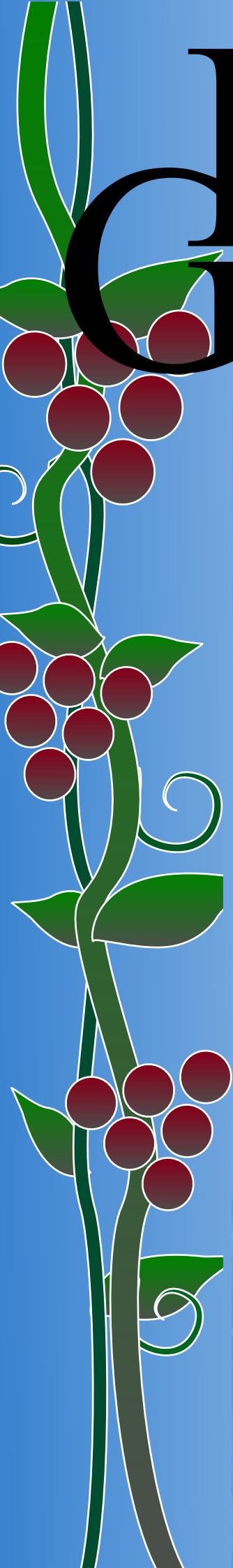


Parish Grapevine

A monthly round-up of
news, views, events
and services at
St George's, Heaviley,
SK2 6NU,
and St Gabriel's, Adswood
in the
Parish of St George, Stockport.
www.stgeorgestockport.org.uk



Who's Who in the Parish of St George, Stockport

Vicar Rev. Canon Elaine Chegwin Hall
vicar@stgeorgestockport.org.uk
 456 9382

Associate minister Rev. Dr Jenny McKay
 01606 891564
jenny@stgeorgestockport.org.uk

Readers Peter Hall 456 9382
 Rita Waters 487 3620

Churchwardens Andrew Regan 440 0408
 Hazel Jenkins 483 4679

PCC Secretary Lois Kelly 439 9458

PCC Treasurer Andrew Regan 440 0408
treasurer@stgeorgestockport.org.uk

Parish Office Cathryn Otley 480 2453

Magazine Editor vacant

Safeguarding co-ordinator
 James Hibbert 07365 519207
stgeorgestockportsafeguarding@outlook.com

Website www.stgeorgestockport.org.uk

Webmaster Peter Hall 456 9382

St George's Primary School

Headteacher
 Deborah Grindrod 480 8657

St George's

Deputy Wardens
 John Hardy 01663 764 462
 Will Hesson 480 0630

Director of Music
 James Hibbert 07365 519207
actingdirectorofmusic@gmail.com

Associate Director of Music
 Roger Briscoe
brogerdom16@gmail.com

Vergers Lee Howarth
 Mary Howarth

Bookings for Parish Rooms
 Parish Office 480 2453
 or Judith Swift 483 8681

St Gabriel's

Contact: Parish Office 480 2453

Bookings Parish Office 480 2453

Children's Activities

St George's

Children's Corner

Available for children (and parents) during services. Equipped with books, crayons and soft toys.

Sunday Clubs Ask for Louise, Eliza or Andy at the 10:15 Sunday service.

Eliza 07967 798453
 Louise 483 3703

Junior Choir James Hibbert 07365 519207
 Practices: Wednesday and Thursday 6pm–7.30pm in the vestry during term time. Sing for Sunday services at 10.15am and 4pm.

Praise and Play Lois Kelly 439 9458
 For 0–4s and their carers. Meet every Tuesday in term time, 10–11 in the Parish Rooms.

St Gabriel's

Festival services Rev. Canon Elaine Chegwin Hall
 456 9382

Uniformed Groups with connections to St George's

Rainbows Trisha Brown 07403 353 175
 Sue Kirkland 07854 101 918

For girls aged 4–7. Meet Fridays 6.15–7.30pm in the Parish Room.

Brownies Rachel Lockett 07712 302342
 Lianne Warburton 07815 482603

For girls aged 7–10. Meet Thursdays 6.30–8pm in the Parish Room.

To sign up to Brownies or Rainbows please visit www.girlguiding.org.uk and click on "Join us"

4th Stockport Scout Group

Sarah Johnson 07930 243 159

Meet at:
 Bridgehall Community Centre
 Siddington Avenue
 SK3 8NR

Squirrels For boys and girls aged 4–6
 Saturdays 9–10

Beavers For boys and girls aged 6 and 7
 Wednesdays 5.30–6.30

Cubs For boys and girls aged 8–10½
 Wednesdays 6.30–8.00

Scouts For boys and girls aged 10½–14
 Wednesdays 6.30–8.00

Other Groups and Activities

St George's

Bell ringers Anne Mayes 485 6477
 Practise Mondays 7.45–9pm.
 Ring on Sundays 9.45–10.15am.
 Meet in the tower.

Bible Reading Fellowship Notes

Janet Neilson 483 9025
 Notes are ordered on request.

Bible Study Groups *contact the clergy*

Study groups and courses are arranged from time to time.

Choir James Hibbert 07365 519207
actingdirectorofmusic@gmail.com

Practice: Thursday 7.30pm–9pm in the vestry during term time. Sing for Sunday services at 10.15am and 4pm.

Church Flowers Jean Hayden (*donations*)
 483 2367

Church Gardeners

Walter Stead 430 2449
 Meet on Tuesdays 9.30–12.30.

Coffee Mornings

Olwen Smith 483 6548
 after the 10am service on Wednesdays, in church.

Cursillo

Usually meet on last Wednesday of the month. 7.30pm at different venues.

Handbells

Andy Clark 483 3703
 Play for All-Age and Taizé services, plus other special events. Ringers of all ages (with or without experience) always welcome. Rehearsals in church arranged around the ringers' availability.

Linen Guild

Pat Rigley 487 1999
 Maintain the church's linen.

Magazine Editorial Group

Meet monthly to plan future issues.
magazine@stgeorgestockport.org.uk

Mothers' Union Pat Durnall 483 4837

Meet on 2nd Monday of the month in church at 2.15pm.

