

CROSSROADS

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

Worshipping, Caring, Pioneering

Growing God's Kingdom



ST GEORGE'S

Sundays
Tuesdays
Wednesdays
1st Sunday

Parish Communion at 10.30am
Parish Communion at 10.00am
Morning Prayer at 8.15am on Zoom
Family Praise at 10.30am and
Evensong at 5.00pm

ST MARGARET'S

2nd Sunday
3rd Sunday
4th Sunday
5th Sunday
Thursday

Parish Communion at 9.00am
Evensong at 5.00pm
Parish Communion at 9.00am
Parish Communion at 9.00am
Parish Communion at 10.30am

JUNE 2022

50p

ST GEORGE'S TUFFLEY WITH ST MARGARET'S WHADDON

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REV RACHEL WRITES...

Faithfully celebrating the Platinum Jubilee

We've been talking about it and planning for it collectively as a country for some time, and now it is here! At the beginning of this month, we will have four days of celebration. After the last two years, isn't it good to have something to celebrate together, to lift our spirits and inspire us? Queen Elizabeth II's seventy years of service are a cause for great thanksgiving and celebration, and certainly ought to be an inspiration to us all. The faithfulness of her service to God and to the country and the commonwealth has been steadfast and determined. We see this still in her now, at an amazing ninety-six years of age.

God promises us faithfulness and calls us to faithful service in return. At Westcott House in Cambridge, where I trained for ministry, there is an outside bell along the cloisters from the chapel. The bell is rung before each service of the day, just as the bell is rung at St George's and St Margaret's. The sound of the bell calling us to worship; at Westcott, it was three times a day, Morning Prayer followed by Holy Communion, Evening Prayer, and Compline (Night Prayer). Inscribed on the bell were the words, πιστός ὁ καλῶν which translate as 'the one who calls is faithful'. Words from 1 Thessalonians 5.24. I found such inspiration from these words, the promise that God is faithful, as have many over the years.

God may call us to difficult and daunting tasks. Indeed, everyday life can sometimes feel difficult and daunting. But we can always trust that we will be sustained by God, who is a faithful God. God promises to be with us, giving us strength, giving us our daily bread as we pray in the Lord's Prayer. In her 2016 book, 'The Servant Queen and the King She Serves' the Queen declares, "I have been – and remain – very grateful to you for your prayers and to God for his steadfast love. I have indeed seen his faithfulness".

On Sunday 5th June we will celebrate and give thanks for not only the Queen's faithful service but for God's promise of faithfulness to us all. Wonderfully this celebration of the Platinum Jubilee falls on the Festival of Pentecost, widely celebrated across church denominations as the coming of the Holy Spirit and the birth of the Christian Church. What better day to celebrate the faithfulness

of God, Queen Elizabeth II's faithful response to God, and her faithful service to us all. As we celebrate and give thanks, perhaps we could also reflect on our own lives and consider our response to God's faithful and steadfast love.

With God's faithful blessing to you all,

RACHEL

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

BAPTISM

St Margaret's

Daisy Alice Ruth Pardey



**DISASTERS
EMERGENCY
COMMITTEE**

Good afternoon, I wanted to say a massive thank you to the UK public for all you are doing to support people affected by the conflict in Ukraine.

Collectively, you have helped raise an incredible £300 million, including £25 million matched by the UK Government, for the DEC Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal. Your overwhelming generosity means that as well as providing urgent assistance now, we can help those affected by the conflict in the months and years to come.

Right now, DEC charities and their local partners are providing aid in Ukraine and in neighbouring countries and are adapting to people's changing needs as the situation evolves. Here is an insight into just some of the work that's happening now and being planned for the coming months.

In Ukraine:

British Red Cross is providing first aid training and psychological support sessions in shelters as well as surgical training. Their teams are also providing temporary shelter, food, water and hygiene kits.

Save the Children is providing mobile health units, trauma kits, medicines and equipment like baby incubators, nutrition support and safe drinking water. CAFOD is working with a local partner to deliver food via soup kitchens, supplying daily meals, weekly food baskets and preparing hot meals to people living in the metro and bomb shelters.

Concern Worldwide is helping people who have lost their livelihoods by giving families in Ukraine cash support in three monthly instalments and is funding local self-help and civil society groups with cash to support conflict-affected communities.

Age International, through local partner HelpAge, will provide older people who have been unable to leave the country with food supplies, hygiene and sanitation kits and cash to meet their needs.

This is just the start. Your donations are providing immediate relief where it's needed right now and as the situation continues to unfold in the months and years ahead.

Thank you for your support,
Saleh Saeed, Chief Executive

A REFLECTION UPON GOD'S AMAZING POWER!

We have just passed through the greatest of our Christian Festivals - 'EASTER'. I know if we went with the size of celebrations we see, we might well think Christmas was the 'greatest' festival! But without the resurrection of Jesus on Easter Day, there would not be a Christian Church! Then we marked Ascension Day when Jesus goes back to the Father, but before He went to heaven, He told His disciples to "go to Jerusalem and wait for the gift of the Holy Spirit."

