

CROSSROADS

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

Worshipping, Caring, Pioneering



Growing God's Kingdom



ST GEORGE'S

Sundays

Parish Communion at 10.30am

Tuesdays

Parish Communion at 10.00am

Wednesdays

Morning Prayer at 8.15am on Zoom

ST MARGARET'S

1st Sunday

Evensong at 5.00pm

2nd Sunday

**Parish Communion at 9.00am and
Family Praise at 4.00pm**

3rd Sunday

Evensong at 5.00pm

4th Sunday

Parish Communion at 9.00am

5th Sunday

Parish Communion at 9.00am

Thursday

Parish Communion at 10.30am

MAY 2023

60p

ST GEORGE'S TUFFLEY WITH ST MARGARET'S WHADDON

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OUR VICAR, RACHEL, WRITES...

What a month May will be!

Before we turn our thoughts to May, let us reflect on the significant time we spent together in Holy Week and on Easter Day. Journeying from Palm Sunday (with the donkey!) through Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday to Easter Sunday is such a special time and experience. Thank you to everyone who came along during the week and to all those who played a part in helping us reimagine walking with Jesus through those days culminating in the joyful celebration of the resurrection on Easter Day. Once again, we had a wonderful Good Friday (which feels very strange to say) with our friends from across the other churches in Tuffley; it was so good to be united in reaching out to the community with Messy Easter and the walk of witness, to pray and worship together, and to support and encourage one another over hot cross buns!

As we look towards May, we see what a month it promises to be... the Coronation of King Charles III, the celebration of the Ascension (18th) and Pentecost (28th), three bank holiday Mondays, and, of course, two annual parochial church meetings (21st)!

For the Coronation, we are all invited to gather at St Barnabas on Saturday 6th May from 10.45am to watch a live stream of the service together. There will also be activities for all ages and a bring and share lunch. If you don't already have plans for the day (and I know some of you already have open house plans with family and neighbours) do consider joining together at St Barnabas.

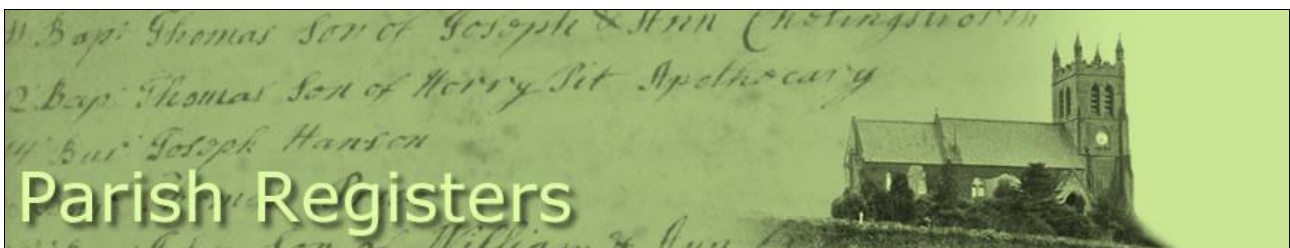
Ascension Day and Pentecost are fabulous festivals which bring to conclusion the Easter Season, as we celebrate Jesus returning to heaven and the coming of the Holy Spirit. As Jesus ascends, we remember his promise – 'I am with you always' (Matthew 28.20). At Pentecost, we remember the gift of the Holy Spirit descending, the 'Advocate' or 'Helper' as described by Jesus (John 16.7). We give thanks that we know we are never alone, through Jesus being with us always and through the strengthening and energising of the Holy Spirit.

As we remember that we are never alone, let us remember too that we are united together through Jesus and the Holy Spirit. We need each other on this pilgrimage through life and we are called to offer support and encouragement

to one another. Let us continue to do this in whatever the ways are that we can.

I hope you all have a very blessed month of May,

RACHEL



Parish Registers

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

CREMATORIUM FUNERAL
Michelle Bishop

INTERMENT OF ASHES
St Margaret's
Daphne Joan Reeves



SATURDAY 10th JUNE AT 7.30pm

Let us entertain you...

Everything is falling into place for this evening of words, music and who knows what else!! The list of acts is growing but I've still got a few more names on my list to approach, so don't feel left out just yet, but if you do, please speak to me soon. Tickets will be on sale shortly at £5.00 each, please bring your own food

and drink. As you know there are supplies of glasses and plates etc in the kitchen.

All proceeds from the evening will go towards St George's Church.

THANK YOU
DARRELL

CHURCH IN TUFFLEY

Good Friday Walk of Witness

On a beautifully sunny Friday afternoon over 30 worshippers from the various fellowships in Tuffley met at English Martyrs RC Church at 1.00pm to process the five 'Stations of the Cross' during the Walk of Witness in Tuffley.

Starting from English Martyrs, Father Gerry Walsh read the first station "**Jesus is condemned to Death**" Part of that reading was the following poem

**Remember Lord,
not just those of good will, but also those of ill will,
not just our suffering, but the fruits of this suffering
our comradeship, loyalty humility courage,
generosity and greatness of heart
which has grown out of all this.
And when they come to judgement,
let all the fruits that we have borne,
be their forgiveness. Amen.**

A prayer reputed to have been found at Ravensbruck Concentration camp in Nazi Germany.

