

St Michael's Messenger

Autumn 2007



Free

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A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

This is the 10th issue of 'The Messenger' that Hugh and I have worked on since inheriting it from Sophie Poulain-Thorne, and we are celebrating the fact by reminding ourselves of the previous 9 covers and printing them again, all together, on the front of this issue.



Now to this summer: it has seen four weddings at St Michael's, a couple taken by Fr Roger, one taken by Fr Philip and yet another one taken by a visiting German pastor, (In that wedding the couple were German, the bride sang a solo to her new husband from the piano and one of the 'hymns' was 'When all the saints come marching in!'). There was a wonderful concert given by the **Grove Singers**, from England, who were prepared to give all their profits from the evening to St Michael's. In fact, there were no profits to give! Unfortunately, many of our congregation were away, so only 3 of us from the church turned up. A few of our French friends supported it though. We also had a visit from the choir of Caius College, Cambridge, who sang a mass at one of our Sunday services (see In Brief).

Later in this issue: a year ago The Earl of Wessex, with the Mayor of Beaulieu, unveiled a plaque outside the church commemorating the Duke of Connaught's involvement with St Michael's; Fr Roger writes a fascinating account of his life (**Prince Arthur, Duke of Connaught**) and I would like to thank Donald Crothswaite for letting us use pictures of the Duke and Duchess taken from his private collection. Nicola Karlsen continues her memories of the Middle East (**Life in the Muslim World**). There are the usual bits and bobs including a delicious recipe from Roberta Moore (**What's Cooking?**).

Throughout the summer months St Michael's has been short of volunteers on Sunday mornings; people to do the flowers on the Altar, to read and to do hospitality. (One of our stalwart members bought and arranged the flowers for 5 weeks in a row and someone has always kindly stepped in to read and to do the all important coffee and wine for afters!) If you have never done it before and you are going to be at St Michael's for a couple of weeks, perhaps **you** would like to read or do the flowers or even prepare refreshments for after the service. All you have to do is see me, or any of our council members, in order to help you put you're your name down. **Thank you** to everyone who does put their name down (especially to those who stand in at the last minute).

Thank you to all our advertisers, old and new, for supporting us yet again for another year. **They support us, please support them!**

Thank you to the Messenger Team! I might always say it, but rest assured I always mean it **without you, it could not be done!**

If anyone has anything they think would be appropriate to be included in St Michael's Messenger, please contact me. I don't always manage to include everything people send me, but I do like the suggestions to keep rolling in!

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LETTER FROM THE CHAPLAIN

Memory (looking back to the past) and hope (looking forward to the future) are two values which Christians treasure. Indeed memory (when it is not merely nostalgia) itself inspires and nourishes hope. So our commemoration in thanksgiving and eucharist of our own history at St Michael's and of the courageous and distinguished pioneers who established this church on such firm foundations is a challenge to us all to continue their mission in the very changed conditions of the early 21st century.



In 2003, the year of the centenary of the church's consecration, we honoured in particular the 3rd Marquess of Salisbury, Queen Victoria's last Prime Minister, and The Reverend John Otter Stephens, the founding chaplain; Many will remember that it was two of their descendants, Lord Charles Cecil and the Hon Lady Roberts, who read the 1st and 2nd lessons at the centenary Eucharist. Last year and next year we are honouring the memory of Prince Arthur, Duke of Connaught. Last year the square outside the church was re-christened Place Duc de Connaught by HRH Prince Edward, Earl of Wessex, and M. Roger Roux; next year we look forward to a double celebration on Saturday 5th April.

The year 2008 will see the 30th anniversary of the foundation of the Danish Church community on the Cote d'Azur. The Danish Church has for many years worshipped at St Michael's and on both sides we are anxious to continue and strengthen this relationship. On this occasion the prestigious Copenhagen Girls' Choir will come to Beaulieu, not only to sing at the Danish liturgy on Sunday 6th April but also to give a concert which will lead up to a short Act of Thanksgiving in the presence of our two congregations and invited guests on the evening of Saturday 5th April. The Royal Patron of this choir is HRH Princess Benedikte, sister of Queen Margrethe II, great granddaughters of the Duke of Connaught.

