our patterns of behaviour? The thought of ‘change’, when it concerns anything involving us, is usually a most uncomfortable one!

I must congratulate our Churchwarden, Roger Bryant, for his ability to write fascinating and engaging articles for publication. But even he could not have guessed how provocative his piece on the irrepressible Father Dolling would prove to be. Further in these pages you will find not one, but two responses to Roger’s entry, which seek to address entirely different arguments. Roger’s article, taken from his book, *Don’t touch the Holy Joe* (Published in 1995 by Ragged Right), seeks to illustrate the ministry of Landport’s charismatic and unconventional missionary priest. In response Ivan Morley wants to remind us of both the breadth of theological opinion and diversity of churchmanship within the Church of England as well as the on-going challenge of finding ways to bring the gospel to people (as Father Dolling clearly did so impressively). John Bradey wants to take issue with Roger’s conclusion against the ordination of women until universal consent of the church is given. All three contributors make valuable points and while provoking constructive debate, above all they further the conversation about one important issue: how does the church interpret the gospel of Christ for our contemporary culture?

This is most obviously a crucial question and one to which our vision process is clearly aimed (I am writing before the open meeting about Vision – more details next issue). It is important that we engage with such fundamental questions and I am pleased that we are doing so. Yet, it must be born in mind that Rome was not built in a day. Patience is required and time must be given to wait on God’s reply.

So this Lent as we work on our personal preparation for Easter at the same time as working corporately on beginning to articulate the desired direction for our development as a church, we ask for God’s help. Help us to recognise where we are stuck and to bring our needs before you. This way we can trust that you will bring about the change required, and take away our fear as well!

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday and there is a special Eucharist at 7:30pm that evening – please come and join the liturgical beginning to this most Holy Season.

Fr. David

About The Parish

How many of you know of "Palmeston's Folly"? I see, just a few of you. I have always had a love of History, perhaps because it teaches us so much about the present. Take the Cold War and think of all the billions spent on armament but do we describe it as "Reagan's Folly"? So what is the connection?

In 1848, Europe was in turmoil with revolution breaking out and governments overthrown. That year, a second republic was declared in France, with Louis Napoleon, nephew of the great soldier and emperor, declared President, assuming the title of Napoleon 111 in 1852. The French had a very large army and the country was on a warfooting. They had designs on the rest of Europe. In England, the nation set about building fortifications to resist an invasion. In short a cold war existed between the two neighbours.

Our Prime Minister was Lord Palmeston and the "Folly" was the set of land and sea based forts around Portsmouth, which he had built at considerable expense to defend the sea base and dockyard from attack. It consisted of five land forts along the brow of Portsdown Hill - Wallington, Nelson, Southwick, Widley and Purbrook. Even in those days, there was considerable criticism of defence spending. However, a local parish magazine (could it have been St Faith's?) defended expenditure on the hill forts saying "It has become necessary to occupy Portsdown Hill, since rifle ordinance has attained such a range, that an enemy who planted his batteries there, might throw shells into the dockyard, setting fire to and destroying the buildings and stores."

To complement the land forts, four reinforced granite sea forts were built to span the Solent - Spit Sand (Spit Bank), Horse Sand Point, No Man's Land (Nomansland) and St Helen's. Although they were never called into conflict during the 19th Century, they gave yeoman service during the two World Wars, providing anti-aircraft and searchlight emplacements, radar, store and barrack facilities. Particularly during the First World War, St Helens Fort monitored and checked shipping entering the harbour, focusing ships in searchlight beams for coastal batteries to fire upon, should this prove necessary. In fact, the Forts never fired upon shipping of any kind but certainly upon aircraft in the last war.

The sea forts fascinated me as a young boy towards the end of the Second World War (No! Not the First World War!). We were unable to go on the seafront early in the war because, with the threat of invasion, it was barred off from civilians. Some ten years ago, we were invited one September to go to Spit Bank Fort for a dinner. It proved the coldest experience of our lives (no wonder it was the product of a cold war!). It was simply freezing and, to make matters worse (or colder!) the meal turned out to be a cold buffet! They obviously needed a Sandra Haggan to organise things but if this is giving the Social Committee ideas about Spit Bank Fort, forget it!

Roger Bryant

The anniversary I - 15th February 1942

Anniversaries usually involve happy, pleasant recollections of some past event; an event important and meaningful to each of us individually. The anniversary I am about to describe is different, unhappy, but memorable, as it led to one of the great character-forming periods of my life.

