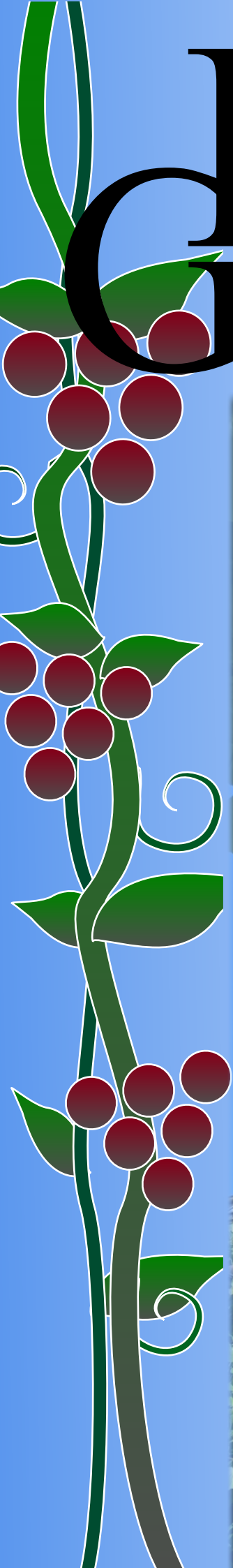


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July-August 2024 **£1.20**

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



Animal Blessing Service

ON THE 9TH JUNE we had our Annual Animal Blessing Service. It was a particularly joyous occasion with about 25 dogs to bless, two cats, plenty of photos, and two donkeys, Shrek and Fiona, from Alwood Donkeys on Wirral. The donkeys can be visited if you are ever out in that direction! All animals were very well behaved apart from a small incident of Shrek deciding to give the altar cloth a tug and spilling a coffee cup! Well, you know what they say, never work with animals or children. Thanks to those who helped sort the table out, no damage done!!

The choir gave an inspired performance of Badgers and Hedgehogs by Andrew Carter, and were given a surprise “giraffe” rubber duck to enhance the collection in the vestry. Looking forward to next year’s already! *Jenny*





Jenny writes:

I can't believe that it's time for the Summer Grapevine! It has been a very grey and rainy summer so far, and I hope that July and August bring us some more pleasant weather. Despite the weather, we can still make the best of

the outdoors though, and I recently had a day out at the Royal Cheshire Show. It's right up my street to see the best examples of many breeds of cattle and sheep, covies and birds and, of course, the Grand Parade at the end of

the day. For city dwellers, the Cheshire Show provides a real insight, and perhaps a first insight, into the farming world and makes us think more about what goes on in rural communities.

Jesus was very interested in agriculture as well. A good tree doesn't produce bad fruit...a sower went out to sow...consider a grain of wheat. In story after story, Jesus used scenes from everyday farm life to illustrate his points about the Gospel and the kingdom of God. Most of Jesus' listeners would have been farmers or very familiar with farming. It would have been very easy, not to mention effective, to be able to point to a farmer in the field, shepherds tending nearby flocks, or the numerous plants growing around them and reference the heart of God or another Gospel truth. The illustrations Jesus needed to make his points were literally all around him.



For a farmer, the animals have to be tended. The fields have to be checked. The work is never done. And it's never done for us either. Relationships have to be tended. Friends and family have to be cared for. Our own issues of depression, loneliness and inferiority have to be dealt with before our own soil is ready for the Spirit to plant the good seed of the Kingdom.

However we feel or whatever we are going through, the sun will come up in the morning and, rain or shine, like the farmer, you and I will have to get up and go to work in our fields. May you have plenty of "sunny" days this summer, to build your "soil" anew, recharge your battery and return refreshed to your life in God.

