

# The Messenger



**THE PARISH MAGAZINE OF  
ST GEORGE, CHORLEY**

May 2021

# *Meridian Funeral Home*

**155 Eaves Lane  
Chorley  
PR6 0TB**



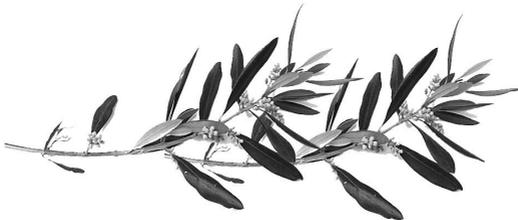
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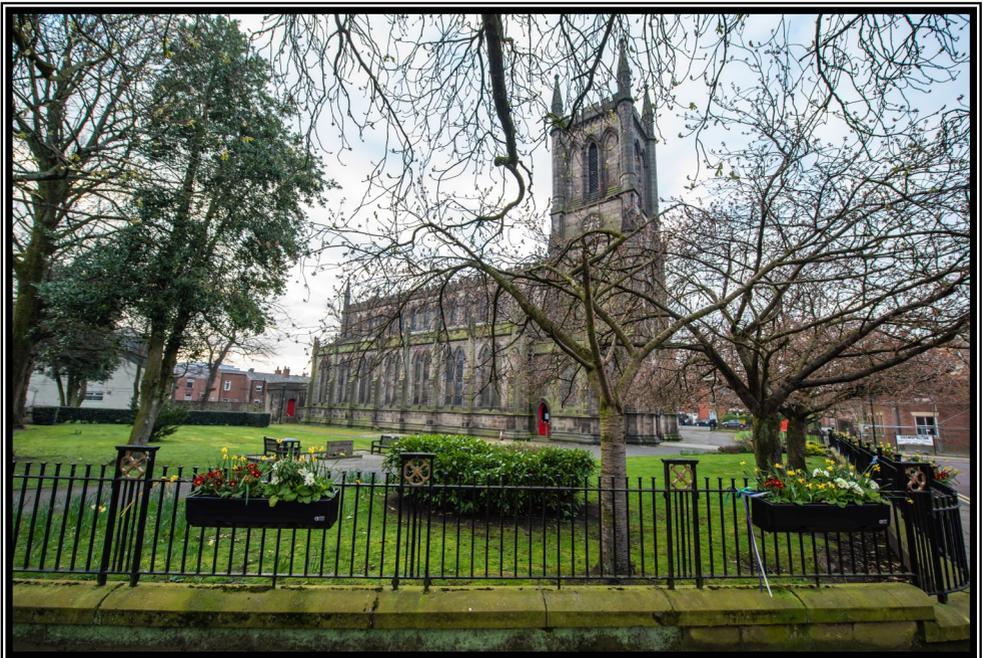


