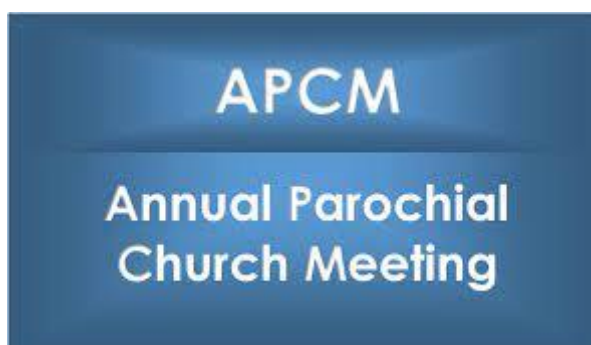


# CROSSROADS

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

**Worshipping, Caring, Pioneering**

**Growing God's Kingdom**



**Pentecost Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2024**

**After 10.30am Parish Communion at St George's  
and following 4.00pm Evensong at St Margaret's**

**ST GEORGE'S**

**Sunday  
Monday  
Tuesday**

**Parish Communion at 10.30am  
Evening Prayer on Zoom at 5.00pm  
Parish Communion at 10.00am  
Evening Prayer at 5.00pm**

**ST MARGARET'S**

**Wednesday  
1<sup>st</sup> Sunday  
2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday**

**Morning Prayer at 8.15am on Zoom  
Evensong at 4.00pm**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday  
4<sup>th</sup> Sunday  
5<sup>th</sup> Sunday  
Thursday**

**Parish Communion at 9.00am and  
Family Praise at 4.00pm  
Evensong at 4.00pm  
Parish Communion at 9.00am  
Parish Communion at 9.00am  
Parish Communion at 10.30am**

**MAY 2024**

**60p**

## **ST GEORGE'S TUFFLEY WITH ST MARGARET'S WHADDON**

### **WHO'S WHO**

VICAR:	Rev Rachel Beck Email: revrachelbeck@gmail.com	Tel: 520851
ORDINAND:	Laine Lewis Email: ordinandstgstm@gmail.com	
READER:	Jonathan MacKechnie-Jarvis Email: jpmjarvis@outlook.com	Tel: 502174
ASSOCIATE PIONEERS:	Pete Best and Lorraine Best Email: petebest@blueyonder.co.uk	Tel: 419189
PASTORAL ASSISTANT:	Susan Scothern Email: susan.scothern@hotmail.com	
CARING CO-ORDINATOR:	Linda Medwell Email: linda47medwell@virginmedia.com	Tel: 302590
BENEFICE ADMINISTRATOR:	Glenda Stevens Email: stgeorgeschurch1@gmail.com	Tel: 307456
MAGAZINE EDITORS:	Darrell & Glenda Stevens Email: ds52604@gmail.com	Tel: 410507
WEBSITE:	Connections Group Email: ds52604@gmail.com	Tel: 520851

### **ST GEORGE'S**

CHURCHWARDENS:	Mike Brammer Sylvia Evans	Tel: 412204 Tel: 416184
TREASURER:	David Westcott	Tel: 302353
VICE CHAIR:	Roger Meadows	Tel: 411489
SECRETARY TO PCC:	Georgina Wood	georginawood1976@icloud.com
SAFEGUARDING OFFICER	Vacant: Please speak to Rachel if you are interested	
ELECTORAL ROLL:	Margaret Barber	Tel: 730182

### **ST MARGARET'S**

CHURCHWARDENS:	Jonathan MacKechnie-Jarvis Mike Smith	Tel: 502174 Tel: 528939
TREASURER:	David Westcott	Tel: 302353
VICE CHAIR:	Jonathan MacKechnie-Jarvis	Tel: 502174
SECRETARY TO PCC:	Georgina Wood	georginawood1976@icloud.com
ELECTORAL ROLL:	Jill Ponter	Tel: 417648

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

Instagram: @TuffleyStG

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

Twitter: @TuffleyStG

## **OUR VICAR, RACHEL WRITES...**

**Alleluia, Christ is Risen! He is Risen Indeed, Alleluia!**

It might seem strange to be starting the May Crossroads letter with the above greeting, when Easter Day was 31<sup>st</sup> March. However, as you will know, we are still in the Easter Season in the Church and will be so until the Feast of Pentecost, when we give thanks for the coming of the Holy Spirit. Pentecost is celebrated 50 days after Easter Day, and so this year will be on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May. The other major festival we will celebrate this month, within the Easter Season, is Ascension Day – when we remember Jesus ascending into heaven. This is marked 40 days after Easter Day and so this year will be Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> May.

Although the Easter Season in the Church will end after 50 days, it could be said that as Christians we are always living in the Easter Season. We are Easter people who believe every day that Christ is Risen! This belief hopefully impacts the way we live, every day, as we have hope, even in the face of the most difficult and darkest of circumstances. As we journeyed through Lent and Holy Week, we were reminded of this. We reflected on the pain and suffering that Jesus endured and the events that led up to the crucifixion – through videos of the Holy Land and conversation in the Lent Groups, through the powerful Stations of the Cross, through the joint Church in Tuffley Good Friday walk of witness, worship at Grange Baptist and English Martyrs, and through many other ways, including our individual devotions. Whatever pain and suffering we go through in life we can trust that Jesus is with us; through his strength we can endure. Ultimately, we believe that light and joy will burst through, just as pain and death couldn't hold Jesus, nor can it hold us – love and life will always triumph in the end, as we see through the glory of the resurrection!

For me, one of the highlights of Holy Week, was the quiet, reflective Eucharist at St George's on Maundy Thursday. We gathered underneath the wonderful sculpture of the Last Supper, heard the account of the Last Supper from John's Gospel, listened to meditative music including from Taize, shared Holy Communion, and then stayed a while in the quietness, watching with Jesus as the disciples did that night in the Garden of Gethsemane (we tried not to fall asleep!) As we listened to the account of the Last Supper, we heard Jesus giving his disciples that new commandment to love:

'I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.' (John 13.34-35)

Love is surely how our hope and faith are shown in our everyday lives. Our belief that Christ is Risen gives us hope and we demonstrate that hope to others by living our lives in love. As we continue to journey through this Easter Season, let us reflect on how we love one another, as we live out our belief that Christ is Risen!

