

## May 2021 **£1**

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.



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

Vicar Rev. Canon Elaine Chegwin Hall Praise and Play Parish Office vicar@stgeorgestockport.org.uk 456 9382 Rev. Dr Janine Arnott **Assistant Curate** rev.janinearnott@outlook.com 612 1048 Peter Hall 456 9382 Reader St Gabriel's **Messy Church** Rev. Canon Elaine Chegwin Hall Churchwardens Andrew Regan 440 0408

483 4679

440 0408

480 2453

439 8644

480 0630

456 9382

01663 764 462

480 0630

456 3093

480 2453

483 8681

286 2301

480 2453

07400 883938

Hazel Jenkins

Andrew Regan

Marion McCall

Richard Parr

Will Hesson

Peter Hall

John Hardy

Will Hesson

Parish Office or

Judith Swift

John Sutcliffe

Parish Office

Ian Staley

**PCC Secretary** 

**PCC Treasurer** 

**Parish Office** 

Website

Webmaster

St George's

Verger

**Deputy Wardens** 

**Director of Music** 

**Bookings for Parish Rooms** 

**Magazine Editor** 

Safeguarding co-ordinator

St George's Primary School

Andrea Webb Reilly

treasurer@stgeorgestockport.org.uk

For 0-4s and their carers. Meet every Monday in term time, 9-11 in church. Story time at 10am.

For children and their parents.

Meet occasionally, usually

Saturday mornings.

480 2453

456 9382

James Hibbert 07365 519207 actingdirectorofmusic@gmail.com Practise Thursdays 7.30-9pm in the vestry. Sing on Sundays at 10.15am and 4pm services.

#### **Church Cleaners**

Meet on 1st Tuesday of every month 9.30-12 noon.

Church Flowers Marjorie Lees 483 3676

Jean Hayden (donations)

483 2367

#### **Church Gardeners**

Cursillo

Handbells

Walter Stead 430 2449 Meet on Tuesdays 9.30-12.30.

Coffee Mornings (Weds) 483 6548 Olwen Smith Wednesdays from 10.30am in

the Parish Room.

Usually meet on last Wednesday of the month.

7.30pm at different venues.

**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**

439 8644 Richard Parr Meet monthly to plan future issues.

Mothers' Union Pat Durnall 483 4837 Meet on 2nd Monday of the

month in church at 2.15pm.

**Singing Group** James Hibbert 07365 519207

actingdirectorofmusic@gmail.com Sing about once a month at the All-Age Service, with one practice beforehand. All

welcome.

Front cover photo

The Garden of Remembrance at

St George's, in bloom on the

morning of the fourth Sunday

after Easter.

(photo by Andrew Regan)

#### **Uniformed Groups**

### with connections to St George's

Rainbows Trisha Brown 07403 353 175 Sue Kirkland 07854 101 918

For girls aged 5-7. Meet Fridays 6.15-7.30pm in the

Parish Room.

**Brownies** Rachel Lockett 775 2755

Voni Walker 07956 674 241 For girls aged 7-10. Meet Thursdays 6.30-8pm in the

Parish Room.

Headteacher Deborah Grindrod 480 8657

James Hibbert 07365 519207

actingdirectorofmusic@gmail.com

www.stgeorgestockport.org.uk

Guides

Cubs

**Scouts** 

Bill Frith 439 3232 Beavers For boys and girls ages 6 and 7

Meet Fridays 6-7pm at rear of Trinity Methodist Church.

Bill Frith 439 3232 For boys and girls ages 8-10½. Meet Fridays 7.15-8.45pm at rear of Trinity Methodist

Church.

Elizabeth Goodred

Elizabeth.goodred@stockportscouts.org.uk

For boys and girls ages 101/2-14. Meet Wednesdays 7-9pm at rear of Trinity Methodist

Church.

#### Other Groups and Activities

#### St George's

485 6477 **Bell ringers** Anne Maves

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.

#### **Chancel Guild**

Meet on 2nd Tuesday of every month, 9.30-12 noon to care for the chancel.

## Services and events in May:

see page 6

### **Children's Activities** St George's

### Children's Corner

St Gabriel's

Secretary

**Bookings** 

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

and soft toys.

#### **Sunday Club** Louise Clark 483 3703

For children of nursery and school age. Meet during the 10.15am Parish Communion service most weeks during

term time.

#### **Junior Choir** James Hibbert 07365 519207

Practise 6.30-7.30 on Thursdays in the vestry; sing on Sundays for 10.15am service.

## From the Editor:

Dear Readers,

IN THE APRIL editorial, I mentioned how welcome it is to see the gardens, roadsides and trees transformed by the advent of spring. The blossoms this year seem to have been particularly magnificent. They always remind me of the blossom fights my daughter used to enjoy with the slightly older little girl next door. Alison is now a mum and a police sergeant; Cindy is a highly respected academic in Australia. Time certainly doesn't stand still for any of us!

In the editorial I also mentioned contrasting attitudes towards spring described by two poets, Chaucer and T. S. Eliot. Chaucer's poem is much more positive towards springtime, and he goes on in his opening lines of *The Canterbury Tales* to tell us that spring is the time when 'longen folk to goon on pilgrimages'. If the adverts currently on television and in the newspapers for exciting holidays are anything to 'goon on', Chaucer isn't alone in his view! My own outings in the next few days might not strictly count as 'holidays', but a visit to the hairdresser, followed by a trip to the Etihad Stadium for a second covid vaccination, are certainly exciting and greatly anticipated!

Most of us, of course, don't often embark on what medieval Christians would have termed a pilgrimage, visiting a holy site, or somewhere with important connections to perhaps a much-loved martyr. Having said that, I have a friend who annually visits the shrine at Walsingham in Norfolk, and was very sad at missing out last year. And Elaine and Peter have walked many miles on their pilgrimages to visit various interesting churches. I

did also meet my wife, Margaret, on a holiday to the Holy Land, many years ago! Whether she now regards subsequent events as reasons for rejoicing or closer to martyrdom, I leave to your judgment!

My dictionary defines a pilgrim as someone who journeys to a sacred place for religious reasons, but also as someone travelling through life, or simply 'a traveller.' That portmanteau definition certainly covers us all, even if physical travelling has been difficult recently. So we are all pilgrims, however young or old we are. The Bible makes it clear, though, that we are never alone on our journeys. The Psalmist tells us in the wonderful Psalm 139 that, 'You know my thoughts even when I'm far away. You see me when I travel and when I rest at home ... You go before me and follow me.' The prophet Haggai encourages the Israelites returned from exile in Babylon with a message from the Lord, who simply tells them, 'I am with you.' And the final words of Jesus in Matthew's Gospel tell us to be sure that, 'I am with you always, even to the end of the age.'

So continue to enjoy this beautiful, God-given time of year, with or without blossom fights! As Psalm 37 says, God 'delights in every detail' of our lives. I am sure that he is pleased when we praise him for the everyday beauties that surround us on our journeys. I am also sure that he is with us, every step of the way.

God bless! Richard Parr. Editor.



## What's Where...

- P 2 Who's who
- P 3 Editorial
- P 5 Clergy letter and Smile you're on camera!
- P 6 Parish News and Service times
- P 7 Mourning for HRH Prince Philip and Floodlighting form
- P 8 The Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme
- P 9 Key moments in the life of the Duke of Edinburgh

- P 10 Children's Page
- P 11 Eco efforts and Mr Crow and Baptism Helpers
- P 13 Puzzles and cartoon
- P 14 A green hill not so far away...
- P 15 Garden Gnomes
- P16 "Give me plain English" "Are you sure?"
- P17 Fogging? I haven't the foggiest idea what you're talking about.
- P 18 A Lockdown Lament

- P 19 Recipe of the Month: Spicy Salmon Kedgeree
- P 20 The Davenport Meccano Club
- P 21 Contentious Christianity
- P 22 Music List
- P 23 Giving Through The GivingMachine. Puzzle solutions and Be Filled with the Spirit



Brook House, Brook Road, Cheadle, SK8 1PQ

Tel. 0161 428 2097

www.jasfunerals.co.uk

Family-run
24 Hour Service
Private Rest Rooms
Golden Charter Funeral Plans





Serving the community since 1863



71, London Road, Hazel Grove, SK7 4AX

Tel. 0161 483 3414

www.ghfunerals.co.uk

Family-run

24 Hour Service

Private Rest Rooms

Golden Charter Funeral

Plans



Serving the community for over half a century

## Would you like to advertise in this magazine?

There are 10 issues of Grapevine magazine a year

Approximately 300 copies are printed each month. The current rates per issue are:

Full page: £50 Half page: £30 1/3rd page: £20 Quarter page: £15 1/6th page: £10

We can assist with the design of your display, if necessary, and make no charge for this. Interested? Contact the Editor: e-mail ricmar77@gmx.com or tel. 0161 439 8644.

