

THIRD ORDER T

news

Issue 56

November 2015

SUMMARY POINTS FROM PROVINCIAL CHAPTER – 16-18 OCTOBER 2015

Chapter welcomed another guest Area Minister (Roz Graham – Canterbury). John Lovatt was commissioned as the Provincial Treasurer and we prayed farewell to John Reynolds.

Further to the change of programme announced in the latest *Little Portion*, a great amount of time, prayer and work was devoted to the all-important issue of General Chapter. The valuable foundation work of the Steering Group was reviewed and refined, as were the questions to be considered by the Local Groups before being brought by Area Representatives to the Convocation in 2017. These questions will be sent out at the end of the month, so that detailed consideration and discussion can be undertaken by the Local Groups in coming months. Chapter offered sincere thanks and appreciation for all the work in developing the concept for the General Chapter and laying the essential foundations for the Working Group to build on. Detailed planning is under way to achieve a meaningful convocation. Areas will be kept fully informed of details and progress.

The film *Finding Saint Francis* will have its premiere in London on 5 November 2015. Further details are later in this issue of TON and on the TSSF Web-site.

Training for Local Group Conveners 'Forming Franciscan Communities' is oversubscribed. The first session, in London on 14 November, is likely to be followed by two more sessions in Spring 2016, probably in the Manchester and Somerset areas.

The Area Team handbook is being updated and will be put on the TSSF Web-site for reference. It can be downloaded and printed as necessary.

Link Tertiaries will consult with their Areas, to determine whether they might wish to adjust the shape of their Areas in the interests of numbers, communication and travel considerations. They will also be asked to confirm their preference for Area and Cluster names, in the interest of consistency.

A new Minister Provincial for the African Province has been elected to replace Nolan Tobias. He is Revd. Dr. Michael Twum-Darko.

A booklet on TSSF Principles, containing associated thoughts and prayers for each day, is being made available from the Province of the Pacific, together with a booklet of 'The Francis Stories'. Each of these booklets will be available to order from Third Order Distribution, priced at £3:50 each. Details are later in this issue of TON.

The new JPIC co-ordinator from mid-2016 will be Philippa Bird. The JPIC Steering Group is developing Guidance for the JPIC co-ordinator and Area Representatives, as well as reviewing the name. Arrangements are in hand for a JPIC weekend at Alnmouth, on 15-17 April 2016.

The financial accounts for Year 2014-15 were presented to Chapter by the outgoing Treasurer, after scrutiny by the Finance Sub Group and our Independent Examiners. They were accepted by the Trustees and signed off by our Minister Provincial. Concern was expressed at the small number of Tertiaries who Gift Aid their contributions currently.

Howard McFadyen

The following are the names of Tertiaries who have died during the twelve months to Francistide 2015. They were remembered with prayer at the final Eucharist held at Chapter (51)

Enid Desert	Beds & Herts/ Bedford & Milton Keynes	Pat Hastings	Chiltern/Solitary
Joan Dickens	Somerset/La Verna	Honor Hiley	Guildford/Mole Valley
Pauline Dyson	Newcastle/Newcastle	Gordon Hocknell	Blackmore Vale/ Shaftesbury
David Fairbrother	Notts & South Derby/ Leicester St Aidan	Paddy Holmes	Sussex/Chichester
Joyce File	Yorks West & Skipton/ Airedale	Katarina Jansson-Jerkeman	Sweden/Gothenburg
Peter Garland	Lincoln/S Lincs	Steve Jones	Devon/North Devon
Penny Goddard	Wyevev/Teme	Ray Knell	Durham/Bede
Jane Goodenough	Berkshire/West	Rosemary Knowlton	Berkshire/Central
Hilary Gould	Wessex/	David Leeson	Severn/Cirencester
Margaret Greening	Severn/ Gloucester South	Joan Levett	Somerset/La Verna <i>died in 2011 but only informed in July 2015</i>
Eileen Gurr	Winchester/ Southampton	Pat Mayes	Ireland/Ireland South
Michael Hare-Duke	Scotland/Central	Betty Milroy	London
Christine Harrison	Kent West/ Tunbridge Wells North	West/Middlesex	
		Colin Mylne	Scotland/Inverness
		John Proudman	Mercia/N Staffs
		David Rees	Cumbria & Lancs/ West Lancs
		Sue Savage	Wales/Brycheiniog

