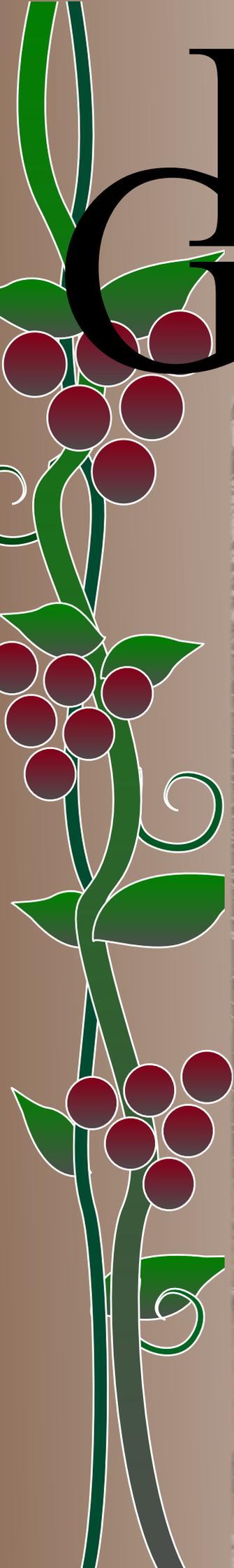


A monthly round-up of
news, views, events
and services at
St George's, Heaviley,
SK2 6NU,
and St Gabriel's, Adwood
in the
Parish of St George, Stockport.
www.stgeorgestockport.org.uk



Parish Grapevine



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

Vicar	Rev. Canon Elaine Chegwin Hall <i>vicar@stgeorgestockport.org.uk</i> 456 9382	Praise and Play	Lois Kelly 439 9458 For 0-4s and their carers. Meet every Tuesday in term time, 10-11 in church.	Choir	James Hibbert 07365 519207 <i>actingdirectorofmusic@gmail.com</i> Practise Thursdays 7.30-9pm in the vestry. Sing on Sundays at 10.15am and 4pm services.
Assistant Curate	Rev. Dr Janine Arnott <i>rev.janinearnott@outlook.com</i> 612 1048	St Gabriel's		Church Cleaners	Meet on 1st Tuesday of every month 9.30-12 noon.
Reader	Peter Hall 456 9382	Messy Church	Rev. Canon Elaine Chegwin Hall 456 9382 For children and their parents. Meet occasionally, usually Saturday mornings.	Church Flowers	Jean Hayden (<i>donations</i>) 483 2367
Churchwardens	Andrew Regan 440 0408 Hazel Jenkins 483 4679	Uniformed Groups with connections to St George's		Church Gardeners	Walter Stead 430 2449 Meet on Tuesdays 9.30-12.30.
PCC Secretary	vacant	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.	Coffee Mornings (Weds)	Olwen Smith 483 6548 Wednesdays from 10.30am in the Parish Room.
PCC Treasurer	Andrew Regan 440 0408 <i>treasurer@stgeorgestockport.org.uk</i>	Brownies	Rachel Lockett 775 2755 Voni Walker 07956 674 241 For girls aged 7-10. Meet Thursdays 6.30-8pm in the Parish Room.	Cursillo	Usually meet on last Wednesday of the month. 7.30pm at different venues.
Parish Office	Marion McCall 480 2453	Guides		Handbells	Andy Clark 483 3703 Play for All-Age and Taizé services, plus other special events. Ringers of all ages (with or without experience) always welcome. Rehearsals in church arranged around the ringers' availability.
Magazine Editor	Richard Parr 439 8644	Beavers	Bill Frith 439 3232 For boys and girls ages 6 and 7 Meet Fridays 6-7pm at rear of Trinity Methodist Church.	Linen Guild	Pat Rigley 487 1999 Maintain the church's linen.
Safeguarding co-ordinator	James Hibbert 07365 519207	Cubs	Bill Frith 439 3232 For boys and girls ages 8-10½. Meet Fridays 7.15-8.45pm at rear of Trinity Methodist Church.	Magazine Editorial Group	Richard Parr 439 8644 Meet monthly to plan future issues.
Website	www.stgeorgestockport.org.uk	Scouts	Elizabeth Goodred <i>Elizabeth.goodred@stockportscouts.org.uk</i> For boys and girls ages 10½-14. Meet Wednesdays 7-9pm at rear of Trinity Methodist Church.	Mothers' Union	Pat Durnall 483 4837 Meet on 2nd Monday of the month in church at 2.15pm.
Webmaster	Peter Hall 456 9382	Other Groups and Activities		Singing Group	James Hibbert 07365 519207 <i>actingdirectorofmusic@gmail.com</i> Sing about once a month at the All-Age Service, with one practice beforehand. All welcome.
St George's Primary School		St George's			
Headteacher	Deborah Grindrod 480 8657	Bell ringers	Anne Mayes 485 6477 Practise Mondays 7.45-9pm. Ring on Sundays 9.45-10.15am. Meet in the tower.		
St George's		Bible Reading Fellowship Notes	Janet Neilson 483 9025 Notes are ordered on request.		
Deputy Wardens	John Hardy 01663 764 462 Will Hesson 480 0630	Bible Study Groups	<i>contact the clergy</i> Study groups and courses are arranged from time to time.		
Verger	Ian Staley 456 3093	Chancel Guild	Meet on 2nd Tuesday of every month, 9.30-12 noon, to care for the chancel.		
Director of Music	James Hibbert 07365 519207 <i>actingdirectorofmusic@gmail.com</i>				
Bookings for Parish Rooms	Parish Office or 480 2453 Judith Swift 483 8681				
St Gabriel's					
Secretary	John Sutcliffe 286 2301				
Bookings	Parish Office 480 2453				
Children's Activities					
St George's					
Children's Corner	Available for children (and parents) during services. Equipped with books, crayons and soft toys.				
Sunday 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.				

Front cover photo

Snow at St George's on
Advent Sunday
(photo by Andy Clark)

Services in February:
see page 23

From the Editor:

Dear Readers,

IT IS VERY pleasing to be able to return to printed copies of *Grapevine* after almost two years of purely digital editions. When the first digital issue came out in April 2020, I don't think that many of us thought that two Christmases would pass before we could return to our usual means of production. Of course, we still aren't completely out of the woods as far as beating Covid, but the trees are certainly less dense and menacing!