So, we come to 'Pentecost'. It used to be called Whitsunday; white Sunday; and the churches were all kept in white festival array. Today we have gone back to its old name of Pentecost (50 - meaning fifty days after Easter), but we celebrate now, not in white, but in red, the colour of fire!!

When Moses had run away from the Pharaoh in Egypt and had ended up looking after sheep in a land called Midian, God wanted him for a very special task, and He attracted Moses' attention by fire! A bush was burning in the desert, although it burned, it did not turn to ashes. It just kept on burning and Moses was curious, he went to see and as he got nearer a voice spoke to him. 'Moses, Moses, take off your sandals, you are standing on holy ground!'

Pentecost is the call of God to His faithful followers today. On the first day of Pentecost, the disciples were in Jerusalem when the Holy Spirit called to them. Those eleven disciples, and I suspect others too, like the women who had followed Jesus, were no longer afraid! At that first Pentecost they suddenly dared to stand up and preach that Jesus who had been crucified (Good Friday), was now alive, risen from the dead by God the Father. And that they were now going to tell the whole world about Him, the Anointed One, the Messiah, promised way back in the Jewish Scriptures was now God's Messiah! It is said that as they preached 'fire', like tongues of flame seemed to sit upon their heads and no matter what language the crowds present spoke, everyone understood! Large numbers of people came to be baptised that day into the Christian Faith (today Baptism is the way we all 'join' the Church!).

The God of Creation has three distinct characteristics. He is God the Father, the creator. God the Son, who came to earth as Jesus, to save us and call us 'home'. God the Holy Spirit who teaches us all we need to know. He empowers us day, by day and gives us courage to live as sons and daughters of God.

Back in 1972 a man later destined to become a Bishop, John Taylor, wrote a book entitled: 'The Go between God'. I've always found that to be a great description of God the Holy Spirit. He interprets our attempts to pray and to follow God to the Father. He interprets our words and actions to one another here in the Church in today's world!

"Lord empower us with the 'fire' of Pentecost - set us 'alight' with Love for you and one another - now and all our days. Amen"

PAUL



To have your **JULY 2022 CROSSROADS** ready for publication on **SUNDAY 26 JUNE...**

...ARTICLES NEED TO BE WITH THE EDITORS' PREFERABLY BY EMAIL BEFORE, BUT NO LATER THAN...

...MONDAY 13 JUNE

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

***Editor:** I'd like, if possible, for someone to volunteer to deliver 5 Crossroads magazines each month and to collect the annual magazine fee in January/February each year. All 4 houses are in roads in or off Chatsworth Avenue and a free copy to the Tuffley Library. If you would like to help out, please see me and I get you set up. Many thanks.*



ARCHDEACONS' VISITATION SERVICE 2022

June 9th commencing at 7.30pm

The Ven Phil Andrew and The Ven Hilary Dawson invite all Churchwardens to the Archdeacons' Visitation Service being held at St. George's Church, Grange Road, Tuffley, Gloucester, GL4 0PE. Any

Churchwardens who are retiring from their role are most welcome to attend as there will be an opportunity in the service to express thanks for their ministry. Anyone from this Benefice can attend and you will be made very welcome.



ST GEORGE'S 2022 APCM ELECTION RESULTS

St George's APCM was attended by 22 people.

Mike Brammer and Sylvia Evans were re-elected as Churchwardens for a further year. Derek Kingscote, Dot Martin, Susan Scothern and Darrell Stevens will be our deputy churchwardens for the ensuing year. Mike and Sylvia will be ex-officio members of the St George's PCC.

Dawn Dolphin, Dot Martin, Roger Meadows, Linda Medwell, Joceline Blunt, Stuart Mitchell, Darrell Stevens and David Westcott were elected as members of St George's PCC for at least a further year. There remains one vacancy on our PCC.

Derek Kingscote will continue as St George's sole representative at the Deanery Synod and therefore ex-officio member of St George's PCC; there is one other Deanery Synod Representative position remaining vacant if anyone would like to consider taking it on.

At a meeting of the new PCC, which occurred on Tuesday 17th May the following were elected to office David Westcott as Treasurer and Roger Meadows as Lay Chair and Margaret Barber will continue to be the Electoral Roll Officer for St George's.

No one was elected as Secretary to St George's PCC; therefore, this position remains vacant.

ST MARGARET'S 2022 APCM ELECTION RESULTS

The St Margaret's APCM was attended by 15 people, following evensong.

Jonathan MacKechnie Jarvis and Hans Rackham were re-elected as churchwardens. Jill Ponter was re-appointed as electoral roll officer. The current electoral roll stands at 41, which shows a modest increase.

The following were elected as lay members of the PCC: Mike Smith, Jenny Watts, Georgina Wood, Rosemary Hail, and Pete Best. There remains one vacancy. (This is in addition to Jonathan, Hans, and Lorraine Best, who are all ex officio members).