Many Blessings,
Jenny

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

Vicar	Rev. Canon Elaine Chegwin Hall vicar@stgeorgestockport.org.uk 456 9382	Sunday Clubs	Ask for Louise, Eliza or Andy at the 10:15 Sunday service. Eliza 07967 798453 Louise 483 3703	Ring on Sundays 9.45-10.15am. Meet in the tower.
Associate minister	Rev. Dr Jenny McKay 01606 891564 jenny@stgeorgestockport.org.uk	Junior Choir	James Hibbert 07365 519207 Practise: Wednesday and Thursday 6pm-7.30pm in the vestry during term time. Sing for Sunday services at 10.15am and 4pm.	Bible Reading Fellowship Notes Janet Neilson 483 9025 Notes are ordered on request.
Curate in training	Rev. Jane Crook revjanecrook@gmail.com 07533 107548	Praise and Play	contact the Parish Office: 480 2453 For 0-4s and their carers. Meet every Tuesday in term time, 10-11 in the Parish Rooms.	Bible Study Groups <i>contact the clergy</i> Study groups and courses are arranged from time to time.
Readers	Peter Hall 456 9382 Rita Waters 487 3620	St Gabriel's		Choir James Hibbert 07365 519207 actingdirectorofmusic@gmail.com Practise: Thursday 7.30pm-9pm in the vestry during term time. Sing for Sunday services at 10.15am and 4pm.
Churchwardens	Andrew Regan 440 0408 Hazel Jenkins 483 4679	Festival services	Rev. Canon Elaine Chegwin Hall 456 9382	Church Flowers Jean Hayden (<i>donations</i>) 483 2367
PCC Secretary	Lois Kelly 439 9458	Uniformed Groups with connections to St George's		Church Gardeners Walter Stead 430 2449 Meet on Tuesdays 9.30-12.30.
PCC Treasurer	Andrew Regan 440 0408 treasurer@stgeorgestockport.org.uk	Rainbows	Trisha Brown 07403 353 175 Sue Kirkland 07854 101 918 For girls aged 4-7. Meet Fridays 6.15-7.30pm in the Parish Room.	Coffee Mornings In church, after the 10am service on Wednesdays.
Parish Office	Cathryn Otley 480 2453	Brownies	Rachel Lockett 07712 302342 Lianne Warburton 07815 482603 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.
Magazine Editor	vacant		To sign up to Brownies or Rainbows please visit www.girlguiding.org.uk and click on "Join us"	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.
Safeguarding co-ordinator	James Hibbert 07365 519207 stgeorgestockportsafeguarding@outlook.com	4th Stockport Scout Group	Sarah Johnson 07930 243 159 Meet at: Bridgehall Community Centre Siddington Avenue SK3 8NR	Linen Guild Pat Rigley 487 1999 Maintain the church's linen.
Website	www.stgeorgestockport.org.uk	Squirrels	For boys and girls aged 4-6 Saturdays 9-10	Magazine Editorial Group Meet monthly to plan future issues. magazine@stgeorgestockport.org.uk
Webmaster	Peter Hall 456 9382	Beavers	For boys and girls aged 6 and 7 Wednesdays 5.30-6.30	Mothers' Union Pat Durnall 483 4837 Meet on 2nd Monday of the month in the Parish Room at 2.15pm.
St George's Primary School		Cubs	For boys and girls aged 8-10½ Wednesdays 6.30-8.00	
Headteacher	Deborah Grindrod 480 8657	Scouts	For boys and girls aged 10½-14 Wednesdays 6.30-8.00	
St George's		Other Groups and Activities		
Deputy Wardens	John Hardy 01663 764 462 Sue Burt 483 9589	St George's		
Director of Music	James Hibbert 07365 519207 actingdirectorofmusic@gmail.com	Bell ringers	Anne Mayes 485 6477 Practise Mondays 7.45-9pm.	
Associate Director of Music	Roger Briscoe brogerdom16@gmail.com			
Vergers	Lee Howarth Mary Howarth			
Bookings for Parish Rooms	Parish Office 480 2453			
St Gabriel's				
Contact:	Parish Office 480 2453			
Bookings	Parish Office 480 2453			
Children's Activities				
St George's				
Children's Corner	Available for children (and parents) during services. Equipped with books, crayons and soft toys.			

Front cover photo:

Sunday Sun
photo by Louise Clark

Services and Events in July and August:
see pages 6 and 22

Elmira Khoshrouz British Citizenship

CONGRATULATIONS TO Elmira who was recently granted British Citizenship. This is such wonderful news for Elmira and her family.



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Parish News Roundup	Parish News Roundup	Parish News Roundup
<p>Holy Baptism</p> <p>30th Jun Hallie Evelyn Lowe</p> <p>Holy Matrimony</p> <p>15th Jun Andrew Lloyd and Kadie Henshall</p> <p>29th Jun Jamie Platt and Heather Baxter</p> <p>Funerals</p> <p>17th Jun Stan Berry: burial of ashes in St George's Garden of Remembrance.</p> <p>19th Jun Jill McKeown: service in church.</p> <p>Communion Flowers were sponsored as follows:</p> <p>9th Jun remembering John's birthday, with love from Janice Puddifoot and family.</p> <p>16th Jun from the Sharrard family, in loving memory of Gordon, Margaret and Julian.</p> <p>30th Jun from the Garlick and Lupton families, in memory of Arnold and Jean Lupton.</p> <p>Floodlighting was sponsored as follows:</p> <p>2nd Jun for our lovely Mum, Pamela Elizabeth McCall. Always in our hearts, Mum. Love from Marion and the McCall family.</p> <p>4th Jun in loving memory of Chris Neilson. Always in our hearts. From Janet ,Claire , Matthew and Andrew.</p>	<p>Mothers' Union</p> <p>The Mothers' Union invite you to 'A STRAWBERRY TEA' on Monday 8th July at 2.15pm in the Parish room. In aid of MU charities.</p> <p>Rosie Stead</p> <p>What's the first word that comes into your mind when you think of Rosie Stead?</p> <p>In a short poll round my family we came up with cheery, welcoming, kind and smiley.</p> <p>I imagine that your ideas would match up. Even if the words were different from ours, the essence behind them would illustrate a lady of diminutive stature with a big heart who made people feel valued and important.</p> <p>It was Rosie that you'd invariably see at the door as you came into church. She would be the one who would make a genuine enquiry as to how you were, how your family were getting on and what your plans might be.</p> <p>She was the one who took time to listen, time to get to know you, to befriend you and to ensure that you felt overwhelmingly welcome even if you were only passing through.</p> <p>So many remember Rosie because she was their first point of contact, who made the effort to reassure you so you never felt alone. She was the start of their journey with us.</p> <p>Rosie would be the one who would make the extra effort to get the right paper for her Christmas crackers because she knew that a certain little boy in the Chegwin Hall household, was mad about cars. She was patient,</p>	<p>sitting with a gang of butterfingers adults at Mothers' Union, showing them how to make the crackers to take home so that they worked, snapping with a loud bang, rather than a damp squib.</p> <p>She was a hard worker, ensuring that "Rosie's Stall" at Christmas was laden with goodies so that the money raised went off to one of her favourite charities, The Wellspring.</p> <p>She had a real focus on environmental concerns, and most recently has been hosting a recycling box, which sits at the South door which still needs to be filled.</p> <p>She was a brilliant taskmaster on the magazine committee, ensuring we were getting on with things, a gentle chivvy, all done with good humour. She worked hard herself, providing articles, overseeing the advertising and supplying us with the mystery object to guess. She also, poignantly, liaised directly with me, to provide the obituary section in the magazine.</p> <p>She was very much loved and will be much missed. A further article will arrive in your September edition, along with reflections on her service, which will be held on Thursday 4th July at 12.15pm.</p>
<div> <div> Baptisms, Banns and Marriage bookings: Please contact the vicar: Telephone: 0161 456 9382 or email: vicar@stgeorgestockport.org.uk </div> <div> September 2024 Grapevine magazine dates: Deadline copy date: Fri 16th Aug Committee meeting: Tue 20th Aug </div> </div>		

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 contact the treasurer, Andrew Regan (treasurer@stgeorgestockport.org.uk).

