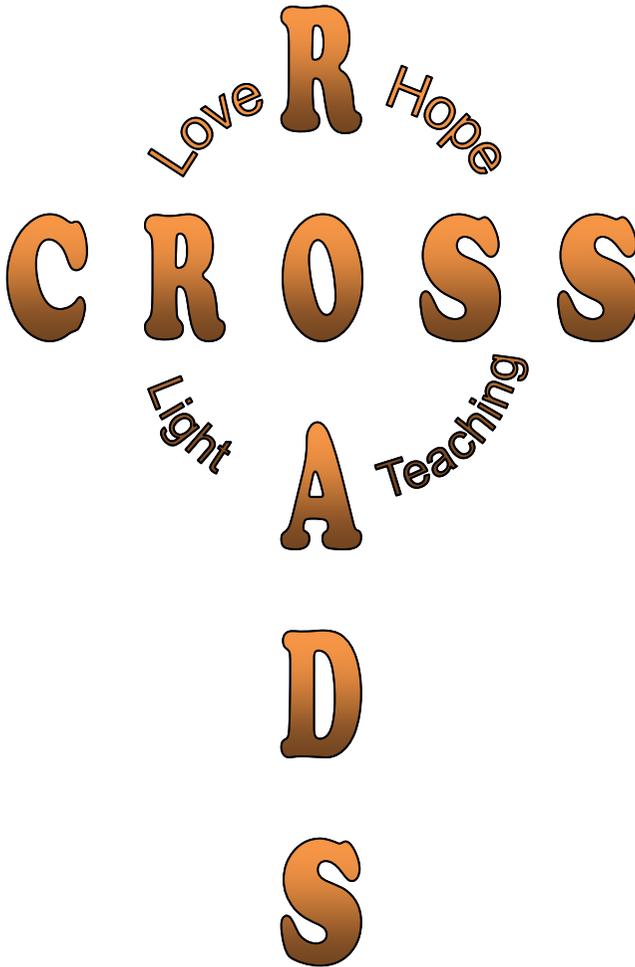


The magazine for
St George's Tuffley
with St Margaret's Whaddon



JULY 2017

50p

Worshipping, Caring, Pioneering

**ST GEORGE'S TUFFLEY
WITH ST MARGARET'S WHADDON**

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THE VICAR WRITES...

Dear friends

Wise lives

“The word gullible doesn’t exist”, I read recently.

Think about it.

We know it’s unwise to believe all we read or hear.

Instead it’s good instead to question: is this person speaking with integrity? Does it make sense? Is there evidence?

In Alpha we’ve been exploring and questioning together the stories of Jesus in just such a way. But we’ve also gone one step further: we’ve asked, what difference does the news of Jesus make to life today?

I’ve been reading from the Old Testament book of Proverbs recently. Ponder this, if you will: The simple believe anything; but the prudent give thought to their steps” (Proverbs 14:15). The prudent synchronise what they believe with how they live.

This month’s magazine includes some selected Proverbs. Ponder and enjoy!

The Lord bless us all with true wisdom, wisdom that shows in action.

BRUCE

*The way of fools seems right to them, but the wise listen to advice
(Proverbs 12:15)*

*Hatred stirs up conflict; but love covers a multitude of sins
Proverbs 10:12)*

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

BAPTISMS

St Margaret's

Isla Mae Louise Essen
Theodore James Overbury (adult)
Bridey May Winter (adult)

FUNERALS

St George's

Jack Crawford RIP

Crematorium

Eunice Alice Eveline Parkes RIP

OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS...

Tuffley Library is currently looking for volunteers to help at our library in the following areas: -

Baby Bounce and Rhyme

Every Thursday we have a small session for babies and toddlers and their parents to bond over singing nursery rhymes. This is between 10:15am and 10:35am

Computer Buddy

We are looking for someone to assist customers with learning how to do basic computer skills. This role is fairly flexible to suit you, so you can assist whatever days suit you as a drop-in or as booked sessions.

Library Club Volunteer

On the first Monday of every month, we have library club: a chance for mature customers to have a cup of teas, have a chat with the village agents, and talk about their months and what they've been

reading. We are hoping for a volunteer to help run these each week, assisting with the cups of teas and encouraging conversation.

Summer Reading Challenge

The Summer Holidays are almost here, and that means the Summer Reading Challenge! Volunteers will be able to help kids sign up, choose books, and complete activities and crafts. Again this role is very flexible as there will be a lot going on!

Storyteller and Schools

We have lots of visits from pre-schools, children's clubs, and schools to the library and would like assistance with these; telling stories, helping with activities, and encouraging children with their reading.

