

ST GEORGE'S TUFFLEY
WITH ST MARGARET'S WHADDON
Website: www.glos-stg-stm.org.uk
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THE VICAR WRITES...

Dear friends

Peace I leave with you

As usual this month's magazine is packed with goodies. A lively review of St Margaret's Festival; Hugh Broad goes down memory lane; and what it's like to live in Tuffley. Birdman is back; there's a poem and some good book reviews, and an insight to the interesting lives of David and Angela Kent. Plus our regular riddles, Peter's Posers, and 'looking through the window'; and there's more...

High time to say a huge thank you to our editor Darrell and Glenda for pulling it all together so faithfully month by month. Thank you to all our contributors: Keep it coming! Thank you to our distribution team: keep going! And thank you to our collation team, who can now put their feet up. Because thanks to very generous donations we now have a super-duper all-in-one copier/printer-collator-folder-stapler machine which we're hoping to use for this print-run!

But most of all this month I want to focus on War and Peace. I thank God for the gift of Remembrance. For the people whose lives we honour year by year, 'lest we forget' their sacrifices and the ever-present peril of war.

And I thank God for Jesus, who has left us the peace of His loving presence, in all our circumstances. For true peace isn't just about absence of fighting, but the very presence of Christ.

Inner peace is a treasure hard to find. The storms of life for some, the frenetic activity for others, or fears of the future for many. We all have loved ones affected by failing health, progressive frailty, or disability, and all the complications these bring. And plenty around us are enduring the inner turmoil of roller-coaster relationships or financial crises.

To all, Jesus says, 'My peace I leave with you'. The one, who quietened the storm at sea, is the one who can still our inner storms with the calm of God's peace. Shalom.

"Lord, whatever I have to face,
help me always to know Your peace. Amen"
God bless you, BRUCE

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

CREMATORIUM

Margaret Harvey RIP

Christine Shipley RIP

Elizabeth Hyett RIP

Bryan Harvey RIP

ST GEORGE'S

George Williams RIP

RIDDLE-ME-REE

1 What loses its head in the morning and gets it back at night?

2 What kind of room has no doors or windows?

FESTIVAL REFLECTIONS

It's all over, I'm afraid.

No, don't get too worried. I'm writing this just after the end of the St Margaret's Festival, reflecting on what it all meant. Lots of work, lots of planning, lots of fun, and a lot of friends old and new.

Earlier this year it occurred to me that our little chamber organ, the pride and joy of St Margaret's, was 250 years old in 2018. How about a celebrity organ recital? "Great idea" said Bruce, "but why stop there? We've got a new roof, new heating, new gates, fresh lime washing. Let's say 'thank you' for all these things, and let's blow the trumpet for our little church. A St Margaret's Festival in fact!" Soon we were into serious planning, and the first week of October loomed up at an alarming speed.

What were the highlights? In a word, everything. It all went to plan and everybody seemed to enjoy it. We kicked off with a great Songs of Praise with lots of variety. Bruce on the electric piano and Helen on the flute shared the honours with the organ and the singing was excellent. On Monday morning the entire Wynstones School processed over with drums and singing and a human dragon, for their Michaelmas tableau. An 18 year old St Michael stood on the tower top to quell the forces of darkness below. It was wonderful stuff and a good few from our two churches were there to see it.

Tuesday was a busy day preparing for David Briggs' recital that evening. Hans excelled himself with the audio visual arrangements, assisted at the last moment by Howard Williams, organist of Highnam, who dropped in to see if he could help. If you haven't heard David play, you may not grasp why it was so special. Luckily he has kindly let us keep the video footage we made, so in due course we can stage some recorded highlights, for those who like me would like an action replay. Apart from accompanying a silent Charlie Chaplin classic, David practically went into orbit with such favourites as Teddy Bears' Picnic, Rule Britannia, and Postman Pat. This last was the encore he selected from a list of suggestions from the audience.

Next day it was my turn, with a slide show about the history of St Margaret's and Whaddon, and a fair bit about the growth of Lower Tuffley and St George's. I had so much help from the people I met, who were able to bring life to old photos with their personal memories. Another big breakthrough was the rediscovery of the St George's archive folder, buried in a filing cabinet. Many thanks to Jeanne Wilson and to Darrell for their respective roles in this.

I'm still barely half way through the Festival and I must beg the Editor's indulgence for a long article. But I've started, so I'll finish! Bruce did a great job of organising the Poetry and Music evening on the Friday. Margaret Daniels' verses, very reminiscent of Pam Ayres, were touching and thoughtful as well as humorous. She was joined by young musicians from Wynstones and St Peter's, and by Ashleigh Turley who played so memorably at Tuffley Celebrates. We had singers, string players, a flautist and a teenage singer/songwriter, and Ashleigh, who is just fourteen and totally blind. She put her incredible gifts to work for us at the piano. And from the Wynstones players we had a delightful Korean pop number, with rather a Scottish folk feeling to it – the universal language of music.

Saturday brought the Marriage Celebration led by Bruce and by the irrepressible Dr Sandra Millar. She has preached at St George's several times and has a style all her own. Quite a number of couples renewed their vows – but the service was not only for couples. We ended with a symbolic release of doves by Karen Clows, who lives next to the church. She had gone to so much trouble decorating the gazebo which we erected at the last moment in view of the wet forecast. I must also mention the super wedding cake, baked specially by Hilary, and very yummy it was, too. Thank you Hilary!

