

# CROSSROADS

The magazine for  
St George's Tuffley and St Margaret's Whaddon

## Worshipping, Caring, Pioneering



Growing God's Kingdom



<b>ST GEORGE'S</b>	Sunday	Parish Communion at 10.30am
	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday	(with prayers for healing)
	Tuesday	Parish Communion at 9.30am
	Thursday	Morning Prayer at 8.15am
	1 <sup>st</sup> Saturday	Messy Church at 10.00am

### ST MARGARET'S

1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday	Family Praise at 10.30am and Evensong at 5.00pm (with prayers for healing)
2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday	Parish Communion at 9.00am
3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday	Evensong at 5.00pm
4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday	Parish Communion at 9.00am
Thursday	Parish Communion at 10.30am

WEBSITE [www.glos-stg-stm.org.uk](http://www.glos-stg-stm.org.uk)

FACEBOOK: St. George's, Tuffley and St Margaret's Whaddon

CHURCH IN TUFFLEY

3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday Refresh at 7.30pm (Venue varies)

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2019

50p

**ST GEORGE'S TUFFLEY**  
**WITH ST MARGARET'S WHADDON**  
**Website: [www.glos-stg-stm.org.uk](http://www.glos-stg-stm.org.uk)**  
**Facebook: St. George's, Tuffley and St Margaret's Whaddon**

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## OUR VICAR WRITES...

Dear friends

**“Don’t ask for whom the bell tolls...**

**...for it tolls for thee” (John Donne, c.1600)**

Back in the day, the church bell tolled when someone died. So of course the bell tolled for everybody.

Today the church bell tolls **as a call to worship**. A tradition begun in the days before wrist-watches and the like. Now the bell struggles to be heard amidst the traffic and noise around us. And even if heard, it struggles to permeate through our pre-occupied lives.

But I like this tradition. For it reminds me that the bell tolls for me, the call of worship is for me. And for us all. To come together. Every week.

In another famous sermon, John Donne said “no man is an island”. No one is self-sufficient. Every one of us relies on others.

Just so, no-one is a Christian without being part of the church. For God lives with his people; God’s temple is the body of Christ. As we meet together in worship, we can experience God’s presence in a way none of us can individually.

So I gladly and earnestly say – come! All who recognise we can’t go it alone – we can’t go it without God – come! All who long for more of God’s presence, week by week, come! And let’s enjoy the riches of God’s love, together, in the joy of each other’s company.

The writer to the Hebrews exhorts us: “This is not the time to be discouraged and neglect meeting together, as some have formed the habit of doing, because we need each other! In fact, we should come together even more frequently, eager to encourage and urge each other onward as we anticipate the day *of our Lord and His Kingdom dawning*.” (Heb 10)

Yes, indeed, the bell tolls for thee!

*Lord, for the joy and strength of knowing Your presence as we come together, thank you. Help us stay faithful to your call to worship week by week. Amen*

God bless you all  
Bruce

**FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS**

Congratulations to Benjamin Paul Robinson & Summa Marie Franks who were married at St Margaret's Church in August

Our sympathies to the families and friends of: -

Gary Norman RIP  
Doreen Claridge RIP  
Marion Browning RIP  
Kim Williams RIP  
Edna Crawford RIP  
Jan Tate RIP

**PIONEERING PRAYER UPDATE**



Many thanks to all our readers for your prayers and concern for Helen and her son David. At the time of writing we're hoping that David will be able to return in September to his school in Churchdown for his final year of A-levels; and for Helen to be able officially to get back to her Pioneering role with us and to her studies for ordination. It's been a frustrating time for them both, and they're very grateful for everyone's patience and support in so many ways. God bless you!

## **CHURCHYARD SERVICE**

Sunday 29 September at 3.00pm

Do you have a loved one whose body is buried, or whose ashes are buried at St Margaret's?

If so, do please come and share in this very special service in the churchyard to honour our loved ones.

The service will include prayers and some favourite hymns; it will last about 20 minutes.

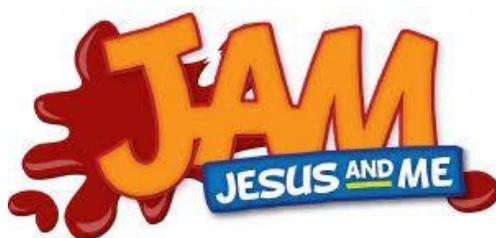
Refreshments will be available afterwards.



We'll hold the service whatever the weather, so bring an umbrella if necessary (spares in church).

It will be helpful for us to know you're coming. Please send to the office as soon as you can: your name, how many in your party, the name of your loved one, and the approximate date your loved one's body or ashes were buried.

We very much hope you'll come.



**MORE JAM?**

'Jesus And Me' (JAM) is the name of our Sunday school during the 10.30am service at all ages, every Sunday; following the summer break.



name of our Sunday school St George's, for all children, resuming from 1 September

Please come! And please tell your family and friends! It's caring, instructive, inspiring and fun (for children and for leaders!)