All positions require an informal meeting with a member of staff before starting.



Ride+Stride 2017

Explore our historic churches & help us look after them

It's that time of year when the team at the Gloucestershire Historic Churches Trust (GHCT) start dusting off the walking boots, pumping our bike tyres or getting together with friends to plan a driving tour around some of our wonderful local churches.

We're asking anyone who appreciates our region's historic churches to consider taking part in GHCT's sponsored Ride + Stride event on September 9.

It's a great day out which people travel between churches, exploring the area and discovering unique historic buildings. The money raised is split between the Trust and your nominated church – so you'll be raising money directly for your chosen church.

“Our online map now features nearly every church in Gloucestershire, South Gloucestershire and North Bristol, and will be

regularly updated to help you plan a route between churches that are open on the day”, said Glenn Duff, County Organiser. “Those offering a welcome will be highlighted, along with organised groups of walkers or cyclists that people can join.”

Ride + Stride welcomes cyclists of all abilities, as well as walkers, horse-riders and drivers. Just as important are those who take part welcoming others to their church – perhaps getting sponsored to play music, clean the church or mow the churchyard. If your church doesn’t have a Local organiser, perhaps you could co-ordinate the activity?

Contact Glenn if you’d like to know more about taking part, to order a banner advertising the event or to update the information for your church: rideandstride@ghct.org.uk or call 01452 538271.

The event takes place on Saturday 9 September and full details can be found at www.ghct.org.uk/ride-and-stride



If you were not there you missed a treat at our June meeting as we welcomed Virginia and David Adsett to give us a talk titled “Those Were the Days 1940s”. Rather than just a talk it was more like a guided tour through a museum as the Adsetts had brought so many objects from the era with them.

Beginning with coronation souvenirs for both the coronation that didn’t happen because of Edward VIII’s abdication and the one that did, that of George VI, we revisited life in the 1940s concluding with Princess Elizabeth’s marriage in 1947. It was really interesting to see so many ordinary objects from everyday life during those war years. I had seen gas masks before but not the sort of contraption that was provided for protecting babies. David deafened us using the rattle warning of a gas attack and then the whistle for the all clear. There were several items of adults’ and children’s clothing including a pair

of land girl's jodhpurs, a wedding dress and nightdress made from parachute silk and an overcoat worn by a member of the WVS.

As a "baby boomer" life during the war was not talked about much as I was growing up. The memories were too painful. So it was interesting to see for real the sort of items I had only seen in photos or in films and to hear stories about some of them.

As a little girl I loved the Little Grey Rabbit stories by Alison Uttley so I was delighted to see a book I had not come across before "Hare Joins the Home Guard". I do remember hearing Uncle Mac on the radio and there was an Uncle Mac storybook and also some lovely homemade toys for children.

So thank you Virginia and David for a thoroughly enjoyable afternoon.

On Tuesday July 11th we shall be visiting Deerhurst. Please could everyone meet in the car park at St. George's at 1.30pm.

SARAH KINGSCOTE

The crucible for silver and the furnace for gold; but the Lord tests the heart (Proverbs 17:3)

TUFFLEY FAMILIES AND COMMUNITY PIONEER

My first month

I would like to thank everyone involved in the Tuffley Churches for their warm welcome to Tuffley. I already feel very much at home here.

After the initial week's struggle of trying to remember everyone's names I have settled into a pattern of just picking up a few that I don't know each week.

I think people are aware that I have arrived. Even yesterday it was lovely to be spoken to by someone I had not met before and told that they had heard good things about what was going on.

Each Wednesday in May, Bruce and I walked the streets of the Parish, which has enabled me to get to know the area better and understand some of the issues and bonuses of living in Tuffley. We visited some local Parishioners, businesses and residential homes.

I have introduced myself to a couple of local community groups – the Big Local and The 3 Bridges, and will be meeting with them on a regular basis to get to know what is going on in the community and how best we can support each other in what we are doing or planning to do.

Two of the local schools attended Explore Pentecost and gave positive feedback about their experience. I hope to develop these relationships over the coming months. I have visited the Acorns pre-school and the Oaks children’s centre, both based alongside Grange Primary School. My plan is to assist Acorns with some of their play sessions next month.

Coffee Pot has enabled me to begin building friendships with some of the mums who come along.

Progress is not easily measured but roots are beginning to grow. Much of this will be unseen for a while.

Something that can be counted is the number of interactions over the month, although the numbers below have more than likely been underestimated.