And at last we came to the end of our Festival with the Harvest Praise service on the Sunday morning, with a special theme of textiles – wool, cotton and nylon, and the skills which turn them into our clothes. As with all the Festival events this was followed by refreshments in the marquee and a great chance for a chat and a laugh. How lucky we are to have our facilities at St Margaret's: loo, store room, outdoor power, water taps, sound system and so on, not to mention the all-important parking provided by Wynstones. All these things came together to show how creatively one can use a tiny traditional church. These facilities were undreamed-of forty years ago.

I haven't mentioned the daily church opening, or those who kindly sat in to welcome visitors. Meeting old friends and making new friends was at the heart of our Festival. Thank you once again to all who made it happen.

JONATHAN



Following a talk from Helen in September about the work of a pioneer minister the speaker at our October meeting was Ian Mackintosh from the Stroudwater Textile Trust telling us about the woollen cloth heritage of the Stroud valleys.

A writer in the 1680s travelling along what is now the A46 described the area beyond Painswick as "the land of clothiers". There were 19 mills along the River Frome which were water driven fulling mills which beat the cloth with large wooden hammers for 24 hours. The broadcloth had been woven by the weavers in their cottages. Teasels grown on the Somerset Levels were used to raise the nap on the cloth.

There is a record of 170 mills in the area. The number of mills declined because of the Industrial Revolution. Smaller mills were unsuitable for the new machinery and were uneconomic. The large Ebley Mill was built two hundred years ago in 1818 and made Sir Samuel Marling wealthy. He founded Marling school and Selsley church.

Stroud Scarlet cloth was used for the uniforms of British soldiers at the battle of Waterloo. The navy blue cloth for the uniform worn by the Duke of Edinburgh at his wedding to the Queen was made in Stroud and cloth was also made for the Pope until the 1980s. Green cloth for billiard tables is still made in the Stroud area.

At our next meeting on November 13 we will be trying something different, a play reading. Do come along and join us.

SARAH KINGSCOTE

THE REAL ME!

Messy Church on Saturday 3 November is at the special time of 3.00pm; because it's a special session with Bishop Rachel and a small film crew. Looking at identity. Followed by a nice meal. So come and enjoy! Bring your children / grandchildren / other peoples' children. And come and help (see Helen)!

On Saturday 29 September Glenda and I had the pleasure of being invited to share Revd Canon Hugh Broad's 50th Anniversary of his ordination to the Priesthood Eucharist in Gloucester Cathedral. The following is exactly what its title says...

THE LIFE AND TIMES OF HUGH BROAD

Born in 1937, the eldest of three children at Cheltenham in Gloucestershire. My father, Horace was a police officer; and mother, Lucy ran the family business; a drapers & outfitters in the town centre.

Although we were not really a churchgoing family we were all baptised, and it was our grandmother who tried to ensure we knew what it was all about.

The first glimpse of the life of the Church came for me when I was a pupil at Leckhampton Primary School where the parish priest's assembly told stories that I can still remember! I was recruited into the choir at St Peter's Church for a short while, but the main memory of this was that we were paid to sing at weddings!

We moved to Shropshire when I was in my early teens. My secondary schooling was inauspicious to say the least, but I was able to gain a place at an Agricultural College where I gained a National Diploma in Agriculture.

I returned to live at home and became a trainee farm manager, caring mainly for a herd of Ayrshire dairy cows.

It was then that going to church became a priority — the vicar was keen on working with youngsters through A.Y.P.A. -Anglican Young People's Association. I was confirmed at 17 and then as a Reader at 22 I was the youngest in Hereford Diocese.

My sense of vocation grew rapidly encouraged by some lovely people including my fanning boss who was a churchwarden. The rest was as follows:

1963-1967. Trained for ordination at Bernard Gilpin College, Durham and then Lichfield Theological College.

Ordained deacon in Hereford Cathedral in 1967 and as priest there on Feast of St Michael & All Angels, 1968.

1967-1972. Assistant curate at Holy Trinity Hereford. A longish first curacy so that I could do a one year course at Hereford Teacher Training College to gain a teaching qualification.

1972-1974. Assistant teacher at Bishop of Hereford's Bluecoat School - a large comprehensive where I taught RE and English and acted as chaplain to one of the Houses.

1974-1976. Senior curate at parish of St Peter & Paul, Fareham in Portsmouth Diocese.

1976-1990. Back to Hereford to be vicar of All Saints - city centre church with boundary stretching out to city boundary. Amongst many ventures including a drop-in centre at the church; the planning, building of a new church centre in the suburbs, St Barnabas, consecrated by the Bishop and opened by the late Princess Margaret.

Then followed the development and opening of a new church V.A. Primary School - St Thomas Cantilupe where I was Chairman of Governors. The Princess Royal performed the Opening ceremony and it was a most exciting venture.

It was during this very eventful period of my life that, sadly, my first marriage ended in divorce. My Bishop and parishioners were all so supportive, and it did open up a new ministry as a Marriage Guidance Counsellor and a Samaritan.

In 1988 I re-married to Jackie with enormous support all round and she has always been my real rock!

1990-1997. Bishop John Yates of Gloucester (who had been by College Principal at Lichfield) invited me to take on what he described as one of the toughest jobs in the diocese - St Katharine's, Matson. Here we had seven very happy and intense years. Our twin daughters, Lucy and Hannah were born then; my wife ran a very successful lunch club at St Hilda's Church Centre; I was the instigator and first chairman of Matson Neighbourhood Project; I was a school governor and also Chaplain of Selwyn School for Girls - now merged with Kings School.

I was elected to General Synod by the clergy of the diocese in 1995, and became a Bishop's Visitor to church schools in the diocese, and also a national selector for candidates for ordained and reader ministry.