### **TIME TO REMEMBER**

*A celebration of those we love but see no longer*  
St George's Church, Sunday 27 October at 4.00pm

Everyone is welcome

If you're coming to the service  
and you would like us to mention a loved one,  
please send your name and your loved one's name  
to the office by Thursday 10 October



### **BLESSING FOR SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER**

May the blessing of God shield you wherever you go.

The blessing of God be upon you -  
the blessing of the Giver of life.

The blessing of God be upon you -  
the blessing of the Christ of love.

The blessing of God be upon you -  
the blessing of the Spirit of peace.

The blessing of the Trinity be upon you -  
Now and evermore.

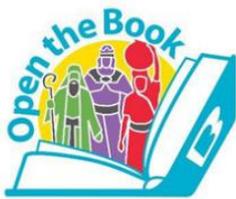
Amen

## **SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER RIDDLE-ME-REE**

1 A doctor and a bus driver are both in love with the same woman, an attractive girl named Sarah. The bus driver had to go on a long bus trip that would last a week. Before he left, he gave Sarah seven apples. Why?

2 When does Christmas come before Harvest?

## **HAVE YOU OPENED THE BOOK?**



Our teams at Grange and Harewood schools share Bible stories with children week by week at Grange and Harewood schools during assemblies. The children love it, and staff value these opportunities for them to learn about the Christian faith with people from the local church and community. As always, we'd love new members to join us. Please speak with Helen or Bruce or Hans to find out more.

**Many thanks to Margaret and Jill for stripping and re-polishing the floors in St George's Centre**

## **ST GEORGE'S COFFEE POT**

EVERY Tuesday morning from 9.00am until 11.30am  
St George's Centre, Grange Road, Tuffley

Hot drinks and food available until 10.30am

If good company, conversation and refreshments are just the ticket for you, then come along, and bring a friend!

We are desperate for help to lay tables and to put things away after Coffee Pot if you can spare some time please speak to Mike Brammer or our Vicar ASAP



## **BENEFICE HARVEST SUPPER**

**KEEP THE DATE FREE!**



Our Benefice Social Committee would like you to join them for our annual Harvest Supper. It will be on October 5th from 7.00pm with a sherry reception followed by a two course meal.

The choice of meals are:

Beef in beer casserole or

Finest sausages, wholegrain mustard mash and red wine and onion gravy or  
Roasted vegetable lasagne

Followed by either fresh fruit Pavlova or old English trifle.

Tickets will cost £10.00 each and must be ordered from Sylvia Evans (01452 416184) and paid for by September 22nd. This allows the caterer to buy all the ingredients in plenty of time.

Please bring your own drinks!

There will be a raffle and entertainment will follow the meal. We hope you will join us for what promises to be a fun filled evening, with good food and friends.



**BENEFICE SOCIAL COMMITTEE**

**WEY-HEY YES-S-S-S!**

After the summer break, Messy Church is BACK!

On the first Saturday of every month: 7 September, 5 October, and 2 November from 10.00am until 11.30am



Children, bring your parents / grans / carers with you, for a FABULOUS time!

For more details see our website and weekly news sheet

## **BENEFICE HARVEST FESTIVAL 2019**

Sunday 6 October

10.30am Harvest Celebration at St George's

10.30am Family Praise Harvest Celebration at St Margaret's

5.00pm Harvest Evensong at St Margaret's

What can you bring to our Harvest Festival Services?

We would be happy

to accept tinned and packet foodstuffs like: -

Long life milk, Long life fruit Juice, Packet mash, Biscuits, Tinned cold meat, Tinned rice pudding, Tinned custard, Treats for children, Tinned sponge pudding for families, Tinned fruit, Tinned potatoes, Packets pasta 'n sauce, Packets savoury rice, Packets savoury noodles, Sugar.

But perishable items are quite acceptable

All donated foodstuffs will be passed on to the following charities: -

Gloucester Foodbank, George Whitfield Centre, 107 Great Western Road and Emmaus Gloucestershire, Chequers Road



### **WANT TO GROW MORE CONFIDENT IN YOUR CHRISTIAN FAITH?**

Then this Autumn, come and share your questions and experiences, or simply to sit back quietly and enjoy listening to the discussion...

Pete and Lorraine's Friday group, a new eight-week series starts 6 September at new time of 9.30am, in St George's Centre.

Bible Study, fellowship and discussion with refreshments.

Who knows what blessing God might have for you here?

The logo features the text "The Gospel Truth QUIZ" on an orange, torn-edge background. "The" is in a small serif font above "Gospel", which is in a large, bold, sans-serif font. "Truth" is in a smaller serif font below "Gospel", and "QUIZ" is in a large, bold, black, sans-serif font to the right.