Church Leaders	47
(inc The Tuffley Church and Gloucester Diocese)	
Community Leaders	13
School Leaders	23
Children	838
People in Tuffley Community	78
People from St George’s Church Community	49
(Other than Sundays)	

My plans for the coming month: -

Now that some of my links with groups in the community have been established I will be attending their group meetings and working to improve my understanding of how they benefit the communities they work with. I will be able to further the work of one group of people through my contacts with the Diocese and other outreach workers. We should start to see more partnerships being formed as a result of this.

I have meetings arranged with the heads of the local high schools and hope to be able to offer my services to those schools as well as improve the contact already made with the junior schools.

The two residential homes we visited last month have open coffee mornings during the week. I plan to get along to at least a couple of these to meet and befriend the residents.

I will also continue with my Parish stomping. It's a great way to visualize the community I am working with and a wonderful excuse to bump into folk and even occasionally knock on a door for an unexpected visit.

I also want to pray. Prayer is most powerful and is the best way to bring change. I have inserted several prayer slots into my diary to ensure that this happens. I look forward to seeing more of what God is doing in Tuffley.

Prayer Points

- Please pray with me.
- For wisdom when trying out some of the openings at the residential homes. God opens doors and closes others. I need to be aware of which doors he is opening. This may not happen immediately.
- For a generous spirit. I know that God's love is for everyone. I want to share his love with everyone and be generous in sharing and loving.
- For perseverance as I stomp the Parish.
- For meetings arranged this month.
- For general presence in the community.

Thank you and God bless you

HELEN

PSALM FOR THE MONTH

PSALM 22

1 My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Why are you
so far from helping me, from the words of my groaning?
2 O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer; and by
night, but find no rest.

3 Yet you are holy, enthroned on the praises of Israel.
4 In our ancestors trusted; they trusted, and you delivered
them.

5 To you they cried, and were saved; in you they trusted, and
were not put to shame.

6 But I am a worm, and not human; scorned by others, and
despised by the people.

7 All who see me mock at me; they make mouths at me, they
shake their heads;

8 “Commit your cause to the LORD; let him deliver’ let him
rescue the one in whom he delights!”

9 Yet it was you who took me from the womb; you kept me
safe on my mother’s breast.

...

14 I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint;
15 my heart is like wax; it is melted within my breast;

16 For dogs are all around me; a company of evildoers encircles
me. My hands and feet have shrivelled;

17 I can count all my bones. They stare and gloat over me;
18 they divide my clothes among themselves, and for my
clothing they cast lots.

19 But you, O LORD, do not be far away! O my help, come
quickly to my aid!

...

22 I will tell of your name to my brothers and sisters; in the
midst of the congregation I will praise you:

23 You who fear the LORD, praise him! All you offspring of
Jacob, glorify him; stand in awe of him, all you offspring of
Israel!

24 For he did not despise or abhor the affliction of the afflicted;
he did not hide his face from me, but heard when I cried to
him.

- 25 From you comes my praise in the great congregation; my
vows I will pay before those who fear him.
- ...
- 27 All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the
LORD; and all the families of the nations shall worship
before him.
- 28 For dominion belongs to the LORD, and he rules over the
nations.
- 29 To him, indeed, shall all who sleep in the earth bow down;
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, and I shall
live for him.
- 30 Posterity will serve him; future generations will be told about
the Lord,
- 31 and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn, saying
that he has done it.

 **GETTING TO KNOW YOU...** 
 Getting to know all *about you...* 
... Roger and Brenda Meadows

Roger and Brenda, both Gloucestershire born and bred, have been part of St George's church community for over 40 years, serving the church in numerous roles. Here they describe their early years growing up in Gloucester and their married life in Tuffley.

Roger

Roger's earliest memory is of riding a tricycle round the Park in Gloucester. He had been born in Cheltenham and had begun his schooling at Dunalley Street School, but it wasn't long before the family moved to a flat in Park Road in Gloucester. He transferred to Widden Street Primary, going to Calton Primary School when the family moved again, this time to Linden Road. Their new home had a garden which backed on to a playing field, an ideal location for

playing and making dens with his friend Mick, later to become his best man. His father, a buyer at the Bon Marche store in town, died young, when Roger was 13 years old. To make ends meet Roger's mother took on a mail order business, becoming area manageress in due course. She also took in lodgers in their home, then in Stroud Road. A good organiser, she also found time to run weekly whist drives.

At eleven Roger left Calton Primary for Sir Thomas Rich's School where he found he had to work hard! He passed a number of O levels; Geography and English were favourite subjects. Despite taking Maths O level twice, success eluded him. It was not to hold him back.