Those assembled then sang the first four verses of '**My song is love unknown**'. The cross was then processed down Tuffley Lane to the corner of Holmleigh Park and Russet Close, the 2nd station.

Jesus takes up His cross was read by Pastor David Crunkhurn. The reading could be summed up in the words of Sister Mary Stephen.

"Even though he must be stooping under the weight of the cross he looks determinedly ahead to the painful journey. He does not shrink from it"

The last 3 verses of 'My song is love unknown' followed. The cross was moved on along Holmleigh Road to Sapphire Close, the 3rd station. **Jesus Falls** was read by George O'Neill of English Martyrs. The reading started with the comment:

In spite of some help from Simon, Jesus falls yet again, he is nearly there but he has reached the limit of his strength. He collapses flat on his face entangled with the cross.

Can even now he hear his Father's voice
"This is my Son, my beloved" or is he close to despair?

Soon He is crying
"My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"

We're all caught up with his cross

Its weight grows greater each time I look for someone to blame for the pain in my world.

We all need to ask: When have I failed to forgive as I have been forgiven. When have I laid more weight on your blessed shoulders?

We prayed, "Lord, forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation of vengeance, blame, or condemnation".

We moved on after singing 'Man of Sorrows', to the 4th station outside Allied Pharmacy in Holmleigh Parade.

Jesus is nailed to the Cross read by Lorraine Best

The arm is held at the right point for the square iron nail to go through the wrist and the nail is hammered hard to go right through the flesh between the bones and into the cross beam. The Roman soldiers who performed this duty were experts at it. Positioned in the right place the square edge of the nail would be under the sinews in the lower arm. Two arms completed then the legs are nailed together – again the nail is hammered very hard to go through both feet and into the wooden upright. This was no gentle death:

What was Jesus' response? 'Father, forgive them; they do not know what they are doing.'

The hymn 'It is a thing most wonderful' was sung.

The cross was carried on past Pearwood Way to Grange Road and on to the 5th Station, St George's Church. Once there, Rev Rachel Beck read the last station.

Jesus is Crucified

Jesus is drifting in and out of consciousness, the pain now unbearable. Many of the spectators have drifted away...

He makes several comments culminating in

"Father, into your hands I commit my spirit!"

We prayed

Christ broken on the cross, we draw near to you,
we come with broken promises and broken dreams,
we come as a church divided and not at unity in itself
Yet we seek through you to share in salvation,
and to bring others to your saving love.
Lord as you give yourself to us,
may we give ourselves for others.
Lord of the cross, we come to you
You can make us whole. Amen.

Then we sang, "How deep the Father's love for us".

The walk took just over an hour.

It was a wonderful to witness with fellow believers from other fellowships.

Will you join with us next year?



FUN AND FREE TUESDAY'S
at St George's
Each Tuesday in term time from 1.30pm

OUR TUESDAY SONG

If you go down to St George's today
You're sure of a big surprise
If you go down to St George's today
You'll never believe your eyes
For lots of school kids and toddlers too
Are playing and painting and sticking with glue
For today's the day we're holding our Fun and Free time

Cups of tea for all their mums
And cakes and snacks for dads and nans and gramps as well
Board games, Lego, jigsaws too
There are things for me and you
To have a lovely time
A garage and a cooker which
Make pretend play go without a hitch
And go much smoother than this
Rather abysmal rhyme

At half past four their mummies and daddies
Will take them home for tea
Because we're tired and we need to tidy up!

You don't have to be able to sing to be able to help
Come along and see for yourself...
You'll be made most welcome

A NEW CHURCH AT EDEN: CAN WE HELP?

For many years we have had a link between St Margaret's and the Church in Tanzania.

This is a very poor country (fifteenth from the bottom in terms of personal income).

The Christian faith is young, vibrant but under-resourced. People make their own bricks, and corrugated iron for a roof is a luxury. Baptisms may have plenty of candidates, but no font: a washing up bowl may have to serve. The collection may be largely fresh fruit and veg, contributed by the subsistence farming which is the way of life for many.

In recent years we have been in touch with the congregation at Eden (pronounced Edden). We get occasional email updates from Cosmas Galaliza, once the parish priest, and now serving elsewhere in Tanzania.

Four years ago, we heard of their plans to build a new church, and I quote: "As you can see the present building is temporary, we desire to make a permanent building with no worry that God will enable us". This is a clearly a determined congregation!

Cosmas now tells me that work has started on the new church, which will accommodate five hundred people. The materials are blockwork and corrugated sheet. It is costing some 39 million Tanzanian shillings, which is about £13,000 in our money.

Without doubt it will be finished this year, such is the generosity and dedication of the congregation. But wouldn't it be great if we could send not only our Christian greetings, but also a contribution to the work? We already have £200 donated for this and I hope that we can make it a bit more. Please let me know if you feel able to help our Christian brothers and sisters in this way. It would be a way of celebrating their own amazing vision and their generosity.