Jill Ponter and Malcolm Martin were appointed deputy churchwardens, and Sarah Padam will continue to serve as our independent examiner.



ECO CHURCH

Eco Church is an award scheme designed to motivate and resource churches in England and Wales to care for God's earth as part of their everyday work and witness. It is a project run by A Rocha UK, in partnership with Christian Aid and Tearfund. A Rocha UK is a Christian charity working for the protection and restoration of the natural world. We are called to be good stewards of the earth in scripture and being such is a demonstration of Christian hope for God's world.

Churches can register with Eco Church for free and access a wealth of resources and support. There is also a survey of questions, divided into five sections, to help churches identify what they are already doing to care for God's earth and to give ideas for further engagement. The five sections are: worship and teaching, buildings, land, community and global engagement, and lifestyle. The awards are graded into bronze, silver and gold. Gloucester Diocese is signed up to Eco Church and churches across the diocese are being encouraged to register and engage with the survey questions.

St George's

St George's initial assessment through the survey questions is a bronze award. For most of the sections, however, St George's is already at silver, and we will be talking about this as a congregation over the coming weeks and months to consider how we might move to silver in all areas. Whilst it would be wonderful to be able to celebrate a silver award for Eco Church, the main aim is



to help us to think how we can be better stewards of God's earth and to motivate action in our everyday lives. We would love to hear what individuals are doing in this area and welcome any suggestions you may have for us as a church community.

St Margaret's

The initial assessment is a more complicated one for St Margaret's with the complexity of an ancient building and associated features. However, what a wonderful opportunity we have through the beautiful churchyard space. This area has been described as a peaceful haven, and through some simple steps it could indeed be a much-needed haven for wildlife, especially for bees and butterflies. The Revd Dr Cate Williams, the Environmental Engagement Officer for Gloucester Diocese came out to see the churchyard on 19th May to help us assess the best way forward for this, as she has been doing for many churchyards across Gloucestershire. Helpfully, leaving most of the churchyard to grow has helped to show which areas would give the most diversity and benefit for bees and butterflies.

A plan will now be drawn up, which will show which areas will be mown and which areas will be left to grow for this season, and this will then be reviewed for next year. As soon as this plan is available, we will be holding a drop-in session at St Margaret's for people to come along and find out more. Hopefully, this drop-in will be combined with the National Churches Count on Nature which includes people of all ages coming together to explore the wonder of God's creation. We hope to involve the local schools with this too. Please do let us know if you have any further ideas for the wonderful churchyard space and do watch out for more details about the drop-in – we would love to see you there.

RACHEL

CHURCH IN TUFFLEY JUBILEE PICNIC

To celebrate the Queens 70th Jubilee we are joining the other churches in Tuffley for a picnic at 2.00pm on Friday 3rd June in Randwick Park. Bring the food and drink you have prepared for you and your family and bring your deck chairs. In addition, donate some food to place on a table which will be available to anyone passing by. How will you find us? Look for Church in Tuffley members wearing their Church in Tuffley High-Viz Jackets.

THY KINGDOM COME, 26 MAY TO 5 JUNE 2022

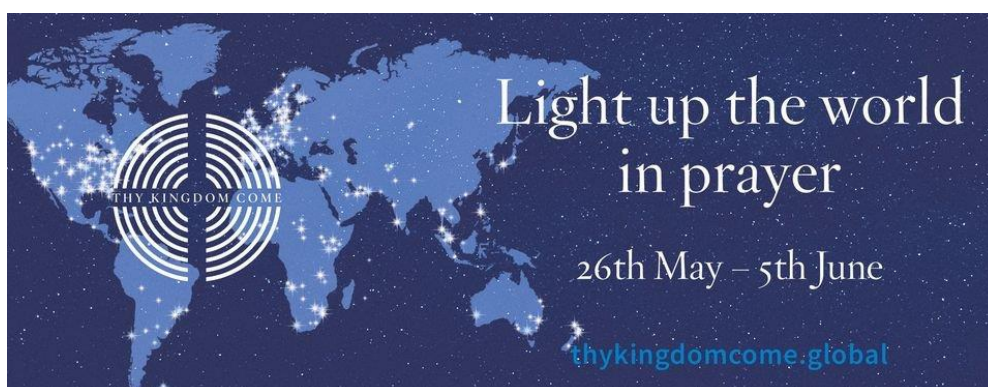
Pray for five people you know

Thy Kingdom Come is a global prayer movement that invites Christians around the world to pray from Ascension to Pentecost for more people to come to know Jesus. Christians are encouraged to choose five people to pray for every day for the 11 days.

Remind yourself of the people you are praying for by writing their names on smooth stones, tying knots in a cord or putting their names on Post-It notes and sticking them around your home.

You could pray while you brush your teeth, while you're on the train or while you enjoy a cup of tea first thing in the morning. Connect with the five people you choose; perhaps invite them out for a drink, send them a card to let them know you're thinking of them or even ask them to church.