I should like to thank all those people who have worked so hard to keep the magazine running during the pandemic, particularly Andrew Regan, whose technical skills continue to amaze all of us. Many thanks also to Rosie Stead for continuing to master mind (or should that be 'mistress mind') the advertising and financial side of the operation. We are also very grateful to all our advertisers for their continual support during these two years, as well, of course, to our loyal readers. We hope that, whether you are reading this edition as a paper copy, or still online, you enjoy this edition.

Apart from patience, discipline and good humour, perhaps most of all we have needed faith to help us to get through the difficulties of 2020 and 2021. I was reminded of this during a recent Sunday morning when we heard read and discussed the first recorded miracle of Jesus at Cana in Galilee, the turning of water into particularly delicious wine. Mary's absolute certainty that her son could and would help the embarrassed bridegroom – "Do whatever he tells you" – is a lovely example of complete

trust. I also always think that there must have been a twinkle in Jesus's eye when he instructed the servants to send up a sample of wine to the Master of Ceremonies!

Faith isn't always easy, particularly when circumstances are difficult and things seem to overwhelm us. Jesus's gentle rebuke to his disciples in Luke 12, "Why do you have so little faith?", reminds us that we are always under the watchful and loving care of God. It's much easier to have faith when everything is going well, and the skies are sunny, as the writer of Hebrews acknowledges in his famous list of examples of faithful witnesses to God. But true faith, I think, is deeper than that, and we have seen many stirring examples of that over the last two years, both in our church community and in the outside world.

After their frightening yet wonderful encounter with the heavenly host in the fields near Bethlehem, the shepherds immediately had the faith to hurry down to the village to find the new-born baby. But they didn't leave it there, for they told everyone what had happened, "and all who heard the shepherds' story were astonished." So, as Paul tells us, and as Janine reminded us recently, "Faith comes from hearing!" And we can have faith, through good times and bad, that God is always with us, watching and caring for us. To return to the wedding feast at Cana, and to slightly adapt Zechariah 10, all our "hearts will be made happy, as if by wine"!

God bless!

Richard Parr.

Editor.



The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Accession Day

Sunday 6th February is the 70th anniversary of Accession Day, when Her Majesty the Queen took the throne, and marks the beginning of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

What's Where...

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| P 4 | Trees from St George's Christmas Tree Festival | P 13 | Christianity Recognised | P 20 | Recipe of the month: Pork Stroganoff, What now, Joe? and St Valentine's Day |
| P 5 | Vicar's letter | P 14 | Happy Birthday BRF! | P 21 | Praise and Play is Back! |
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| P 9 | 125th Anniversary Photographic Competition | | | | |

Two trees from St George's Christmas Tree Festival, held in November



The bell ringers' tree



Great Moor WI (Photos by Hazel Jenkins)

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Elaine writes:

Reality TV has been in the public domain since 1948 when the first series of “Candid Camera” aired in America. A British version came out in 1960. Ordinary people were filmed when confronted with extraordinary situations.

This was swiftly followed by fly-on-the-wall documentaries such as “An American Family” and the UK offering in 1964 of “Seven Up” when a group of seven-year-olds from all kinds of backgrounds were filmed to glean their reactions to everyday life.

The public’s thirst for this kind of reality TV has gone on unabated to survival-style programmes such as “Castaway” in 2000, “The Island” with Bear Grylls in 2014, and lots in between.

The desire to see how people cope psychologically has been well documented, with “Big Brother” and “I’m a celebrity get me out of here”, being perhaps the best known, and the relationship-based “Love Island”, “Made in Chelsea”, and “Married at first sight”, being some of the most noticeable, and some may say most cringeworthy.

Whatever our opinions, there is a market for this style of programme. “Goggle Box” has made household names of many and records the responses of people simply watching TV. Reality TV – who would have thought it!

Yet we find ourselves effectively watching people watching a computer screen. Two years or so ago, “zoom” was a word describing how fast a car went. It reminded me of a stripy ice lolly in the shape of a rocket, much beloved in my childhood.

Zoom has been a great resource for many of us, enabling us to have pastoral conversations with people coming for baptisms and weddings and planning funerals.

It has facilitated meetings to keep the Church moving forward strategically from the height of the pandemic to the present.

It has enabled the Church to conduct complex legal business at General Synod along with appointments of bishops.

It has ensured that we can carry on with discipleship training and that clergy and lay staff can also ensure that they carry on with their ministerial education.

During this time, I’ve found I’ve become a bit of a “Zoombox” watcher. I am interested in the interaction of people who don’t know each other and “meet” for the first time on screen.

As the camera is switched on there is a studied embarrassed silence as people look hesitantly around at each other. No one is sure what to do.

There are always the occasional few, greeting each other in a way that you did in the old days when you met them on the corridor of a half-decent B&B, in your PJs on the way to or from the bathroom – no en-suite in those days.

No one speaks, but a dog barks, desperate for attention. Its owner, thinking that the hefty breakfast tin of Pedigree Chum might have caused it to nod off, was going to be sadly mistaken.

The full-screen image of a cat’s bottom comes into view, strolling across the keyboard as if it owns the place – which it does – mightily reluctant to be guided away.

Then come the stretchers: people who have sat still for the best part of an hour, who stand up and stretch whilst the camera is still running. Someone even used the stairs to assist, which were clearly visible in the background.

There are the scratchers, the phone answerers and those who are pretending that they really aren’t replying to an email whilst they are supposed to be paying attention.

There are the toilet flushers who have left the screen without switching off the microphone or the film, and now sidle back into their chair, leaving us with the hopeful image that they might well have washed their hands before they dive into the sandwich, next to the keyboard.

Then we have Frozen, not just a children’s animated film, but when the internet access fails, and the Zoom participant is usually left with the most unattractive image of themselves grimacing whilst the group continue to talk and wait for normal service to be resumed.

Finally, when the meeting or call ends, we have the ridiculous situation of everyone waving with benign smiles at people they’ve never actually met, like a well-trained toddler.

Other people’s lives are interesting, and now we can see them on a regular basis and in glorious Technicolor. In a way, we become part of that “Reality” but in another way, we know no more about that person on our screen than what is presented to us.