Pat Durnall, 21 again!

IT WAS A true delight to spend time with Pat as she celebrated her 90th birthday at the Mothers' Union meeting in May, one of many celebrations involving family and friends.

We were already in good voice thanks to Janet Neilson, who led a wonderful musical afternoon for us, so we were all able to raise the roof with a joyful rendition of "Happy Birthday to You", followed by the official cutting of the cake and presentation of flowers.

Pat, always someone to ensure that everyone else was being looked after, enjoyed the well-deserved pampering and fuss.

It was a great occasion.



Garden Gnomes – And So Into Summer

IT'S TUESDAY so it must be raining – or so it seems to me. Perhaps I am wrong, but this May appears to have been exceptionally wet and windy, especially on Tuesday, our normal morning for volunteering in the church garden. The wet weather has certainly helped the plants to grow, especially the weeds, but we are at last starting to get a good display of flowers. The roses planted in the new bed near the flagpole are just starting to flower.

Summer has arrived and with luck we can hope for a few months of warmer, sunnier weather.

Midsummer is normally a time to relax and enjoy the garden, but because we have missed so many volunteer days this year I think we will be spending our time catching up on jobs we should have done earlier. When we have managed to get out, our main jobs in May have been weeding, particularly

the paths around the church and the new rose bed. It's been difficult to keep up with the work required because we are so few in number and would welcome any help. Last year after they had flowered, the irises in the Remembrance Garden were dug up and the rhizomes split to remove the weeds growing between the plants and to refresh the plants. For this reason they have not given the best display as the plants

have still to settle in after last year's disturbance, but I hope they will give a good show of flowers next year. The foxgloves have given a good display in the south bed and work is ongoing to improve this bed. Some of the roses around the site have already flowered and they will need dead-heading so that we can enjoy a second flush of flowers later in the year.



The RHS web page has an interesting article about how to reduce the use of plastics in the garden, and this was something I had not considered until I read the article. One of the biggest uses of plastic is the plastic pot and according to the article there are 500 million plastic pots in circulation. Plastic pots are used because they are cheap, lightweight and do not rot. But plant pots are not the only thing made from plastic that are used by gardeners. Other things include plant trays, horticultural fleece, hoses and fruit cage netting. The fact that plastic is so robust and does not rot down causes serious damage to our environment when it comes to disposal. We can all reduce the use of plastic by using alternative biodegradable materials such as wood, paper and coir, which can be decomposed by fungi, bacteria or micro-organisms.

The article suggests that we replace plastic seed trays with ones made from wood. Wooden seed trays can be made from scrap pieces of wood or purchased from garden centres or on the web.





labels can be made from slate or metal.

We all use string and netting in the garden and these are long lasting if made from plastic. Where possible these should be swapped for jute or hemp twine which is available from the garden centre.

Much more information about this subject and others can be found on the RHS website.

We should all do what we can to reduce the use of plastic in the garden, but it

The drawback is that they are more expensive to purchase initially and are heavier when in use. The advantage is that they can be mended when required. Seed trays made from bamboo can be purchased and these will be lighter than those constructed from wood but have the disadvantage in that you cannot repair them when needed.

Plant pots can be replaced by using biodegradable containers made from coir, fibre, bamboo and waste cardboard. Containers for single use are widely available and have the benefit in that the roots are not disturbed when planting. Environmentally-friendly plant pots made from natural plant fibre can also be purchased. These have a life expectancy of up to five years and are biodegradable within less than two years when broken. The disadvantage is that they are more expensive than plastic pots. The cardboard inner tubes of toilet rolls are excellent pots for starting plants like sweet peas and have the advantage of being free and can be planted directly into the ground without root disturbance.

Another thing made from plastic that we all use in the garden is the plant label and alternatives are to use lollipop sticks or bamboo plant labels. However wooden sticks tend to soak up the water from the compost and labels may not be legible after a while; bamboo may be better. Longer lasting

does seem that some of the alternatives are more expensive. Perhaps the best thing we can do is to re-use pots and seed trays as much as possible to make them last and then, when they are broken, make sure they are put into the recycling bin as a lot of plastics are recyclable. Some garden centres have facilities for taking used plant pots.

The gnomes would welcome anyone who has spare time on a Tuesday morning to help in the garden as it contributes to keeping the church and its surroundings presentable. We start at around 9:30 and work until about 11am when we meet with the maintenance volunteers for coffee or tea and biscuits and generally put the world to rights for half an hour before either packing up or continuing for a little longer until lunch time.

Robert Mantle



Mothers' Union June Meeting

THE MOTHERS' UNION were pleased to welcome a very energetic Linda Brooke to our June meeting.

Linda has held all the high offices for Stockport Metropolitan Borough Council. She started in the rôle of Mayoress to accompany the Mayor during their year of office.

She then decided to stand for the council and after several attempts she was elected to represent a ward in the Bramhall area. In this position she became the deputy mayor on several occasions and for one year held the office of Mayor.