On leaving school he had a couple of jobs with accountancy firms before getting a post at Shire Hall in the Supplies section of the Education department. He was to spend the rest of his working life working for the County Council – and to meet his future wife there.....He embarked on further study, gaining a Diploma in Municipal Administration, as well as A levels in British Constitution and in Economics.

Brenda

In 1953 the Queen marked her Coronation with visits to towns and cities. Brenda can remember her visit to Gloucester, and her brother's birth in the same year. She also remembers falling down the stairs at the age of five and coming through the experience with no lasting damage! Her family lived above Colwell's garage in Spa Road, where her father was a manager. School came as something of a shock to Brenda, having up until that time enjoyed days at home with her mother and brother. She went to Christchurch Infants in Brunswick Road, coming home for lunch at midday. She recalls refusing to return in the afternoon. Mornings were quite enough!

The redevelopment of the area in the mid-50s saw the family offered a council house in Matson and a change of school for Brenda. Her new class teacher at Matson Infants struggled to remember her name, repeatedly calling her Beryl, which elicited no response. Brenda then went to Finlay Road Junior School. Her sister, Christine, was born

when Brenda was eight. Three years later the family moved from Matson to Vicarage Road, Tredworth.

At eleven Brenda went to Denmark Road High School for girls, her mother's choice of school. Brenda would have preferred to go to Ribston Hall. Her mother's own schooling had been thwarted when she had to decline a place at the High school for lack of funds and she was understandably keen for her daughters to have the opportunity she didn't have.

Brenda left school with four O levels and sought office work. She gained a post in Shire Hall in the Education department. It was at this point that Brenda and Roger's paths were to cross.

Brenda and Roger

Colleagues in the Education department played a part in bringing the two of them together. Their first date was a film at the Odeon. They both continued to work within the Education department, Brenda's role changing from admin to special needs, where she would occasionally have to escort children to special schools where they boarded. They were married in 1973 at St Barnabas church, moving into a flat in Crypt Court, and then into their current home in Pearwood Way. Brenda left work at Shire Hall when Sally was born. Simon arrived a couple of years later.

Roger's role at work changed significantly when certain Education services (eg meals) were outsourced. He was invited to set up a wages system for a new company, Gloucestershire Services, based in Shepherd Road, conveniently close to home. From there he moved into Personnel when extra support was needed to manage a raft of redundancies. While Sally and Simon were still at school Roger's own role came under scrutiny and he was offered a favourable package to take voluntary redundancy. It was an offer too good to refuse. Subsequent part time roles in the Planning department, and then the Environment department provided valuable extra resource and new opportunities.

While they were living at Crypt Court they had an unexpected visitor. Hedley Ringrose, then vicar of St George's, had been tipped off by Roger's aunt (who lived in the next village to Hedley in the

Cotswolds) about the new arrivals in his parish. Hedley invited Roger and Brenda to come to St George's. They accepted his invitation and found a church with lots of young people and lots going on. As a girl Brenda had attended Matson Baptist for a time and had also sung in the choir at St Katharine's, Matson. Roger meanwhile had aligned his church allegiance with the current best youth club football offer, which included St Luke's, Stroud Road and the Tyndale Chapel.

Sally and Simon were both baptised at St George's. Sally attended the Sunday School and eventually became a teacher. Hedley's persuasive powers saw Roger agreeing to be PCC Secretary, a role he was well suited for. A man of many parts, he has also served as church warden under two vicars, as head server (he has lost count of the number of years), and as chair of the social committee. He has been involved in the children's work, in the appointment of two vicars and been a faithful cutter of the church grass, valuing the time it gives him to pray and reflect.

Brenda also served as PCC secretary. She has sung in the choir for many years and both Roger and Brenda have been part of the Entertainers. Roger recalls a very successful weekend in 1995 to commemorate the 50th anniversary of VE Day. He chaired a group which mounted a street party, a 40s style dance in costume at Beaufort school, an open air Songs of Praise service and a fair. He then served on the Tuffley Festival committee each year from 2000 onwards.

Both Roger and Brenda are proud to be part of the "Famous Five" culinary fundraising team, and are delighted that this venture has consistently raised much needed funds for St George's.

Deaths in the family, and of close friends at work and at St George's have hit them both hard. Brenda supported and cared for her mother throughout twenty years of her living with dementia. They have supported bereaved friends too. Roger would advise "live every day if it were your last – one day it will be" and "always do your best". Brenda advocates acting with kindness and with respect for others.

