

**The magazine for
St George's Tuffley
with St Margaret's Whaddon**

Love **R** Hope
C R O S S
Light **A** Teaching
D
S

AUGUST 2017

50p

Worshipping, Caring, Pioneering

**ST GEORGE'S TUFFLEY
WITH ST MARGARET'S WHADDON**
Website: www.glos-stg-stm.org.uk
Facebook: St. George's, Tuffley and St Margaret's Whaddon

WHO'S WHO

VICAR: Revd Bruce Clifford Tel: 520851
Email: vicar-bruce@outlook.com

READER: Jonathan MacKechnie-Jarvis Tel: 502174
Email: Jonathanmj@virginmedia.com

PIONEER: Helen McGeoch Tel: 07729615993
Email: tuffleypioneer@gmail.com

PASTORAL ASSISTANT:
Susan Scothern
Email: susan.scothern@hotmail.com

CARING CO-ORDINATOR:
Linda Medwell
Email: linda47medwell@virginmedia.com

ADMINISTRATOR: Glenda Stevens Tel: 307456
Email: stgeorgeschurch1@gmail.com

MAGAZINE EDITOR Darrell Stevens Tel: 410507
Email: ds52604@gmail.com

ST GEORGE'S

CHURCHWARDENS: Mike Brammer Tel: 412204
Sylvia Evans Tel: 416184
TREASURER: David Westcott Tel: 302353
SECRETARY: Vacant
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC Vacant

ST MARGARET'S

CHURCHWARDENS: Malcolm Martin Tel: 302483
Mike Mumby Tel: 411371
TREASURER: Hans Rackham Tel: 528939
SECRETARY: Susan Scothern
Email: susan.scothern@hotmail.com

THE VICAR WRITES...

Dear friends

Time team

I wonder, are you more likely to say:

- A. "I've so much time on my hands, I'm bored", or
- B. "I've so much to do, so little time to do it"

It's usually B for me. Why? Maybe because I'm doing lots in order to avoid A!

Or maybe you find yourself saying, as the Psalmist cried, "How long O Lord?" (Psalm 13; Psalm 35) how long before I'm well again? Before I'm united with my loved one? Before the world's wrongs are made right? Before there is joy again?

I love the words of Solomon: "For everything there is a season, a time for every activity under heaven (Ecclesiastes chapter 3). Because this reminds me that God has set a time for every good thing, every good activity.

The trick is, to keep trusting myself to God for the future-time, to do the one thing needful for the present-time, and to trust him for the other things that are needful but are not needful now!

In other words, to find and adjust to God's time, all the time.

The good news is we're not alone. Let's encourage each other to do not too much, not too little, so we each play our part, in God's time.

God bless you all through all the time God gives us this summer season.

BRUCE

DID YOU KNOW...?

...that more than 1 million Earths could fit inside the Sun?

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

FUNERALS

St Margaret's

Marian Olive Rackham RIP

Crematorium

Margaret Mills RIP

Jean Minall RIP

PRAYER FOR THE MONTH

Collect for Purity

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen

SONGS OF PRAISE COMES TO PODSMEAD

The Manager and residents of Podsmead Court invite us all to join them

on **Tuesday 15 August 2.30pm** at Duke of Beaufort Court
off Podsmead Road
to sing some favourite hymns
followed by a *Strawberry Tea!*

All welcome. Tickets £2.50

Please sign up at back of church or speak with Helen

TWO MOTHERS REMEMBERED

by Joann Snow Duncanson

I had two Mothers – two Mothers I claim
Two different people, yet with the same name.
Two separate women, diverse by design,
But I loved them both because they were mine.

The first was the Mother who carried me here,
Gave birth and nurtured and launched my career.
She was the one whose features I bear,
Complete with the facial expressions I wear.

She gave her love, which follows me yet,
Along with the examples in life she set.
As I got older, she somehow younger grew,
And we'd laugh as just Mothers and daughters do.

But then came the time that her mind clouded so,
And I sensed that the Mother I knew would soon go.
So quickly she changed and turned into the other,
A stranger who dressed in the clothes of my Mother.

Oh, she looked the same, at least at arm's length,
But now she was the child and I was her strength.
We'd come full circle, we women three,
My Mother the first, the second and me.

And if my own children should come to a day,
When a new Mother comes and the old goes away,
I'd ask of them nothing that I didn't do,
Love both of your Mothers as both loved you.

Hans sent in this poem that his daughter Jane read at Marian's funeral. He writes; "The wording is so apt, although Jane did apologies before she read it that Marian used to hate being called 'Mother'!"

A BIT ABOUT ME

Firstly, I must thank you all for your kind welcome and prayers when I first joined you a few weeks ago. It would probably be helpful to tell you a little about myself and why I'm here.

The simple answer to, "why am I here?" – is that I'm currently training for Ordination, to eventually become a Priest. The training is based in Gloucester, it's a part-time course running on Thursday evenings and part of the course involves going to a church, other than my regular church, on a placement. For me, this will be mainly weekends as I'm going to continue working full-time during training and most probably once I'm ordained, what they call self-supporting ministry.

So, a little about me; I live in Cam near Dursley, halfway to Bristol on the M5. I worship at a church in Upper Cam, also called St George's! We have no Vicar at the moment and a new one has just been appointed to start in October, which means we all have to help out where we can. I'm married to Louise, a children's nurse and we have one son, James, who is doing a mechanical engineering apprenticeship. I work as a buyer for an engineering company in Cheltenham.