1997-2003. Moved across the city to be Vicar of St George, Tuffley with St Margaret, Whaddon. Quite a contrast to Matson but just as enjoyable and challenging! Here we set up a Local Ministry Team incorporating the three clergy and several Lay people who had various gifts to offer - this worked really well.

Continued my membership of General Synod; here I was a central member of the Crown Nominations Commission; was elected as pm-prolocutor of Canterbury Convocation a member of several synod committees including those who were considering the then proposals for 'Common Worship'

I was also convenor of 'Affirming Catholicism' both in the synod in in this diocese.

Appointed an Honorary Canon of Gloucester Cathedral now of course emeritus.

2003-2013. So to my last full-time post - by complete change - Chaplain of Costa Almeria and Costa Calida in Spain as part of the Diocese in Europe. As well as this large slice of that country, bordering on the Mediterranean I was later asked to be Area Dean for the Gibraltar Archdeaconry. Rather larger than such an area in this country, it involved as well as Gibraltar Spain, Portugal, Madeira, Canary and Balearic islands,, Morocco and Andorra!!

I was also appointed Assistant Director of Ordinands and Reader training for the western part of the diocese. In that diocese it is common practice for the new candidates to be ordained in their home parish, and I had the pleasure of conducting a couple of ordination retreats and preaching at those ordinations.

The Bishop made me an Honorary Canon of Gibraltar Cathedral; now also of course emeritus.

AND SO NOW! If you have the patience to read this, in 2013 it was back to our beloved Gloucestershire, and to our home in the parish of St James Quedgeley where I have the honour and enormous pleasure of exercising a retirement ministry.

I have also had a spell as Interim priest at Ashchurch and Kemerton; and sometime in the parishes of the Stroud deanery.

I also richly enjoy my two sessions a month as an Honorary Chaplain at the Cathedral, and act as a Spiritual Director

Although I am now an octogenarian, I thank God constantly that I still have sufficient energy both spiritual and physical to do what I gave my life for half a century ago!

DEO GRATIAS!!

PETER'S POSERS FOR NOVEMBER

- 1 In the UK how many fluid ounces make up a pint?
- 2 In mythology what was the name of Jason's ship?
- 3 Which two teams compete annually for the Calcutta Cup?
- 4 Who played Han Solo in the "Star Wars" series of movies?
- 5 What was the name of Ho Chi Minh City prior to 1976?
- 6 Which 70's Prog-Rock band was named after the inventor of the seed drill?
- 7 What vegetable can be Globe or Jerusalem?
- 8 Where did Napoleon suffer his last defeat?
- 9 After which Saint is a firework named?
- 10 What number lies diagonally opposite the number 20 on a dart board?

Answers next issue



The final date for DECEMBER/JANUARY CROSSROADS
ARTICLES TO BE WITH THE EDITORS IS

TUESDAY 13 NOVEMBER

The earlier you can get your articles to the Editors
the greater chance of getting it published

Thank you for your help in this matter

ALL-NEW SUNDAY SCHOOL!

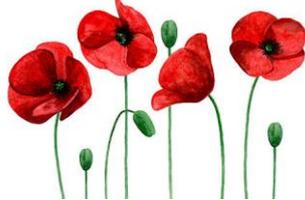
We're delighted to announce a new gathering for children of all ages
during our 10.30 service at St Georges':
every week! Spread the word...

One of the most powerful truths we can offer our children is the knowledge that we're ALL still learning. None of us have arrived; we all have room to grow. This frees our children from expecting perfection in themselves; or anyone else; because they know that life is a journey, from day one onwards.

ANON

For the Fallen
by Robert Laurence Binyon, 1914

They shall not grow, old as we grow old:
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning
We will remember them.



A PRAYER FOR THE WAY OF PEACE AND RECONCILIATION

“The world can create trouble in peace, but God can create peace in trouble”
(Tom Watson).

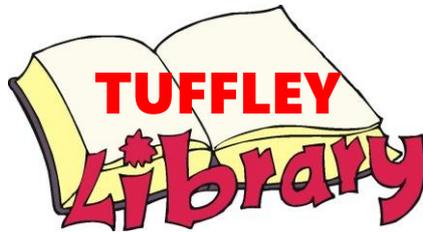
Lord, strengthen our hearts, hands, and minds, to work together for peace; to see you in one another, and to seek your kingdom above all things; that your will may be done, and your Kingdom come, through Jesus Christ, the Lord of lords and King of kings. Amen

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY 11 NOVEMBER

During our special 10.30am service at St George’s with our Uniformed Organisations, we’ll be gathering by the cross outside St George’s at 11.00am for a special Remembrance ceremony. Please share this with us, as an act of community solidarity.

FALLEN BUT NOT FORGOTTEN!

On Saturday 1 December we’ll be remembering the names and stories of local people who fell in the Great War, and their families. And we’ll be dedicating a special seat and flag post. Put the date in your diary. Brookthorpe Village Hall, 6.00pm. To register, contact Eric on 07578 880 947 or Paul on 07767 898 697.



It just happens to be 4th October 2018, Poetry Day, as I am writing this article and thought that it would be a lovely idea to share with you some poetry. This one below is written by one of the most popular children authors, written in 2012, to encourage library use and combat closures. I hope that you enjoy it:

LIBRARY POEM

by Julia Donaldson

*Everyone is welcome to walk through the door.
It really doesn't matter if you're rich or poor.
There are books in boxes and books on shelves.
They're free for you to borrow, so help yourselves.
Come and meet your heroes, old and new,
From William the Conqueror to Winnie the Pooh.
You can look into the Mirror or read The Times,
Or bring along a toddler to chant some rhymes.
The librarian's a friend who loves to lend,
So see if there's a book that she can recommend.
Read that book, and if you're bitten
You can borrow all the other ones the author's written.
Are you into battles or biography?
Are you keen on gerbils or geography?
Gardening or ghosts? Sharks or science fiction?
There's something here for everyone, whatever your addiction.
There are students revising, deep in concentration,
And school kids doing projects, finding inspiration.
Over in the corner there's a table with seating,
So come along and join in the Book Club meeting.
Yes, come to the library! Browse and borrow,
And help make sure it'll still be here tomorrow.*

We have poetry books in the library full of a variety of poems and rhymes. We even have children poetry books. If you are feeling inspired, why not have a go at writing a poem yourself?