At the time of going to press it seems likely, after discussion with the Danish Pastor, that the memorial to the Duke will take the form of a font cover designed by our Hon. Architect, Dr Donald Buttress. We have already received some generous contributions to this project and we look for other benefactors, Anglican and Danish. The memorial will be inaugurated by Princess Benedikte during the ceremony on 5th April.

At Pastor Henrik Christensen's suggestion the annual Anglican-Scandinavian joint service on 8th July this year culminated in the baptism at our font by the Pastor of Maximilien, the son of French and Danish parents. Commenting on this during my sermon that day I said that *'since it was not my idea, I can therefore say that I consider it a happy and most appropriate choice'*. As I went on to explain, *'Christians may be divided at the Altar, unable to share fully one Eucharist and unable fully to recognize each other's ordained ministries, but we are united without qualification at the Font'* and I quoted a Solemn Agreement signed by eleven Christian Churches in Germany this year: "Sign of the unity of Christians, Baptism in Jesus Christ constitutes the foundation of this unity. *Continued over*

In spite of differences in our understanding of the Church, there exists between us a fundamental agreement on Baptism. That is why we recognize all baptisms practised by immersion or aspersion with water in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Baptism thus realized is unique and unrepeatable."

So let me end with words from St Paul's letter to the Ephresians' (ch.3, v 5) which are engraved on the Font of Chichester Cathedral,

ONE LORD. ONE FAITH, ONE BAPTISM

Roger Greenacre

FROM THE CHURCH REGISTERS

Baptism

Sunday 16th September Oscar Cecil Craven & Ava Ann Jopson

Weddings

Saturday 9th June Mark Hilditch & Philippa Nordberg
Saturday 30th June David Masullo & Cécile Razeau
Saturday 7th July Neil MacCallum & Sarah Gordon



REST ETERNAL GRANT UNTO THEM, O LORD...

Ruth Ward came frequently on holiday to Beaulieu with her husband, Dermot, a retired doctor. They lived in Chichester and Ruth's funeral was held in Chichester Cathedral on 26th June. Fr Roger wrote to assure Dermot of our prayers and our sympathy and got a letter back in July.

Philippe Roux was the brother of our good friend Roger Roux, Mayor of Beaulieu; his funeral was held in the church of the Sacré-Coeur on 23rd August. Fr Roger wrote to the Mayor and assured him that his brother would be remembered in prayer at St Michael's on the following Sunday.

We have also in recent weeks remembered in our prayers **Raymond Barre**, a former Prime Minister of France who lived at St Jean Cap Ferrat and was personally known to some of our congregation, and **Renée, Lady Iliffe** from Roquebrune, who was a generous supporter of our first Festival de Beaulieu and a personal friend of the Salisbury family.

IN BRIEF

Garden Party

Our annual Garden Party was held on Saturday 23rd June; if not on the scale of the Queen's Garden Parties at Buckingham Palace, we did have far better weather! A good crowd of friends took part; it was a particular pleasure to welcome former chaplain Canon Geoffry Grant and his wife Janet. Among our many French guests we were particularly honoured to welcome M. Roger Roux, Mayor of Beaulieu, seen here standing to the left of Sebastien Pisani (See below – **Adorning the Pulpit**).



A visit from Cambridge

On Sunday 15th July we were privileged to have the choir of Gonville & Caius College, Cambridge, with us for our Sunday Eucharist. The church was filled with the glorious sound of Byrd's *Mass for Four Voices* & Tallis's *Salvator Mundi*; over 90 people took part in this service, followed by a picnic lunch in the garden. Alumni of Caius College in our congregation that day included Edgar Harborne and Professor Alfred Louch.



vice, followed by a picnic lunch in the garden. Alumni of Caius College in our congregation that day included Edgar Harborne and Professor Alfred Louch.

An August Visitor

We are most grateful to Canon David Skeoch for his service at the altar and the pulpit during the 1st two weeks of August, while Fr Roger was in England.

Adorning the Pulpit

We record our thanks to Sebastien Pisani for his gift of a new green pulpit fall. It replaces one whose green had faded over the years to a rather dingy yellow.

Prince of the Angels

Fr Roger was profoundly touched to receive an icon of St Michael as a personal gift from Mme Elvire Mercatini, who 'wrote' (to use the correct expression) the icon of the Virgin and Child for St Michael's.



