

October
2014



Parish Grapevine

 THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND
Diocese of Chester

80p

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

Dear Readers,

I AM VERY HAPPY to be able to announce that Richard Parr has agreed to be appointed Assistant Editor of *Grapevine* with immediate effect. A fellow Sunday 'eight-o-clocker', Richard has already 'walked' his way into our attention via his article in the July /August issue in which he describes his nine-day yomp along the Cotswold Way between Chipping Campden and Bath. I leave Richard to tell you more about himself herein.

Daughter church St Gabriel's was closed during the first week in September for refurbishment and re-decorating. Many thanks are due to the band of volunteers who became involved in bringing this about. I was hoping that someone would send me a photograph or two for the magazine but none seem to be available to date. I know that many volunteers have been involved and it would be nice to have a photo of them as well. Any offers?

A much-overdue big "Thank you" to our valued advertisers, old and new, without whose loyal support this magazine would be very different and probably be reduced to a double-sided news sheet, or something similar. Let us seek every possible opportunity to return their support by inviting them to meet our needs as appropriate. Don't forget to mention that you are responding to their advertisement in 'Grapevine' otherwise how else are they to

know that their display has resulted in an enquiry?

The Heritage Day Open Event was very well attended and that must be heartening to all involved in its organisation and to those helping on the day. Chris Dawson has written a report on the event and this is included herein. He is leading all the organ refurbishment fund-raising activities which must be very time-consuming - which reminds me of one of my favourite sayings: "If you want something doing, ask a busy person". Very true, and I think the 'new' organ should be named after him as a result.

Arrangements are currently being made with our church school concerning the usual design competition for the front cover of the December/January *Grapevine*. The children create the designs during half-term holiday (if they wish to) and it is hoped that a larger number of entries may be received now that there are two runners-up awards in addition to the winner's. We have a tight programme to meet in order for the awards to be presented at a school assembly before the magazine's closing date for copy, and I appreciate Headteacher Mark Quinn's cooperation in bringing this about. I am also grateful to the small committee who meet with me to decide the winning entries and also for sponsoring the additional two awards.

God Bless. Sincerely yours,
Mark Lane. Editor

What's Where...

- P2 Who's who
- P3 Clergy Letter
- P5 Heritage open day
- P6-7 Parish News
- P8 Children's Page
- P9 Do we take the Bible for granted?
- P10 Getting older
- P11 St George's Men
- P13 Puzzles
- P14-15 Obituaries
- P16 Garden Gnomes and book review
- P17 Kingdoms rise and wane
- P18 Wheelchair dancing
- P19 Dragon's den and recipe
- P20 Hymn and Christmas Tree Festival
- P21 Music list
- P22 Computer advice
- P23 Puzzle solutions

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

Vicar of St George's	Rev. Canon Elaine Chegwin Hall 456 9382	Bible Study Group	meets in church in Lent on Wednesdays 11.15am. Contact the clergy	Mothers' Union	meet in the Parish Room, 2nd Monday of the month, 7.30pm Christine Berry 01625 874546
Curate	Rev. Chris Moore 483 7151				
Assistant Priest	Rev. Sandra Woodhead 01663 765708	Brownie Guides	for ages 7-10 years: meet in the Parish Room, Thursday evenings. 6.30 - 8pm. Rachel Lockett 775 2755, Evonne Lomas 292 8216 or 07956 674241	Open Door	in church every Wednesday from 7 - 7.45pm for anyone who would like company or a chat Michael Coupe 612 0222
Retired Priest with Permission to Officiate	Rev. Glenys Sellors 483 0359			Pastoral Visiting Team	meets every month and visits the sick and housebound across the parish Michael Coupe 612 0222
Parish Office	480 2453	Chancel Guild	meets on 2nd Tuesday in the month from 9.30 - 12 noon, and cares for the chancel Edna Tootell 483 5753	Praise and Play	meet every Monday 9 to 11am in church in term time. Story time at 10am. For 0-4's and their carers Janet Neilson 483 9025 Pat Wilke 376 2494
Magazine	Mark Lane 439 2282				
St George's					
Pastoral Worker	Audrey Manzano 494 7054	Choir	sing for services at 10.15am and 6.30pm, practise in the vestry on Thursday evening John Horton 339 5031	Press Officer	Mark Lane 439 2282
Readers	Michael Coupe (emeritus) 612 0222 Peter Hall 456 9382	Church Cleaners	meet on first Tuesday from 9.30am to 12noon Dorothy Walton 483 3088	Rainbow Guides	for ages 5-7: meet in the Junior Hall, Fridays 6.15 to 7.30pm Trisha Brown 07403 353 175 Susan Kirkland 0785 4101918
Director of Music	John Horton 339 5031	Church Flowers	Marjorie Lees 483 3676 Jean Hayden (donations) 480 2453	Scouts	for ages 10½ -14. Meet in Trinity Methodist on Wednesday evenings from 7-9pm Bill Frith 439 3232
Church wardens	Steven Kelly 439 9458 Sue Burt 483 9589	Church Gardeners	meet on Tuesdays from 9.30 am to 12.30 pm	Singing Group	sings at All-Age Service about once a month Everyone welcome to join Debbie Heaton 483 4643
Deputy Church Wardens	John Hayden 483 2367 Andrew Regan 440 0408	Cub Scouts	for ages 8-10½: meet in Trinity Methodist Fridays 7.15 - 8.45pm. Bill Frith 439 3232	Sunday Clubs	meet during the Family Eucharist at 10.15am Sue Burt: 483 6446, Debbie Heaton: 483 4643
Treasurer	Stephen Jones 439 6690	Coffee Mornings	in the Parish Room from 10.30am on Wednesdays Dorothy Thompson 474 7058	Sunday Creche	The Creche is in the Lady Chapel
Secretary	Hazel Jenkins 483 4679	Fellowship of Marriage, Women's Fellowship	meet on 2nd Thursday of the month from 2pm in the Parish Room Edna Tootell 483 5753	Family Eucharist	The Children's Corner is at the back of church
Bookings for Parish Rooms	Parish Office (above) or Andrew Garlick 440 9272	Guardians of St George	keep the church open during the week	Website	submissions, updates and corrections Andrew Regan 440 0408 andrew@andrewregan.org.uk www.stgeorgestockport.org.uk
St George's Primary School Head teacher	For ages 5-11 years Mark Quinn 480 8657	Guides	for ages 10-14: meet Thursdays in the Parish Rooms 7.30-9pm Jane Brocklehurst 07801 843810 Heather Worth 477 2388	St Gabriel's	
Verger	Ian Staley 456 3093	Guild of St Raphael	meets once a month to pray for the sick Olga Jones 439 6690	Churchwardens	Frances Farrar Shirley Bailey c/o 456 8749
Deputy Verger	Vacant	Linen Guild	maintains the church linen Tril Sutherland 480 5397	Secretary	John Sutcliffe 286 2301
St George's Play Group	meets in the Meeting Room Monday - Friday, 9 - 11.30am and 12.30 - 3pm for ages 3 years and upwards Joanne Shannon 07591541389	Magazine Editorial Group	meets monthly to plan the subsequent issue Mark Lane 439 2282	Treasurer	Pat Margetts 483 0270
Regular Church Groups and Activities					
Beaver Scouts	for ages 6-7: meet in Trinity Methodist Fridays 6-7pm. Bill Frith 439 3232	Medical Missions Committee	raises funds to help support the Church Mission Society Christine Berry 01625 874546 Kathleen Heawood 01663 762402	Bookings	Shirley Bailey 456 8749
Bell ringers	meet in the Tower on Sundays at 9.45am and Mondays from 7.45pm. Anne Mayes 485 6477			Regular Groups and Activities	
Bible Reading Fellowship	Notes are ordered on request Ian Staley 456 3093			Praise and Play	meet every Friday 9.30-11am in church. Story time 10am. For 0-4's and their carers Lois Kelly 480 2453



Elaine writes:

Having just come back from spending the day with 59 six to seven year olds I feel I deserve a cup of coffee and a biscuit although I never did quite manage to put my feet up.

The day has been fabulous and we set off *en route* to Freshfields, a National Trust nature reserve near Formby.

The children were exploring different habitats and we looked around the pine forest, the broadleaf forest and the sand dunes.

In the pine forest we learned that the red squirrel was an endangered species following an outbreak of the deadly squirrel pox virus three years ago which wiped out around 80 per cent of the red squirrel population. A hard winter further reduced the population to only 15 per cent of the pre-pox level. Since then the population has recovered and is rising.

The broadleaf forest was a treat for the children to examine mini beasts including woodlice and spiders as well as over thirty snails who had taken up residence in a tree, and they even spotted a small sand lizard.

The dunes put many of the adults through their paces as we attempted to ascend the sandy version of what felt like the north face of the Eiger before we stopped to have lunch. We didn't get to see any natterjack toads but it was a good day and the children and adults alike learned a lot about habitats.