ELIZABETH BEST Library Assistant

I am currently reading: The Light Between Oceans by M L Stedman



BOOKSHELF

Christmas is coming, but Advent comes first, so it's time to think about choosing a book to read to help you prepare.

New from the Bible Reading Fellowship is *Celtic Advent* by David Cole which leads the reader to Christmas through the eyes and beliefs of Celtic Christianity. The Celtic church observed an Advent of 40 days [mirroring the 40 days of Lent] so these daily readings actually begin on November 15th.

Also new from BRF is *The Prince of Peace in a World of Wars* by David Kerrigan. The biblical title "The Prince of Peace" leaves us in no doubt that God's purpose in Jesus Christ is to bring peace – universal peace both with God and our neighbours. But have we really understood what this peace might look like, especially in a world of wars and suffering? Through these daily readings David Kerrigan sees the coming of Jesus at Christmas as central to the divine plan to bring peace to the world.

The Archbishop of York's Advent book for 2018 is *The Art of Advent* by Jane Williams [SPCK]. This beautiful book describes and interprets a series of 37 paintings. Artists often address subjects our culture seeks to avoid, and Jane Williams's brilliant and perceptive reflections will help you to read these paintings with a more discerning eye, and discover deeper levels of meaning than may at first appear.

Advent for Everyone: Journey through Luke [SPCK] is the third Advent book by Tom Wright based on his popular "For Everyone" commentaries. The daily readings and reflections explore the themes of faith, repentance, justice and celebration in Luke's gospel.

A Shaking Reality by Peter B. Price [DLT] is a daily series of reflections and prayers inspired by the meditation "The Shaking Reality of Advent" written by Fr. Alfred Delp when he was imprisoned by the Nazis during World War 2. Each reflection is written that we may be "shaken and brought to a realisation of ourselves", in order to gain a new understanding of God's promise of redemption and release.

Love Came Down at Christmas by Sinclair B. Ferguson [The Good Book Company] provides daily readings which go through 1 Corinthians 13 phrase by phrase showing us that “love is” the Lord Jesus himself and we are challenged to love like him during the Christmas season.

Beyond the Chocolate Window by Becky Lovatt [Onwards and Upwards] presents daily meditations offering new insights into well known stories from the Bible. She explores the thoughts and feelings of some of the people touched by God, so that we too can deepen our relationship with him.

Also don't forget *Reflections for Advent 2018* [Church House Publishing] which I mentioned in my last Bookshelf article. Please note that these readings actually start on 26th. November, which is a few days before Advent Sunday.

These books and many others will all be available to borrow from the table near the Lady Chapel in St. George's church so do take a look and I hope that whatever you choose you find it enjoyable and helpful.

SARAH KINGSCOTE

PARLIAMENTARY VISIT TO SUDAN AND SOUTH SUDAN

by David Drew MP

On 16 September, I led a cross-party delegation of parliamentarians on a four day trip to Sudan. It was the first such delegation to Sudan in six years and my first visit in almost a decade. Since my previous visit, the region has witnessed the creation of the world's newest country, South Sudan, in 2011.

Our aim was to revitalise the relationship between the UK and Sudan and reiterate our commitment to peace and prosperity for the Sudanese people. We met people in government, parliament and civil society, trying to get a picture of what it's like to live in Sudan today.

It's impossible to cover the complexities of Sudanese politics in a few words, but the impact of the north-south civil war that cost the lives of 1.5 million people is still being felt today. Continuing conflict in the western region of Darfur has driven two million people from their homes and killed more than 200,000. The sanctions subsequently imposed by the US have now been lifted, but their effect, paired with decades of economic mismanagement by the government,

has left the Sudanese dealing with inflation at over 50%, poor infrastructure and very low employment prospects. Many are unable to afford basic goods.

Of course, this delegation only had time to scratch the surface of a country whose history and politics make our discussions over Brexit look simple. I continue to pray for peace and prosperity in the region and I hope to return there very soon – although perhaps at a cooler time of year!



Some of you might remember or not an article I wrote last year about Bob the birdman. Bob was a dear gentleman that my friend Ann and I met in the Lake District last year.

We had set off to visit a country house and gardens only to find that it wasn't open that day. At the entrance to the estate there was a lovely little cottage with the most delightful cottage garden full of the usual Roses, Lupins etc.

We stopped to admire it when Bob appeared at the door and beckoned us in. Bob was the old Gamekeeper who had served the family for 54years. He regaled us with many stories of poachers being chased off the property and teaching the young master of the house to shoot. We spent a lovely time with him and he gave us coffee as we sat in his lovely garden on a beautiful summers day.

He was lonely because his dear wife Edie had died 6 months previously and some of you may recall he whistled the birds down from the trees and Ann and I were able to feed them from our hands and to feed the deer over the fence from his garden.

This year we returned to the gardens and house for a visit and Ann and I were debating whether or not Bob would still be there this year as he was well into his nineties and ailing a little.