Front cover photo:

by Louise Clark

Services and Events in September:

see pages 17 and 23

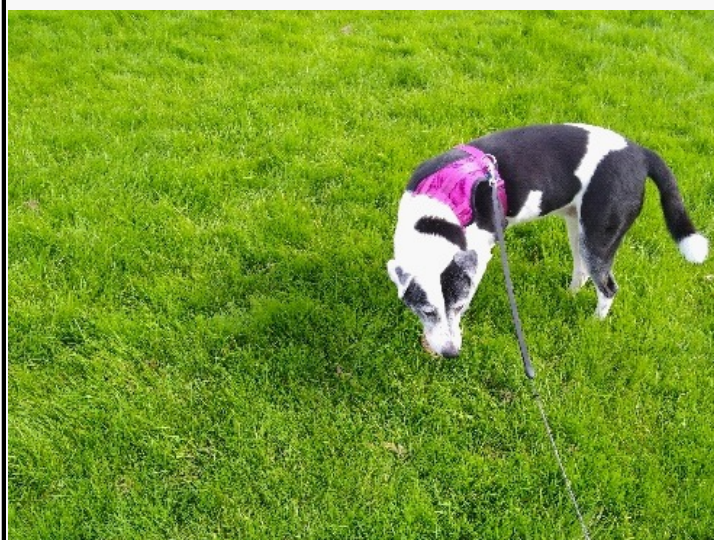


Elaine writes:

So, we were asked to look after a dog who is 48% Labrador retriever, 28% border collie, 11% akita, 7% American bulldog, 5% American pit bull terrier (according to a DNA test!). What does that look like? Well, I have enclosed a picture to assist identification.

Whatever her complicated heritage, the requirements seem to be the same: food and water – check, belly rubs – check, unwavering devotion – check, best seat in the house – check and walks, lots of them – check.

The harness and the lead are essential pieces of kit along with strong upper arm muscles for when she slaps on the anchors to sniff something important. Also necessary were the poo bags (if I'm allowed to use such a word in a parish magazine!).



Mindful of the environment, and also people's rather disgusting practice of using the filled bags as tree decorations, rather than putting them in the bin, we bought recycled bags in the hope they would biodegrade appropriately (and not immediately).

Trying to find variations on a theme, we took to finding different locations to walk and explore and ended up noticing an abundance of brambles on our travels, but how to carry them home?

The recycled poo bags (not pre-used of course), came to the rescue. Over the days, we amassed a creditable amount of fruit to use for jam. Different routes yielded different surprises and the bags got used for apples, pears, raspberries and damsons, all of which have either been frozen, used in cooking or have had a somewhat "spiritual" addition which will make a flavoursome drink in time for Christmas.

Foraging, finding food for free, has gained popularity in recent years but our ancestors would have seen it as a necessary way of life.

In more recent history, around the time of WW2, people collected rosehips to make a syrup which became an important Vitamin C supplement. Even now, frozen and preserved fruit and vegetables can give a welcome boost of Vitamin C during the winter months.

Making the most of these surprising finds within God's wonderful creation has generated a buzz of excitement and achievement but also an awareness of how much of this goes to waste once the birds and the bugs have had their share.

Take a walk around and see what you can find.

All good gifts around us are sent from heaven above.

Every blessing, Elaine

What's Where...

- P 2 Who's who
- P 3 Clergy letter
- P 4 Summer Term at Praise and Play
- P 5 St George's Mothers' Union
- P 6 Parish News
- P 7 Monthly Meditations and Joan and Jim Izard's Diamond Anniversary
- P 8 A celebration of the life of Alice Ramsbottom

- P 9 Garden Gnomes – Summer Reflections and Bulb Appeal
- P 10 What am I? and Prayer for healing of the past
- P 11 Recipe of the month
- P 12 Stockport Organ Project 2023
- P 14 Celebration of the Life of Margaret Ena Sharrard
- P 15 Lichen
- P 16 Celebration of the life of Peter Charles Pilbeam

- P 17 Telephone Buddies – a Personal Experience and September Signposts
- P 18 Children's Page
- P 19 Puzzles and cartoon
- PP 20-21 The Good Samaritan??
- P 22 Music Scheme
- P 23 Puzzle solutions, Regular Service Times, Recent baptisms – plus an earlier one!

Summer Term at Praise and Play

PRAISE AND PLAY on Tuesday mornings grew in numbers over the summer term. We welcomed several new families, a group of friends who had heard about us from another Praise and Play group, and a grandparent with their first grandchild. It was also delightful to celebrate the first birthdays of two children who were only a few weeks old when they first came last May, with an older brother. The end of the summer term is also a time of transition for some of the children and this term we said goodbye to three children. One starts primary school, one starts nursery and one starts at St George's Pre-school in September. They were each given a children's Bible as a leaving present.

Praise and Play is a very social space where parents, grandparents and carers who look after children from birth to five come to enjoy each other's company while

the children play. It is very relaxed and informal. A selection of toys and some craft activities are put out before the children arrive and there is 'free' play time for the children for about 40 minutes. The adults enjoy having a chat and refreshments are available for both adults and children. In the final 20 minutes, once the toys have been tidied away we sing songs and nursery rhymes and tell a Bible story. We celebrate any birthdays that week and end with a prayer and a blessing.

If you enjoy having a chat with people we would love to see you at Praise and Play. You do not need to be accompanied by a young child! We welcome help with refreshments and with putting out the toys and tidying away at the end. If you are able and would like to help once or twice a month during term time, please speak to Sue Burt, Lois, Marion or Tracey Bennett.

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St George's Mothers' Union

IN JULY the Mothers' Union invaded the Deanwater Hotel for a meal. With 18 members and guests we took over half of the restaurant but as we were in an alcove we didn't cause too much interruption to the rest of the diners! The group had previously chosen their meals from



the restaurant menu, which helped the staff and also made service faster. There was a wide selection of dishes and it was nice for each diner to decide how many courses they could manage. We won't disclose who had the most.



The hotel has a selection of dishes which offer either standard or small portions, very good for those of us who no longer can manage large quantities. It was good to



meet in such pleasant surroundings and enjoy leisurely conversations and there was much laughter.

We have had a very interesting and informative year with topics such as Virtual babies, Cracker making, Advent worship, Afternoon tea and quiz, Independent Options and, who can forget, Chuckle with Chutney!



Our new programme starts on September 11th at 2.15pm in Church with a service of Holy Communion and Enrolment. The North Porch door will be open and there will be parking in the North Avenue. The year will continue with advice on keeping healthy and safe, flowers for Christmas, and a musical afternoon, to mention a few.