It got me wondering. Many habitats for animals are essential for their survival but how important is our habitat

to us. Every human needs shelter but the way we set up our living spaces can be out of financial necessity or can express our personality. I have to admit that I am a fan of colour and whilst the vicarage has been beautifully decorated, it is magnolia - everywhere. Before we had the flood at our last vicarage, which took out two thirds of the house top to bottom, every single room was in a bright colour. I had spent too much time in hospitals, schools and church houses which were all of the same uniform hue and I wanted to break free. When the vicarage became habitable again after four months, we moved in and each damaged room had been painted in – you've guessed it – magnolia.

We are all different but I know that I don't have a magnolia ministry. For me life is about colour and contrasts and complementarity using the whole palate of what is available. I am someone who always thinks in terms of opportunities and possibilities and that can be downright scary to some, because they prefer comfort and familiarity with nothing rearranged or readjusted. I am happy stepping out in faith whilst others will have to have everything pinned securely in place before they will even venture out of the front door. We all have our habitats because we're all different, but it may be worth thinking about why we operate as we do. If it's because it's comfortable then we might want to examine if we're too comfortable or under-challenged or reluctant to change or dismissive that there may be another way to think. There may not be just one right way but lots of thoughts and opinions which form together to be the best way for a particular situation at a particular time. God has given us choice (Deuteronomy 30) so let's journey together to pray about what He might have in store for us.

With every blessing

Elaine

Cameo Venture – grand opening

WE ARE DELIGHTED to be able to welcome the Mayor of Stockport, Councillor Kevin Hogg, to open our new venture at St Gabriel's on Thursday 30th October between 10am and 12 noon. We hope that many other local dignitaries and agencies will come and join us for this grand opening. Although it is half term we may be fortunate enough to have our local Adswold School to come and sing for us. Watch this space.

CAMEO (Come and Meet Each Other) is a drop-in which will be happening every Thursday morning and we welcome people of all ages to join us. People can come and have a cup of tea or coffee, have a chat and make new friends and reacquaint themselves with familiar faces. We will have a bric-a-brac stall and hope to have our local fruit and veg stall to come and join us. Good as new baby clothes and books will be available to purchase. A children's library is being developed and we would like to encourage anyone who would like to be part of a story-telling team to be in touch. If you have any children's books of excellent quality then Elaine would be happy to receive them.

A member of the clergy staff will be available every week for a confidential chat if needed, also to advise regarding booking weddings and baptisms.

We look forward to seeing you on 30th.

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St George's Parish Rooms

Are you an organisation that would like facilities to hold a fund-raising event, social event, activity or meeting? Or perhaps you're a Mum or Dad looking for a venue for a children's party?

St George's Parish Rooms may be the answer. We have two rooms available. The larger accommodates 70, the smaller 40. We also have fully-equipped kitchen facilities.

For prices, further information and bookings, please contact: Andrew Garlick 440 9272 or the parish office 480 2453.

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or ring 0161 476 0384

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ON SATURDAY 13th September St George's marked the 20th anniversary of Heritage Open Days by being open all day to anyone who wanted to call by. It is a few years since we joined in this annual event and everyone involved thought it was a wonderful day.



One hundred and fifty six people visited the church – we have one of those 'clicker' counters. Between 70 and 80 of them climbed the tower, visiting the ringing room and then enjoying the wonderful views. At least one person picked out Jodrell Bank in one direction and the Beetham Tower in the other. The wonderful autumn weather ensured that it was safe for tower visits and added generally to the relaxed atmosphere of the day.



Thanks to Cat Hayden we have an excellent new leaflet which guided visitors easily and interestingly round the church. We collected it and the new organ appeal leaflet on the Friday afternoon, just in the nick of time. Both do St George's proud.

That was the point of the day, to do St George's proud. We have a building which, with the school buildings, is deemed to be of historical importance. That is why they are Grade 1 and Grade 2 listed. They are landmarks physically and have been so in



many people's lives in the community. We were inviting members of that community and beyond to come in and take a look and be impressed. From comments I think they were. I think too that they enjoyed the warmth of the reception and the hospitality on offer.



We gave visitors plenty to see and do. They could look at the old pictures of choir and clergy, leaf through 90-year-old copies of St George's parish magazine and have a glimpse of memorabilia from the First World War.

A three-minute video gave them an idea of what goes on inside the organ and some had impromptu torchlight glimpses of its workings for real.



All 49 hand bells were on display and visitors tried their hand at ringing them. In the afternoon they could then listen to them being played. Many relaxed with a cup of tea or coffee and a cake, or a bowl of soup and a roll and listened to the dulcet strains of our 'stand in' organ.

At 4pm we brought the day to a fitting close with Choral Evensong. For those of us who are members of St George's it is, of course, more than a historic building. It is a place of deep and personal significance on our faith journey. Having shared the day in loving fellowship with all who came, we shared it in loving fellowship as a faith community, connecting with each other and with our God.

A huge 'thank you' to everyone who helped make the day such a memorable one. In response to a visitor's question as to whether we would be open again next year for Heritage Open Days, I did say 'yes!' I hope you will too!

Chris Dawson

Photographs by Chris Moore and Rod Macleod.

Parish News Roundup

Baptisms :

We welcome into the Church family:

- 7th Sept: Charlie Stan Lee Reynolds
 14th Sept: Hollie Elissa Gee, Aaron Damien Jason Martin Gee, Millicent Elizabeth Swindells
 20th Sept: Parastou Kazemi, Parmida Habibi Bardi, Bardia Habibi Bardi, Paria Kazemi, Bahador Pourjafar
 21st Sept: Evelyn Hilda Rose Morris, Emily Lily Rose Evans

Holy Matrimony:

- 6th Sept: Stephanie Jayne Rowland and Daniel Stephen McCumesky

Memorial Service:

- 6th Sept: Leslie Norman Radcliffe

Funerals:

- 18th Sept: Funeral of Dean Gillespie
 Revd David Brewster officiated

High Altar flowers were by:

- 31st Aug: Mary Brand *"In memory of Peter Brand"*
 7th Sept: The Staley Family
"Treasured Birthday Memories of Kevin Staley 12th September. From his Mum, Dad and Brother Lee"
 14th Sept: Peter Pilbeam *"In memory of Margaret Pilbeam"*
 Dorothy Newitt *"In memory of George Newitt"* (Lady Chapel)
 21st Sept: Olga Jones
 28th Sept: Jean Berry *"In memory of friends and family"*

Floodlighting was sponsored by:

- 12th Sept: Jose and Mike Westwood
"In celebration of our Golden Wedding"
 13th Sept: Margaret and Gordon Sharrard *"For the marriage of our granddaughter Jeni Hine to Richard Hunsley in Bristol"*
 26th Sept: *"In memory of Roy Francis Dent"* from his cousins

Parish News Roundup

Forward dates for your diary:

(see separate notices for some details)

- 4th Oct: Soup and Sweet event.
 Davenport Methodist Church 12-2pm
 12th Oct: Annual Baby Memorial Service
 12th Oct: Music for a Sunday Afternoon. 3pm St Michael and All Angels, Bramhall
 13th Oct: Stockport Christian Counselling AGM. 7.30pm Stockport Baptist Church
 18th Oct: CMS Autumn Fair
 30th Oct: (Thursday) Cameo Venture Grand Opening at St Gabriel's 10-12noon
 2nd Nov: Service of Remembrance and Commemoration
 26th Nov: Stockport Prayer Breakfast. Town Hall 7.40am
 26-30th Nov: Christmas Tree Festival

St George's News:

Richard Parr introduces himself:

Mark has asked me to write a short profile, so here goes.

I retired seven years ago from my job as an English teacher. I started working at Stockport School in the late 60's, then went to North Area College in Heaton Moor, the first of Stockport's Sixth Form Colleges. After that I worked in Sixth Form Colleges in Wigan and Oldham, before spending the last ten years of my career at Hulme Grammar School in Oldham. Since retiring, I have completed an MA in Shakespeare and the Theatre at the Shakespeare Institute in Stratford, and am currently engaged on an M. Litt dissertation at the Institute, researching possible links between Shakespeare and the Jesuit poet, Robert Southwell.

I am a member of Stockport U3A, and a keen walker. Apart from enjoying theatre and travelling, I am a long-term supporter of Manchester City - no comments about farce or tragedy, please! I am married to Margaret, and

Parish News Roundup

have one daughter, Alison, who is in the Marine Support Unit of the Metropolitan Police. We also have two cats, or, possibly, they have us. I know how much effort and time Mark puts into *Grapevine*, and am looking forward to giving him whatever help I can.



Alpha Course

Following an enthusiastic response to our Home Groups, plans are afoot to hold an Alpha Course beginning in January next year.

The Alpha Course is an opportunity to explore life and the Christian faith, in a friendly and open way which is accessible to everyone. The course will run once each week for 12 weeks.