Questions based on the Gospel readings for July

- 1 Jesus sent out His 12 disciples and they returned with joy reporting how the sick were healed and evil spirits cast out. Later Jesus appointed more followers and sent them out in similar fashion. How many followers did Jesus appoint on this occasion?
- 2 Jesus instructed them, "Carry no p\_\_\_\_, no bag, no sandals and greet no one on the road." What word is missing?
- 3 In the story of the 'Good Samaritan' two people passed by the injured man. One was a P\_\_\_\_ the other a L\_\_\_\_. Who were these men?
- 4 The man to whom the 'Good Samaritan' story was told was invited to say which of the characters helped the injured man. He replied, "The one who showed him mercy." What did Jesus then say to the man?
- 5 Jesus visited two sisters. One was busy serving. The other sat and listened. Who were they?
- 6 One of Jesus disciples said, "Lord teach us to pray as J\_\_\_\_ taught his disciples." Who was this person who taught his disciples to pray?
- 7 To show God provides for us Jesus made the following statement. "Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for a f\_\_\_\_ will give him a snake. Or if he asks for an e\_\_\_\_ will give a scorpion. If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!." Which two words are missing?
- 8 Which Old Testament Prophet was instructed by God to marry a prostitute?
- 9 Which Psalm begins, "Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labour in vain."?
- 10 Which Old Testament Prophet was shown a 'Plumb-Line' by the Lord?

*The answers to this month's Bible Quiz  
can be found later in this issue of Crossroads*



In order to get your  
**NOVEMBER CROSSROADS**  
ready for publication on Sunday 27 October

ARTICLES NEED TO BE IN THE EDITORS HANDS  
OR IN OUR EMAIL INBOX BEFORE, BUT NO LATER THAN

**SUNDAY 13 OCTOBER**

The earlier you can get your articles to the Editors  
the greater chance of getting it published

Thank you for your help in this matter

### **“THE GREATEST CRISIS OF OUR AGE”**

Not post-EU membership, very important though this is.



No, this is how the Bishop of Oxford speaks of the growing climate catastrophe.

From the very beginning, God gave us responsibility to look after our environment well, both for the present and for the future.

But the future is now looking so bleak that Pope Francis, the UK Parliament, and a host of local councils including our own, have all declared that our global climate is in a state of emergency.

So what are we doing about it? What shall we do? What can we do?

Please talk with Bruce or with Sylvia Evans (our Eco-lead) about how together we can make a difference.

## PETER'S SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER

# posers



1. Canteloupe, Egusi and Water are all types of which fruit?
2. The 'Ye Olde trip to Jerusalem' pub in Nottingham claims which distinction?
3. Which is the larger lake; Lake Superior or Lake Michigan?
4. In British universities, what do the initials NUS stand for?
5. Actress Charlize Theron was born in which country? USA, South Africa or England
6. Addis Ababa is the capital city of which African country?
7. Between 2012 and 2016, Kyle Walker, Gareth Bale, Harry Kane and Dele Alli all won the PFA Young Player of the Year award whilst representing which club?
8. Jamie Bell plays the title role in the story of which working-class ballet dancer?
9. Which Catalan architect known for his flamboyant style designed Barcelona's Sagrada Família which remained unfinished after his death? Antonio Gaudi, Le Corbusier or Santiago Calatrava
10. Known for 'Marsyas' at the Tate Modern and the ArcelorMittal Orbit at the Olympic Park, which 'AK' was awarded a knighthood in 2013?

*Answers next issue*

### **ANSWERS TO PETER'S AUGUST POSERS**

1 Terry Wogan: 2 Frozen food: 3 Isle of Wight: 4 Great Britain: 5 Apple:  
6 Cheltenham Gold Cup: 7 Israel: 8 Honduras: 9 The Nile: 10 Birmingham.



An eventful summer is over, and we've had a successful Summer Reading Challenge with lots of things to do, and lots of book read. Now, however, the nights are drawing in and it is time to look out for books that are a cosy read in the dark.

It's on the cloudy days that the lights of the library seem like a beacon in the grey, a chance to talk and be warm, and if you come to one of our many social groups, have a warming cuppa - remember it's Monday for knitting, Tuesday for Crochet, Thursday for Baby Bounce and Rhyme also computing and Life Changes and Friday for good, old fashioned quiet library time.

On Saturday mornings we'll be starting a Lego club, so keep an eye out for that, and if anyone has an excess of the plastic bricks they need rid of, we'll be happy to take them to add to our box.

Always contact the library to check times; you wouldn't want to be disappointed, would you!

Happy reading; and hope to see you soon

STEVE AND MARGARET



**COFFEE MORNING**  
**in aid of Macmillan Nurses appeal**  
**10.00am FRIDAY 27 SEPTEMBER**  
**St George's Centre, Grange Road**  
**Please come along and support this worthy**  
**cause**



## **TIME TO TALK...**

... about mental health.

Wednesday 11 September then every Wednesday from 2 October 10.00am until 11.00am at Prinknash Abbey Monastery Café.

Linda Medwell and Bruce have visited and recommend this special time and space where we can talk about any aspect of mental health.

Any questions, do please speak with either of us.

*“Around 1 in 4 people will experience a mental health problem this year, yet the shame and silence can be as bad as the mental health problem itself. Your attitude to mental health could change someone’s life” [MIND]*



## **BOOKSHELF**

Here are details of some more new books from BRF. “When You Pray” by Joanna Collicutt has daily Bible reflections on the Lord’s Prayer. In this updated edition Joanna shows how growing as a Christian is rooted in the prayer Jesus gave us. As we pray the Lord’s Prayer, we express our relationship with God, absorb Gospel values and are motivated to live them out.