Why not come along and join us? Everyone is welcome and we are a very happy friendly group and you will be very welcome.

St George's Mothers' Union

Parish News Roundup		Parish News Roundup	Parish News Roundup
Holy Baptism		12th Aug	Marjorie Olwen Garrido funeral with communion service in church followed by committal at the Rowan Chapel
9th Jul	Ida Anne Christine Emma Saunders and Max Fai Bernard Saunders (Twins)		
16th Jul	Miles Shaun Roy Livesey	13th Aug	Margaret Ena Sharrard. Burial of ashes in the Garden of Remembrance
13th Aug	Charlie Porter		
27th Aug	Sofia Grace Cook	14th Aug	Stanley Bernard Berry service in church followed by committal the Rowan Chapel.
27th Aug	Keith James Burnett (adult)		
30th Aug	Narges Yazdani (adult)		
30th Aug	Razieh Nazanin Derekeh (adult)		
Holy Matrimony		24th Aug	Sheila Elizabeth Hall. Service at Mansfield Crematorium.
None last month			
Funerals		Communion Flowers were sponsored as follows. Main altar:	
4th Jul	Gwendoline Rose Hurst service in church followed by committal at Mill Lane Cemetery	9th Jul	from the Garlick and Lupton families, in memory of Arnold and Jean Lupton.
25th Jul	Edward Etchells service at the Cypress Chapel	23rd Jul	from Walter Stead and family, in memory of Pauline Stead.
1st Aug	Marjorie Wadsworth Burial of ashes (Norbury)	30th Jul	from the Alcraft and Hayden families, in loving memory of Vera Fallows.
4th Aug	Peter Charles Pilbeam service in church followed by committal at the Rowan Chapel	13th Aug	from Andrew Garlick and Angela, in loving memory of Isobel.
6th Aug	Stanley Alfred Newton. Burial of ashes in the Garden of Remembrance	20th Aug	from Marjorie Lees, for family and friends.
8th Aug	James Walter Platt Burial of ashes at Mill Lane	Lady Chapel:	
10th Aug	Arthur James Chorlton service at St Thomas's Norbury followed by committal at the Cypress Chapel	9th Jul	from Jean Norton, in memory of Mary and Bill Heavyside
		Floodlighting was sponsored as follows:	
		16th Jul	from Gill Hudson: to remember with love my husband, Roger, and my daughter Bridget.
		Mothers' Union	
		We meet on Monday September 11th for the start of our next season. We are meeting in church at 2.15pm for a service of Holy Communion led by our Vicar, Elaine. This will be followed by refreshments. All welcome to come along. Please note that the North Avenue will be open for parking.	
		New address for The Reverend Canon Alan Bell:	
		18 Chigwell Close Croxteth Park Liverpool L12 0LP	
		Baptisms, Banns and Marriage bookings: Please contact the vicar: Telephone: 0161 456 9382 or email: vicar@stgeorgestockport.org.uk	
		October 2023 Grapevine magazine dates: Deadline copy date: Fri 15th Sep Committee meeting: Tue 19th Sep	

St George's floodlighting – sponsorship request form
(Please return to Andrew Regan, 153 Acre Lane, Cheadle Hulme, Cheadle, SK8 7PB).



Name Phone no

Date of evening requested £20 or £..... donation enclosed (Please make cheques payable to St George's Stockport PCC)

Reason for request (if appropriate)

If you are a taxpayer and would like the church to reclaim the tax on your donation please also complete the following Gift Aid declaration:

I want to Gift Aid my donation of £..... to St George's Church, Stockport. I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax in the current tax year than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

Title..... First name or initial(s).....Surname.....

Home address:.....

6 Post Code Signature..... Date

Monthly Meditations

AFTER THE SUCCESS of the Psalm meditations, from September we are going to run a half-hour meditation once a month. Our first is on Sunday 10th September. It will again be after the morning service from 12 noon to 12.30. Sometimes we will meditate on a psalm as before. Sometimes we will introduce other ways of meditating.

Meditation is essentially “quiet time”. No experience is necessary and everyone is welcome. Sitting quietly, whether focusing gently on our breath, on a phrase or a word is not about success and failure. It is about “being”. Being with what is in this moment. Thoughts and distractions come to those who are just beginning and to those who have meditated for years. And it's OK!

Although, in some ways, meditation is not mainstream, all spiritual traditions have a contemplative element to them. Often this is contained within a monastic setting. However, back in 1975, Benedictine monk John Main initiated the World Community for Christian Meditation. A non-denominational organisation, it seeks to bring meditation more widely to Christians in this country and across the world. A visit to their website is worthwhile – www.christian-meditation.org.uk. I'll give out some literature about them at our first and subsequent Sunday sessions.

Jenny McKay, Sue Cordingley and I are talking together about these Sunday meditations and how we might build further on them if people are interested. Your ideas too are also very welcome.

So join us in the chapel at 12 noon after the 10.15 morning service on Sunday 10th September – and bring a friend.

Chris Dawson



photo: Andy Clark

Joan and Jim Izard Diamond Anniversary

CONGRATULATIONS TO Joan and Jim on the celebration of their diamond wedding anniversary. The photo shows them at a Wednesday Holy Communion service. Joan had made the strawberry gateaux for everyone to enjoy.

Hazel Jenkins



A celebration of the life of Alice Ramsbottom

13th February 1915 – 26th May 2023

THE SERVICE was held at St George's Church, Stockport on 26th June, and was conducted by the vicar, Revd Canon Elaine Chegwin Hall, assisted by Revd Hugh Naunton, Alice's son-in-law.

Elaine began by saying that Alice must have had many fond memories of St George's as she was a member of the congregation; helper at coffee time; one of the leaders of the Friday Mothers and Toddlers group; helper at Sunday School, but, importantly, she was head teacher at St George's infant school in the 1970s.

The Tribute was given by Alice's granddaughter, Rachel Naunton

As a child Rachel loved hearing her Grannie's stories – of having a doll wrapped in a union flag that came from celebrating the end of WWI. In fact Alice lived through two World Wars, two pandemics and witnessed the many staggering events and changes of the 20th century.

Alice grew up in Burnley and remembered the dangerous gas lamps they had in the family home; the sound of the 'knocker uppers' outside, going about their morning duty of tapping on windows with their long sticks, to wake up the community; the sound of the millworkers walking outside in their clogs, and how she craved a pair of clogs to make sparks under her feet when running on cobblestones like other children – much to the dismay of her parents who could afford more comfortable footwear for her.