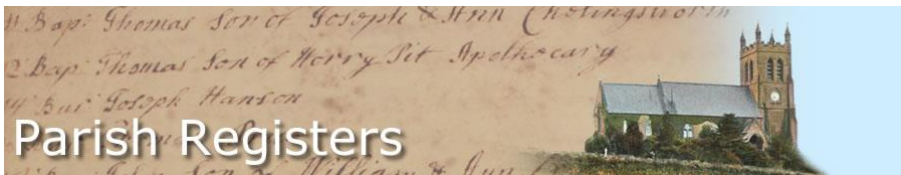
With every blessing to you all,  
Rachel

A short meditation on love that was read on Maundy Thursday at St George's.

*Love is watchful, and while resting, never sleeps; weary, it is never exhausted; imprisoned, it is never in bonds; alarmed, it is never afraid; like a living flame and a burning torch, it surges upward and surely surmounts every obstacle. Whoever loves God knows well the sound of His voice. A loud cry in the ears of God is that burning love of the soul which exclaims, 'My God and my love, You are all mine, and I am Yours.'*

Written by Thomas à Kempis in Book III of 'The Imitation of Christ' 1418-1428 (included in the 'Language of love, Exploring Prayer; an anthology' edited by John Moses 2007).





## **BAPTISMS**

St George's

Jenson Lucas Turley

## **FUNERALS**

**Crematorium**

Margaret Joyce Wheeler

## **A MESSAGE FROM OUR PARISH ADMINISTRATOR**

I am writing to let you all know that as from the end of June 2024, I shall be retiring as Administrator to Gloucester St George and St Margaret churches.

I have enjoyed working as administrator from way back in 1987 when I started working in the study in the Vicarage with Hedley the Vicar. I was then moved to a 'cupboard' a converted cloakroom in the Centre. It was approximately 12ft by 6ft outside the Softley Lounge and adjacent to the Small Hall. I had a small desk, a chair, a typewriter, and a filing cabinet but no telephone but there was a payphone in the corridor. When the present office was built as a Millennium project around 2000/2001, Richard Bryant was the Curate here and he dealt with the plans and planning applications etc, additions to the Centre were the disabled loo and the kitchen was extended, small hall doors moved to what was the wall of the 'cupboard' and the main hall doors were moved as they were next to where the kitchen hatch is now. Luckily, at the time The Original Holloway Society where Darrell worked were going through some office re-organisations and he was able to get the new church office furnished with the office equipment and furniture that they were getting rid of.

I have enjoyed working with the Vicars; Hedley for only 1 year then Brian, Hugh, John, David, Bruce and now of course Rachel not forgetting the many, many Curates who have passed through our parishes.

I shall miss working in the office; but the time has definitely come to retire.

GLEND A



## **PENTECOST PARTY**

Pentecost is sometimes called the birthday of the church and what better way to celebrate a birthday than by having a party. Sometimes it's not possible to hold a party on the actual day of the birthday and therefore a suitable date reasonably close is chosen. This year Pentecost is on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May and we shall be holding our party the following Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> May.

All are very welcome, although we suspect that most of the activities, we are planning will be more suitable for the youngsters. There will be a variety of crafts to make, including edible crafts. There will be snacks and drinks for everyone. Naturally, there will be a birthday cake, but the church wardens need not panic, we will not be having a candle for each of the last 2,000 years (they wouldn't fit!) There will even be party bags to take home and maybe a surprise or two!

Of course, no party could happen without people to help out, so if you would like to help in anyway, do please have a word with either Rachel or Susan. But don't worry, there were more than 3,000 people at the first Pentecost, we're not expecting quite that many!



**12<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> May 2024**

This year, Christian Aid Week will focus on the cost-of-living crisis faced by many people around the world.

You never know, but the bucket might put in an appearance again this year!

## **THANK YOU AND FAREWELL TO LAINE!**



Farewell  
and  
Good Luck

On Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> May, we will sadly say farewell to Laine Lewis, who has been with us on placement since September 2022. We will also be giving much thanks for all she has brought and given to the life of our benefice. Whilst Laine has been with us, she has been training for ordination on the 'Dispersed Learning Programme' at Trinity College, Bristol.

This programme involves students spending three days a week on placement in a parish/benefice and three days a week studying, in addition to an intensive week of lectures at college per half term at college. Laine has been amazing in how she has juggled both aspects of the programme, along with most importantly her family life, with immense enthusiasm, generosity, and humour.

To be able to give thanks and say farewell properly, the PCC has approved a joint Benefice Eucharist on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> May at 10.30am at St George's, followed by a shared lunch. Even if you don't normally attend St George's, or don't normally attend on a Sunday morning, I do hope you might make this the exception if you possibly can. It will be wonderful to be together as the family of St Margaret's and St George's to say thank-you to Laine and to wish her and family well.

We will also pray for Laine and family as they prepare for the next step in life and ministry. On 30<sup>th</sup> June, Laine will be ordained deacon at Gloucester Cathedral, and will serve her curacy (a little like an apprenticeship) at St Lawrence, Barnwood. All being well, Laine will then be ordained priest in June 2025, and will continue at St Lawrence for another 2-3 years. Please do continue to keep Laine and family in your prayers in this time of transition and also through her curacy years – hopefully since Barnwood is not far away, we may still see Laine from time to time!

Rachel

# ST MARGARET OF SCOTLAND, WHADDON

Mid-April 2024

Dear All

Here is another quick newsletter, as there are a few special events coming up, with altered service times.

This coming Sunday, 21<sup>st</sup> April, is our long-planned Pets Service. I can safely say this is the first in the long history of St Margarets. 4.00pm is the time. Park at Valley Bridge School (formerly Wynstones). Light refreshments to follow. If your pet is not keen on travelling, why not bring a teddy to represent him or her?