JONATHAN

The old and new churches at Eden, NW Tanzania





ANY QUESTIONS? **(A reminder)**

Is there anything you've ever wondered about the Christian faith, the Bible, the Church or why we do what we do in services? Anything from a small detail question to a wider more general question.

When I was teaching Y6 (top Juniors) we did a topic on 'wondering' and the children asked lots of questions on a whole variety of topics – as I'm sure you can imagine! We then thought about how we might find out the answers, or at least some of the thinking previously done around the questions. For the more spiritual, faith and religion-based questions, the children asked if we could invite the local parish priest in (this was a Catholic school). The children fired questions at him, and listened to what he had to say for over an hour! In the end I had to persuade them to go out for morning break. They were captivated because he spoke honestly saying, sometimes there is no clear answer, we just don't know, but from the Bible we learn this... from the tradition of the Church we learn this... from our own experience we learn this...

After the children had gone for morning break and the local priest had gone to have a well-earned coffee, the staff in the classroom were saying how much they had appreciated the session. They said that many of the questions the children were asking were questions they had themselves, but they wouldn't have known where to ask them – they said they wouldn't have thought of going to any of the churches and asking because they would have felt silly, or that asking questions wasn't what you were supposed to do in church!

This experience has always stayed with me, and especially the adults' question of, 'where would we ask our questions?'

There is a 'questions box' at the back of both churches for your enquiries. Please write your question (write in on a slip of paper in church or at home) and drop it anonymously in the box, and throughout Eastertide (Easter to Pentecost) and onwards we will give some time to thinking about these

questions. Sometimes there will be a straightforward answer, sometimes it will be more like the above - an exploring of what we learn from various sources and considering the question from different angles.

Don't be afraid to put your question in – there are no 'silly questions' and if you're asking the question, it's likely that others will be too!

RACHEL



The Guardians of Ancora Holiday Club from 22nd to 24th August 2023

Ancora needs you! Plans are well underway for our three day holiday club for children school years R-5. We have our planning team, we have teaching material from

Scripture Union, we have a timetable, and we are collecting resources but now we need you!! We have various roles available without which the club can't happen! There will be a full sign-up sheet at the back of Church from Sunday 1st May but in the meantime please read these roles and descriptions and start praying about where God can use you to tell our local children about Jesus!

Resource Team: In advance during the months of July and August cut out / prep items for activities. This can be done in your own time and home and everything will need to be ready by Sunday 19th August.

Registration Team: You must be able to smile! You will be the first people the children meet! You will be seated and need to tick their name of the list, give them their name badge and a collection token to the adult collecting them. We will need you for three days ideally but even if you can just one day we would love to have you! Times for registration team are between 9.00am and 10.00am. You are welcome then to join us on another team for the rest of the morning or you can go home.

Snack Team: You must be able to smile! You will prepare the snacks and drinks in the kitchen and serve them from the hatch or a trolley and then clear up. We need you between 9.00am and 11.15am We will need you for three days ideally but even if you can just one day we would love to have you! You are welcome then to join us on another team for the rest of the morning or you can go home.

Kids Teams: You must be able to smile, be friendly and get involved. There are three age groups: 5's and 6's, 7 and 8's and 9 and 10 and we need people for each. Just join in what's happening and help anyone who needs it. We will need you for three days ideally but even if you can just one day we would love to have you! Times for kids' team are between 9.00am and 12.30pm.

Clear up /Set Up Team: 3 options for you here:

- 1) Help set up Monday 21st August between 10.00 and 12.00noon
- 2) Help clear up Friday 25th August between 10.00am and 12.00noon
- 3) Help daily (or any days as you can) between 11.30am and 1.00pm

So there you go! Lot's of options lots of variety. Team will need to be able to attend two pre club meetings one date to be confirmed and one on August 14th daytime. Even if you can't make those meetings please volunteer and I will make you a cuppa and fill you in on another date.

This is an exciting outreach opportunity! Can't wait to have you join us!

LAINE

BENEFICE FAMILY FUN DAY
SATURDAY 15TH JULY 2023
from 12.00noon until 4.00pm



This event will be full of fun and games for all the family. We're looking at many types of stalls, but mainly the fun and games type. We're looking at food stalls (hot dogs, burgers, ice creams, strawberry teas, teas, coffees and squash and possibly canned pops) face painting, a cake competition, a nail bar, skittles. We are also thinking about some demonstrations by Centre users and others.

Please put the date in your diaries, and share the date with your friends, families, and neighbours (and please pray for good weather!) Would you have any ideas and suggestions to 'throw into the pot'? Please let Rachel, Darrell, Dawn, Jonathan T, or Sylvia know. We would love to have you on board! To help us plan.

We would be happy to receive donations for the Grand Raffle, a bottle stall, a family tombola as soon as possible (we have the storage space!)

The Fun Day Group will meet next on Wednesday 23rd May at 7.00pm in the Vicarage to carry on with the planning.