Find out more at www.thykingdomcome.global



ST GEORGE'S CHURCH CLEANING

After the success of our recent Saturday morning church cleaning session, we have decided to have others on 4th June and 3rd July. So, between 10.00am and 12.00noon St George's Church will be open to enable dusting, hoovering, de-cobwebbing in fact a general cleaning and sprucing up. Which will be very timely as Churchwardens, incumbents, curates from all over the Diocese will descend on St George's for the Archdeacon's Visitation on Thursday 9th June. If you can help, please come along.



QUIET PRAYER GROUP
will meet on
Friday 24th JUNE 2022 and
Friday 29th JULY 2022 from 2.30pm
at Christchurch Abbeydale



CROSSROADS by Tony J

Crossroads, can be found on a map
Providing you directions, in case you're in a flap
Part of your journey, just another road
Take the wrong one, the heavier the load
Life is very similar, which way to go
An important decision, time to go slow
We all reach that junction, perhaps in despair
No signpost in sight, does anyone really care
But as always, there is a guiding light
Available to each of us, every day and every night
So when you reach your crossroads, and know not what to do
Look to the Heavens, where he is waiting for you

(ANOTHER) ANNIVERSARY FOR THE WHADDON ORGAN

This year our little organ at St Margaret's celebrates a special anniversary. "Hang on", you may be thinking, "Surely we did its anniversary the other year?" Yes, you're right. In 2018 our organ had its 250th birthday. We had an autumn festival, and the climax was a stunning recital of popular music by David Briggs, who many would say is perhaps the world's finest exponent at organ improvisation.

So what is happening this time? Well, in November our Snetzler will have notched up twenty five years at St Margaret's (so the little organ will have spent a tenth of its life with us).

We aren't going to make a huge thing of it this time, though we will have another look and listen to some highlights of David's recital. Luckily Hans captured it on DVD and CD, and luckily David is very happy for us to play it again.

We are planning a St Margaret's open day on Saturday 10th September. Watch this space for further details.

Also, with the editor's permission, I hope to go back over the remarkable events which led to the organ moving a mile up the road from Brookthorpe to Whaddon. Some of these were highly sensitive at the time, but enough water has flowed under the bridge and the story can now be told...

JONATHAN



I'm hoping you can help and will be prepared to share information about our work helping local primary school children learn to read?

Read With Me is a Gloucestershire organisation, which was set up to ensure that in the future every child will move to secondary school able to read well. Children who are unable to read properly at 7

never really catch up. These children do less well at school, have reduced employment choices and earning opportunities and a greater chance of going to prison. And research shows that adults who can read for pleasure are generally happier overall.

Every year 200,000 children will leave primary school unable to read well; 1 in 4 five years olds struggle with basic vocabulary, 96% of primary school teachers are concerned about pupil's speech and language. Children who can't read can't take advantage of their education or play a full part in society. And these statistics are from before Covid made everything even harder for schools, parents and children.

Our volunteers hear each child read twice a week for 10/15 minutes which also helps improve communication and social skills and confidence. We hear 1,500 children a week but urgently need to be able to provide this support to 5,000 children. We are hoping that members of your congregation may feel able to help. We ask that volunteers give one or two hours a week, we provide full training and support, with regular social occasions.

Would you be able to include something in your newsletter or display a poster on your notice board or post something on your social media channels? We look forward to hearing from you. Please let us know if you have any questions by contacting either myself or our Founder, Linda Cohen, at linda@readwithme.org.uk

Julie Jenner, Volunteer Liaison Manager;

Mobile: 0776 5800231: Email: julie@readwithme.org.uk:

Website: www.readwithme.org.uk

My usual working hours are; Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday 8.00am until 2.00pm & Thursday 11.00am until 1.00pm

*"Therefore, at Pentecost, which brings
The Spring, clothed like a bride,
When nestling buds unfold their wings,
And bishop's-caps have golden rings,
Musing upon many things,
I sought the woodlands wide."*

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow



GOSPEL TRUTH BIBLE QUIZ

Questions based on the Gospel readings for April

- 1 Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany. In whose home did he stay?
- 2 Whilst there Jesus shared in a meal, but who served the food?
- 3 Perfume was poured over Jesus' feet. What was the perfume made from?
- 4 Jesus eagerly desired to eat a meal with his disciples, but what event were they celebrating?
- 5 After the meal Jesus led his disciples to the Garden of Gethsemane. On which mount is the garden?
- 6 After being questioned by Pilate, and Pilate learning Jesus was a Galilean, he was sent to someone who was keen to see him. Who was this person?
- 7 Because of his wound Jesus struggled to carry his cross. Someone else was ordered to carry it for him. Who was that person?
- 8 Who was the first disciple to stoop, and look into the tomb?
- 9 Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of James, with others, went to the tomb. One other lady is named. Can you name her?
- 10 Jesus said, "_____ are not great than their master." What is the missing word?