## **GRAPEVINE** would like to thank all our loyal advertisers

for their understanding and backing during this difficult period.

If you can, please continue to support them.

## Grapevine magazine is in digital form

Please note: Grapevine magazine will be published in digital form only during the current coronavirus restrictions. Copies can be downloaded from our website at www.stgeorgestockport.org.uk



## **Elaine writes:**

"You're never fully dressed without your smile".

Words from one of my favourite people,
Frances Farrar. Frances always had many pearls of wisdom to

offer, some of which are printable, others maybe not, but

she was and is the kind of person who makes you smile, who sees the joy of possibility and delights in the company of others.

## "You're never fully dressed without your smile".

There is more than a grain of truth in that, because we can get dressed up to the nines and look the part but without that smile to draw the whole outfit and occasion together, then it's just like going through the motions. There is no light behind the eyes, there is no investment or connection, and so it always seems that there is something missing.

Now that we have been wearing face coverings for over a year, how have we coped without seeing the smiles and the little

expressions of acknowledgement which show that we've been heard, appreciated and loved?

How have we managed without the familiar human response of touch? How have we felt about the lack of a hug when life is tough, a gentle squeeze of encouragement or a handshake in greeting at a funeral?

These ordinary actions have been absent, and our reactions feel inadequate to times of celebration and sorrow. Something is not quite right, and we leave those situations feeling that, somehow, we have let people down.

So how do we let people know that we care for them? How can we communicate our empathy and our interest? How do we share the special moments of connection?

## "You're never fully dressed without your smile".

Despite the fact that people can't always see us smile, they can see us smile with our eyes, with our body language, with the tone of our voice, with offerings of prayer and by our willingness to give time to people when they need it most.

With every blessing Elaine



## Smile - you're on camera!

THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE have been able to access our services because of a few people's willingness to point a camera phone in the direction of the worship leaders.

We have all been learning the tricks of the trade as we have been going along and are keen to share them with other people.

Even if you might not describe yourself as *techie* (neither did we) you might be able to help live stream some services for us.

Our fabulous churchwardens have been covering the services in church in the main, but I would love it if they could take a bit of a break, a weekend off perhaps, or at least have the opportunity to concentrate on one job per service rather than having to constantly juggle.

Let's show how much we appreciate them and ask them how things are set up for streaming and consider stepping up, on occasion, to help.

It's probably not as scary as you might think.

Thanks.

Elaine

## **Parish News Roundup**

## **Parish News Roundup**

## **Parish News Roundup**

### **Holy Baptism**

None last month

## **Holy Matrimony**

None last month

#### **Funerals**

6th Apr Vincent Spencer

## Communion Flowers were sponsored as follows:

#### Main altar:

4th Apr Peter Pilbeam, in loving

memory of Margaret

Pilbeam

11th Apr Dorothy Thompson, in

loving memory of Allan

Thompson

18th Apr Hazel Jenkins, in loving

memory of Harry and Vera

James

25th Apr In loving memory of John

Puddifoot, from Janice and

family

#### Sanctuary pedestal:

4th Apr Kathleen Heaword, in

loving memory of Bertha

Heaword

### **Geoffrey Oldham**

Janet Neilson and family, with all the Oldham and Hopkins families, would like to thank everyone for the many prayers, cards, lovely memories and donations they have received since Dad, Geoffrey Oldham, died in February.

### The Treasurer of St George's

We should like to express our very warm and grateful thanks to Steven Kelly for his many years' work as church treasurer. His diligence and efficiency, as well as his wise advice, have contributed greatly to the smooth running of St George's and St Gabriel's, often in very difficult times of great financial pressure. The work of the treasurer, for much of the time unseen, enables us to fulfil our mission. Thank you very much, Steven.

We should also like to welcome our new treasurer, Andrew Regan, who has kindly agreed to succeed Steven in the rôle, despite his many other duties and responsibilities. Andrew will be assisted where possible by other members of the church and PCC. We are more than grateful to him for his willingness to take on the post.

'Finance is, as it were, the stomach of the country, from which all the other organs take their tone.' (W.E. Gladstone, 1858)

#### The Big Clean-up

We should like to thank all those people who contributed to making sure that the church was spotlessly clean and safe for the recent reopening. It was — and still is — a brilliant effort by many kind and hardworking people. Well done, everyone!

#### **Grapevine Dates**

As most of you will know, Grapevine is normally available to readers on the first Sunday of each month. This was true for the normal printed magazine, and is also true for our current digital issues.

It would be helpful if any events taking place on the first Sunday of the month, or on any days before that Sunday, could be advertised, wherever possible, in the previous month's magazine, so that everyone is aware of them.

Please, therefore, if you wish to have such notices published, could you please ensure that they are included by the deadline dates for the magazine, that are always printed in Grapevine, both in the Parish News pages and on the back page.

Many thanks. Richard Parr.

## Baptisms, Banns and Marriage bookings:

Please contact the vicar. Telephone: 0161 456 9382

or email:

vicar@stgeorgestockport.org.uk.

#### June 2021

### Grapevine magazine dates:

Deadline copy date: Fri 21st May Committee meeting: via email

## Services at St George's in May

We will continue to be open for **congregational worship** for many services in May. Other services will be live streamed, as indicated below. Please see our Facebook page and website for the latest information.

#### Services in church, with congregation

Wednesdays: 9.30am Morning Prayer (also live streamed)

10.00am Holy Communion (BCP)

**Sundays:** 8am Holy Communion (BCP)

10.15am Parish Communion (also live

streamed)

Ascension Day: Thursday 13th May, 7.30pm

**Holy Communion** 

The church will be open for individual private prayer

in the chapel as follows:

Wednesdays and Sundays: 11am to 12 noon

#### Live streamed services

Mondays to Fridays: 9.30am Morning Prayer (also in

church on Wednesdays)

**Sundays:** 10.15am Parish Communion (also

in church)
9pm Compline

Sunday 30th May: 4pm Choral Evensong

#### **Online events:**

Friday 4th Jun: 1pm Messy Church Bake Off

Saturday 5th Jun: 1pm Messy Church Craft

Sunday 6th Jun: 5pm Story Time

## Mourning for HRH Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh



(photo: Andrew Regan)

FOLLOWING THE DEATH of HRH Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh on 9th April, the Union Flag flew at half mast at St George's during the official period of mourning, and St George's Church was open from Friday 9th April to Sunday 11th April, for people to remember Prince Philip . A special service was held at 6pm on Friday 16th April, on the eve of Prince Philip's funeral.

	George's floodlighting – sponsorship request form ase return to Steven Kelly, 5 Holly Road, Bramhall, SK7 1HH).
Name	Phone no
Date of evening requested	£10 or £ donation enclosed (Please make cheques payable to St George's Stockport PCC)
Reason for request (if appropriat	e)
If you are a taxpayer and would I Aid declaration:	ike the church to reclaim the tax on your donation please also complete the following Gift
	f £ to St George's Church, Stockport. I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay ains Tax in the current tax year than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations it ference.
Title First name or initial(s	s)Surname

Signature.....

*Post Code .....* 

Date .....