For the last few years I had been exploring vocation to ministry in the Church of England, which sounds a little formal, but this has been rooted in wanting to bring people in community into closer relationships with Jesus and with each other, both in and outside the church. For me, this is all about how we can worship, work, pray and be together, demonstrating love and care in our hospitality to each other. There are other parts to this like proclaiming the Good News of God's amazing love for us all.

I'm really looking forward to getting to know you over the next few months and to walk alongside you as we find out more about God's love for us and his plan for our lives.

God Bless
ANDREW HILL

Don't forget to add your name to the list for
the Famous Five's Summer Tea
on Sunday 13 August
at 4.30pm
in the small hall; cost just £5.00 per head.
There will be a raffle and a cake sale too.



**In concert
at St George's Church
Grange Road
Tuffley**

7.30pm on SATURDAY 19th AUGUST

**Proceeds to: -
Angie's Community Choir
James Hopkins Trust
and St George's Church**

Tickets just £5.00

BAR AND RAFFLE

See Darrell or Glenda for tickets NOW!

Although I did not go on the visit to Deerhurst church I will tell you something of its history as it is rather remarkable. Saxon churches are rare and Deerhurst has two of them.

St. Mary's church was established on the banks of the River Severn in the middle of the eighth century. A document of 804 AD, granting land to the priory by Aethelric son of King Edmund of the Hwicce shows there was a monastic community at Deerhurst and it seems to have been one of the most important religious foundations in the area at the time.

St. Alphege [born in 953] began his monastic life at Deerhurst. He later became Archbishop of Canterbury and was martyred by the Danes in 1012. To commemorate the millennium of this a chapel for private prayer dedicated to him has been created under a 15th century window containing his image, at the West end of the South aisle.

The church is also distinctive for its many Anglo-Saxon stone sculptures. The most notable is the font, carved in around 800 and decorated with spiral ornamentation. It was thrown out of the church in 1653. The top was rediscovered in a farmyard in 1845 and the base found near a pub in 1868 and so the two parts were reunited.

There is a medieval brass memorial to mark the grave of Sir John Cassey, Chief Baron of the Exchequer who died in 1400. His wife, Dame Alice lies beside him together with her dog at her feet which unusually, is actually named on the brass as Terri.

In 1016 Deerhurst had an important role when King Cnut of Denmark met King Edmund Ironside there, made peace and divided England between them. In the middle of the 11th century Deerhurst was the principal residence of Earl Odda, one of the most important men in England during the reign of Edward the Confessor. After Earl Odda died in 1056 the estate reverted to Edward the Confessor. The land was later given to Westminster Abbey and the church to the Benedictine monastery of St. Denis near Paris.

This division between two distant landlords meant Deerhurst lost the importance it had previously enjoyed. During the Hundred Years War Deerhurst became a cell of Tewkesbury Abbey. Following the Dissolution of the Monasteries in the reign of Henry VIII it became the parish church of St. Mary's as it remains to this day.

The second Anglo-Saxon church building in Deerhurst is now known as Odda's chapel which Earl Odda built in around 1056 and dedicated to the memory of his brother Aelfric. It was used as a kitchen and bedroom of 17th century farmhouse Abbot's Court and its true original purpose was rediscovered in 1865 by the Revd. George Butterworth. Two clues helped him. The first was an entry in the medieval chronicle of Tewkesbury Abbey describing a church dedicated to the Holy Trinity that stood opposite the gateway to Deerhurst Priory. The second was the famous Odda Stone [now in the Ashmolean museum in Oxford] that had been found in an orchard near the parish church in 1675. The inscription on it stated:

'Earl Odda had this Royal Hall built and dedicated in honour of the Holy Trinity for the soul of his brother Aelfric, which left the body in this place. Bishop Ealdred dedicated it the second of the Ides of April in the fourteenth year of the reign of Edward, King of the English.'

There is no MU meeting in August. The next meeting, "Families First" is on Tuesday 12th September at 2.30pm in the small hall. Everyone is very welcome to join us.

SARAH KINGSCOTE

ST GEORGE'S COFFEE POT
St George's Centre
EVERY TUESDAY
from 9.00am until 12.00noon
Hot drinks, hot food
People to meet and to chat with
Warm welcome

PSALM FOR THE MONTH

The Psalms reveal some of the deepest emotions and honest feelings of humanity, as the writers express their hearts to God. From the depth of despair to the height of celebration, the psalmists discover the presence of God and the power of God's love and forgiveness. As we read we can make the psalms our prayers too.

We continue our series this month with extracts from PSALM 84, expressing how God's radiant presence brings strength, grace and glory.

- 1 How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord of hosts!
- 2 I long, yes, I faint with longing to enter the courts of the LORD. With my whole being, body and soul, I will shout for joy to the living God.
- ...
- 5 Happy are those who find their strength in you, in whose heart is the highway to Jerusalem.
- 6 As they go through the valley of weeping, they make it a place of refreshing springs; the autumn rains also clothe it with blessings.
- 7 They go from strength to strength; And they will appear before the Lord in Jerusalem.
- 8 O LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer; Listen to me, O God of Jacob!
- ...
- 10 A single day in your courts is better than a thousand anywhere else! I would rather be a gatekeeper in the house of my God than live the good life in the homes of the wicked.
- 11 For the LORD God is our sun and our shield. He gives us grace and glory. The LORD will withhold no good thing from those who do what is right.
- 12 O LORD of hosts, what joy for those who trust in you.