Elizabeth Stirling	Northampton/Rutland	Peter Dendy	Midlands West	Elvina Plested	Somerset
Clare Taylor	Cumbria & Lancs/ North Cumbria	John Durnell	Wales	Val Povey	Notts & South Derby
Peggy Taylor	Somerset/La Verna	David Fitter	Devon	Kate Purches	Newcastle
Margaret Thame	Severn/ North Cotswolds	Basil French	Devon	Gilbert Ramsey	Cornwall
John Waller	Kent West/ Tunbridge Wells North	Jennifer	Newcastle	Jenefer Randolph	Kent West
Joan Watts	London West/ Chelsea	Gordon Clark		Marjorie Ratcliffe	Mersey Valley
Nancy Wight	Yorks South & North Derby/Sheffield	Jane Goupillon	Wales	Martin Reed	Severn
Julia Wilkinson	Cornwall/Truro B	Bennie Gregory	East Anglia	Irene Richards	Wessex
Roy Windmill	Somerset/La Verna	Jerry Hall	London South	Betty Side	Notts & South Derby
Catherine Bryant	Guildford	Priscilla	Devon	Pauline Taperell	Notts & South Derby
Francis Charles	Canterbury	Hamel-Cooke		Ann Tilley	Midlands West
Roy Coates	Yorks South & North Derby	Martin Hussey	Guildford	Steve Veazey	Beds & Herts
Hannah-Maria Coxhead	Avon Vale	Connie Karfoot	Midlands West	John Waller (Bishop)	London South
		Tim Kimberley	Midlands West	Jim Warner	London West
		Ean Kinmont	Wyevever	Joan Watts	London West
		Sheila Luxon	Beds & Herts	Val Wodehouse	Cornwall
		Mary Maynard	Yorks West & Skipton	Jean Woodford	Blackmore Vale
		Pamela Middleton	Scotland		
		Marion Mort	Solent		

FUTURE CHAPTER DATES

2016 11-13 February
16-18 June
14-16 October

KNOX DICK DUND – CHANGE OF DETAILS

Our apologies - the Knox Dick Find Administrator is Rachel Cornish, not Rachel Alexander as stated in Averil's comments on page 4 of TON 55. Rachel has moved and her address is now: The Rectory, Woodlands Close, Onehouse, Stowmarket, IP14 3HL

NEW MINISTER PROVINCIAL FOR THE AFRICA PROVINCE

Reverend Dr. Michael Twum-Darko was elected by a sizeable majority as the Minister Provincial for the African Province at the APTOC meeting held on Friday 2 October 2015. The voting process and counting was confirmed by Archbishop Daniel Yinka Sarfo, Bishop Protector of our Province. The Province are greatly blessed in this result. Michael is a dynamic person and will be a wise leader.

His contact details are: 2a Avenue de Mist, Rondebosch, 7700 Cape Town Land line: 021 671 6199 (cell) 078 457 7206
email: mtdarko@gmail.com.

Please see a letter from Michael included with of this issue of TON

PACIFIC BOOKLETS

At the recent Ministers' meeting we agreed to give our wholehearted support to an initiative from the Pacific Province, (formerly New Zealand) to produce two booklets in plain English, intended for those whose first language is not English. One is a re-telling of stories about Francis and the other is a very attractive booklet with the Principles in their usual form and also in a simpler form, with a suitable prayer and the collect for the day. We have 100 copies of each, some of which are already with Link Tertiaries and others in order to publicise them, but they will soon be available to order from Third Order Distribution at a cost of £3.50 each + P& P. The whole purpose is to sell as many as possible so that copies can be given to Tertiaries in PNG and the Solomon Islands. I do hope that you will find them both attractive and useful.

Averil Swanton

Copy date for forthcoming issues

TON 57: 27 February 2016

TON 58: 2 July 2016

TON 59: 29 October 2016

NEW MINISTER PROVINCIAL FOR THE PACIFIC PROVINCE

The new Minister Provincial for the Pacific Province is Maggie Smith, below is a letter from Maggie to us all.



'I am married to Geoff. We have two children and five grandchildren. Most of our married life has been spent farming together on our South Island Canterbury sheep farm. There were the usual rural involvements in pre-school, schools, Brownies, Red Cross and church. We developed 25 acres of our farm as wetlands along creeks, ponds and springs and offered our property as a Quiet Garden for retreat days. When we moved to the North Island three years ago, we began a new wetlands project on our very modest five acres in the Wairarapa, near our son's farm.

