

The Benefice of Gloucester St George with Whaddon

# St Margaret of Scotland, Whaddon

*Worshipping, Caring, Pioneering ...*

## Newsletter for Festival 2018



Dear Friends

### St Margaret's Festival

Our Festival is now fixed for 30<sup>th</sup> September to 7<sup>th</sup> October. Why a Festival? Well our little chamber organ built by John Snetzler is 250 years old this year, so that is a celebration in itself. Also we have finished all our building work for the time being, and that is a celebration, and a big thank you to all who helped. It's 925 years since the death of our patron saint, Margaret of Scotland. Also it's Harvest time, and as if all that weren't enough it is very nearly one hundred years since the end of the Great War.

Details of the festival are attached. It would be lovely to see you at any of the events.

### Limewash time (and a bit more besides)

The church was redecorated in July by Sally Ellwood, who is a lime specialist, based at Edgeworth near Cirencester. The nave was fully scaffolded, which enabled the barrel ceiling to be repaired and repainted, and also allowed us to look closely at the timberwork and the very fine Royal Arms of 1800. It all looks much fresher and cleaner.

Special thanks too to Hans Rackham, who took the opportunity to replace the last few tubular heaters in the chancel and replace them with neat new oil-filled radiators which tone very well with the surrounding plasterwork. He has also gone to immense trouble touching up the inevitable minor scars caused by this extra work. This was the final stage of the heating project, which is a fine and practical memorial to Hans's late wife Marian, who was a faithful member of our congregation for so many years.



*A detail from our splendid  
Royal Arms of 1800*

### The tower roof

The reroofing of the tower is finished and the contractor has made a superb job of it. In truth the new stainless steel roof is far better than the copper roof which was stolen, and will last far longer. It's strange how things work out.

## The Festival

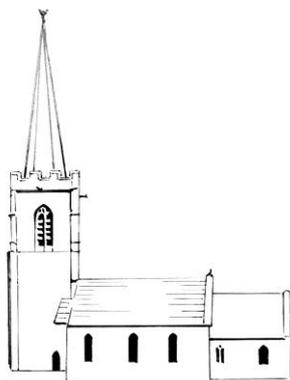
On **Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October** there will be an organ recital by David Briggs. Last time he played the little Snetzler, he was Director of Music at Gloucester Cathedral. He is now an internationally renowned recitalist, and many would say the world's foremost at improvisation. The centrepiece of his recital will be his accompaniment of a Charlie Chaplin silent classic, *The Immigrant* (1917). The rest of the programme will be a mixture of shorter, popular works, including The Maple Leaf Rag by Scott Joplin, a selection from Sir William Walton's film music for Richard III, and David's improvisations on Country Gardens, Teddy Bears' Picnic, The Day Thou Gavest, and Rule Britannia. There's plenty else besides, and the chance to put in a suggestion for an encore or two!

The following day, the illustrated talk on St Margaret's, the local area and the development of Tuffley is going to be a feast of local interest. There will be a lot of rare material, courtesy of Gloucestershire Archives, and from the depths of the St George's filing cabinet, plus a good few kind friends locally. Also, Eric Hibbert will give a very short taster about a special project to mark the centenary of the end of the Great War. He and Paul Gaze have done a lot of new research on those who fought and died, not all of whom have been recorded on the existing memorials.

***Festival Parking will be at Wynstones School for all the main events. The church will be open during the week - if you are able to help as a steward please get in touch.***

### Two sister towers, and our spire that never was.

In ancient times, St Margaret's was served by the priest at Moreton Valence. He was paid out of the stipend of a canon at Hereford Cathedral, who in turn was supported by income from land at the two villages. This no doubt accounts for the strong similarities between the two towers. Haresfield tower is also similar, but five feet bigger on each side. Haresfield has a fine spire: Whaddon's tower was intended to have one, but Moreton Valence's was not. The evidence is there to see! More about this at the talk on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> October.



***How a spire might have looked on St Margaret's***



***Whaddon and Moreton towers***

### Christmas plans

Our traditional carols by candlelight will be on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> December at 5pm. On Christmas Day we will have a service for all at 10.00am, followed by a very short holy communion service.

## How you can help us sustain the life and work of St Margaret's

Please remember St Margaret's in your prayers, asking God for his blessing on all that we do in His name. Please pray especially for Helen McGeoch, our Pioneer Minister, who is doing great work in the schools and in the wider community of Tuffley. We are always hoping and praying for new members. We need to know what forms and times of worship people find most helpful. If our services are not right for you, please say what you would prefer.

We always need help with the cost of maintaining the building, the churchyard and our ministry. The best way is by standing order, which helps us to budget and makes tax reclaim easier. But any type of giving is welcome. You may wish to consider a legacy – please ask if you need advice about how to do this.

## Thank you for your help and support.

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Website for St George's and St Margaret's: <http://www.glos-stg-stm.org.uk>

NB: you can download our monthly magazine Crossroads on the website

## Normal Service Times

1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday	10.30 am	Family Praise
	5.00 pm	Evensong
2 <sup>nd</sup> 4 <sup>th</sup> and 5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday	9.00 am	Sung communion
3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday	5.00 pm	Evensong
Thursdays	10.30 am	Holy Communion