The following week, 28<sup>th</sup> April, we have a confirmation service at 5.00pm. Please note there will be no 9.00am service that morning. I don't know if there has ever been a confirmation at St Margaret's, but there certainly hasn't been one in living memory, so this is very special. Bishop Rachel will be leading the service, and we have three candidates, including Shelly Betts, who has been a member of our congregation (mostly at Family Praise) for virtually all of her life. Please come along if you can, to support Shelly and her two fellow candidates from St Georges, Kevin Muchir and John Mjorogie, and please remember them all in their prayers, as they seek God's blessing in their pilgrimage.

Again, please park at the school car park. There will be light refreshments after the service.

There's one other special event to draw to your attention. On 26<sup>th</sup> May, we will be saying farewell to Laine Lewis, who has been on placement with us for the last two years. She is leaving to prepare for ordination and to become a curate at St Lawrence's, Barnwood. She has worked incredibly hard during her period with us, and we would like to mark the occasion. On that Sunday, therefore, there will be a united service at St Georges starting at 10.30am, with a presentation to Laine, and a shared lunch to follow. So, there will be no 9.00am service at St Margaret's that day.

With best wishes to you all

Jonathan MacKechnie Jarvis and Mike Smith  
Churchwardens





Our 'annual meetings' will take place on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May. This is the time we elect our Parish Church Councils, our Churchwardens etc. Please be on the lookout for people you may like to nominate for the privilege and responsibility of sharing the leadership of our churches in this way. And consider humbly and honestly whether you yourself might be willing

to step up to the plate! But, most of all, please keep the matter in your prayers.

Mike Brammer has decided to stand down as a Churchwarden at this year's St George's APCM, we thank him for his dedicated service over numerous years. Much of what a Churchwarden does is the backbone of our life as a church, and often the time and the effort goes unseen and unheralded. Mike has been so generous with his time and his energy, serving the church community with steadfast reliability, diligence, humility and always with a smile.

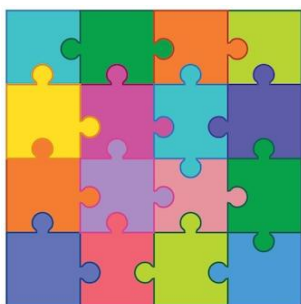
We also say thank you to Lynne McEwan-Berry who served as our Parish Safeguarding Officer for the past two years, and has decided that now is the time to step down. Lynne has transformed our safeguarding systems, led some wonderfully thorough group training, and been an inspiring advocate for the importance of safeguarding in its widest sense. Please do consider whether God is calling you to this role - Lynne has offered to informally support anyone who feels able to take this important role on.

## **ST GEORGE'S ELECTORAL ROLL**

This year's APCMs are to be held on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2024. If your name does not appear on the Electoral Roll, you will not be eligible to vote at your churches APCM or be elected to its PCC. In St George's the Electoral Roll has been displayed on the notice board since Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2024 to Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2024. If you wish for your name to be added to the list, forms are on the table at the back of St George's Church or you can see me, Margaret Barber. Completed forms can be handed to me, Glenda or to a Churchwarden.

If you attend St Margaret's Church, please speak to Jill Ponter your Electoral Officer, to check if you appear on their roll, if not ask for an Electoral Roll application form.

## MORE ABOUT JIGSAW PUZZLES



I don't expect you to remember, but about three years ago I wrote a piece on jigsaws. Like many others, we had found them a good pastime during the dull days of COVID, hence my Crossroads piece on the subject. Well, brace yourself for a bit more on the subject.

Here's an odd question. How many pieces are there are in a 1000-piece puzzle? Typically, it will not be 1000, but 1026, or 38 by 27? pieces. 500 pieces is usually 513, i.e. 27 by 19 pieces. (This wins the JMJ prize for useless information. And it breaks the ice at parties!)

I wonder if you have ever tried a double-sided jigsaw? No, nor have I. It sounds a fiendish idea, as you will get confused as to which side each piece is from. If that gives you a headache just to think of it, let's get on to the world's largest jigsaw, which was 58,435 square feet, with 21,600 large pieces (each about 18 inches square). However, the record number of pieces was in a much smaller puzzle, a mere 3648 square feet, or a paltry 48 feet by 76 feet. But it comprised 551,232 pieces! It was assembled in one day by students in Vietnam. Not one vast puzzle, I hasten to add, but 3132 sections of 176 pieces each, which were then brought together. That sounds a bit more do-able, but think of organising an event like that!

The first jigsaw was a dissected world map, made by John Spilsbury around 1760, as a teaching aid. Puzzles gradually took off as a commercial proposition. At first, they were always made of wood, but after the Second World War, cardboard puzzles took off, thanks to improved manufacturing techniques. Recently, laser cutting has given us a revival of wooden puzzles, the best known being Wentworths of Malmesbury. These are the Rolls-Royce of jigsaws and have a big following all over the world.

Like so many things, jigsaws have become a competitive sport, also there are complex computer aids for those keen on such things. Most of us, I suspect, are much happier sitting quietly at home, taking our time. Just enjoy them, never mind how long you take!

A fairly recent development is the personalised puzzle, where you can see your best photos come alive as a jigsaw. We have splashed out on over a dozen, and we love doing them. The cost is quite reasonable compared to a stock pattern puzzle, but of course most people probably content themselves with second hand puzzles from their local charity shop, at a fraction of the price. And of course we have our puzzle swapping circle here at St George's.

If you are a puzzler, I wonder what is your favourite size? Most people seem to like big puzzles, typically 1000+ pieces, but we generally prefer a 500 puzzle or even 250. The hardest puzzle I have done was a 1000-piece map of London, as it was in about 1870, when the suburbs were fields and villages. The pieces were maddeningly small, about the size of Corn Flakes! It took about three weeks off and on, though I must say I really enjoyed it. It wasn't Carol's scene at all, but we manage to agree on most puzzles!



Here's another tricky one: a picture I took of a marbled white in the churchyard. The butterfly and the flower were easy enough, but the rest is a deliberately out of focus symphony of green and straw colours (sorry if you are looking at it in black and white!). Even as a 500-piece puzzle, it took a while.

JONATHAN

## **C IS FOR...**

Chocolate? Candles? Custard Creams?