Further details will follow in the next publication but for further information please speak to Elaine or to any others in the ministry team.

St George's Organ Restoration Fund

Presents

An evening with comedian

Paul Kerensa

Wednesday 8th October 2014
 at 7.30 pm

at St George's

Tickets £10 – Concessions £8
 On the door or ring 0161 429 7880

Stockport Prayer Breakfast

Wednesday 26th November

**Light Breakfast served 7.40am
Welcome and programme
commences at 7.55am
Finish at 9am**

Dear Friends and Colleagues

Later in the year we will invite you to come once again to another Prayer Breakfast in Stockport's Town Hall. As many regulars know we will gather for the Prayer Breakfast from 7.40am in Committee Rooms 1 and 2 opposite the Council Chamber.

This Prayer Breakfast will concentrate on EDUCATION and further details will be announced near the date of the breakfast. Coffee/fruit juice and pastries will be available from 7.40am.

All I ask at this stage is that you put this date into your diary and also into your church diary / magazine. Perhaps you might consider who to invite. The last Prayer Breakfast on mental health was enjoyed by all who attended.

Yours sincerely,

Kevin

Nov 2014 Grapevine magazine dates:

Deadline copy date: **Friday 17th October**
Committee meeting: **Tuesday 21st October**

Mothers' Union

Monday October 13th-Linda Goodchild-
'An Upsidedown Person in an Upright World'

Fellowship of Marriage and Women's Fellowship

18th October: CMS parcel wrapping.
Note that future meetings will now be held **once** per month on the second Thursday.

Leslie Radcliffe's daughter, Vicki, and other family members would like to thank Elaine Chegwin Hall and John Horton for their support and guidance with the arrangements and execution of Leslie's memorial service. Especial thanks to Jan and Chris Dawson for a great deal of effort and kindness in making it possible to entertain all those attending the Thanksgiving Service on 6th September, and to those members of the congregation who helped with the clearing up afterwards.

Jose and Mike Westwood thank everyone for their cards, good wishes and gifts on the occasion of their Golden Wedding on 12th September. Thank you to Elaine for the very meaningful service she conducted for us and to all those who came along to celebrate with us.

Andrew Garlick, Angela and family and David Lupton and family, would like to thank everyone for their kind messages of sympathy and support, following the loss of their beloved Isobel.

"When The Parson Called"

I have special memories of Rev. Wilfrid Garlick's radio talks but sadly no recordings. I would be very interested to hear from anybody who has any and if they contacted me we could perhaps look into the possibility of making copies.

Stockport Christian Counselling are holding their Annual General Meeting on Monday 13th October at 7.30pm at the Stockport Baptist Church on Thomson Street (SK3 9DU). The evening will begin with a short meeting followed by the guest speaker Bishop Graham Dow, former Bishop of Carlisle. All are welcome to attend and refreshments will be served during the evening.

Music for a Sunday Afternoon, Sunday 12th October 2014, 3pm – 4.30pm. Come along to St Michael and all Angel's Church in Bramhall to hear the Maia Singers who will be sharing a wide selection of choral and solo songs. £7 at the door. Refreshments included.

To everyone who, in any way helped to bring St Gabriel's back to its "New Beginning" – thank you so much, from the Little Flock.

Following the makeover in recent weeks, we are really proud of how things are looking. To add a splash of colour whilst being functional, we are hoping to buy six kneelers to go just in front of the sanctuary so people can kneel down in comfort along the communion rail. We are very much hoping that people will want to contribute to this either by making a donation in celebration of an event or in memory of someone or by helping to work the kneeler. Please let Elaine (0161 456 9382) know if this is something you may be able to help with. We are asking for a donation of £47 to cover the costs of materials. The kits include all threads and a design which is printed onto the canvas.



Congratulations to Joan and Jim Izard for opening their garden to a Strictly Dancing Wheelchair Garden Party and for raising a creditable £545 for the Strictly Wheelchair Dancers, of which they are both cup-winning members.

The Heritage Open Day at St George's was very interesting with numerous exhibits and the tower to climb. It was well attended, and a choral evensong at 4pm made a perfect ending to a successful event.

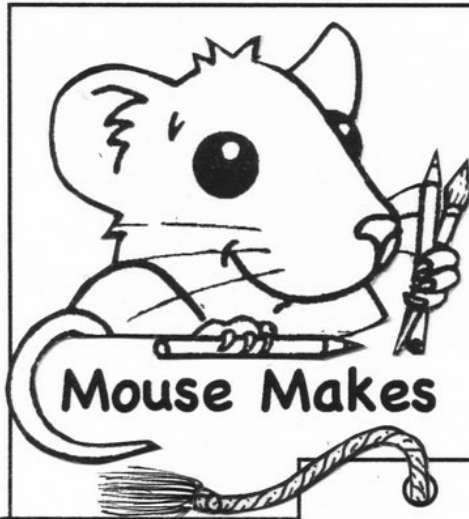
A Churches Together meeting at St Ambrose Church on 2nd September served to provide an opportunity for various future dates to be agreed upon.

On Saturday 4th October, Davenport Methodist Church on Garners Lane is holding a Soup and Sweet event between 12noon and 2pm. The cost is £5 per person and includes tea or coffee. All are welcome.



STOCKPORT GRAMMAR SCHOOL

is delighted to sponsor the Children's pages of **The Parish Grapevine**



GOD'S WORD FOR US
"All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for **teaching** the truth, **rebuking** error, **correcting** faults, and giving **instruction** for right living, so that the person who serves God may be fully qualified and equipped to do every kind of good deed."
2 Timothy 3:16-17



READ
Psalm
119:105
Proverbs
30:5,6

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Colossians • Thessalonians • Timothy • Titus • Philemon
• Hebrews • James • Peter • John • Jude • Revelation •



Do we take the Bible for granted?

WHEN WE APPROACH Bible Sunday on the second Sunday of Advent (26th October) we remember our debt to those who first translated the Bible into English. We have so many different translations and paraphrases to choose from today. But the Bible had never been in our vernacular until John Wycliffe's translation, completed with the help of others in about 1384. For this and criticism of the Church and its teaching, Wycliffe and his followers, the Lollard lay preachers, were condemned as heretics.

It was not until 1525 that William Tyndale's translation of the Gospels into English was completed and printed, though still in defiance of the law in England. For this Tyndale was condemned and eventually burnt at the stake, in Antwerp, where he had worked in exile. Myles Coverdale continued Tyndale's work and the whole Bible in English was printed in 1535, and eventually the English Bible became accessible to everyone who could read. It is a freedom we in Britain now take for granted. In parts of the world where Christians are persecuted minorities this freedom can still be denied.

Even in Uganda in 1972, a largely Christian country, a crisis arose in which the use of the Bible in public worship seemed under threat. President Amin had recently expelled all Israeli citizens from Uganda because he suspected Israeli military advisors of subversive activity.

Afterwards, a Bible reading during Thought for Today on Radio Uganda, quoted from the Old Testament that the People of Israel were coming into their Promised Land. Amin saw this as a modern-day threat, and banned the name 'Israel' from being spoken in Uganda.

Archbishop of Uganda, Erica Sabiti (the first Ugandan to be Archbishop), went to confront the President in his Command Post. The President repeated that the name Israel was never to be spoken. The Archbishop replied, "But your Excellency, the Children of Israel in the Bible is not the same as the State of Israel today."

"I forbid it!" the President repeated.

"Your Excellency, if you forbid us to speak the name Israel, you are forbidding us to use this book. The name Israel is written in the Bible from beginning to end."

"I forbid it!"

The Archbishop, who was small in stature and quite frail, held up a copy of the Bible in front of the towering form of the President. "Your Excellency, down the centuries Christians have been willing to die to defend the right to read this book. We are ready again."

The President backed down. Thought for Today, however, was banned.

Hospital Chaplaincy Volunteers

The Chaplains at Stepping Hill Hospital are looking for extra volunteers to work as part of the team. Chaplaincy volunteers spend one afternoon per week visiting patients on the wards.

A training course will take place at Stepping Hill on Thursday afternoons, 2nd – 23rd October and 6th November, 2pm – 4pm

Like all hospital volunteers, Chaplaincy volunteers need to provide references, undergo a DBS check and complete a medical questionnaire.

For more information contact the hospital chaplaincy on 0161 419 5889

Many thanks. *Philip Winn. Chaplain, Stepping Hill Hospital*

Good manners help your career

Having a good degree or other qualifications isn't enough: you also need good manners, if you are going to get ahead in your career. So says Kate Reardon, editor of *Tatler* magazine. She warns that it isn't enough to "hide behind a computer or mobile phone"; instead, face-to-face contact is important. Other people "need to know who you are and they need to understand you".

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Getting Older!