I was ordained a priest in 1993 and served in various parishes in the Christchurch diocese including (after retirement) a six month stint in a city parish supporting a Vicar in a damaged earthquake area of the city and another month to allow a stressed vicar leave from a badly hit suburb. I belonged to the Association of Anglican Women, leading on to the Overseas and Outreach role and later Chaplain for the Diocese; to the Order of St Luke for about thirty years, serving in different leadership roles.

I am a spiritual director and love this ministry – such a privilege! It was near the end of my training with Spiritual Growth Ministries that I heard of the Third Order. I had no second thoughts about following up and, later, was able to be chaplain of the Christchurch group until we moved north. I have been graciously welcomed to the Wellington group and to the church here and made to feel very much part of the fellowship and community.

Geoff and I spent a week in Assisi. I fell in love with the chapel at San Damiano. In the dim, quiet coolness of the chapel, the words of Christ to St Francis seem to whisper in the air: "Repair my church". Perhaps this is part of our task as Franciscans – to keep repairing, restoring, renewing the church to the devotion, simplicity, faith and inclusiveness of Francis and to a sense of oneness with all creation.'

VOLUNTEER APPEAL: SPIRITUAL DIRECTION – WHAT'S IT LIKE FOR YOU?

This appeal appeared first in TON for July 2015. I am very grateful to those who responded then, but I'd like to make a second appeal to those who may have missed it first time round. I'm looking for tertiaries who would be willing, in principal, to respond to a questionnaire about their experience of spiritual direction as directee or director.

I'm in the third and final year of a part time study in Christian Spirituality at Sarum College at Salisbury. For my dissertation, I'm investigating the essential elements in Spiritual Direction, and how it can contribute to adult faith formation, and I'd like to support the investigation by tapping into the experience of the Third Order.

The scope of the questionnaire will be defined by Sarum's ethical requirements, particularly with regard to confidentiality, under the direction of the University of Winchester. There will be no attempt to identify or make contact with anyone's Spiritual Director, all responses will be anonymised and there will be no follow up without the explicit permission of the respondent.

It wouldn't be appropriate for me to approach tertiaries in my own area of Cumbria and Lancashire, where I'm currently serving as Area Minister. But I hope folk from other areas might be willing to take part.

If you want to know more or think you might be willing to take part (you can always change your mind when you've seen the questions!), please send your contact details by email or post to: Andrew Schofield, Holker House, Whittington, Carnforth LA6 2NX or atschofield@outlook.com

HORN PARK COMMUNITY CENTRE PROJECT IN LONDON SOUTH

The Bishop of Woolwich, Michael Ipgrave found a wonderful stained glass window in the East end of a small brick church in the middle of the Horn Park estate in Lee, SE 12. The estate is sandwiched between busy main roads. The church was built in 1953 and is dedicated to St Francis. The window has seven panels – St Francis, St Peter, St John and the Virgin Mary, with the middle three panels depicting Jesus in glory surrounded by angels and musicians, with a Nativity scene beneath.

The church has now become a secular Community centre hosting many activities every day. The Management Committee run it so it sustains itself without any funds or grants from local authorities. However the centre only just breaks even now so there are no funds available for extras such as protecting and repairing the window, It is in need of protection immediately as it is already riddled with holes and cracks. At one point they wondered about having it taken out and selling it off for extra funds.

Bishop Michael appealed to London South Tertiaries to see if we could help, not only in protecting and restoring the window, but in bringing the Holy Spirit and the Spirit of St Francis back into the community with this hub at its centre.

We took up the challenge by having a meeting in September with eight of us Tertiaries from London South, and Bishop Michael with the trustees of the centre together with Trevor Clarke, a Church Army Captain who is already busy reminding the community that this is still a holy place even though it is not used as a church anymore. The upshot of this meeting was that we unanimously decided to try and raise money to protect the window, and hopefully eventually restore it. We are busy getting estimates for protecting the window straight away and our first fund raising idea is to have a card made of the window. These cards are available now at £10 for 10 and could be used as Christmas cards, but having no message inside they can be used all the year around. We are already getting to know the folk that come to the centre for the Drop In Café on Wednesday mornings and will be having packing the cards sessions. We hope to sell the cards in the local shops.

If you want to know more about the Horn Park Community Centre, or buy cards all you have to do is to visit their website www.hornpark.org.uk. There you will be able to see the window in colour, and see about all the other activities going on at Horn Park.