As this is one of a series of articles talking about ecological matters, you may have guessed that Ruth Valerio (Author of "L is for Lifestyle") choose Creation as her subject for the letter C.

Some of us of course are more creative than others, but many of us treasure some object of little intrinsic value for the sake of the person who made it. In my own case it's a painting by my late father who taking up the hobby on retirement was never completely satisfied by his "daubes" as he called them.

In Genesis, chapter one, we are told that after 6 days of Creation, God looked at all He had made and "Behold, it was very good". Perhaps it goes without saying that the value human beings set on Creation should be in direct proportion to their relationship with our Creator God, but sadly this is not always true.

Caring for our Natural World is as fundamental a part of our faith as following Jesus, praying, reading our bibles, helping the poor, sharing the good news of God's love and meeting with our fellow believers. In one sense it is what we were made for, God loves every part of His creation and invites us to share in that love and care.

In Revelation, chapter four, there is a wonderful vision of the whole of creation, including humans, worshipping the Lord God Almighty. Whether the promised Newness is through Renewal or Resurrection, this world has an exciting future. Therefore, each, and every one of us can commit to creating small changes which will start to make all the difference to our lives, our church, our community, our country, our world. Our positive influence can be thought of as a series of concentric circles, rather like the ripples in a pond.

A good first step is to fall in love again with the world we see around us. Stop to smell a flower, pause to watch a bird in flight, listen to the sound of your garden or nearest green space, follow the changes of the weather and the seasons, and (in the words of Psalm 8) if you are able "...consider your (God's) heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars that you have ordained" and give Him the glory.

LORRAINE



## **TUFFLEY OPEN GARDENS DAY!**

Last year a group of local garden owners opened up to the public on the last Sunday in May. This is our third year to do so, and so far, we have raised much needed funds for various nursing charities. This year we have opted for the first Sunday in June. So please pencil the date of SUNDAY the 2<sup>nd</sup> of June into your diary for a relaxed and enjoyable couple of hours looking around some lovely local suburban plots and chatting to the owners about all things plant related.

The event takes place between 11.00am and 4.00pm, with cash only tickets and maps available from 24, Tuffley Lane (on the corner of Campden Road). Prices are £5.00 for adults, and £1.00 for a child. This year the teas and toilets plus the garden are at 389 Stroud Road. A new opener for us, Sarah and Family have stepped forward to help us out. For local residents in the know, this is Dick Shepherd's old house, and Sarah and Co. are currently restoring it all back to its original Victorian roots.

Hope to see you on the day and bring the sunshine with you!

This is a National Gardens Scheme sponsored event. (Our group opening is listed in the NGS County booklet for 2024 under number 72).

MARTYN & JENNY PARKER



## MUSICALS



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

A Chorus Line, Anything Goes, Avenue Q, Cats, Chicago, Fiddler on the Roof, Grease, Guys and Dolls, Hairspray, Hello Dolly, Les Misérables, Lion king, Mamma Mia, Mary Poppins, Miss Saigon, Oh Calcutta, Oklahoma, Phantom of the Opera, Rent, The King and I, The Music Man, The Pajama Game, The Sound of Music, The Wiz, West Side Story, Wicked.

**The answer is printed later in Crossroads**



JOIN THE  
**CLEANING  
TEAM**

**ST GEORGE'S CHURCH CLEANING**  
**Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> May from 10.00am onwards**

We're all proud of the churches we attend and I'm sure that, like me, on occasions, you think to yourselves 'That could do with a duster flicked over it.' So, now's your chance to let us know what needs to be attended to in St George's. There is a small, but dedicated group who come along at 10.00am on the first Saturday of most months to flick dusters, push hoovers, shift cobwebs, change light bulbs, straighten chairs, along with anything else we spot.

We would welcome new apprentices to our little band, training can be given to those who ask for it and we welcome advice from those who know better than we do. There's tea, coffee, and often cake for all who join us!

Please check your Signpost for any new church cleaning updates.

If you are not able to join us but spot something which needs our attention, please don't keep it to yourself and fret about it; tell us! You know it make sense...





## **DECISIONS** by Tony J, the Tuffley Poet

Decisions you make, all day long  
Some are right - some are wrong  
As soon as you climb, out of bed  
    Is it cereal, or toast instead  
What clothes am I, to wear today  
Book a holiday - perhaps in May?  
Time to shop, which one to choose  
Whatever you buy, you're bound to lose  
    Is it soup for lunch, or fish for tea  
Or something else, and get one free  
    Take a bus, what time to go  
Change your Bank, with interest low  
    Stop for coffee, which one is best  
Each establishment - all like the rest  
    Feet up at last, turn on the Tele  
Watch Robert Peston - not on your nelly  
Easy or difficult, they have to be made  
    Same for everyone, don't be afraid  
    Decisions to make, all thro' your life  
Most important you make - choosing a hubby or wife

**I'm not superstitious,  
But I am a little stitious**





**WELCOME PACKS...** Did you say Welcome Packs? Yes. Are you aware the Diocese provide the materials for Churches to put together Welcome Packs? Each pack can be made up with an 'Outer Folder,' and the following inserts: Welcome, Your Church, Service Times, Pop to the Shops, Make Friends, Social Calendar, and a 'Blank' sheet should the church wish to give more information. At present the Make Friends and Social Calendar inserts are not used because we provide a "What's on in Church in Tuffley" leaflet which gives information about the wide range of activities each church puts on each month.

Could you hold one of these packs at home? Over 240 packs have been distributed in the Benefice to people who have recently moved into the area. Whenever you see a 'Sold' or 'Let' sign outside a property in your street once that sign disappears why not knock on their door and offer them a warm welcome with a smile and a Welcome Pack. Your new neighbour may be pleased to see a friendly face.

Rev Rachel holds a small supply of these packs so please ask for a pack and hold on to it until you can pass it on. Once your pack has been accepted let Rev Rachel or Pete Best know the address of the recipient so we can get a copy of "What's on in Church in Tuffley" to them. Copies of this leaflet will be given through their letterbox each month, for several months, keeping them updated with church events. Finally, once you've given your pack away, don't forget to ask Rev Rachel for a replacement pack.