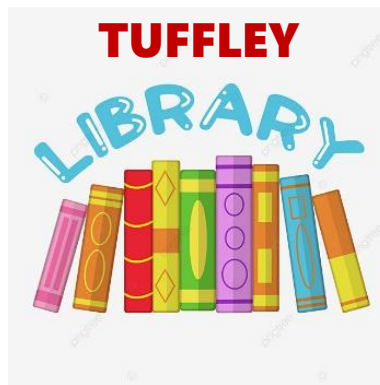
Answers to this month's Gospel Truth Bible Quiz are printed later in this issue

*"Bethlehem was God with us,
Calvary was God for us,
and Pentecost is God in us."*

Robert Baer

*"There is only one purpose of Pentecost;
that is to effectively evangelize lost souls."*

T.L. Osborn



Summer is upon us, and after the great success of the Plant Swap in May, we at the library are looking forward to our next major endeavour, the Summer Reading Challenge.

Summer Reading Challenge 2022



**Presented by The Reading Agency.
Delivered in partnership with libraries.**

We will be looking at science and technology and how they impact our everyday lives with a host of events, crafts and new books to keep the children occupied over the holidays. For the adults there will be lot of new titles to read in the garden or on the beach, and hopefully events as well so remember to check our notice board or the library website.

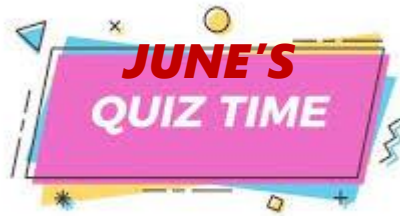
And those of you spending time in your gardens, we have a produce swap planned for the Autumn so watch this space.

All the best

MARGARET AND STEVE

01452 522160

Tuffleylibrary@gloucestershire.gov.uk
<https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/libraries/>



- 1 The title of which very popular R&B instrumental hit single from 1962 is also something that can be found in a salad? (Two words)
- 2 Since 1974, a USAF SR 71 Blackbird spy plane holds the transatlantic speed record from New York City to London. What was the elapsed time of this record flight? A 54 min: b 1 hour 54 min: c 2 hours 54 min: d 3 hours 54 min:
3. After the Sahara, what is the second largest desert in Africa?
4. Which record label was EMI's American subsidiary in the 1960's?
5. The name for which kind of tower takes its name from the Arabic word for "beacon"?
6. The following was the movie poster tag line from which 1990 Hollywood blockbuster? "Invisible, Silent, Stolen."
7. Which American World Heavyweight Boxing Champion from 1919 -1926 was known as the 'Manassa Mauler'?
8. Kimp'o International airport serves which capital city?
9. The name of which large US city takes its name from a French word for "strait"?
10. The following lyrics are from a song with the word "Angel" or "Angels" somewhere in the song title. Can you name the song? *No-one on Earth could feel like this, I'm thrown and overblown with bliss*

ANSWERS TO OUR MAY QUIZ!

1 Bonnet: 2 Sunday: 3 Lily: 4 Buck: 5 Italy: 6 The resurrection of Jesus: 7 True: 8 Judas: 9 17th: 10 Germany: 11 Chile: 12 True: 13 Bilby: 14 Pacific Ocean: 15 Palm Sunday: 16 True: 17 30: 18 Thorns: 19 Faberge: 20 Doe:

JILL'S JOTTINGS

from St Margaret's

Well folks, it's me again that person who moans about everything but with her friends Marilyn and Dianne cleans at our lovely little church, St Margaret's.

It's been quite a month for me and my sister, Margaret, we spent a wonderful time on Mothering Sunday with her son Andrew and his wife, Sarah. It had been ages since we had spent time looking around their garden and making a fuss of their two cats, Smudge and Treacle. We spent all afternoon having a lovely time, but on the Monday, Andrew tested positive for Covid; we tested on the Tuesday, I was negative. But on Wednesday both Margaret and I tested positive, so we isolated ourselves for two weeks. We were supposed be cleaning at St Margaret's on the Monday so that was cancelled and there was no church for me for the next three Thursdays. I was very disappointed that I couldn't participate in any of the Easter Services. It's just not the same when you have to watch services on the telly, but Marg and I are all fit and well now and raring to go again.

The girls and I spent a lovely morning doing the cleaning and putting the world to rights on the 2nd May, you wouldn't believe how much muck we cleared up. Dianne was on the furniture, and she said that the pews were quite manky. The brass always looks alright, but I could see that it hadn't been cleaned for quite some time. So, Marilyn gave it all a good clean, I did the floor as I usually do. We all carried on with our given tasks really cheerfully. It was lovely to be back doing what we all enjoyed doing, having a good laugh and putting the world to rights.

Well, my friends that's about it from me at the moment as I've used up all my think; so, until the next time, keep smiling and keep safe.

Best wishes,
JILL PONTER



Two traditional limericks this month...