Sixteen hundred hours on Sunday 15th February 1942 found my colleagues and I in the depths of despair. Yes, it is sixty one years ago but I remember it as if it were yesterday. I was serving with the Royal Northumberland Fusiliers as a unit of the ill-fated 18th Division, having arrived in Singapore some ten days previously. We had just been informed on that Sunday afternoon of the surrender of the forces defending the Island, (that was us) and feared what would transpire. Is fear worse than reality? We were about to find out! The next hours we spent waiting and wondering. I tried praying, but somehow I couldn't concentrate. In spite of extreme fatigue, after some four days of non-stop fighting, I spent a restless night. At dawn orders were given to parade along Bukit Timah Road where we lined up in single file. I suppose it was around eight that Monday morning when Japanese soldiers began to approach, members of the Imperial Guard but still much smaller than most of us.

The language was strange and unintelligible to all of us, but the signs were clear and so were the messages emanating from the blows struck when one failed to respond. Standing at six feet and two inches I was able to look down on the man who approached, size was no protection however, not against an enemy holding a rifle with fixed bayonet. He grabbed my left wrist and removed one of my treasured possessions, a Rolex Oyster watch, then tapping my shirt pocket he indicated that he wished to see what was there. A cigarette case. Yes, I enjoyed smoking at that time. The cigarette case too became a trophy of war. Satisfied he moved on to the next target. We realised we had become guests of the Japanese Emperor, Hirohito.

The rest is history . Many thousands would live or die in abject slavery over the next three and a half years. I was one of the fortunate ones. I survived the work on the docks at Keppel Harbour, loading and unloading cargoes day and night . I endured with some three hundred the nightmare rail journey in trucks from Singapore to Nong Pladuck in Thailand, a journey taking 24 days. I suffered and endured the toil, the beatings, the diseases that accompanied the slavery of work on the Burma railway. My faith in human nature was tested, but endured, because of the many acts of kindness and caring I witnessed as men shared water, food, tobacco and above all ideas and thoughts of a future. I survived the voyage to Saigon when the convoy was reduced from four ships to one. The American bombing raids on Nha Trang, an oil terminal, left me shaken but alive.

Each month there is at least one day that is a significant anniversary of some momentous event in life. My sojourn took me to some twenty two different camps, in three different countries, followed eventually by release in Saigon. There are many more stories to be told. Throughout the years, since that time, the Far East Prisoner of War Association has been invaluable as an organisation to support, guide and help all Fepow, with comradeship and care, as well as financial help when required. Each monthly meeting begins with our prayer.

The FEPOW Prayer.

As we that are left grow old with the years,
Remembering the heartache the pain and the tears,
Hoping and praying that never again,
Man will sink to such sorrow and shame.
The price that was paid we will always remember,
Every Day, every Month, not just in November.
We can forgive, but, we cannot forget !

The anniversary II - 15th March 1943

Excitement reigned throughout the camp in Thailand. Four men from our Regiment had decided to escape and had gone from the camp. Two were fellow Sergeants and with them were two fusiliers. To cover their escape we had to ensure that the numbers at "Tenko" (roll call) added up. For three days we successfully baffled the Japanese and then the discovery. All Hell was let loose! The telephone wires were humming as messages went to the Kempai Tai (Secret Police). The following day they arrived in camp and even the Japanese and the Korean guards trembled. First they questioned the Japanese and then the Korean Guards, apparently to no avail. The camp was searched, every item within reach thrown to the ground, the huts were emptied and our meagre belongings had to be arrayed on the ground to be examined. My belongings, after a year in captivity, had been drastically reduced. I now owned a mess tin, spoon and fork, a water bottle, a mug, one blanket, a ground sheet and gas cape, a haversack, a rather ragged towel and the clothes I was wearing, namely a torn shirt, shorts, socks, boots and my topi. I had hidden my atlas in a section of bamboo out in the jungle away from the camp.

Now came our turn, the Kempai Tai came to each of us in turn and as we stood to attention they searched our possessions and asked questions. The fact that we could not understand led to beatings, threats, which we found fairly meaningless, and a display of anger. We knew nothing!

On March 15th 1943 three of the escapees were dragged back into camp, on leads like dogs. They had clearly suffered and were in a dreadful state, partly from hunger and also in part from the adverse jungle conditions, but mainly from the severe beatings they had endured. They were not defeated by the jungle but rather betrayed by natives who had been threatened by the Japanese. Next day they were taken to Banpong for trial and having been sentenced to death, they were shot, some prisoners being forced to witness this. I was relieved that it was not me. These were brave men who deserved better.

Some days later we left the jungle camp and after three days walking, along jungle tracks close to the river, we reached Chungkai. A train awaited us here and we were transported, in open trucks, to Nong Pladuk. What a revelation. Wooden huts built on stilts with wood floors and thatched roofs. Luxury after the jungle. What lay in store? A bamboo fence surrounded the camp. Near the cookhouse was a Hospital hut and a Chapel used for services by the camp Chaplain. Officers had their own accommodation many even had their camp beds whilst other ranks slept on the floor with a groundsheet and blanket as bedding.