Alice received a distinction in art at college and had a real talent for drawing and painting, including the picture reproduced here. She was not only sporty but excelled at cooking, baking, sewing and knitting. But it was thanks to her brothers leaving school at an early age, to work, that they were able to fund her education and Alice qualified as a teacher in 1935, aged 20, and worked in a number of schools in her career.

She enjoyed going out dancing, and it was out dancing that she met her husband, Jack, who later taught her to drive, and she continued to drive until her 90s, giving lifts to coffee mornings in her 80s to other 'old ladies', 20 years younger.

Alice and Jack married in 1942 – a marriage that lasted 44 years until Jack's death. They had settled in Stockport in 1962 where Alice lived for 61 years. She was fiercely independent, living by herself until the age of 101, when she moved into Fernlea for the last seven years of her life. Losing her independence was hard for her but the staff loved her and she was well cared for.

In her 90s her attitude was very determinedly to 'keep going', regularly doing an extra flight of stairs 'just because' and doing the crossword every day. In later years, with a diet of jelly babies and KitKats, her only advice was, "Don't get old."

Many happy memories but sadly missed.

Edited version of the tribute by Rosie Stead



Garden Gnomes – Summer reflections

WRITING THIS DURING mid July, with the rain sluicing down the windows, we appear to be having our usual unpredictable summer weather. After a long, cold, wet winter and a late spring, we suddenly had elevated temperatures during May and June, with promises of water restrictions, (as in 1959 and 1976) for those who can remember those long, hot summers.

So the garden at St George's was running amok with weeds, nettles, brambles and willow herb, all boosted by the rain. The roses needed dead-heading; the lime trees needed constant trimming around the boles and the gravel paths needed weeding. The foxgloves had finished and were seeding, so it was time to start on the shrubs and bushes.

Early pruning of the roses and, in particular, the hydrangea, produced an amazing crop of pink and blue blooms, especially against the east wall of the church; but unfortunately, the convolvulus had decided to run riot

also, so each Tuesday morning was largely taken up pulling up the undesirables and clipping the bushes.

My own privet hedge at home was growing so fast that it became an almost weekly task keeping on top of it. Similarly, the north wall of the church was sprouting ferns and bracken which needed cutting out of the masonry. So we badly need more people to help tackle the mundane weeding.

Another problem which is now evident, is that our labour force is becoming depleted, due to age, holidays, infirmity and hospital visits. Out of five regulars we usually only have three people each week, sometimes only two. We need more volunteers, as, if you want a church garden, don't just think about it, please show up for a couple of hours and support us. It is as physical as you make it. Or, to paraphrase Lord Kitchener: Your garden needs you.

James Batty



Garden Gnomes' Bulb Appeal

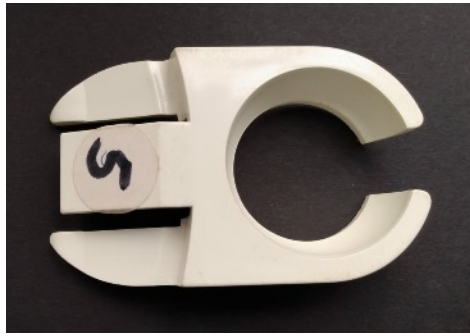
IT'S THAT TIME of year again! Over the last year or two we have lost many of our bulbs, so we would love to replant as many as possible, especially in the Memorial Garden and in the North Avenue now that the builders have finished.

Please could we ask you once again to be generous with your support? The tub will be just inside the door for your contributions. Thank you.

The Garden Gnomes

What Am I?

THE ANSWER to the July puzzle is shown here. It's of great use at buffet functions where juggling plate, food and drink is difficult. The gadget slots onto a plate and the wine glass slots into the other end, allowing a free hand to collect and eat food.



This month's puzzle is depicted below. It is one item, photo taken from three different angles. There is a smaller hole at one end and a larger one at the other. The item is rigid – no further clues...

Rosie Stead



Prayer for healing of the past

Dear Lord,
Help me let go of the past
With all its painful memories, hurts and sorrows.
Help me to forgive;
Live fully in the present

And look forward to the future
With faith, love and hope.
Remember that, in You
"I am a New Creation".

Marion McCall



Photo by [Greg Rakozy](https://unsplash.com/photos/oMpAz-DN-9I/) on [Unsplash](https://unsplash.com/photos/oMpAz-DN-9I/)

Recipe of the month: Plum, Orange and Almond Cake

This makes quite a large cake which is good as a pudding; it's not one to eat with the fingers! It requires a little forward planning as the plums need to be cooked and cooled before the cake is started.

500g ripe plums, halved and stoned
1 orange, rind and juice
50g caster sugar
1 vanilla pod or 1 teasp vanilla extract

Cake

150g unsalted butter, softened
150g caster sugar
2 eggs
85g self raising flour
½ teasp baking powder
100g ground almonds

Topping

1 orange, finely grated rind only
30g unsalted butter

25g muscovado sugar
50g flaked almonds

Preheat the oven to 360F/180C/Gas 4.

Put plums in an ovenproof dish with the orange rind and juice and sugar. Bake for 20 mins. Leave to cool, add vanilla seeds or extract.

Grease a 25cm (10in) springform cake tin with extra butter and line base with baking paper.

Beat butter with sugar until light and fluffy. Beat in eggs, one at a time. Fold in flour, baking powder and ground almonds. Pour into the tin and push the plums into the cake mixture, pouring over their juices. Bake for 30 mins.

Meanwhile, for the topping, melt the butter, stir in the orange rind, sugar and flaked almonds. Spread this over the top of the half-baked cake and continue to bake for another 20 mins, lowering the heat to 320F/160C/Gas 3. Leave the cake to cool in the tin.