## The Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme

WHILST WE MOURN the death of the Duke of Edinburgh, the media and newspapers have reminded us of the many charitable organisations he supported. One of these was the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme, which is a youth awards programme, founded in 1956 by Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, and since expanded to 144 nations. The awards recognise adolescents and young adults for completing a series of self-improvement exercises modelled on a German refugee's observation, that when boys reached the age of 13, an awkward age, they often lost their freshness and charm – sometimes forever. This refugee belonged to a secret society called the Anti-lout

society, and he diagnosed six societal

ills:

lack of physical fitness
decline of initiative and enterprise
decline of imagination
decline of craftsmanship
decline of self discipline
decline of compassion.

Kurt Hahn was that German Jew, born in 1886, who opposed and fled the Nazis in 1933, but, before then, in 1920, had co-founded a school for boys in Salem, in the German state of Baden-Wurttemberg. Pupils at that school had to go for a run before breakfast, drink milk at mealtimes, do 45 minutes of athletics during the mid-morning break and, after lunch, lie flat on their backs for 45 minutes, whilst a teacher or

older pupil read aloud to them. They also helped with the upkeep of the school.

Hahn left Germany to settle in Scotland, where he founded Gordonstoun School in 1934. He took over a stately home in Morayshire, an area where he had spent time while a student at Oxford before WWI. He ran the school along similar lines to the school he had co-founded in Germany, where Philip had arrived in the autumn term 1933.

Philip was one of the first pupils at Gordonstoun, having moved to the UK from Germany, and this was where he spent the rest of his schooldays. The timetable was much the same as that in Germany – the boys rose at 6.30am for a cold shower and a run and at 21.15 there was a quarter of an hour of silence, to enable the pupil to 'glean the harvest from his manifold experiences' before lights out.

In 1937 Hahn started the Moray Badge Scheme, allowing children living nearby to get physical training, take part in expeditions and complete a project before earning an award. The Duke of Edinburgh gained this

badge whilst at the school. The Moray Badge was such a success that Hahn wanted to make it a national one. He consulted with Prince Philip, who, following discussions with the Minister of Education in 1955, consulted a number of national voluntary youth organisations with a 'boy' membership, with a view to starting a pilot. Led by Sir John Hunt of Everest fame, who became the first director, the pilot was launched in February 1956.

Hahn had persuaded the Duke of Edinburgh to give his name to this scheme, which became the Duke of Edinburgh's Award. After the first year, 7,000 boys had started the DofE programme and 1000 awards had been

achieved. By the second year, other small-scale pilots overseas and a programme for girls had also been set up.

Each level – bronze, silver and gold – demands more time and commitment from participants – bronze, 3-6 months; silver, 6-9 months; gold, 12-18 months. Participants are required to show regular activity and commitment to the award for the duration of their DofE programme, which is usually one hour per week. The programmes take between one to four years to complete, and they must be completed by the participant's 25th birthday.

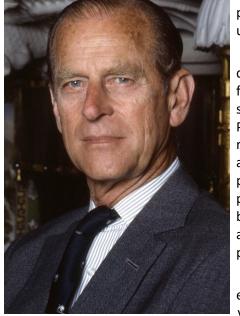
Participants are set objectives in each of the following areas: volunteering, physical activity, developing practical and social skills

and taking part in an expedition – gold level participants must also do an additional fifth residential section, staying away from home for several days, doing a shared activity.

Popularity continues to grow. In the UK in 2019/20, 295,490 young people started a DofE programme and a record 159,051 awards were achieved through schools, colleges, universities, youth groups, businesses, housing associations, young offender institutions, voluntary organisations and more.

Three of our grandchildren have completed the bronze award (despite covid restrictions) and I think they would all agree it was a worthwhile experience. But, more importantly, about 12 years ago, Jenna Burt, one of the young members of the congregation, having completed the Gold and final discipline, gained the award. She was invited to London to receive the award which, on that day, was presented by the Duke himself (a rare event as not all the awards were presented by the Duke of Edinburgh, but usually by a royal representative). That was certainly a day to remember!

Information gained fromWikipedia (and Sue Burt, Jenna's mother!) Rosie Stead



(photo by Allan Warren, licensed under <u>CC BY-SA 3.0</u>)

## Key moments in the life of the Duke of Edinburgh

- **June 20, 1921** Born in Corfu to Prince Andrew of Greece and Princess Alice of Battenberg. Sixth in line to the Greek throne.
- **September 1922** Philip's family is banished from Greece after Prince Andrew is court-martialled over his part in Greece's defeat during the war with Turkey.
- **1922-28** They settle in Saint-Cloud near Paris after a Royal Navy warship takes them to safety.
- **1928** Philip is sent to school in Britain and lives with his mother's family, the Mountbattens. His mother is diagnosed with schizophrenia and spends eight years in hospital before becoming a nun. His father moves to Monte Carlo with his mistress.
- 1933 Philip moves to boarding school in Germany. The school's Jewish founder flees the Nazis and sets up Gordonstoun in Scotland, where Philip is sent shortly afterwards. He spends the rest of his schooldays at Gordonstoun.
- **1937** His sister, Cecile, her husband and three shildren are killed in a plane crash.
- **1937** He leaves Gordonstoun and joins the Navy. He meets his future wife when she visits Dartmouth Royal Naval College with her father, King George VI.
- **1941** Sees action during the Battle of Crete and is mentioned in dispatches after the Battle of Cape Matapan.
- **1942** Promoted to become one of the Navy's youngest lieutenants.
- **1943** Takes part in the invasion of Sicily as second in command of destroyer HMS Wallace.
- 1944 Joins the Pacific Fleet fighting the Japanese.
- **July 9, 1947** Engagement to Princess Elizabeth is announced 18 months after his return to UK.
- **November 20, 1947** Marries Princess Elizabeth in Westminster Abbey in a service that is broadcast to more than 200 million people around the world. Prince Charles is born a year later.
- **1950** Philip is promoted to Lieutenant Commander and Princess Anne is born.
- **February 6, 1952** King George VI dies while Philip and Elizabeth are on tour in Kenya.
- June 2, 1953 Elizabeth is crowned Queen with Philip as her consort.
- **1956** Philip and his old mentor, Kurt Hahn, launch the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme.
- 1957 Philip is given the title of His Royal Highness.
- February 19, 1960 Second son, Prince Andrew, is born.
- **1961** Philip becomes UK president of the World Wildlife Fund but is criticised after he shoots a tiger during a hunt in India.

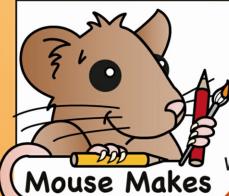
- March 10, 1964 The couple's fourth child, Prince Edward, is born.
- **July 1, 1969** The Investiture of Charles as the Prince of Wales takes place at Caernarfon Castle.
- **November 14, 1973** Wedding of Princess Anne to Captain Mark Phillips.
- **1977** Philip goes on a three month tour of Britain with the Queen, to mark her Silver Jubilee.
- **November 15, 1977** Becomes a grandad when Princess Anne's son, Peter Philips, is born.
- August 27, 1979 Philip's uncle and Charles's mentor, Louis Mountbatten, is killed by an IRA bomb on a boat in Ireland.
- July 29, 1981 Charles marries Lady Diana Spencer at St Paul's.
- **June 21, 1982** Prince William is born, followed two years later by Prince Harry.
- **1992** Charles and Diana's marriage breaks down. Philip tries to help them reconcile, but they separate.
- **August 31, 1997** Diana is killed in a car crash in Paris. A week later, Philip walks behind her coffin with Charles, William, Harry and her brother, Earl Spencer.
- **2002** A month after the Queen Mother's death, Philip and the Queen embark on tours around the UK and abroad, to mark her Golden Jubilee.
- **2007** The couple celebrate their diamond wedding anniversary.
- **April 29, 2011** Attends Prince William's wedding to Kate Middleton. Two months later, after his 90th birthday, Philip announces he will reduce his public duties.
- June, 2012 Celebrates the Queen's Diamond Jubilee at a pageant on the Thames. Falls ill with a bladder infection and is taken to hospital.
- **July 27, 2012** The Queen and Prince Philip open the London Olympics.
- **July 22, 2013** Great-grandson, Prince George, is born and becomes third in line to the throne.
- **August 2, 2017** Philip retires from royal duties and three months later celebrates his 70th wedding anniversary.
- May 19, 2018 Attends the wedding of Prince Harry to Meghan Markle.
- **January 17, 2019** Walks away unhurt after his car overturns near the Sandringham estate.
- March 16, 2021 Leaves hospital after a month-long stay.
- April 9, 2021 Prince Philip dies at Windsor Castle, aged 99.