Imagine our delight as we walked into the little shop we bumped into him of course he couldn't remember us but we were thrilled to see that he is now listed on the information as an attraction and particularly gets the young children to try their hand at feeding the birds and Deer. He had told us a story about the robin that visited him early morning and feeds off his bedside table and continues to do so.

I asked him whether it was still the same robin or had he alerted his mates that there was a feast to be had at Bob's to which he replied in a broad Aberdonian accent. "I dinnae know bonnie lassie" with a twinkle in his eye.

Sadly the birds weren't having any truck with Ann and I this year but watching the wonder and excitement on the children's faces was reward enough for me.

Incidentally I discovered that his real name is Jimmy but he is known affectionately as Bob. He told me he answers to anything!! It has been a real privilege to meet this dear gentleman of the land and a memory to cherish.

LINDA MEDWELL

ANSWERS TO PETER'S SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER POSERS

1 David Niven; 2 A Puck; 3 Luftwaffe; 4 A cob; 5 Nirvana; 6 Dorset;
7 Teachers; 8 Bamboo; 9 New York; 10 John-Boy:



THE POPPY

By Brian Grabham

*Poppy is a flower of genus Papaver
Temperate and subtropical regions
Showy flowers common scarlet
Now many other colours*

*Poppies worn on Armistice Day
Now called Remembrance Sunday
Artificial poppies are worn
Replicating those in Flanders' fields*

*Wild poppies kept in fields
Too invasive in red form
Bred species best for gardens
Available in a variety of colours*

Getting
to Know You

DAVID AND ANGELA KENT: PART 1

Married two years ago at St George's, David and Angela have become regular worshippers at St George's and are part of the welcome team.

David

Born in the city, in Priory Road, David moved to St Paul's Road while he was still young. He went to the nearby St Pauls infant and junior schools, though school wasn't much to his liking. He admits to not trying too hard. Come to the 11+ exam he found himself allocated to Linden secondary modern school, where he

was placed in the A stream. Though he did well in RE and music, he was keen to leave at the earliest opportunity...

He was an only child, an avid collector of stamps, coins, cigarette cards, and the like. A member of the choir at Christchurch, Brunswick Road, he sang three times on a Sunday. His father, who ran the Sunday School and youth club, was also involved at the Cathedral and at St Mary de Lode; a corn merchant, who imported large quantities of grain, David gained his wide general knowledge from him.

The family owned a property in Down Hatherley where they would spend the summer. David was expected to fall in and toe the family line until he was 21; then he knew he was free to go his own way. On leaving school, he went to work at Peter Hickman's, the hairdresser's, where he stayed until he was 21. Whilst there he began to branch out into collecting furniture and household effects, his employer allowing him time to attend the monthly auction in Stroud on a Thursday afternoon.

Coming of age, David decided to leave Hickman's, and set up in business buying and selling antiques and household goods. He started trading in Barton Street two years later, soon moving the business to Wellington Street. There for seven years, he then moved to larger premises at 300 Barton Street, where he traded for many years, and where a future customer would become his wife.

Angela

Angela was also born in Gloucester, in Reservoir Road, and was baptised at St Aldates. Her father was a carpenter on the railway, working his way up to be a supervisor. Her mother, a cook who had been in service at Malvern, worked at the RAF camp. It was from her that Angela gained her love of cooking. Her sister, Ann, was three years older than her. The family moved to Bisley Road when Angela was young.

Angela went to Whaddon Infant and Junior Schools. She loved her school days, but admits to a streak of naughtiness, taking herself off, running out of the playground and heading for home. She would often find her Mum was out, working as a home help, and so Angela sought refuge under the dining room table in a friendly neighbour's house. Miss Watkins, her kindly teacher, would know where to find her and would come and take her back to school. This misdemeanour would mean a visit to the headteacher's room, where Angela remembers fondly stroking the two resident poodles.

Eventually Angela settled at school and didn't feel the need to run home. From Whaddon she went to Linden Road school, where she was in the A stream, top of her class. Her mother turned down an opportunity for her to transfer to the Central School. Angela remembers her school days with fondness, recalling teachers giving pupils extra tuition in their own homes after school, and trips to Upton St Leonards on a Sunday afternoon for scones at a teacher's house. Her English teacher, Mrs Ruffle, brought Shakespeare to life; Angela loved to hear her read. Angela needed to work hard; her skills were practical rather than academic. During the school holidays Angela would sometimes accompany her mother as she visited people in their homes. She found herself at ease with older people, often calling in on neighbours to see how they were.

Angela describes her mother as strict with high expectations; there wasn't much play at home. She felt closer to her father. When her mother was at work at weekends the two girls were expected to clean the kitchen thoroughly. Her mother would vet her boyfriends, curtailing relationships that were blossoming. Angela felt drawn to nursing, following in her grandmother's footsteps. On leaving school, she became a cadet nurse, spending two days a week at the Infirmary in Southgate Street, and three days at the Technical College in Brunswick Road. The next year saw her on the wards three days a week, her pay rising to £12 per month. Her mother didn't let her live in the nurses' home.

At eighteen Angela entered the School of Nursing, her working life beginning in gastric surgery. For much of her career she has nursed the elderly, having worked in the Day hospital for 27 years. Angela has never regretted the decision she made; never a day when she woke up and didn't want to go to work. And on the way, she has valued meeting so many kind and interesting people.

See the December magazine for the next instalment....

It is with regret once again that I have been unable to include any of the Diocesan Messenger in this issue of Crossroads. I have however printed an A4 version and have pinned it onto the porch noticeboard. Other articles may not been included either due to the lack of space this month.

TIME TO REMEMBER

Is there someone you've loved and lost?