WHAT'S COOKING ?

Chicken with Italian Tuna Sauce



Our good friend Roberta Moore served this delicious chicken dish as an alternative to the famous veal Tonnato at one of her splendid swimming / luncheon parties. I thought it so scrumptious I asked if she would be prepared to share it – her own recipe – with us. She kindly agreed. She assures me that it is easier to prepare than the original recipe with veal! Please try it. I know you will enjoy it.

This recipe will serve 4.

Ingredients

4 good sized pieces of chicken poached or roasted

Sauce

125g good tuna (tinned)
3 anchovy fillets
1 tbsp lemon juice
1 tbsp horseradish sauce
150g good mayonnaise
3 tbsp chicken stock

Final touches

1 tbsp capers
Parsley

Method

1. Putting the poached or roasted chicken aside for the moment, make the sauce by placing all its ingredients - except for the mayonnaise and the stock - into a blender and whiz to a purée.
2. Add the mayonnaise and whiz again, briefly. (Thin out with the chicken stock.)
3. Taking the chicken, cut into thin slices.
4. Arrange ½ the sliced chicken in a large serving platter.
5. Cover with ½ the sauce.
6. Place the remainder of the chicken on top.
7. Cover with the remainder of the sauce.
8. Scatter on top the capers and parsley

Et voilà !

This recipe will keep in the fridge for days!

PRINCE ARTHUR, DUKE OF CONNAUGHT

Prince Arthur was the third and favourite son of Queen Victoria. Born on 1st May 1850, the 81st birthday of the Duke of Wellington, who was chosen to be one of his Godfathers and in whose honour he was given the name of Arthur, he lived long enough to become himself Godfather to Queen Elizabeth II and to die in 1942 in his 92nd year.

He was destined for a military career and had a distinguished record as a soldier, eventually becoming a Field Marshal. He commanded the Brigade of Guards at the Battle of Tel-el-Kebir in Egypt in 1882; Sir Garnet Wolseley, the Commander-in-Chief reported that he had 'taken more care of his men and is more active in the discharge of his duties than any of the generals now with me'. He spent some time in India where he tried to reduce the social gap between the British and Indian soldiers under his command. He was a modest, hard working, popular and conscientious soldier, but as Inspector-General of the Forces under Edward VII, came into conflict with those who were opposed to reform and resented his reports. He could hardly be sacked but was instead 'kicked upstairs' to an apparently prestigious post as Commander-in Chief in the Mediterranean, where he found himself (to quote his own description) no more than a fifth wheel on the coach, an impediment to, rather than an enhancement of, its efficiency. He insisted on resigning in 1909 and so ended his active military service. However, his brother, Edward VII, decided that he should be Governor-General of Canada, though by the time he arrived in Canada in 1911, Edward VII was dead and George V had ascended to the throne.



The Duke, who had travelled widely all over the world and already knew Canada, was Governor-General from 1911 to 1916. He travelled indefatigably all over the dominion and he and his Duchess became very popular. He made particular efforts to bring together English and French-speaking Canadians (he spoke fluent French) and to be on good terms with the Roman Catholic hierarchy. He did however become involved in controversy which became sharper after the outbreak of war in 1914. He pressed the Prime Minister of Canada to drop his minister for militia and defence whose mental instability, conceit, ambition and involvement with corrupt profiteers were a particular menace to the Canadian forces in Europe. In 1916, when he laid down his office and returned to England, at the age of 66, there were widespread expressions of regret.

In 1879 Prince Arthur, created Duke of Connaught and Strathearn and Earl of Sussex in 1874, had married Princess Louise Margaret of Prussia. She had had an unhappy childhood but the marriage was a genuine love match. The marriage was happy and enduring; if the Duke had a long, deep and affectionate friendship with Mrs Leonie Leslie, that friendship was shared and encouraged by the Duchess and was not a threat to their marriage. Three children were born to the Connaughts; to them we will return later.