She travelled all over the borough, and on at least one occasion represented Stockport abroad. Some events were very sombre and others very light-hearted, but all were of equal importance. The Mayor's Office shows support to local events and provides publicity for many

organisations. During her times in office she helped raise funds for several local charities.

Over the years the support for the office has changed; there used to be two mayoral cars and four attendants – now just one car and one attendant, who is there to look after the chain of office as well as the mayor! After their year of office mayors, deputies and their consorts are presented with a medallion; Linda has quite a collection!

It was a very interesting, informative and entertaining afternoon.

Our next meeting on Monday July 8th at 2.15pm will be 'A STRAWBERRY TEA' in aid of MU funds, and we welcome everyone to come along for food, fun and friendship in the Parish room. We start our new season in September with a communion service on Monday September 9th at 2.15pm.

Reflections on Meditation

TO STOP and to take time for ourselves refreshes and renews us. To do so regularly is even more powerful. It reconnects us with ourselves, and out of stillness and silence comes the energy for action.

It can be difficult to understand that, "in a world of electronic beeps and tunes it is silence that feeds the soul," as labyrinth facilitator Di Williams puts it. She goes on to say, "Turn off the machines, embrace the chattering mind that follows in their wake and walk along gently into a stillness, a space for peace."

Yes, she is suggesting a literal walk into the labyrinth, a mindful walk step by step, aware of each silent step. A meditation that, like a sitting meditation, brings us back to ourselves. When we meditate, we are taking an opportunity to be with ourselves, to becoming open to our true selves. In this state we learn to let go of our protective layer and the need to project an image.

It may take time, but this is one of the fruits of meditation. As we build this loving connection with ourselves, so we find ourselves more open and loving towards other people. So it is that meditation helps us to build connection and community.

Just as we become more open to ourselves and to other people so, through this loving silence, we become more open to God. For, not only is God the source of love, but also, as the mystic Meister Eckhart says, "There is nothing so much like God in all the universe as silence."

Our next quiet time meditations are at 12 noon after the morning service on Sundays 28th July, 22nd September,



photo: Andy Clark

27th October, 24th November and 15th December in the chapel. All welcome.

Chris Dawson

Big Ride for Palestine

JENNY AND DAVE will be cycling 25 miles in Liverpool on 20th July to raise money for children in Gaza. There will be a sponsor sheet at the back of church and a social media Go Fund me page coming soon!!



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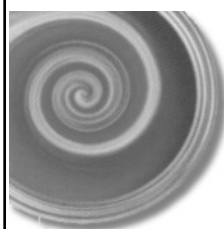
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Summer Recipe 1: Chocolate Torte with Stem Ginger

This is a large cake, serves 14. It tastes even better next day, kept in the fridge then served at room temperature.

250g unsalted butter plus extra for greasing
Cocoa powder for dusting
350g 70% dark chocolate, roughly chopped
4 balls stem ginger, about 70g, finely chopped
4 tbsp ginger syrup
5 eggs, separated
100g soft light brown sugar
120g golden caster sugar
1.5 tbsp ground ginger
100g ground almonds
200ml half fat crème fraiche

Preheat oven to 170C, gas mark 3. Grease 23cm loose bottomed tin and line base with baking parchment. Turn tin on its side and dust with cocoa, turning round until sides are coated.

Put butter, chocolate and 2 tbsp ginger syrup into a pan and heat gently until all is melted and well mixed. Leave to cool slightly.

Put egg yolks and both sugars into a bowl and beat with electric beaters for 2-3 mins until lighter in colour, then add chocolate mixture. Combine ground ginger with ground almonds and add to the mix. Beat egg whites in a separate bowl until stiff (NB use clean, dry beaters!) then fold gently into the chocolate mixture in three batches, until just mixed each time. Fold in chopped stem ginger. Transfer to prepared tin and bake for 45-50 mins until it's almost set and a skewer inserted comes out almost clean. Leave in the tin to cool completely then chill 2-3 hours.

Mix the crème fraiche with the remaining 2 tbsp ginger syrup. When cake is transferred to a plate dust with cocoa powder. Serve at room temperature with a spoonful of the ginger crème fraiche and a scattering of remaining 10g stem ginger, finely chopped, on each plate.

Pamela Ferguson

Jean is always up for a spin on the dancefloor

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The Technology of Nature

AT THE BEGINNING of June I attended an event at Barnsley Main Colliery to undertake public engagement for a project that I am working on with colleagues from Brunel University in London.

The coal mine operated for over a hundred years as a central part of local economy and community, providing for the livelihoods of a significant number of inhabitants of Barnsley and the surrounding areas. Sadly, it was also connected to the location of the worst mining disaster in England, claiming 383 lives in 1866, when a series of methane explosions ripped through the mines. While operations at Barnsley Main ceased in 1991 the engine house and pithead structures remain, being designated as a Grade II listed structure in 2013. We took a fascinating tour of the site with a former engineer, learning about mining operations, technical developments, and the rôle of Barnsley Main in the 1984-85 miners' strike.



We were there to talk about a different type of mining, which is generally referred to as *Phytomining*, but some have also referred to this process as regenerative gardening. *Phytomining* involves growing species of plants that naturally take up large amounts of metals from the soil, particularly in circumstances where the soil is rich in metals, for example where it is polluted from human activities such as coal mining. These plants belong to a group that are called hyperaccumulators, which are able to move metals from the soil and store them in their



shoots and leaves. The movement, or translocation, of the metals from the soil into the shoots and leaves occurs as a response to stress induced by high levels of toxic metals in the soil. An analogy that we sometimes use is that of a person entering an untidy and dirty room that induces stress and motivates them to tidy and clean up, thereby reducing the stress. Hyperaccumulators have adapted to environments that have naturally high levels of certain metals, and are defined as having the capacity to absorb over 100 times more metal concentrations than other native species. Different species of plant will be adapted to specific metals, for example, plants in the genus *Alyssum* have been found to accumulate nickel, which is a metal with potential to cause cancers. Many brassicas are hyperaccumulators: for instance, Indian mustard has been shown to accumulate copper, nickel, lead and zinc.