	<p>Vicar: The Revd Michael Print BA (Hons), BTh (Oxon)</p> <p>Confession and Sick Visits please notify the Vicar</p> <p>vicar@stgeorgechorley.co.uk www.stgeorgechorley.co.uk</p>	<p>01257 263064</p>
<p>Services: Wednesday 10am Eucharist Sunday 9.30am Eucharist</p>		
<p>Church Wardens:</p>	<p>Mr John Bradley jm.bradley@sky.com Mr Stephen Pollard pollards_13@yahoo.co.uk</p>	<p>0737 5047982 0756 8502770</p>
<p>Parish Safeguarding Officer</p>	<p>Dr Victoria Gibson LLB MA MRes PhD FCMI safeguarding@stgeorgechorley.co.uk</p>	<p>0792 1010 900</p>
<p>Organist &amp; Choirmaster:</p>	<p>Mr Gordon Blackledge ARCO FTCL</p>	<p>01257 274922</p>
<p>Verge:</p>	<p>Mr Graham Schofield</p>	<p>0798 1178764</p>
<p>Parish Magazine Editor:</p>	<p>Mrs Christine Gibson acvgibson@sky.com</p>	<p>01257 260555</p>
<p>Flower Guild Secretary:</p>	<p>Mrs Freda Armstrong</p>	<p>01257 262918</p>
<p>Tower Captain:</p>	<p>Dr Victoria Gibson</p>	<p>0792 1010900</p>
<p>Church Hall:</p>	<p>Mr Paul Clegg Manager/Booking churchhall@stgeorgechorley.co.uk</p>	<p>07821328337</p>
<p><b>All Meetings in Hall and Red Bank suspended due to Covidi-19</b></p>		
<p>Sunday School:</p>	<p>Church Hall 2nd Sunday (Eucharist Service) in Church</p>	
<p>St George's Primary School:</p>	<p>Mr Andy Purcell, Head Teacher</p>	<p>01257 262323</p>
<p>Men's Fellowship:</p>	<p>2nd Wednesday 7.30pm, Church Hall</p>	<p>01257 426335</p>
<p>Mothers' Union:</p>	<p>2nd &amp; last Thursday 7.30pm, Church Hall</p>	
<p>Thursday Ladies' Circle:</p>	<p>1st &amp; 3rd Thursday 7.30pm, Church Hall</p>	
<p>St George's Rainbows:</p>	<p>Kelly Beesley Tuesday 5pm, Church Hall</p>	<p>0796 6909747</p>
<p>St George's Brownies:</p>	<p>Kelly Beesley Tuesday 6.15pm, Church Hall</p>	<p>0796 6909747</p>
<p>St George's Guides:</p>	<p>Anne Hesketh Tuesday 7.15pm, Church Hall</p>	<p>0771 2350472</p>
<p>Badminton Club:</p>	<p>Monday 8pm, Church Hall</p>	

<b>Dramatic &amp; Musical Society:</b>	<b>Friday 7pm, Church Hall</b>	
<b>Church Institute:</b>	<b>Open Monday to Thursday 2pm-5pm &amp; 7pm-11pm; Friday &amp; Saturday 2pm-12midnight; Sunday 12noon-11pm</b>	<b>01257 413107</b>

**Red Bank**

<b>Beaver Scouts: Monday 6.15pm</b>	<b>Jackie Beesley (GSL) 01257 270770</b>
<b>Scouts: Monday 7.30pm</b>	
<b>Cub Scouts: Tuesday 6.50pm</b>	
<b>Rainbows: Wednesday 5.30pm</b>	<b>Kate Walsh</b>
<b>Brownies: Wednesday 6.45pm</b>	<b>Lynsey Torrens</b>
<b>Guides: Thursday 6.45pm</b>	<b>Jackie Beesley 01257 270770</b>



I now cast this little Publication into your hands earnestly hoping that it may meet with your approbation, and enable you to spend a happy and profitable hour whilst reading over its pages".

**Rev. John Stock 1863, The Messenger first issue**

**Dear Brothers and Sisters,**

**It's time to think about coming back to church.**

We've had a very strange last twelve months, haven't we? Churches closed and opened; closed and opened again. We've missed major feasts of the Church. We've missed singing together, and celebrating together. One of the hardest parts of the last twelve months has been not being able to mourn together. We've lost some good friends, long standing members of our church family, and we've not been able to attend their funerals. The last twelve months have been very strange, and very difficult indeed. But, at last, we seem to be turning a corner. The vaccine is now being given to those in their forties, and all the high risk groups have been offered their first jab. Numbers of those infected is well down, and our procedures at church, as with so many other areas of society, are well bedded in. As I write, we can now meet people in the garden, visit the sick, and have a pint in a pub garden. So now it's time to think about coming back to church. Of course, many of you have been coming to church, but there have been so many others of our church family who have been rightly isolating, rightly protecting themselves and their families... and we've missed you, we've missed you very much. We are not back to normal yet, but we're getting there, so now is time to think about coming back to church.

But why, given that there is now so much online? In the past twelve months churches have been discovering how to live-stream worship services, how to film videos which look like they have been made by the BBC. We've found new ways to do Sunday School at home, and we have rediscovered individual and family prayer times. We've benefited from the Diocesan Advent and Lent Devotionals as we have owned our faith in new and deeper ways. So why not carry on as we are? Why come back together physically at all? Well, because the Christian faith is a physical faith. Though individuals have to own the faith for themselves, once they have opted in they do not, indeed cannot,

live the life of faith on their own. We need each other. We need to be encouraged by one another, challenged by one another, and supported by one another; and we need to do this physically, together, in the same building. We need to be baptised by physical water surrounded by our church family; we need to sing together and hear those brothers and sisters who are off-key and those whom have voices like angels. We need to kneel together, share peace face-to-face together. Most importantly of all we need to receive actual bread and wine together, bread and wine which have been prayed over and which become, in one way or another, the Body and Blood of Christ. These things we cannot do over Zoom, or on YouTube, just as we cannot properly mourn while watching a funeral online, or properly celebrate a wedding through a TV screen. We need to be together; and we need to receive Jesus together in the Eucharist. So, it's time to think about coming back to church.