The Duchess, though a Hohenzollern by birth, identified totally with Britain and Canada during the war. She had never been strong and in March 1917 she died. The Duke, who already knew and appreciated the French Riviera and whose bronchitis made it wise for him to winter in a summer climate, decided to go to Beaulieu for the winter season in 1919. In 1921 he moved into the Villa Les Bruyères at St Jean-Cap Ferrat, which he bought from the French government which had confiscated it from its German owner. He soon settled down to a routine of living there from November to April and dividing the rest of the year between Clarence House and Bagshot Park, his English residences. In France he devoted himself to the garden of his villa, to golf and to the company of new friends. He seems to have ceased his regular visits to Les Bruyères in 1934.



The 1993 biography of the Duke, **Witness of a Century**, by Noble Frankland is rather disappointing – particularly with regard to the Riviera interlude. From other sources we learn that he was made a Citizen of Honour of Beaulieu and that he was, in the words of Consuelo Vanderbilt, ‘by far the most popular royalty on the Côte. The French more especially appreciated the part he took in the life of the community, for he never failed to be present at a local ceremony’. M. André Cane, the veteran local historian who died in August 2006 and who remembered seeing him when he was a boy, confirmed this testimony: *‘Il est incontestablement, entre les deux guerres, la personnalité la plus éminente et la plus vénérée de la colonie britannique de la Côte d’Azur’.*

It is however Professor Richard Cooper in his history of our church who tells us about his connection with St Michael’s. He was a regular worshipper here during his time at Les Bruyères, always arriving by train from London in time for 11th November and after the Anglican service taking part in the Armistice Day procession to the Monument aux Morts. For what was his most important contribution to St Michael’s it is worth quoting directly from the Centenary Brochure.....

‘The Duke was instrumental in proposing that the Anglican Chaplaincy, formerly under the patronage of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, but now under that of the Gibraltar Diocesan Trust, should become a residential rather than a seasonal appointment, and that consequently accommodation for the Chaplain should be provided. A modest endowment of some £125 per year had been provided for the Chaplaincy in 1923 by a capital gift from Sir Henry Samuelson, but this was insufficient to buy a house for the Chaplain. Following an initiative from the Duke and from Col.E.H.Rivett-Carnac, late of the Indian Army, £1000 was raised towards the house in 1923-24 and a similar sum in 1924-25, the remaining £1000 being given by Samuelson, by far the most generous of the benefactors of St Michael’s. With this money the Villa Batava was acquired in Boulevard Marinoni on the behalf of the Gibraltar Diocesan Trust, and it served as the Chaplain’s house for over thirty years under its new name, Villa Saint-Michel.’

We have already noted the crushing blow the Duke sustained in 1917 when his wife died, but other sorrows were to follow. His eldest child, Princess Margaret, married the Crown Prince (later King Gustav VI Adolf) of Sweden and her descendants include the present King of Sweden (grandson) and Queen Margrethe II of Denmark and her two sisters, Princess Benedikte and Queen Anne-Marie of Greece (granddaughters). In 1920, at the age of 38, Princess Margaret died. In 1938 the Duke's only son, Prince Arthur of Connaught, died of cancer of the throat, while his only son, Alistair, briefly the 2nd and last Duke of Connaught, died in Canada in 1943 at the age of 28, a little more than a year after his grandfather.

Happily, his youngest child, Lady Patricia Ramsay, who declined a number of royal marriages to make a love match with Admiral Sir Alexander Ramsay, lived into the 1970s and is survived by her Scottish daughter-in-law and three granddaughters. In 2006 St Michael's received an extremely generous grant of over 3000 euros from the Queen Margrethe and Prince Henrik Charitable Foundation toward our Church Restoration Appeal. Later in that year the square in which our church is situated was renamed **Place Duc de Connaught** and a memorial tablet unveiled by HRH Prince Edward, Earl of Wessex (who now lives in Bagshot Park, a house built for the Duke) and M. Roger Roux, Mayor of Beaulieu. In April 2008 we look forward to welcoming HRH Princess Benedikte of Denmark, who will be accompanying the Copenhagen Girl's Choir of which she is Patron, for ceremonies which will include the celebration of the 30th anniversary of the foundation of the Danish Church on the Côte d'Azur and a memorial to her great grandfather. So we will honour both a long connection between St Michael's and the Danish community and a man who was a popular and hardworking member of the British royal family and a benefactor of our church.

R.T.G.