PETE BEST



## **HOW DO WE IMPART INFORMATION...**

Well, there are three main avenues of imparting church linked information, our weekly newsletter; Signpost, our monthly church magazine; Crossroads, and a Benefice diary. Currently Glenda and Pete look after Signpost each week and it is to them that you should feed information that can't wait for Crossroads. But be warned, space is always limited. It is our opportunity to let you know upto date information and any changes to previously publicised dates etc.

Glenda and I edit Crossroads which we use to inform you of what's happening in St George's Church and Centre, St Margaret's Church, the Church in Tuffley and in the parish generally. Normally space isn't limited but on occasions articles do have to be edited, unfortunately; but we do try and limit our editing but are apt to cut out any repetition.

I keep a Benefice diary for planning purposes to try and avoid date clashes and is therefore a longer-term view of what's happening.

Each of the abovementioned publications are hosted on the church website regularly and therefore can be viewed thereon, at any time.

As a rider to the aforementioned, documents are only as good as the information fed into them, so, if you are aware of a happening or a change to a happening which needs our readers to be told about, please tell someone know, if you don't know who to tell, tell me and I will pass the information on, it's no bother.

Currently Glenda looks after the St George's Centre diary so if you are using or want to use one of the halls see Glenda to avoid any clash.

We also have Facebook, X, and Instagram accounts and I'll try and get information on those media accounts and let you know more next month.

DARRELL

## BEST OF BRITISH – FROM THE FORTIES TO THE NOUGHTIES



Join the St George's Entertainers, 7.30pm on the 15<sup>th</sup>, June, for a sing along to the best British hits of the twentieth century.

Below we've given you some clues to the artists:

\_ L I \_ \_ / R \_ \_ H \_ \_ D \_  
\_ \_ T \_ N / J \_ H \_  
\_ \_ \_ M!

\_ \_ \_ / \_ E \_ T \_ \_ \_  
T \_ \_ / \_ O N \_ \_  
\_ E \_ A / \_ Y \_ \_

Tickets will be £3.00 and will be available shortly. We look forward to seeing you there!

## SUMMER FUN DAY SATURDAY 13<sup>th</sup> JULY 2024 12.00noon until 3.00pm



Just like last year we'll have fun and games for all the family. The Summer Fun Day group will meet again in the Vicarage to carry on with the planning. So, look out for the date and let us know if you can help.

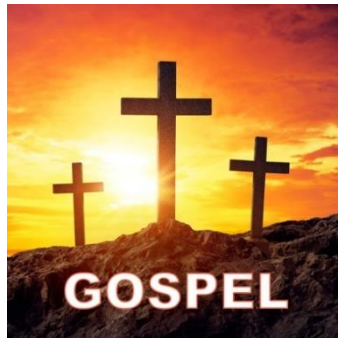
We're looking at many types of stalls, but mainly the fun and games type. We're looking at food stalls (hot dogs, burgers, ice creams, teas, coffees and squash and possibly canned pops) face painting, cakes, biscuit decorating, and anything we can think of or are offered. We are also thinking about some displays just to add variety.

Please put the date in your diaries now, 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, and Jonathan T know. We would love to have you on board to add your input.

We are ready now to receive donations for the raffle, a bottle stall, a family tombola as soon as possible (we have the storage space!)

If you have any ideas, please let us know asap!!



## **GOSPEL TRUTH BIBLE QUIZ**

Questions based on the Gospel readings for March

- 1 When Jesus went up to Jerusalem, in the temple He found people selling... Can you name anything being sold?
- 2 How many years had the temple in Jerusalem been under construction?
- 3 Standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, and Mary wife of.... Whom did this Mary marry?
- 4 Some Greeks wanted to see Jesus. Which of the disciples did they approach?
- 5 Which was the hometown of the disciple in Question 4?
- 6 The disciple from Q4 went and told another disciple. Who was this other disciple?
- 7 As Jesus approached Jerusalem two villages are mentioned. It was at one of these Villages Jesus instructed two of His disciples to bring Him a colt. Can you name either of these villages?
- 8 Once the colt was obtained what did the disciples throw on to it?
- 9 When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of... Which disciple was this Mary the mother of?
- 10 Who was the third lady who, with the ladies in Question 9, brought spices to anoint Jesus?

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

## **JOTTINGS From St Margaret's**

Well, it's that time of the month, yes, it's me again writing about the goings on at St Margaret's. Well, the preparing of our church for Easter happened, though I couldn't do much, although I did try very hard. We haven't managed to do our usual Monday clean, but each Thursday I do sweep St Margaret's through, which make it look a bit better, but it's not the same.

From a distance, Marg and I did manage to see the donkey on Palm Sunday, she looked delightful. From the look on the faces of those who were walking between churches along with the donkey, everyone was enjoying the whole experience, including the amassed clergy.

I was hoping to go to St Margaret's for the Easter Vigil, but the brakes on my car failed so I couldn't go. I was so disappointed as that service is so spiritual. I know that I've said it before, that Easter Services are the most beautiful in the church year. Rachel and the team have worked their socks off preparing for Easter. Rachel and Paul have gone off for a well-earned rest, during which time we shall miss them both. Paul has been unwell lately, but we hope that the rest will do him the world of good, and that they both return better and fitter.

I do like to see new people at our Church, and I met a man there who was looking to find any of his relations graves. He said that he was just going to look around the churchyard, so I left him to it as our Thursday morning service started at 10.30am and that he was welcome to join us. He didn't come in and join us, so I hope that he found what he was looking for.

Well, my friends that's about all for now as I've run out of gossip and goings on at St Margaret's so, stay safe, look after yourselves and I'll be with you next month.