THE GOVERNMENT defines those who are aged between 65 and 74 as “Third Agers”, a rather quaint term but which has become fairly normal usage. Someone has suggested that those aged between 75 and 84 should be called “Fourth Agers”, but this is not a government designation!

The number of churchgoing people in their Third Age in England is significant, however. In 2014 the number was just over half a million people, a number likely to stay about the same over the next few years as there are a good supply of churchgoing folk aged between 55 and 64 who are steadily joining them!

There are also a large number of people in their “Fourth Age” or older who attend church. In total there were 400,000 75 or over churchgoers in 2010, and likely to be 440,000 by 2015 and 470,000 by 2020. The increase is both among those who are aged 75 to 84 and those who are 85 or older.

Third Agers (including Fourth Agers) are sometimes known as the SWELL generation – Seniors With Energetic and Lively Lifestyles! In 2010 those who were 65 and older comprised about a third, 30%, of all churchgoers, that is, across all ages. But the number of older people is increasing faster than those joining who are younger, so the proportion of the elderly increases – up to 36% in 2020, and 42% by 2025. By then half of those 65 and over will be Third Age, 65 to 74, and the other half will be 75 and over, if trends turn out to be correct.

The background knowledge of Christianity seen in these older people will change over these years. In 2005, 43% of church attenders between 65 and 74 had attended Sunday School when they were children or teenagers, as had 48% of those between 75 and 84 and 54% of those 85 and over.

Many of these older people will be grandparents, even great-grandparents, and their influence on their grandchildren is known to be quite profound in terms of transmitting the faith from one generation to another, an area where perhaps the Church could be more proactive. Some churches are appointing ministers for older people as their relative proportion in a church family increases. Perhaps the significance of Christian grandparenting might be included in such a role.

Dr Peter Brierley is a Church growth consultant and may be contacted on peter@brierleyres.com.

Recent wedding

Dear Elaine,

Thank you so much for the beautiful service and your amazing sermon - so many people have told us how brilliant they thought it was and found they could relate to it. Thank you also for all the help before and the wedding classes.

Again many, many thanks for marrying us.

Jenna (née Burt) and Callum



Beware if you use a gym...

A QUARTER of gym users put ON weight when they start exercising, because they allow themselves treats after a workout. A recent study has found that while 39 per cent of us burn as few as 300 calories during each visit to the gym, we then indulge ourselves by consuming more calories than we have just used up in exercising. Sadly, regular gym sessions not only give you a ‘feeling of complacency’, they also boost your appetite!

St George's Men

THIS SHOW is part of our commemoration of the First W.W. It seems a little odd to call it "a show" when it deals with such a serious subject as war. Nevertheless, through it we are hoping "to show" what things were like, particularly for two men from St George's parish. We know quite a lot about these two men and their experiences and are able to follow what they, with others, went through.

Both men have the same, but differently spelt, surnames. One is Jack Morten and the other is Bob Morton. One went with the Manchester regiment to Gallipoli and the other with the Cheshires to France. Jack wrote copious letters home to Beech Road. Bob's reminiscences are recorded in the book about the Cheshires by former Reddish Vale school teacher David Kelsall. David spoke to Bob many times and has recorded interviews with him.

St George's is, of course, the resting place for the Cheshires' standards and was the church they attended before going to camp and to war. Bob's father came as a stonemason to help build St George's. The family lived in Adswood Lane. Bob too was a stonemason and helped to build the Stockport War Memorial. Jack Morten was one of the lacrosse players who joined the Manchesters en masse. Like Bob, he managed to survive the war. Archdeacon Thorpe and his eldest son Jack play a part in telling the story too.

Our show links the two men's personal experiences to some of the wider events of the war. The stories are told through narration, poetry, and song. St George's Men contains humour as well as sadness and the chaos and devastation of war. The title, by the way, is borrowed from former assistant

verger David Hillage's book about all the men who are named on St George's War Memorial.

Tickets will be available shortly and any profits from St George's Men will go to the Organ Restoration Fund.

Chris Dawson

St. George's Men



THE GREAT WAR
1914 - 1918

The story of two men from the Parish
who went to war

Bob Morton of Adswood Rd

Jack Morten of Beech Rd

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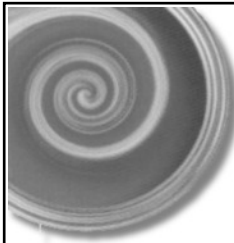
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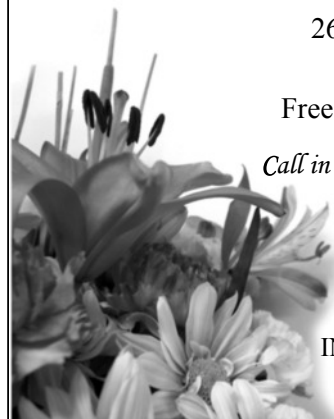
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Sudoku puzzle: easy

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

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Sudoku puzzle: intermediate

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

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(Answers to all puzzles are on p. 23)



MESSY CHURCH is a form of church which is for children and adults which

involves creativity, celebration and hospitality. It includes a welcome, a long creative time to explore the theme through crafts, a short celebration time of story, prayer, singing and games and a sit-down meal before we leave. We'll be meeting at St Gabriel's Church on the corner of Garner's Lane and Clover Avenue from 10 to 12.30 on Saturday 8th November. It's open to children of all ages who must be brought by an adult.

We'd love to see you there.

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

- 1 'Those who were standing near Paul said, "You — to insult God's high priest?"' (Acts 23:4) (4)
- 3 They were assigned to guard the tree of life (Genesis 3:24) (8)
- 9 'Elkanah son of Jeroham, the son of Elihu, the — of —, the son of Zuph, an Ephraimite' (1 Samuel 1:1) (3,4)
- 10 Surrender (Joshua 24:23) (5)
- 11 Where American livestock can be reared (5)
- 12 Listen (anag.) (6)
- 14 Alternative name for Kiriath Jearim (2 Samuel 6:2) (6,2,5)
- 17 He founded Westminster Abbey, — the Confessor (6)
- 19 Hebrew word for the place of the dead (5)
- 22 Allies of Persia in the fifth century BC (Esther 1:3) (5)
- 23 Where John Wesley was forced to preach a lot (4,3)
- 24 Rebellion against God; abandonment of religious belief (8)
- 25 Note (anag.) (4)

Down

- 1 Give an account of (Mark 4:30) (8)
- 2 'I — — the path of your commands, for you have set my heart free' (Psalm 119:32) (3,2)
- 4 'He took the ephod, the other — — and the carved image' (Judges 18:20) (9,4)
- 5 'You are a chosen people, a — priesthood' (1 Peter 2:9) (5)
- 6 The meek, the merciful and the mourners are all this (Matthew 5:4-5, 7) (7)
- 7 Musical Instrument Digital Interface (1,1,1,1)
- 8 He was the son of Nun (Deuteronomy 34:9) (6)
- 13 'Let the little — come to me' (Matthew 19:14) (8)
- 15 'About three thousand were — — their number that day' (Acts 2:41) (5,2)
- 16 In John's vision, the wall of the new Jerusalem was made of this (Revelation 21:18) (6)
- 18 'Our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly — a Saviour from there, the Lord Jesus Christ' (Philippians 3:20) (5)
- 20 'Glorify the Lord with me: let us — his name together' (Psalm 34:3) (5)
- 21 Young Men's Christian Association (1,1,1,1)

Isobel Garlick 1949-2014

Funeral at St George's Church 29th August 2014

Readings: Psalm 121 and 1 Corinthians 13
Hymns: O Jesus, I have promised; The Lord's my Shepherd;
Guide me, O thou great Redeemer

PAUL'S HYMN OF LOVE was one of Isobel's favourite readings. In it Paul shares his knowledge of God by describing the character of God: God is love that endures every obstacle, faith that enables humankind to cope and hope that enables and inspires future generations. Christians are those who have these same characteristics. And today, as we gather in this sacred place, we thank God for the privilege of having known Isobel, whose life epitomized these three Christian characteristics: she was truly a lady of faith, of hope and love.

Isobel was always a Stockport girl. Born in Stockport on 11th April 1949, to parents Arnold and Jean. She was named Margaret Isobel but she disliked the name Margaret and was known as Isobel. She was brought up with brother David and attended Stockport Convent High School for girls and, of course, St George's Church. In the summer of 1967, Canon Garlick, the vicar at that time, took a group from the Youth Club for a holiday near Rimini in Italy, and Isobel, having finished her A-levels and finished school, was one of the party. So was Andrew, who had also just left school, and so was Peter, his cousin, who is sharing in leading this service today. It was a memorable experience because that was when Andrew and Isobel's romance started. But they had chosen different universities so, for the next three years, their love was put to the test as distance was a slight obstacle, though it did allow them to study. But then, throughout her life, Isobel has coped with obstacles. Love has that enduring quality, together with a little determination that everything is well, as it turned out to be.