DID YOU KNOW...?

...that the sun is just one small star in our galaxy, the Milky Way?

GETTING TO KNOW YOU...

Getting to know all about you...

...JILL PONTER

Jill has been part of the worshipping community of St Margaret's for forty years. A lesson reader, a server and PCC member, she also writes for Crossroads. What's more she's a performer, treading the boards with the Entertainers, most recently in the concert, "Music 'n Memories". Here she talks of growing up in a time when Tuffley still had farms...

Jill, a wartime baby, has lived all her life in Tuffley. Her parents, Sammy and Vi Cohen, were Londoners, leaving the capital when her father was invalided out from the Army and then went to work at the Woolwich Arsenal. After a brief stay in Dumfries, they arrived in Gloucester, living in one room in Archibald Street. Her father was to work at 7MU in Quedgeley.

The arrival of their family saw them in need of larger accommodation. The Air Ministry Housing Officer pointed them towards two houses in Tuffley. They chose a house on a corner plot in Randwick Road, which they shared in the early days with another family. Their furniture, sent down from London, almost didn't make it, getting stuck in what was then a very muddy and narrow Tuffley Lane.

Jill was Sammy and Vi's fourth child, joining older brothers Ted and David, and sister Margaret. Sylvia completed the family. There was no cot; a drawer sufficed. Her mother described Jill as the most "knowing" of all her five children. She was also heard to say, "Jill came into the world talking and hasn't stopped yet!" In her eyes, Jill was that bit different; "I've got two boys, two girls and Jill!" Though she could be independent when young Jill says that she always liked to know where her mum was... Her mother was to have a great influence on her life.

In those days, much of Tuffley was still open fields and farms, with no traffic. It was a marvellous place to live and play. Little Jill was much taken with “the fairies at the bottom of the garden” – also known as dragonflies, which she had spotted in the family garden. She longed to be allowed to go and work on the farm at the bottom of Nymphsfield Road, as her older brother David did. She was told she was “too little”. Eventually she was allowed to help the farmer’s wife feed the ducks and chickens.

The local brook, forbidden territory, acted as a magnet, with attempts to leap from bank to bank not always met with success. And more often than not tell-tale streaks of mud on underclothes would give the game away when she arrived home.

Pre-school, then school beckoned. Jill doesn’t have particularly fond memories of her first teacher, whom she found spiteful. Jill wasn’t that keen on staying and would take herself home when she had had enough. Eventually she understood that school was not optional and would be part of her life for the next ten years or more. At seven she transferred to Whaddon Junior School - in her words, “a good school with horrible kids”. Miss Cutler, her teacher, was strict. Jill’s memories of Religious Knowledge centre on a picture of the Red Sea, which had a dominant place on the school wall.

Life outside of school held more exciting possibilities. There were trees to climb – inviting elms in Tuffley Lane. Jill and David would scramble up, keeping out of sight as much as possible. The police station was nearby. The local policeman considered it his duty to remove them from the branches, ordering the offenders down, handing out a slap on the bottom before marching them home. Jill also recalls a day during the school holidays when all five children, with Ted in charge, walked to Painswick Beacon, accompanied by children from two other families. Once there they played cricket and football, before tackling the long walk home. They were ready to drop by the time they got home - but it had been such fun.

Vi and Sammy were very hospitable, always welcoming those who called or dropped by. The family home was known locally as Cohen’s Cafe. Their door was always open. Sammy was on the committee of the newly built community centre in Tuffley Lane. He

would also act as umpire for games of cricket and rounders. Jill was always ready to stand her ground in such games, encouraged by her father to respond to any confrontation by hitting back harder. Margaret Todd was her best friend. It was with Margaret's mother that Vi would take herself to the pictures in the city centre as a special treat.

Jill left Whaddon Juniors for Linden Road Secondary school for Girls. In her own words, practical, rather than academic, she enjoyed English, History and Geography. A keen reader she was put in charge of the class library. Leaving at fifteen, Jill's first job was with Permali in Bristol Road. She hated it, longing to get away from the fumes and unpleasant working environment.

After two years she managed to get a job with the RAF in Quedgeley, where her father worked. She was to work there for the following 40 years, until 7MU closed. Jill found it a good place to work, meeting some great characters and making life-long friends. She rose to "senior stores" grade. Further promotion would have meant a move – and Jill had no intention of pursuing that.

She met her husband there. Sadly, the marriage didn't last and she was divorced in 1983. It was at this point Jill bought her present home. Previously occupied by a smoker, the whole place needed redecoration. Her mother came to stay for the first month and the work began. It has become Jill's haven.

Late in life Vi decided to be confirmed. Jill noticed a new happiness in her mother and began to accompany her to St Margaret's. Vi had been brought up a Methodist; her husband Sammy was a non-practising Jew. Jill, with her siblings, had attended Sunday school at Grange Baptist church, where they learned Bible stories. Her brother eventually became a Methodist lay preacher. Jill took the decision to be confirmed herself. Once confirmed, Beryl Chiswell encouraged Jill to take the step of reading in church. Hesitant at first, with knees knocking, she took the plunge. She continues to read the lessons at St Margaret's to this day.