**Will take place on SUNDAY 21st MAY 2023
after the morning and evening services**

PCCs

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is the body that, with the minister, steers the life of the church in its mission, witness and service in the parish. The PCC's role is governed by law (the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956). It is a charitable trust and PCC members are charitable trustees, and so all the provisions of charity law apply to their corporate responsibilities, financial management and decision making. This is true whether or not the charity is registered with the Charity Commissioners. You cannot be a PCC member if by law you are not permitted to be a trustee.

Being elected to the PCC

You are eligible for election to the PCC by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting if: -

- your name has been on the Electoral Roll of the parish for at least the preceding six months (unless under the age of 18 at the date of the election)

- you are an actual communicant (receiving Communion at least three times in the previous 12 months)
- Because of their responsibilities, PCC members will be expected to attend Safeguarding training. You cannot be a PCC member if convicted of a specified safeguarding offence or included in a barred list.

ELECTIONS TO OUR PCCS

On the assumption that there are no resignations from the current St George's PCC, ideally three members need to be elected from St George's new Electoral Roll to make the total PCC membership upto its maximum of nine plus ex-officio members. At St Margaret's on the same assumption that there are no resignations, three members also need to be elected from St Margaret's new Electoral Roll to make the total PCC membership upto its maximum of six plus ex-officio members.

ANNUAL REPORTS

The reports packs are currently being prepared and will be available on Sunday 14th May.

ELECTORAL ROLL

The latest Electoral Rolls will be put on display at churches on or around Sunday 30th April. The next complete renewal of the Electoral Roll will be in 2025.



We will be gathering for a few confirmation sessions soon as we have at least one candidate for confirmation in the benefice. If you would be interested in either being confirmed, or coming along to the sessions out of interest (if you've already been confirmed, or if you're not sure about confirmation) please do speak to Rachel or Laine.



To have your **JUNE 2023 CROSSROADS** ready for publication on
SUNDAY 28th MAY 2023...
...ARTICLES NEED TO BE WITH THE EDITORS' PREFERABLY BY EMAIL
BEFORE, BUT NO LATER THAN...
SATURDAY 13th MAY 2023

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

Christian Aid Week Concert

featuring
**Gloucester and District
Christian Choir**
together with
Ukrainian Choir 'Ukraina'

At St Barnabas Church
Stroud Road Gloucester GL1 5LJ
Saturday May 20th 7.00pm

Retiring Collection

Refreshments available in interval
Proceeds to Christian Aid and Ukrainian

Church Refugee Fund



Languages

I	B	P	O	L	I	S	H	G	L	I	L	D	S
A	E	E	S	E	M	A	N	T	E	I	V	N	D
I	N	H	I	O	E	G	S	C	I	U	D	R	U
T	G	S	N	D	N	H	S	I	D	E	W	S	T
A	A	I	I	E	N	H	E	B	T	I	E	S	C
L	L	L	A	H	P	I	U	A	U	U	E	R	H
I	I	G	A	H	S	A	H	R	R	I	I	T	N
A	P	N	I	H	T	D	L	A	K	P	H	I	P
N	K	E	U	G	C	H	R	I	I	E	V	E	U
C	O	L	G	E	E	N	A	I	S	R	E	P	N
P	R	N	U	R	I	S	E	R	H	L	U	D	J
E	E	A	L	M	P	I	T	R	A	L	I	I	A
R	A	H	E	A	B	A	A	B	F	R	G	M	B
L	N	H	T	N	A	H	S	I	N	A	P	S	I

Find the following words in the above puzzle. Words can go in any direction. Words can share letters as they cross over each other.

Arabic, Bengali, Dutch, English, French, German, Hindi, Italian, Korean, Nepali, Persian, Polish, Punjabi, Spanish, Swedish, Telegu, Thai, Turkish, Urdu, Vietnamese

The answer is printed later in Crossroads



CiT ENVIRONMENT GROUP LITTER PICK GROUP

These are the dates and venues of the next litter picking sessions: -

Saturday 6th May at 10.00am at Holmleigh Park School Tbc

Saturday 27th May at 10.00am at Grange Baptist

Please come along and join us



ST GEORGE'S CHURCH CLEANING

Saturday 13th May at 10.00am

(Please note change of cleaning day)

Yes, our small band of duster flickers, Hoover movers, light bulb changers and cobweb shifters continue to meet on the first Saturday of each month. No previous experience is necessary, and on-the-job training is always available, as is tea/coffee and possibly cake! Surely, the weather will have greatly improved by 13th May, so the advice is to dress accordingly in case you get a sweat on!

Let's see if we can beat the 10 flickers, movers, changers and shifters we had in April!!!!

Next month, June, we will be back to the 1st Saturday of the month, so see you on Saturday 3rd June at 10.00am at St George's.

DARRELL



CORONATION OF CHARLES III AND CAMILLA

On Saturday 6th May the coronation of King Charles III and Camilla, will take place. Communities around the country are invited to celebrate the Coronation of Charles III. Our PCCs are inviting anyone with ideas as to how we should celebrate the day to please speak with Rachel as soon as possible.



So, are your numbers in the next draw?

What, you still haven't got any!!

See Darrell as soon as possible! £1.00 per number per month

DON'T MISS OUT AGAIN!"