Stockport Express, Wednesday, April 14, 2021



## STOCKPORT GRAMMAR SCHOOL

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



On the day of PENTECOST the disciples were gathered together in one place...

What sound did they hear?

Acts 2:2

What did they see?

Acts 2:3

Widase Make

Re arrange the scrambled letters to find the missing words.



The Holy Spirit helps us to **WKNO** 

we belong to God.

The Holy Spirit **H C T S E E A**us about God.

The Holy Spirit

KPESSA

God's word to us.

The Holy Spirit

PHLSE

us to tell others
about Jesus.

The Holy Spirit helps us when we

AYPR

What filled them?

Acts 2:4

How did they speak?

Acts 2:4

What did the crowd hear?

Acts 2:6

Which countries had they come from?

Acts 2:9

What was their reaction?

Acts 2:12-13

Who explained
what was
happening?
What did he say?

Acts 2:14-36

How many people were baptised

that day? Acts 2:41



Change each letter to the letter before it in the alphabet and see what the **Holy Spirit** produces in us:

KPZ
IVNJMJUZ
TFMG DPOUSPM
GBJUIGVMOFTT
LJOEOFTT
QBUJFODF
QFBDF
MPWF
HPPEOFTT

Galatians 5:22

What is the work of the **Holy Spirit**? What does He do? *Fill in the missing letters*.



COMF\_RTS

REVE(A\_

TRAN\_FORMS



GU\_DES

\_SENEWS CONV\_CTS

SANC\_IFIES

## **Eco efforts and Mr Crow**

IN EARLY APRIL 2020, we were still trying to absorb the shock of being denied the weekly task of meeting grandchildren from school, feeding them and playing with them until their mother returned from work. Strangely, the government letter advising shielding, which arrived soon after, did not feel nearly as shocking. It became obvious almost immediately that our social lives would rely heavily, and sometimes exclusively, on our phones, tablets and computers.

It was then that Mr Crow arrived. I had put a shallow dish on the lawn with the bony remains of a roast leg of lamb and some rather shrivelled grapes, and turned to continue weeding my little herb garden. After a few minutes, a loud "Caw!" and some scrabbling made me turn back – this was Mr Crow announcing his arrival.



photo: Angela Foulkes

The fact that we have not been away from home, even for a day, has probably helped, but I do not think that any day since then has passed without his presence at some point. Family phone chats soon included bulletins on his behaviour. It has to be admitted that Mr Crow is a bully, using his voice and size to clear his path to any titbits available. His imperious "Caw" turned into a comical little squawk the day he was faced with the sudden descent of a massive gull – like all bullies, he is cowardly.

To the children's delight, he brought Mrs Crow, who clearly deferred to him and, not long afterwards, three large babies who, just as clearly, did not! Almost the same size as their parents, they nonetheless begged to be fed, hopping around the dish with their beaks wide open and yelling loudly.

Up to that point, I had felt happy, reflecting that all the smaller birds were also receiving service, with favoured food sited in cat-free zones. It was probably inevitable, particularly as there could be up to seven corvids at a time bouncing around on the lawn, that feline interest would be roused.



unknown photographer, licensed under CC BY-SA

The most persistent visitor is a ginger and white female, who – despite a sleek, plump body and a bejewelled collar! – tries her best to portray a starving stray, turning sad, appealing eyes on any impressionable human nearby. I try to show that it is Mr Packham's penetrating stare that holds sway over this household, but does any cat ever believe anything that does not suit its purpose?

I am going to rely on the lookout crow to help make the food vanish quickly. Although I have never seen him, I am sure he exists, otherwise how could I so often find birds landing even before the dish has been placed on the grass? What more can I do?

> Angela Foulkes (with thanks to Margaret Parr for discovering exactly the right photo for the arrival of the cat)

## **Baptism Helpers**

We have been so blessed by this joyful group of people over the years as they have supported the clergy and baptism families at such a significant moment in their lives.

Sadly Irene Hinde and Ann Jones died last year and they had made a huge contribution to this ministry. Whilst they are understandably irreplaceable we do need some extra members to ensure that we give the best possible care and attention to those who come to our church for baptism.

We have had a lovely flurry of baptism bookings just recently so the pressure is on for us to get some extra help. Could you consider offering to be part of the group? We can work around your availability. Baptisms are generally at 12.30 and, working together, we are usually away by around 1.15pm.

Please could you speak to the clergy or to Kim Regan who leads this group. Thank you.

## The Howe *Practice*

Formerly Eric Thorniley & Co

### Worried about Wills, Probate or Powers of Attorney?

We can offer an online service or, if you have no computer access, a telephone consultation.

All fast, efficient, friendly and in complete confidence

#### **Solicitors**

2 Waterloo Court, Waterloo Road, Stockport SK1 3DL

Telephone: 0161 480 2629 Facsimile: 0161 480 0015

Email: johnhowe@thehowepractice.co.uk



## F.W. Jackson & Son

Painting and Decorating Established 1946

## Warwick Jackson

Quality and Professionalism guaranteed

14 The Fairway Stockport SK2 5DR

email: wozjackson@yahoo.com

Mobile: 07811 153932



digital and offset-litho print and design

Tel/Fax: 0161 480 2707 Email: frankaspinall@hotmail.com



- Business Stationery •
- Booklets Ncr sets Envelopes •
- Invoices Flyers plus more
  - Competitive prices •

BUILDING 4 UNIT 5, TAMESIDE BUSINESS PARK, WINDMILL LANE, DENTON, MANCHESTER M34 3QS.

# ATKINSON ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS LIMITED

Domestic and Industrial Contractors with over 25 years experience

#### LARGE and SMALL JOBS UNDERTAKEN

New installations/maintenance
Repairs/rewiring
Part P Registered
JIB approved
Burglar alarms and security lighting systems

Telephone 0161 449 8851 108 Windlehurst Road, High Lane Mobile: 07770 433080



Professional and friendly clinic

We offer a complete range of foot care solutions catered to your individual needs

## Julie Froggatt-Bailey

M.Sc.Sports Injury & Therapy, B.Sc.(Hons) Pod.Med., M.Ch.S **HCPC Registered Podiatrist/Chiropodist** 

Acorn House, 15 Garners Lane, Davenport, Stockport, SK3 8SD

Conveniently located near Davenport train station

0161 612 3037



07740 943467



julie-fb@mail.com www.stockportpodiatrist.uk



## KNUTTON & Cº OPTICIANS

INDEPENDENT EYECARE SINCE 1912

Welcome Back!
We are now open by appointment,
in a COVID safe manner

Call Sue on 0161 456 3623 or book online at www.knutton.co

132 Bramhall Lane, Davenport, Stockport, SK3 8SB

hello@knutton.co



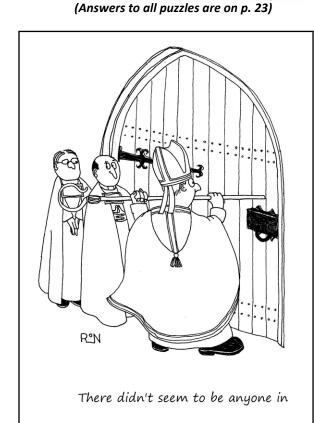
### Sudoku puzzle: easy

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

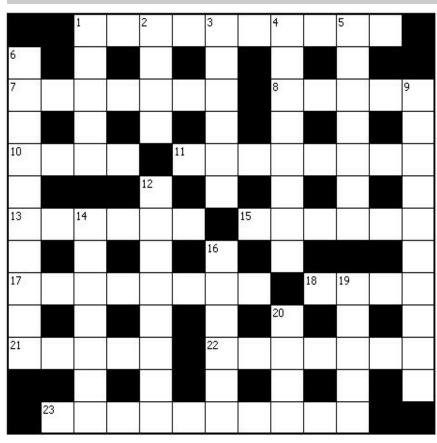
### Sudoku puzzle: intermediate

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

© 2013 KrazyDa



## Crossword



#### **Across**

- 1 Sense of right and wrong (1 Corinthians 8:7) (10)
- **7** Coming (John 11:17) (7)
- 8 'All I have is , and all you have is mine' (John 17:10)
  (5)
- **10** Smarten (Acts 9:34) (4)
- 11 Hold back (Job 9:13) (8)
- **13** Member of the Society of Friends (6)
- **15** At ague (anag.) (6)
- 17 Citizen of the Greek capital(8)
- **18** So be it (Galatians 6:18) (4)
- 21 Twentieth-century poet and dramatist who wroteMurder in the Cathedral, T.S.— (5)
- **22** Empowers (*Philippians 3:21*) (7)
- 23 Imposing (1 Samuel 9:2) (10)