The camp boasted an interpreter, American Japanese, and a Christian. Formerly a

cab-driver in San Francisco who had travelled to Japan to see his parents and was conscripted into the forces and being bi-lingual he was made an interpreter. Even at this date in 1943 he said the Japanese could never win the war. On periodic visits to Bangkok he would undertake commissions to purchase medicinal drugs from the Chinese including sulpha drugs, which were invaluable for treating bacterial infections, and quinine to treat malaria. His actions helped to save the suffering of many.

Govan S. Easton

Coffee & Tea in Church

Last year it was decided to serve coffee/tea in Church on the first Sunday of every month. Thanks to all those who have supported us, we raised £68.70 last year for the Restoration Appeal. We hope to do as well or better this year, so do come and join us after the 9.30am service on the First Sunday of each month. Peggy Sparks

{My apologies that I omitted to print this item last month, even though the coffee/tea in Church Sunday is an ideal day to buy the current copy of Faith Matters! Jan Stuart}

Children's Society House to House 2003

3.9 million children in the UK are living in poverty. They might be living in the next town, the next street or even on your street, road, avenue or close! Wherever they live they need your help. If you would spare an hour or two between 29th March and 12th April to collect from houses either in your street or several streets nearby, please contact me for more details. Projects are currently being carried out in Havant and Portsmouth with these needy children. Hope to hear from you. Shirley Caunter, Hon.Sec. Children's Society

St Faith's Painting Group

Mrs Rosemary Thomas has kindly agreed to give a water colour painting demonstration on Tuesday 4 March at 10am in St Faith's Church hall. We all look forward to the event.

The demonstration / instruction given last month by Jenny King was well attended and enjoyed by all. One or two of the group produced lovely water colour paintings from that demonstration.

We look forward to future events.

Social Events

St. Faith's Hall has been the venue for two very successful social events so far this year.

Burns Supper. A Burns Supper was held on the evening of Saturday 25th January and was attended by about eighty people. The evening began with the traditional piping-in of the haggis, the Ode to the Haggis and the Toast. The meal was preceded by a reading of the Selkirk Grace: -

Some hae meat and cannot eat
Some cannot eat that want it
But we hae meat and we can eat,
Sae let the Lord be thankit.

Food was served by waitress and consisted of sausages accompanied by an interesting mixture of vegetables based on mashed potato, with gateau as a second course. After a short tribute to Robert Burns followed by the usual toasts to "The Immortal Memory" and to "The Lassies", the rest of the evening was devoted to musical entertainment. Most prominent in this were our two pipers, Portland and John Kinnard from Emsworth, who gave us several very impressive performances at different times during the evening. The rest of the entertainment was rather more "home-grown" and included a sing-a-long of Scots songs accompanied by piano accordion, some instrumental items - piano, guitar and hand bells - and also some solo and group singing. The evening ended in the traditional way with everyone linking arms to sing Auld Lang Syne. Altogether, it was a very enjoyable evening and a sum of over £300 was raised for the Church Restoration Fund. Our thanks go to everyone who



helped to make the evening a success.

Murder Mystery Dinner. The professional group "Cloak and Dagger" provided the entertainment for the Murder Mystery Dinner on Saturday 8th February, with an audience of about a hundred people. The performers, dressed in Victorian Music Hall attire, began the evening by encouraging the audience to sing some of the old Variety songs such as "The Old Bull and Bush" and "My Old Man" (words printed in the programme). Entertainment then proceeded with some magical stunts including some pistol sharp shooting, some mind reading in which members of the audience were invited to participate, and some escapology. It was during this last stunt that the murder took place. The 'body' was removed from the hall and the investigation was about to begin. Whodunit? It appeared that each of the other members of the performing group could have had a valid motive for the crime. During the course of the evening, an excellent meal was very efficiently served by a small team of waitresses. The melon starter was followed by Coronation Chicken and green salad, and the sweet was hot apple

pie with cream. The meal ended with coffee. The dinner continued while members of the cast of performers came round individually to the different tables to be questioned about their relationship with the murder victim. It was then the task of people on each table to discuss the evidence and to write their verdict on the 'murder sheet' provided, giving the reasons for their conclusion. Towards the end of the evening, the investigating woman police detective arrived to review all the evidence, and, finally, to disclose the identity of the murderer. A prize was then awarded to the table, which had produced the correct answer together with the best evidence for their accusation. Once again, this was a most enjoyable evening, raising more than £1000 for the Restoration Fund.

As before, our thanks go to all that contributed to its success.

Junior Choir Practice

Please note that Junior Choir Practice takes place in St. Faith's Church every Friday from 6.15pm to 7.15pm.