Beryl and her husband, Lionel, were great fundraisers for the church and would put on monthly Sunday lunches where church members

were invited for a three or four course meal for £6 or £7. Jill and her mother began to do the same. She and her sister Margaret continue to organise a ploughman's lunch annually in July in aid of St Margaret's. Jill's cooking skills are also put to good use at Coffee Pot where, two Tuesdays a month, she cooks breakfasts for regulars and visitors. She also helps on the Messy Church refreshment team, serving tea and toast and a warm welcome. If that were not enough she, with Margaret's help, cleans the St George's Church Centre, and serves on St Margaret's PCC.

Vi, Jill's mother, was a strong influence on Jill's life. Vi wanted to bring her five children up to be the sort of people she would want to know. A strong personality, she had a commanding presence and didn't suffer fools gladly. But she had a large heart, welcoming everyone. She lived to a good age. Jill was with her through her last days, assured in a dream the night before she died that God would take her when He was ready.

Jill's father had died years earlier, when Jill was 21. It was a significant loss, as was the later death of Margaret's husband, Ralph. She also felt deep grief and sadness when Paul and Ian, Margaret's sons, died aged three and 22 months within a short time of each other, their lives cut short by microcephaly. Despite the brevity and limitations of their lives Jill felt she learned so much from her time spent with them.

There have been happier times. One very memorable family holiday was spent on a boat on the Norfolk Broads. Their German Shepherd dog came too, managing to fall into the water, taking some effort to pull him back aboard... A good day now? One where Jill can choose to do nothing, to watch the world go by, to enjoy her own company and the natural world around her. She enjoys craft activities - and the occasional trip to Weston and the pier.

Jilly is very thankful for her loving family and her exceptional friends. She in turn has reached out to others, pleased to offer friendship to those who hadn't felt they belonged. Her sister, Margaret, has been an inspiration and a valued companion. And parting words of wisdom? "Enjoy what you have, take each day as it

comes and don't worry about what you can't change". Practical and down to earth – as you might expect.



The final date for SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER

Crossroads articles to be with the editors is

SUNDAY 13 AUGUST 2017

Thank you for your help in this matter

ST MARGARET'S ROOF – THE WORK STARTS!

About three years ago we had some unwelcome advice from Ivan Cook, who had looked after St Margaret's' roof for the last 20 years. He said it had reached the end of the road. In other words to attempt further repairs could do more harm than good. By careful maintenance we had got extra life out of it, but the time had come for drastic action.

Three years on, the contractors have now started work on renewing the nave and porch roofs. That will also entail repairs to roof timbers, stonework and plasterwork. The remainder of July will see the scaffolding erected, including a temporary roof to protect the works.

During the first half of August, the opening up phase will start – we are hoping there will not be too many nasty surprises as the ancient timberwork is revealed. That will also tell us how many of the stone

slates can be re-used. We are expecting quite a low salvage rate – 50% would be a good result.

The new stone slates will come from Naunton quarry. They will look very different – so prepare yourselves for a new-look St Margaret's. But of course like any natural material, it will soon tone down.

At the moment we are expecting the work to be finished by the end of November. We will be able to keep using the church certainly on Sundays, and we hope even on Thursdays for our 10.30 communion. The men will gear their break around that. Visitors to the churchyard should be unaffected – except that there will obviously be a lot of hammering and dust.

Beyond that, however, the church will be a no-go area and any access during working hours will need to be agreed with the foreman on site. We don't yet know how much dust and so on will penetrate through to the church – bearing in mind that our plaster ceiling will help to keep it out. But there is bound to be mess and noise.

Malcolm Martin has undertaken the protection of the organ – and he has made a superb job of it. We can take the front panels off so it can be played and heard as normal. Not content with that, he has also protected our lovely new gates – there will be a lot of stuff carted through them and it would be a real shame if they got damaged. So, a big thank you to Malcolm.

So many people have given generously. Hans's 'Sponsor a Stone Slate' idea has raised well over £2000. Overall our local fund raising and donations have raised about £6000, which is wonderful.

We have been very lucky indeed. The remainder – about £150,000 – is coming from grants and VAT reclaim. Half the entire cost came from the Government's Roof Repair Fund – which won't be running again. £12000 is coming from the Gloucestershire Environmental Trust - which is closing down as the new incinerator will mean the end of Landfill locally, and they are no longer accepting applications. So I repeat we have been very lucky, and in the nick of time.

Not long back, we heard in church the harrowing story of Abraham and Isaac. The outcome showed Abraham that, if we trust Him, the Lord Will Provide.

So, here we go with this great project ... watch this space for further news!

JONATHAN

DID YOU KNOW...?

...that there are 100 billion stars (that's a 1 with 11 zeros) in the Milky Way?