What can we learn from Augustine? “Augustine’s Life of Prayer, Learning and Love” by Cally Hammond isn’t a book about his faith and doubts. It’s about how he learned to read the Bible, pray, and love – the word at the

heart of faith. It concludes with moments of prayer from his life, in which he glimpses visions of God, encouraging you to take your next steps in discipleship.

“Sensing the Divine” by Andrew D. Mayes is an invigorating re-reading of John by a well-known Christian writer who has lived in the Holy Land for many years. It approaches the Gospel by exploring how John uses the senses, both physical and spiritual, in his encounter with Jesus. This refreshing appreciation will activate and stimulate our discovery and spiritual quest of the Gospel, God’s world, ourselves and mission.

Do you find the violence in the Old Testament a problem? Does it get in the way of reading the Bible – and of faith itself? While acknowledging that there are no easy answers, in “God of Violence Yesterday, God of Love Today?”, Helen Paynter faces the questions head-on and offers a fresh, accessible approach to a significant issue. For all those seeking to engage with the Bible and gain confidence in the God it portrays, she provides tools for reading and interpreting biblical texts, and points to ways of dealing with the overall trajectories of violence.

SARAH KINGSCOTE

**TUFFLEY’S BIGGEST COFFEE MORNING:**

**Friday, 27 September 2019 from 10.00am until 12.00noon**

Please join us to raise money for Macmillan Cancer Support. Every school and business in Tuffley has been invited to join in. This is all part of the national fundraising day for Macmillan. We just want Tuffley to be a part of it. If you would like to donate a cake towards the event that would be fabulous. We hope you will all buy draw tickets to win some great prizes. If you can’t make it and would like to donate, you can let us have a cheque made payable to Macmillan Cancer Support and add Supporter number 26579306 on the back. This ensures the money is added to the Tuffley’s Biggest Coffee Morning.

Thank you very much. Brian Woodruff & Sylv Evans (Hosts)

**GOSPEL TRUTH BIBLE QUIZ ANSWERS**

Answers

1 70: 2 purse: 3 Priest & Levite: 4 Go and do likewise: 5 Martha & Mary:  
6 John: 7 fish & egg: 8 Hosea: 9 Psalm 127: 10 Amos:

# Getting to Know You

## *Ann Mayo*

*Ann has been a member of St George's congregation for fifteen years or more. Married to Bert, a farmer, she's lived in Gloucester almost all her life.*

### **Family**

Ann was born in Birmingham in 1947, during the "big freeze" of that year. Her mother, father and Nan had moved there from Gloucester, following her father's return from the war, where he had served in the army for seven years in Italy and North Africa. Her parents hadn't seen each other for five years.

Ann's paternal grandfather had served in the army in the first world war, later becoming a train driver with the Great Western Railway. Ann's father was the eldest of his large family. Her maternal grandfather also worked on the railway, but sadly died in his fifties when Ann's mother, the youngest of his five children, was sixteen.

### **A brief spell in Tuffley**

When Ann was three months old, the family moved back to Gloucester, finding a house in Falfield Road in Tuffley, where they stayed for the next three years before moving to Churchdown. Her father was a buyer at Dowty Rotol and her mother worked part-time at RAF Innsworth, later moving to work at Dowty's.

### **On the move**

The family continued to live in Churchdown until Ann was eight years old, when they moved to Sandhurst, to live in an old house which had belonged to Ann's great uncle and aunt, retired farmers. The house had previously been occupied by a French lady, who had been the local schoolteacher, and her companion, who had slept in the attic, where Ann used to love playing "houses" and looking through the myriad of old things stored there. The house was surrounded by fields with a large garden. The lane at the side of

the house ran through fields from the River Severn to the village green, the church and the school, and eventually to Gloucester, three and a half miles away.

Ann loved living in the country with nature all around. She became very fond of her fox-terrier, Spot, who was her constant companion and friend. Though an only child, Ann didn't feel lonely, but was shy. She loved to go for walks across the fields down to the River Severn; those were days when children were free to roam without fears for their safety, so prevalent today. There was, though, a cautionary word from her mother as to the time to be back, or she would be out looking for her.

Ann was brought up by loving parents in a Christian home. Her parents had grown up in different Christian traditions, her father being an Anglican, her mother was used to Wesleyan chapel worship. Her parents took Ann to both the Anglican church and the local chapel, as well as to the Cathedral from time to time. Ann's grandmother and great-aunt lived with the family.

### **School days**

Ann attended Sandhurst C of E school. She retains happy memories of the school, and of her inspirational head mistress who lived in the attached schoolhouse, and who would divide her pupils into five groups according to age, setting different work for each group. The large main room was heated by a cylindrical coal heater, beautifully warm in the winter. A picture of the Queen hung on the wall. As flower monitor, Ann placed wild-flowers and flowers from pupils' gardens in vases on the window sills, as well as carefully filling each ink well with ink from a large container. Ann recalls taking part in country dancing and rounders, where the ball often ended up in the next-door garden, always kindly returned with a smile by the elderly couple who lived there. Each day started with prayers; the whole school would head to the church nearby for special services. Ann remembers nature walks around the village, as well as listening to nature lessons and country singing on the radio.