After graduating in zoology and human biology, Isobel took a post as lecturer at Moston FE college. It was the beginning of a long career in education. Isobel combined teaching with further study, in fact she never ceased to want to learn, for she loved life and loved engaging with people and she wanted to use the skills she had been given to help others - this was a life-long quest. Later in her career she gained further

qualifications - membership of the Institute of Biology and an MA in Management.

On 17th April 1971 Isobel and Andrew were married here and they moved to Charleston Road West. Isobel had made the wedding cake herself. Seven years later they were blessed with a daughter, Angela. Shortly after the birth another obstacle occurred as Isobel was diagnosed with rheumatoid arthritis. It was not easy with a young child to look after, but, typical of Isobel, she didn't complain - she just got on with it for she was always a practical person. When Angela started school at Hillcrest, Isobel did a spell of part-time teaching there, until the opportunity came to teach full-time again at North Trafford Further Education College, a place she would stay until her retirement as Assistant Principal, having taught biology, been appointed Head of Science and then Director of Curriculum.



During this time she was an active member of the Stockport Ladies' Luncheon Club. She was Past Chairman and President. She enjoyed gardening and flower arranging and Angela particularly remembers the cakes her mum used to make, the special ones for family occasions, like birthdays.

After retirement some six years ago, she took up bridge with enthusiasm and became a member of the Brookdale bridge section and a social member of Stockport Golf Club. Inspired by the charity Water Aid, and with a deep concern to draw attention to this cause, Isobel started work as a volunteer, giving talks to educate and enthuse other groups to support this charity financially and help to make a difference to other lives. She was a good communicator and keen on languages and joined the U3A in Bramhall.

All this was sustained by Isobel's faith and commitment to sharing that faith. She was a member of the PCC and when the vicar, John Roff, wanted a person to chair a newly-created Mission and Development Committee, it was Isobel who took on the task. She was the CMS link for many years. Isobel headed the Flower Arranging committee and was there to give advice to wedding couples preparing for their service here.

These are just glimpses of Isobel's life. Each of you here will have your own memories of her, the things she did and said that made her the very special person she was, as wife, mum, grandmother, sister, sister in law, cousin, auntie and friend.

Underneath the faith and hope which she had in abundance was a source of love. Isobel knew she was loved and she showed that love in so many ways. She

cared for her friends and we could see the joy in her face as we learned of the visit with Andrew to Angela, as she was about to give birth, and the arrival of their grandson Finlay on 28th October to Angela and Duncan. Pride and joy shone through her as she shared the good news.

In the past she had cared for her uncle Ken, as he lived locally, and, more recently, her mum, whose life we celebrated here at her funeral service earlier this month, the occasion when most of us last saw Isobel. Courageously, she spoke of hope for the future, despite the cancer which had struck four months before, taking its toll. But our lives are fragile and we need to take one day at a time, for none of us know what the future holds. We are called to live in hope, the gift that God has given us. To live in hope is risky and needs courage.

On 16th August death beckoned. Isobel had run the race of faith and never gave in. In the end, death simply overtook her and she passed through its gateway to enter the place of eternity, a place of resurrection - the future that awaits all of us. Death has no dominion, it is not the end, merely a return to God, our maker and redeemer. For her the light has been put out because the dawn has come. For us it is not so easy. We will need the help and support of each other. We need to talk and reflect upon the moments that have mattered, to laugh and to weep too. Our consolation is that it is only time that separates us from those we love but see no longer. As St Paul says, love never ends. Rest eternal grant unto her, O Lord, and may light perpetual shine upon her. Amen.

*Address given by Revd Sandra Woodhead
Assistant Priest at St George's church*

Recollections of Leslie Radcliffe 8th September 1916 to 23rd May 2014

**by John Roff, Vicar of St George's 1990 to 2000
Read by Chris Dawson, Leslie's friend and
former son-in-law.**

DURING the first few years that I knew Leslie his eyesight was slowly declining, but the same was not true about his warm, deep, booming voice. Yet in his late 70s I remember him as remarkably youthful in mind and outlook. And he brought to this congregation a faithful determination that friendship towards others would be a hallmark of St George's. It seemed to me he could sidle up to anyone and open a conversation, and make them feel good in the course of it. And it might easily be someone 60 years younger than him, but it would never be patronising or condescending; he wouldn't pretend to be involved with things beneath his years – just interested!

At first I know he offered a home to foreign nationals studying at the College, and then later NightStop was established in Stockport. And there was Leslie, frequently, giving bed



and breakfast to a young person known to be homeless. That really did involve practical time and energy – making ready, clearing up afterwards, and emotional energy too, responding with appropriate care to a young person in great need whom he had never met before.

You all know that his career path led him to Cheshire Life, and his great success as Editor. For the whole of the 90s, though, he reduced himself to *journalist* on *Grapevine*, our parish magazine (not nearly as well produced as now). For the decade, there was a monthly meeting for one hour. The group met and blue-sky thought a theme, and gave further thought to itemise five or six articles which might help our readers think through the theological background of our theme. And then the group would commission articles from others, or write them ourselves. Leslie was a huge resource – he was well read, articulate, and a very good communicator.

And time and again he revealed a life of Christian understanding and Christian devotion – you were never left in any doubt that his faith was a very genuine and strong part of his life. And of course, for quite a lot of the meetings, as time went on, he'd arrive on his trike.

But he was generous in all sorts of unexpected ways – one lives with me every year. He worked out I'm partial to sugar, and he saw I could be very stressed in the run up to Christmas. He made it his task, every year, to produce with his own fair hand a large tin of meringues as a Christmas present – and I don't mind telling you, I wish he was doing it still.

There is so much to recall and celebrate about the life of this warm and colourful character. I could go on and on – but others need space to contribute too. But one further valued attribute from me – he had no difficulty saying what he thought if there was humbug in the air, or pretention, or just plain ignorance. His deep voice would mutter something so apposite and witty you could not possibly be offended – but nor could you miss the point! Is the usual phrase 'he didn't suffer fools gladly'? Well he didn't, and in my view every vicar needs one such on their shoulder.

Garden Gnomes – October 2014

WAY BACK IN JUNE, Stan Berry wrote about the plan to plant poppy seeds in the garden opposite the North Porch and, after a lot of preparatory clearing work, an area was made ready and the seeds planted. The project has been a success, with a good crop of the distinctive red (and some pink) flowers, amidst an area of naturally-seeded wildflowers. The latter are present in profusion and need a bit of tidying without spoiling their naturalness, but please take a look if you are passing the plot.

More recently, Stan wrote about the need to clear up the accumulated prunings in the same area, an ongoing job as we work to remove unwanted shrubbery along the north boundary wall of the church land. Over the summer we have been cutting the clippings to a size suitable for bagging, and then transporting them to the local tip – a time-consuming exercise. However, in recent weeks, we have had the loan of a trailer, thus eliminating the bagging phase, and we have made rapid progress in tidying the area. This clearing work will take on a different aspect as we start to deal with the fallen leaves that are already present in abundance.

As you can see, a significant proportion of our work requires muscle rather than gardening knowledge, particularly when it came to clearing out the Crypt and boiler room stores during the asbestos-removal process. However, there is plenty for the more skilled gardeners to do, and we are pleased that Kate Stephenson and Marilyn Cross have joined our team, and are making a valuable contribution to keeping the gardens attractive. It has also been good to have Jean Davison back with us.

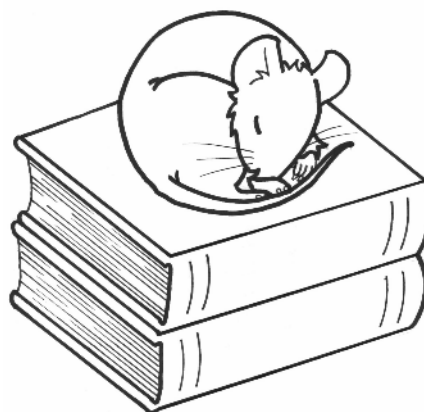
Back in our home gardens, now is the time of year to give some attention to the lawns, before winter sets in – aerating, scarifying, applying autumn fertiliser, or even laying turf. It is also time to prepare plants, such as dahlias, chrysanthemums and gladioli, for the change in season, deciding whether to lift them for storage, or leave them in the ground, suitably protected. No doubt you will have your own preferences in this regard, dependent on how exposed to the elements your garden is. We also need to be thinking about planting bulbs – alpinas, lilies, border carnations and pinks – if not already done, and also trees and shrubs.

And, in addition, clean out the greenhouse, and be ready to start heating as the temperature drops. A gardener's work is never done! Best of luck in your endeavours.

Novice Gnome



Book review:



***Down to Bedrock* by Eric Cordingley**

I'm an avid listener to Radio 4 and that is where I first heard about this book. Eric's daughter Louise was being interviewed about its publication. I switched on in the middle of the interview and had to track down the book by replaying the section of the Today Programme on my computer. It was Louise's observations on Eric's attitude to what happened to him and thousands of others, that sent me searching.