There is a relatively long history of using plants that have these special properties to clean up contaminated sites, but generally, once harvested, they are disposed of either in a landfill site or by burning in a waste incinerator. This so-called *Phytoremediation* can be effective, but may result in moving the problem from one site to another, albeit with a greater degree of control. Our project is looking at the commercial potential for extracting the metals from the harvested plants, so that they are mined in a way that is environmentally sensitive and sustainable. The methods use the wonderful 'technology of nature' or what is increasingly referred to as nature-based solutions to negative environmental change.

In addition to the Barnsley Main site we also have an experimental site in Salford, a lush green field that is adjacent to a former sewage treatment works where sludge material from the treatment process was spread. In terms of health risks the site has relatively high levels of lead, zinc and arsenic. On this site we have grown a wide range of hyperaccumulators, including sweet alyssum, wormseed wallflower, oxeye daisy, mustard, rapeseed, sweet Williams, purple viper's bugloss, Menzies' baby blue eyes, and maize, and we also have naturally occurring plants such as creeping buttercup with promising results. We are hopeful that this method of alleviating the problems our past practices have created can be scaled up for the benefit of humans and nature in the future.



In *Romans 1:20* Paul writes "For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature – have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made". In this context, I see this message as God giving us the solutions and enabling our stewardship of the earth, nature being a demonstration of God's power and love.

Andy Clark

From Grey to Green

IN MY ARTICLE on rewilding in the June issue I mentioned the green wall in the University of Salford campus, but did not include a photo. The green wall is installed on one of our science buildings (Cockcroft) and consists of several thousand plant pots in a specially constructed frame. Green walls perform lots of useful functions – habitat for insects and birds, temperature regulation and insulation,



and carbon storage. It is also a form of what is sometimes called biophilic design, which means that it increases our connection to nature, improving our mental health. The photo shows a section of the green wall.

Andy Clark



Learning about Pentecost and the Power of the Holy Spirit

ON PENTECOST SUNDAY (19th May) St George's Sunday Clubs learned about Pentecost. They heard the story of Pentecost as told in Acts 20:1-12 and reflected on how Jesus' followers might have felt on encountering the Holy Spirit. They practised saying 'Hello' in different languages to give them an idea of what it might have sounded like in the gathering place, including English, German, French, Japanese, Chinese, Dutch and Farsi. They then



experienced the effect of the violent wind (an electric fan) and the tongues of fire (an LED tea light candle), learning that these are symbolic of the movement and presence of the Spirit of God and God's presence respectively. They completed the session by making candle art to remind them of what they had learned about the awesomeness of the Holy Spirit.

Andy Clark

Summer Recipe 2: Tagine of Aubergines, Dates and Almonds

This is supposed to be made in a tagine, which is something I don't possess, but an ordinary pan or casserole works perfectly well. I was introduced to the recipe by my vegetarian daughter. The original recipe had a topping of dumplings but I prefer it without, so have omitted them.

Serves 4 generously

4 large aubergines, cut in large chunks

Salt

5 tablespoons oil

2 large onions, cut in chunks

4 wide strips lemon zest

2 large cloves garlic, crushed

2 tbsps ground turmeric

1 tbsp ground cinnamon

2 400g tins chopped tomatoes

2 tbsps chopped coriander, optional

Juice 1/2 lemon

110g/4oz cooked chick peas (tinned are fine)

200g/7oz fresh dates, stoned and cut into quarters lengthwise

55g/2oz blanched almonds, toasted

Salt and freshly ground black pepper

Put aubergine chunks into a colander, sprinkle with salt and toss to cover. Leave for 30 minutes to extract some liquid then rinse well and drain.

Heat the oil in your choice of casserole/pan/tagine, add the onions and lemon zest and cook gently for 10 minutes until the onions are soft. Add garlic, turmeric and cinnamon. Turn up the heat slightly and fry until the onions and spices begin to brown.

Stir in the aubergine chunks and fry until brown. Add the tomatoes, coriander and lemon juice, and when heated through, turn down the heat to a simmer. Cook for 20 mins, stirring occasionally to prevent sticking, then add the chick peas, dates and almonds. It should not be too dry so add a little water if necessary. Season to taste. Cook for another 15-20 minutes.

Baked potatoes go well with this dish.

Pamela Ferguson

Jigsaws

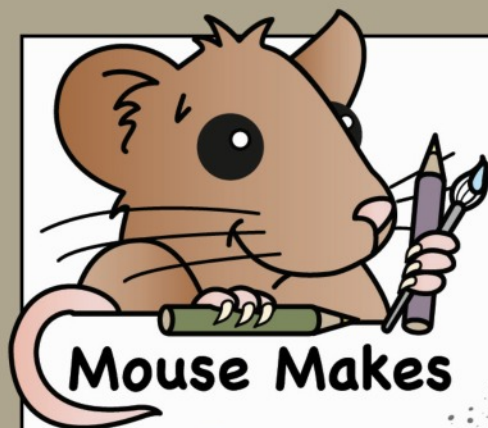
WHAT BEGAN as something to pass the time during coffee time at the church's Heritage Day has bloomed into a staple at St George's. Since Heritage Day in September of last year, many in the congregation have been captivated by the ongoing informal jigsaw puzzle club.