For most of us that time is now. Church is much safer than Tesco's, the pub garden, or the non-essential shops which we can now frequent. So safe in fact that the government allowed churches to remain open when most places were shut. I understand that the first time you come back you may well feel hesitant, but we have a number of things going for us at St George's. We have LOTS of space. We can accommodate 200 people socially-distanced, and we are nowhere near that number at the moment. We have an excellent, and well trained, staff of volunteer marshals who have for many months now been ensuring that we all remain safe. And for those who want to start slowly and have time during the week, we have a small Wednesday morning service which usually has just 30 people attending. Church is safe to attend, and to stay spiritually safe we need to be back together; so now is the time to think about coming back. There will, of course, be a small number of people who will want to wait until 17th May

(the next milestone) or even 21st June (when all restrictions seem likely to be lifted). If you are in a vulnerable category, I completely understand, that you may wish to wait until after one of these dates, but needless to say, even these dates are not so far away. So it really is time to think about



The Revd Michael Print  
Vicar, St George's Chorley

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web: [www.stgeorgechorley.co.uk](http://www.stgeorgechorley.co.uk)

coming back to church. It's safe, we're ready, and we miss you... so please whomever you are, whether you've been coming all your life, or never stepped inside the doors of St George's, the time to come to church is now. We very much look forward to seeing you.

God bless,

M.G. Pirt

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## **The funeral service for Mrs Lynn Mary Carter, 29th March, 2021**

On behalf of myself and the family, may I offer our sincere and grateful thanks to all those who attended my wife's funeral service, and in doing so, supported us in our grief, at her loss. We could not have imagined the level of support you gave us, and it carried us all through a very difficult time.

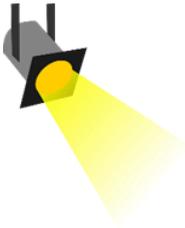
May I also recognise the leadership of the Reverend Mike, whose ministry and leadership was strong, supportive and passionate, both within Church, and at the cemetery. He led us where none of us could have gone alone.

I extend my gratitude to the Church Wardens, Stephen and John, for their support and direction of the congregation. They ensured that the ceremony was directed according to the restrictions that were in place, and their diplomacy was of the highest quality.

May The Lord walk with you all, each day, and be as supportive to you, as He is to us. Amen.

Gerald Carter

<b>Parish Magazine 2021 Dates</b>		
<b>Issue</b>	<b>Deadline (Sunday)</b>	<b>Available (Sunday)</b>
June	23rd May	6th June
July/August	20th June	4th July
September	22nd August	5th September
October	19th September	3rd October
November	24th October	7th November
December/January	21st November	5th December
Contributions for inclusion in The Messenger can be given to Chris Gibson or can be emailed to <a href="mailto:acvgibson@sky.com">acvgibson@sky.com</a>		



## **Spotlight on Safeguarding**

### **Grandparents Guide to Online Safety**

To help grandparents get to grips with life online, there is a new Grandparents Guide to Online Safety – offering practical advice to keep children and young people safe.

#### **Five quick online safety tips to get you started:**

##### **1. Know the rules and stick to them**

Get to grips with what rules are in place for your grandchild when it comes to their technology. Try and keep consistent messaging while you're looking after your grandchild so they have the same rules surrounding their technology use and what they can and can't do online

##### **2. Gen Up on Your Technology**

Get to grips with what devices your grandchildren use – from a smartphone to tablet and ensure you know how they work.

##### **3. Understand if the tech they're using is age-appropriate**

Talk to your grandchild about what apps, games and sites they are using and make sure you know that whatever they are doing is age-appropriate.