32nd ANNUAL HORTICULTURAL SHOW
Saturday 2nd September 2017

VEGETABLES – FRUIT – FLOWERS
PHOTOGRAPHY – COOKERY

LUCKY DOOR ENTRY TICKET
RAFFLE PRODUCE – AUCTION



Venue
St George's Church Centre
Grange Road, Tuffley
Gloucester

SHOW TO BE OPENED
by FATHER GERRY WALSH
of ENGLISH MARTYRS
at 2.00pm

Admission by pay at the door: Adults 50p Children 25p

**ST GEORGE'S DAY CENTRE
Every Thursday**



10.30am – 2.30pm



If you are lonely and would like to meet new friends then come and join us!
A hot meal is available, and transport can be arranged



Contact Hans Rackham on 01452 528939

DID YOU KNOW...?

...that there are over 100 billion galaxies in the universe?

Let's thank God for cosmologists who keep finding out more about God's creation. And let's worship God and wonder at God's infinite greatness!

PETER'S POSERS FOR AUGUST

1. In which English county would you find Stansted Airport?
2. According to the old saying, what does the hand that rocks the cradle do?
3. What are the two main political parties in the USA?
4. In TV's "Only Fools and Horses" what is Del and Rodney's surname?
5. Who wrote the controversial novel "Lady Chatterley's Lover"?
6. How many inches are there in three yards?
7. Which is the 24th and last letter in the Greek alphabet?
8. Who was the manager of Nottingham Forest when they won the European cup on two occasions?
9. From which animal does the meat mutton come?
10. Which DJ was the first to be heard on Radio 1 when it opened in 1967?

TUFFLEY LIBRARY NEWS

It's been a great past month at Tuffley Library!

We were at Tuffley Festival with the library van and it was great to see so many families come along to that and we managed to sign up 6 new people to the library. We've had several school visits this term, both Harewood Junior and Tuffley Primary, and they were all excited to hear about the summer reading challenge. This started on Saturday 15th of July so there is still time to join in – all that is required is coming to the library three times over the holidays, and borrow two books each time to get lots of goodies (including free entry to several museums, funky wristbands, stickers and more!) Sorry adults, it's for kids only!

We are also eager to gain more readers on the other end of the age spectrum! We have spaces for our free housebound delivery service. If you are housebound or know someone who is, we offer book selection according to your taste and deliver books to you every one or two months depending on your preference. Please call us on 01452 522160 to get more information and let us help you feed your reading appetite!

We are looking forward to seeing you all soon.

ELIZABETH BEST
Library Assistant

ANSWERS TO JULY'S PETER'S POSERS

1. BLOFELD (ERNST STAVRO)
2. NUTMEG
3. CHEVIOTS
4. GOLD
5. SHIRLEY WILLIAMS (SDP = Social Democratic Party)
6. REFUGEES
7. MAX BYGRAVES
8. MR MICAWEBER (David Copperfield)
9. WEBBED
10. PAINT YOUR WAGON

HARVEST SUPPER
Saturday 30th September 2017



Sherry reception at 7.00pm - Meal at 7.30pm

Beef Pie or Vegetable Quiche
Served with peas, carrots and potatoes

Apple Pie and Custard

Please note vegetarian meals
must be ordered in advance

A Gluten free option will be available too
but must be ordered in advance

Entertainment by St George's Entertainers

All for £9.00

PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN DRINKS

Places limited to 80
So, order your tickets from
Sylvia Evans or Glenda Stevens now!



FROM ST MARGARET'S

Well my friends, it's me again, she who does the cleaning at St Margaret's with her friend Kath. On Monday 3 July we said a sad farewell to Marian Rackham, Kath and I gave the church a good sweep through to make sure that our little church was looking her very best. The church was full of family, friends and ex work colleagues. Marian was a lady who liked to do things properly and I hope that our efforts in our church were up to her standards. She will be missed by so many of us.

On Friday, 8 July there was a concert put on by the St George's Entertainers in aid of the church roof; we have done so much fund raising for our roof and with Jonathan Mackechnie-Jarvis doing his level best getting funding from all sorts of different places. I know that we owe Jonathan so much for all his hard work and now folks the work can begin. Jonathan and the churchwardens met with the contractors on 29 June to sort out how they were going to proceed. Malcolm made a frame that completely covers our lovely organ; the front can be removed so that Jonathan can play it on Sundays. We were sure that we would not be able to meet for our Thursday service but the men from works and bricks said that we could but we were not to get there before 10.00am and the men would have their tea break during the service. Men from works and bricks is an expression that was used at RAF Quedgeley, I don't think that many people have heard that one but it fitted the occasion perfectly.

The work will begin on the 10 July with the scaffolding going around the church, how long the work will take is anybody's guess but it will be well worth it in the end. Well my friends I can't say anymore as I have run out of think but I can't wait to see what progress has been made when we go to our Thursday service so until next time bye for now and God Bless.

JILL PONTER

TEDDY BEARS PICNIC

Come and join our special picnic party in St George's garden
On **Sunday 20 August at 3.00pm**

Bring a friend. Everyone welcome. Aged 1 to 101. It's free!

Enjoy a variety of games
or just sit and enjoy watching others playing...

Afternoon includes a teddy story and some favourite songs of
praise

Bring your own picnic; soft drinks provided.

More details: ask Helen.

Remember to bring your favourite soft cuddly toy...

BUILT UP AREA

by Brian Grabham

Cars parked on pavements, cycles ridden on paths.
Phones answered whilst driving, where's the Law? We all laugh.

Street strewn with litter. Who put it there?
Transitional school children do they really care?