We may be guilty of judging them, wondering why they behave as they do, imagining what kind of person they are or checking them out on Google.

What do they think about us? Do we consider how people might be viewing the two-dimensional, “Zoombox” version of us?

Even in real life, and in person, we can still judge a person by their cover, as the saying goes, without taking the time to find out what they are really like, their hopes and their fears, their gifts and abilities, their stories and their memories.

Matthew 7:1-5 gives us some straightforward guidance about how to view those we meet, either on screen or in *real* reality and, in recognising our own shortcomings, we can grow into the kinds of people that God longs us to be.

With every blessing, Elaine.

Parish News Roundup

Holy Baptism

None last month

Holy Matrimony

None in December-January

Funerals

7th Dec Arthur Turner: service at Walton Lea crematorium

22nd Jan Linda Cashman: service at St George's followed by committal at the Rowan chapel

4th Jan Joan Gaynor Booth: service at the Rowan Chapel

24th Jan Valerie Boulton: service at the Cypress Chapel

25th Jan Ruth Noreen Leverington: service at St George's followed by committal at the Rowan chapel

Communion Flowers were sponsored as follows:

5th Dec from Jean Martin, in memory of Ethel Henshall
from the Durnall family, in loving memory of John Durnall

Parish News Roundup

12th Dec from the Stephenson family, in memory of Elsie Brown

19th Dec from Pat Durnall, in loving memory of Asa and Ida Brooks and Mary, Ann and all the Brooks family

26th Dec from Phoebe MacLeod, in memory of our best loved husband, Dad & Grandad, Rod MacLeod, who made life special. We love and miss him

2nd Jan from Mike and José Westwood, in memory of Barbara Westwood

9th Jan from Pat Durnall, in loving memory of John Durnall and all the Durnall family

16th Jan from the Alcraft and Hayden families, in loving memory of Walter Fallows

23rd Jan from Jill, Anne and Lynn, in memory of Brian and Nancy Wainwright

Parish News Roundup

Floodlighting was sponsored as follows:

22nd Jan from Morag Ranson, for Malcolm and Morag's wedding anniversary

Mothers' Union

On **Monday 14th February** we meet in church at 2.15 pm for a short welcome service, followed by a Beetle Drive (which was much enjoyed at a previous meeting).

All are welcome to come along. All necessary safety guidelines will be followed.

Baptisms, Banns and Marriage bookings:

Please contact the vicar:
Telephone: 0161 456 9382
or email:
vicar@stgeorgestockport.org.uk

March 2022

Grapevine magazine dates:

Deadline copy date: **Fri 18th Feb**
Committee meeting: via email

Celebration of Baptism

THE MUCH-DESIRED mug has arrived and is ready to play its part in the ministry at St George's. (I got Janine one as well!)

A suitable supply of biscuits is being prepared and their dunkability is being assessed (note the biscuit article in June 2019). This gives me a good opportunity to remind people about our Celebration of Baptism service on **Sunday 6th February at 4pm**.

Over the 125 years of this parish, we must have had hundreds of baptisms taking place, of both adults and children, and it's amazing to consider where they might be now.

Many of them are still local and some even come to St George's today.

We are hoping that many of those baptised might come along to the service to celebrate that most important occasion in their lives and to take the opportunity to re-affirm their baptism vows.

Light refreshments, maybe including biscuits(!) will be available.

Everyone welcome. Elaine



125th Anniversary of St George's

WE HAVE A number of things planned in the next few weeks and months and would love to invite you to be part of this very important 125th anniversary year and the celebrations surrounding it.

On **Sunday 6th February**, we have a celebration of baptism service, remembering all those who have been baptised at St George's over those 125 years.

On **27th February**, we warmly welcome Bishop Mark Tanner, Bishop of Chester, to our special Communion service at 10.15am. Following the service, a time capsule will be buried in the grounds and then we will have a bring-and-share lunch.

We have various services and events in March, April and May. Details are below, and these will be updated as we move through the year.

February 2022		
Sunday 6th February	Celebration of Baptism Service	4pm. <i>Followed by light refreshments</i>
Sunday 27th	125th anniversary communion at 10.15am Time capsule placement	We welcome Bishop Mark <i>Bring-and-Share Lunch.</i>
March 2022		
Wednesday 2nd March	Ash Wednesday	Services 10am and 7:30pm
Saturdays 5th, 12th, 19th, 26th	Lent breakfasts	
Tuesday 22nd	Concert	Stockport Grammar School
Sunday 27th	Mothering Sunday	Services
April 2022		
10th April	Palm Sunday	Services
11th–16th	Holy Week services	7:30pm
Saturday 16th	Messy Church	10am–12 noon
Saturday 16th	Easter Eve service	7:30pm
17th April	Easter Day	Services
Friday 22nd	Drumroots workshop	7.30–8.30 <i>followed by supper</i>
May 2022		
Wed 4–8th May	Festival	
Saturday 7th	Messy Church	10am–12 noon
Saturday 7th	Pottery Sheep	12.30pm onwards
Saturday 7th	Sheep Drive	7pm <i>with cheese and wine</i>
Sunday 9th	Pet service	10.15am
Sunday 9th	Afternoon tea	<i>Afternoon tea</i> 1–3pm
Sunday 9th	Songs of Praise	4pm
Fri 13th	Concert	Mayor's choir

125th Anniversary Festival Sponsorship

Are you someone who might have local connections to businesses? Or perhaps you might have a desire to help support some of the events, activities and services that we are holding throughout our 125th anniversary year as a gift in thanksgiving for a baptism, in celebration of a wedding or in memory of someone much loved and much missed?

If so, we'd love to hear from you.

We are trying to ensure that we keep costs low whilst also wanting to engender a real sense of celebration and community at this special time, so any financial sponsorship would be very much appreciated.

The details of your firm, family or organisation would be included in our full-colour brochure.

An A5 advert costs £50, an A6 advert £25 and an A7 £15. We can incorporate logos and images provided as either a word document or a jpeg. We would be happy to include you in our list of acknowledgements for £10 as every penny helps us to make this festival an exciting place to be.

Thank you so much, Elaine



St George's Festival 2022



The planning and delivery of this landmark occasion depends very much on people stepping up to offer their help and I am delighted that many people have done just that.