Brenda and Roger are grateful for their two children and Emma, their granddaughter. They are pleased to have been able to create a loving

home and to have been able to travel, both in this country and abroad. Cornwall holds a special place in their hearts. They return year by year. Padstow harbour is a favourite haunt. A boat trip on the Jubilee Queen, with a crab sandwich and a pint of beer, is hard to beat!

A person finds joy in giving an apt reply – and how good is a timely word! (Proverbs 15:23)

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; and knowledge of the holy One is understanding (Proverbs 9:10)

READING CHALLENGE AND MORE – AT YOUR LOCAL TUFFLEY LIBRARY!

Tuffley Library starts the Summer Reading Challenge on Saturday 15th July, and is available to all Primary School Children (going into Reception – Year 7 in September). The challenge is to read 6 books, over 3 visits to the library, between the 15th July and the 9th September. There are lots of free activities, goodies and crafts – all themed around ANIMAL AGENTS! Every two books read will reveal another clue to a mystery – helping the animal agents solve crimes. Come along and investigate with us!

We are also looking forward to receiving July's Book of the Month: Sunrise, by Victoria Hislop. Pick up a copy at the library and read along with everyone else. Let us know what you thought about it!

Remember, that you can reserve books online from all over Gloucestershire County to be delivered to Tuffley Library ready for you to pick up, all free of charge. If you're not sure how to do this, come and say hi and we can show you how.

We are looking forward to seeing you soon!

*Commit your work to the LORD, and your plans will be established.
(Proverbs 16:3)*

DO YOU KNOW ABOUT MS?

Multiple sclerosis (MS) is a condition of the central nervous system. In MS, the coating around nerve fibres (called myelin) is damaged, causing a range of symptoms. More than 100,000 people in the UK have MS. Symptoms usually start in your 20s and 30s and it affects almost three times as many women as men.

To see the latest statistics, download the report on MS in the UK.

Once diagnosed, MS stays with you for life, but treatments and specialists can help you to manage the condition and its symptoms. We don't know the cause and haven't yet found a cure, but research is progressing fast.

To understand what happens in MS, it's useful to understand how the central nervous system works. A substance called myelin protects the nerve fibres in the central nervous system, which helps messages travel quickly and smoothly between the brain and the rest of the body.

In MS, your immune system, which normally helps to fight off infections, mistakes myelin for a foreign body and attacks it. This damages the myelin and strips it off the nerve fibres, either partially or completely, leaving scars known as lesions or plaques. This damage disrupts messages travelling along nerve fibres – they can slow down, become distorted, or not get through at all.

As well as myelin loss, there can also sometimes be damage to the actual nerve fibres. It is this nerve damage that causes the increase in disability that can occur over time.

The International Progressive MS Alliance is a network of MS charities from around the world that are united to achieve one key goal: to speed up the development of treatments for progressive MS. Currently, there are no effective treatments that can slow or stop the gradual increase in disability that people with progressive forms of MS experience. Funding this research is important, please join us.

There are lots of ways you can donate or give: Leave a Gift in Your Will, Salary Giving, Recycling, Share Giving, Donating, Enter the MS Society Raffle, Support a Fundraiser, local support by a Gloucester Lottery ticket via our page on www.gloucesterlottery.co.uk our page MS Society. Do you have a skill or time to spare? So many ways to find more information from www.mssociety.org.uk or locally at gloucester@mssociety.org.uk or on 07934 919 620 or visit our stand at Tuffley Festival on 1st July.

SUSAN WILBER



The final date for **AUGUST** magazine articles to be with the editors is:

THURSDAY 13 JULY 2017

Thank you for your help in this matter



**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**



ANSWERS TO JUNE'S PETER'S POSERS

1 DE LOREAN; 2 TANTALUS; 3 ALABAMA (or MICHIGAN, which has a smaller city of that name); 4 REDSKINS;
5 AMERICAN WAR OF INDEPENDENCE; 6 FOUR YEARS;
7 FENN STREET; 8 IVANHOE; 9 BEAVER; 10 PICCOLO.

PETER'S POSERS FOR JULY

- 1 Which Bond villain has been played by Telly Savalas, Donald Pleasance, Charles Gray, and Max Von Sydow?
- 2 'Mace is one of the spices obtained from the tree Myristica Fragrans - what is the other?
- 3 Which hills divide England from Scotland?
- 4 What is the colour of the bull of an archery target?
- 5 Who was the female member of the SDP's 'Gang of Four'?
- 6 UNHCR is the United Nation's High Commission for what?
- 7 Who hosted UK TV's 'Family Fortunes' after Bob Monkhouse and before Les Dennis?
- 8 Which Dickens' character was always 'expecting something to turn up'?
- 9 A palmiped's feet are more commonly called what?
- 10 Which musical featured the song They Called the Wind Mariah?