Come and share together an uplifting celebration at St George's
on Sunday 28 October at 4.00pm
followed by refreshments.

This summer, we asked the church family and the local community for their thoughts about living in and around Tuffley. Here's what they said.

LIVING IN TUFFLEY SURVEY

[23 Responses received from church family]

What's best?

- Community 'feel' – people are sociable, friendly and helpful, they look out for each other (large majority of responses) – 'we have the best community spirit'
- Good churches, churches together, welcoming church community, range of activities (inc. computer / art...)
- Local handy range of convenience shops with friendly shopkeepers; post office, sports facilities, library, bus route, schools, many facilities – everything we need is here
- A good area close to town and country
- Easy access to town and around the area on bus or walking
- Good bus service (to town and to Stroud from Copeland Park)
- Local parks and open spaces, inc. Robinswood Hill
- Mixture of open areas, good amenities and the friendly people
- Nice walks to Kingsway
- Quiet, clean, safe, tidy area nicely kept
- Colourful gardens
- Good range of housing
- Activities for people with disability (e.g. day centre)
- Tuesday morning 'Coffee Pot'
- Drama club
- Schools

- My husband!

What's worst?

- Parking inconsiderately – on pavements, bends, and near junctions (for convenience store; school pick-up; Tesco delivery lorries)
- Some peoples' bad manners and intolerance of others
- Lack of activities for children / young people except in pubs
- Community centre under-used
- Lack of buses on Grange Road; one-way buses; lack of buses at night
- Lack of visible policing
- Lack of disabled access (e.g. housing)
- Gangs of youngsters sometimes gather around shops
- Lack of pubs
- no theatre; no cinema
- Litter / Rubbish bins not emptied often enough
- Road gutters not cleared from weeds
- Lack of 'keep fit for elderly'
- Road surfaces
- Traffic / speeding / motorbikers revving engines
- Coffee pot open only one day a week
- School kids and cats on my garden
- Holmleigh shopping parade looks shabby, needs repainting
- Fly-tipping behind shops
- Poor mobile phone signal in some places
- Poor Wi-Fi in library
- This survey – should have included Podsmead where I live

Imagine you've received £250,000 for Tuffley! How would you spend it?

- More clubs for children and families (several)
- Build another doctor's surgery (3)
- provide community centre well-used, sports club, (2)
- Youth club (2)
- Fix all the pot holes (2)
- A few benches around for seating (2) e.g. by shops
- Open a café for people to meet with music, Wi-Fi etc.
- Competition for the children to write a story about Tuffley
- New playground
- Add more street lights
- Help heat local church better
- Provide more parking next to school
- Build more housing

- Community minibus
- Revamp shops
- More bins
- Community garden / area
- Children's cycle park
- Give it to the vicar to allocate!

COMMUNITY SURVEY

Responses collected at Tuffley Festival 2018

Where is your favourite place in the Tuffley/Podsmead area?

Most frequent responses, in order of popularity

- 1 Parks and green spaces incl. Randwick, Tuffley Rovers field and Beaufort field
- 2 Home incl. two who said 'my bed'
- 3 The brook by Copeland park
- 4 Tuffley Festival incl. one specifically saying the bouncy castle

Each of the below were single responses

- 5 The community centre
- 6 St Peter's High School
- 7 My dance place
- 8 Fish & Chip shop
- 9 St George's Church
- 10 My church
- 11 St Barnabas Church
- 12 Tuffley itself

What would you like to see different in the area?

Most frequent responses, in order of popularity

- 1 Something for young people
- 2 More places for children to play/parks/soft play area
- 3 Nothing/not a lot/don't know
- 4 Sports centre/waterpark
- 5 No parking on pavements

Each of the below were single responses

- 6 Less pollution
- 7 More bins
- 8 Grass to be kept tidier

- 9 Stream cleaned
- 10 More police presence
- 11 Community garden
- 12 Not happy about blocks being built on green space in the new Podsmead development scheme

What do you think the Church in Tuffley could do for the community?

Most frequent responses, in order of popularity

- 1 Better advertisement for church events and activities
- 2 Doing pretty good as it is / not a lot more than they are doing already / doing a great job
- 3 More days / events like this / coming together for events
- 4 More activities for children / after school club
- 5 Something for young people
- 6 Tuffley community choir

Each of the below were single responses

- 7 Baby groups
- 8 Weekend community coffee
- 9 Activities for fund raising for charities
- 10 Art club
- 11 Street workers to stop kids hanging out
- 12 Something similar to Kingsway big lunch
- 13 Funfair
- 14 I Sing Pop

Thank you to all who gave their thoughts about living in and around Tuffley. We'll be using the results in planning what we can do better as a church, working with others, for the community. Meanwhile if your own views aren't reflected here and you'd like to tell us, please contact Helen or Bruce.

RIDDLE-ME-REE ANSWERS

- 1 Your pillow
- 2 A mushroom



...COMING SOON



THROUGH THE WINDOW

Hello everyone,

Have I got some news for you. A little while ago I was feeling very off colour, I don't know what was wrong but I felt odd; I didn't want to eat or drink and that's not like me, I love my food. I did catch and eat a bird a few days before so I don't know if that was what upset my tummy. Well, my mum had to ask Auntie Jill to take me to see the doctor. Well, he poked and prodded and squeezed my tummy, then he shoved a thingy up my rear end, ooh the indignity of it! I was not happy about it at all. I was the given two pins, the first was ok but the second, well I squealed I can tell you. I wasn't allowed out at all, not that I wanted to anyway. I had to be force fed. My mum wrapped me in a towel and Auntie Jill forced some food down my throat. She did that for a couple of days, to say I was not happy was an understatement. Eventually I was given some proper food and I felt much better. You should have seen my mum's face when I asked for a drink in the sink in the bathroom. I am now a lot better and I can go outside for a short while. I wander around my estate to make sure everything is where it should be. Wait until I get on that machine, I will have a few words to say to my friends. Auntie Jill's little ones are not old enough yet as they are only little. I shall tell Auntie Jayne how cruel everyone is to me. Auntie Lynne was quite concerned about me as I couldn't have any treats. I am wasting away really, I'll be glad when I can be back to normal. I miss talking to Misty, I used to tell her all my woes and she would tell me hers. We used to commiserate with each other. I can't tell the two little ones because they don't know anything about me yet. I wouldn't mind betting that Auntie Jill and my mum have told them about me as they can't keep anything secret, not