The subtitle of Eric Cordingley's book is 'The Diary and Secret Notes of a Far East Prisoner of War Chaplain 1942-45' and that is just what it is. It is a record written at the time, with some further reflections made after the war. It is a very real book, not sensational or indulgent, but real and authentic. Amazingly he says it was "the most wonderful time in my life, in spite of grim and hungry times[...]" For once, and for three and a half years, the thin veneer of civilization, or reticence, had been stripped from men. We were all down to bedrock. One saw people as they really were."

As an army chaplain early in the war Eric Cordingley feels a spare part. Arriving in Singapore days before its capture by the Japanese, he is soon a prisoner and in this situation he finds his purpose, initially in Singapore, then on the infamous Burma railway and then back in Singapore.

Eric's diaries tell us of creating a community in Changi prisoner-of-war camp, of converting a mosque into St George's Church – one of the three St George's he and the men built in each place in which he served. He tells of how he supported and served the men with him in their lives and their deaths. He tells us too of the relationships between the captured and the captors.

Some of what he says may seem extraordinary to us, coming from a man who saw and experienced such cruelty and indignity: "One of the things which died in the prison camp was hate; I believe we were all upset by the seemingly brutal way our captors were treated by those who relieved us at the end of our captivity. We had lost during those years the feeling to hate the Japanese..." He also says: "Under the strain of prison camp life... cleverness, learning, social background – these things didn't matter – only real goodness made any impact."

I found this short book full of such food for thought!

Chris Dawson

Kingdoms rise and wane

TWO HUNDRED years ago this month a British historian, Edward Gibbon, was visiting Rome. He stood entranced as a group of friars sang their prayers on the Capitoline Hill in the city. Musing on the event afterwards, he reflected on the meaning of what he had seen - a group of devout men who had renounced wealth, power and status singing at the very heart of what had once been the world's greatest empire. The experience led him in due course to write his famous historical work (even those of us who have never read the book know its title) i.e. *The Rise and Fall of the Roman Empire*.

I'm writing this piece during the Commonwealth Games. I wonder what Gibbon would call his book had he been writing about the end of the British Empire, the most extensive and powerful the world has ever known - remember all those globes with the 'British' bits coloured red? It certainly 'rose', driven by explorers, missionaries and trade - child of a strange combination of religious revival, nautical adventure and the industrial revolution. But it didn't exactly fall. Instead, in a wonderful way, it changed itself over a couple of fraught decades from an empire with an emperor, the British monarch, into a voluntary association of sovereign states. They were united in the values they stood for, in democratic governance, the rule of law and in a shared history. Many of those countries chose to retain the British monarch, not as an emperor but as their titular constitutional head of state.

Now I'm sure Britain has done many bad things in the past, and is probably doing a few now. But let us chalk up the Commonwealth as a wonderful and benign achievement of which our nation and all the members of it can be justly proud. As the only hymn* (so far as I know) to mention it prays: 'For young and old, for commonwealth and nation, Lord of our land, be pleased to hear our prayer'.

* *'Lord for the Years', Timothy Dudley-Smith*

Canon David Winter

Schools who 'bury' any reference to Christianity

Schools are increasingly 'burying' their Christian values in order to appeal to growing numbers of atheist families and those of other faiths. So warns a leading headmaster, James Whitehead, the first lay person to lead the Roman Catholic Downside School in Somerset. A number of private schools have even dropped any reference to Christianity from their mission statements, on the advice of marketing officers, to boost enrolments during the economic downturn.

And it seems that most State secondary schools are shunning the legal requirement to provide a daily act of Christian worship, and have become "quite impersonal", shunning pupils' moral and spiritual needs in favour of boosting exam results. Mr Whitehead warns that many schools are at risk of becoming "ideologically bland" because they do not want to alienate anyone. Janette Wallis, senior editor of *The Good Schools Guide*, has echoed this concern. She said: "Most schools are adapting to a multi-faith, and non-faith Britain."

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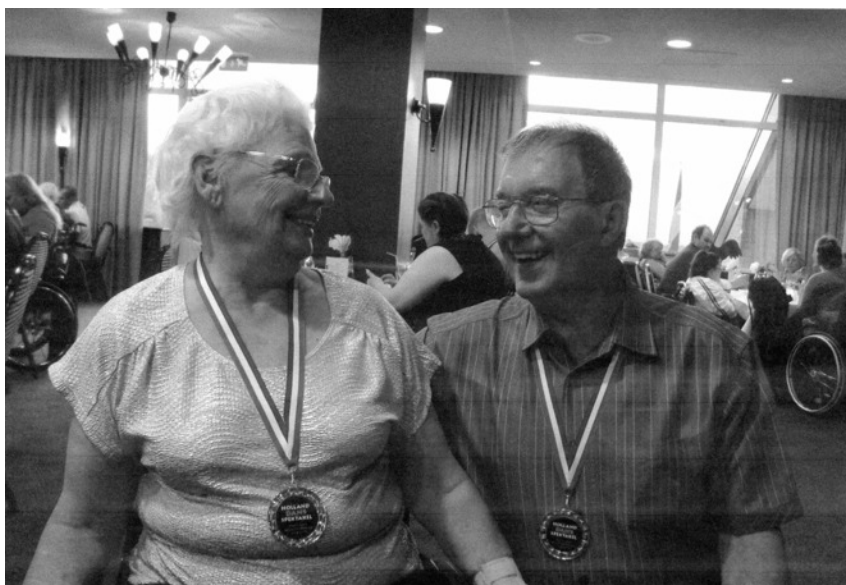
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Wheelchair dancing – a new chapter in our lives – continued

Following repeated requests from members of St George's Church for information about our progress in wheelchair dancing, we would like to share with you the extraordinary journey that we have experienced over the past eighteen months.

The members of the Strictly Wheelchair Dancing Club were invited to compete in the International Wheelchair Dance Festival in Cuijk Holland over the Easter Week-end in 2013. England were one of 23 countries competing so you can imagine how big the festival was. We entered in two separate competitions on the Saturday and Sunday in the Debutant Class for two wheelchairs dancing together, dancing the Waltz, Quickstep and Samba. Saturday was very daunting and we did not do very well. However, on the Sunday we were more relaxed and it showed in our dancing as we reached the final, finishing fourth. When all the finals have been completed all finalists are invited on the dance floor, then one by one finalists from each section are called forward in front of the judges and MC. The MC gives the results in reverse order and we were highly delighted to learn that we had finished 4th in our section, as this was the first time in an international competition that we were not last. Imagine how we felt! Joan was over the moon.



Strictly Wheelchair Dancing hosted the third Manchester Grand Prix at Wythenshawe Forum in June 2013, open to dancers from all over Europe. Working on our experiences for the previous two years it was considered by all to be a great success. We competed in the Debutant Class for two wheelchairs dancing together and won the Gold Medal for dancing the Waltz, Quickstep and Samba. This was our first competitive gold medal for the Debutant Class and naturally we were delighted.

Over the Easter weekend in 2014 we returned to Cuijk Holland for their International Wheelchair Dance Festival, and as a club we enjoyed a tremendous success. Having taken 11 dancers we returned with 2 Gold Medals, 3 Silver and 1 Bronze. Joan and I won the Gold Medal in the Debutant Class on the Saturday and won the Gold Medal on the Sunday as well, dancing the Waltz, Quickstep and Samba.

Whilst this was a major achievement for us, one of the highlights of the weekend was to receive

messages of congratulations from judges, coaches, competitors and spectators from many of the countries competing. They all appeared to enjoy our dancing as they considered we were dancing as a couple and not just two wheelchairs. The judge from Hungary commented that she so enjoyed our dancing that we were an inspiration for others to follow. This accolade makes all the additional training with our teacher and practising on our own at St Gabriel's worthwhile.

Having won the gold medal in both Manchester and Holland we have to advance to the next level of competition and dance in the Amateur Class. We have various options to consider: dance in the Ballroom Section involving Waltz, Quickstep, Tango and Viennese Waltz or in the Latin Section involving Samba, Rumba, Cha-cha and Paso Doble or in both sections involving all eight dances. For the Manchester Grand Prix in June this year we decided with our teacher that we would compete in the Ballroom Section only and enjoyed the experience, although we were competing against couples that have been dancing in the Amateur Class for many years. Hopefully with additional training and practice we will improve our performance.

We have also undertaken medal dancing for Ballroom and Sequence Mobility involving St Bernard's Waltz and three fun dances and have progressed to Gold Bar Two standard in both sections, achieving honours pass in each.

Strictly Wheelchair Dancing still get invited to undertake displays for local organisations and over the past eighteen months have been to Bolton, Liverpool and various areas in Manchester. One such display was held at Manchester City Football Ground where we danced to an audience of people in wheelchairs with either physical or learning disabilities with their carers. Highlight for us was to see everyone join in our fun dances; the enjoyment on their faces was clear to see.