#### Down

- 1 Healed (Luke 7:21) (5)
- 2 Central space in a church (4)
- 3 Co-founder of Spring Harvest and General Secretary of the Evangelical Alliance 1983–97, Clive — (6)
- 4 Moses killed one when he saw him beating a Hebrew labourer (Exodus 2:12) (8)
- **5** Bravery (Acts 4:13) (7)
- 6 It interrupted Paul and Silas singing hymns in a Philippian jail (Acts 16:26) (10)
- 9 Transgression (Psalm 36:1) (10)
- 12 Irish province in which Dublin is situated (8)
- **14** Same hit (anag.) (7)
- 16 'The Spirit of God was hovering over the '
  (Genesis 1:2) (6)
- **19** Author of the immortal stories of Winnie the Pooh, A.A. (5)
- 20 Cab (4)

## A green hill not so far away...

A FEW DAYS AGO, encouraged by the sunny weather, I went for a walk up to the top of Werneth Low. From there you can enjoy the panorama of the Cheshire plain, views of Manchester, Oldham, and Winter Hill in the distance, and the Pennine hills to the east. It was a beautiful morning, with the leaves and blossom appearing on the trees. In several of the fields, there were a number of newborn lambs, with their pure white fleeces and innate curiousity giving them an aura of natural innocence. It was a quite uplifting moment, with a feeling that spring had really arrived and there was new life to look forward to.

Looking back on this later, the linking of lambs with innocence prompted me to think about other examples of how we imbue animals with human characteristics.

White doves are often seen as a symbol of purity and peace. The lion is seen as king of beasts, while the soaring eagle rules the skies. We talk of the wise old owl taking its daytime nap in the tree and the wily fox, perhaps overlooking the fact that they are both efficient predators in their separate ways.

The Bible, of course, is full of similar analogies. But while our everyday use is, perhaps, a bit cosy, often the Biblical use has a deeper and more sombre significance. In Jewish religious practice, lambs and sheep were sacrificial animals. Abraham's sacrificing of a ram in place of his son, Isaac, is the most memorable early reference to this.

In later times the poorer people were allowed to offer a pair of doves, as Mary and Joseph did at the temple, to consecrate their baby son, Jesus. Doves were connected with Noah and the flood, marking the subsiding of the flood waters, and God's promise of redemption to mankind.

It's significant that lambs and doves are mentioned in the New Testament accounts of Jesus' baptism. In St John's Gospel, John the Baptist hails Jesus as 'the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.' St Mark describes the event as 'the heavens were torn open' – a sense of violent upheaval – as the Spirit descended, in contrast, like a dove.

It is a reminder, perhaps, that innocence and peace have to compete with violence and upheaval in our fallen world. One other aspect of sheep is their waywardness, their ability to get into difficulties; how a flock seems to follow their 'leader', regardless of the risks that they may encounter. The shepherd's role is crucial in this respect. Sadly, mankind has the tendency to be sheep-like in the way we live, which is why Jesus stressed that he was the good shepherd who truly cares for his flock, in comparison with the hired hand, who is only concerned with his own well-being.

The challenge for all of us is to decide who is the good shepherd. One problem of the effect of the internet on modern society is the way it can spread false and erroneous information so rapidly. We have seen it in recent times with the claims that coronavirus is not a threat, declaring instead that 'fake news' is being used to control the population. In some countries it has cost thousands of lives. It is a reminder of the importance of distinguishing between truth and falsehood in the news and in what we read or hear from others.

To choose correctly, we need to try to look at things as Jesus would, to sort the wheat from the chaff.

In the UK, thanks to the endeavours of scientists, doctors, health and social care teams, plus the people who volunteered to be guinea pigs for vaccinations, and the many others who have worked so hard to keep society from collapsing, we can start to see progress in our task of getting back to normality.

But it will take time – both nationally and, equally important, internationally – if we are to be successful in overcoming this scourge. As individuals, and as a nation, we will have to continue to make sacrifices in the days ahead. Let us do so willingly, remembering our Lord's command – to love our neighbours as ourselves – whoever and wherever they may be.

In doing so, we will be playing our part in bringing the kingdom of love, signified by the Lamb of God, the Dove of Peace, to our world.

Walter Stead Editorial in the Stockport Sunday School newsletter May 2021, reproduced with their kind permission

## Gardening really is good for you

ACCORDING TO a recent study conducted by the Royal Horticultural Society (RHS) and two universities, people who garden every day have well-being scores 6.6 per cent higher, and stress levels 4.2 per cent lower than those who do not garden at all.

Dr Lauriane Chalmin-Pui, RHS well-being fellow and lead author says, "The evidence overwhelmingly suggests that the more frequently you garden, the greater the health benefits.

"In fact, gardening every day has the same positive impact on your well-being as undertaking regular, vigorous exercise like cycling or running.

"Gardening is like effortless exercise: it doesn't feel as strenuous as going to the gym, but we can expend similar amounts of energy."

### **Garden Gnomes**

AS I WRITE this article the country is about to prepare for the second phase of opening up from lockdown. Hopefully, we will soon be able to return to a normal regime in the church gardens. I wonder how they managed that a hundred years ago with the pandemic of the Spanish flu. That came very soon after the Great War. It must have been very challenging for everyone, and without the vaccination programme as a key tool in returning to normality.

In the spring the natural world nudges us back to greater optimism. The snowdrops followed by the crocus and daffodils do bring a smile and it is lovely to see the fresh leaves beginning to appear on the trees. Our neighbours' rhododendron flowered at the end of March – earlier than normal. Those bushes were planted as seeds by the original owner in 1936 and are still providing a wonderful display.

For Garden Gnomes the last year has been stop/start. We have sometimes been able to tend the garden and sometimes not. Even when permitted, we had to stay outdoors, each taking a flask of coffee for our 11am break. It has been interesting to watch the development of the vicarage site. A number of the houses look almost complete and a lot of work has been done on the redevelopment of the vicarage as flats.

In the autumn we planted lots of spring bulbs. It is a pity that church services were not allowed to resume in time for them to be seen by the whole congregation. They will still be there next year!

May is a lovely time in the garden, with all the fresh growth. It is the time to plant out summer bedding, though in the North West best to leave it until the second half of the month to avoid the risk of late frost. The spring bulbs have finished flowering, but resist the temptation to cut off the foliage, even though it can look a little untidy. The goodness from the leaves needs to feed back into the bulb so it has the strength to produce flowers. Also, some



Forget-me-nots

liquid feed at this stage helps the bulbs bulk up for a good display next year.

I do enjoy the forget-me-nots. We have lots in our garden at home; however, they seed so prolifically we try to pull up the majority after flowering but before they seed, to prevent them taking over the garden. At home we are able to grow verbena bonariensis very easily. They grow to around three feet in height in very thin but strong green stems and produce a cluster of small purple flowers at the top, much loved by the bees. I recently planted some in the church grounds so they should be visible this summer.