JILL PONTER

**Editor's Note:** *If anyone could help out the cleaning team at St Margaret's do have a word with their Churchwardens to see what might be arranged.*

## ST GEORGE'S COFFEE POT



EVERY Tuesday morning from 9.30am until 11.30am  
Small hall St George's Centre, Grange Road, Tuffley  
Hot drinks and food available

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

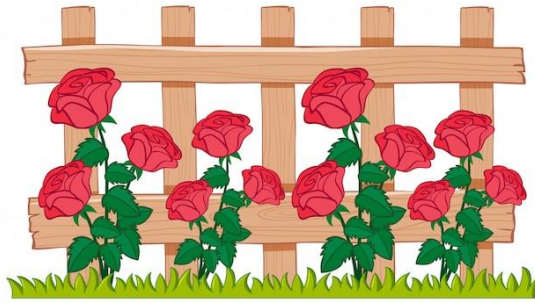


Our speaker in April was Elizabeth Reay a former diocesan president of the Mothers Union. She spoke of her trips to AGMs in various parts of the country where she always went on her own. She spoke to several local members about making these trips into holidays which she did over the years and when in these cities they visited interesting places in the area lots of National Trust places. She displayed various interesting items which she had collected on these trips. Our next meeting is 14<sup>th</sup> May when our speaker is Michael Gibbons who is former NHS employee. All are welcome.

GERALDINE



**Editor's note:** There are a number of requests for help again in this month's Crossroads. Namely, at our Pentecost Party; APCM re a new Churchwarden and someone to be our Parish Safeguarding Officer; helping St George's and St Margaret's Church Cleaning teams; with Welcome Packs; at our Summer Fun Day; there may be other so you'd better check! Please consider helping out at one or more of them.



## **OVER THE GARDEN FENCE**

Trixie Ponter, what are you doing up there? I'm just having a good look round. But you don't like climbing over the fence, you get vertigo! I know Maya, but it's been ages since that happened. I think it was a combination of tummy upset and worrying about Harry, you know how that daft cat can get to you. Anyway, I will get down now. Maya, can you make sure that nothing gets in my way? OK, but just make sure that you put your feet in the right places. I know Maya, right here goes...oh well, that wasn't too bad, but it was a long way up. How on earth did you get up there in the first place? I don't know Maya, but that black cat that mum feeds well it looked like he was going to take over our garden, and I wasn't having that, so I threw myself at him and I just followed him up the fence when he ran away. Trixie, you don't half tell 'em. I don't know what you mean? You have the best imagination of any cat I know! I know, Maya, good ain't it.

What we gonna do now, Maya? The two Gingers are coming over perhaps they will have news of Harry, and we could go and see him. Hello, boys, how's life with you both these days? How's Harry? Well girls, you know that he had a problem with his skin, well, he's much better now, we don't know what they used, but his skin is nice and pink now including his scars and the scabs gone. Maybe they put the same stuff on him that my mum puts on her face? You never know Ging; can we go and see him then Ging. He'll be out in his garden by this time, so come on girls!

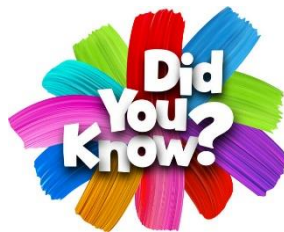
Look there he is! Harry how are you; you're looking really well. I know Maya, my mum took me to the vet, and he put this really smelly yeller stuff on me. I didn't half pong!! It was so smelly that my mum wouldn't put my old dressings in the kitchen bin they had to go straight into the wheelie bin outside. You can still smell it when someone lifts the bin lid up! I'm not allowed to go anywhere but my garden at the moment, but it's good of you all to come round to see me and keep me company. Harry, can we come up there with

you? Yes, of course you'll have to slide in here, I'll hold this bit open for you. Here we come, it's a bit small. Well, we got in here all right, I just hope we can get out again! That won't be a problem, Trixie, I'll make so much noise that mum will come along and let us out when she opens the gate. Oh, Harry, you really are clever, well the Gingers helped me to sort out how to let my friends in.

So come on girls and boys tell me what's been going on, I haven't heard any gossip for ages. Well, Harry, we haven't heard much gossip either. Yasmin has been driving us up the wall asking, 'Is Harry OK?' 'Can you give him a message from me?' that sort of thing! She is genuinely worried about you. But that doesn't stop her being a right pain in the butt! Trixie, how long have we been in here? I don't know fellers, but I think it's time to let Harry rest and time we got home. OK Harry start whingeing for England, then your mum can let us all out.

My mum's just coming, tata Harry. See you Trix and Maya. See you, Gingers. That was a lovely time spent with Harry, I wonder if our mum's home? She was taking that Lulu to that place. I wonder what for? Her mum is so lovely I wonder how she puts up with our mum! But there you are friends will always be friends no matter what. I heard our mum tell Auntie Marg, that she was having flea treatment and wormer stuff too. Well, I didn't know they did that. Neither did I Maya! There are so many things I don't know much about it gives me a headache! I'm just the same Trix. We'd better say tata for now so I can finish this off. Oh yes, Maya, tata everyone until the next time. It's an even bigger tata from me, look after yourselves and stay safe.

## MAYA AND TRIXIE



That... 7<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> May is the 'Look at Me' deaf awareness week


That... 12<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> May is National Doughnut week

That... 15<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> May is Christian Aid week

That... 15<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> May is British Sandwich week

That... 18<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> May is Be Nice to Nettles week





**MAY TRIVIA QUIZ**

- 1 What is the name of the famous Austrian composer who wrote works such as Symphony No. 9 and Ode to Joy?
- 2 What is the name of the largest canyon in the world, located in the United States?
- 3 What is the name of the largest island in the Caribbean, which is known for its beautiful beaches and vibrant culture?
- 4 What is the name of the famous American author who wrote the novel Moby-Dick?
- 5 What is the name of the largest river in South America, which flows through Brazil, Peru, and Colombia?
- 6 What is the name of the famous American painter who created works such as American Gothic and Nighthawks?
- 7 What is the name of the famous American boxer who changed his name and is widely considered one of the greatest heavyweights of all time?
- 8 What is the name of the famous American singer who was known as the "Queen of Soul"?
- 9 What is the name of the largest waterfall in North America, located on the border between the United States and Canada?
- 10 What is the name of the famous American actor who portrayed characters such as Indiana Jones and Han Solo in several films?