Ann passed the 11+ exam, gaining a place at Ribston Hall. She cycled with another pupil from Sandhurst to Friars Orchard, near St Mary de Crypt church, where the junior part of the school was then sited, eventually progressing to the senior school in Spa Road. Ann particularly enjoyed

history, English and R.E. She entered the lower sixth form, but left school at sixteen when the opportunity arose to work in Barclay's bank in Southgate Street. Ann would meet her friend, who worked in Lloyd's bank in Eastgate Street, for lunch, often going to the Cathedral grounds in the summer. Payday saw them heading to Bon Marche for a knickerbocker glory.

### **Marriage**

Ann worked until her marriage at nineteen, and had her son, Mark, when she was twenty-one. Married in Sandhurst church, Mark was also christened there. Sadly, her marriage ended when Mark was three years old. Ann married Bert, whose marriage had also ended, three years later, becoming step-mother to Karan, then aged thirteen, to Jane and Anne, twins aged ten, and to Angela, who was eight. Bert and Ann brought up their joint family together, living at the Sandhurst farm. The children all went to Sandhurst school and then to Churchdown comprehensive school. They had various pets – dogs, cats, a pony, donkey, goats, etc.

### **Farm life**

The farm had a milking herd, sheep and beef cattle. It was a full life where Ann not only cared for five children, but also helped out on the farm, though she says she was always a bit wary of the cows! In 2001 the herd became infected with foot and mouth disease and Bert and Ann lost all their livestock, destroyed in the nationwide cull. Ann says they were shown great support and kindness by many at this time.

They finally left the farm about two years later, moving to their current house in Hardwicke, where Ann's parents had lived in their later years. Bert went to work for a businessman who owned his own farm. He still works for him part-time, checking cattle at various locations, enabling Bert to maintain contact with animals and farming, his life-time interest and occupation.

### **A bedrock of faith**

When the family had grown up, Ann did voluntary work at Gloucestershire Royal Hospital and also had a couple of part-time jobs. Her Christian faith has always been an important part of her life and has sustained her through various difficult times. She acknowledges she has been blessed with a loving family and good friends, who have helped and supported her in life, for which she is very thankful.

The family has continued to grow; Ann and Bert now have ten grandchildren, four great-grandchildren and extended family members. They have been married 44 years.

And how might she choose to spend a day with no commitments? It would be spent with the family, or enjoying a day of quietness in the countryside, surrounded by nature.

And words to live by? Simply do the best you can in whatever circumstances you find yourself, and at the end of each day be thankful for the blessings received.

### **SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER RIDDLE-ME-REE ANSWERS**

- 1 An apple a day keeps the doctor away!
- 2 In the dictionary.

*There are occasionally changes to the weekly timetable so please refer to our weekly newsletter for details of any changes. Crossroads and our weekly newsletter are now available for free on our website: -*

[www.glos-stg-stm.org.uk](http://www.glos-stg-stm.org.uk)

### **GRANGE WARD SURGERIES**



Steve Morgan will be holding monthly Grange Ward surgeries in our Softley Lounge starting on 7 September from 10.00am until 12.00noon.

Steve would like to discuss with local residents any issues that he may be able to help with.



## **THROUGH THE WINDOW**

Hello everyone, It's nice to be chatting to you again. Not a lot has happened since I last wrote; my Mum and Auntie Jill have been gadding about again. A little while ago my home was invaded by a lot of people. I normally got shut up in my Mum's bedroom, but Auntie Jayne said not to do it because the people who came want to see me. I would have jumped on the table to see what I could eat but wasn't allowed. Too many people watching! Still I didn't mind really, I had the chance to say hello to a lot of people.

I even saw Auntie Lynne, but she was busy in the kitchen. I did go out into the garden for a little while and was allowed back in. Eventually the people left so I was able to have a seat and be fussed. I enjoyed that bit; soon it was time to have my tea which I ate with relish. Sometimes it was too hot to eat; I just wanted to be cool so I had to find the coolest place in the house. Somewhere with a breeze blowing through, like my Mum's bedroom; but the window isn't open very wide, I think she thinks that I might jump out, I probably would too.

I've had a rather nasty shock recently, I knew something was up when my Mum wouldn't let me go out. I have to be where she is so I was on the table while she was working on something, Auntie Jill came in so I tried to hide because I knew where I was going and I didn't want to go. I was bundled into the box, strapped into a seat in Auntie Jill's vehicle; I heard some more little voices so I knew Maya and Trixie were going as well. We made our opinions very clear, we were not happy. I had to have another pin and I think Maya and Trixie did too! They were telling me all about it on our way home. We think that our Mum's are cruel to us taking us to that horrible place to have unspeakable things done to us. Maya said they were trying to cut her toes off! I have the same done to me too. It doesn't take long for the nails to grow again so we have it all done again. I do wish sometimes they'd leave well alone. We can't get a grip on things when our nails are clipped but it's all for the best I'm told! I'd best close now but I will write again soon.

