



The Grapevine July 2024

What interesting times we are living through. The seismic events of 1789 and the years that followed, which would eventually lead to the freeing of the people from the tyranny of corrupt rule, will be celebrated once again on 14th July. But the atmosphere as we await the results of this French general election is one of anxious bewilderment, casting a shadow over the eagerly anticipated Paris Olympic Games; for who could have predicted the re-emergence of the political extreme right when events in Europe's own recent history show all too clearly where extremism can lead?

Let us hope and pray that a universal love and respect for true democracy prevails, whoever forms the next government here in our adopted home.

The Grapevine

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July 2024

Thank you, as always, to all those who have contributed to the Grapevine.

4 thought

With thanks to Rev. Hazel

This last week or so I've had a tune bouncing around in my head. Frustrating isn't it? Couldn't put words to it. Then, of course, it all came back. The tune belonged to "One more step along the world I go". But that was all I could remember. Checking about it, I found that it is quite a recent addition, so not one I might have learned as a child. Written in 1971 by Sydney Carter, the man who wrote "Lord of the Dance", it has not been around for as long as I thought. So, I'm left wondering why, now of all times, should it surface? (Frequently, when receiving people's feelings they say: why me? And my response is why not you?)

20 years ago, last month, my dear friend Brian and I together with a chap from Paris, were made Deacon in the parish church of St. Hilaire, Savigné, Vienne. Maybe I was reflecting on my journey as deacon, then a year later, priest, much of which has been shared with Brian. Although the song/hymn does not actually mention God or Christ by name, there is no doubt in my mind who the "you" refers to.

Maybe I'm now at the age when looking back is easier than looking forward? I'm not sure. Here at All Saints, we still are on our journey, we have plans in hand and decisions to make for the future, and it is not just for the parish council or the wardens, or me to make them; it is all of us. Please make your views known, please have your say, put forward your suggestions, either to me, or to a council member or to the wardens. Without your input how can we be sure of travelling in the right direction to thrive? Please pray about and for the future of All Saints, Vendée. Let's travel together.

Hazel

One more step along the world I go
One more step along the world I go
From the old things to the new
Keep me traveling along with you

And it's from the old I travel to the new
Keep me traveling along with you

'Round the corners of the world I turn
More and more about the world I learn
And the new things that I see
You'll be looking at along with me

And it's from the old I travel to the new
Keep me traveling along with you

As I travel through the bad and good
Keep me traveling the way I should

Where I see no way to go
You'll be telling me the way, I know And it's from the old I travel to the new
Keep me traveling along with you

Give me courage when the world is rough
Keep me loving though the world is tough
Leap and sing in all I do
Keep me traveling along with you And it's from the old I travel to the new
Keep me traveling along with you

You are older than the world can be
You are younger than the life in me
Ever old and ever new
Keep me traveling along with you And it's from the old I travel to the new
Keep me traveling along with you

Every blessing, Hazel

Notices

Ecumenical walk

I reproduce here Iain McGregor's announcement from the June issue :

- this year's ecumenical walk will be around the town of Mouchamps
- the date is Sunday 28 July 2024, starting at 14.00, probably meeting by the Protestant Temple.
- it will be of 3.5 kms, taking about three hours.
- it will cover a number of interesting and locally important sites around the town and slightly beyond
- there will be a picnic afterwards (in the open, or in a closed barn, depending on the weather)
- there will, hopefully, be a concert to conclude the day - like last year - though the details of that have yet to be finalised.
- Like last year, there will be a booklet of texts in English and French (if I get them in time!)

The people who took part last year found it both interesting and enjoyable, and discovered parts of Foussais they never knew existed. The aim is to replicate last year's walk but in a different place, and with, perhaps, a slightly different emphasis. Mouchamps has an important Greek Orthodox community, and it is hoped to include them as well.