I will sort out your membership
in time for you to be a part of our next draw

A full set of rules is available upon request.

Please talk to the promoter Darrell as soon as possible

If you are already a member and would like to increase your chances of winning you can see me to purchase further numbers.
Also, don't forget to pay at least your first quarter's fees before the date of the draw.



GOSPEL TRUTH BIBLE QUIZ

Questions based on the Gospel readings for March

- 1 Who secretly visited Jesus at night?
- 2 Complete this scripture, "What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the _____ is _____"
- 3 In the wilderness who lifted up the serpent on a pole?
- 4 Jesus came to a Samaritan city called Sychar. In which book and chapter is Sychar mentioned?
- 5 Jesus met the Samaritan woman, when she came to draw water. Who originally dug the well?
- 6 How many days did Jesus stay in Sychar?
- 7 A woman named Mary was at the crucifixion of Jesus. Whose wife was she?
- 8 Mary, Martha & Lazarus were from which town?
- 9 Who said, "Let us also go, that we may die with him?"
- 10 How many days had Lazarus been in the tomb before Jesus commanded him to "Come out"?

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



*Please remember the **Foodbank**
when you next do your big shop of the week*

TUFFLEY LIBRARY NEWS



The Crown of Imagination

We have created The Crown of Imagination, where members of the public are invited to share short uplifting messages with one another inside libraries. Created by The Lab, a royal crown mobile will be coming to your local library soon and available to share your favourite quote, book, life-hack, or anything you think someone would like to read from 18th April.

Arts Council funding was received to deliver a joint coronation project across southwest libraries. We have been supplied branded seed packets by the Eden Project to reflect the coronation and the new King's love of all things nature. We will also receive a substantial number of loose seeds which we'll be using alongside nature themed events across libraries. Look out for the seed packets and events available in May.

There will also be some suggested reads in book displays across libraries. In the meantime, here's a few non-fiction reads:

Coronation: A History of the British Monarchy, Roy Strong.

Tea at the Palace: 50 royal recipes for afternoon tea, Carolyn Robb.

Scone or scone: the essential guide to British afternoon tea, Jane Malyon.

Kings & Queens: the real lives of the English monarchs, Peter Snow.

We hope to see you soon.
tuffleylibrary@gloucestershire.gov.uk



JILL'S JOTTINGS

from St Margaret's

Well, my friends it's that certain person who does at our lovely little church in Whaddon. We haven't been well for a couple of weeks; Marilyn has been very poorly with the flu, and I fell base over apex and damaged my shoulder. I have taken more painkillers in the last two weeks than I have in the previous six months. I'm on the mend now, my shoulder is still painful but manageable.

We may not have done as big a clean as normal, but we have kept the floor clean and the rest a dust; Holy week was approaching so we did what we could. Holy week for me started on Palm Sunday with a sweep through the church and a smarten up of the Vestry and porch. We were a bit early as this was an Evensong Communion. It was strange sweeping the floor at teatime, but needs must and all that; but it was clean. On Maundy Thursday we had our Communion service; still full of cold but much better that she was Marilyn came to that service. I gave her money to buy flowers, so our church looked good on Easter Day. The Easter Vigil was wonderful, but it was in the dark. I had already fallen over once so I used my torch as I didn't wish to repeat my fall. This is always a moving service we reaffirm our Faith in the Lord. Malcolm said that this was the first time that I had been to the service, but I reminded him that I had been showered in water as many times as he had in the past. I got home around 9.30pm that night, having been there since 7.00pm, so a long day for me. Twenty or so people were in the congregation including a few new faces.

Easter Day was a lovely time, all bright and beautiful, there were new faces at that service too. For me Easter is always significant, so many feelings of what if or what for; I wonder what I might have done if I were there? The same as everyone else, I suspect. Not quite sure of what I was seeing or hearing but hoping that everything was right, but I wasn't there, so I can only go by my small faith and be glad that we have a Lord we can believe in and a wonderful Church that we can worship in.

So, a big thank you to Rachel, Paul and the rest of the ministry team who made that worship so wonderful.

Until the next time, stay safe and warm...

JILL PONTER



QUIZ

1. What's the birthstone of May - it represents love and success?
2. Which tennis Open Championship normally begins in the last week of May?
3. What are the two zodiac signs for the month of May?
4. May in the Northern Hemisphere is similar to which month in the Southern Hemisphere?
5. Which sweetly scented, highly poisonous woodland flowering plant is the birth flower of May?
6. Historically, what sort of dancing has been linked to May Day celebrations?
7. Who did Queen guitarist Brian May marry in November 2000?
8. 'The Third of May 1808', is a painting completed in 1814 by which Spanish painter?
9. How long is the lifespan for the adult female Mayfly, *Dolania americana*: 5 minutes, 5 hours, or 5 days?
10. According to a 1732 traditional saying, what should you never cast 'til May be out?

The answers to this quiz are printed later in Crossroads



GOSPEL TRUTH BIBLE QUIZ ANSWERS

1 Nicodemus: 2 Spirit: 3 Moses: 4 John Ch 4: 5 Jacob: 6 Two: 7 Clopas:
8 Bethany: 9 Thomas: 10 Four days:



CALLING ALL GARDEN LOVERS!