Womens World Day of Prayer

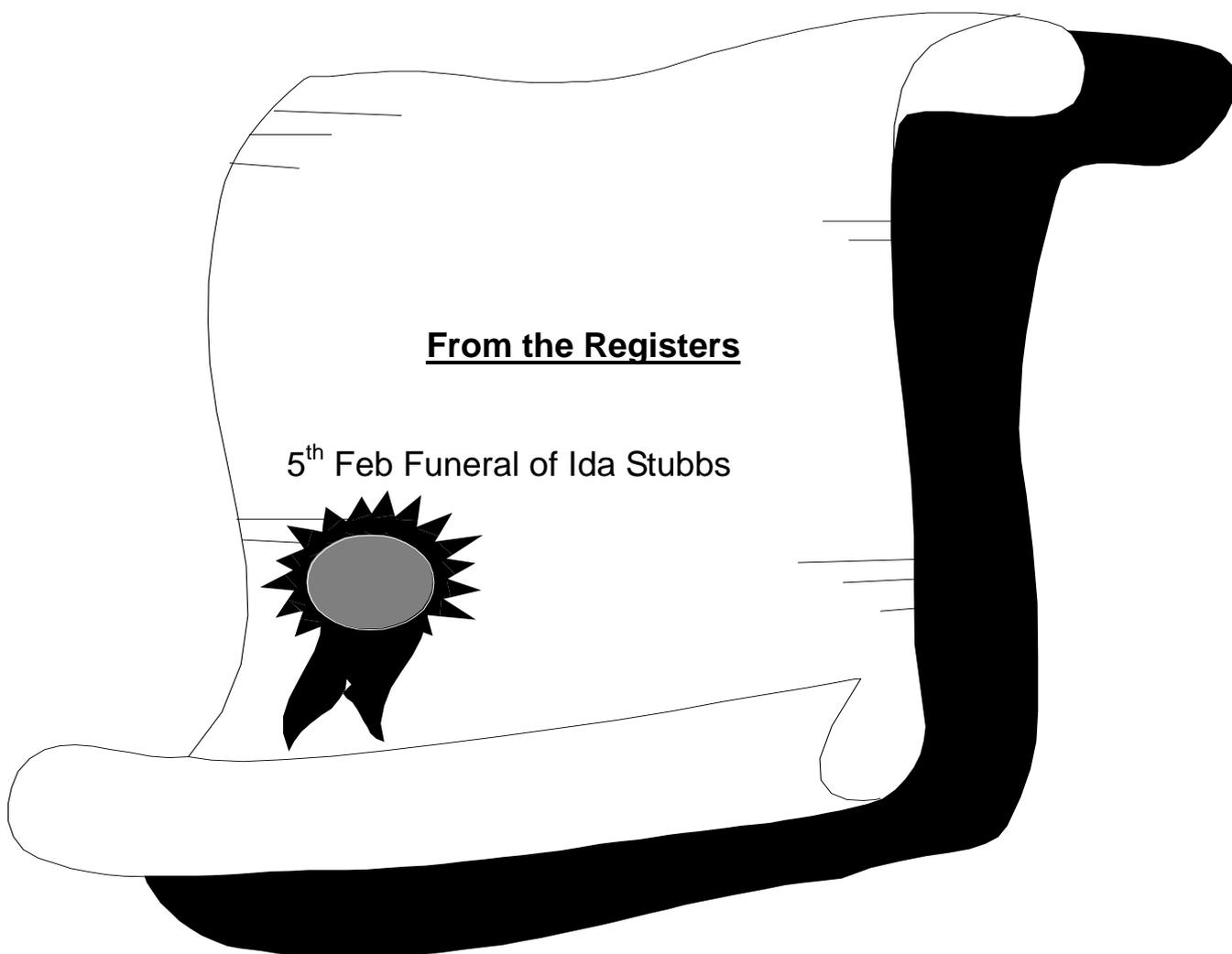
St. Faith's is hosting the service this year on Friday 7th March at 2pm. ALL are welcome (not just women!). Please support this lovely offering of prayer and praise prepared by the Christian Women of the Lebanon. Tea will be served at the end of the service. S.E.C.

Baby Sitting Service Offered

Shirley Caunter's god-daughter writes that she is able to offer a baby sitting service at weekends within the Havant area. She is almost 15 years old and has experience with child of 5 years and over. Please contact Roisin Kay on 023 9249 9728

Havant Census 2001

Population:	116,849
Males:	56,111
Females:	60,738
Housing: the number of households with residents:	48,460
Average household size:	2.39
Owner-occupied	35,879



St. Faith's Church Flower Festival

Five years ago we had a wonderful flower festival here in St. Faith's and we would like to do the same again. It will be on 13th, 14th & 15th June 2003 and the theme will be "Creation". A working committee has been formed to organise the event and we will be having a few events to raise money for the festival, the first of which will be a Quiz Evening in the hall on Saturday 12th April. The quiz will be run on the same lines as the one last year, with teams of eight at £6.00 per person with a ploughman's supper during the interval. More details available from Sandra Haggan. To help with costs of the flowers we wondered if anybody might like to sponsor an arrangement in memory of a loved one, there would be a card with the information on beside the arrangement and in the programme. If anybody would like to be involved with the flower festival, either with helping to organise it, or with arranging flowers on Thursday 12th June, we would be delighted to hear from you.