Vouvant Organ Festival

Every year, the church at Vouvant (which ASV uses for three summer services) has an organ festival arranged by the organist, Yves Rousseau. This year, there are some really famous organists coming, such as Jonathan Scott, who has taken the world by storm with his technique and interpretative skills. The programmes (listed below) are varied and interesting, and should prove well worth the drive to Vouvant.

There are CDs also available for anyone interested !

The website for the concert series is: www.orgueetmusiqueavouvant.com



2024 - Les Olympiades de l'Orgue à Vouvant

Vouvant célèbre Gabriel Fauré / 1845-1924

Toute la programmation détaillée sur : orgueetmusiqueavouvant.com

Fête des plantes « Organistes en herbe » *

> Dimanche 19 mai / classe d'orgue du **CONSERVATOIRE DE NANTES** / professeur **MICHEL BOURCIER**

Fête de la Musique « Organistes en herbe »

> Dimanche 23 juin / classe d'orgue du **CONSERVATOIRE D'ANGERS** / professeur **THOMAS PELLERIN**

FESTIVAL INTERNATIONAL D'ORGUE DE VOUVANT / juillet & août

> Samedi 6 juillet / 20h30

Gabriel Fauré : Requiem & Pelléas et Mélisande

DIDIER LEDOUX, organiste titulaire du grand orgue de la cathédrale de La Rochelle

MATHILDE MILHIÈRE, soprano / **MARTIN BARIGAULT**, baryton

Ensemble vocal **POLYMNIE** / **FABRICE MAURIN**, direction

> Jeudi 11 juillet / 19h00

JONATHAN SCOTT, organiste en résidence au Bridgewater Hall de Manchester

Académie lyrique Alto / en résidence à Vouvant

> Samedi 13 juillet / 20h30 / Salle des fêtes / concert des élèves de l'académie

> Jeudi 18 juillet / 19h00

JEAN-BAPTISTE COURTOIS, professeur honoraire du Conservatoire national supérieur musique Paris

> Jeudi 25 juillet / 19h00

ANTONIO GARCIA, organiste titulaire du grand orgue de l'église française de Bern

> Jeudi 1er août / 19h00

BRUNO MORIN, organiste titulaire du grand orgue de la cathédrale du Havre

> Jeudi 8 août / 19h00

ELSA SIRODEAU, soprano

VIRGILE MONIN, Grand prix de l'Académie des Beaux-Arts, organiste en résidence à Vouvant

> Jeudi 15 août / 19h00

JUAN DE LA RUBIA, organiste titulaire de la basilique de la Sagrada Familia de Barcelone

> Jeudi 22 août / 19h00

PAUL GOUSSOT, organiste titulaire du grand orgue de l'église Sainte-Croix de Bordeaux

> Jeudi 29 août / 19h00

ALMA BETTENCOURT, classe d'orgue du Conservatoire national supérieur de musique Paris

Journées du Patrimoine : “ Vents à Vouvant ”

> Samedi 21 septembre / 16h30 / Musique bretonne et traditionnelle irlandaise

FRANÇOIS GOUTHE, bombarde

JEAN-PIERRE MAUDET, organiste titulaire du grand orgue de la cathédrale de Vannes

> Dimanche 22 septembre / 16h30

CÔME BOUTELLA, Tuba – Université des arts de Zurich / Suisse

CHRISTINE MÉTAY-SEGUI, organiste de l'église Notre-Dame de Fontenay-le-Comte

Marché de Noël de Vouvant *

Les mini-concerts de 15 minutes pour les familles

> Samedi 23 novembre & dimanche 24 novembre

VIRGILE MONIN, professeur d'orgue au conservatoire de Tarbes-Lourdes-Pyrénées

* en association avec le Comité des fêtes de Vouvant

Production : Orgue & Musique à Vouvant

Restos du Cœur, La Châtaigneraie

Sincere thanks for your donations to Resto at La Chataigneraie, which made a cheery trolleyload and included a large bagful of toiletries. **More of the same would be most gratefully received !** Resto currently supports 40 families with children and would appreciate some biscuits and cakes because children in France need an incentive to eat their vegetables just like anywhere else. With my midwife hat on, 'period poverty' is also a brutal reality which can cost each woman upwards of 7 euros a month; add a couple of teenage daughters to the family, triple the cost and wince. Donating sanitary products protects health and dignity. Next collection is **14th July 2024 Bastille Day** 🇫🇷, and thank you all very, very much.