Still, we need some people to offer to help specifically to set up on:

Tuesday 26th April, 3.45 to 5pm

Wednesday 27th April, 3.45 to 5pm

Tuesday 3rd May at 10am

In addition, we need stewarding assistance throughout the week from 12 noon to 6pm, when the Festival is open to the public, and some help with refreshments.

Below is a **loose outline** of what we're planning. There are various events and activities to be confirmed so watch this space.

There will be a Prayer Trail/labyrinth indoors or outdoors

Wednesday 4th May

9:30	Morning Prayer
10am	Wednesday Morning Communion
11am	Whole School Collective Worship with visiting sheep!
12 noon	Open to public
6:00 pm	Taize Service.

Thursday 5th May

12 noon	Open to public
---------	----------------

4:30	<i>Possibly community choir.</i>
6pm	Compline

Friday 6th May

9.30	St George's school performance timing TBC
12 noon	Open to public
1:30	<i>Possibly community choir.</i>
6pm	Celtic Prayer

Saturday 7th May – Family day

10am – 12 noon	Messy Church <i>in the chapel</i>
12:30 – 2:30	Brooklyn Pottery. Sheep making £8. Kiln firing free
12:30 to 1:30	Face Painting
12 noon – 1:30	Visiting animals
3pm – 4pm	Singalong or another choir
6pm	Compline or other short act of worship
7pm	Sheep Drive in Church with Cheese and wine

Sunday 8th May

8pm	Holy Communion
10:15	Pet Service
1pm – 3pm	Afternoon tea
4pm	Songs of Praise

End of Festival

Monday 9th May – Taking down day.

It's bound to be a fun-packed week and we really look forward to you coming along.

125th Anniversary Time Capsule

WHAT DO WE put in it? How big should it be? These are questions we have been asking. They are, of course, chicken and egg questions. Answer one and that guides you to answer the other. And we need to know soon so that we have it ready to bury at the service on 27th February.

So far, few of us have made suggestions. In fact precisely two people and one of them is me! Elaine has looked at capsules and they tend to be cylindrical and not very large, unless you want to pay a lot of money. The initial size is just over 13" long and 3" in diameter. That is fine for coins and narrow items. More challenging if we want papers in there. And the advice is to wrap delicate

paper items so that colour doesn't bleed from one to the other.

So here are some of the suggestions: a set of coins (mirroring the original capsule) including a Platinum Jubilee 50p, something Covid related, old bank card (the digital age), photo of the school, a copy of a Lance, choir CD, copy of a modern hymn, list of church activities, communion wafers, a Grapevine...

Other suggestions welcome. Act now! Tell me or Elaine in person, ring me on 0161 429 7880, or email me at christopher.dawson4@ntlworld.com.

Chris Dawson

PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION

"His goodness
restores my
soul"

- Submit up to three photos to illustrate our theme from the 23rd Psalm
- Entries open to adults & children
- View the online exhibition via Flickr
- Closing date: 31st March 2022
- Finalists will be displayed at the Lord's My Shepherd Festival from 4-8th May 2022

Further details available



Contact for further details:
photos@stgeorgestockport.org.uk



Download an entry form from
www.stgeorgestockport.org.uk or ask in church

View the exhibition on Flickr at
<https://flic.kr/s/aHsmWVW2WD>

125th Anniversary
St. George's Church,
Stockport



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND



The Lord is My
Shepherd

The Lord is my Shepherd

THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD is the theme, chosen by our vicar, Elaine, for the celebrations to mark the 125th anniversary of St George's church. Increasing numbers of knitted sheep are appearing on the steps of the font each week, as Elaine is hoping for a flock of 125 eventually. These will be offered to visitors who attend the various events, to remind them of this historic chapter in the church's life.

Jane Roughley and I have been involved in several knitting projects over the years, so decided to give knitting a rest this time. Instead, we have been making crocheted lapel badges to promote the anniversary, and hope to sell

them for £2 each. Jane has done the crocheting and I've sewn the brooch fastenings on the back – you can decide who drew the short straw!

The badges will be displayed on the steps of the font. The loose ones are for members of the congregation to buy and the packeted ones are to purchase for distribution to friends, relatives or neighbours who may not know of the events taking place.

I hope you will enjoy wearing the badges – they may provide a talking point.

Rosie Stead



Date for your diary: Friday
22nd April
2022.

This event is from 7.30pm for an hour and then followed by a hot supper.

Here's what Drumroots say about themselves:

It's the beat of the heart; the pulse of the blood; the rhythm of life – a celebration of the spirit as old as mankind. Drumming is a powerful, potent, and vital force that Drumroots has harnessed for education and entertainment, for self-expression and self-discovery.

Drumroots workshops, which have been developed over ten years of experience, offer participants the

Drumroots workshop

Part of our 125th Anniversary Celebrations.

opportunity to interact and learn, whilst having a great time. African Drumming is inclusive, accessible and its impact is immediate. Through this powerful art form, anybody can build their confidence, improve their teamwork skills, explore their creativity, and experience a real sense of togetherness.

Participants, once introduced to their facilitator, will be trained in some basic drumming techniques. Then, through a series of interactive games and exercises, they will explore their potential in playing in rhythm. Armed with their new skills, participants will be guided to interact as a full musical ensemble, eventually producing a complex and highly rewarding polyrhythmic traditional African piece!

It all sounds very exciting.



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Ornamental Frog statues – update

THE ORNAMENTAL FROG statues which brightened up the Stockport area over the summer months have now been auctioned off. The 'Giant Leap Forward' figures not only attracted families over the school holidays, but also drew in bids from scores of bidders when they went under the hammer earlier in November.

The auction raised more than £35,000 for St Ann's Hospice in Heald Green. They were thrilled and grateful to have been selected by Totally Stockport as the frog auction's chosen charity partner, especially in their 50th birthday year. As a charity, they need to raise £20,000 a day to keep their hospice sites and community services running for local patients.

The sums raised from the auction, ranged from £3,200 for 'Rocky Stocky'; £2,250 for 'Mossy'; £1,150 for 'Spiderfrog'; £1,040 for 'Froguristic'; £1,260 for 'Frogwain'; £1,300 for 'Isafrog Kingdom Brunel'; £1,100 for 'Tudor Frog' and £1,500 for 'River Frog'.