It all started with me, Aneurin and Peter and 1000 pieces; Aneurin believed it could be done in a single afternoon. You may recall that the initial jigsaw took several weeks to complete, which would not have been possible without the whole community of St George's working together to add a piece here, a piece there, no that bit's not quite right, how about we try it over there? Yes, that's it!

I think what I like best about this new little club is the way it brings us together. There are several instances over the last few months where, because of these jigsaws, I have had lovely interactions and conversations with people in the congregation I would not normally have talked to. It's a great way to really get to know our church community.

Lilla Clark





Mouse Makes



What was carried
along behind the priests?

The _____
Joshua 6:4

How many days did the Lord
tell Joshua to march around
the city of Jerico?

Joshua 6:3

What did the priests
carry that were made
from rams' horns?

Joshua 6:4

On the seventh day
how many times did
they march around Jerico?

Joshua 6:6

Who was saved from
Jerico along with
her family?

Joshua 6:17



READ
the story
in Joshua
5:13-6:27



JERICO • LORD • JOSHUA • ISRAEL • KING • PRIESTS • GUARD
CAMP • MARCH • AROUND • DAYS • WALK • ONCE • BLOW • HORN • SOUND
DAWN • SHOUT • CITY • WALL • FELL • FLAT • FIRE • BURN • DESTRUCTION

Find the question answers in the word search too!

July24© deborah noble • parishpump.co.uk

Sudoku puzzle: easy

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

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Sudoku puzzle: intermediate

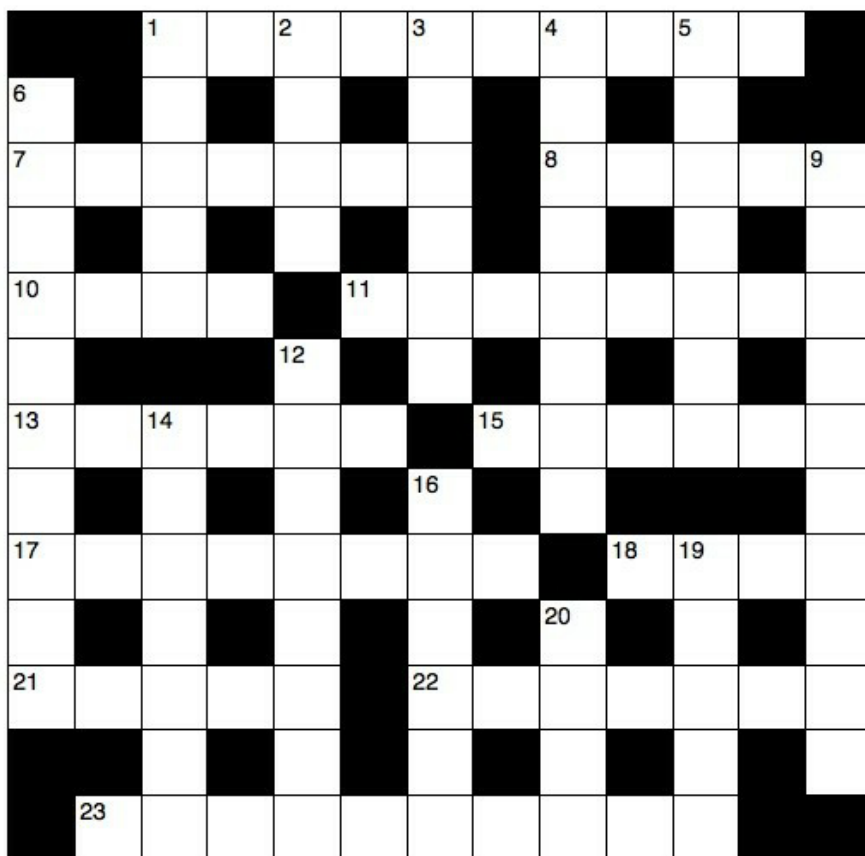
						3		
4					9			1
7			2				5	
				2		8	4	
	4		3		6		1	
	7	6		5				
	6				7			3
3			5					2
		5						

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(Answers to all puzzles are on p. 22)



Crossword



Across

- 1 Relating to the Jewish day of rest (10)
- 7 Point of view (Matthew 22:17) (7)
- 8 20th-century Brethren philanthropist whose construction company became one of the UK's biggest, Sir John — (5)
- 10 Girl's name (4)
- 11 Peter was accused of being one in the courtyard of the high priest's house (Luke 22:59) (8)
- 13 The fifth of the 'seven churches' (Revelation 3:1-6) (6)
- 15 'Now the famine was — in Samaria' (1 Kings 18:2) (6)
- 17 Banned by the seventh Commandment (Exodus 20:14) (8)
- 18 Insect most closely associated with itching (1 Samuel 24:14) (4)
- 21 Bantu tribe which gives its name to tiny landlocked country in southern Africa (5)
- 22 Familiar material in churches that use an overhead projector (7)
- 23 Last book of the Bible (10)

Down

- 1 The young David's favourite weapon (1 Samuel 17:40) (5)
- 2 'Your vats will — over with new wine' (Proverbs 3:10) (4)
- 3 Once yearly (Exodus 30:10) (6)
- 4 Milled it (anag.) (3-5)
- 5 Region north of Damascus of which Lysanias was tetrarch (Luke 3:1) (7)
- 6 Comes between Philippians and 1 Thessalonians (10)
- 9 Lake where the first disciples were called (Luke 5:1-11) (10)
- 12 Abusive outburst (8)
- 14 Are loud (anag.) (7)
- 16 Printing errors (6)
- 19 'Take my yoke upon you and — from me' (Matthew 11:29) (5)
- 20 Jacob's third son (Genesis 29:34) (4)

The Bible version used in our crosswords is the NIV.