Verbena bonariensis (Frank Wouters, licensed under <u>CC BY 2.0</u>)

Recycling garden waste is now a necessity for the planet. In the church garden we try to compost as much waste garden material as possible. We have a large storage pen for leaves. The lime trees in the avenue drop lots of leaves in late autumn which we collect to provide leaf mould. We spread this back on the soil in late summer to improve soil structure. We also have four bays of organic matter which we rotate and when ready we spread over the soil as a mulch.

At the church, when the grass is cut it is left on the lawn to decompose back into the soil, but at home I collect grass clippings for my composting bin. It makes excellent compost as long as it is mixed with other materials. I collect old newspapers and cardboard which I scrunch up into a loose ball and mix with the grass. Newspaper counts as "brown" material and, as long as there is more brown material than green grass clippings, it composts quickly and helps improve our heavy clay soil.

Enjoy all of nature this May, whether gardening yourself or looking around at the local flowers and trees.

Peter B Garden Gnome

## "Give me plain English" – "Are you sure?"

THE LATIN MOTTO of University College, London, "Cuncti adsint", translates irresistibly for its students as "Let 'em all come!" and could as easily be the motto for the whole English language. We readily absorb words and phrases from other languages, ancient or modern, from professions, occupations, or pastimes. We are relatively patient with people still learning our language, and with fashions in speech, such as the current habit of answering, "So, ..." in answer to every question, or the recent "Good! Good! Good!" when one word seemed ample.

As a result of this wealth, we frequently have several ways, all equally simple, of saying the same thing: "He was so glad/happy/overjoyed/ relieved/ecstatic that you could come, because he had been feeling sad/ depressed/miserable/ upset/ mournful/wretched/low". The plea for plain English usually comes from feeling baffled, often by long technical words commonly using Latin or Greek.

Botany is a good area to search, and flower names give us a plentiful supply of interesting findings. Under the heading antirrhinum, in a Wikipedia entry, we read, "Description: the genus is morphologically diverse, particularly the New World group (Saerorhinum); it is characterised by personate flowers with inferior gibbous corolla". It is somewhat of a relief to realise that we are

Antirrhinum (Shadowmeld Photography, licensed under <u>CC BY-SA 4.0</u>)

talking about a snapdragon, favourite of cottage gardens everywhere. (Heartfelt aside: no child should be expected to resist making the pursed mouth of the flowerhead into a ventriloguist dummy!)

There are many attractive flower names world-wide, with English, no doubt, having its fair share: baby's breath, bleeding heart, buttercup, cockscomb, forget-me-not, foxglove, love in a mist. The root meanings of many botanical names seem oddly unattractive or just odd: buttercup — ranunculus — 'little frog'; forget-me-not — myosotis — mouse's ear. Although science and commerce need the certainty given only by use of the genus+species terms, the charm and humour of the common names should surely guarantee their future well-being.

On the zoological side, our major interest tends to be human biology. Leafing through a copy of Gray's Anatomy, even if looking only at the illustrations, will convince **anyone** of the need for precision in all technical terms involved in any branch of medicine that affects our bodies! No room here for the fanciful botanical 'daughters of the wind' (anemones) 'eagle's claws' (aquilegia), let alone mouse ears or little frogs!

Trusting in our practitioners, we seem to be increasingly relaxed with Latin, accepting collar bones or clavicles, patellas or kneecaps, and even using pet names for our muscles, such as 'abs' and 'glutes'. Where would footballers be without their metatarsals to protect?

Does looking at the root meanings of the Latin terms for our bones produce rather gruesome thoughts concerning practical uses of stray skeletons? Looking at clavicle, scapula, sphenoid bone, tibia, fibula and patella, we have a little key, a little spade, a wedge, a flute or pipe, a long pin or clasp, a little dish or pan – it does make one think!

There is one puzzling anatomical term, 'coccyx', never likely to be used in literal translation: could you ever tell your doctor that you were pushed over backwards and think you may have damaged your cuckoo?



Angela Foulkes

## Fogging? I haven't the foggiest idea what you're talking about.

THROUGHOUT THE PANDEMIC we have been closely following the regulations and guidelines set down by the Government and the Church of England.

Understandably, much of this has been centred around hygiene and cleanliness. Whilst we have provided hand sanitizer, face coverings, gloves and aprons, the job of cleaning the church by hand, in between services, is a tough one.

To this end, we invested in a fogging machine which uses the special sanitizer that we have been using for cleaning by hand and dispenses it as a fine mist. It's the same stuff used to sanitize the interior of planes!

The machine is easy to handle (and even easier if you have someone to carry the cable for you) and it means that we can cover the church pews and other areas which have been touched, in a matter of minutes.

However, we need more operatives, so please get in touch with the churchwardens to offer your services. The more people we have, the less frequently you will be called upon.

Full training is given.

Thank you.

Elaine



## **GMC Home Solutions Ltd**

A local company covering a 7-mile radius from this parish.

We offer solutions from small repairs and replacement glass units to full extensions and everything in between. We specialise in:

- Resin driveways and landscaping
- Extensions
- Full house refurbishments
- Flat roofs and re-roofs
- Conservatory roof replacements
- Windows, doors, patio doors in upvc, aluminium and timber
- Replacement failed sealed units
- Kitchens, bedrooms and bathrooms

All our work is carried out by fully experienced and approved tradespeople and includes a guarantee and is project managed and inspected.

Please contact us on 01618186988, or direct on 07989470234.



## A Lockdown Lament.

In 2020 the Covid came,

Which made us start a new game.

The name of the game was 'Lockdown',

And we played it again and again.

The rules were quite simple and and weren't really much trouble,

Just stay in your home, in your own little bubble.

Avoid meeting with others and wear a mask when you do.

It seemed strange at first,

But as with all things, practice made perfect.

Soon we became resolved to just stay at home,

Making contact with others, but mostly by phone.

We at St G's started the 'Telephone Buddies'.

For me each week on Tuesday, I contacted my little group,

Sadly soon to be depleted with the loss of Mike Coupe,

Followed soon after by Mrs Ann Jones.

So from seven my 'Buddies' became just five,

All of whom have survived and are grateful to still be alive,

Though a little depressed.

We've talked each week about various topics

And I've cemented friendships with all.

So some good has come out of disaster.

By the end of the year a vaccine had been found

And we, all being elderly, were at the head of the queue,

Which after the first 'Jab', made us feel safer and ready

To restart 'normal living' when given the all clear,

Which we hope will come soon in 2021, a welcome New Year.

It will be good to meet others without feeling guilty

And hopefully, soon we can put 'Covid' and Lockdown' behind us

With thanks to Our Father who's watched over us during the struggle,

And then resume our lives without fear of succumbing

To diseases from China and variants from, Brazil, France and Kent,

While still wearing our masks and washing our hands.

But that's little to ask, if, by doing so we're safer.

Being human, quite soon, both 'Covid' and 'Lockdown ' will become things of the past and

New generations won't know what we're talking about when we mention the problems

That beset the whole of God's Kingdom in 2020 and 2021.

Peter Pilbeam

## Recipe of the Month: Spicy Salmon Kedgeree

Serves 6

4 salmon fillets approx 750g/1¾ lbs weight

45g unsalted butter

1 teasp olive oil

1 onion, finely chopped

½ teasp ground coriander

½ teasp ground cumin

½ teasp turmeric

225g basmati rice

3 eggs, hard boiled and quartered

3 tablespoons chopped coriander, plus more for sprinkling

1 lime, zest and juice, plus segments for serving

Thai fish sauce (nam pla) to taste

Preheat the oven: 220 °C/200 °C fan/gas mark 7/425 °F. It is easiest to poach the salmon in the oven. Pour 500ml / 2 cups of cold water into a roasting dish, add the lime leaves and then the salmon. Cover the dish with foil, put in the oven and cook for about 15 minutes, or until cooked. Remove the dish from the oven and drain the

liquid off into a jug. Replace the foil on the dish to keep the fish warm. Melt the butter in a wide, heavy saucepan that has a tight-fitting lid, and add the oil to stop the butter burning. Soften the onion in the pan and add the spices, then keep cooking until the onion is slightly translucent. Add the rice and stir with a wooden spoon so that it's all well coated. Pour in the reserved liquid from the fish, about 500ml / 2 cups; stir before covering with the lid and cooking gently for about 15 minutes. At the end of the cooking time, when the rice is tender and has lost all chalkiness, turn off the heat, remove the lid, cover the pan with a tea towel and then replace the lid. This will help absorb any extra moisture from the rice. It is also the best way to let the rice stand without getting claggy or cold, which is useful if you have to keep it waiting for a while. Just before you want to eat, drain off any extra liquid that's collected in the dish with the salmon, then flake the fish with a fork. Add it to the rice, eggs, coriander, lime juice and a drop or two of fish sauce. Stir gently to mix and taste to see if it needs any more lime juice or fish sauce. Sprinkle over the zest from the two juiced halves of the lime. Either serve just as it is in the roasting dish or decant onto a large plate before you add the lime zest, then surround with lime segments and add the zest and a small handful of freshly chopped coriander.

