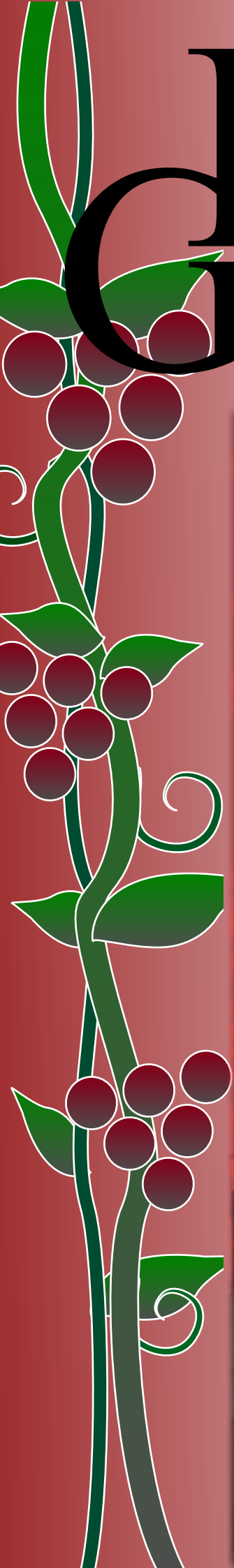


August 2021 **£1**

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



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

Vicar	Rev. Canon Elaine Chegwin Hall <i>vicar@stgeorgestockport.org.uk</i> 456 9382	Praise and Play	Parish Office 480 2453 For 0-4s and their carers. Meet every Monday in term time, 9-11 in church. Story time at 10am.	Choir	James Hibbert 07365 519207 <i>actingdirectorofmusic@gmail.com</i> Practise Thursdays 7.30-9pm in the vestry. Sing on Sundays at 10.15am and 4pm services.
Assistant Curate	Rev. Dr Janine Arnott <i>rev.janinearnott@outlook.com</i> 612 1048	St Gabriel's		Church Cleaners	Meet on 1st Tuesday of every month 9.30-12 noon.
Reader	Peter Hall 456 9382	Messy Church	Rev. Canon Elaine Chegwin Hall 456 9382 For children and their parents. Meet occasionally, usually Saturday mornings.	Church Flowers	Marjorie Lees 483 3676 Jean Hayden (<i>donations</i>) 483 2367
Churchwardens	Andrew Regan 440 0408 Hazel Jenkins 483 4679	Uniformed Groups		Church Gardeners	Walter Stead 430 2449 Meet on Tuesdays 9.30-12.30.
PCC Secretary	Andrea Webb Reilly 07400 883938	with connections to St George's		Coffee Mornings (Weds)	Olwen Smith 483 6548 Wednesdays from 10.30am in the Parish Room.
PCC Treasurer	Andrew Regan 440 0408 <i>treasurer@stgeorgestockport.org.uk</i>	Rainbows	Trisha Brown 07403 353 175 Sue Kirkland 07854 101 918 For girls aged 5-7. Meet Fridays 6.15-7.30pm in the Parish Room.	Cursillo	Usually meet on last Wednesday of the month. 7.30pm at different venues.
Parish Office	Marion McCall 480 2453	Brownies	Rachel Lockett 775 2755 Voni Walker 07956 674 241 For girls aged 7-10. Meet Thursdays 6.30-8pm in the Parish Room.	Handbells	Andy Clark 483 3703 Play for All-Age and Taizé services, plus other special events. Ringers of all ages (with or without experience) always welcome. Rehearsals in church arranged around the ringers' availability.
Magazine Editor	Richard Parr 439 8644	Guides		Linen Guild	Pat Rigley 487 1999 Maintain the church's linen.
Safeguarding co-ordinator	Will Hesson 480 0630	Beavers	Bill Frith 439 3232 For boys and girls ages 6 and 7 Meet Fridays 6-7pm at rear of Trinity Methodist Church.	Magazine Editorial Group	Richard Parr 439 8644 Meet monthly to plan future issues.
Website	www.stgeorgestockport.org.uk	Cubs	Bill Frith 439 3232 For boys and girls ages 8-10½. Meet Fridays 7.15-8.45pm at rear of Trinity Methodist Church.	Mothers' Union	Pat Durnall 483 4837 Meet on 2nd Monday of the month in church at 2.15pm.
Webmaster	Peter Hall 456 9382	Scouts	Elizabeth Goodred <i>Elizabeth.goodred@stockportscouts.org.uk</i> For boys and girls ages 10½-14. Meet Wednesdays 7-9pm at rear of Trinity Methodist Church.	Singing Group	James Hibbert 07365 519207 <i>actingdirectorofmusic@gmail.com</i> Sing about once a month at the All-Age Service, with one practice beforehand. All welcome.
St George's Primary School		Other Groups and Activities			
Headteacher	Deborah Grindrod 480 8657	St George's			
St George's		Bell ringers	Anne Mayes 485 6477 Practise Mondays 7.45-9pm. Ring on Sundays 9.45-10.15am. Meet in the tower.		
Deputy Wardens	John Hardy 01663 764 462 Will Hesson 480 0630	Bible Reading Fellowship Notes	Janet Neilson 483 9025 Notes are ordered on request.		
Verger	Ian Staley 456 3093	Bible Study Groups	<i>contact the clergy</i> Study groups and courses are arranged from time to time.		
Director of Music	James Hibbert 07365 519207 <i>actingdirectorofmusic@gmail.com</i>	Chancel Guild	Meet on 2nd Tuesday of every month, 9.30-12 noon to care for the chancel.		
Bookings for Parish Rooms	Parish Office or 480 2453 Judith Swift 483 8681				
St Gabriel's					
Secretary	John Sutcliffe 286 2301				
Bookings	Parish Office 480 2453				
Children's Activities					
St George's					
Children's Corner	Available for children (and parents) during services. Equipped with books, crayons and soft toys.				
Sunday Club	Louise Clark 483 3703 For children of nursery and school age. Meet during the 10.15am Parish Communion service most weeks during term time.				
Junior Choir	James Hibbert 07365 519207 Practise 6.30-7.30 on Thursdays in the vestry; sing on Sundays for 10.15am service.				