FROM OUR TREASURER

If you would like to pay your contribution (or a donation) directly into the Third Order bank account, rather than send a cheque, this is very welcome, as it saves our treasurer lots of time and hassle. Here are the details:

Account name:
Third Order Society of St Francis

Sort Code: 089299

Account number 65622601.

For tertiaries outside UK:
IBAN: GB08 CPBK 08929965622601;
BIC: CPBK GB22.

If you must send a cheque, please make it out to “Third Order Society of St Francis”, not “TSSF” or “Provincial Treasurer@TSSF” or “Franciscan Order”, as the bank returns these cheques.

FINDING SAINT FRANCIS (NEW FILM)

With our thanks to the many who've supported it, the film is now complete. It was premiered at BFI Southbank in London on 5 November, and is now on sale.

We will be sending complimentary copies out to those who donated funds for the film. Due to some data protection issues we may not have everybody's details, so if you donated monies and do not receive your copy by early December please contact us at: admin@littleportionfilms.com

The DVD is available for purchase for £9.99 plus P+P via the film website: www.findingsaintfrancis.com/

There are also options to download or stream the film (for all these, look at the "Shop" menu, and/or at the bottom of the "Trailer" page of the website).

For enquiries, including about private showings of the film or performances of the one man show from Paul Alexander, or if you wish to buy the DVD but not to use online shopping (but please do try) contact: Little Portion Films via the website <http://www.findingsaintfrancis.com> or email admin@littleportionfilms.com

Lastly tertiaryies who do not use email can contact John Wiltshire by phone (ring or text 07717 547672 - ignore the CQC message, and do leave your own message).



HOUSE OF BREAD

Bruce Driver, London South, is publishing a book (Publisher: Halsgrove Publishing) entitled: *House of Bread: Poems and Paintings from a Prayer Journal*.

It is available in Waterstones and on Amazon or through Halsgrove Publishing. Please see leaflet included with this issue of TON.

LINK TERTIARY CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

Carol Robertson has come to the end of her six years of service and a replacement Link Tertiary for Scotland and Ireland is required. Papers will be sent to Area contacts for onward transmission in these Areas. If there are any questions about this, please contact Chris Petrie at returningofficer@tssf.org.uk

BEING A LINK TERTIARY

Being a link tertiary is a great opportunity to become more involved with wider community of TSSF; and to meet other tertiaries from through out the European Province. The post involves some travel, both to attend meetings and to get to know their own Areas. Listening skills are a great asset for the post as each Area has it's own character and different priorities and requirements. Links are a communication channel. When attending Chapter meetings, Links can pass on what they learn about the good things which happen in their own Areas and share this with other Areas, so we can learn from each others experience. They also pass on any requests from their Areas for guidance or information from Provincial Chapter and return with information.

Chapter meetings happen three times a year, and are not only an opportunity to pass on information from their Areas to Chapter but also an opportunity to gather information from Chapter and take it back to their Areas. Chapter cannot serve the Province unless they know what is happening at the grassroots.

Another important aspect of the post of Link tertiary is that, as members of Provincial Chapter, they also become trustees of the province.

Being in post has had it's challenges but I personally have found that it has been a rewarding experience.

Carol Robertson, outgoing Link tertiary, Scotland and Ireland.

TSSF RETREATS AND OTHER EVENTS

RETREATS AT THE OLD PARSONAGE, FREELAND

Date: Monday 7 – Thursday 10 March 2016

Silent retreat

Conductor: Giles Charrington TSSF

Cost: £145 including conductor's expenses

Date: Friday 24 – Monday 27 June 2016

Silent Retreat: "Encountering the Divine"

Conductor: Revd Peter Boulton-Lea

Cost: £145 including conductor's expenses

Date: Monday 18 – Friday 22 or Saturday 23 July 2016

Individually Guided Retreat

Conductor: Sister Carolin Clare, OSC

Cost: Cost: £160 (4 days) /£200 (5 days), plus conductor's expenses

Date: Friday 14 – Monday 17 October 2016

Silent Retreat

Conductor: Father Michael Campling, TSSF

Cost: £145 including conductor's expenses

Bookings: Lesley Sutton, 12 Hill Top Road, Oxford, OX4 1PB

T: 01865 248847 E: oxfordretreat@yahoo.co.uk

MERSEY VALLEY AREA RETREAT 2016 'COME PRAY WITH US'

Date: Monday 6 – Thursday 9 June 2016

At The Monastery of Our Lady of Hyning, Warton, Carnforth,
Lancashire LA5 9SE 01524 732684

Silent Retreat

Cost: £130 £20 non refundable deposit on booking

This will be a silent retreat with a daily Eucharist and a time of corporate silent meditation. It will be led by members of the Mersey Valley Area with opportunity to experience different ways of praying using silence. There will also be opportunity to have one to one conversation with Tertiaries who are experienced in Spiritual accompaniment.