Stockport County donated a very generous £3,000 in order to keep 'Super Kevin Frogcis' at Edgeley Park.

Rosie Stead

*Information obtained from the Stockport Express,
24th November 2021*

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Christianity Recognised

I RECENTLY FOUND a calling card from a former parishioner called Harold, who was a farmer. He would never work or do any kind of deal on a Sunday.

Despite his son being killed by a machete as he sought to protect his MP, he still had a profound faith.

He gave me his card some years ago. On one side were his details and on the other there was the following:

Christianity Recognised

- In the home, by kindness.
- In business, by honesty.
- In society, by courtesy.
- In work, by thoroughness.
- In play, by fairness.

Elaine

Jean is always up for a spin on the dancefloor

We believe in tailoring our care to what each and every person loves. Whether it's toe tapping music or two lumps in your tea. If you're happy, we are too. See for yourself how we choose to live life in colour.

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Happy birthday, BRF! Join the celebrations

IT'S NOT ONLY St George's and the Queen who are celebrating in 2022. BRF or The Bible Reading Fellowship are celebrating 100 years. Incidentally, Messy Church came through BRF as an idea from Lucy Moore 20 years ago! What a success!

Janet Neilson

A landmark year for BRF

We hope you had a peaceful Christmas, and we pray for God's blessing on us all in 2022.

It's a big year for BRF. One hundred years ago a church minister in Brixton wrote to his parishioners, urging them to get serious about the Bible, prayer and communion. It was a rousing clarion call, inspiring each one to realise their role in bringing about God's kingdom in their neighbourhood.

Our first online article of the year is a return to that letter, written by Revd Leslie Mannering, founder of what was to become BRF. We give thanks for that single act. Blessed by God, that 'mustard seed' of faith has grown into so many different initiatives and touched millions of lives over the past century – including through Anna Chaplaincy for Older People, Living Faith, Messy Church and Parenting for Faith.

Here is much of the text of Leslie Mannering's letter:

My dear friends,

In the providence of God we now enter upon another Christian year. It is ushered in with the 'Reveille' of Advent. 'The kingdom, the kingdom, fight for the kingdom of God!' This is the trumpet call that all the hosts of God are sounding. With the eye of faith and in the attitude of hope we look forward to that final coming of our Saviour and judge when, 'vindicated and enthroned', he shall return 'with all wreaths of empire upon his brow.'

Over against that background of the consummation of his kingdom we set the coming of the kingdom here and now. 'Lengthen thy cords and strengthen thy stakes' – the challenge of Isaiah still rings out today. It is the summons to intensify the evangelistic work which always must be the primary concern of the Church.

We are so apt to be immersed in organisations, committees and plans, that we tend to become entangled in our own machinery. And even if the machinery is running smoothly and well, there is a danger of its being just machinery. It is the living dynamic of personal religion and personal service for Christ that really moves men and things.

'At the beginning of another church year we all need to get back to the fundamentals of our faith.'

So I believe at the beginning of another church year we all need to get back, absolutely back, to the fundamentals of our faith.

Prayer

First and foremost there is prayer: not simply for ourselves, but for the world in which we live. How can St Matthew's be a mighty spiritual force in Brixton? Only in one way: only if our congregation as a solid whole realises that prayer and intercession is their supreme work as Christians. Evangelism is not simply the business of the clergy and a few church workers, it is everybody's business.

Work backed up by prayer is too often the practice, if not the ideal, of the church. If the world is to be won, that order must be reversed and the church learn to depend on prayer backed up by work. Christian work that thinks and plans and bustles and toils, but forgets to pray is an almost pathetic spectacle. People who desert their prayers in order to get more quickly to what they fondly call work, are like a stoker on a liner, who should put out his furnace fires and try to tow the ship himself. When, in any parish, there is a large body of people who really pray and really intercede, there are literally no limits to the possibilities of spiritual advance.

Bible reading

The second fundamental is Bible reading. How many of us read our Bible daily, even if it is only a verse or two? The neglect of Bible study and Bible reading in the present day is disastrous. Bishop Gore is a man who speaks with authority and he has said: 'There is no plant in the spiritual garden of the Church of England which at the present moment needs more diligent watering and tending than the practical, devotional study of holy scripture.'

Communion

Finally there are our communions. It is true that the total number of acts of communion have increased during the past year: our weekly average is 122; this includes the daily celebrations and of course the greater festivals.

When we think of the large number of communicants in our church, is it possible to feel satisfied with this? Numbers, we know, are not everything, and it is not frequency, but the reality of our communions that really matters. But the more real our communions are to us, the more frequent they will naturally become.

'Do this in remembrance of me' – the words constitute a solemn command given under unspeakably solemn conditions; it was given because in the loving heart of Christ there was a yearning desire and an express purpose to give himself thus sacramentally to all those whom he loves to call his own. This is indeed our very life: and if through laziness and indifference we refrain from obeying his command, what becomes of our discipleship?

(continued on next page)

God calls us to this

So we review the fundamentals of our faith, and the thoughts that arise call us to action. Why should we not have a great parochial fellowship which will be for the purpose of deepening the life of prayer, Bible reading and Holy Communion in each one of us? We will make the venture, believing that God calls us to this.

‘Why should we not have a great parochial fellowship of prayer, Bible reading and Holy Communion?’

This is what we propose to do

From January 1922, we will issue each month a leaflet containing prayers and subjects for intercession, also

short passages from the Bible for daily reading at home. This leaflet will be issued each month to all who will undertake to use it every day...

... And now as I close, let me express on behalf of Mrs Mannering and myself our best wishes to you all for a truly happy and helpful Christmas festival.

Your sincere friend,

Leslie G. Mannering

*Brixton Parish Church Chronicle, vol. V no. 12,
December 1921*

Eco Church

WE'RE JOINING IN with the Church of England and Chester Diocese commitment to Eco Church and we're looking for people to help us reach our goals. Could that be you?

Eco church is a broad term to describe any initiatives that look at the impact of our church on our environment and at ways of reducing that impact. There are so many ways we can do this. We could recycle more, create a wildlife garden in the church grounds, and look at ways to reduce our carbon footprint such as reducing our heating or walking to church.

A Rocha is a charity that supports churches and Christian organisations to become more eco-friendly and they have a wealth of resources to help us. A Rocha also run a nationally recognised scheme of awards to churches who are working to reduce their impact on the environment. Many churches have already achieved Bronze award and this is something we at St George's want to work towards over the next few months.