Sandra Haggan



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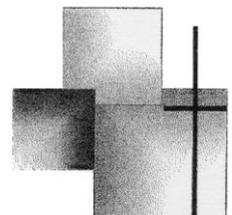
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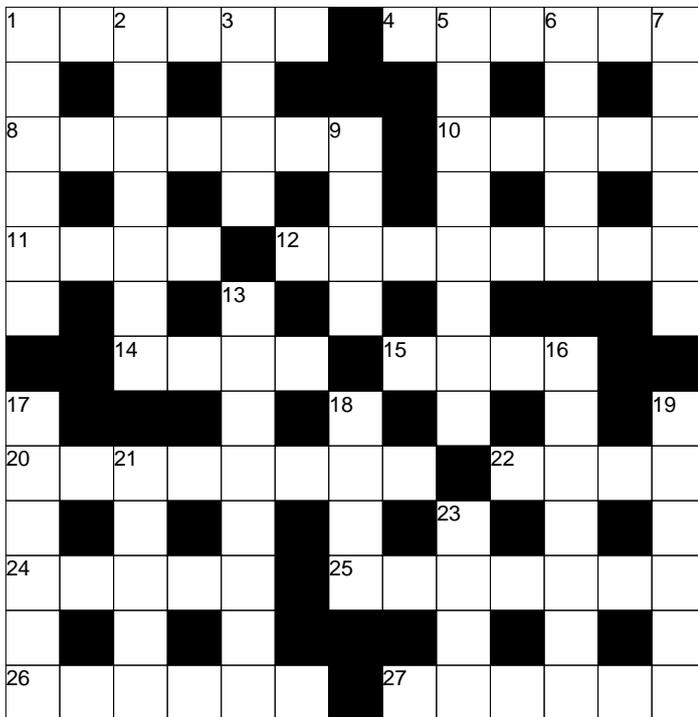
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St Faith's March 2003 Crossword Puzzle (A bit cryptic this month!)



Across

1. Subordinate ruler to change as part of central Government (6).
4. After operation I took and swallowed a drug (6).
8. Range of small company, politician and fool (7).
10. All lead to Rome, so its said (5).
11. Annoy an informer (4).
12. Take care of in Government or church (8).
14. Loaned for about six weeks (4).
15. "Let him who has won it bear the ----" (4).
20. Renegade or principal convert? (8).
22. Put up before the deal (4).
25. Sitting on the fence (7).
27. Man turned back around on friend to get incendiary material (6).

24. Confidential remark, in sotto voce (5)
26. Mark on sailor could be a beetle (6).

Down

1. Runner up to support proposal (6).
3. Sounds a girl feels sorry (4).
6. Backward scholar at stern not before the mast (5).
9. Disturbed youngsters slip out of control (4).
16. Underground worker for Virginia a goddess (7).
18. Note turns up for college (4).
21. A board for questions (5).
2. Revolutionary vehicle for one way ride (7)
5. Operatic hero sought sacred vessel (7)
7. To thrust out sounds like to make effort (6).
13. The AA man is upset to be object of detestation (8).
17. Queen said it would be found on her heart (6).
19. Madhouse in state of uproar (6).
23. Cacti fruit for large fish (4).

Compiled for St Faith's by *Sisyphus*

Answers to the editors by 15th March please!

Answers to February 2003 Crossword

Across: 1.Canterbury, 8.Nowhere, 9.Tonic, 10.Shon, 11.Accolade, 13.Ranks, 14.Abate, 16. Billycan, 17.Siva, 20.Ennui, 21.Leeward, 22.Instalment.

Down: 1.Cones, 2.Newfoundland, 3.Even, 4.Breach, 5.Rational, 6.Incapacitate, 7.Scheme, 12.Assyrian, 13.Rubies, 15.Ballot, 18.Audit, 19.Keel.

The first correct answer out of the hat this month was from Joy Utting, with correct entries also being received from June Morely, Mary Harfield, Marion Simmons, Ann Slade, Ruth Tunks, Keith Uphill, Pat Galliers, Daphne Rowden and Derek Bowley. My sincere apologies to Daphne Rowden, Ann Slade and Joy Utting for omitting their names last month even though all three entries were absolutely correct! I'd blame it on the computer if I didn't know better, but actually it was just me! (Jan Stuart)

Dear All,

Hello, my name is Charles Keay and it seemed a good idea to introduce myself and my wife Annie. We are both delighted to be coming to Havant where I will be serving as Assistant Curate. I was born in Gosport, into a navy family, and Annie was born in Portsmouth too; as you can imagine we were both very pleased to be moving back to our respective roots in the Portsmouth area. I look forward very much to meeting you all soon.