For more information and booking please contact Rev Felicity Shaw
01204 696851 revfmshaw@btinternet.com

ART WORKSHOP PILGRIMAGE TO ASSISI

Date: Monday 4 – Tuesday 13 July 2016

Join an Art workshop pilgrimage to Assisi, led by the Revd John and Mrs Rita Bennett, joined by invited guest artists and speaker.

No previous expertise is needed. Try your hand at painting, sketching, creative writing and singing. Discover the difference St Francis made to spirituality and art.

Flight from UK to Pisa-coach to Assisi. Meals and accommodation at the Elizabeth of Hungary Convent, on the Piazza Vescovado, by the Bishops Palace, Assisi.

*To enquire or book, contact Christians Aware, 2 Saxby Street,
Leicester LE2 0ND Tel: 0116 254 0770*

email: barbarabutler@christiansaware.co.uk

or Resident Anglican priest (for the period July - Sept 2016) Revd John Bennett TSSF email: brj.linton@virgin.net

WHO TO SEND THINGS TO:

Changes in address, telephone number, e-mail address, TSSF Office held

Mollie Kingham, Membership Secretary,
12 Buckingham Gardens, West Molesey, KT8 1TH.
T: 020 8979 8053 E: memsec@tssf.org.uk
E-mail copy to Chris Jenkins (PCC), E: comms@tssf.org.uk

Information for Little Portion

Verena Tschudin, Editor, Little Portion
26 Cathcart Road, London SW10 9NN
T: 020 7351 1263. E: editor@tssf.org.uk

Contributions for TON

Sue Charles, Editor, 109 Tarnwood Park, Eltham, London, SE9 5PE
T: 0208 850 0189 E: ton@tssf.org.uk

All other matters to do with communication

Chris Jenkins, Provincial Communications Coordinator,
26 North Road, Wells, Somerset, BA5 2TL
T: 07860 712354 E: comms@tssf.org.uk

Contributions, TSSF expense claims and letters about finance

John Lovatt, Provincial Treasurer, Lower Stonehouse Farm,
Brown Edge, Stoke on Trent, ST6 8TF,
T: 01782 503090 E: treasurer@tssf.org.uk

Enquirers interested in joining the Order

Peter Dixon, Provincial Novice Guardian
Dove House, 4 New Road, Uttoxeter, ST14 7DB
T: 01889 569722 E: novguard@tssf.org.uk

All other enquiries about the Order

Averil E Swanton, Minister Provincial
11 The Grange, Fleming Way, Exeter, EX2 4SB.
T: 01392 430355 E: ministertssf@tssf.org.uk

Disability Advisor Team (alternative formats, access, support)

Margaret Armstrong, Cridlands Barn, Brompton Ralph,
Taunton, TA4 2RU
T: 01984 623918 E: disabilityadvisor@tssf.org.uk

Training and Development:

Paul Bodenham, Provincial Formation Guardian
Tel: 01949 861516 email: formation@tssf.org.uk

Contact Details for TSSF Networks:

Study and Prayer: studyprayer@tssf.org.uk
Contemplatives: contemplatives@tssf.org.uk
Justice Peace Integrity of Creation: jplic@tssf.org.uk

Third Order Resource Material

Third Order Distribution, The Old Parsonage, 168 Wroslyn Road,
Freeland, Witney, OX29 8AQ. E: distribution@tssf.org.uk
Much material is available on the TSSF website and can be
downloaded. Paper copies are kept at Third Order Distribution where
you may send your requests and make arrangements for payment.
One new item for sale is the biography of Dorothy Swayne, lay
founder of TSSF. This booklet, costs £6, which includes
a discussion paper and P&P.

Website comments and enquiries

E: webmaster@tssf.org.uk
It may also be of interest, for those who are young or wise in the ways
of the Internet, to report that TSSF is establishing presences on
Facebook and Twitter. For more information go to the website, given
below.

All opinions expressed in this publication are those of the authors and contributors and not necessarily those of the European Province of the Third Order, Society of Saint Francis.