In conclusion may we please say thank you to everyone who has supported us since we started dancing, particularly to those people that gave us donations or came to the Garden Party held at our home on Saturday 30th August 2014, where we raised the sum of £545.10 for the club. This money will enable us to contribute towards the cost of running our Saturday morning classes at the Woodhouse Park Lifestyle Centre. Thank you one and all.

Joan and Jim Izard

Dragon's Den

ON THE 17th SEPTEMBER, Sandra Woodhead, Elaine Chegwin Hall, Frances Farrar and Shirley Bailey headed off to the wilds of Woodford to meet with the Rotary Club's version of the Dragon's Den. Our CAMEO (Come and Meet Each Other) venture had already been selected as one of the top 10 projects out of 40 applicants and so we were sure to gain £300 towards essential items simply by turning up and delivering our presentation.

Sandra did a magnificent job explaining what we were planning to do and I was her "lovely" assistant who helped to turn over the pages of the flip chart! We heard nine other presentations from worthy causes all seeking the star prizes of £500, £1000 and £1,500. We didn't make it to the last three but Pure Insight, a charity for children leaving care, Stockport Food Bank and the Ladybrook Valley Scouts scooped the top positions.

We are grateful to the Rotary Club for Bramhall and Woodford for their support and would be pleased to hear from anyone who would like to offer any funding towards the purchases of necessary items to ensure that we start fully equipped on 30th October for our Grand Opening.

Elaine

Time to celebrate National Chocolate Week!

Monday 13th October marks the start of National Chocolate Week. For the real chocolate lovers, there is even The Chocolate Show, being held 17th – 19th October at Olympia West, in London.

CHOCOLATE MOUSSE

Ingredients: 4 eggs, separated
115g/4oz plain chocolate

Find a bowl which will fit over a pan of simmering water without the bottom of the bowl touching the water. Put the chocolate in and leave to melt, stirring occasionally towards the end. Add the egg yolks and mix. Leave 10-15 minutes and then whip the egg whites until firm but not dry. Fold in a couple of tablespoons of egg white to slacken the chocolate mixture, then fold in the remainder. Put in small glasses or dishes and leave to set in the fridge until firm.

The recipe can be varied according to the amount required, using 1 egg and 1oz chocolate per person.

Variation: Delia Smith has a recipe which is basically the same but uses double the quantity of chocolate to eggs, giving a richer pudding. Before serving, make holes in the mousse with a fine skewer and pour over ½ tablespoon rum or brandy in each dish. Top with whipped cream and finish with grated chocolate or chopped nuts. (Or both??) Serves four.

Pamela Ferguson

Annual Baby Memorial Service

Dear Friends

Once again we are holding a memorial service in St George's Church to which anyone who has ever lost a child is invited

Annual Baby Memorial Service, Sunday October 12th at 2pm. St George's Church, Buxton Road, Heaviley, Stockport, SK2 6NU.

Organised by Stepping Hill Hospital Chaplaincy.

Many thanks,

Philip.

(Rev. Philip Winn, Chaplain, Stepping Hill Hospital. 0161 419 5889)

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HYMN: The story behind ... Come Ye Thankful People Come

*Come, ye thankful people, come,
Raise the song of harvest home!
All is safely gathered in,
Ere the winter storms begin;
God, our maker, doth provide
For our wants to be supplied;
Come to God's own temple, come;
Raise the song of harvest home!*

By H Alford (1810 – 71)

VERY PROBABLY, you will sing this well-loved Harvest hymn this month. It was written by the Rev Henry Aldford, DD, a Victorian clergyman who had been a fellow student at Trinity College, Cambridge with Alfred Tennyson, and whose transparent goodness and friendliness seem to have made him liked and appreciated wherever he went.

His ministry began as vicar of Wymeswold, a tiny village in Leicestershire with a badly neglected church. Over 18 years, Henry rebuilt the faltering Christian community, faithfully visiting every person in his parish, and preaching his way through the Bible in sermons that were so clear that everyone could understand him. He then moved on to the incumbency of Quebec Chapel in London for four years, before moving to the Deanery of Canterbury, in 1857, where he lived until his death in early 1871.

Henry was one of life's good people; gentle, kindly, grateful for everything he had (he used to say 'grace' before AND after each meal) and eager to encourage all those whom he served. He was prodigiously productive writing something like 50 books. The best-known of these was a four-volume exposition of the New Testament, which took him nearly 20 years.

His famous hymn draws upon two of Jesus' parables: the story of the wheat and tares (Mt 13:24-30) and also the story of the seed that grows unbeknown to the sower (Mark 4:26-29). Both are parables drawn from agriculture; both are about the ultimate harvest of our souls before God. During this lifetime we properly give thanks to God for our harvest of His gifts of creation, but we should also reflect on what seed we are sowing in our lives, and what harvest we may expect; as one day God will gather together *only His own* for the eternal heavenly harvest.

St George's Christmas Tree Festival

Back again

IF THE AUTUMN passes as quickly as the summer did, Christmas Tree Festival time will soon be upon us. Yes, the Festival will be back again, now for the eighth time.

I can now reveal a little bit about the special treat for this Festival, something I alluded to in my previous article. Although the details are not yet fixed, I have it on good authority that there will be some type of puppet show over the weekend of the Festival. Now that is something to look forward to.

Festival hours have been extended somewhat - we will be opening at 10 am on Saturday. The details of the dates and times are given here:

Tuesday 25 November: open for setting up 10-6 pm
Wednesday 26 November: the Festival begins 12-6 pm
Thursday 27 November: Festival 12-7 pm
Friday 28 November: Festival 12-8 pm
Saturday 29 November: Festival 10-6 pm
Sunday 30 November: Festival 12-4 pm
Monday 1 December: 10-6 pm dismantling

You have probably heard the sad news that Hillcrest Grammar School has closed. They provided us with some amazing trees and choral and instrumental performances. We will miss them. However, Adswold Primary School will be taking up the Friday slot to provide us with a choral performance.

My best guess for special events during the week is:

St George's Primary - choral performance:
Wednesday afternoon
Great Moor Infants - choral performance: Thursday afternoon
Adswold Primary - choral performance: Friday afternoon
Karela School of Dance - Saturday early afternoon
Father Christmas - Saturday afternoon
Hand Bell Ringers and St George's Singing Group - Saturday or Sunday
Puppeteers - Saturday or Sunday

As usual, there will be Christmas craft for children in our lovely grotto and our café will be providing lovely cakes and biscuits, along with cups of tea and coffee. Sandra Woodhead will be creating another imaginative Prayer Trail. We hope to have over 80 trees again this year.

With your help - and you know we are dependent on lots of volunteers - we can make the 2014 Christmas Tree Festival another great event.

For further information contact Angela Wadsworth on 439 3919 or Kim Regan on 440 0408 or at d.kim.regan@gmail.com.

Men's Retreat

Saturday 25th October

We look forward to our men's day of retreat which will take place at Foxhill Retreat and Conference Centre at Frodsham on Saturday 25th October.

This will be an opportunity to take some precious time out and to enjoy the peaceful surroundings of Foxhill, which is in 70 acres of Cheshire woodland and incorporating an Arboretum with several species of rare plants and trees.

This quiet day provides a chance to step aside from the busyness of life for a while, to rest and just 'be' in a welcoming and peaceful place. Feel free to try various activities and/or simply take this opportunity to rest, reflect and to pray.

The cost of the day is £20.00 (to include lunch). To reserve your place, please contact Chris Moore (before 20th October please) either in Church or on 0161 483 7151, or by email to Curate@stgeorgestockport.org.uk.



ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH, STOCKPORT MUSIC LIST – OCTOBER 2014

Sunday 5 th October – Trinity 16			
10:15am – St George's Service		6:30pm – Evensong	
Setting:	Greening	Hymns:	457 – Hark my soul, it is the Lord 560 – Pray that Jerusalem may have peace 407 – Come, thou Traveller unknown 18 – O strength and stay
Hymns:	260 – All creatures of our God and King SP245 – Inspired by love and anger 519 – Love divine, all loves excelling 423 – Fight the good fight	Canticles:	Mag: 51 Nunc: 60 Psalm: 128,129
Anthem:	If ye love me - Tallis	Anthem:	Teach me O Lord - Attwood

Sunday 12 th October – Trinity 17	
10:15am – St George's Service	6:30pm – Harvest Celebration
All-Age Celebration	Please see special order of service for details

Sunday 19 th October – Trinity 18			
10:15am – St George's Service		6:30pm – Evensong	
Setting:	Greening	Hymns:	543 – O praise ye the Lord 534 – O for a thousand tongues 557 – Praise to the holiest in the height 17 – O gladsome light
Hymns:	368 – All my hope on God is founded 434 – Give to our God immortal praise 356 – Judge eternal, robed in splendour 267 – Thou whose almighty word	Canticles:	Mag: 45 Nunc: 62 Psalm: 145
Anthem:	Ave verum – Elgar	Anthem:	The Lord bless you and keep you - Rutter

Sunday 26 th October – All Saints/Last Sunday after Trinity			
10:15am – St George's Service with Baptism		6:30pm – Choral Evensong	
Setting:	Mass of St. Thomas	Hymns:	505 – Lord Jesus Christ 229 – Who are these like stars appearing 226 – Palms of glory, raiment bright 23 – The duteous day now closeth
Hymns:	232 – For all the saints who from their... SP114 – For all the saints (ii) 212 – Captains of the saintly band 230 – Ye watchers and ye holy ones	Canticles:	Harris in A Psalm: 119 v137-152
Anthem:	Give us the wings of faith – Bullock	Anthem:	For all thy saints - Bullard

Animals that heal the sick

IT IS being increasingly recognised that animals can help restore the health of suffering human beings. As the American child psychologist Dr Boris Levinson put it recently, "a pet is an island of sanity in what appears to be an insane world".