You can find out more about A Rocha and the work they do here: <https://ecochurch.arocha.org.uk>.

We will be looking at all things Eco during our Lent Breakfast series this year but if you have a heart for the environment and want to get involved with what is happening at St George's, please do let Janine know.



“A Rocha UK (ARUK) is a Christian charity working for the protection and restoration of the natural world and committed to equipping Christians and churches in the UK to care for the environment” A Rocha UK

Just last year in spring 2021, Bishop's Council stated its intent to work towards Eco Diocese status and across the Diocese of Chester, individuals and churches are greatly motivated to improve the environment and lessen our impact on it.

Revd Mike Loach, Chair of the Diocese of Chester Environment Forum says; " I'm delighted to hear that all 42 Dioceses have now signed up to become Eco Dioceses. This is a clear step in the right direction, though we must all remember that what really matters is the actions that follow. It is these which will define our credibility as Christians who take seriously the fifth Mark of Mission, ...to safeguard the integrity of creation, and sustain and renew the life of the earth."

See: <https://www.chester.anglican.org/news/42-dioceses-to-become-an-eco-diocese.php>

The Diocese of Chester has registered its intent to work towards Eco Diocese status.

Bishop Mark signed the paperwork earlier this summer meaning that the diocese's commitment to work towards achieving Eco Diocese status has been received and registered by A Rocha, the Christian charity behind the environment scheme.



The decision to work towards Eco Diocese status was taken by Bishop's Council earlier in the year and was put forward by the Archdeacon of Macclesfield, Ian Bishop.

See: <https://www.chester.anglican.org/news/chester-registers-for-eco-diocese.php>

Recent Baptism



Ella Howarth was baptised at St George's on Sunday 5th December

In praise of plodders

I'VE BEEN PONDERING the words of the apostle Paul where he says, 'I press on towards the goal' (Philippians 3:14). It suggests to me taking one step at a time, and simply keeping moving in the right direction with discipline and determination.

This reminds me of the great Bible translator William Carey who said of himself, "If he gives me credit for being

a plodder, he will describe me justly. Anything beyond that will be too much. I can plod. I can persevere in any definite pursuit. To this I owe everything."

Christian discipleship is not always exciting, glamorous, or even enjoyable. Sometimes it is a matter of quietly getting on with it, with our eyes fixed on Jesus.

Rev Tony Horsfall

St George's floodlighting – sponsorship request form

(Please return to Andrew Regan, 153 Acre Lane, Cheadle Hulme, Cheadle, SK8 7PB).



Name Phone no

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

Reason for request (if appropriate)

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

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

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

Home address:.....

Post Code Signature..... Date

Stockport's Central Library news

STOCKPORT'S CENTRAL LIBRARY is set to move from its historic home to a new £14m hub, despite a 'mixed' public response to the controversial proposals. Generations of readers have enjoyed the Grade II listed building on the A6, but it appears that the end of an era is now in sight.

A new council report recommends transferring services from the Georgian building to a modern 'learning and discovery' centre at Merseyway, financed by the government's Future High Streets Fund. Provisionally dubbed 'Stockroom', the 'cultural and community venue' at Adlington Walk would also house facilities including drop-in services, a café, performance area, sensory room, museum pieces and 'best in class' toilet facilities.

The report, which goes to cabinet next month, reads:

'It is recognised that there is strong affection for both the building and the service that has been provided from there for the last 100 years. However, it is felt that there has not been sufficiently compelling argument made to keep the service in the existing building, when balanced against the opportunity to provide a new community facility on the scale of Stockroom in Merseyway, and the difficulties in providing an enhanced offer in the Central Library building.'

Some backlash is likely, given that nearly 7,500 people have signed an online petition against the move, arguing 'there is only one use for the Central Library building, and that is its designed purpose as a public library.'

A further report is due to be brought to cabinet next summer, before a final decision is made on the future use of the building.

At the most recent council meeting in January 2022, Elise Wilson, council leader, said, 'We simply cannot ignore the huge decline in usage of the current Central Library building, which has seen visitor numbers almost halve in eight years – falling from more than 200,000 people a year in 2013, to less than 120,000 visitors a year, while book loans by young people have similarly plummeted.'

The town hall boss added: 'But we also know that Central Library is a unique asset, which is cherished, and that is why we have already pledged to safeguard its future – committed that it will not be demolished or abandoned and that public access for the much loved part of Stockport's heritage will be retained.'

I am grateful to all those residents, stakeholders and councillors that have put forward their views so far on this very important decision, and my cabinet will take time to further reflect before we reconvene in February'

*Edited report by Nick Statham
Local Democracy Reporting Service
Stockport Express 24 November 2021
and a further report 19 January 2022*

Stockport Grammar hosts launch of national charity campaign

STOCKPORT GRAMMAR Junior School welcomed a number of special visitors to SGS from the charity 999 Cenotaph to support the launch of their Unite The Uniforms campaign.

The charity aims to build a 999 Cenotaph to honour the millions of people who have worked and volunteered in the NHS and emergency services.

Founder and Chief Executive Mr Tom Scholes-Fogg delivered an inspiring assembly where he talked about the great work of all of the emergency services.

He was joined by Maria Chowdury and Hithin Noble, medical students at The University of Manchester who also delivered talks explaining why they want to work in the emergency services.

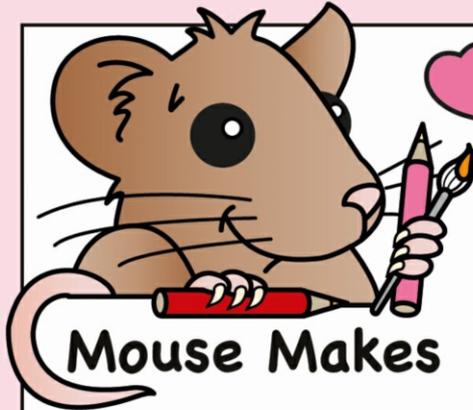
The students are also part of Scrubbed Up, a team of medical students helping people through the "nitty-gritty of applying to medical school".

The boys and girls had lots of questions for the speakers and the Hall was buzzing with excitement throughout their talk.