*...answers are printed later in Crossroads*





## **THROUGH THE WINDOW**

Hello, everyone, I'm a bit all over the place at the moment. I was bundled into that cat box and taken to that place in Auntie Jill's car, AGAIN! I didn't want to go but my mum was on the ball so, it didn't take long to catch me. They tried to cut my toes off, well, I wasn't having that so, I tried to pull my foot away but the nurse hung on so tight like a vice. My mum tried to reassure me but it was no good. Then the nurse put some stuff on my neck, so I can't lick it off. Oh, the indignity of it! My mum tell me that it's for my own good, but I can't see it myself, but there you are. You win some, you lose some, I only hope that it will be a long time before I have to go to that place again.

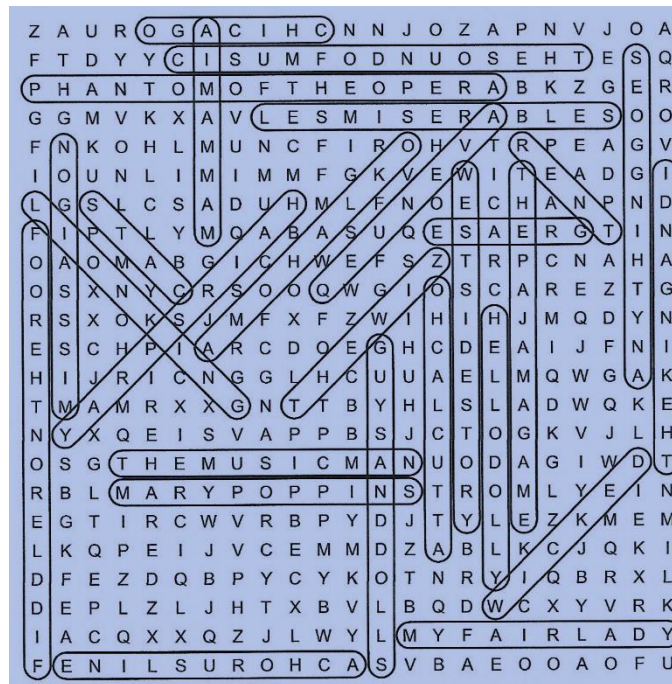
I was looking out of the window in my mum's bedroom the other day. I get such a nice view from up there. It's surprising what you can see and how far you can see. I see dogs with their owners going for a stroll, me, I take myself for a walk or a little meander, especially when the weather is warm and sunny. Not like the other day when the wind was blowing and the rain was pouring down. I know that my mum's fed up with all the wind and rain. It can't last forever, I hope.

I had a visitor the other day, I was sitting on the waterbutt, minding my own business when I spotted an interloper. My mum saw him and told him to go away as he was going to eat my food. Well I wasn't having that either, so I stared him out and eventually he went away. Boy, was I pleased! He's not pinching my food.

I love being with my mum, she looks after me and feeds me so well. I but I still don't like going to that place. Anyway, it's all over now so, I might forgive her.

'Bye for now, your friend  
Jojo Whittle (Miss)

## WORDSEARCH ANSWER



### MAY TRIVIA QUIZ ANSWERS

1 Ludwig van Beethoven: 2 Grand Canyon: 3 Cuba: 4 Herman Melville:  
 5 Amazon River: 6 Edward Hopper: 7 Muhammad Ali: 8 Aretha Franklin:  
 9 Niagara Falls: 10 Harrison Ford:

### GOSPEL TRUTH BIBLE QUIZ ANSWERS

1 Cattle, sheep, and doves: 2 46: 3 Clopas: 4 Philip: 5 Bethsaida: 6 Andrew:  
 7 Bethphage and Bethany: 8 their cloaks: 9 James: 10 Salome:



### April

Sun 28	<b>Easter 5</b>
	<b>May Crossroads available</b>

	10.30am	Parish Communion	St G's
	5.00pm	Parish Communion & Confirmation	St M's
Mon 29	5.00pm	Evening Prayer	Zoom
	5.00pm	Brownies	MH
	6.00pm	Rainbows	SH
	6.15pm	Mondays@6.15	MH
	7.15pm	Guides	MH
Tue 30	9.30am	Coffee Pot	SH
	10.00a	Parish Communion	St G's
	1.30pm	Fun & Free	MH
	5.00pm	Evening Prayer	LC
	6.30pm	Cubs & Beavers	MH
	8.00pm	Karate	MH

## May

Wed 1	8.15am	Morning Prayer	Zoom
	9.30am	Phonics with Robot Reg	MH
	3.30pm	Slimming World also at 5.00pm & 6.30pm	MH
Thu 2	7.00am	Polling Station	St G's
	10.30am	Parish Communion	St M's
	2.00pm	Art Group	MH
	6.30pm	Clubbercise	MH
	7.30pm	Charter Band	MH
Fri 3	7.30pm	Entertainers	MH
Sat 4	10.00am	Church Cleaning	St G's
	10.00am	Karate	MH
Sun 5	<b>Easter 6</b>		
	10.30am	Parish Communion & Banns of Marriage	St G's
	4.00pm	Evensong	St M's
Mon 6	<b>May Day Bank Holiday</b>		
	5.00pm	Evening Prayer	Zoom
Tue 7	9.30am	Coffee Pot	SH
	10.00am	Parish Communion	St G's
	1.30pm	Fun & Free	MH
	5.00pm	Evening Prayer	LC
	6.30pm	Cubs & Beavers	MH
	8.00pm	Karate	MH
Wed 8	8.15am	Morning Prayer	Zoom
	9.30am	Phonics with Robot Reg	MH