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



FROM ST MARGARET'S

Well my friends, it's me, this wonderful person who 'does' at St Margaret's Church at Whaddon. My friend Kath and I have been up to our armpits cleaning and sorting out at our little church. I'm sure the more we tidy away the more gets left! I say to Kath that we never seem to finish putting things away. We did have a turnout of our dusters, I never knew we had so many but some were moiré than holey than duster so they had to go. I don't know, we wash them all and then we put them back in our duster bag, so we are a few dusters less but we have more than enough to carry on with. I still get up to my armpits with the brass through, we do try to keep our little church up together but as you all know it's an ongoing battle, the cleaner and polish are always on the go.

Our services are still a joy but we do have one change at our church; our Evensong service will be at 5.00pm all through the year, we are to have a new notice board in the near future and we wanted that to be a permanent time on our new notice board.

Kath and I have not done too much in our borders at the moment as we are soon to have a new roof and will have scaffolding poles around the church so it will be a bit pointless to do the tidying up when there will be folks with big boots treading all over the borders. We have had some sad news at our church, Marian Rackham sadly passed away on Friday 2 June, she had been very poorly and had been taken into hospital from her care home at Quedgeley. Both Marian and Hans had been great supporters of St Margaret's; Marian was for a number of years our church Secretary a job that was taken over by Hans. Our sympathy goes to Hans and the family and wish them all the very best.

We had our family Pentecost service on the 4 June and Jenny Hyett brought a lamb to church. I'm sure it was a sight to be seen, we try to do something different at these services so it's a thank you to Susan

Scothern and Jonathan MacKechnie-Jarvis for all that goes into putting this service together.

I must close now as I have used up all my think, so until the next time its goodbye and God Bless.

JILL PONTER

Better is an open rebuke than hidden love (Proverbs 27:5)

MY NUMBER ONE FAN

I love listening to music. I love playing music.

Music engages every one of us in some way. It demands a reaction. Maybe we strongly dislike what we are hearing; maybe we tap along with the beat; maybe we close our eyes to ensure it has our complete concentration so that we can enjoy it in its fullness.

Do you have a favourite genre? It's difficult to say what mine is – I enjoy lots of different types – blues, jazz, rock n roll, swing, classical and mostly anything with an acoustic sound. I was brought up with my parents being members of a Gilbert & Sullivan amateur operatic society. I learned the fun and the drama of light opera but nothing could prepare me for the first time I sat in the audience of a classical opera. It felt like my very soul was enveloped by the beautiful sound before me. It was a very emotional experience and, of course, the heroine died at the end as most of Puccini's dramatic ladies do.

There is one type, however, that I must say I detest and simply cannot listen to for very long – heavy metal. You can imagine my reaction then when my middle son, who is studying to become a professional musician at university, broke the news to me that this was his favourite type of drumming music and he was hoping to be in bands that would give him this type of experience.

Well, actually, you might be wrong in your imagining.

I am Joseph's mother and, as such, his number one fan. I think that my son is the most amazing drummer I have ever heard and will

gladly tell anyone all about it. When I was told of his intentions, I swallowed hard, and proceeded to tell him that I would still take my place at the front of the crowd, cheering and whooping as he played. I don't care what type of music he plays – I just love to hear him play.

So it is with God. He is our father. He is our number one fan. He thinks we are awesome! He created us just the way he wanted us to be, with all our varied talents and skills. We should never be afraid to reveal our talents to each other or to deem ourselves unworthy of an audience. God attends our every event whether it be a rendition of 'I'm Feeling Good' in the shower, an excellent plastering job, or a beautiful pair of delicate booties, lovingly knitted for the newest family member. God rejoices, dances and cheers over us. Celebrate your talent and listen for the whooping and cheering from heaven!

HELEN MCGEOCH

*Without wood a fire goes out; without gossip a quarrel dies down
(Proverbs 26:20)*



THROUGH THE WINDOW

Hi Folks,

Well here I am again with a few jottings and bits of news for you. Mind you I have to get hold of the pad and pen before my mum hides it again. I think she finds different hidey holes so that I really have to search for them. It's usually Harry who has to search for things, including his glasses. I think my cuz loses patience with him because he never knows where they are. I can hear her now telling him off; she says that if he kept them all in a satchel and put them in the den (wherever that may be) he would know where they were when he needed them. He's a daft bat that's all I can say. Poor Misty despairs

of him! My mum says that when she goes to Auntie Jill's, Misty goes running through the lounge like a rocket, straight up the stairs and hides in the box on top of the wardrobe in her mum's bedroom. She's a wuss puss and always will be.