Front cover photo

St George's Church at sunset

photo by

Hannah Lucy Whitehouse

Services and events in August:

see page 17

From the Editor:

Dear Readers,

I AM WRITING this editorial for August in weather that really feels like August – in Greece, or perhaps even the Sahara! I must say that I have always enjoyed sunshine and hot weather, with the opportunities it makes for sipping cool drinks outside, while relaxing with a good book! It is nice, however, to have a cooler temperature at bedtime than we are having at the moment. Windows opened wide, no bedding on, but it still is a bit like sleeping in a sauna.

Margaret and I have just had the delight of welcoming our second granddaughter, Seren (Welsh for ‘star’) after an emergency call to dash down to Leighton Buzzard to help look after Alison and Paul’s older child, Rhian (‘Maiden’, you may have gathered that Paul is Welsh!). Rhian is usually a very good sleeper, but on one night when we were there, we were awakened at 2am with screams from her room. She was red in the face, and sweating profusely, which the experts (Margaret and Alison) tell me is abnormal for an 18-month-old toddler. Rhian proceeded to drain a huge cup of water with obvious satisfaction, which, naturally, required her to have her nappy changed. After this, she was wide awake, and decided that the day had begun early. In an hour or so, though, after wonderful games of throwing her toys out of the cot so I could catch them, hiding behind the cot while giggling loudly, several stories, and much cuddling, she eventually accepted my advice that Mr Penguin and Mr Bear were VERY tired, and needed to go to sleep. So she did, too, just as the dawn was breaking!

On a more serious note, I know that many of us have suffered from sleeping problems during the pandemic. Waking up in the middle of the night seems to have been a particular problem for many people. The newspapers have been full of articles offering advice about how to cope with disturbed sleep, although I haven’t read any suggesting throwing things around the room! I did, however, take notice the other day when I read David’s words in Psalm 4 where, despite having serious problems and dangers, he ends the Psalm with the lovely affirmation, ‘In peace I will lie down and sleep, for you alone, O Lord, will keep me safe.’

This, of course, is a theme developed later in Matthew’s Gospel, in words of Jesus that are among my favourite verses in the Bible. He tells his listeners – and us – how to find rest and comfort:

‘Come to me, all of you who are weary and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you. Let me teach you, because I am humble and gentle at heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy to bear, and the burden I give you is light.’

I hope that despite the heat, your sleep in August is sound and restful.