Drivers at junctions; too lazy to show
which way they are going, let nobody know.

The roadside trees need pruning, their suckers are in flower.
Another short shift from the people in power.



THROUGH THE WINDOW

Hi everyone,

Well, here goes with another episode of my life around here. I still have those flippin' cats come round; they're always after my food. Cheek! I have to stay in until they have scarpered but I always check just to make sure. The other day one of them chased me, out of my own garden if you please. I gave him what for I can tell you. He still keeps coming back though. I had to have a word with my cuz Misty and she has the same problem. My Auntie Jill has to chase them out of her house too. They never learn do they? A few days ago I was munching away at my biscuits when somebody's big feet stood on my toe. Did I shriek, coo-er! I thought my toes were broken, then to add insult to injury I had my tail stood on, first by my mum then I had Auntie Jill's big feet stood on it. There I was minding my own business eating my biscuits and enjoying them, it made me yelp I can tell you. I told Misty what had happened and she laughed at me. I'll bet it's a different story when it happens to her. She tells the gang all about it and they have the cheek to sympathise. All I get is told off for getting under my mum's feet.

The other day my mum and Auntie Jill took me and Misty to that horrible place where they do horrible things to you such as stick big pins in you and try chopping your toes off. Try as I might to pull them away I can't. My mum hangs on to me very tightly. I protested all the way there and back. When I went out of that box I went straight for some comfort food. I wouldn't even speak to my mum. I've decided to stay out all night; that will keep her on her toes. Likely as not I'll be told off again but I don't care, I'm just making a point.

I've had a word with Misty on that machine that you talk into to see how she is after her ordeal. As you can imagine she was not

impressed with her mum. While we were in that place we could hear a lot of those d-d-d-dogs, it sounded as if there were hundreds in there, probably not but I stayed well at the back of my carrier. I felt safer there; you should have heard my mum and Auntie Jill talking to them, like long lost friends even though they didn't know them. I was glad to get out of there I can tell you.

I'd better close now so 'bye for now,

Your feline friend
JO JO WHITTLE (Miss)

WHAT A LINGO WE HAVE...

Some years ago I heard an interesting word used on "Any Answers". A listener from East Anglia, talking about migrant workers, said "they're being better tret than our own people". It was obvious what he meant, but never before or since have I heard someone say 'tret' instead of 'treated'.

I have always felt sorry for foreign folk trying to learn English. There is notoriously little rhyme or reason about it. Think about it: 'Tret' is a very rare version of 'treated', yet we all say 'met' instead of 'meeted'. On the other hand we never say 'gret' instead of 'greeted'.

And what about getting 'het up'? That's a funny one because it only applies to the sense of someone getting upset. You'd never say that a pan of water was being 'het up' - it would be 'heated'. To distinguish the two, we could in theory say; "they got very het up about it, in fact they had a heated argument". If a foreigner got it the wrong way round, it would cause a chuckle if not some bafflement.

Another exception to the non-existent rule is 'beat'. We never say 'beated' and if the past tense were 'bet' as with 'met' or even 'tret', then we would have confusion with the idea of betting. So the past remains simply 'beat' as in 'England beat France'. So, once again, spare a thought for the poor person trying to master it all.

There is no end to the quirks of our language. For instance we say 'ate' instead of 'eated' but we can rhyme 'ate' with 'gate' or with 'get'. I imagine most of us say it either way according to mood. I don't think either is more 'correct' than the other, but what governs which way we say it?

Have you ever said 'Thank You' to God for the gift of the language you speak? We ought to do it regularly. The ability to converse easily and with all the shades of meaning at our disposal is something we very easily take for granted.

JONATHAN

TUFFLEY FESTIVAL – 2017

This year's event (formerly Tuffley Celebrates) was held on the school grounds of Grange Primary, on Saturday 1st July. The weather couldn't have been better, not too hot and plenty of sunshine!

It was estimated that there were in excess of 700 adults and children who came for some part of the four and a half hours of the Festival, which was opened by the Mayor our very own Local Councillor – Steve Morgan.

Among the many variety of stalls there were queues for the Pony rides; climbing the seven metre wall and for the Ice-cream van. The mobile library, the electric police car and the fire engine were also in attendance. On stage, the Grange Primary School choir proved very popular, along with 'Ambitions' - the dancing troupe who put on two separate displays. Also St George's Entertainers sang songs to promote their forthcoming Music 'n Memories show.

All in all it was a very successful day, with a donation going to the James Hopkins Trust – this year's chosen charity.