##### **4. Check Parental Controls**

Many parents set parental controls through their broadband – make sure that parental controls are in place on your broadband where necessary.

## **5. Be prepared if something goes wrong**

Have an action plan in place if they come across something that upsets them online – so they are able to come to you with concerns and together work out the best way to support them (whether it's reassurance, setting controls or reporting the incident)

Further information please visit:

Grandparents' guide to online safety - Internet Matters

**Victoria**

**Dr Victoria Gibson, Parish Safeguarding Officer**

[safeguarding@stgeorgechorley.co.uk](mailto:safeguarding@stgeorgechorley.co.uk)

## **Mothers' Union**

There isn't much to report this month as far as news is concerned. We still can't give an idea of when we will be physically able to hold a meeting again but presumably it will be after 12th June when all restrictions are fully lifted. Rest assured you will be kept informed though.

Although we are closed for meetings we are still looking to increase our membership and if anyone would like to join the Mothers' Union please don't hesitate to ask and you would be more than welcome. Full details will be given.

WASHBAG APPEAL. Thanks once again to everyone who continues to donate to our washbag appeal. Another 25 bags were made up in April making a total of 49 so far. Your generosity knows no bounds.

Gloria Dunseath

Branch Leader

From Mrs Janice Hurst (Daughter)

Please could my late Mother - Catherine Kettle be included in the May Magazine as she died on 30th May 2020, dearly loved by her Family.



**Please pray for those struggling with illnesses of any sort, and especially for:**

**Audrey Sibbald, Enda Corbett, Vicki Birkett, Janet Jones,  
John & Hilary Lowe, Jim Scanlon, Kiera Mansfield,  
Linda Lawrenson, Maye Byers, Rosalie Roberts, Kathleen Allman,  
Peter Jackson, Alice Blacklidge, Margaret Sellers,  
Nicola Starkie, Elaine Bruce, Irene Haworth, Agnes Suter,  
& Glenda Dibbs.**

**And for the family of  
Violet Taylor and Brian Addison**

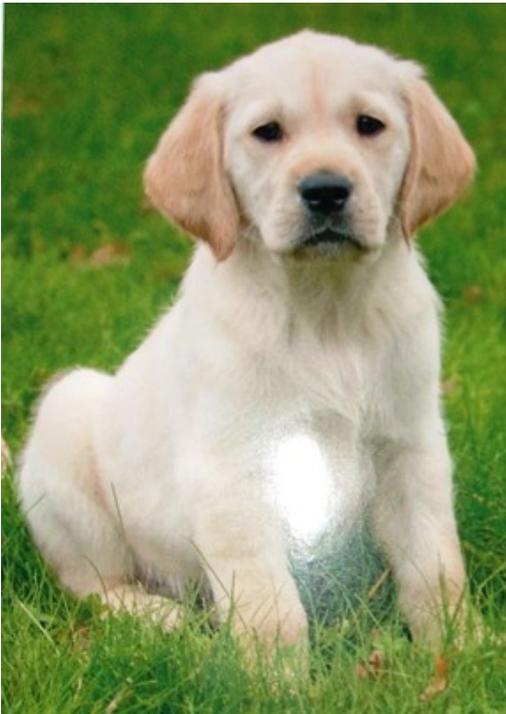
**who have died recently.**

**Mission Statement of St George's Church  
In the name of Christ,  
we seek to love and serve God and His people.**

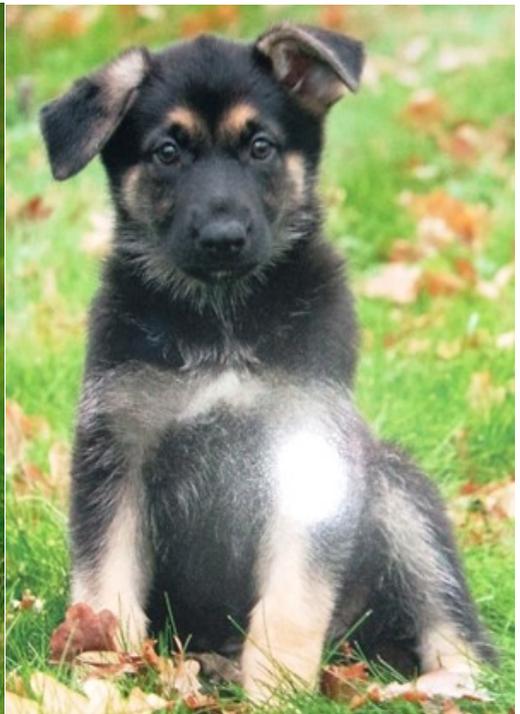
## **GUIDE DOGS FOR THE BLIND – SUPPORT A PUPPY.**

Hello everyone.