Music Scheme – July 2024

Sunday 7 th July – The Sixth Sunday after Trinity			
10:15am	Parish Communion	4:00pm	Café Church
Setting:	Mass of St. Thomas – Thorne	See Order of Service for details	
Hymns:	497 Let all the world in every corner sing, O Breath of Life, come sweeping through us, 127 When I survey the wondrous cross 437 Go forth and tell!		
Anthem:	Draw us in the Spirit's tether – Friedell		
Voluntary:	Voluntary in D minor – Croft		

Sunday 14 th July – The Seventh Sunday after Trinity			
10:15am	Parish Communion	4:00pm	Evensong
Setting:	A Mass for Worth Abbey – Greening		557 Praise to the Holiest in the height, 523 My God, how wonderful thou art, 11 As now the sun's declining rays
Hymns:	234 Sing we the praises... 559 Pray for the church afflicted and... 283 Before the throne of God above 626 Ye holy angels bright,		Responses: Plainsong Psalm: 66. 1-8
			Canticles: Plainsong
Anthem:	Holy is the true light – Harris	Anthem:	Through the day thy love has spared us – Morley
Voluntary:	Prelude in G – Harris	Voluntary:	Cornet Voluntary – Heron

Sunday 21 st July – The Eighth Sunday after Trinity	
10:15am	Parish Communion
Setting:	Mass of St. Thomas – Thorne
Hymns:	SP176 Let us build a house... 347 Thine arm, O Lord, in days of old 383 Be still, for the presence of the Lord, 356 Judge eternal, throned in splendour,
Anthem:	God be in my head – Rutter
Voluntary:	Andante – Rawsthorne
No Evening Service	

Sunday 28 th July – The Ninth Sunday after Trinity			
10:15am	Parish Communion	4:00pm	Choral Evensong
Setting:	A Mass for Worth Abbey – Greening	Hymns:	469 I heard the voice of Jesus say, 408 'Come to me,' says Jesus, 22 The day thou gavest, Lord, is ended,
Hymns:	501 Light of the minds that know him, 455 Guide me, O thou great Redeemer, SP13 Longing for light, we wait in darkness. 537 O God, our help in ages past,	Responses:	Ayleward Psalm: 74
		Canticles:	Evening Service in B minor – Noble
Anthem:	Ave verum corpus – Mozart	Anthem:	Verleih uns Frieden – Mendelssohn
Voluntary:	Improvisation – Hibbert	Voluntary:	Rhapsody (No. 1) in D flat – Howells

Organ Recital by *David Price, Thailand*

Sunday 28th July 2024 at 5:15pm

DAVID PRICE, Assistant Organist here at St George's during the 1960s, returns once more to give an organ recital, following Choral Evensong on Sunday 28th July. He is visiting the UK to give a series of Summer Recitals at churches across the country.

David will be playing organ music by Sidney Campbell, Edward Bairstow, J.S. Bach, Joseph Haydn, Caesar Frank, and Alexandre Guilmant.

All are welcome to attend this free organ recital.



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

Shining as a beacon for Christ

Music Scheme – August 2024



Sunday 4 th August – The Tenth Sunday after Trinity		
10:15am	Parish Communion	No Evening Service
Setting:	Mass of St. Thomas – Thorne	
Hymns:	165 Christ is the king! O friends rejoice; Seek ye first the kingdom of God 308 Just as I am, without one plea 390 Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!	

Sunday 11 th August – The Eleventh Sunday after Trinity		
10:15am	Parish Communion	No Evening Service
Setting:	Mass of St. Thomas – Thorne	
Hymns:	448 God of grace and God of Glory, I am the bread of life... 305 I come with joy, a child of God, 430 Forth in thy name, O Lord, I go,	

Sunday 18 th August – The Twelfth Sunday after Trinity		
10:15am	Parish Communion	No Evening Service
Setting:	Mass of St. Thomas – Thorne	
Hymns:	Let us sing to the God of salvation, 505 Lord Jesus Christ, you have come to us, 278 Alleluia, sing to Jesus! 527 New songs of celebration render	

Sunday 25 th August – The Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity		
10:15am	Parish Communion	No Evening Service
Setting:	Mass of St. Thomas – Thorne	
Hymns:	558 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty,... 363 We believe in God the Father, 453 Great is thy faithfulness, 262 O Lord my God, when I in awesome...	

St George's Choir Summer Tour 2024

**Saturday 31st August –
Sunday 1st September**

Blackburn Cathedral

THE CHOIR will be singing at Blackburn Cathedral for their Annual Summer Tour.

Service times are as follows:

Saturday 31st August

4pm Choral Evensong

Sunday 1st September

10:30am Cathedral Eucharist

4pm Choral Evensong

Blackburn is only a 50 minute car journey from Stockport, and it would be lovely to see some familiar faces in the congregation at these services. For more information please speak to our Director of Music, James Hibbert.



photo: James Hibbert

Puzzle solutions

Easy Sudoku solution:

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

Intermediate Sudoku solution:

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

Crossword solution:

	S	A	B	B	A	T	I	C	A	L
C		L		R		N		L		B
O	P	I	N	I	O	N		L	A	I
L		N		M		U		T		E
O	L	G	A		G	A	L	I	L	E
S				D		L		M		N
S	A	R	D	I	S		S	E	V	E
I		O		A		E		D		S
A	D	U	L	T	E	R		F	L	E
N		L		R		R		L		E
S	W	A	Z	I		A	C	E	T	A
	D		B		T		V		R	T
	R	E	V	E	L	A	T	I	O	N

What am I?