Professor Robina Shah MBE, the charity's Director of Health and Trustee, who also came to

the launch, said that she chose Stockport Grammar as the launch venue for the campaign as her son attended the school and, during his time at SGS, she was impressed with the values of the school.





Mouse Makes

See what great love the Father has for us that He would call us His

1 John 1:3

Lord, you are a God who shows _____ and is _____
 ...You have great _____ and _____

Psalm 86:1



How did God show He **loved** us?
 Read 1 John 4:9

Love the Lord your God with all your

_____ with all your _____
 and with all your _____

Matthew 22:37



Love is ..
 Read 1 Cor 13:4-7

_____ is love.
 Whoever lives in love lives in _____, and _____ lives in them.

1 John 4:16

Love your _____
 the same as you love

Matthew 22:39

Love is:

PATIENT • KIND • GRACIOUS • JUST • TRUTHFUL • TRUSTING • HOPEFUL
 PERSEVERE • ENDURES • GOD

Love is not:

JEALOUS • ENVY • BOASTFUL • PROUD • SELFISH • ANGRY • RUDE • EVIL

God's love is:

LOVE • MERCIFUL • FAITHFUL • UNFAILING • ABUNDANT • COMPASSIONATE

Sudoku puzzle: easy

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

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Sudoku puzzle: intermediate

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

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(Answers to all puzzles are on p. 23)



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			
26							27					

Across

- 1 'If you love those who love you, what — is that to you?' (Luke 6:32) (6)
- 4 'They threw the ship's — overboard' (Acts 27:19) (6)
- 7 The first murderer (Genesis 4:8) (4)
- 8 He was the head Levite in charge of the singing when the ark of God was brought back to Jerusalem (1 Chronicles 15:22) (8)
- 9 Samson was noted for this (Judges 16:6) (8)
- 13 Solicit money or food from passers by (Acts 3:2) (3)
- 16 What William Booth's Christian Mission became in 1878 (9,4)
- 17 Alliance of Religions and Conservation (1,1,1)
- 19 'I will praise your name for ever and ever. — I will praise you' (Psalm 145:1-2) (5,3)
- 24 Simon had (anag.) (8)
- 25 Desperate (Deuteronomy 28:48) (4)
- 26 Elisha witnessed the boy he was seeking to resuscitate do this seven times before opening his eyes (2 Kings 4:35) (6)
- 27 The belly and thighs of the statue in Nebuchadnezzar's dream were made of this (Daniel 2:32) (6)

Down

- 1 'Before the — crows, you will disown me three times' (Matthew 26:75) (4)
- 2 Relating to the books of the Bible between Acts and Revelation (9)

- 3 'They have — the Lord out of the tomb, and we don't know where they have put him!' (John 20:2) (5)
- 4 Belief (5)
- 5 'Take the following fine spices: ... 250 shekels of fragrant — ' (Exodus 30:23) (4)
- 6 'Do not — Jerusalem, but wait for the gift' (Acts 1:4) (5)
- 10 A seer (anag.) (5)
- 11 'Even there your hand will — me' (Psalm 139:10) (5)
- 12 The wild variety was part of John the Baptist's diet (Mark 1:6) (5)
- 13 A non-Greek speaker who was looked down on by civilized people (Colossians 3:11) (9)
- 14 Famous 1950s musical whose characters included members of
- 16 Across, — and Dolls (4)
- 15 The province from which Paul wrote to the Corinthians (1 Corinthians 16:19) (4)
- 18 'He was standing in the gateway with a linen cord and a measuring — — his hand' (Ezekiel 40:3) (3,2)
- 20 'Today, if you hear his — , do not harden your hearts as you did in the rebellion' (Hebrews 3:15) (5)
- 21 The Jericho prostitute who hid two Israelite spies on the roof of her house (Hebrews 11:31) (5)
- 22 'And now these three remain: faith, — and love. But the greatest of these is love' (1 Corinthians 13:13) (4)
- 23 'God has numbered the days of your reign and brought it to an end' (Daniel 5:26) (4)

Recipe of the month: Pork Stroganoff

This is a favourite recipe, one that was only in imperial measurements so I have added the metric equivalents. For a less rich sauce replace half the soured cream with stock.

500g/1lb pork fillet or tenderloin
seasoned flour
30g/1oz butter
1 tablespoon olive oil
120g/4oz streaky bacon rashers
250g/8oz mushrooms, thickly sliced
250g/8oz tomatoes, peeled, quartered and deseeded
300ml soured cream

Cut pork into strips about 2in x ½in and coat well in seasoned flour. Heat butter and oil in a frying pan. Add pork and fry until lightly browned all over, turning frequently. Put on one side and keep warm.

Scissor-snip bacon into strips, add to the pan, fry until browned and put aside with the pork. Cook mushrooms in the same pan until tender and then add the tomatoes.

Return pork and bacon to the pan, stir well and add soured cream. Loosen residue from the pan base, bring to boil. Check seasoning, reduce heat and simmer for about 20 minutes, stirring occasionally.

Good with mashed potato/rice/sauté potatoes and a green vegetable.

Pamela Ferguson

What now, Joe?

JOE, FROM WEST SOMERSET, was mentioned many years ago in *Grapevine* because of his mother's proud boast, "My Joe, he do use long words – and he do know the meaning of them!" Her pride made sense: in the mid-1940s, it tended to be long words that slowed down or interrupted a youngster's reading to look for the explanation of technical terms such as *fuselage* or *barricade*.

(I well remember my father's discomfiture when, aged about six or seven, I asked for the meaning of *abdomen* – I do not know where I had come across it, but remember then treasuring it secretly as clearly a 'naughty' word! It was much later that I realised that he must have been wondering how far south my reading might be taking me!)

Joe would be a very elderly man by now but, if he had retained his interest in words, would have lived through a very interesting period in the development of English. He would have seen the relaxation of 'rules' imposed on English but belonging to classical Latin – even if he had had to grit his teeth upon hearing a television chef talking about a contestant cooking "for Greg and I"! The vocabulary of English continues to grow with every new concern, from scientific advances to dance competitions, space exploration to gymnastic disciplines, and his vocabulary would undoubtedly have stretched recently to

incorporate material related to global issues such as *herd immunity* and *carbon footprints*.