This is to update you on the idea which the Men's Fellowship Group had related to funding support for a puppy destined to become a fully trained Guide Dog. The idea came from the T.V. advert seeking such support. We had been concerned that the circumstances of 2020 had meant we had been unable to raise funds in support of any Charity so, it was decided to establish a project to "support a puppy" with a commitment over a two-year period. Colleagues in the Group were asked to express an interest in taking part, resulting in fourteen positive responses. We had originally intended to have teams of four, each supporting their own puppy. This being the case we were two people short to make up a fourth team. A request for help from the Thursday Ladies Circle resulted in two more recruits to make up the numbers. The problem we then encountered was that we had four



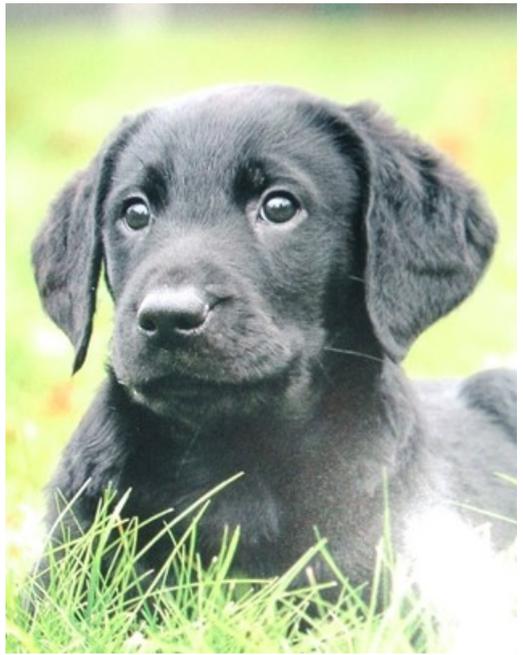
Murphy



Lola

teams but there were only three puppies to choose from – Murphy, Lola, and Lily It was decided to support all three with the option for an individual to express support for a particular puppy.

The good news is that we are up and running. It is understood that we will receive regular updates on the progress of the puppies so, the message is, “watch this space” for updates. We wish to express our sincerest thanks for all the support given to the venture: it has provided the opportunity for us to be “active” during the time when it has been so hard to meet.



Lily

Bill Greenwood

David Horsfield

Bill Walker

<b>Date</b>	<b>Cash</b>	<b>Stewardship</b>	<b>BACS</b>	<b>Children</b>	<b>Attendance</b>	<b>Communicants</b>
Week Beg: -	£	£	£	Includes mid-week		
21 <sup>st</sup> March	93.50	168.00	805	18	136	112
28 <sup>th</sup> March	76.50	312.00	805	17	121	82
4 <sup>th</sup> April	130.50	336.50	810	43	164	119
11 <sup>th</sup> April	66.5	495.30	810	20	120	95

## **The History Page ... Two Hundred Years Ago (continued....)**

Last month's page referred to the wainscotting on the aisle walls and that this panelling was recycled from the original rented pews at the head of the original nave. These pews were designed by Thomas Rickman in 1821 and installed in St George's chapel of ease prior to consecration in 1825.

Interestingly pews ( or "pues" as they were disparagingly termed) were widely frowned upon within a decade of the opening of St George's. They were too high, blocking the view of the service, too tolerant of furtive attention to secular matters and made it difficult for worshippers to kneel.