There was an Old Man with a beard
Who said, "It is just as I feared!
Two Owls and a Hen,
Four Larks and a Wren,
Have all built their nests in my
beard!"

By Edward Lear

A wonderful bird is the pelican,
His bill holds more than his belican.
He can take in his beak,
Enough food for a week,
But I'm damned if I see how the
helican.

By Dixon Lanier Merritt

If you think that you can do better than these! Get your May limericks to me by 13th June, and we'll see!

OLD PHOTOS REQUIRED



Following the success of our open day at St George's when we opened the church and centre to the parish and had on display many, many old photos guiding us through the years since the parish of St George, Tuffley came into being.

Well, we've been thinking about doing it again perhaps towards the end of the year, but we do need your help...

Have you any old photos regarding any aspect of life in the parish that you would be prepared to let us scan and add to our, ever increasing photo library.

If, you have, you can pass them to me or David Westcott, we will copy them and let you have your originals back. If you are able to identify anyone who is in the photo and give us a note to that effect that would be great!

Not quite sure when this event will take place but it's probably best to sort through and pass on any photos soon, so we can do the best possible job of scanning them.

More information will be available in the next issue of Crossroads.

DARRELL



Pantomime time

ST GEORGE'S ENTERTAINERS

Will be presenting a pantomime
on Friday and Saturday
18th and 19th November 2022

So put those dates in your diaries TODAY! More information will be available in due course. Would you like to be a part of this production? If so, let Linda Brown know.

ST GEORGE'S 100 CLUB

The June 100 Club Draw will take place before the 10.30am Service at St George's on Sunday 12 June; so, if you are intending to join get your skates on and see me. Prizes for our June draw will be £30, £20 and £10...

Members have to be over 16 years of age

Each share in St George's 100 Club will cost £1.00 per month

Payments must be up to date on or before the first Sunday of each month

Maximum holding per member is 5 shares

Draws will be made in March, June, September and December

A full set of rules is available upon request.

Please talk to the promoter, Darrell

You need to pay your dues up to date before the end of May to be in the draw so see your collector or me as soon as possible

GOSPEL TRUTH BIBLE QUIZ ANSWERS

1 Lazarus: 2 Martha: 3 Pure Nard: 4 Passover: 5 Mount of Olives: 6 Herod:
7 Simon of Cyrene: 8 Peter: 9 Joanna: 10 Servants:



THROUGH THE WINDOW

Hi everyone, I'm back again; not a lot has happened since I last wrote, the weather has changed, it's a lot warmer so I stay outdoors longer sunning myself in the garden. I do play hide and seek with my mum. Great fun really.

We have had a drop of rain, not much, though enough to make my paws wet. Sometimes my mum tells me to go out and play, but with who may I ask? There's nobody I want to be friendly with, but there you go, it is what it is! My mum sometimes goes out and she tells me that she won't be long, but she's gone for hours. She goes with Auntie Jill, where to? I haven't got a clue, but when she's gone, I can get on that machine, I think it's called a telephone. I can speak to Maya and Trixie. Maya doesn't have a lot to say, I don't really think she likes me, so Trixie and I have some quite long conversations. She tells me what she gets upto and she has a lot of feline friends. I only have one who comes into my garden and tries to sneak into my domain; but that's not playing the game, is it?

Sometimes my mum laughs at me because I talk to the birds, well I would like them to come and play but they don't! Do they think that I would eat them? (Of course, I would if I could catch them!) Hey Ho!! My mum has threatened me with the VET, I have to go for a check up. I don't know why? and I have to have my nails clipped, it's a bit far fetched for me, so I'll have to put up with it. Anyway, I'll have to wait and see. My mum does have visitors sometimes, and I like to be nosy and see just who it is. Well, I have to give my approval, don't I! I give my attention to all who arrive and say hello nicely. When my mum goes to Auntie Jill's, Trixie will say hello to her, but not Maya, she shoots off upstairs to hide from her. Very aloof is Maya! This is all for now, so I'll say bye bye...

Your feline friend,
JoJo Whittle (Miss)



OVER THE GARDEN FENCE

Maya, Maya, what's going on, Maya, our mum won't let us go out! Trixie, I just don't know. Mum hasn't even unlocked the front door yet. I wonder what we are in for? I've been to the front and back doors and it's still 'no, not yet' from our mum. Did you see, Maya, she's just gone into the bathroom, she's under that thing that shoots water all over her and she puts that stuff on her hair and it all bubbles. Then, when she's finished doing that, she washes all the bubbles out of her hair and then soaps all over her body. Maya, I ain't half glad that I don't have to go through all that palaver. So, am I, Trix, but our mum is acting rather oddly, today? I really should go outside; I think I need to go.