Possibly the biggest change affecting vocabulary and word usage is the social use of computers and mobile phones, in particular, texting. People who have rarely written and posted a letter are keying notes on a daily basis to friends, commenting and gossiping socially, as well as carrying out more serious tasks such as purchasing, ordering and paying bills. It looks as if texting is having the effect of holding on to informal language, jargon and slang much longer than previously happened, although it does not seem to have slowed the arrival of new terms as young people as ever look for self-expression through language. Words indicating approval abound: *mad, sick, ace, bad, reem, fab, awesome, wild, rad* all seem to coexist, and many approvals use phrases rather than single words.

Like the rest of us, Joe would probably find more problems these days with short words rather than long ones, with precise meanings for words such as *meme* and *woke* sometimes feeling elusive. He would probably be much more comfortable with *diversity* and *synergy*. If he is still with us, one thing is sure: he will never have lost his love of words – its hold will have been far too strong!

Angela Foulkes

14th February: St Valentine's Day

THE FIRST RECORDED association of Valentine Day with romantic love (1382) is from Geoffrey Chaucer. He wrote, 'For this was Saint Valentine's Day, when every bird cometh there to choose his mate.' This poem was in honour of the first anniversary of the engagement of King Richard II of England to Anne of Bohemia. Valentine Day is referred to by Ophelia in Hamlet (1600-1601).

*To-morrow is St Valentine's day
All in the morning betime*

*And I a maid at your window
To be your Valentine.*

The modern mention of Valentine's Day can be found in a collection of English nursery rhymes (1784):

*The rose is red, the violet's blue
The honey's sweet, and so are you.
Thou are my love and I am thine
I drew thee to my Valentine.*

Praise and Play is Back!

IT WAS LOVELY to be able to welcome members of our Praise and Play family back in September. When we started back we made several changes. We now meet on Tuesday morning between 10am and 11am at the back of church. This gives us more space and we can also have messier activities as we don't have to worry about the carpet.



As well as renewing our friendship with people who were coming before the Covid pandemic, it has been good to welcome new faces to the group. We have seen quite a change in the children attending. Some have started

school or pre-school since we last met, those who were babies when we closed are now young children and toddlers. We missed seeing them grow up but enjoy seeing how grown up they now are. It is lovely to see everyone enjoying their time with us and making new friends.



We entered a Christmas tree in the Christmas Tree Festival, with all the decorations being made by members of the group. We saw many of them at the Festival, and for some it was their first time with us. At our final Praise and Play before Christmas we had a very special visitor!

We look forward to starting back again on 11th January.

Lois Kelly





ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH, STOCKPORT MUSIC LIST – FEBRUARY 2022

Sunday 6th February – The Fourth Sunday before Lent			
10:15am – St. George's Service		4:00pm – Celebration of Baptism Service	
Setting:	A Mass for Worth Abbey – Greening	Hymns:	516 Love divine, all loves excelling, 383 Be still, for the presence of the Lord, SP13 Longing for light, we wait in darkness, 22 The day thou gavest, Lord, is ended
Hymns:	450 God, we praise you, God we bless you! 622 Will you come and follow me, 305 I come with joy, a child of God, 612 We have a gospel to proclaim		
Anthem:	T'was in the year that King Uzziah died – arr. Wood		Anthem: O nata lux de lumine – Tallis

Sunday 13th February – The Third Sunday before Lent	
10:15am – St. George's Service	
Setting:	Mass of St. Thomas – Thorne
Hymns:	487 Jesus, good above all other, 391 Blest are the pure in heart, 628 Ye that know the Lord is gracious, 137 Alleluia! Alleluia! Hearts to heaven and...
Anthem:	Lead me, Lord – Wesley
No Evening Service	

Sunday 20th February – The Second Sunday before Lent	
10:15am – St. George's Service	
Setting:	A Mass for Worth Abbey – Greening
Hymns:	250 All creatures of our God and King, 413 Eternal Father, strong to save 278 Alleluia, sing to Jesus Will your anchor hold in the storms of life?
Anthem:	Do not be afraid – Stopford
No Evening Service	

Sunday 27th February – The Sunday next before Lent	
10:15am – St. George's 125th Anniversary Service	
Introit:	I was glad – Parry
Setting:	Festal Eucharist Service – Rawsthorne
Hymns:	208ii Christ is made the sure foundation, 211 We love the place, O God, SP314 The Lord's my shepherd SP117 Thanks be to God for his saints of each... 537 O God, our help in ages past,
Anthem:	We wait for thy loving kindness – McKie
No Evening Service	

Andrew Dean

On Sunday 2nd January 2022 Andrew Dean marked 50 years as an organist and choir director. We thank him for his years of service to St George's, as Director of Music from 1997-1998, and in more recent years as one of our Assistant Organists.



(photo: Hannah Whitehouse)

Puzzle solutions

Easy Sudoku solution:

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

Intermediate Sudoku solution:

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

Crossword solution:

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

Sometimes the most wayward of offspring can turn out well



Photo: Angela Foulkes

Services at St George's

Services in church, with congregation:

Sundays: 8am Holy Communion (BCP)
10.15am Parish Communion (also live streamed)

Wednesdays: 9.30am Morning Prayer (also live streamed)
10am Holy Communion (BCP)

Sunday 6th February: 4pm Celebration of Baptism Service

Sunday 27th February: 10.15am 125th Anniversary Communion Service

Services which are live streamed only:

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

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

Some Quotations for February

- The need of the world is to listen to God. – *Albert Einstein*
- A religion that does not begin with repentance is certain to end there, perhaps too late. – *Anon*
- You cannot starve a man who is feeding on God's promises. – *Anon*
- If Christians praised God more, the world would doubt Him less. – *C E Jefferson*
- The Bible has a great deal to say about suffering, and most of it is encouraging. – *A W Tozer*

Lord Jesus Christ,
you are
the Light of the nations
and you bring light
to our darkness.
So shine in our hearts,
that all our actions,
words and attitudes
at all times will reflect
lives filled with the praise
of your glory.

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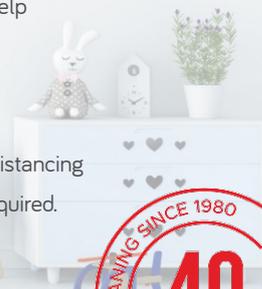
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