Pamela Ferguson

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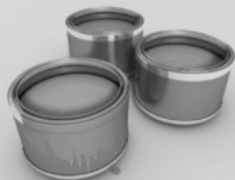
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Stockport Organ Project 2023

Ben Collyer is Organist at St John's Church, Hyde Park, London. Earlier in the summer he ran a series of practical workshops using the organ at St George's. Ben writes:

HAVING GROWN UP as a chorister at St Thomas' Church Mellor, I decided I wanted to provide musicians from Stockport with an introductory course to the organ. My career as an organist started at Mellor when I began organ lessons back in 2013, so I felt strongly that others should have access to the same opportunity I had. The course was designed with pianists in mind, although anyone was welcome to come and have a go. We had four participants over the course of three sessions, each covering different aspects of an organist's career. In our first session, I explained how the organ works and what the different stops sound like. We also had a look at the pedals and a couple of students tried these out. The second session involved two young organists: Nathan

Monk and Eleanor Rosser, both from Mellor Church. They demonstrated some organ repertoire from different time periods (we had some Messiaen and some Bach). I then took the participants inside the organ case and showed them the different divisions of the instrument. Our final session was run in a 'masterclass' format – each of the participants worked on a piano piece they thought would work well on the organ, and we worked a bit more on pedal technique. The course went down very well with the participants. This is something I would like to run again at a future date, with a view to getting more people interested in this wonderful instrument. Many thanks to St George's Church for providing a venue, and to James and Roger for their assistance.



Ben Collyer, Organist, St John's, Hyde Park, London

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Service of Celebration for the Life of Margaret Ena Sharrard

11th December 1926 – 25th May 2023

THE SERVICE was conducted in church by Revd Canon Elaine Chegwin Hall, and also streamed online for the benefit of people unable to attend. Elaine welcomed everyone and said how much Margaret was loved, appreciated and missed. With her lovely smile and generous greeting, she was a ray of sunshine and it was a true joy to have known her.

There were thoughts and memories from Margaret's children, grandchildren and midwifery friends.

Margaret was born and brought up in Wimbledon, often saying she was the original Womble of Wimbledon Common! She was very resourceful and was great at recycling, long before it was fashionable. She lived simply, causing one of her friends to remark that she was to blame for the recession.

Margaret started nurse training in 1944, during WWII, and was a nurse in Kent's Doodlebug Alley, caring for bomb victims. She then trained in Midwifery at the South London Hospital for Women, and with the nuns of the Community of St John the Divine, who are the basis of the nuns in *Call the Midwife* – she loved that series!

Early married life with Gordon was in Surrey, before moving to Hazel Grove, Stockport, in 1967. She and Gordon attended St George's church, Gordon sang in the choir and Margaret was a proud Mothers' Union member for 55 years. She was a wonderful wife to Gordon, supporting his medical work and his many interests and activities. They shared a love of classical music and walking holidays. They were also fierce competitors at Scrabble, keeping a running score – Margaret just ahead when they stopped. She was also a huge cricket fan, listening to matches from around the world when she couldn't sleep.

The midwives recalled that Margaret was a dedicated, caring and no nonsense midwife, from whom they learned a great deal.

After retirement in 1989, Margaret still kept in touch with many of them, with regular meals at her home which, when they all became older, led on to Ladies That Lunch in pubs, and which continues today, albeit with one empty chair.

There were many words used to describe Margaret – kind, selfless, generous, witty, wonderful, inspiring and patient. Many people likened her to our late Queen Elizabeth in her looks, speech and demeanour.

Whilst staying with their grandparents, the grandchildren's memories were of waking up to the sound of classical music playing on the radio. The house was always filled with music – Gordon playing the piano or cello, Margaret humming or whistling – a favourite song was *All Things Bright and Beautiful*, as she was very appreciative of beauty in the world and beauty in life. The lyrics were read by grandchildren, Ivy and Josse, and capture perfectly who she was.

Classical music played an important part in Margaret's life and so it is no surprise that it featured at her funeral. The entrance music was '*Ubi caritas et amor*' by Durufle, sung by the choir of Kings College, Cambridge. The church choir sang '*Clare Benediction*' by Rutter and the farewell music was '*Dream of Gerontius – Go forth upon thy journey, Christian soul*' Elgar/Hallé/Bryn Terfel.

Edited Tributes by Rosie Stead



Lichen

green growth grouped tightly together
motionless yet mesmerising
overgrown patterns preserve Nature's pride and joy
specks and splashes of contradicting colours
blots of brown amid the moss while red eyes blink bleakly
like running dye reaching through orange into yellow
before green yet again resurges resplendent
while just a hint of dead white within the wild woodland
awaits an apt opportunity to release its acid
that Nature cannot combat
the deep sleep of darkness despondently draws a final breath as dawn approaches
and lethargic lichen
yawns awake and yearns for youthfulness
quite quietly questioning whether it be quintessential or not
to trees or temperature or even time
though this theatrical and theoretical meandering means nothing to the morning
glimpse the glowing glory of morning light
dew drizzles downwards through the forest of fungi
tapering off at the tree roots
where the lichen leaves its host alone

Lilla Clark



Service to celebrate the life of Peter Charles Pilbeam

1st November 1928 – 12th July 2023

OVER 140 PEOPLE attended Peter's funeral on 4th August 2023 – family, relatives, friends, representatives from the BBC, for whom he had worked for over 40 years, and a large contingent from the Scouting movement, as Peter had over 50 years involvement with 1st Davenport Mile End Scouts, for whom donations were requested.

The service was conducted by Revd Canon Elaine Chegwin Hall, vicar at St George's, who told the congregation that all the hymns, readings and music had been chosen by Peter, so the service honoured his wishes.

There were thoughts from the family by Mark Pilbeam, Peter's middle son, who said his father really enjoyed spending time with his family – children, grandchildren and great-grandchild. He also liked structure and routine and his faith helped him after the death of his wife, Margaret, 13 years previously.

Peter helped in many ways in the church – sidesperson, garden gnome, part of the welcoming christening team, sound engineer and general handyman. He replaced hundreds of the wooden blocks in the floor of the church.

He enjoyed the regular, monthly Parish Lunches at The Puss in Boots, but also ate there regularly two or three times a week. A member of staff knew Peter well as he was the first customer she served after joining the team there, over seven years previously.

After Margaret died, Peter enjoyed travelling the world – India, China, Russia were amongst his destinations. He was due to go away this Christmas for his 14th holiday – mostly booked with the same small travel company.

But some people would remember that Peter worked as a programme engineer at the BBC in the fifties, firstly in London but by 1953 he had moved up to the studio in Manchester. A programme *Here We Go* was launched in the early sixties, which Peter produced and presented every Thursday at 5pm. Peter auditioned many aspiring pop stars, then, out of the blue, a group turned up called the Beatles. Peter liked their sound, gave them air time

on his show and the audition proved to be career changing for them. They were quickly offered a contract with the BBC, (having been rejected by Decca Records a month earlier), and made many more appearances on his weekly show. Three months later the Beatles signed a contract with EMI's Parlophone label and the rest is history. Peter played a significant role in the Beatles story.