HANS

Chair Tuffley Festival Steering Committee



OVER THE GARDEN FENCE

Harry, Harry, you around here Harry? Where are you Harry? Mist, I'm right here, what on earth is the matter? Harry she did it again, she took me to that place. Harry I had a pin in my neck; it didn't half hurt Harry but I kept my cool, I didn't let on and then Harry, my mum held on to me and they tried to take my toes off. Really Harry, every time I go to that place they do something to me that I just don't like. Well Mist, I can tell you that my human takes me to that place and I just have to get on with it. My human sweet talks me into that box every time, mind you she thinks she does it all by herself but I don't mind going into that box and going for a ride, quite pleasant in fact. Harry you don't understand, I hate that box because I know that something horrible will happen to me. Oh hang on a minute Harry it's that machine thing again, must be our Jo Jo for me. Hi ya Jo Jo how are you? Got over your experience yet? What do you mean you're not speaking to your mum because my mum stood on your foot and tail? Jo Jo what has that got to do with going to that terrible place? Yes Jo I know that you had to see the doctor first. Oh no you didn't, you did? Don't tell me that Jo, it makes me laugh and when I laugh I get a pain in my side. You gonna what Jo? What you gonna do then? Stay out all night Jo? I know what you mean Jo it's just so hot at the moment, I know Jo, I go up the cul-de-sac and hide behind the garden shed that's in the end house. Yes Jo, my mum knows where I am but I just come back home when I get a bit peckish. You still gonna leave home Jo and not speak to your mum ever again? I don't believe it Jo you wouldn't. But Jo you know how your mum worries about you just like my mum worries about me. I don't go too far because I can get lost very quickly. Come on Jo you just got into a tizz because we both got taken to that 'orrible place and of course it's very hot you know. Yes Harry is here, yes Jo I will tell him. Harry Jo Jo said she's leaving home because she had to have a pin and her toes chopped off, well just our nails I hope. Jo, Harry said don't be daft; the weather is making us all very cranky. Oh Jo you are such a so and

so. I'll speak to you again soon Jo, 'bye for now. Come on Harry we've got lots to do and I want to get to the den before it gets too hot.

Harry, Harry, I've just been listening to my mum talking to Auntie Marg. Harry Jo Jo hasn't been home all night. Yes Harry she's left home and she's not coming back. Her mum is really worried about her. You know what she said yesterday Harry. I know what our Jo Jo is like; she does things and thinks about it after. I bet her mum is really worried about her. I know my mum panics when I don't come home but I always come to her when I get called so I hope she doesn't stay away too long.

Oh look, here comes Tiger, I wonder what she's been up to lately? Hi Tiger, you ok? Yes Mist I'm fine, just out for a stroll, I thought I would find out how you are. I've been listening to my humans, we're not going on holiday this year; apparently the family are just going to Grans for a few days and then out for days so I'll be staying with Gran as usual. Oh Mist, is that machine going? Oh yes Tiger I expect it's my mum. Oh, Oh, Oh that's alright. My mum is talking to Auntie Marg; Jo Jo's back having her breakfast. I didn't think she would run away. I bet she just wanted to stay out because it was so hot; well all's well that ends well.

Well Harry come on let's go to the den, it's getting very warm, say tata Harry. Oh tata folks until the next time from me Misty and the gang.

MISTY PONTER (Miss)

QUOTES AND COMMENTS

Definition of a bargain: "a thing I don't need at a price I can't resist"
"All that is required for evil to triumph is that good people say and do nothing"

Any readers' comments on these quotes?

Do you have a favourite quote? If so please share it with us!

AWESOME AUGUST

- ⌘ Do you have a bit of free time in August?
- ⌘ Are you looking for some company and meaningful conversation?

Then why not try one of our special series of four meetings, daytime or evening?

Come to all four or just once, just as you are able.

Daytime series:

Either: watch and discuss stories of Jesus from the magnificent animated video “The Miracle Maker”

Or: discuss some key texts of the Christian faith: the Beatitudes, the Lord’s Prayer, the Greatest Commandment, and the Apostles’ Creed.

When? First meeting Wednesday 9 August 3 till 4 pm followed by refreshments

Where? Vicarage

How? Sign up at back of church, or speak with Bruce

Evening series:

Either: Join the disciples as they meet Jesus and begin to learn who he really was. Like the disciples, no prior experience necessary. Or a chance to look at some familiar stories in a different way.

Imaginative contemplation, taking four passages from Matthew's Gospel: calling of the first disciples, healing miracles (including Peter's mother-in-law), calming of the storm, Jesus walking on water.

When? First meeting Thursday 3 August 7.00pm until 8.00 pm

Where? St George’s Centre

How? Sign up in church, or speak with Susan Scothern

Dates for your diary

Don't miss out

JULY

Sun 30	10.30am		TRINITY 7 / White Box day Parish Communion at St George's followed by coffee in the Small Hall and Softley Lounge
	5.00pm	*	Evensong at St Margaret's
Mon 31			Centre Care & Cleaning month starts Coffee Pot set up

AUGUST

Tue 1	9.00am 9.30am 7.30pm		Coffee Pot – Mike's team – all welcome Parish Communion at St George's Centre Management Committee – SL
Wed 2	7.00pm		Gardening Club Committee – SL
Thu 3	8.30am 10.30am 7.00pm 7.30pm	* M	Morning Prayer at St George's Parish Communion at St Margaret's Awesome August in the Softley Lounge Railway Society at 12 Ryelands
Sun 6	10.30am 10.30am 5.00pm	* *	TRANSFIGURATION Family Praise at St Margaret's Parish Communion at St George's followed by coffee Evensong at St Margaret's
Mon 7			No Speakability Coffee Pot set up
Tue 8	9.00am 9.30am		Coffee Pot – all welcome – Jill's team Parish Communion at St George's
Wed 9	3.00pm 7.00pm	M	Awesome August in the Vicarage St George's Singing Group practice
Thu 10	8.30am 10.30am 7.00pm	* M	Morning Prayer at St George's Parish Communion at St Margaret's Awesome August in the Softley Lounge
Fri 11	7.30pm		Gardening Club – MH
Sat 12			PCC Away day and lunch at the Vicarage
Sun 13	9.00am 10.30am 4.30pm	* M	TRINITY 9 Parish Communion at St Margaret's Parish Communion at St George's with St George's Singing Group followed by coffee / prize draw Famous Five Summer Tea in Small Hall

