

WORD FROM THE CLOISTERS

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A labour of love

THE ONLY decent collection of Robert Southwell's poetry I am aware of which includes the Latin as well as the English poems is Peter Davidson and Anne Sweeney's *Collected Poems* (Carcenet, 2007). Now Peter tells me he will be helping to compile a complete edition of all the Jesuit martyr's work – poetry and prose. He's delighted. The plan is for a five-volume set, something like 17 years' worth of work.

"There's a lot of unpublished material: letters, devotions, meditations," Peter tells me. "Even such well known texts as *Mary Magdalen's Funeral Tears* have no modern edition of any sort. The verse was edited, very well by contemporary standards, in the 1960s, but without the Latin verse. Few sources are in mainstream research libraries: the two most important manuscripts are at Stonyhurst, but we also have primary sources in Rome, Vienna, Brussels. We're having to deal with the systematic destruction of manuscripts by the Elizabethan state."

Peter is astonished that it's taken so long. Norfolk-born Southwell overlapped with



Shakespeare and John Donne, and George Herbert was born two years before he was executed in 1595: "His poems (in lightly de-Catholicised versions) were issued in more editions than any other contemporary work except Shakespeare's *Venus and Adonis*. He was immensely influential but he has somehow been written out of the story as too Catholic and too continental. *Plus que change ...*"

Peter and his "brilliant and energetic" co-editors, Susannah Monta of Notre Dame and Emily Ransome of the University of Wisconsin, signed the contract with Oxford

University Press on 21 February – the day of Southwell's martyrdom and his feast day.

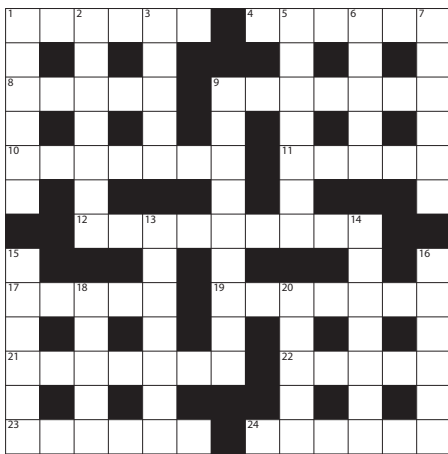
THE VERSATILE biographer of Diego Maradona and Pope Francis, Jimmy Burns, bumped into his Buddhist monk friend Gyoro Nagase in Battersea Park recently. Gyoro has lovingly tendered the park's magnificent Peace Pagoda since it was built by nuns, monks – including Gyoro himself – and other followers of the Japanese Buddhist movement Nipponzan Myohoji in 1985.

Three years ago, Gyoro had welcomed Jimmy to the converted storeroom he lives in near the Pagoda. "We had shared chants for my daughter, who was about to travel to Japan," Jimmy told me. Jimmy brought Gyoro up to speed with the latest news. "I told him she had been working as a volunteer in an elephant sanctuary in Thailand. Gyoro's round face lit up with a huge grin. He told me about a young girl who had been saved from the tsunami by an elephant who had sensed the impending disaster and took her up onto high ground before the wave struck. It was telepathy, Gyoro reckoned."

"With that," Jimmy added, "Gyoro and I bowed to each other, agreed that it was a beautiful day and promised to pray together again soon, and went our separate ways."

PUZZLES

PRIZE CROSSWORD No. 657 | Axe



Please send your answers to: Crossword Competition 11 May, The Tablet, 1 King Street Cloisters, Clifton Walk, London W6 0GY. Email: thetablet@thetablet.co.uk, with Crossword in the subject field. Please include your full name, telephone number and email address, and a mailing address. Three books – on Augustine, Christianity and Thomas Aquinas – from the OUP's Very Short Introduction series will go to the sender of the first correct entry drawn at random on Friday 24 May. The answers to this week's puzzles and the crossword winner's name will appear in the 1 June issue.

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Across

- 1 Christian apologist is about to talk from the heart, not in French, initially (6)
- 4 Travel in revolting old vehicle, being an aide to Holofernes (6)
- 8 Faith's sister pops up in backward African country (5)
- 9 One senior cleric's losing work to outstanding member of David's war team (7)
- 10 Daniel's part's not applicable after Elam capital's named (7)
- 11 Where Israelites beat Og's men after a quarter get captured in dire move (5)
- 12 Text in which The Once and Future King stated "victory in Europe this day's almost complete" (9)
- 17 One who appropriated many Bach antiphon pieces (5)

- 19 State of the O.T.'s road review after donkey's years almost ... (7)
- 21 ... like losing the verges on numbers of its nationals (7)
- 22 One in the N.T. Simon Parry found revolting? (5)
- 23 Bishop of London is inflamed after Queen's "yield" blunder (6)
- 24 Saint among Waldo's Waldensians (6)

Down

- 1 Religious teacher's sanctimonious over resistance to be the third person in Rome (6)
- 2 Smelling, for instance, each lake in Judah (4,3)
- 3 Ham blowing his top, in a state, in O.T. times (5)
- 5 Bad blood in a north-eastern part of Lysanias' tetrarchy (7)

- 6 One of Joktan's boys one sees going to work. Hello, Rex (5)
- 7 Point about religious teaching means the Trinity, partially (6)
- 9 21 of the O.T. area a man's ruined (9)
- 13 Brought up boy in a northern valley to be a book translator (7)
- 14 See 18
- 15 Tiberius is one, among others, in transport around the ocean capsizing (6)
- 16 Afraid, with accountant's volte-face, of becoming religious (6)
- 18/14 Epigraph Dora composed for a biblical dynast (5,7)
- 20 Little girl's upset seeing Paul's companion (5)

SUDOKU | Challenging

3	9	5		8
	2	7		
4	5		2	1
	3		4	
		9	5	
		8		4
	1	2		9
			4	8
6		7	4	1

Each 3x3 box, each row and each column must contain all the numbers 1 to 9.

5	4	2	6	1	3	8	9	7
6	7	8	9	2	5	1	3	4
9	1	3	7	4	8	2	5	6
2	3	6	8	5	7	9	4	1
4	8	9	1	6	2	3	7	5
7	5	1	3	9	4	6	8	2
1	2	5	4	8	9	7	6	3
3	9	4	2	7	6	5	1	8
8	6	7	5	3	1	4	2	9

Solution to the 20 April puzzle

Solution to the 20 April crossword No. 654

- Across:** 5 Babylonian; 7 Urfa; 8 Adriatic; 9 Ginath; 11 Bichri; 12 Ahi; 13 Uzziath; 14 Gishpa; 15 Manasseh; 17 Gold; 18 Canaanites.
Down: 1 Abba; 2 Eliathah; 3 Aner; 4 Damascus; 5 Bar mitzvah; 6 Hierapolis; 10 Abinadab; 11 Bighthana; 16 Star; 17 Gath.
Winner: John Francis Grierson, of Galashiels, Scotland.