LAST MONTH'S 'What am I?' (right) is an upside down condiment bottle holder. The plastic condiment/sauce bottle is pushed into the device, which can then be stored in the cupboard or fridge. This pushes the sauce down to the nozzle, making it easier to get the last drops of sauce out of the bottle and thus preventing waste.



(We are indebted to Rosie Stead for keeping us guessing with these mystery objects over the last year).

This month's item is wooden and is 20cm long. The bowl is 3.5cm wide and has holes in it. What am I?

Andy Clark



Regular Services at St George's

Services in church, with congregation:

Sundays: 8am Holy Communion (BCP)
10.15am Parish Communion (also live streamed)
4pm Choral Evensong (last Sunday of the month, also live streamed)

Wednesdays: 9.30am Morning Prayer (also live streamed)
10am Holy Communion (BCP)
(during the winter, the Wednesday morning services are in the Parish Room)

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

Prayers

For nature

We thank you, Lord of all creation, for the wonder of the world in which we live: for the earth and all that springs from it, and for the mystery of life and growth.

From a prayer by Basil Naylor

Give to me

Spirit who aboundest, give me,
Father great, profoundest, give me,
Thou whose praise renowned is, give me,
Jesus Son, thy shield to guard.

From an ancient Celtic prayer

Confidence in God

Alone with none but Thee, my God,
I journey on my way.
What need I fear, when Thou art near
O King of night and day?
More safe I am within Thy hand
Than if a host did round me stand.

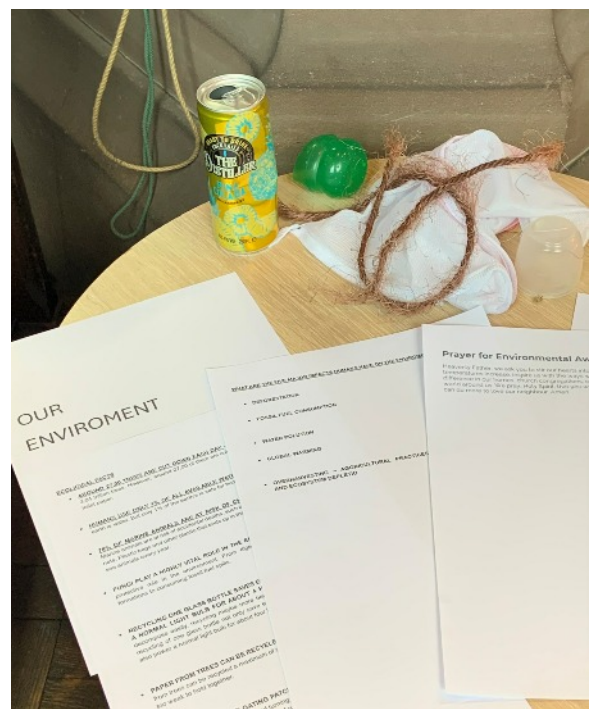
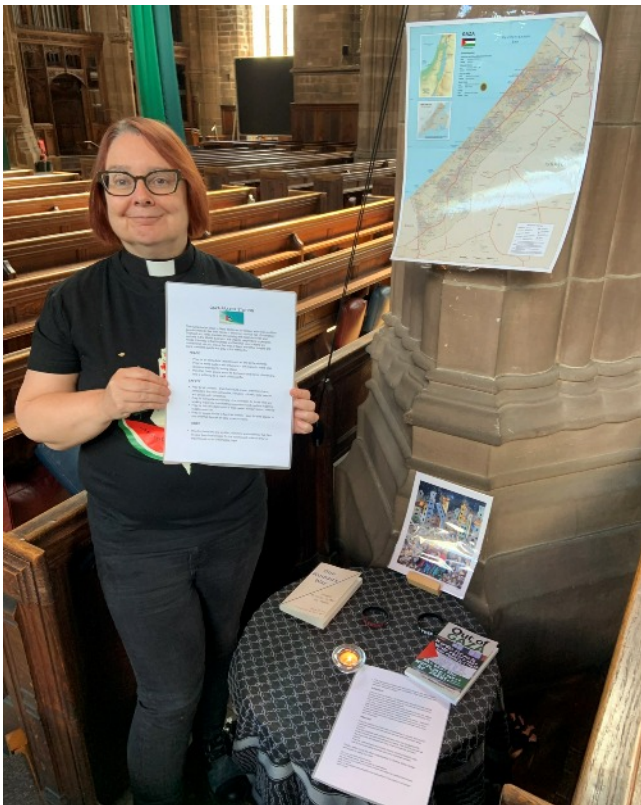
A prayer of St Columba

Finding God in Silence

ON 22ND JUNE, a group of us had a lovely meditative morning on "Finding God in Silence." It began with an introduction to meditation by Pat Higgins from the World Community for Christian Meditation. Its founder was John Main and a wonderful statement by him really puts the process of meditation in context. It is "The important aim in Christian meditation is to allow God's mysterious and silent presence within us to become more and more not only a reality but the reality which gives meaning, shape and purpose to everything we do, everything we are." We then had a session involving "walking a labyrinth" with Chris Dawson and using some of his amazing finger labyrinths. I particularly enjoyed tracing the wooden

labyrinth in the photos, based on the medieval labyrinth of Chartreux. Doing it with eyes shut produced a real feeling of having to trust in God to get through our daily ups and downs and find our way through daily life. We also had five prayer stations on the themes of War, focusing on Gaza, Environment, Animals, The Psalms and Refugees. It was wonderful to see some new faces including Merlin the dog! Thanks to Chris, Sue C and Jenny for organising, Sue B and Morag for the catering, and guest speaker, Pat! For those who missed it, we will be looking to set up the prayer stations in church one Sunday. More news on that to follow!

Jenny



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