	3.30pm	Slimming World also at 5.00pm & 6.30pm	MH
	7.00pm	Gardening Club Committee	SL
	7.00pm	PCC meeting	SH
Thu 9	<b>Ascension Day</b>		
	10.30am	Parish Communion	St M's
	10.30am	Thursday Club	SH/SL
	2.00pm	Art Group	SH
	6.30pm	Clubbercise	MH
	7.30pm	Charter Band	SH
Fri 10	7.30pm	Entertainers	MH
Sat 11	10.00am	Karate	MH
Sun 12	<b>Christian Aid Week</b>		
	<b>Easter 7</b>		
	9.00am	Parish Communion	St M's
	10.30am	Parish Communion & Banns of Marriage	St G's
	4.00pm	Family Praise	St M's
Mon 13	<b>June Crossroads deadline</b>		
	10.30am	Aphasia-Now	SH
	5.00pm	Evening Prayer	Zoom
	5.00pm	Brownies	MH
	6.00pm	Rainbows	SH
	6.15pm	Mondays@6.15	MH
	7.15pm	Guides	MH
Tue 14	9.30am	Coffee Pot	SH
	10.00am	Parish Communion	St G's
	1.30pm	Fun & Free	MH
	2.30pm	Mothers' Union	SH
	5.00pm	Evening Prayer	LC
	6.30pm	Cubs & Beavers	MH
	8.00pm	Karate	MH
Wed 15	8.15am	Morning Prayer	Zoom
	9.30am	Phonics with Robot Reg	MH
	3.30pm	Slimming World also at 5.00pm & 6.30pm	MH
	7.30pm	Refresh	GB
Thu 16	10.30am	Parish Communion	St M's
	10.30am	Thursday Club	SH/SL
	2.00pm	Art Group	SH
	6.30pm	Clubbercise	MH

	7.30pm	Charter Band	SH
Fri 17	7.30pm	Entertainers	SH
	7.30pm	Gardening Club	MH
Sat 18	<b>Christian aid week ends</b>		
	10.00am	Karate	MH
Sun 19	<b>Pentecost</b>		
	10.30am	Parish Communion & Banns of Marriage and APCM	St G's
	4.00pm	Evensong and APCM	St M's
Mon 20	5.00pm	Evening Prayer	Zoom
	5.00pm	Brownies	MH
	6.00pm	Rainbows	SH
	6.15pm	Mondays@6.15	MH
	7.15pm	Guides	MH
Tue 21	9.30am	Coffee Pot	SH
	10.00am	Parish Communion	St G's
	1.30pm	Fun & Free	MH
	5.00pm	Evening Prayer	LC
	6.30pm	Cubs & Beavers	MH
	8.00pm	Karate	MH
Wed 22	8.15am	Morning Prayer	Zoom
	9.30am	Phonics with Robot Reg	MH
	3.30pm	Slimming World also at 5.00pm & 6.30pm	MH
Thu 23	10.30am	Parish Communion	St M's
	10.30am	Thursday Club	SH/SL
	2.00pm	Art Group	SH
	6.30pm	Clubbercise	MH
	7.30pm	Charter Band	SH
Fri 24	7.30pm	Entertainers	MH
Sat 25	10.00am	Karate	MH
	10.00am	Pentecost Party	St G's
		CIT Litter pickers meet at Grange Baptist	
Sun 26	<b>Trinity</b> <b>Laine's last Sunday in the parish</b>		
	9.00am	Parish Communion	St M's
	10.30am	Parish Communion followed by lunch	St G's
Mon 27	<b>Spring Bank Holiday / Half Term week</b>		
	5.00pm	Evening Prayer	Zoom

Tue 28	9.30am	Coffee Pot	SH
	10.00am	Parish Communion	St G's
	5.00pm	Evening Prayer	LC
	8.00pm	Karate	MH
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	Thursday Club	SH/SL
	2.00pm	Art Group	SH
	6.30pm	Clubbercise	MH
	7.30pm	Charter Band	SH
Fri 31	7.30pm	Entertainers	MH

## June

Sat 1	10.00am	Church Cleaning	St G's
	10.00am	Karate	MH
Sun 2	<b>Trinity 1</b>		
	10.30am	Parish Communion	St G's
	4.00pm	Evensong	St M's

St G's = St George's Church, St M's = St Margaret's Church, V = Vicarage,  
 LC = Lady Chapel, MH = Main Hall, SH = Small Hall, SL = Softley Lounge,  
 GB = Grange Baptist Church.

# REMEMBER

That to have your

**JUNE 2024 CROSSROADS**

ready for publication by **TRINITY SUNDAY 26<sup>th</sup> MAY 2024** FLAMINGTEXT.COM

...ARTICLES NEED TO BE WITH THE EDITORS' PREFERABLY BY EMAIL

BEFORE, BUT NO LATER THAN... **...MONDAY 13<sup>th</sup> MAY**

**Crossroads will be printed on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> MAY**

If you can get your articles to the Editors earlier than the above date, great!!

**Thank you for your help in this matter**

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

'Jill is doing an experiment' said Jack to his mates at the pub. 'She's wearing a Man Utd shirt for a week to get people's reactions. She's been kicked, punched, and spat on so far! Only God knows what's going to happen when she leaves the house!

Jack was setting up a new program on his laptop at home when it posed the question 'Enter new password' so he typed in 'chicken'. A new message came up on the screen 'Password must contain a capital' so he typed 'chickenkief'.

Jill said to Jack, 'Did you know that only in the UK can you go to prison for not having a TV licence and then watch television in prison without having a TV licence!'

Jack takes his wife Jill to a disco, there's a man on the dance floor, moonwalking, break dancing, head spins, the works. Jill turns to Jack and sighs "You see that man? 25 years ago, he asked me to marry him, and I said no!" Jack says, "It looks like he's still out celebrating!"

Jack was in his local and asked the bartender 'What's the Wi-Fi password?' The bartender replied, 'You need to buy a drink first.' Jack said, 'Okay, I'll have a coke.' The bartender asked, 'Is Pepsi, okay?' To which Jack replied, 'Sure. How much is that?' The bartender said, '£3.' Jack said, 'There you go. So, what's the Wi-Fi password? The bartender with a smile on his face said, 'You need to buy a drink first. No spaces, all lowercase!'

Jill was watching the news when the presenter said, 'Sad news at the Nestle factory today when a member of staff was seriously injured when a pallet of chocolate fell more than 50 feet and crushed him underneath. He tried in vain to attract attention but every time he shouted "The milky bars are on me" everyone cheered'

Jack and Jill were in town when Jill said, 'Jack I really like those shoes in the window, but I left my purse at home.' Jack asked, 'How much are they?' '£250!' Jack Opens wallet... and Jill got very excited. Jack said 'Here's £10. Get a taxi and fetch your purse. I'll wait for you here!'

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