Now me, I like to know what's going on because I'm nosey like that. When my mum's friends come to the house, well, I like to make sure they are doing things right don't I? Sometimes I get told off because I could put my paw on something and smudge it. I do try to take an interest in what they are doing and give my approval. Do you know my mum locks me up in her bedroom just because her son brings his dog. I hate dogs! Honestly, if you could see my mum and Auntie Jill well, it's pathetic really. Talk about mooning over it, well it fair turns my stomach. She even has the cheek to run around with my toys in its mouth! I definitely don't want them now, Yuk!!

I must confess I don't mind being shut away; the only thing is I have to wait such a long time for something to eat. Then I am able to go outside and have a mooch around. The other day I found a frog in the garden and my mum made me leave it alone, just because I kept putting my paw on it to make it move. She told me I was cruel and shoed me away so I couldn't get it. I must confess it was a really small one but it kept me amused until I was stopped.

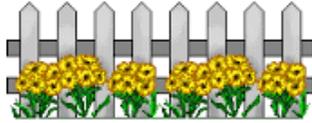
I must have a word with Misty on that machine to see what she and the gang are up to. She says that Star from next door still tries to come in but Auntie Jill shoos her out again. I think Auntie Jill must feed the neighbourhood cats although they don't go into the house.

I think I had better finish now as my paw is getting tired so 'bye for now

Your feline friend
JO JO WHITTLE (Miss)

Better a small serving of vegetables with love than a fattened calf with hatred (Proverbs 15:17)

The rich are wise in their own eyes; one who is poor and discerning sees how deluded they are (Proverbs 28:11)



OVER THE GARDEN FENCE

Mist, Mist, you there Mist? Misssst, where are you? Harry do you have to shout? Well where on earth were you hiding? I was just round at Luna's I hadn't seen her for ages so I was just saying hello. She was in her garden sunning herself, she doesn't go out so much these days as she looks after the house for her mum. Anyway what are you up to? Well Mist, have you seen that new feline around, I don't know where he came from but he looks good anyway, he must have just moved into the area. I know Harry, he looks rather smart, got a bit of the ginger about him but with a bit of dark brown as well; not too old I think, what else can you tell me about him Harry? Not a lot Mist, Yasmin knows him, he goes to the same shows as her and says he hasn't got one of those rosette things but then he has only just started going to be shown off. He gets a bit uptight about it as he doesn't like going into that box thing, shows off something awful he does. His mums not that bothered about getting any prizes but she does like to show him off. Well I never did, I wouldn't want to be put in a box thing and get carted to some place just to be looked at would you Harry? I mean you don't know where those other felines have been!

Now Harry what else has been happening around our patch? What other bits have you found out about? Well Mist, the two gingers are back in the dog house so to speak. What for this time Harry? Well they were supposed to go to that place the other day but they got shut up in somebody's garden shed. They were in there all day and nobody let them out, both of them scratched at the shed window and somebody let them out in the end. It was dark when they got home and there mums were so glad to see them that they didn't get a telling off as they could see that they were just glad to be back home. So they will have to go another day, I bet they won't be allowed out on that day but never mind they are both safe and sound. What has Yaz been up to these days Harry? Not a lot Mist, as I was saying she keeps going off to these show things, sometimes she gets a prize

sometimes she doesn't. When she doesn't get a prize her mum don't half show off Mist. How do you know that Harry? Well Yaz tells me, her mum tells her it's all her fault that they didn't get a prize, she said that her mum told her she was getting too fat; my Yazmin fat, she's just lovely isn't she Mist? Well Harry, if you say so. Oh Harry look who's coming up the path. Say Mist, that's Tiger isn't it? Yes Harry but who's she got with her? I don't know Mist but let's see what she's been up to shall we? Hi ya Tiger, how are you my friend? Well hello Mist how are you? Now let me introduce you to my friend Daisy, she's only just moved into next door, she doesn't know anyone so I told her about coming around to see you all. Where are the gingers Mist? I thought for sure they would be round. Sorry Tiger, but they are confined to barracks, not for long I hope but tell us Tiger how you got to be friends with this little feline. Well Mist, oh come on Daisy be introduced, that's right this is Misty and this is Harry, he does all the writing for us. It goes into a magazine that Mist's mum reads and delivers to people around the immediate area. It's just to let the people know how our gang gets together and what we get up to, not that is anything to go by as we don't get up to nothing! Well not much anyway so say hello Daisy. Hello Mist, hello Harry very nice to meet you. I've just come to live next door to Tiger, she saved me from that big black dog that lives in their house. I almost fell over myself Misty really I did. Oh dear it's starting to rain, is there anywhere we can go to get out of the rain Mist? Come on Daisy, Tiger, Harry. Harry get a move on and don't fall over your bag. Say tat ah Harry.