Your feline friend Jo Jo



## OVER THE GARDEN FENCE

Maya, Maya, I'm over here Maya, Trix what is our Mum up to? I haven't had my breakfast yet and she's been and gone out. I know Maya, she lifted me up and put me outside, I don't know what's going on but I'm sure that there is something up. I know our Mum will be back soon Trix so don't worry. I know Maya but it's a bit chilly out here at the moment, let's see if Harry is out and about. I haven't seen Yasmin or Luna for days. I know let's have a look over the road. Look Trix, Harry and Yasmin how are you guys. We're OK you two, looking good Maya and you Trix. Well thank you we do our best don't we Maya. What are you doing roaming around at this time of the morning? Oh, we are just checking to see how the day will be. It's all this early morning air, it's so fresh. Yes, Maya and me feel just the same, don't we Maya. If you say so Trix, if you say so. Oh look it's our Mum, she's come home and about time too, bye Harry, Bye Yasmin see you soon. OK guys see ya. Maya! come on our Mum's is getting out of that vehicle, maybe she's got something nice in her bag, Trixie, I can't wait to see. Alright after you, Trixie, Trixie breakfast. I'm right behind you, it's about time though isn't it.

Trix, Trix look what our Mum has put down for us to play in. I'll just nip in and have a look. Trix it's a trick; our Mum has just shut me in a box. I know Maya, I'm being shoved in the box with you. Oh! Oh! it's into that vehicle again, our Mum is taking us to see Auntie Marg, what we got to go there for Maya. I don't know Trix, but we will find out very shortly. Oh! Oh! Auntie Marg has got our JoJo into a box, she will be moaning all the way to wherever we are going and I think I know just where that is!

We're at the animal doctor's place, Maya. I told you that our Mum would bring us here didn't I. I know Trix, but what are we doing here anyway? I don't know but I don't like the look of anything in here and our JoJo is making her presence known again. Maya, it's our turn to see the doctor, JoJo can go first she's older than us. Just listen to her, her Mum is whispering sweet nothings in her ear but she's still showing off. I bet she's having her toes chopped off; Oh! the blood! Trixie will you shut up, our JoJo is just moaning like she always does. She's gone back into her box. Now, it's our turn, Trix, you go first, I'll just keep your place warm. Oh Thanks Maya, thanks very much. Oh! Oh! that doctor has very cold hands and he keeps putting things on my chest. Mum you just keep a hold of me very tight. I don't like the look in that doctor's eyes. Maya, I think he wants to

chop my toes off again. Oh no he's not, but I've got to have a gobstopper shoved down my neck and I've got to have a great big pin stuck in my neck, Oh! that hurt! Mum make him stop! Oh thank goodness for that. Now it's your turn Maya, blimey that was close, I won't look Maya honest, you having your toes chopped off, Oh Maya, I can see, is there any blood? No Trixie not yet anyway, Oh heck it's that gobstopper thing Trix. That stethoscope isn't half cold on my chest! I think our Mum wants to choke me to death. Oh Trixie that pin didn't half hurt, I'm sure it went down to my tail. I can't wait to get back in the box, then it's home for us, I think.

Well that didn't take long I bet Harnold doesn't make as much fuss as us but I don't care he's bigger than us. Our JoJo looks a big girl doesn't she Maya. Yes Trix, she does then she's older than us as well. Everyone's bigger than us Maya aren't they. I'm afraid they are. Come on I'll give you a cuddle we'll be alright. Oh tata JoJo see you soon. Well we are well on our way Maya, home sweet home. Here we are Trix, now let's just see where everyone is. OK Maya, shall I say tata to everyone. Yes you do that Trix. Tata everyone until next time and it's tata from Maya too.

## MAYA & TRIXIE PONTER



Well here we are again that certain person who, with her mate Kath, does the cleaning up at St Margaret's Church. Kath has not been in the best of health of late, but is much better, we have not been up on a Monday morning of late as we work together and with Kath out of commission so to speak. I don't work on my own. We do some cleaning on a Thursday morning so to keep the church up together. I know it's not much but we do try very hard to keep things going.

On 21 July we had Paula with us playing the organ as Jonathan was on holiday with his wife Carol. It was such a pleasure to see Paula and her husband, David, her playing is just as good as Jonathan's and it was a pleasure to be singing along. I had to do one of the readings and I asked David if he would do the other. It made our service just a little bit different.

I must mention our Ploughman's Lunch that we had on 20 July. It's something that Margaret and I do every year to raise funds for our little church. We couldn't sit outside this year as we didn't have the sunshine, but we had lots of laughs. Our numbers may have been down as people had the dreaded lurgy or were on holiday; but a great time was had by all. A big thank you to Jayne and Linda who did sterling work collecting money and operating the raffle. Thank you to Malcolm for being our number 1 barman; but the biggest thank you must go to our friend Lynne who stood at our kitchen sink from 12.15pm until around 3.00pm. We fortified her with numerous cups of tea and we wouldn't have been able to do our other jobs without her support. Thank you to everyone who came along we raised £190.00 on the day and we have been promised a little more for St Margaret's coffers.

On 4 August we welcomed back Pete and Lorraine from their holiday in Canada, where they met their son. I haven't heard all of their news but I know that they had a wonderful time. Jonathan and Carol were with us too and my lovely friend, Dianne who has been in hospital. We welcomed them back with much love. On that day Jonathan was taking our service as Bruce was away on holiday with his family to Devon.