Those at St George's may have been gated but they were nothing like the great sided box pews of earlier centuries. The wainscotting and image below show that they were only slightly higher than the "free" seats behind. Furthermore these rented pews were vital for the

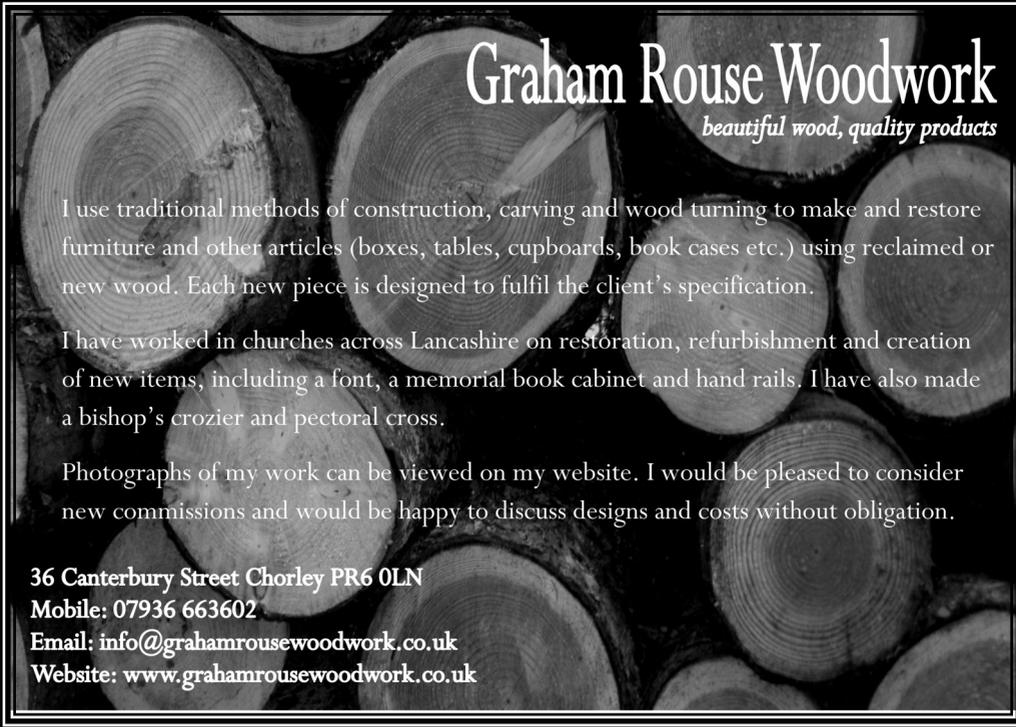


success of a Commissioners' church. Having paid for the church site and construction, the Commissioners had no funds spare for a minister's salary. Therefore the only solution was to rent some private seats. St George's ministers or curates were relatively fortunate in raising around £120 per annum from rents, although a reasonable minimum for an Anglican incumbent was held to be £150. Yet consider a sister church to St George's, namely that of St Mary Mellor, another Rickman church consecrated in 1828. This was situated in a village of poor handloom weavers, many committed to their Methodist chapel. Consequently the pew rents raised less than £30.

Bill Walker

## **Thank you**

To all our Advertisers who have once again given us their support even after a difficult year.



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# High Altar at St George's Church

## REMOVE CARPET AND FIND THESE!



The Pelican



The Phoenix

## **Garden Journal**

With lengthening days and warmer nights our garden spaces will be bursting with new growth. Do not forget however that there is still the risk of frost this month. To support this growth we do need to have prepared our borders well—removing weeds and sprinkling general fertiliser on the ground.

If preferred homemade compost can be spread 5—10 cm deep on bare soil around roses and perennials. This mulch traps moisture, insulates roots and suppresses annual weeds. Alternatives to homemade compost are available from nurseries mainly composted bark, manure or peat-free compost.

If you have not already done so you can now start off a new compost heap as last year's will probably be ready to use. Remember, only natural garden waste should be collected, no cooked food left—overs or kitchen scraps, and contents should be mixed, firmed and moistened at regular intervals.

Your garden tasks for this month will also include some of the following:-

- Deadheading - an ongoing task which encourages further blooms. Leave the stem and foliage of tulips uncut just snap off the faded flowers so that they fade naturally (as with other bulbs).
- Continue to feed Spring bulbs.
- Start to plant out such tender bedding plants as busy Lizzies, begonias, celosias, cineraria's, pelargoniums and petunias after hardening off at the end of the month.
- Start to plant up summer containers. Well rotted garden compost should provide sufficient nutrients.
- Prepare hanging baskets. Use a liner to hold the compost and retain water, making slits for trailing plants. Add multi - purpose compost mixed with slow release fertiliser and plant

up in layers. Soak well, then water often to help the plants to get established.