that I've got anything to hide. I haven't heard a lot about Arnold recently, mind you, I've had enough concerns of my own. No doubt I'll hear something in due course.

Anyway, I think I had better close until the next time.

Your feline friend

JO JO WHITTLE

OVER THE GARDEN FENCE



"Well hello there!

It's us, you know us, we were introduced a few weeks ago. I'm Trixie and that's my sister Maya. She's darker than me and a real show off. I'm the pretty one, you know, I have to look out for her as she's always getting into trouble and our Mum does tend to tell her off. I keep telling her that she shouldn't do those things while our Mum is watching; but she just won't listen. What you on about, Trix, are you telling on me again? Just telling things as they are, Maya. Well don't, because you aren't so innocent yourself you know. Who was it that got into that bag and got her head stuck, and Mum had to cut the bag to get you out, and you squealed like a banshee. You thought that Mum was going to cut your head off. I know it was, just a thought though, but you did make such a song and dance about it.

Our Mum still won't let us go outside yet, she says we aren't big enough, I don't know though, we have grown up quite a bit don't you think. Our Auntie Marg keeps coming to see us and she loves us to bits you know, but we do have a cousin called JoJo. I've only seen pictures of her; she looks a bit like me and Maya. I must admit she has quite a personality, I think. We haven't met her yet, I do hope that we do. Auntie Marg says that she and JoJo are going on a little holiday and our Mum is going to take her to a place called Teckels, I don't know where that is but I bet she will have a whale of a time. Auntie Marg is going to see her son in a place called Hampshire, we don't know where that is either but I expect it's a long, long way.

Our Mum and Auntie Marg keep grabbing us and putting something horrible on our necks. It's cold and it stings a bit but not too much, then we get lots of cuddles. Maya and I have found a new game, we jump all over the bedroom furniture; Maya jumped onto the chest of drawers and then she jumped onto Mum's wardrobe. It was ever such a long way up and then she knocked a box off. Mum nearly had a heart attack and she shouted at Maya again; I mean trying to wreck the bedroom and we are still only four and a half months old!

Our Mum went out the other and bought a new toilet box for us, to say it was strange is putting it mildly, Maya was the first to get in and give it the once over, she only did a widdle but she went on as though she was diggin' to Australia what a noise. I waited until it was quiet and tested it. It was very strange, the door swung back and hit me so I batted it back and it hit me again, all my Mum did was giggle at me; but I did get a lovely cuddle from her. Maya had a cuddle because she used the toilet first.

There are still lots of things to explore but Mum says that we can't go out yet. Fiddlesticks we are big now and cats go outside don't they! I'll keep whingeing until Mum says that we can go out. So for now we will say tata that's from Maya and me, until the next time.

TRIXIE & MAYA PONTER



Well my friends it's me again that whining so and so who does at St Margaret's. We were scrubbing, polishing and generally cleaning up and making things just right for the beginning of the St Margaret's Festival.

We started off on the 30th September with a Festival Songs of Praise Evensong which was led by Paula and Jonathan, with Bruce doing the introductions and prayers. We had some lovely hymns, some we didn't know well and one I hadn't heard before at all.

On Monday we had a Celebration of Michaelmas with children acting the story of St George and the dragon. It was lovely to see so many children enjoying themselves and the occasion. We had lots of singing; the dragon was a real sight, large and scary. I couldn't stay until the end but what I did see was a joy to behold.

On Tuesday we had the most wonderful organ recital by David Briggs (Jonathan has written about this recital in his article earlier). I know that everyone who attended really enjoyed themselves.

Wednesday Jonathan gave us an informal slideshow called Down the Years at St Margaret's and of Tuffley. Those who were able to go told me that it was a lovely evening and that they learned something new about the Tuffley area that they hadn't know before.

Friday brought an evening of Music and Poetry, with musicians from Wynstones School and St Peter's School as well as the 'Bard of Barnwood', Margaret Daniels. Margaret has been asked to talk to a Mothers' Union meeting at St George's in the near future.

A 'Celebration of Marriage' was on the agenda for Saturday during which couples had an opportunity to renew their marriage vows.

Sunday was our Harvest Festival an opportunity for our two congregations to join together and celebrate the usual harvest but also the harvest of other crops like wool and cotton and Lorraine Best told us how Nylon was made. Her Dad had worked in a nylon factory in Wales she made it sound very interesting. So until the next time, God bless.