So my friends that's all for now so until the next Crossroads; goodbye and God bless.

JILL PONTER



Sun 25			<b>TRINITY 10</b>
	9.00am	*	Parish Communion
	10.30am		Parish Communion followed by prayers for healing and coffee
Mon 26			<b>Bank Holiday</b>
		MH	Coffee Pot set-up
Tue 27	9.00am	MH	Coffee Pot until 11.30am – all welcome
	9.30am		Parish Communion
	7.30pm	SL	<b>Church Centre Management meet</b>

Wed 28	7.00pm	SL	Gardening Club Committee
Thu 29	8.15am	V	Morning Prayer
	10.30am	*	Parish Communion
Fri 30		MH	Gardening Club Show preparation
Sat 31	2.00pm	MH	<b>Gardening Club Annual Show</b>

## SEPTEMBER

Sun 1			<b>TRINITY 11</b>
	10.30am	*	Family Praise
	10.30am		Parish Communion followed by coffee
	5.00pm	*	Evensong with talk on link with Tanzania followed by prayers for healing
Mon 2			Coffee Pot set-up
Tue 3	9.00am	MH	Coffee Pot until 11.30am – all welcome
	9.30am		Parish Communion
Wed 4	7.00pm		St George's Singing Group practice
Thu 5	8.15am	V	Morning Prayer
	10.30am	*	Parish Communion
	7.30am		Railway Society – 12 Ryelands
Fri 6	9.30am	SL	Pete & Lorraine's Friday Group restarts
	7.30pm	MH	Gardening Club
Sat 7	10.00am		<b>Messy church</b>
	10.00am	M	Councillor Steve Morgan Grange Ward Surgery
Sun 8			<b>TRINITY 12</b>
	9.00am	*	Parish Communion
	10.30am		Parish Communion with St George's Singing Group followed by coffee & 100 Club Draw
Mon 9	9.00pm	MH	Coffee Pot set-up
Tue 10	9.00am	MH	Coffee Pot until 11.30am – all welcome
	9.30am		Parish Communion
	2.30pm	SH	Mothers' Union with Arlene Howard
Wed 11	7.00pm		St George's Singing Group practice
Thu 12	8.15am	V	Morning Prayer
	10.30am	*	Parish Communion
Fri 13	9.30am	SL	Pete & Lorraine's Friday Group
Sat 14			<b>Historic Churches Ride &amp; Stride Day</b>
Sun 15			<b>TRINITY 13</b>

	10.30am		Parish Communion
	12.30pm	*	Baptism of Grayson David Hewitt
	1.30pm		Baptism of Jasmine and Zoe
	5.00pm	*	Evensong
Mon 16	7.00pm	V	<a href="#">PCC meeting</a>
	9.00pm	MH	Coffee Pot set-up
Tue 17	9.00am	MH	Coffee Pot until 11.30am – all welcome
	9.30am		Parish Communion
	7.30pm	SH	Yoga starts again now weekly
Wed 18	7.30pm		<a href="#">Refresh meeting at Grange Baptist Church</a>
Thu 19	8.15am	V	Morning Prayer
	10.30am	*	Parish Communion
Fri 20	9.30am	SL	Pete & Lorraine's Friday Group
Sun 22			<b>TRINITY 14</b>
	9.00am	*	Parish Communion
	10.30am		Parish Communion followed by prayers for healing & coffee
Mon 23	9.00pm	MH	Coffee Pot set-up
Tue 24	9.00am	MH	Coffee Pot until 11.30am – all welcome
	9.30am		Parish Communion
Wed 25	7.00pm		St George's Singing Group practice
	7.00pm	SL	Gardening Club Committee
Thu 26	8.15am	V	Morning Prayer
	10.30am	*	Parish Communion
Fri 27	10.00am	M	<a href="#">Macmillan Coffee Morning – all welcome</a>
	9.30am	SL	Pete & Lorraine's Friday Group
	2.30pm		<a href="#">Quiet Prayer Group at St George's Church</a>
Sat 28	10.00am	MH	Private let until 2.00pm
Sun 29			<b>TRINITY 15 / MICHAEL &amp; ALL ANGELS</b>
	9.00am	*	Parish Communion
	10.30am		Parish Communion
	3.00pm	M	<a href="#">Churchyard Service at St Margaret's Church</a>
Mon 30	9.00pm	MH	Coffee Pot set-up

## OCTOBER

Tue 1	9.00am	MH	Coffee Pot until 11.30am – all welcome
	9.30am		Parish Communion
Thu 3	8.15am	V	Morning Prayer
	10.30am	*	Parish Communion