Mark remembered that, as youngsters, they had well known people come to tea after a recording session with Peter. They recalled Ken Dodd being such fun and behaving exactly as he did on TV. Peter gave Les Dawson and many other well known household names and pop groups, a break into radio and a step towards fame with the BBC.

Although Peter had about 50 years involvement with the 1st Davenport Mile End Scouts, this was only a part of the nearly 80 years link with Scouting, which played a significant part in his life. He received many awards for both his long service and commitment to Scouting, including the Silver Wolf, the highest order made by the Scouting Association. As a result, he and Margaret were invited to attend a St George's Day Morning Service at Windsor Castle – the only time he failed

to attend the St George's Day Parade at St George's church.

The original Scout Promise included the words: 'I will do my best to help others.' Throughout his life, Peter certainly did that. Rest in peace, faithful friend.

Bible reading: Revelation of St John the Divine,
ch 21, vv 1-7

Hymns: Abide with me

The day Thou gavest

The choir sang: Nunc Dimittis

Music on leaving: Toccata – Widor

Toccata and Fugue in D minor – Bach

Edited version of the tributes given at the service
Rosie Stead



Telephone Buddies – a Personal Experience

I received this article from Peter shortly before he sadly passed away. It demonstrates his Christian spirit, kindness and supportive nature.

BACK IN EARLY 2020 at the start of the Covid-19 Pandemic and the first lockdown, Elaine asked me and other members of our St George's congregation, if we would be 'telephone buddies' to small groups of parishioners living on their own and who would be likely to feel isolated during a lockdown.

I took on a group of seven parishioners, who I have phoned each Tuesday since 23rd March 2020 and in doing so have not only kept them connected to the outside world but made new friends.

Sadly two of my 'buddies' died not long after we started our weekly chats, but I've kept in touch with

the remainder with a weekly Tuesday call during which we've discussed what can be described as 'this and that and nothing at all'. Some of the calls are quite short but others have gone on for over half an hour.

From the conversations I've learnt more about them and their families and hopefully have lightened their mood, each and every Tuesday. It has been an enjoyable exercise and one that I shall continue for the foreseeable future as we are not entirely out of the woods yet and life on your own can be very lonely; I have personal experience of that, so those regular phone calls have helped me as much as it has my 'buddies'.

Peter Pilbeam

September Signposts

What's happening this month?

Renew Stockport Prayer meeting at Stockport Baptist Church, Thompson Street Edgeley. **Friday 1st September** starting at 8am for 1 hour. Start the day in prayer with Christians from churches all around Stockport.

Messy Church Bake Off.

Friday 1st September online at 1pm. Yes, you can bake and talk about the Christian faith at the same time. It started off as a childrens' feature but is watched by people of all ages who have a go at what has been made. Access via our Facebook page:

www.facebook.com/stgeorgeschurchstockport

Storytime

Sunday 4th September online at 5pm. Again this is accessible to adults as well as children as we explore aspects of the Christian faith through story. Access via our Facebook page:

www.facebook.com/stgeorgeschurchstockport

Praise and Play

Starting back on *Tuesday 12th September* in the parish rooms 10am to 11am. We'd love to see under-fives, their family and carers. We'd also like some assistance if anyone could offer to help with refreshments, setting up and tidying away and also chatting to the families.

Church Open Day

This is on *Saturday 9th September* from 10am to 4pm. The church will have archives, book sales, displays and activities available including trips to the Bell tower or roof if the weather is suitable. Artwork from the very talented pupils at Stockport Grammar School will also be on display.

At 11am there will be a traditional service of Choral Matins to which you are warmly welcome. Light refreshments will be served throughout the day.

Parish Communion service with a Battle of Britain theme.

This will take place on *Sunday 10th September* at 10.15am, to give thanks for the liberty which that battle, 83 years ago, preserved for us and for the free world.

Psalm Reflection

This follows from our very successful series of reflections before the summer. We will be meeting at 12 noon in the chapel area on *Sunday 10th September* for 30 minutes.

Mothers' Union Communion

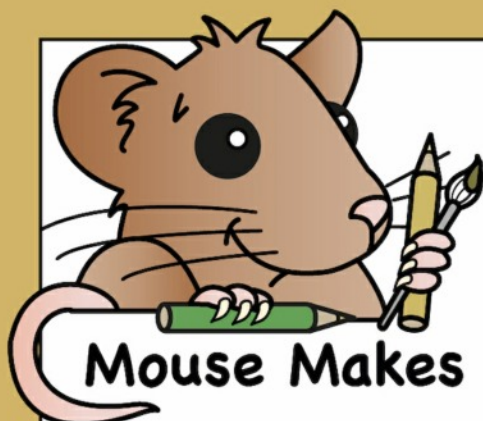
The first meeting of the academic year is on *Monday 11th September* at 2.15pm. We will be having a communion service in church and would warmly welcome anyone who would like to come along.

Café Church. *Place of Psalms in everyday Christian life through music.*

Join us for hot drinks and cakes as we gather together café style and explore what the Psalms mean to us in everyday life. The service is *Sunday 17th September*, gathering from 3.30pm to start the service at 4pm.

Lunchtime Prayers

New service starting on *Monday 18th September* for up to an hour from 1pm. Bring your sandwiches if you'd like to. Hot drinks provided. Take a break in the middle of the day to find a bit of peace and reflection as we gather to worship.



Mouse Makes

Who sows the good seed?

Matthew 13:37

What does the field represent?

the _____
and who is the good seed?

The people of the _____

Matthew 13:38

THE WEEDS AND THE WHEAT

What did the enemy sow
amongst the wheat?

Matthew 13:25



READ

the parable in

Matthew 13 v24-30,
and v36-43

At harvest time the weeds
are gathered, bundled then

but the wheat is stored

in the _____
Matthew 13:30

Who sows the weeds?

The _____

Who are the harvesters?