Dominique and Mike Mylod

Games equipment free to a good home

Mike Mylod has the following, which might suit anyone with visiting children:

1. a fishing rod with reel, line and weights
2. 4 badminton rackets with coloured shuttlecocks
3. a beach boules set

They can be brought to church or picked up. Please contact Dominique Mylod dominiquemylod@gmail.com Tel. 0044-7799883514 / 02 51 51 07 36

Prayer List

Please remember in your prayers:

Jo and Brian

Colin and Hester

Millie-Jean and her parents

Tim and Sharmila

Maureen

Nel (Mair and John's daughter)

Clive and Carole

Pat and Roy

Polly

Bob and Caroline

Chris and Ann

Thanks to David Pearson, as always.



Churchwardens' Notes, July 2024

Marian Rackham

These "notes" are always signed off from the two of us but I am sure you have noticed by the writing style that Margaret and I take it in turns to write them and alternate each month. The "eagle-eyed" among you will have noticed that Margaret wrote the notes for the last two months on the trot. This is because I, Doug, was on holiday in Northumberland last month but I will catch up by writing two months. As our holiday destination was near to Alnwick, Chris and I contacted Marian Rackham and we spent a very pleasant afternoon with her. She was most interested in hearing all about All Saints, Vendée and wishes to send her love and best wishes to everyone. She also expressed the wish that people keep in touch and call in to see her if they are in the area. Her lovely house is in Alnwick but a little difficult to find! A phone call to her helps and if you get completely lost she will come and find you!

Services at Vouvant

We shall once again hold a Morning Worship service at Vouvant Church on the third Sundays of July, August and September, the first one being on the 21st July. We hope as many people as possible can attend these services and bring along friends and neighbours. It is a lovely church and it is always a pleasure to hear the French organist, Yves, play the magnificent organ. He loves to play English hymns! There will be refreshments following the service and, if possible, these will be in the grounds of Rupert Cattell's chateau.

Ecumenical Walk

Don't forget the Ecumenical Walk on the 18th July. Last year's event was very enjoyable and promises to be very good again this year. If you need more details, Iain McGregor will be only too pleased to help.

Farewell to Jacqui and Stuart



All Saints Vendée said their farewells to Jacqui and Stuart on June 9 but we would like to record again our thanks to them both for all their hard work over the years. We wish them well on their return to the U.K. We also express our thanks to Nigel Pearce for taking over the publication of Grapevine and to Ann Milton who will play the organ as often as she can at Puy-de-Serre. Please remember we always need volunteers to assist in the running of ASV - please do not be shy if you can help in any way.

One question to end - what has happened to Summer this year?

Doug and Margaret

Treasurer's report:

May 2024:

Income: 1740.50 €

Expenditure: 1085.72 €

We have a positive balance for the month: 654.78 €

The hard work by all those who helped with the Fête des Plantes et du Jardin at Vouvant has certainly reaped its reward - we earned 286 €, so very well done! It was a wonderful day, much enjoyed by everyone.

Thank you all for your continuing support for ASV, especially to those who contribute regularly via planned giving - it makes such a difference to have a regular income.

Iain McGregor
(Treasurer)

Sunday Club

1. The Hare and the Tortoise



There was once a hare who was friends with a tortoise. One day, he challenged the tortoise to a race. Seeing how slow the tortoise was going, the hare thought he'd win this easily. So, he took a nap while the tortoise kept on going. When the hare woke, he saw that the tortoise was already at the finish line. Much to his chagrin, the tortoise won the race while he was busy sleeping.