Mon 14	7.30pm		Coffee Pot set up Angie's Community Choir rehearsal TBC
Tue 15	9.00am 9.30am 2.30pm	M	Coffee Pot – Jill's team – all welcome Parish Communion at St George's Songs of Praise & Strawberry Tea at Duke of Beaufort Court
Wed 16	3.00pm	M	Awesome August in the Vicarage
Thu 17	8.30am 10.30am 7.00pm	* M	Morning Prayer at St George's Parish Communion at St Margaret's Awesome August in the Softley Lounge
Sat 19	7.30pm	M	Angie's Community Choir In Concert at St George's
Sun 20	10.30am 12.30pm 1.30pm 3.00pm	M	TRINITY 10 Parish Communion at St George's followed by coffee St George's Baptism of Rosie Cole St George's Baptism of Melissa Jones Teddy Bear's Picnic at St George's
Mon 21			Coffee Pot set up
Tue 22	9.00am 9.30am		Coffee Pot – Mike's team – all welcome Parish Communion at St George's
Wed 23	3.00pm	M	Awesome August in the Vicarage
Thu 24	8.30am 10.30am 7.00pm	* M	Morning Prayer at St George's Parish Communion at St Margaret's Awesome August in the Softley Lounge
Sun 27	9.00am 10.30am		TRINITY 11 / White Box day Parish Communion at St Margaret's Parish Communion at St George's followed by coffee / prayers for healing
Mon 28			Bank Holiday Coffee Pot set up
Tue 29	9.00am 9.30am		Coffee Pot – Mike's team – all welcome Parish Communion at St George's
Wed 30	3.00pm 7.00pm	M	Awesome August in the Vicarage Gardening Club Committee – SL
Thu 31	8.30am 10.30am 7.00pm	*	Morning Prayer at St George's Parish Communion at St Margaret's Awesome August in the Softley Lounge Centre Care and Cleaning month ends

SEPTEMBER

Fri 1	2.00pm		Gardening Club Show preparation – MH
Sat 2	2.00pm	M	Gardening Club Show

Sun 3	10.30am	*	TRINITY 12 Family Praise at St Margaret's Parish Communion at St George's followed by coffee Evensong at St Margaret's
	10.30am		
	5.00pm	*	

(M) Read more information in magazine

(*) Service or event at St Margaret's Church

MH = Main Hall, SH = Small Hall, SL = Softley Lounge,

MR = Meeting Room, V = Vicarage, O = Office

QUESTION AND ANSWER?

Q: Why do bad things happen to good people?

A: Try reading the Book of Job...

REGULAR LETS OF ST GEORGE'S CENTRE

Every Monday except Bank Holiday and 1 st Monday of every month except when Speakability meet every other month from 10.30am until 1.00pm	10.00am	Aphasia-Now	SH & SL
Every Monday of term time	5.15pm	Brownies	MH
	6.10pm	Rainbows	SH
	7.15pm	Guides	MH
Every Tues of term time	6.30pm	Cubs	MH
2 nd Tues of month	2.30pm	Mothers' Union	SH
Every Weds	3.30pm	Slimming World	MH
	5.30pm	Slimming World	MH
	7.30pm	Slimming World	MH
Every 4 th Weds	7.00pm	GAGS Committee	SL
Every Thurs except August	10.30am	Day Centre	SH & SL
Every Thurs of term time	6.00pm	Beavers	MH
	7.15pm	Scouts	MH
Every Thurs except August	7.30pm	Charter Band	SH & SL
Every Friday except August	7.30pm	Entertainers	MH
Every 4 th Friday	7.30pm	GAGS Club	MH

SUNDAY SERVICES

ST GEORGE'S:	Parish Communion	10.30am
ST MARGARET'S:	Parish Communion (2 nd , 4 th Sundays)	9.00am
	Family Praise (1 st Sunday)	10.30am
	Evensong (1 st , 3 rd Sunday)	5.00pm
	Special Service (5 th Sunday)	5.00pm

WEEKDAY SERVICES

ST GEORGE'S:	Tuesday Parish Communion	9.30am
	Thursday Morning Prayer	8.30am
ST MARGARET'S:	Thursday Parish Communion	10.30am

There are occasionally additions to the weekly timetable please refer to the Signpost, the weekly leaflet for details of any changes.

MESSY CHURCH

Messy Church normally takes place at 10.00am on third Saturday of the month but not always so please check the church diary inside for this month's information. Messy Church is particularly geared for families with children and offers crafts, activities and worship based on the topic for the day. There is a cafe with drinks and toast too.

THE ADMINISTRATOR'S OFFICE

St George's Centre enquiries and bookings can be made between the hours of 9.00am and 12.00noon on a Wednesday, Thursday or Friday mornings either in person or by telephone on 01452 307456.

*Crossroads and Signpost are now available
for free on our website; www.glos-stg-stm.org.uk
Check it out!*

Please note that the views expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of the Editor, the Parish or the Church of England