Some of you may remember that at the end of May last year a group of eight gardens opened their plots to the public in aid of charity. This was under the banner of the National Garden Scheme, which is a major fundraiser for nursing charities in the UK. Well, we are doing it all again this year, but hope that our weather will be a little kinder to us this time. However, it still did not stop us from raising well over six hundred pounds in only five hours, even though it was cold and damp throughout that day.

So please put a note in your diaries to come out and enjoy a relaxing hour or two strolling around local gardens and chatting to their owners about all things plant related! The event takes place on Sunday 28th May, between 11.00am and 4.00pm, with cash tickets available from 24, Tuffley Lane (on the corner of Campden Road). Prices are £5.00 per adult and £1.00 for a child. Teas and toilets can be found at St Barnabas Church Hall. We will keep our fingers crossed for a sunny day and hope to see you there.

MARTYN & JENNY PARKER

THROUGH THE WINDOW



Hello everyone, it's your feline friend, chatting. Well, I don't know how to start; I had to go to that torture place again! For a check-up (whatever that is?) I was bundled into that box, shoved into a vehicle, and taken to you know where. I had to have some stuff put on me, honestly, it was horrible. It didn't hurt, but

oh! The indignity of it! When that was done, well, I thought I was going to lose my toes. The doctor had big clippers in her hand, they looked enormous to me, I've only got little toes. My mum held my leg so the doctor could cut my nails. I did try to pull my leg away, but my mum held firm.

You'd think that I would be used to it by now, wouldn't you; but I'm not! I hate going to that place where horrible things are done to you, you get sharp pins stuck in you, stuff shoved on your fur, then they have the cheek to press on your tummy. It's not nice. My mum is horrible to me because she shoves tablets down my throat. She tells me that it's for my own good! I can't see how? So, I'll just have to grin and bear it!

I sometimes have a chat with Maya and Trixie on that machine you talk into. They are always so busy, going here, there, and everywhere. Meeting up friends and I only have my mum! I don't like other felines coming on my path, the cheek of it!!

Bye for now,
JoJo Whittle

Christian Aid Service
Come and celebrate Christian Aid Week

St Mary de Crypt Church
Southgate Street, Gloucester

Friday 19 May 2023

1.00pm (40 minute service)

Organised by Gloucester Christian Aid Group

OVER THE GARDEN FENCE

OK, Maya, why are we shut up in the living room? Our mum has something up her sleeve. I know, Trixie, but I just don't know what it is. I think I have an idea, but I'm not quite sure. We'', Maya, she is sitting down with a cup of coffee, at the moment. I know Trixie, but there is definitely something up. I think, Maya, I am going to hide behind the chair, then she won't be able to find me! Don't bet on it, Trixie.



Oh, that machine, hasn't gone off yet, so there can't be anything wrong with our JoJo. Were you hoping that she may be having some kind of telepathic through from our mum to her mum. Trixie? I just don't know, and I don't like the look our mum keeps giving me. Oh, oh, Trixie. Our mum has got that box thing out of the cupboard, where do I hide, Trixie. I don't know Maya, maybe under the table. Flamin'eck I'm trying to get to the back of the cupboard, but she keeps following me. Trix, she's caught me! Headfirst into the box, I think I know where our mum is about to take us. Oh, Maya, I think I know where we are going to. I'll try and stay behind the chest of drawers, Maya, I have just had that broom head shoved at my bum and oh, Maya, she has caught me too. Make room for me in that box! Maya, there's not much room for both of us, do try and not sit on my head. I can't help it Trix, there just isn't enough room to go round. You stay on that side, and I'll stay on this side. That's better, we both have some space now. Into the vehicle and relax until we get there.

We're on our way to Auntie Marg's place so that means we're going to have the pleasure of our JoJo for company. Doesn't she go on, you would think that she would realise that the more noise she makes the more her mum and our mum will ignore her!!

You know, Trix, if we just ignore her too, she might shut up. You're asking an awful lot, Maya! You know when she gets it into her head to moan, she will never give up. I know Trix, but we can only hope. Here comes Auntie Marg now, I wonder how long it will take us to get there, Maya? I don't think it will take long, it never has before. I just hope that we don't have to wait long and that there are no puppy dogs in the waiting room, I'm not keen on puppy dogs, as

you know. I know, Maya, I don't mind too much myself. I don't mind if they're little. Ah well, here we go, JoJo you go in first, no we don't mind, at all, do we Maya. No not really, so it's round to reception for us Trix, and we have to see the doctor lady. I hope she has got warm hands. Oh, oh, Maya, she's got me. Trixie, she's only going to examine you. Examine me, what's that? Trixie, she is going to take a look at you that's all, you ninny! Oh alright, she wants to know about your bald bits. Is that all, well I can tell you it's where I scratch, and on my belly I have a good lick. Oh, Trixie, you really are the limit. We, Maya, I can't help it if people think I'm cute! Bald or not, just get on with it, Trixie. I don't know what you mean Maya? Well, I never did. Maya, this doctor has very warm hands and I don't get to have a pin. I take that back Maya, I do get a pin and oh, Maya she going to take my toes off. Oh no, not my toes, just my toes nails, how about that Maya? Trixie you are totally nuts. I know Maya, but ain't I the cutest?