Moral of the story:

There are a couple of moral lessons we can learn from this story. The hare teaches that overconfidence can sometimes ruin you. While the tortoise teaches us about the power of perseverance. Even if all the odds are stacked against you, never give up. Sometimes, life is not about who's the fastest or the strongest; it's about who is the most consistent.

Our thanks to Jenny Wilkinson for this Sunday Club story!

Sunday Club

"No one will be turned away, everyone is welcome
Calling all children, including holidaymakers, to attend Sunday
Club. Do ***please*** let us know a couple of days in advance, if
you'd like to come,
so that we can prepare something special for you."*

Please contact Jenny if you require more information: email:
jennywilkinson213@gmail.com

Thought for today

“Stupidity is a more dangerous enemy of the good than malice. One may protest against evil; it can be exposed and, if need be, prevented by use of force. Evil always carries within itself the germ of its own subversion in that it leaves behind in human beings at least a sense of unease. Against stupidity we are defenseless. Neither protests nor the use of force accomplish anything. »

Dietrich Bonhoeffer (German theologian who was executed by the Nazis for opposing them.)

On the lighter side...



A child came back from Sunday School, and told his mother that he had learned a new song about a cross-eyed bear named Gladly. It took his mother a while before she realized that the hymn was really "Gladly the Cross I'd Bear".



Sister Theresa asked her catechism class to draw pictures of their favorite Bible stories. She was puzzled by Kyle's picture, which showed four people on an airplane, so she asked him which story it was meant to represent. "The flight to Egypt," said Kyle. "I see ...And that must be Mary, Joseph, and Baby Jesus," Sister said. "But who's the fourth person?" "Oh, that's Pontius - the Pilot."

Many thanks to Trudy Coates for this page

Dates for your Diary

June 2024

23rd	Sunday 11h Holy Communion at Puy-de-Serre
30th	Sunday
July 2024	
7th	Sunday 11h Holy Communion at La Chapelle-Palluau
14th	Sunday 11h Holy Communion at Puy-de-Serre
21st	Sunday 11h Morning Worship at Vouvant
28th	Sunday 11h Holy Communion at Puy-de-Serre
August 2024	
4th	Sunday 11h Holy Communion at La Chapelle-Palluau
11th	Sunday 11h. Holy Communion at Puy-de-Serre

Sunday 1st Sept	LCP	11.00	HC	HD	HD					
Sunday 8th Sept	PDS	11.00	HC	HD	HD	MK		IMG	DG, FMG	
Sunday 15th Sept	V	11.00	MW							VOUVANT
Sunday 22nd Sept	PDS	11.00	HC	HD	HD	JM	AM	CM	AH, CH	

Forward Planning

This Forward Planning Rota displays those essential responsibilities which make our Services and Refreshments afterwards possible. If you feel able to “fill in the blanks,” please contact the Organiser concerned – Jenny (refreshments) or Barbara (flowers).

Responsibility (Organiser)	23rd June Puy de Serre 11h00	14th July Puy de Serre 11h00	28th July Puy de Serre 11h00
Refreshments after the service (Jenny Wilkinson at PdS)	Jenny W Trudy C	Jenny W Trudy C	Jenny W Trudy C
Flower Rota (Barbara Matthews)	Barbara M	Barbara M	Barbara M

	<p>Did you know PREVIOUS SERMONS and TALKS can be read at: www.allsaintsvendee.fr See : John Matthew's recent Talk</p>	
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ASV LADIES' CIRCLE

The Ladies' Circle Meeting and Sewing Group

Women's Fellowship – Ladies' Group

Ladies' group will be gathering together
on the 4th July and the 18th July
at Mouilleron-en-Pareds.
Sewing group on the 11th July.

New members very welcome!

Contact jennywilkinson213@gmail.com or Joan
Stewart jpsmorandiere@outlook.com

Please consult the website for updates:
www.allsaintsvendee.fr

August issue contributions, please, to me, Nigel Pearce, at
njp78@hotmail.com

before July 15th 2024 !