Oh, flippin'eck, it's that box, I can see, Trix, oh my. Our mum has just caught me and it's headfirst into it. Maya don't tell me that place she takes us to. It looks like it Trix. Oh! Oh! Maya, it's my turn to go headfirst into the box. Move over, Maya, here I come. Oh! Flaming' Ada, we are going into that vehicle to go to

that horrible place. Maya, I wonder what we have stopped for, our mum said something about taking the paper to Auntie Marg. What paper is that? Trix. I haven't a clue about a paper, do we have to chew it or sit on it? I don't know, but I don't see where she put the paper, she took her bag with her into Auntie Marg's house, maybe it was in her bag, Maya. Oh, I don't know, but one thing I will tell you; I don't want to go to that horrible place, and I think that's just where we're going.

Trixie! Are you alright? I think we are here. I don't know that lady, she's all smiles now, but just you wait, she will take us into that room and leave us with that person who does horrible things to us. Now come on Miss Smarty Pants, it's our mum who is taking us to that room. Here we go again, we've just got to behave ourselves and we will be OK. Maya, Maya! where you going? I don't like being in here! I wet myself and now I've got to sit in it. I know Trix, I did the same, not to worry, I'll be back soon. Oh No! the gobstopper first and then a pin in my neck and now the indignity of it all they are going to chop my toes off. Maya don't say what they are doing to you. Don't worry Trix! They just cut my toenails. I think that's me done, now it's your turn. Oh Maya, I like the look of our doctor. Oh no, the gobstopper! I should have had a drink of water with that. My mum always gives me a shot of water to make sure I've swallowed it. Oh, flippin'eck, that needle hurt me, you know. Maya, make him stop please. Trix, it will soon be over, and you can then get back into the box. Maya, they have got to my feet, just the toenails you said! Yes, Trix, just the toenails! Oh, that feels funny, whoops that nail nearly took his eye out, so one up for me, Maya.

Trixie don't be so mean, the doctor's just doing his job, he's just making sure that you're fit and well. But I don't like it Maya! Trixie, just be a good girl and let the doctor finish what he has to do. It's alright for you, you're not getting another pin! Are you getting another pin, Trix? Yes, I flamin' well am! And that one hurt as well; I'm just not coming back again! I can tell you that Maya. I just want to go home! Oh, come on Trix, we can still cuddle up. Maya, our cushion is still wet! I know but we won't have to stay on it for too long, we will still have a lively time when our mum lets us go out into the garden. I think we are home now, so come on let's have something to eat and then go out into the sunshine, but first of all say Cheerio to our friends. Ok, tata folks until next time. And it's Cheerio from me, Maya, stay safe until next time er can meet up again.

MAYA AND TRIXIE PONTER (Miss)



MAY

Sun 29	EASTER 7 / June Crossroads available		
	9.00am	Parish Communion	St M's
	10.30am	Parish Communion followed by coffee	St G's
	10.30am	Messy Church	GB
	4.30pm	Private Let	SH
Mon 30	Spring Bank Holiday moved to Thursday 2 June		
Tue 31	10.00am	Parish Communion	St G's
	10.00am	Coffee Pot	MH

JUNE

Wed 1	8.15am	Morning Prayer	Zoom
	3.30pm	Slimming World also at 5.00pm & 6.30pm	MH
	7.00pm	Living in Love and Faith course	LC
Thu 2	SPRING BANK HOLIDAY		
	10.30am	Parish Communion	St M's
	10.30am	Day Centre	SH
Fri 3	Queen's Platinum Jubilee / Additional Bank holiday		
	2.00pm	CiT Family Picnic in Randwick Park all are welcome	
Sat 4	10.00am	St George's Church cleaning until 12.00noon	
Sun 5	PENTECOST / QUEEN'S JUBILEE		
	10.30am	Family Praise with Banns of Marriage	St M's
	10.30am	Parish Communion with Banns of Marriage followed by coffee	St G's
	5.00pm	Queen's Jubilee Evensong	St M's
Mon 6	5.00pm	Brownies	MH
	6.00pm	Rainbows	SH
	7.15pm	Guides	MH
Tue 7	10.00am	Parish Communion	St G's
	10.00am	Coffee Pot	MH
	6.30pm	Cubs & Beavers	MH