Beaulieu in the Nineteen Twenties'

From 'The Riviera of the Corniche Road' by Sir Frederick Treves, London 1921

"Beaulieu is a super-village of sumptuous villas. It lies on an evergreen shelf by the sea, pampered by an indulgent climate, made gorgeous by an extravagant vegetation and provided by all the delights that the most florid house agent could invent. It breathes luxury and wealth, languid ease and a surfeit of comfort. It can best be viewed from the Mid-Corniche road on the way to Eze. Here the envious can lean over a wall and look down upon Naboth's vineyard, upon a village which is possibly the richest in Europe and upon gardens whose glory is nowhere to be surpassed."

P.S. Those whose acquaintance with the Old testament is less than intimate may care to look up the story of Naboth, a classic tale of envy and murder, in 1 Kings, chapter 21.

LIFE IN THE MUSLIM WORLD PART II

'OBSERVATIONS & RECOLLECTIONS' BY: NICOLA ANN KARLSEN.

Nicola, who lived and worked as a teacher of English in the Middle East from 1985-2005, became Church Council Secretary of St George's, Baghdad and St Andrew's, Abu Dhabi. She is presently a council member of St Michael's and, with her family, a regular worshipper. In issue No.23 of 'The Messenger' she shared with us some of her memories of living in Saudi Arabia and Iraq. In 1990, while she was on leave, Iraq invaded Kuwait and she could not return. She had to leave Iraq.



UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

After the intense atmosphere of Baghdad, it was a relief to return to the United Arab Emirates which, despite being in the war zone, were relatively calm and safe.

The UAE is a young country, formerly a British protectorate, which was blessed not only with great oil wealth but a fine leader Sheikh Zayed Al Nayhan. Under his rule, religious tolerance was extended to all Christian communities and generally tolerant attitudes encouraged towards its large expatriate population.

I remember the Reverend Michael Mansbridge once taking as his sermon text a speech by Sheikh Zayed, highlighting him as an example of a leader who was led by God. Whenever our Bishop visited he was always placed on the right of the Sheikh in the majlis.

The Anglican Church compound of St Andrew's, at the last count, had people from some thirty different member-churches of the Anglican Communion as well as Greek Orthodox, Copts, Mar Thoma (a South Indian church founded by St Thomas) and several Filipino evangelical groups.

After the invasion of Kuwait in 1990 it was to Abu Dhabi that I and many expats fled including, strangely enough, all three of the Church Council officers from Baghdad. We were thus able to meet the Bishop and hand over signing rights to the Baghdad Church's assets to him, meager as they were. We sat late into the night watching with very mixed feelings the CNN reports of coalition sorties flying out of Abu Dhabi to bomb Iraq each day during that conflict. Our church was kept busy providing support to visiting servicemen and women, many very young and homesick.

Some years later I met my husband, Egill, in Abu Dhabi. It was at St Andrew's that we were married and our daughter, Hannah, baptized.

The terrorist attacks of 9/11 led to an exodus of many Americans from the Gulf but the UAE remained calm, and our employers assured us that they deplored such terrorism and would ensure our safety.

Although the UAE very openly supported the allied action to liberate Kuwait (their fellow bedouin), support for the invasion of Iraq in 2003 was more muted and discreet. The UAE has been trying very hard to maintain a balance between championing the Arab cause and its desire for economic and political acceptance in the west. While Sheikh Zayed was offering political asylum to Saddam Hussein, the western backed candidate for President of Iraq, Adnan Pachachi, was waiting in the wings in Abu Dhabi. The former information minister of Iraq, (dubbed Comical Ali by the western press) was soon given a job at Abu Dhabi Television where he is seen as something of a hero. Another Baghdad refugee who appeared in Abu Dhabi was the aforementioned literature student. He called me as we watched Saddam's statue being pulled down. He said it was the happiest day of his life.

We watched with dismay the developments in Iraq after that, including the agonizing captivity and murder in Iraq of my former colleague and friend Margaret Hassan.

Soon after that Sheikh Zayed died, and the UAE citizens, and indeed many expatriates, mourned him deeply. A student said to me, "It's like my Dad has died". Sheikh Maktoum of Dubai died a few months later. The next generation of rulers in the UAE is modern and forward thinking but lacks, perhaps, the simple humanity of Zayed.