Having read history and psychology at the University of Gloucestershire and studied law at Exeter University I moved to London. It was while I was working in publishing that I first felt called to the priesthood. The Additional Curates Society helped me find a year's placement as Pastoral Assistant at Holy Spirit, Southsea. This was a year of discovery where I discerned my vocation and gained experience in parish ministry. It was during this time that I met Annie and we were married at the Holy Spirit last August.

I became an ordinand in the Portsmouth Diocese and took up my place at theological college at St Stephen's House, Oxford. I am on a two-year course here, which is proving to be very interesting, enlightening and challenging. Although based within a monastic style of community living, prayer and the Eucharist, life here is also a mixture of academic learning, priestly formation and pastoral placements. Acting as chapel sacristan this year, for example, has given me experience of responsibility for a place of worship and its services. Term-time and vacation placements afford the opportunity to discern our vocations. Having already spent time in an urban parish I decided to expand my experience of ministry by working in a rural benefice, with an army chaplain and, this year, at the RAF chaplaincy at Brize Norton.

We worship at our college church, St John the Evangelist, Iffley Road which serves not only the ordinands and their families but also the local community as well. While we are here in Oxford Annie has also been working in Waterstones, which certainly keeps her busy!

Please pray for my final exams in May and God willing see you in June.

Love and prayers

Charles Keay.

Havant Census 2001

Ethnicity:	White population:	115,154
Religion:	Christian:	85,982
	Other religions:	1,121
	No religion or not stated:	29,756

The Oxford Movement (Revisited by Ivan Morley)

In response to Roger Bryant's article in the February edition, I would first like to join with him in celebrating all that binds us together in the Church of Christ. However, on reading the article I did feel those opposed to the Oxford movement had a pretty raw deal.

The emergence of Darwinism, along with the new sciences, called into question the very foundations upon which Christianity appeared to be built. In attempting to meet this threat, the Anglican Church found itself polarised, with some members looking to Rome in search of an authoritarian church whilst others, predominantly the Evangelicals, sought to reduce ritual to a minimum and re-emphasised their sometimes blind trust in the Scriptures. The Anglo-Catholics, or High Churchmen, sought a Christian faith that emphasised both beauty and Mystery, yet firmly retained authority in clerical hands; conscience was to be the act of obeying church authority. Keble "thought it dangerous to impart the oracles of God to profane and untrustworthy men". The Evangelicals had earlier emerged as the remaining radical element of the Church, at the time of the departure of the Methodists. It would appear they also sought to ignore the new sciences, along with the new theologies developing in northern Europe at that time. Both traditions were instrumental in improving the wellbeing of the poor, oppressed, needy, and abused, both at home and throughout the world. Along with Rome, and most nonconformist Churches, both traditions continued to profess the Christian faith in terms of the Apostles Creed, and the Nicene Creed. A quick inspection however will confirm this denotes commitment to a "catholic" or universal_church, rather than a "Roman Catholic" church. I believe it fair to say the Faith remained catholic, whilst Catholicism applied more generally to the doctrine and practices of the Roman Church.

By exercising their influence through the various theological colleges, the two opposing traditions have continued to dominate the churches political scene, until the fairly recent evolution of the Liberals, who are apparently, despised by both! Today, by far the majority of parishes seem to adopt something of a "Pick and Mix" approach to their churchmanship; zealots do still exist, but they are an endangered species. I believe much remains to be done to meet the perceived threat that science did once, and today continues to present to the Church. Our Christian Faith and practices must be seen by everyone to be credible, even in the light of scientific progress, which in itself may best be described as the ongoing revelation of God's creation. We need perhaps to engage in acts of worship and religious rites that retain both beauty and mysticism yet are relevant and understandable to this and future generations. We must be at the forefront in the fight for equality in all things; discrimination by reason of race, sex, or personal history is not, in my opinion, the will of God. In the matter of Father Dolling, there remains in my view a sweet irony. If he had been ordained into the Roman church and had attempted to amend their customs and practices in similar manner, I doubt whether the poor fellow would have lasted the week!

Ivan Morley

Lay Assistants

Following the Bishop granting his licence, at a short ceremony during the Parish Eucharist on Sunday 9th February 2003 Mary Strugnell and Carmen Stuart were given permission as Lay Assistants to Distribute the Holy Communion, at the request of the incumbent in our parish. Afterwards, they were warmly congratulated by members of the congregation.



Space Shuttle Columbia

On 1st February the space shuttle Columbia burst into flames as it re-entered the atmosphere at the end of a 16-day mission, killing all seven crew members and scattering debris over hundreds of miles. The United States president, George W Bush, addressed the American people and ended with the following words:

“In the skies today we saw destruction and tragedy. Yet farther than we can see there is comfort and hope. In the words of the prophet Isaiah: ‘Lift your eyes and look to the heavens. Who created all these? He who brings out the starry hosts one by one and calls them each by name. Because of His great power and mighty strength, not one of them is missing.’