	7.00pm	Church Centre Management	SH
Wed 8	8.15am	Morning prayer	Zoom
	3.30pm	Slimming World	MH
	7.00pm	Gardening Club Committee	SL
	7.00pm	Living in Love and Faith course	LC
Thu 9	10.30am	Parish Communion	St M's
	10.30am	Day Centre	SH
	7.30pm	Archdeacon's Visitation	St G's
	7.30pm	Charter Band	SH
Fri 10	2.00pm	Footlights	MH
	7.30pm	Entertainers	MH
Sun 12	TRINITY SUNDAY		
	9.00am	Parish Communion	St M's
	10.30am	Parish Communion with Banns of Marriage followed by coffee	St G's
Mon 13	Crossroads Magazine article deadline		
	10.30am	Aphasia-Now	SH
	5.00pm	Brownies	MH
	6.00pm	Rainbows	SH
	7.15pm	Guides	MH
Tue 14	10.00am	Parish Communion	St G's
	10.00am	Coffee Pot	St G's
	2.30pm	Mothers' Union with Linda Medwell	SH
	6.30pm	Cubs & Beavers	MH
Wed 15	8.15am	Morning Prayer	Zoom
	3.30pm	Slimming World also at 5.00pm & 6.30pm	MH
	7.30pm	Refresh meet	EM
Thu 16	10.30am	Parish Communion	St M's
	10.30am	Day Centre	SH
	7.30am	Charter Band	SH
Fri 17	2.00pm	Footlights	MH
	7.30pm	Gardening Club	MH
	7.30pm	Entertainers	SH
Sat 18	CiT Environment Group Litter Pick meet at EM		
Sun 19	TRINITY 1 / FATHERS' DAY		
	10.30am	Parish Communion with Banns of Marriage followed by coffee	St G's
	5.00pm	Evensong	St M's

Mon 20	5.00pm	Brownies	MH
	6.00pm	Rainbows	SH
	7.15pm	Guides	MH
Tue 21	10.00am	Parish Communion	St G's
	10.00am	Coffee Pot	St G's
	6.30pm	Cubs & Beavers	MH
Wed 22	8.15pm	Morning prayer	Zoom
	Gardening Club trip and using Car Park today		
	3.30pm	Slimming World also at 5.00pm & 6.30pm	MH
Thu 23	10.30am	Parish Communion	St M's
	10.30am	Day Centre	SH
	7.30pm	Charter Band	SH
Fri 24	2.00pm	Footlights	MH
	2.30pm	Quiet Prayer Group	CA
	7.30pm	Entertainers	MH
Sun 26	TRINITY 2 Crossroads Magazine available		
	9.00am	Parish Communion	St M's
	10.30am	Parish Communion followed by coffee	St G's
	4.30pm	Private Let	SH
Mon 27	10.30am	Aphasia-Now	SH
	5.00pm	Brownies	MH
	6.00pm	Rainbows	SH
	7.15pm	Guides	MH
Tue 28	10.00am	Parish Communion	St G's
	10.00am	Coffee Pot	St G's
	6.30pm	Cubs & Beavers	MH
	7.15pm	Deanery Synod	tba
Wed 29	8.15am	Morning Prayer	Zoom
	3.30pm	Slimming World also at 5.00pm & 6.30pm	MH
Thu 30	10.30am	Parish Communion	St M's
	10.30am	Day Centre	SH
	7.30pm	Charter Band	SH

JULY

Fri 1	2.00pm	Footlights	MH
	7.30pm	Entertainers	MH
Sat 2	10.00am	St George's Church cleaning until 12.00noon	
Sun 3	TRINITY 3 / THOMAS the APOSTLE		

	10.30am	Family Praise with Banns of Marriage	St M's
	10.30am	Parish Communion with Banns of Marriage followed by coffee	St G's
	12.30pm	Baptism of Noa-Rae Sarah Broadbent	St M's
	5.00pm	Evensong	St M's

St G's = St George's Church, St M's = St Margaret's Church,
 EM = English Martyrs Catholic Church, St B's = St Barnabas' Church,
 GB = Grange Baptist Church, LC = Lady Chapel, CA = Christchurch Abbeydale,
 MH = Main Hall, SH = Small Hall, SL = Softley Lounge, V = Vicarage.



Following the success of past **Let Us Entertain You evenings**, I think that it's time that another was arranged. So, I'm thinking about Saturday 9th July in the main hall. I'll get round previous performers and ask if they would like to be part of this proposed evening.

If you haven't taken that first step to stardom yet and need a little push, see me or if you know someone who would like to join us, just give me a name and I'll have a word in their shell-like.

I haven't thought through all the arrangements yet, but I will, and I'll make them clear as soon as I can.

DARRELL

A LITTLE BIT OF HUMOUR TO FINISH WITH...

A ham sandwich walks into a bar and orders a beer, bartender says "sorry, we don't serve food here."

There are two muffins baking in the oven. One muffin says to the other, "Phew, is it getting hot in here or is it just me?" The other muffin says, "AAAAHHH!! A TALKING MUFFIN!"

Why shouldn't you write with a broken pencil? Because it's pointless.

What's the difference between the bird flu and the swine flu? One requires tweetment and the other an oinkment.

After a crime, a detective noted that he thought it was foul play. The other detective said, "You mean, he was playing with birds?"

Why do seagulls fly over the sea? Because if they flew over a bay, they would be bagels.

Why do bees have sticky hair? Because they use honeycombs.

What do you call fake spaghetti? An im-pasta.

What do you call birds that stick together? Vel-crows.

Why can't your nose be 12 inches long? Because then it would be a foot.

An apple a day really can keep the doctor away ... but only if you aim it well.

Did you hear about the man who got hit by the same bike every morning? It was a vicious cycle.

Why did the invisible man turn down the job offer? He couldn't see himself doing it.