JILL PONTER

Dates to Remember

Mary-Jess is coming to sing at St George's on 8 December at 7.00pm. Tickets available NOW at £15.00 each from Darrell

OCTOBER

Sun 28			BIBLE SUNDAY / LAST AFTER TRINITY White Boxes / British Summertime ends
	9.00am	*	Parish Communion
	10.30am		Parish Communion followed by coffee
	4.00pm	M	Time to Remember at St George's
Mon 29			Coffee Pot set up
Tue 30	9.00am		Coffee Pot – Mike's team until 11.30am
	9.30am		Parish Communion at St George's

NOVEMBER

Thu 1	8.15am		Morning Prayer – V
	10.30am	*	Parish Communion
	7.30pm		Railway Society – 12 Ryelands
Fri 2	7.30pm		Gardening Club 'Colourful Climbing Plants' – MH
Sat 3	3.00pm		Messy Church 'Identity' at St George's
Sun 4			4 BEFORE ADVENT
	10.30am	*	Family Praise
	10.30am		Parish Communion followed by coffee
	12.15pm		Music Makers at St George's
	3.00pm		Faith and Light at English Martyrs
	5.00pm	*	Evensong
Mon 5	9.15am & 9.30am		Open the Book at Grange with Hans & Roger – <i>Joseph the Ruler</i>
	9.00pm		Coffee Pot set up
Tue 6	9.00am		Coffee Pot until 11.30am – Jill's team
	9.30am		Parish Communion at St George's
Wed 7	7.00pm		St George's Singing Group
Thu 8	8.15am		Morning Prayer at the Vicarage
	10.30am	*	Parish Communion

Sun 11			REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY / 3 BEFORE ADVENT
	9.00am	*	Parish Communion
	10.30am		Remembrance Service followed by Coffee, Cake Sale & a short Communion service
	12.00noon		'Peace Party' – a community event with lunch
Mon 12	9.15am & 9.30am		Open the Book at Grange with Hans, Sue & Dianne – <i>The Secret Baby</i>
	9.00pm		Coffee Pot set up
Tue 13			DECEMBER/JANUARY CROSSROADS DEADLINE
	9.00am		Coffee Pot until 11.30am – Jill's team
	9.30am		Parish Communion at St George's
	2.30pm		Mothers' Union
Wed 14	7.00pm		St George's Singing Group
Thu 15	8.15am		Morning Prayer at the Vicarage
	10.30am	*	Parish Communion
Sun 18			2 BEFORE ADVENT
	10.30am		Parish Communion followed by coffee
	12.30pm		St George's Baptism
	12.30pm	M	St Margaret's Winter Lunch at St George's
Mon 19	9.15am & 9.30am		Open the Book at Grange with Hans & David – <i>The Burning Bush</i>
	9.00pm		Coffee Pot set up
Tue 20	9.00am		Coffee Pot until 11.30am – Mike's team
	9.30am		Parish Communion
Wed 21	7.30pm		Refresh at St George's
Thu 22	8.15am		Morning Prayer at the Vicarage
	10.30am	*	Parish Communion
Sat 24			Private let of Centre
Sun 25			1 BEFORE ADVENT / White box day
	9.00am	*	Parish Communion
	10.30am		Parish Communion followed by coffee
Mon 26	9.15am & 9.30am		Open the Book at Grange with Hans, Mike & Laura – <i>The Great Escape</i>
	7.00pm		Advent Group (1) – SL
	9.00pm		Coffee Pot set up
Tue 27	9.00am		Coffee Pot until 11.30am – Mike's team
	9.30am		Parish Communion
Wed 28	3.00pm		Advent Group (1) – V
	7.00pm		Gardening Club meeting – SL

Thu 29	8.15am		Morning Prayer at the Vicarage
	10.30am	*	Parish Communion
Fri 30	2.30pm		Quiet Prayer Group at English Martyrs

DECEMBER

Sat 1	10.00am		Messy Church 'Advent' at St George's
	3.00pm		Private let of Centre
Sun 2			ADVENT SUNDAY
	10.30am	*	Family Praise
	10.30am		Parish Communion followed by coffee
	12.15pm		Music Makers at St George's
	3.00pm		Faith & Light at English Martyrs
	5.00pm	*	Taize style service for Advent

(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

There are occasionally changes to the weekly timetable so please refer to our weekly newsletter for details of any changes. Crossroads and our weekly newsletter are now available for free on our website; www.glos-stg-stm.org.uk

ST GEORGE'S COFFEE POT

EVERY Tuesday morning from 9.00am until 11.30am
St George's Centre, Grange Road, Tuffley

Hot drinks and food available until 10.30am

People to meet and to chat to in a friendly environment

As Glenda and I put this magazine together we are somewhat 'flying by the seat of our pants' so please bear with us whilst we come to terms with the new printing equipment which was delivered and set up in the week before this November Crossroads was put together.

We need to assess what needs to be done differently to produce the magazine that you want. We've been able to add a little colour and we've discovered that the way in which we format Crossroads currently has to change. Why? You ask. Well, no longer will we have to produce a 'master copy' to photocopy because Crossroads will be printed directly from computer to the new equipment and our set up needs to change.

So all of our article writers will be getting new details of how we wish to receive articles in the future: But all that will have to wait until we see how this first version turns out.

So we will apologise in advance in case it doesn't go well, but fingers crossed everything will be fine!!

Looking forward to the December/January issue already...

DARRELL AND GLENDA

A LITTLE BIT OF HUMOUR TO FINISH WITH...

This morning on the way to town I wasn't really paying attention and I drove into the back of a car at some traffic lights. The driver got out and it turned out he was a dwarf. He said, "I'm not happy." I said, "Well, which one are you then?"

I walked into a bar and ordered a drink and I noticed that there were pieces of meat nailed to the ceiling so I asked the barman what they were for. He said "If you can jump up and pull one of them down you get free beer all night but if you fail you have to pay the bar £100. Do you want to have a go?" I said "Nah, the steaks were too high mate!"

What's the difference between Dubai and Abu Dhabi? The people in Dubai don't like The Flintstones, but the people in Abu Dhabi do.