The same creator who names the stars also knows the names of the seven souls we mourn today. The crew of the shuttle Columbia did not return safely to Earth; yet we can pray that all are safely home. May God bless the grieving families, and may God continue to bless America.”

How many of our leaders would make a speech like this and end with “God bless Britain”? Do our leaders have pride in our country? Do we have pride in our country? Are we bringing up our children to have pride in our country? If not, why not?
Colin Carter



St Faith's Women's Group

The group will next meet at **8pm on Tuesday 4th March** at 4 Pine Grove, Havant.

Our new book for reading and study is “**Be Still and Know** – a study in the Life of Prayer”, by Michael Ramsay. We agreed that this would be our topic for contemplation during Lent this year.

If you would like to join us you would be very welcome, just let Carmen Stuart know (Tel: 023 9247 0335) and come along on the 4th March.

Vision

Further to the Vision meeting on 22nd February the following groups have been set up:-

- Ministry
- Mission
- Money and People
- Church and Properties
- Worship
- Education

Each group is tasked with discussing ideas, which can help to bring about our vision, and so devise long term and short term plans. The key to the success of these groups is the people in them. You have skills and ideas, which can influence and shape what we do in the future, so please join a group and play your part! To join in, simply contact the group's co-ordinator (see lists in Church) to find out when and where their next meeting is to take place.



Assistant Verger

We should like to appoint an Assistant verger, to be responsible for opening the Church and the Church Hall complex on the verger's day off and during her holidays. For more information please contact the Rector or Churchwardens.



Correspondence

Roger, in his article about the "Oxford Movement", (Faith Matters Feb'03) writes, "*Sadly the ordination of women to the priesthood in the Church of England has halted the process [re-union of Christendom] and the "Vision" is on hold, but not destroyed*". He then says that he has never been against ordination of women, but his argument has always been about timing. Some time ago (November 2000) the PCC resolved, with only one dissenting voice, "*Not to accept a woman as the Incumbent or Priest-in-Charge of the Benefice or as team vicar for the Benefice.*" Many of us consider that the ordination of women has been, and is, of great benefit to Christendom and that inevitably the Roman Catholic Church will follow suit. Perhaps it is time for the PCC to reconsider this issue. John Bradey {*This PCC vote is a mandatory requirement when an incumbent leaves a Parish but happily Fr David assures me that he's not going anywhere for some time to come!*Ed.}

Word Search – Ship Ahoy!

Can you find the names associated with a Royal Navy warship that are shown in the grid? Words may be read forwards, backwards, up, down or diagonal and are in straight lines. Where a “/” is shown the words are not contiguous in the grid. Colin Carter

ANCHOR	FOCSLE	PORT
BOSUNS/CALL	GALLEY	PROPELLORS
BRIDGE	GYRO	QUARTERDECK
CABLE	HEADS	RADARS
CAPTAIN	LADDERS	SAILORS
ENGINEER ROOM	LIFEBOAT	SHIPS/BELL
ENSIGN	MAST	STARBOARD
FLAGS	OFFICER	YARDARM

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

Now can you find the name of the special lady who visited the ship? - her name begins with the letter ‘M’.

From the Editors

On Saturday 15th February, Jan and I attended a “get-together” at the Holy Trinity Church in Fareham for the editors of parish magazines in the Portsmouth Diocese and chaired by Neil Pugmire the Communications Adviser for the Diocese. 16 editors attended and it was interesting to view and discuss with them their magazines. Most magazines are of similar size as our magazine, with the rural parishes, like Bishop’s Waltham and Hambledon, of a more glossy type, with much more advertisements as they cater, not only for their parishioners but also for the community. Our magazine “faith matters” compares very favourably with the other magazines in content, cost of printing, price of the magazine and advertisement income, but our sales (on average around 160-165 copies a month) is at the bottom end. There is to be a competition this year for the most **improved** parish magazine. Bishop Kenneth will chair a panel of judges. It will be judged on the basis of improvements in content, layout, production and advertising. The 1st prize will be £200 to devote to the parish magazine, with a 2nd prize of £100 and 3rd prize of £50. So please put your thinking caps on and let Jan or I have some really interesting articles. Also, let us have any suggestions on how to improve the magazine so that we may get one of the prizes. One question asked was “what is the role of the parish magazine in its communications strategy?” Perhaps the PCC would let the editors know please?

Colin Carter

Just to add a bit to the above, the main differences between the magazines arose from who they were intended for. Some, like ours, are primarily aimed at the members of our church. Others are aimed at the local community, yet others are aimed at the members of a number of local Christian churches. Have we got it right or should we be including in our readership, those who do not as yet come to our church?