The _____
Matthew 13:39

"He who has
ears, let him

_____"
Matthew 13:43

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

PARABLE • HEAVEN • SOWED • GOOD • SEED • FIELD • ENEMY • WHEAT • GRAIN

GROW • TOGETHER • TIME • HARVEST • GATHER • BUNDLE • TIE

PEOPLE • DISCIPLES • JESUS • EXPLAIN • EVIL • FIRE • END • AGE • EARS

Find the words from the questions too!

Sudoku puzzle: easy

2		1		8		7		
8	4	7	2			6		
				7	5	2		
7	3			2	6	4	5	
			5		8			
	6	4	1	3			2	9
		6	7	5				
		2			1	5	3	6
		5		6		1		2

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Sudoku puzzle: intermediate

8								
7		9	5			4	8	
	2		7				5	
				1	6			
2								9
			4	5				
	3				7		2	
	1	6			9	3		5
								6

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(Answers to all puzzles are on p. 23)



The start of the football season was
the cause of universal joy

Crossword

1		2		3		4		5		6		7
8												
9				10								
11	12					13		14			15	
16		17				18		19		20		21
22				23						24		
25												

Across

- 8 Where the Ark of the Covenant was kept for 20 years (1 Samuel 7:1) (7,6)
- 9 One of the parts of the body on which blood and oil were put in the ritual cleansing from infectious skin diseases (Leviticus 14:14-17) (3)
- 10 Uncomfortable (3,2,4) 11 'Yet I have loved Jacob, but Esau I have - ' (Malachi 1:3) (5)
- 13 Where Paul said farewell to the elders of the church in Ephesus (Acts 20:17) (7)
- 16 'Jesus bent down and - to write on the ground with his finger' (John 8:6) (7)
- 19 Prophet from Moresheth (Jeremiah 26:18) (5)
- 22 Comes between Exodus and Numbers (9)
- 24 and 2 Down 'Then Elkanah went home to Ramah, but the boy ministered before the Lord under - the - ' (1 Samuel 2:11) (3,6)
- 25 There was no room for them in the inn (Luke 2:7) (4,3,6)

Down

- 1 Rough drawing (2 Kings 16:10) (6)
- 2 See 24 Across

- 3 Underground literature (including Christian books) circulated in the Soviet Union (8)
- 4 Lo, mash (anag.) (6)
- 5 The Bible's shortest verse: 'Jesus - ' (John 11:35) (4)
- 6 'Can a mother forget the baby at her - and have no compassion on the child she has borne?' (Isaiah 49:15) (6)
- 7 Can be seen in a dying fire (Psalm 102:3) (6)
- 12 'Send me, therefore, a man... experienced in the - of engraving, to work in Judah and Jerusalem' (2 Chronicles 2:7) (3)
- 14 Second city of Cyprus (8)
- 15 United Nations Association (1,1,1)
- 16 One of the women who first heard that Jesus had risen from the dead (Mark 16:1) (6)
- 17 Braved (anag.) (6)
- 18 - of Evangelism, outreach initiative in the 1990s (6)
- 20 'Woe to those who are wise in their own eyes and - in their own sight' (Isaiah 5:21) (6)
- 21 'Neither - nor depth... will be able to separate us from the love of God' (Romans 8:39) (6)
- 23 What Jesus shed in 5 Down (4)

The Good Samaritan?? by Revd Canon Elaine Chegwin Hall

MRS JACOBSON had only recently moved to Glendavid, to a small cottage around half a mile from the town centre.

She was still up to her ears in packing cases but remembered that she needed to post a gift to her niece for her birthday which was in a couple of days' time.

Keen to get it off as soon as possible, she decided to skip breakfast, put on her coat and get to the post office first thing. She would grab something to eat at the little café she'd seen up the road **after** the parcel had been sent.

The queue at the Post Office was longer than she expected. The man at the front was painstakingly counting out coins and handing the money through the glass partition to the post office assistant behind.

He left.

The queue shuffled forward.

The next person had a pile of packages, more of which seemed to be emerging out of a bottomless bag, one after the other.

"I ordered these online," said the lady in a shrill voice, "but they were no good, so I want to return them".

She left.

The queue shuffled forward.

The next person in the queue had brought in such a large and curiously shaped object that she found it hard to pass it through the partition. In the end, the Post Office assistant had to come round and take it off her.

She left.

The queue shuffled forward.

By this stage, Mrs Jacobson was starting to feel restless and there was another person in front before it was her turn.

The lady in question was in full flow of conversation, asking about the assistant's family, complaining about the weather and

commenting how things were going up in price as she purchased a book of four second class stamps.

She left.

The queue shuffled forward.

At last, Mrs Jacobson reached the front of the queue and handed over the gift for her niece. "First or second class dear?" asked the Post Office assistant. "First please," said Mrs Jacobson, a faint sheen of perspiration appearing on her brow. She paid the money and gratefully stepped out into the open air.

Mrs Jacobson was now feeling quite peculiar and looked around in vain for somewhere to sit. She'd quite forgotten where the café was and felt she would faint if she tried to look for it.

She perched herself on a bin, a yard or so from the Post Office. She had a really bad headache and was feeling dizzy.

A well-dressed man in a suit walked along the road and noticed Mrs Jacobson sitting on the bin looking odd. He sniffed loudly, averted his eyes and walked, with a brisk pace, in the direction of the train station, too busy and important to stop.

By this stage, Mrs Jacobson was feeling hot and needed to take her coat off. She heard the footsteps of someone with high heels coming towards her. She was struggling to form her words, but looked up hopefully, "Excuse me miss", but the woman, dressed in the height of fashion, obviously didn't want to mess herself up, and clip-clopped up the street to get on with her shopping.

Things were getting serious. Mrs Jacobson regretted missing breakfast, especially as she had diabetes. She had imagined a quick nip in and out of the Post Office and onwards for something to eat, but her sugar levels were dropping – **dangerously low**. She hadn't even put any sweets in her coat.

It was at this point that she heard someone coming towards her. "Are you all right love", came a rough male voice. She looked up at his shaven head, the piercings in his ears, lips and nose and the tattoos on his neck and arms but could barely answer. "Are you OK?" he asked again.

"Diabetic", she gasped.

The man took off his backpack and unzipped it. Within a few seconds had located a can of fizzy drink and a chocolate bar. Carefully he helped her to drink a few sips and then broke off a few pieces of chocolate for her to nibble on.

It took a few minutes before anything changed but steadily, Mrs Jacobson felt just a tiny bit better.

"Right, let me find you a café. It's only a short walk away. Do you feel up to walking with me?"