Oh bye folks until the next time and it's tat ah from me Misty and the rest of the gang until time.

MISTY PONTER (Miss)

Two things I ask of you Lord; do not deny them to me before I die: Remove far from me falsehood and lying; give me neither poverty nor riches; feed me with the food that I need, or I shall be full, and deny you, and say, "Who is the LORD?" or I shall be poor, and steal, and profane the name of my God. (Proverbs 30:7-9)

Dates for your diary

Don't miss out

JULY

Sat 1	11.00am		Tuffley Festival at Grange Primary School including Messy Church
Sun 2			TRINITY 3
	10.30am	*	Family Praise
	10.30am		Parish Communion followed by coffee
	5.00pm	*	Evensong
Mon 3	9.00am		Open the Book at Grange School
	11.00am		St M's funeral for the late Marian Olive Rackham RIP followed by a short committal service at the Crematorium for family and close friends and the wake at St G's Centre
	9.00pm		Coffee Pot set –up
Tue 4	9.00am		Coffee Pot – Mike's team – all welcome
	9.30am		Parish Communion
Wed 5	7.00pm		Singing Group rehearsal
	7.00pm		Gardening Club Committee – SL
Thu 6	9.00am		Open the Book at Harewood School
	10.30am	*	Parish Communion
	7.30pm		Railway Society – 12 Ryelands
Fri 7	7.30pm		Music 'n Memories Concert in St George' Centre in aid of St Margaret's Roof Appeal. Tickets £5.00 to include a light Supper, a Bar and a Raffle
Sun 9			TRINITY 4
	9.00am	*	Parish Communion
	10.30am		Parish Communion with Singing Group followed by coffee & cake sale
Mon 10	9.00am		Open the Book at Grange School
	9.00pm		Coffee Pot set-up
Tue 11	9.00am		Coffee Pot – Jill's team – all welcome
	9.30am		Parish Communion

	7.30pm		Social Committee – SL
Thu 13			AUGUST CROSSROADS DEADLINE
	10.30am	*	Parish Communion
Fri 14	7.30pm		Gardening Club – MH
Sun 16			TRINITY 5
	10.30am		Parish Communion followed by coffee
	12 noon		Private let of Centre
	12.30pm		St G's Baptism for Zachary John Galling & Isabelle Grace Galling
	1.30pm		St G's Baptism for Theo Joshua Hayes-Streeter
	5.00pm	*	Evensong
Mon 17	9.00am		Open the Book at Grange School
	9.00pm		Coffee Pot set-up
Tue 18	9.00am		Coffee Pot – Jill's team – all welcome
	9.30am		Parish Communion
Thu 20	10.30am	*	Parish Communion
Sat 22	12 noon		Ploughman's Lunch at the home of Margaret Whittle, 14 Randwick Road in aid of St Margaret's
Sun 23			TRINITY 6
	9.00am	*	Parish Communion
	10.30am		Parish Communion followed by prayers for healing / coffee
Mon 24			Coffee Pot set up
Tue 25	9.00am		Coffee Pot – Mike's team
	9.30am		Parish Communion
Wed 26			August Crossroads print off
Thu 27			August Crossroads collating
	10.30am	*	Parish Communion
	1.00pm		Private let of Centre – MH
Fri 28	2.30pm		Quiet Prayer Group at Christchurch, Abbeydale
Sun 30			TRINITY 7 / White Box day
	10.30am		Parish Communion
	5.00pm		Evensong
Mon 31			Centre Care & Cleaning month starts

AUGUST

Tue 1	9.00am		Coffee Pot Mike's team, all welcome
	9.30am		Parish Communion
	7.30pm		Centre Management Committee – SL
Wed 2	7.00pm		Gardening Club Committee – SL
Thu 3	10.30am	*	Parish Communion
	7.30pm		Railway Society – 12 Ryelands
Sun 6			TRANSFIGURATION
	10.30am	*	Family Praise
	10.30am		Parish Communion

(M) See article 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

*Anxiety weighs down the heart; but a kind word cheers it up
(Proverbs 12:25)*

REGULAR LETS OF ST GEORGE'S CENTRE

Every Mon except Bank Holiday and 1 st Monday of every month except when Speakability meet every other month from 10.30am – 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