I think we realized that the strange sense of security in the UAE, and its seeming immunity to terrorist activity must have been the result of some agreement between the Gulf governments and Al Qaeda. Eventually we decided that we had been fortunate to live through three Gulf Wars and to be living under a benevolent regime but we knew the ambivalence of the Arab world towards the west could still be volatile.

It was time to immerse ourselves once more in European culture, but not without regret and a sense of privilege at having lived through such an interesting era in the history of the Middle East.

N.A.K

From the Chaplain's Commonplace Book

A thought for Michaelmas:

'The reason angels can fly is because they take themselves lightly.'

G.K.Chesterton



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Festival Returns to its Roots

The Festival de Musique of Beaulieu-sur-Mer, in its fifth year, came back to its roots in St Michael's. The first Festival, in September 2003, was conceived by the Anglican and Catholic clergy and congregations of the town (Father Roger in the vanguard) to celebrate the centenaries of our two churches, St Michael's (consecrated in 1903) and the Sacré Cœur (completed and opened in 1903, though not consecrated till 1999). It was a bold undertaking by the first Director, John Fox, to launch a new Festival in a region full of Summer Festivals and in a town with a modest resident population of scarcely more than three thousand, without a concert hall or even a theatre. And yet Beaulieu had something to distinguish it from so many other festival venues: a century-old tradition of welcoming visitors from throughout Europe – and from Britain, America and Russia in particular – who would seek refuge under Beaulieu's balmy skies from the harsh northern winters, and then, with the shift in the Thirties from winter to summer holidays, come to drink cocktails and top up their tans. Thus the first Festival des Centenaires celebrated Beaulieu both as an international resort and a place of understanding between different cultures and Churches.

The first Festivals had a strong ecumenical theme, with the presence of the Archbishop of York (one of whose predecessors had consecrated St Michael's), the Bishop of Nice, the Danish Pastor and representatives of the Russian Orthodox Church.

Three of the first four Festivals had strongly Anglo-American-French themes, brought out in lectures by distinguished scholars: the Centenary of the 1904 Entente Cordiale and the presence on the coast of figures like Queen Victoria, the Duke of Connaught, Lord Salisbury, and James Gordon Bennett. One Festival was dedicated to the music and culture of Scotland, another to those of Wales, sponsored in each case by the respective governments. Cordial international relations were nourished by the presence at our Festivals of the British Ambassador in Paris (whose Welsh wife was the leading light in the Welsh Festival), and of the French ambassador to London, as well as by messages of good will from HM the Queen, and from HRH the Prince of Wales. We have also been honoured by visits from HSH Prince Albert of Monaco and TRH the Earl and Countess of Wessex.

One year the theme was Russia, Beaulieu having been a favoured winter-home for the Russian aristocracy (now returning to favour with contemporary Russian tourists): the presence in Beaulieu of Chekhov and Stravinsky was celebrated, and the Russian government sent some of its finest musicians and singers. Besides the forest of plaques placed all over the town commemorating famous past visitors and residents, lasting images engraved in the memory are of the Bands of the Scots and the Welsh Guards and of the French Navy marching and playing through our streets.

The theme this year, under the new Director Antoine Landowski, was Italian; entirely appropriate in a town so close to Italy, which for many centuries was the Italian fishing port of Belluogo, and which has so many Italian residents and visitors. The motif running through the Festival was the anniversary of Monteverdi's *Orfeo* (1607), a landmark in opera, linking together the myth of Orpheus in both music and film with inhabitants from the towns of the composer's birth and death – Cremona (violin-making) and Venice (carnival). The Mayor of Cremona was present, and there was a carnival procession involving local children, and an exhibition on the craft of instrument-making, together with the usual choice of high-quality orchestral, lyrical, chamber and solo concerts in prestigious venues like the Villa Kerylos, the Casino, and, in a fortunate return to its origins, St Michael's Church. It is heartwarming that St Michael's, whose wonderful acoustics make it a highly sought-after venue for concerts, once again figured in the 2007 Festival, and it was encouraging that the Anglican and English-speaking communities continued to support it.

The Festival opened on Sunday 9th September (the Fête Patronale of Beaulieu), and offered events each day until its closing in the Sacré-Cœur on Saturday 15th with a Vivaldi concert.

Richard Cooper.