Mrs Jacobson smiled and linked his arm and, slightly unsteadily, tottered with him to the café which was warm and inviting.

"Hi Joe" said the lady at the counter, "the usual?"

"Nothing for me just yet," said Joe as he placed Mrs Jacobson in a comfortable seat at a table near the window. "This lady's not feeling so well. Can you get her a cuppa and some toast and jam?"

"Sure thing," said the lady at the counter and scurried off to get everything ready.

A few minutes later, the lady reappeared with tea and toast and Mrs Jacobson tucked in.

"Listen love," said Joe, "I've got to get off to college now. The bill's been paid, and I've left a tenner on the table so you can get a taxi back home. Take it steady love."

And to the lady at the counter, "If she needs anything else to eat, just stick it on

my bill and I'll pay it later." And off he went.

As Mrs Jacobson started to recover, she pondered about those three people.

The man, so well dressed and self-important, saw Mrs Jacobson as a sad and strange lady and walked on by.

The woman, so stylish and confident, heard Mrs Jacobson and decided that she must have been drinking something for her to slur her words. **She** didn't want to get her clothing messed up, so she walked on by.

The young man who people may have been judged negatively because of his appearance, his shaven head, tattoos and piercings was the one who realised that something was wrong and went to her aid.

Which of those was her Good Samaritan?



photo by Nathan Lemon on unsplash.com/photos/FBiKcUw_sQw



Parish of St. George, Stockport with St. Gabriel, Adswood

Shining as a beacon for Christ



Music Scheme – September 2023

Saturday 2nd September

	3:00pm	Wedding of Lauren Elizabeth & David John Bird
	Anthem:	This Marriage – Whitacre
	Anthem:	Upon your heart – Daley

Sunday 3rd September – The Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity

10:15am	Parish Communion	No Evening Service
Setting:	Mass of St. Thomas – Thorne	
Hymns:	571 Soldiers of Christ, arise, 582 Take up thy cross, the Saviour said, 622 Will you come and follow me? 578 Stand up, stand up for Jesus,	
Anthem:	Adoramus te, Christe – Dubois	

Saturday 9th September

Heritage Open Day

11:00am	Choral Mattins	No Evening Service
Hymns:	1 Awake, my soul, and with the sun 449 God of mercy, God of grace,	
Responses:	Rose	
Venite:	[Nares]	
Psalm(s):	44, 46	
Canticles:	Morning Service in B flat – Stanford	
Anthem:	Locus iste – Bruckner	

Sunday 10th September – The Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity

10:15am	The Battle of Britain Memorial Service	No Evening Service
Setting:	The Addington Service – Shephard	
Psalm:	149	
Hymns:	355 I vow to thee, my country, 443 God is our strength and refuge, 594 The Lord's my Shepherd, I'll not want; 537 O God, our help in ages past	
Anthem:	Holy is the true light – Harris	

Sunday 17th September – The Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity

10:15am	Parish Communion	4:00pm	Café Church: Psalms in everyday Christian life
Setting:	A Mass for Worth Abbey – Greening	See Order of Service for details	
Hymns:	37 The Lord will come and not be slow, 448 God of grace and God of glory, 519 Make me a channel of your peace. 609 To God be the glory!		
Anthem:	Purge me, O Lord – Tallis		

Sunday 24th September – The Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity

10:15am	Parish Communion	4:00pm	Choral Evensong
Setting:	Mass of St. Thomas – Thorne	Hymns:	33 O day of God, draw nigh 516 Love divine, all loves excelling, SP4 Light of gladness, Lord of glory,
Hymns:	278 Alleluia, sing to Jesus! 254 For the fruits of his creation, Seek ye first the Kingdom of God, 430 Forth in thy name, O Lord, I go,	Responses:	Rose
Anthem:	Lead me, Lord – Wesley	Psalm:	119. 113 – 136
		Canticles:	Evening Service in B minor – Noble
		Anthem:	O thou the central orb – Wood

Puzzle solutions

Easy Sudoku solution:

2	5	1	6	8	9	7	4	3
8	4	7	2	1	3	6	9	5
6	9	3	4	7	5	2	1	8
7	3	8	9	2	6	4	5	1
1	2	9	5	4	8	3	6	7
5	6	4	1	3	7	8	2	9
3	1	6	7	5	2	9	8	4
4	7	2	8	9	1	5	3	6
9	8	5	3	6	4	1	7	2

Intermediate Sudoku solution:

8	5	3	6	2	4	7	9	1
7	6	9	5	3	1	4	8	2
1	2	4	7	9	8	6	5	3
3	8	5	9	1	6	2	4	7
2	4	1	8	7	3	5	6	9
6	9	7	4	5	2	1	3	8
5	3	8	1	6	7	9	2	4
4	1	6	2	8	9	3	7	5
9	7	2	3	4	5	8	1	6

Crossword solution:

S	P	S	S	W	B	E
K	I	R	I	A	T	H
E	I	M	A	P	E	B
T	O	E	I	L	L	A
C	S	Z	O	S	R	
H	A	T	E	D	M	I
R	A					N
S	T	A	R	T	E	D
A	D					E
L	E	V	I	T	I	C
O	E	E	A	S	V	G
M	A	R	Y	A	N	D
E	B	R	E	L	R	T

Regular Services at St George's

Services in church, with congregation:

- Sundays:** 8am Holy Communion (BCP)
10.15am Parish Communion (also live streamed)
4pm Choral Evensong (last Sunday of the month, also live streamed)
- Wednesdays:** 9.30am Morning Prayer (also live streamed)
10am Holy Communion (BCP)

Services which are live streamed only:

- Mondays to Fridays:** 9.30am Morning Prayer (also in church on Wednesdays)

The church will also be open for individual private prayer in the chapel on Wednesdays and Sundays from 11am to 12 noon

Recent baptisms – plus an earlier one!



ON SUNDAY 9th July, twins Ida and Max Saunders were baptised at St George's. The twins' elder brother Jack (see below) was also baptised at St George's a few years ago, by Revd. Chris Moore while he was a curate here.



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October 2023 magazine dates:

Copy deadline: Fri 15th September
Committee meeting: Tue 19th September

Printed by: Frank Aspinall & Co, Building 4 Unit 5,
Tameside Business Park, Windmill Lane, Denton,
Manchester M34 3QS. email: frankaspinall@hotmail.com

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