- Plant out hardened off sweet pea seedlings. Mix plenty of water retentive compost into the soil at the base of the trellis / wigwam, tying the shoots regularly with string as they climb.
- Put plant supports in early for herbaceous perennials, ornamental climbers and veg. Wind blown branched twigs are useful for this and are soon hidden by the foliage.
- Plant out hardened off salad plugs and leafy salad crops. Firm in well and keep well watered to prevent bolting.
- Hoe onion and garlic beds when the soil is dry.
- Prepare strawberry plants. Weed/remove oldest base leaves then spread a general fertiliser on the soil. Place fresh straw under the plants then protect them with netting over supports to deter birds.
- Lawn care. Begin to cut once a week and give a Spring feed. Treat weeds/moss before they spread and dig out dandelions. Over time gradually lower the blade height adding clippings to the compost heap.
- Earth up potatoes – start when stems reach 20cm tall. Mound up the soil around the stems to exclude light and encourage the formation of underground stems on which the potatoes form.
- Plant young basil plants around tomatoes to deter whitefly.
- Divide clumps of primroses. Do this every 2 to 3 years to rejuvenate them and prevent them from developing a woody centre.

A busy time but our May gardens will reward all our efforts as we relax in our favourite garden chair with that brew and biscuit.

Keep safe

Yours truly Truggs.





# ST GEORGE'S

Church of England Primary School

## From the School

Welcome back after the Easter half term break. Last term was a very challenging term for us all but as always, the Senior Leadership Team and I was full of PRIDE and admiration for our whole school community. We hope that all our friends at St George's Church had a peaceful and restful two weeks and hope that, as restrictions have started to lift, you have been able to see more of loved ones and friends and spend more time outside.

I thought I would let you know about how well the children, overall, have settled back into school. We are bombarded with messages in the news and on social media about the impact of the pandemic on all of us, and particularly on children and young people. One of the most important things to us was to ensure that upon the return to school, children were welcomed back to somewhere familiar, friendly and as

close to normal as we can provide, given the ongoing guidance on safe working. What we have found, with an overwhelming majority of children, is that they are really pleased and happy to be back at school. We are seeing children who are keen, inquisitive and curious and most definitely up for learning. There is a real buzz and thirst for learning across the school with the children motivated and enthusiastic about their studies.



## Just Cook!

Cooking is a great way for children to foster their creativity, communication and responsibility. Prags at Cultural Education believes that the decisions children make about food will affect how they eat for the rest of their

lives and is passionate about getting kids excited about cooking and healthy Indian food.

Each child participating in the online club is sent home a family pack of spices (sometimes other ingredients) to make four portions. There is a recipe/method leaflet enclosed which suggests the additional ingredient that families need to purchase before the class. Anything that needs to be prepared in advance is clearly marked on the sheet, so parents are aware.



Each Friday using Zoom from the comfort of their own kitchen, each child learns a delicious new recipe, they practise their cooking skills, and at the end of the session have a delicious meal to enjoy with their families– all while cooking along friends and teachers from school.

The club has been such a hit among our children and families. Prags has kindly offered to deliver some additional sessions during the Summer term for those who sadly missed out on a place last half term.

### **Quotes from Facebook**

“Thanks so much we thoroughly enjoyed the cooking session this afternoon and can't wait for next week! ☐ just going to scrub the garam masala from the hob. ☐”

Thank you! Jack and Max loved it (even if I found it bit stressful with two lads, knives, water, chilli powder and a hot hob!) they felt very proud of themselves at the end! “Thank you, the cooking class was brilliant! The curry was a big hit in the Phillipson house!”



“This week’s chicken jalfrezi and pilau rice was delicious and a big hit with everyone!!! Thank you Prags!” 👍🙏 Thank you to all our friends at St George’s Church for your continued support and prayers during this difficult academic year in school, this is very much valued and appreciated by all the staff.