“With you is the fountain of life” (Ps 36)

On Monday 7th September at an impressive ceremony at St Jean-Cap Ferrat, masterminded by the Mayor, M. René Vestri, a fountain was inaugurated with the motto **CoeXist**. Representatives of the Jewish, Christian and Muslim faiths spoke as well as former British diplomat James Kidner, Chairman of the Coexist Foundation, which seeks to promote dialogue, respect and understanding between adherents of the three great ‘Abrahamic’ faiths.

Among the guests at the ceremony were Cherie Booth (Mrs Blair) and Bono. Fr Roger was privileged to join the great and the good at the ceremony and at the splendid lunch afterwards.



Code Napoléon

Napoléon Bonaparte, Emperor of the French, created new standards for civil law, the French educational system and much more. Here are ten snippets of his wisdom (?):

- “History is the version of the past that people have decided to agree upon.”
- “The best way to keep one’s word is not to give it.”
- “The most dangerous moment comes with victory.”
- “In politics stupidity is not a handicap.”
- “A man will fight harder for his interests than for his rights.”
- “From the sublime to the ridiculous there is only one step.”
- “Public morals are the natural complement of all laws: they are by themselves an entire code.”
- “An order that can be misunderstood will be misunderstood.”
- “If you wish to be a success in this world, promise everything, deliver nothing.”
- “Men are moved by only two levers: fear and self-interest.”

MINDBOGLER

For anagram fans. The following is an anagram of a very famous quote plus the first name, middle initial and surname of the man who said it. (The anagram itself is a clue?!) I look forward to having lunch with the first person who can give me that original quote and the man who said it.

**A THIN MAN RAN,
MAKES A LARGE STRIDE,
LEFT PLANET,
PINS FLAG ON MOON!
ON TO MARS!**

Last time I asked you to complete the following sentence as accurately as you can using only one word and correct grammar 'The number of occurrences of the number one in this sentence is....' Well, you cannot write 'one' because then there would be two. But if you write two, then there will be only one! Lots of words would fit, for example 'small', 'minimal' or 'finite'.

The world's worst....

- **...Construction Project:** Workers spent 90 years building the Church in Corcuetos in Spain. The day after it was finally completed in 1625, it collapsed.
- **...Traffic congestion:** A 2002 study found that traffic moved through central London at an average speed of 2.9 mph – slower than walking.
- **...Crossword puzzle answer:** In 1971, 'The Times' included this word in one of its daily puzzles: 'honorificabilitudinitatibus'. (Can anyone tell me what it means?)
- **...Voting "error":** In the 1928 Nigerian presidential election, Charles King beat Thomas Faulkner by 600,000 votes. One problem: Nigeria only had 15,000 registered voters.
- **...Rejection:** When King Harald Grenske of Norway proposed marriage to Queen Sigrid Storrada of Denmark in 996, she had him executed.
- **...Tourists:** According to a survey by the online travel service expedia.com – back in 2002, 'Britons are the rudest, meanest, and worst-behaved holidaymakers in the world.' (Except those at St Michael's of course!)

TOM MERRIFIELD



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The contribution of each and every one is gratefully acknowledged

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As at date of publication



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E U C H A R I S T E V E R Y S U N D A Y A T 1 0 A M

Followed by refreshments

Dates for your diary

September

Sunday 30th 10.00 Eucharist of St Michael & All Angels
(Michaelmas), transferred from 29th

October

Sunday 7th 10.00 Eucharist of the Feast of Dedication

Sunday 14th 10.00 Harvest Festival Eucharist

November

Thursday 1st 10.30 All Saints' Day Eucharist

Friday 2nd 18.00 All Souls' Day Eucharist

December

Sunday 2nd Evensong for all the Riviera chaplaincies
Details of place and time to be announced

Sunday 23rd 18.00 Carol Service – ecumenical & bilingual

Chaplain Canon Roger Greenacre DD 04 93 01 45 61
In the Chaplain's absence, emergency calls to: 06 60 42 52 47

Hon Assistant Chaplain Fr Philip Robinson

Churchwardens Vance Johnson 04 93 54 56 25

Justin Hayward 04 93 21 60 83

Treasurer Deanne Fox 04 93 22 92 13

Secretary Tom Downes 04 93 01 47 53

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