Now it's your turn. Oh well here goes nothing. Our mum is hanging on to me like grim death, Trixie. I know Maya, she did the same to me. Oh, that stuff is really sticky, and it pongs too. My toenails as well! Now don't that beat all, I look good but neither of us will be able to scratch the furniture or the bed. Ah well, we will just have to behave ourselves. Back in the box, move over Trixie and it's back home for us. Oh, JoJo stop whingeing, you are worse than our mum and she's bad enough.

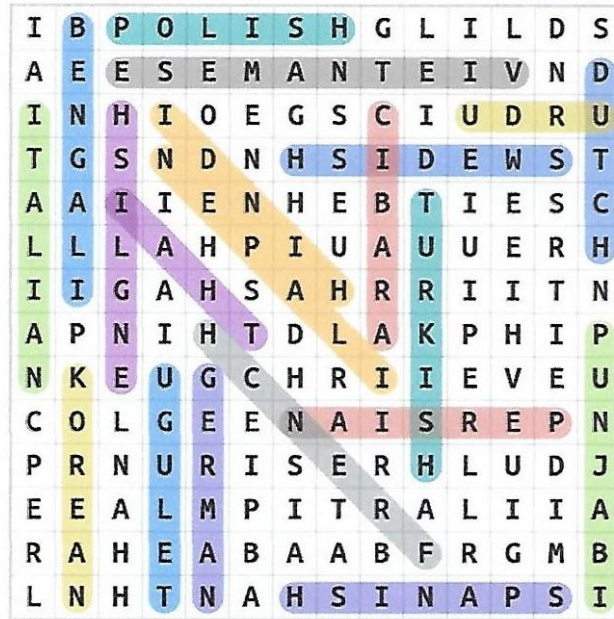
Until the next time, it's goodbye from me, Trixie, and tata to everyone from me, Maya, stay safe and well.



APRIL QUIZ ANSWERS:

1 Emerald: 2 French Open: 3 Taurus (until May 20) and Gemini (May 21 onwards): 4 November: 5 Lily of the Valley: 6 Morris Dancing: 7 Anita Dobson: 8 Francisco Goya: 9 5 minutes: 10 A clout (an old word for a piece of clothing)

WORDSEARCH ANSWER



ST GEORGE'S CHURCH AND CENTRE

APRIL

Sun 30	EASTER 4 May Crossroads available Electoral Roll list pinned up in Church porch		
	9.00am	Parish Communion	St M's
	10.30am	Parish Communion followed by coffee	St G's
	4.30pm	Charles' Igbo Group	SH

MAY

Mon 1	BANK HOLIDAY		
Tue 2	9.30am	Coffee Pot	SH
	10.00am	Parish Communion	St G's
	1.30pm	Fun & Free Tuesday	MH
	6.30pm	Cubs & Beavers	MH

	8.00pm	Karate	MH
Wed 3	8.15am	Morning Prayer	Zoom
	3.30pm	Slimming World also at 5.00pm & 6.30pm	MH
Thu 4	10.30am	Parish Communion	St M's
	10.30am	Day Centre	SH/SL
	6.30pm	Clubbercise Zumba	MH
	7.30pm	Charter Band	SH
Sat 6	CORONATION OF KING CHARLES III and CAMILLA		
	10.00am	Karate – Tbc	MH
	10.00am	Litter pick – Tbc	HPHS
Sun 7	EASTER 5		
	10.30am	Parish Communion followed by coffee	St G's
	5.00pm	Evensong	St M's
Mon 8	CORONATION HOLIDAY		
Tue 9	9.30am	Coffee Pot	SH
	10.00am	Parish Communion	St G's
	1.30pm	Fun & Free Tuesday	MH
	2.30pm	Mothers' Union	SH
	6.30pm	Cubs & Beavers	MH
	8.00pm	Karate	MH
Wed 10	8.15am	Morning Prayer	Zoom
	3.30pm	Slimming World also at 5.00pm & 6.30pm	MH
	7.00pm	Gardening Club Committee	SL
Thu 11	10.30am	Parish Communion	St M's
	10.30am	Day Centre	SH/SL
	6.30pm	Clubbercise Zumba	MH
	7.30pm	Charter Band	SH
Sat 13	Crossroads deadline		
	10.00am	Karate	MH
Sun 14	EASTER 6 Christian Aid week starts		
	9.00am	Parish Communion	St M's
	10.00am	Parish Communion followed by coffee	St G's
	4.00pm	Family Praise	St M's
Mon 15	5.00pm	Brownies	MH
	6.00pm	Rainbows	SH
	7.15pm	Guides	MH
Tue 16	9.30am	Coffee Pot	SH