Louise Darlington

Assistant Headteacher

## **Special Thoughts**

**It's amazing and incredible,  
But it's as true as it can be,  
God loves and understands  
us all**

**And that means YOU and ME -**

**His grace is all sufficient  
For both the YOUNG and OLD,  
For the lonely and the timid,  
For the brash and the bold  
His love knows no exceptions  
So never feel excluded,  
No matter WHO or WHAT  
you are**

**Your name has been included.  
Helen Steiner Rice**

**Sponsored by Alan Fairclough**

*If any reader would like to have their own  
thought please contact  
Chris Gibson.*

**Loving Father help me  
focus on those things You  
want me to be concerned  
about and leave the rest  
of the universe to You.**

***Sponsored by  
Kathleen & Brian Allman***

**Let us not love with words or  
speech,  
but with Actions and in Truth.**

**1 John 3. 18**

**Sponsored by  
Gerald Carter**

**The “Lord” is the strength of my  
life,  
of whom then,  
should I be afraid.**

**Psalm 27-1**

***Sponsored by  
Edna Corbett***

## **A Little Brain Exercise**

Write a sentence using every letter in the alphabet in alphabetical order.

If 'x' is a problem you could cheat a little by leaving out the 'e' which comes at the beginning of a lot of 'x' words, eg 'xercise'.

Diane Sparks

## **Water Aid Jars of Change Appeal**

Thank you to all who saved money during Lent to give to the Jars of Change Appeal. The total raised from money brought into church and online donations has come to £562 with a possible £35 more from Gift aid. Your money will help provide clean water and sanitation to some of the most deprived people in the world.

WaterAid has teams in 28 countries, working with partners to transform millions of lives every year by improving access to clean water, toilets and hygiene.

Since 1981, they have reached over 27 million people with clean water. But 785 million people in the world – **one in ten** – still do not have clean water close to home.

While installing taps and toilets is essential to their work, they also lobby governments to change laws, link policy makers with people on the ground, pool knowledge and resources and rally support from people and organisations around the world, making lasting change happen on a massive scale.

They use your donations in the best way possible. In every £1 spent, 76p goes on delivering services and making change happen and 24p on fundraising and governance.

Thank you once again for helping this worthy cause.

Elizabeth Wilding

Chair of Mission and Discipleship Committee

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## **Annual Meetings –APM/APCM**

Many readers will be aware that each year our Church holds what has simply become known as the "Annual Meeting". In fact, there are two parts to this heading, the first being the Annual Parish Meeting (APM) and secondly the Annual Parish Church Meeting (APCM).

Each meeting has its own special features and may be attended by different sets of people, although it is normally the same people at each meeting.

**The problem is that we do not have a date, time, or venue for your diary for the meeting covering 2020, although it is likely to be toward the end of May. In the meantime, it is possible to think about the people whom you wish to serve St. Georges, so please put on your thinking caps in order that when we do have a date you already know who you want to be your representatives.**

The **APM** is for anyone who is on the on the electoral roll of St. George's parish OR that they live in the parish and are on the local government register of electors. The purpose of this meeting is to appoint **TWO CHURCH WARDENS** who do not have to be members of St. Georges, but who live within the parish boundary. All who fall within this heading have a right to vote if circumstances require it.

The **APCM** meeting is only for those people who are on the Church electoral roll; their task on this occasion will be to elect **FIVE members** to the Parochial Church Council (PCC), along with the appointment of an Independent examiner and the appointment of Sidesmen. It is also to receive the Annual Report on the proceedings of the PCC in particular, and the activities of the parish generally, the Financial Statement of the PCC, and a report on the "fabric, goods and ornaments" of the church.

If you have anyone whom you would wish to be nominated for any position, talk to them, get their agreement, and find someone else who will second the nomination.

Bill Greenwood, Secretary to the PCC.



"I don't care what your name is. Don't walk on the water while I'm fishing!"

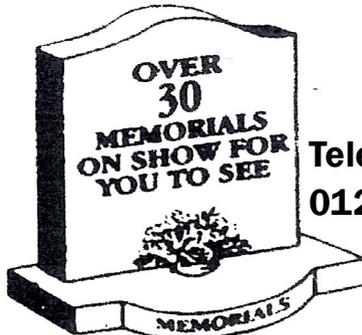
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