Pamela Ferguson

## MAXWELLS

FINE ART, ANTIQUES AND GENERAL AUCTIONEERS & VALUERS

YOUR LOCAL AUCTIONEERS
FOR OVER 30 YEARS

### BUYING OR SELLING, WE HAVE THE MARKET PLACE!

Maxwells are a local family firm and are able to tailor their service to meet their clients' requirements. They are helped by an excellent team of friendly staff.

Monthly Antiques Auction and quarterly specialist Collectors' Auctions

Professionally qualified valuations for Probate

Free pre-sale valuations available every Thursday 12.00 – 4.00pm

www.maxwells-auctioneers.co.uk

The Auction Rooms, Levens Rd., Hazel Grove, Stockport, SK7 5DL.

0161 439 5182



# Here for you

Our caring and professional team is here to guide and advise you 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

We're here when it matters most

Our services also extend to:

- Pre-paid funeral plans - Memorial masonry - Floral tributes

Davenport Funeralcare 214 Bramhall Lane, SK3 8TE 0161 456 1709 Stockport Funeralcare 53 Wellington Road South, SK1 3RU 0161 480 2065

coop.co.uk/funeralcare

## The Davenport Meccano Club

MANY OF YOU will know that I have a passion for all things Meccano. It started when I was a small boy and I spotted a green wooden box in an antique shop in Kirton-in-Lindsey. It was priced at 10/6 (52p), which in 1968 was a lot of money! My parents bought it for me as a Christmas present and it has been my pride and joy ever since. It moved house with me on numerous occasions, always being placed in the corner of a bedroom.

In 2011, I was helping our local school's residential for Year 6 at an adventure centre. Each piece of equipment was bounded by a three bar fence and the children had been told they must only go through the fence. As a responsible adult, I was allowed over the fence. The first couple of times, I cleared the four-foot-high fence easily with a single vault; on my third attempt I caught my foot on the top rail, spun over and landed heavily on my left side. I struggled on for the last two days of the residential but a week later, and after five days in hospital, I was informed that I had fractured my pelvis in two places.

I spent the next six months on crutches and needed to find something to do, so out came the green wooden box and with the help of eBay, I started to build models again, the models becoming larger and larger as I acquired more and more bits. As well as building the models found in the manuals, I also started to look through the early copies of the Meccano Magazine (MM) which can be found online, and I built models described in them too.

I also love social history and I began to read the MM starting at its first issue in 1916. I quickly realised that I was following the early history of many of the things we take for granted nowadays. It was providing a social comment on motor cars, aeroplanes, shipping, telephony, radio and television. It was moving away from the age of steam towards the age of electricity. It was also whilst reading these magazines that I first found a reference to the Davenport (Stockport) Meccano Club.

The Davenport Meccano Club was formed in November 1922. It wasn't the first Meccano Club in the area, as one had already been formed in central Stockport/Reddish area in 1920 and a second one in Edgeley in March 1922, but Davenport does seem to have been the most successful. It was established under the direction of Mr T. Main and its young secretary Mr Arthur Desmond Stoker.

In April 1923 it was affiliated to the Meccano Guild, the guild having three aims: to make every boy's life brighter and happier; to foster clean-mindedness, truthfulness, ambition and initiative in boys; and to encourage boys in the pursuit of their studies and hobbies and especially in the development of their knowledge of mechanical and engineering principles.

In July 1923, it was reported in the Meccano Magazine that "(the Davenport) club has made rapid progress. Interesting visits have been paid to the Manchester Gas Works, John Horne's Toffee Works and the L.M. & S.R.

Engine Sheds and Repair Shops. The members hope to be able to arrange to come to Liverpool and visit the Meccano Factory in the near future." By November 1923 the members were performing the Meccano play 'Nonsense Nana' at the close of the winter session and had organised a very popular football team.

The Meccano Guild always insisted that the leader of the club was an adult, but the secretary and all the other positions should be filled by young people. Arthur Desmond Stoker was obviously influential in the direction of the club and in March 1924, he was awarded the Special Merit Medallion by the Meccano Magazine.

The club expanded rapidly and had 38 members on the books by 1924. I have not been able to find out where they met, but my suspicion is that they met in the parish rooms. In July 1924 the club secretary was reporting to the Meccano Magazine that "Interesting features of the last session were an address by Archdeacon Thorpe, a visit to a local church belfry and tower, three paper chases and a cycle run. It is proposed to hold a camp some time during the summer."

We know that the summer camp was held in Middlewich and "some interesting visits were paid to local canals, locks and salt-works (see photograph). A visit to the cinema on Wednesday and a cricket match on



Friday were thoroughly enjoyed. The campers returned home on Saturday evening after presenting their hostess with a vase in appreciation of her kindness." In September 1925 a second camp was held at Berristal Hall Farm, Pott Shrigley, near Macclesfield.

In October 1924, they assisted in a four-day long bazaar in aid of the funds of the local church and made £25 by exhibiting a complete layout of a Hornby Railway together with various Meccano models. They also exhibited other collections of interesting models at the St George's Parish Rooms, where the Mayoress of Stockport and Archdeacon Thorpe were among the many visitors.



The Davenport Meccano Club stopped reporting to the Meccano Magazine sometime after April 1926, though it continued to be affiliated until at least February 1929. This may have been caused by the secretary going up to university.

A little delving into other archives revealed that the founding secretary, Arthur Desmond Stoker, was born on the 12th August 1909, educated in Stockport and North Wales and at Edinburgh University, where he studied medicine. He lived in the house which was next door to the St George Convenience store. It was demolished to make way for the widening of Garners Lane.

In about 1934 he set up in practice in Winster, Derbyshire and "met the challenges of family medicine in the days before the NHS with enthusiasm and innovation. Surgery was often performed in the patient's home, domiciliary necropsies were not unknown, and at home confinements the Aga doubled as an incubator."

During the war he served in the Royal Army Medical Corps in Burma, with an epic trek of 640 km through Burmese jungle to escape advancing Japanese forces; and also in India and France, becoming a lieutenant colonel.

On returning to his practice he entered medical politics. He was secretary of Derbyshire Local Medical Committee and sat for many years on the General Medical Services Committee. He served as a member of the British National Formulary Committee and was made a fellow of the BMA. He treasured his links with his old medical school and was particularly proud that he continued a long tradition of Edinburgh medical men practising in Winster. Outside medicine Desmond's great passion was canal boating. He was president of the local canal preservation society and was working boats into the ninth decade of his life.

A D Stoker TD, MB, ChB died on the 12th June 1993 in the house in Winster, Derbyshire, in which he had set up in practice nearly 60 years before.

Peter Hall

## **Contentious Christianity**

SOMETIMES, IT'S GOOD to chew over and reflect upon some of the things that impact on our life and faith; to explore our previously held ideas and perhaps be challenged to consider other views.

This is your opportunity to be part of something exciting. We have chosen six topics to consider and have invited the great and the good from around our diocese to help us.

The sessions are to be held on different days and times to enable the maximum amount of people to join us. It will happen by Zoom and we hope to have each session recorded into a podcast so that they will all be available to listen to again.

A facilitator from the parish will lead us through the sessions, which will last no longer than 90 minutes.