Fri 4	9.30am	SL	Pete & Lorraine's Friday Group
	7.30pm	MH	Gardening Club
Sat 5	10.00am		<b>Messy church</b>
	7.00pm	M	<b>Harvest Supper</b>
Sun 6			<b>TRINITY 16 / HARVEST</b>
	10.30am	*	<b>Family Praise</b>
	10.30am		<b>Parish Communion followed by coffee</b>
	5.00pm	*	<b>Evensong followed by prayers for healing</b>
Mon 7	10.00am	SH	Speakability
	9.00pm	MH	Coffee Pot set-up
Tue 8	9.00am	MH	Coffee Pot until 11.30am – all welcome
	9.30am		Parish Communion
	2.30pm	SH	Mothers' Union – Bible Sale
Wed 9	7.00pm		St George's Singing Group practice
Thu 10	8.15am	V	Morning Prayer
	10.30am	*	Parish Communion
	4.30pm	V	Pioneer Steering Group
Fri 11	9.30am	SL	Pete & Lorraine's Friday Group
Sun 13			<b>TRINITY 17</b> <b>November Crossroads deadline</b>
	9.00am	*	Parish Communion
	10.30am		Parish Communion with St George's Singing Group followed by coffee
Mon 14	9.00pm	MH	Coffee Pot set-up
Tue 15	9.00am	MH	Coffee Pot until 11.30am – all welcome
	9.30am		Parish Communion
Wed 16	7.30pm		<b>Refresh at English Martyrs Church</b>
Thu 17	8.15am	V	Morning Prayer
	10.30am	*	Parish Communion
Fri 18	9.30am	SL	Pete & Lorraine's Friday Group
Sat 19	12.00noon	MH	Private let until 4.00pm – t.b.c.
Sun 20			<b>TRINITY 18</b>
	10.30am		Parish Communion followed by coffee
	1.30pm	*	Baptism of Ava Grace Sophia Ellison
	5.00pm	*	Evensong
Mon 21	9.00pm	MH	Coffee Pot set-up
Tue 22	9.00am	MH	Coffee Pot until 11.30am – all welcome
	9.30am		Parish Communion

Wed 23	4.00pm	V	Connections Group
	7.00pm		St George's Singing Group practice
	7.00pm	SL	Gardening Club Committee
Thu 24	8.15am	V	Morning Prayer
	10.30am	*	Parish Communion
	7.15pm		Deanery Synod at St James Tredworth
Fri 25	9.30am	SL	Pete & Lorraine's Friday Group
	2.30pm		Quiet Prayer Group at Grange Baptist Church
Sun 27			<b>LAST SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY</b>
	9.00am	*	Parish Communion
	10.30am		Parish Communion followed by prayers for healing & coffee
	4.00pm	M	<b>Time to Remember at St George's</b>
Mon 28			<b>Half Term week</b>
			Coffee Pot set-up
Tue 29	9.00am		Coffee Pot until 11.30am – all welcome
	9.30am		Parish Communion
Wed 30	4.00pm	V	Standing Committee
Thu 31	8.15am	V	Morning Prayer
	10.30am	*	Parish Communion

## NOVEMBER

Fri 1	9.30am	SL	Pete & Lorraine's Friday Group
	7.30pm	MH	Gardening Club
Sat 2			<b>ALL SOULS' DAY</b>
	10.00am		<b>Messy church</b>
	6.00pm	MH	Private let until 11.00pm
Sun 3			<b>ALL SAINTS SUNDAY</b>
	10.30am	*	Family Praise
	10.30am		Parish Communion followed by coffee
			<b>St Margaret's Lunch – t.b.c.</b>
	5.00pm	*	Evensong followed by prayers for healing

**M** = Read more information in magazine

**\*** = Service or event at St Margaret's Church

**MH** = Main Hall, **SH** = Small Hall, **SL** = Softley Lounge

**V** = Vicarage, **O** = Office

## **A LITTLE BIT OF HUMOUR TO FINISH WITH...**

An old grandmother brings a bus driver a bag of peanuts every day. First the bus driver enjoyed the peanuts but after a week of eating them he asked: "Please granny, don't bring me peanuts anymore. Have them yourself." The granny answers: "You know, I don't have teeth anymore. I just prefer to suck the chocolate around them."

Last night I dreamed of a beautiful walk on a sandy beach. At least that explains the footprints I found in the cat litter box this morning.

I'm going out this wonderful girl and she has a twin. People often ask me how I can tell them apart – but it's easy, really. Jane likes to paint her fingernails and Matthew doesn't.

A police officer stops a minivan full of elderly ladies being driven by an old gentleman because they're only going 25mph, stopping the mid-day motorway traffic. The policeman asks the driver why is he going so slow. "Well that's the speed limit, isn't it! There was a sign saying 25!" The driver defends himself. The policeman sighs, "No, sir, that's M25 the number of the motorway you're on; it has nothing to do with the speed limit." "Oh, so that's what it means..." says the driver, looking shocked. The officer looks at the rest of the minivan and notices the grannies are looking somewhat frozen and stiff. "What's up with the ladies?" he asks the driver. "Um..." the driver scratches his head, "You see, we just got off the motorway M180..."

A snowman sniffs, "Hm, funny, I smell carrots..."

What's an MP's favourite day of the week? Tuesday as there's no point starting anything new so close to the weekend.

Late one night a mugger wearing a mask stopped a well-dressed man. "Give me your money," he demanded. Scandalised, the man replied, "You can't do this – I work for the Inland Revenue!" "Oh! In that case," smiled the robber, "Give me MY money!"

Why did the dinosaur cross the road? Because the chicken hasn't evolved yet.