	10.00am	Parish Communion	St G's
	1.30pm	Fun & Free Tuesday	MH
	6.30pm	Cubs & Beavers	MH
	7.00pm	PCC meeting	Tbc
	8.00pm	Karate	MH
Wed 17	8.15am	Morning Prayer	Zoom
	12.00noon	Interment of Ashes for the late Eileen Stevens	St M's
	3.30pm	Slimming World also at 5.00pm & 6.30pm	MH
	7.30pm	Refresh	GB
Thu 18	ASCENSION DAY		
	10.30am	Parish Communion	St M's
	10.30am	Day Centre	SH/SL
	6.30pm	Clubercise Zumba	MH
	7.30pm	Charter Band	SH
Fri 19	7.30pm	Gardening Club	MH
Sat 20	10.00am	Karate	MH
Sun 21	EASTER 7 SUNDAY AFTER ASCENSION Christian Aid week ends		
	10.30am	Parish Communion followed by coffee & Annual Parochial Church Meeting	St G's
	1.00pm	Baptism	St G's
		Baptism Party	MH
	5.00pm	Evensong followed by Annual Parochial Church Meeting	St M's
Mon 22	5.00pm	Brownies (if wet)	MH
	6.00pm	Rainbows	SH
	7.15pm	Guides	MH
Tue 23	9.30am	Coffee Pot	SH
	10.00am	Parish Communion	St G's
	1.30pm	Fun & Free Tuesday	MH
	6.30pm	Cubs & Beavers	MH
	8.00pm	Karate	MH
Wed 24	8.15am	Morning Prayer	Zoom
	3.30pm	Slimming World also at 5.00pm & 6.30pm	MH
Thu 25	10.30am	Parish Communion	St M's
	10.30am	Day Centre	SH/SL

	6.30pm	Clubbercise Zumba	MH
	7.30pm	Charter Band	SH
Fri 26	2.30pm	Quiet Prayer Group	Tbc
	7.30pm	Entertainers	MH
Sat 27	2.30pm	Litter Pick	GB
Sun 28	PENTECOST Crossroads available		
	9.00am	Parish Communion	St M's
	10.30am	Parish Communion followed by coffee	St G's
	4.30pm	Charles' Igbo Group	SH
Mon 29	SPRING BANK HOLIDAY Half Term Week		
Tue 30	9.30am	Coffee Pot	SH
	10.00am	Parish Communion	St G's
	8.00pm	Karate	MH
Wed 31	8.15am	Morning Prayer	Zoom
	3.30pm	Slimming World also at 5.00pm & 6.30pm	MH

JUNE

Thu 1	10.30am	Parish Communion	St M's
	10.30am	Day Centre	SH/SL
	6.30pm	Clubbercise Zumba	MH
	7.30pm	Charter Band	SH
Fri 2	7.30pm	Entertainers	MH
Sat 3	10.00am	Church Cleaning	St G's
	10.00am	Litter pick	HPHS
Sat 3	10.00am	Karate	MH
Sun 4	TRINITY		
	10.30am	Parish Communion followed by coffee	St G'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, LC = Lady Chapel, MH = Main Hall, SH = Small Hall,
SL = Softley Lounge, V = Vicarage, HPHS = Holmleigh Park High School
Tbc = To be confirmed.

A LITTLE BIT OF HUMOUR TO FINISH WITH...

A Doberman, a Golden Retriever and a cat died and met God. God said to them, 'Tell me why I should let you into heaven.' The Doberman said, 'I'll protect you with my life.' God said, 'You can sit at my right side.' The Golden Retriever said, 'I will fetch your slippers and anything else you ask me to.' God said, 'Then you can sit at my left side.' Finally, God looked at the cat and said, 'And what will you do?' The cat said, 'Excuse me. I think you're sitting in my seat.'

Jill has twins, and gives them up for adoption. One of them goes to a family in Egypt and is named, Amal. The other goes to a family in Spain, they name him Juan. Years later; Juan sends a picture of himself to his mum, Jill. Upon receiving the picture, Jill tells her husband, Jack, that she wished she also had a picture of Amal. Jack responds, 'But, they're twins. If you've seen Juan, you've seen Amal.'

Jack walks into a pet shop, he goes up to the counter and says, 'I'll take one wasp please'. The shop owner looks at him and says, 'We don't sell wasps, sir' and Jack replies, 'That's funny, you've got one in the window!'

Jack and Jill booked into a hotel where a chess competition was taking place and were standing in the lobby discussing their recent chess match victories. After about an hour, the manager came out of his office and asked them to go. 'But why?' Jack asked as they moved off. 'Because...' the manager said, '...I can't stand chess nuts boasting in an open foyer.'

Jack's phone rang at 2.00am, and Jill looked at him and said, 'Who's that calling at this time of night?' Jack replied, 'I don't know! If I knew that I wouldn't need the phone!'

Jill walks into a pet store and asks for a dozen bees. The shop owner carefully counts 13 bees out onto the counter. 'That's one too many!' says Jill. The shop owner replies, 'That's the freebie, Madam!'

St George's Church and Centre, Grange Road, Tuffley, Gloucester GL4 0PE
St Margaret's Church, 2 Church Lane, Whaddon, Gloucester GL4 0UE