Another meeting this week for me, was the Deanery Synod, which included an interesting talk by the Very Revd David Brinley, Dean of Portsmouth Cathedral. He traced its history from the chapel and a few cottages erected by a Frenchman in the 1100’s, to the present day and explained the way in which the cathedral also acts a parish church – they even pay their quota!

I also received a General Synod review with a note of their debate on a report from the Board of Social Responsibility entitled “Iraq: Would Military Action Be Justified?”. The Synod rejected 142-110 an amendment stating that “the Security Council alone could decide the action taken should Iraq not comply with the recent Council resolution on inspection”. The Bishop of Coventry said Christians must continue to question the justification for war.

Jan Stuart

SERVICES

Sunday 2nd March

Sunday before Lent

8.00am Eucharist

8.00am Eucharist at St Nicholas, Langstone

9.15am Sunday Club in Church House

9.30am **PARISH EUCHARIST**

Preacher: The Revd Stuart Craddock

6.30pm Evensong

Ash Wednesday 5th March: The Start of Lent

7.30pm Eucharist with Ashing

Sunday 9th March

First Sunday of Lent

8.00am Eucharist

9.15am Sunday Club in Church House

9.30am **PARISH EUCHARIST** with Holy Baptism

6.30pm Evensong

Tuesday 11th March

7.30pm Stations of the Cross

Sunday 16th March

Second Sunday of Lent

8.00am Eucharist

9.15am Sunday Club in Church House

9.30am **PARISH EUCHARIST**

President & Preacher: The Ven. Kenneth Gibbons

6.30pm Evensong

Tuesday 18th March

7.30pm Stations of the Cross - St Alban's West Leigh

Sunday 23rd March

Third Sunday of Lent

8.00am Eucharist

9.15am Sunday Club in Church House

9.30am **PARISH EUCHARIST**

Preacher: The Revd. Robin Coutts

6.30pm Evensong

Tuesday 25th March

7.30pm Stations of the Cross and Eucharist for the
Annunciation of Mary

Sunday 30th March

Mothering Sunday

8.00am Eucharist

9.15am Sunday Club in Church House

9.30am **FAMILY EUCHARIST**

Preacher: The Ven. Peter Hancock

6.30pm Evensong

Tuesday 1st April

7.30pm Stations of the Cross

Sunday 6th April

Fifth Sunday of Lent

8.00am Eucharist

8.00am Eucharist at St Nicholas, Langstone

9.15am Sunday Club in Church House

9.30am **PARISH EUCHARIST**

6.30pm Evensong

STAFF

Rector	Rev David Gibbons	023 9248 3485
The Rectory, 5 Meadowlands, Havant, PO9 2RP		
Lay Deacon	Dr Trevor Hopkinson	023 9246 2350
Verger, Sacristan & Hall Manager	Mrs Vickie Mockford,	023 9247 1398
2 Churchfields South Street, Havant, PO9 1BY		
Organist	Mrs J Williams	023 9234 3020
Parish Office Administrator	Mrs J Morley	023 9249 2129
	(Home)	023 9248 2430

WHO'S WHO

Churchwardens	Mr R Bryant	01243 376863
	Dr C Warlow	023 9247 5447
Hon. Secretary PCC	Mrs A M Currie	023 9247 9937
3 Lower Grove Road, Havant, PO9 1AS		
Hon. Treasurer PCC	Mrs P Bowley	023 9248 3524
17 Berkeley Square, Havant, PO9 2RT		
St Nicholas, Langstone	Mr E Manning	023 9248 3500
Wardens	Mrs A Plater	023 9245 1075
Child Protection Officer	Mrs F Hedley	023 2949 8229
Stewardship Secretary	Mr A Hakim	023 9247 1681
Captain of Bellringers	Mrs B Skilleter	023 9225 3802
Church Shop	Mrs E Gomersall	023 9248 4104
Social Activities	Mrs S Haggan	023 9245 5161
Bible Reading Fellowship	Mrs H Deadman	023 9247 1241
Flowers for High Altar	Mrs R Thomas	023 9248 3836
Missions to Seafarers Sec.	Miss P Sparks	023 9245 0309
Mother's Union Advisor	Mrs E A Gilbert	023 9245 2321
Children's Society Boxes	Mrs S Caunter	023 9248 1231

MEMBERS OF PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Rev David Gibbons (Chairman)

Dr C Warlow (Churchwarden)	Mr R Bryant (Churchwarden)	
Mrs P Bowley (Hon. Treasurer)	Mrs A M Currie (Hon. Secretary)	
Dr C Churcher-Brown	Mr D Freeston	Mrs A Plater
Mrs S Robson	Miss P Sparks	Mrs C Stuart
Mr R Wilson		
Deanery Synod Representatives: Prof J Stuart & Mrs S Caunter		