Dr Levinson is credited with the insight that, in the 1960s, led to the introduction of animal-assisted therapy (AAT), or pet therapy – the idea that animals can help humans to cope with, or recover from, certain medical conditions.

Dr Levinson came up with the idea of AAT after finding that he was better able to reach a withdrawn 9-year-old boy every time his dog (called Jingles) was in the room with him. With the dog present, Levinson found that he was

able to gain the trust of the boy, something that previous therapists had failed to do.

At first, physicians were sceptical, but an increasing number have used companion animals in therapy sessions in care homes and elsewhere with good results. The benefits include personal and social development, increased self-esteem, improved mental health, better social skills and increased empathy. Among those who benefit are patients with heart problems or ADHD (attention deficit hyperactivity disorder) and other types of impaired mental health.

In America and the UK, interaction with horses has proved beneficial for people with dementia and other disorders. In Sussex, a project called Intuitive Horse continues to get good results.

Five ways to be Safe on the Internet

WHAT FOLLOWS is written with youngsters in mind, but will equally apply to people in the workplace or adults at home. Just think about those contexts when you read what follows.

1. Search History

Your computer keeps a record of where you go on the internet. Youngsters need to know that it is fairly straightforward to find where they have been – even if the Search History is emptied. Youngsters need to know also that your Internet Service Provider (ISP) keeps a long-lasting record of websites accessed.

2. What Your ISP Provides

All the major ISPs now provide some filters, to prevent their customers accessing “inappropriate” websites. Please check what your ISP is offering. I would also recommend activating their filters, so that everyone using the internet on your network gets some protection. The filters are also supposed to prevent access to websites that harbour viruses. That is a very useful feature.

I would also advise installing WOT (“Web of Trust”) on each internet browser you use (e.g., Internet Explorer, Mozilla Firefox, Google Chrome). When you do a search with a search engine (e.g., Google), WOT will colour-code the list of results as safe or not.

3. What Your Domain Name Server (DNS) Provides

A Domain Name Server (DNS) is a computer somewhere in the world that converts the name of a website into numbers. For example, www.bbc.co.uk becomes 212.58.246.91

Most of us automatically use the DNS provided by our Internet Service Provider, but you can choose another DNS. One of the popular ones is OpenDNS, because it is fast, but more importantly it provides parental controls and filters to the router, thus preventing any device that connects to your network from accessing inappropriate or dangerous material. Unfortunately, not all routers allow access, but it is possible to use OpenDNS by changing settings on individual computers – worth exploring. If you’d like TLC to make the changes, please let me know and I’ll do it as part of a Full Service.

4. Net Nannies

There are programs that monitor and restrict internet access. Some are free. Windows comes with Parental Control software, so it’s worth exploring what it can do. Some Net Nanny programs can be quite fierce, limiting time on the internet, preventing access to “dangerous” sites, and some even have the facility to send an email to parent/carer if there is an attempt to access an inappropriate site!

5. Openness and Honesty

Youngsters are naturally curious, as well as very often naïve. Anything labelled a taboo just has to be examined! But as well as protecting our youngsters we also need to enable them to understand the dangers and the consequences of dangerous and inappropriate actions on the internet. They need to know that it’s OK to shout out: Mum, I think I’ve stumbled into a website that I shouldn’t be viewing!” and for you to say: “Oh

dear, let’s find out how that happened.” Perhaps a search term was ambiguous; it’s easily done.

Youngsters also need to know that using the internet inappropriately can have consequences for all users of that home network, ranging from malware infections that can have drastic effects to, in extreme situations, criminal charges. They need to know that there is help available and that it is OK to ask for help with anything online that frightens or threatens them. For youngsters and parents/carers there is a lot of guidance available. I searched for “keeping children safe on the internet”, and was immediately drawn to the NSPCC’s website. There are others, but the NSPCC looks like a very good starting point.

Openness and Honesty – two virtues that can go a long way towards keeping our youngsters safe on the internet. It is not an easy task to get the balance right between protecting our youngsters and giving them the space and opportunity to learn to manage their internet safety for themselves. Getting that balance right is an individual decision for the parent/carer concerned. But at least there are options, and help, and sound advice.

And Finally:

Many readers of this newsletter are grandparents, and the above applies as much to you. I have been called more than once to an infected computer, and when I ask the “silver surfer” if she/he is the only user of the PC, I get the reply: “Yes, I’m the only one ... oh, wait a minute, my grandson/granddaughter comes round sometimes, to use it for homework.” Grandparents, you need to be protected from the explorations of your grandchildren!

A Full Service from TLC is the perfect opportunity to check your safety measures and to install/activate any that you’d like. At no extra cost!

Time for a service? Please get in touch.
Contact Details for TLC Computer Servicing
Telephone: 0161 870 2563
Mobile: 07799 401793
Email: chris@tlc-computing.co.uk
Website: www.tlc-computing.co.uk

From medical records...

On the second day, the knee was better and on the third day it had completely disappeared.

The patient has been depressed ever since she began seeing me in 1983.

Discharge status: Alive but without permission.

She slipped on the ice in early December and her legs went in separate directions.

The patient was released to the outpatient department without dressing.

She is numb from the toes down.

Source: *Grove Jokes of the month*

Puzzle solutions

Easy Sudoku solution:

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

Intermediate Sudoku solution:

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

Crossword solution

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

Church Service Times

REGULAR SERVICES AT ST GEORGE'S:

Sunday

- 8am Holy Communion (BCP)
- 10.15am Parish Communion (Common Worship)
with Crèche and Sunday Clubs
- 6.30pm Evensong (BCP)

Wednesday

- 10am Holy Communion, followed by a short healing service on the first Wednesday of the month only.
- 7 to 7.45pm Open Door (Vestry)
(Baptisms, Banns and Marriage bookings).

St George's Opening Times:

- Mon and Tue: 9.15am to noon
- Wednesday: 9.30am to 11am
and 7 to 7.45pm
- Saturday: 9am to 11am

REGULAR SERVICES AT ST GABRIEL'S:

Sunday

- 9.30 am Holy Communion

Stockport **NHS**
NHS Foundation Trust

ANNUAL BABY MEMORIAL SERVICE

SUNDAY 12TH OCTOBER

2.00pm

Ending with light refreshments at 2.45pm

**St. George's Church,
Buxton Road, Stockport, SK2 6NU.**

Candles are lit, flowers distributed and balloons released
as we remember babies briefly known but dearly loved.

Anyone who has ever lost a child is welcome to attend.

More details from the hospital chaplaincy:
0161 419 5889 or hospital.chapel@stockport.nhs.uk

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MARPLE CHORAL SOCIETY

Musical Director: Michael Segaud



Autumn Concert

Saturday, 22nd November

7.30pm

Norbury Parish Church,
London Road, Hazel Grove
SK7 4RF

Benjamin Britten - *St Nicholas*
Vaughan Williams - *Fantasia on
Christmas Carols*
Craig Courtney - *A Musicological
Journey through the Twelve Days of
Christmas*

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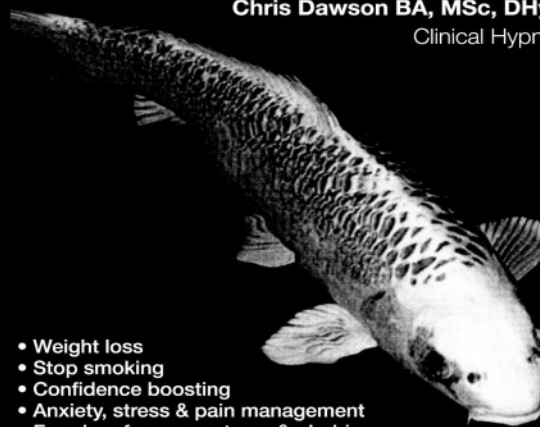
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