Pen portraits and photos will be made available prior to each session.

Please put these dates and times in your diary. Let us know if you are planning to come and we will send you the access link to Zoom. We look forward to seeing you.

Elaine and Janine

Session 1 The Church and human sexuality	Tuesday 25th May 1pm–2.30pm Diocesan Living in Love and Faith group, to include Julie Withers, reader at Hale and member of General Synod.
Session 2 The Church and Women	Tuesday 1st June at 7pm Liz Shercliff Director of Studies for readers and programme leader FdA
Session 3 The Church and the state: power and politics	Thursday 10th June 10am–11.30am lan Bishop Archdeacon of Macclesfield
Session 4 The Church and power	Wednesday 16th June at 7pm Jenny Bridgeman Director of Studies for Pastoral Workers. Associate Vicar of Timperley parish.
Session 5 The Church and life	Tuesday 22nd June 10am–11.30am Christopher Burkett Director of Ministry
Session 6 The Church and religion	Tuesday 29th June at 7pm Rob Munro Rector of Cheadle



## St. George's Church, Stockport MUSIC LIST – MAY 2021

Music listed may be subject to change

Sunday	Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup> May – The Fifth Sunday of Easter					
10:15am –	10:15am – St. George's Service 4:00pm – Service currently suspended					
Introit:	We come in faith to meet our Lord – arr. Vann					
Setting:	The Lincoln Setting – Archer					
Hymns:	253 For the beauty of the earth					
	SP156 Go to the world! Go into all the earth.					
Anthem:	For the beauty of the earth – Rutter					

Sunday 9th May – The Sixth Sunday of Easter						
10:15am –	10:15am – St. George's Service 4:00pm – Service currently suspended					
Introit:	Prayer of St. Richard of Chichester – Mayes					
Setting:	The Addington Service – Shephard					
Hymns:	SP151 Christ is the one who calls,					
	442 God is love: let heav'n adore him;					
Anthem:	Blessed be the God and Father – Wesley					

Thursday 13th May – Ascension Day		
	7:30pm – 9	St. George's Service
	Introit:	Laudate nomen domini – Tye
	Setting:	The Canterbury Service – Barker
	Hymns:	167 Hail the day that sees him rise,
		466 How shall I sing that majesty
	Anthem:	Above all praise and all majesty – Mendelssohn

Sunday	Sunday 16th May – The Seventh Sunday of Easter					
10:15am –	10:15am - St. George's Service 4:00pm - Service currently suspended					
Introit:	The Lord ascendeth up on high – Praetorius					
Setting:	The Lincoln Setting – Archer					
Hymns:	167 Hail the day that sees him rise,					
	278 Alleluia, sing to Jesus!					
Anthem:	King of all ages – Isom					

Sunday	23th May – Pentecost	
10:15am –	St. George's Service	4:00pm - Service currently suspended
Introit:	Come, Holy Ghost – Attwood	
Setting:	A Mass for Worth Abbey – Greening	
Hymns:	175 Come down, O Love divine,	
	607 Thy kingdom come, O God.	
Anthem:	If ye love me – Wilby	

Sunday 30 <sup>th</sup> May – Trinity Sunday							
10:15am –	St. George's Service	4:00pm – Cho	oral Evensong				
Introit:	Christ be with me – arr. Rawsthorne	Hymns:	267 Thou whose almighty word				
Setting:	The Lincoln Setting – Archer		17 O Gladsome light, O grace				
Hymns:	202 Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!	Responses:	Groome				
	377 Angel-voices ever singing	Psalm:	104 (1-10) [J Heaton]				
Anthem:	Hymn to the Trinity – Tchaikovsky	Canticles:	Evening Service in D minor – Walmisley				
2:00pm – V	Wedding See order of service for details	Anthem:	Evening Hymn – H Balfour Gardiner				

# Giving Through The GivingMachine – FREE!



## TheGivingMachine.co.uk

PLEASE REMEMBER that if you shop on line, then you can help St George's finances at no cost to yourself. It is an easy way to help with our running costs and fund our projects. If you don't shop on line but have a friend or family member who does, please ask them to use the GivingMachine and name St George's as their cause.

Thank you to those of you who are already signed up. To date we have raised £1,150 in 8 years through TheGivingMachine, mostly in bits and bobs, retailers paying small percentages on hundreds of on line orders. Though we still have 48 people signed up to the scheme, only a handful of us are active. If more people joined us and all of us shopped regularly, that sum would be doubled in no time. A grocery delivery from Tesco or Sainsbury's, or... will add up to pounds over the year. A flight, cruise or holiday can earn us anything up to £100 at a time. Everything counts.

Please join and recruit family and friends as well. Help to build our supporters and our finances. Go to www.TheGivingMachine.co.uk and sign up to support St George's.

As with all these things, you will need to create a password to log you in to go shopping. The other useful thing to do is to download the reminder icon that will pop up when you are buying something or booking a holiday. The number of retailers supporting The Giving Machine has grown hugely over the years. You may be surprised at what you can purchase while at the same time raising a donation for St George's.

Whatever you purchase on line, please consider doing it through the GivingMachine. If you have queries, comments, or suggestions, give me a ring on 0161 429 7880, or write me an email at <a href="mailto:christopher.dawson4@ntlworld.com">christopher.dawson4@ntlworld.com</a>.

Thank you.

#### **Puzzle solutions**

Easy Sudoku solution:

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

Int	Intermediate Sudoku solution:								
8	1	9	2	6	5	3	4	7	
6	4	7	8	1	3	2	5	9	
2	5	3	4	9	7	8	6	1	
7	3	4	5	2	9	6	1	8	
9	8	6	1	3	4	7	2	5	
1	2	5	7	8	6	4	9	3	
3	9	8	6	5	2	1	7	4	
5	7	2	3	4	1	9	8	6	
4	6	1	9	7	8	5	3	2	

Crossword

		С	0	N	S	С	I	Е	N	С	Ε	
Е		U		Α		Α		G		0		
Α	R	R	I	٧	Α	L		Υ	0	U	R	S
R		Е		Е		٧		Р		R		Ι
Т	Ι	Δ	Υ		R	Е	S	Т	R	Α	Ι	Ν
Н				ш		R		Ι		G		F
Q	U	Α	K	Е	R		G	Α	Т	Е	Α	$\subset$
U		Т		Ι		W		Ν				ᆸ
Α	T	Τ	Е	N	Ι	Α	N		Α	М	Е	Ν
K		ш		S		Т		Н		Ι		Е
Е	L	Ι	0	Т		Е	N	Α	В	L	Е	S
		S		Е		R		χ		N		S
	Ι	М	Р	R	Е	S	S	I	V	Ε		





## Protecting your home and family proudly, personally, properly



Our domestic services include:

- Regular Housework and temporary Help
- One Off 'Spring'/Deep Cleans
- · Washing and Ironing
- Independent Living Support

All staff are fully trained to follow social distancing guidelines and use protective items as required.

Call us now:

0161 300 4530

stockport@poppies.co.uk

www.poppies.co.uk/stockport



# IAN MANN Funeral Directors Ltd

When you need someone who cares...

...24-Hour Sndependent Gervice







4 Woodford Road Bramhall, Stockport, SK7 1JJ 0161 439 5544

128 Lower Bents Lane Bredbury, Stockport, SK6 2NL 0161 430 4410

90 Lower Fold Marple Bridge, Stockport, SK6 5DU 0161 427 9466

FREEPHONE 0800 915 1202

Private Chapel of Rest • Pre-Paid Funeral Plans • Monumental Work

#### June 2021 Grapevine magazine dates:

Copy deadline: Fri 21st May Committee meeting: via email

Printed by: Frank Aspinall & Co, Building 4 Unit 5, Tameside Business Park, Windmill Lane, Denton, Manchester M34 3QS. email: frankaspinall@hotmail.com Contributions to the Editor: Richard Parr. Tel. 0161 439 8644. Please e-mail contributions to: ricmar77@gmx.com and also send a copy to: andrew@andrewregan.org.uk

Please give your name and telephone number.

Views expressed by contributors are not necessarily those of the editorial team.