I should very much like to thank all our contributors to this ‘extra’ issue, as well as to Andrew and Angela for all their extra work. We hope that all our readers are keeping well. Don’t forget the sun cream if this heatwave continues!

God bless.

Richard Parr.

Editor.



What’s Where...

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P 10	Garden Gnomes Update and Recipe of the month		



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Elaine writes:

For some years now, Peter has been the executive secretary of the triennial clergy conference for Chester Diocese, an experience he likens to herding cats!

To ease the strain, he makes every effort to purchase tee shirts with

some motivational slogan – well it motivates him anyway!

Such as:

I can only deal with one person a day. Today is not your day and tomorrow's not looking good either.

Sarcasm is just one of the services I offer.

And on a good day:

I love it when a plan comes together.

I had a cunning plan about our 125th anniversary at St George's and wondered about getting tee shirts for the children immediately involved in any musical performance and maybe explore the idea of special 125th anniversary tee shirts for adults – not to everyone's taste, I know.

I nipped into our local shop in Davenport to meet Zube, and frankly what he doesn't know about tee shirt production isn't worth knowing. He gave me all kinds of options, some of which were on display in the shop. Some were simple, some were so complicated, the wearer would have been like a walking poster.

What if all our clothes made us like a walking poster? What if they sent out a message, as clearly as if it was written on them, saying how we felt on that particular day?

Full of sunshine, we might colour co-ordinate the message with lemon and orange fabric or, feeling rough, then perhaps grey or taupe.

What would we choose to write, and would we be brave enough to wear it?

The thing is that people don't always notice what we wear, and sometimes we cover up with a shirt, jacket or coat so that any message might be hidden, but it doesn't mean that it's not there.

In pastoral ministry, I have come across so many people who could well have been wearing a tee shirt that said, "Fragile, handle with care". It is probably concealed under layers of other clothing and it's easy to trample over someone's pain or anxiety without even knowing it. I remember that when I was a school nursing sister, one of my colleagues came into the clinic looking truly despondent. Another, rather more chirpy and slightly more insensitive colleague, said, "What's the matter with you? Has your husband left you?" and he had. Cue for the tumbleweed to drift across the office as we sat in stunned silence...

Just because we don't have a message emblazoned across our bodies, doesn't mean to say that we shouldn't handle people with care. That includes everyone we encounter – those we think we know really well and those who we have just met.

It means we need to recognise the possibility of their pain, the hesitancy of their anguish, and the discomfort of their fear and embarrassment, to stand in their shoes and to look out through their eyes.

When I was in India with Christian Aid, I went to visit a project called Prajwala, meaning enlightenment. The workers stood at the side of those who were marginalised and oppressed despite significant risk to themselves. In an office, tucked away to the side of the complex, there was an embroidered sampler with the following words which we would do well to remember. It's called "Take Off your Shoes."

Take off Your Shoes

Our first task in approaching:

another people
another culture
another religion

is to take off your shoes
for the place we are
approaching is Holy.

Else we may find ourselves

Treading on another's dreams.

More serious still

we may forget
that God was there
before our arrival.

Every blessing,

Elaine

Parish News Roundup

Holy Baptism

11th July Archie McKinna
18th July Charlie Graham Rowan
25th July Idris Anthony Norman
Dixon

Holy Matrimony

none last month

Funerals

30th July Irene Dorothy Moss (at the Rowan Chapel)

Burial of Ashes

25th July Jack and Wendy Campbell

Communion Flowers were sponsored as follows:

4th July from the Hayden family, with love, for Mark
11th July from the Garlick and Lupton families, in memory of Arnold and Jean Lupton
18th July in memory of Wynne Knight Crook, from all her family
25th July from the Hayden and the Alcraft families, in loving memory of Vera Fallows
from Walter Stead and family, in memory of Pauline Stead

Prayer Chain

The Prayer Chain is a group of people who undertake to pray regularly for those in need or distress, for those facing tough decisions, anxious times or who are in need of support and spiritual protection.

This is a confidential ministry where the group knows the first name of an individual, or sometimes only their situation, but they offer it to God in prayer and supplication.
(*Philippians 4:6*)

You are very welcome to ask for prayer. Phoebe MacLeod is the group

Parish News Roundup

leader but requests for prayer can also be sent to Elaine:

vicar@stgeorgestockport.org.uk,
marked PRAYER CHAIN.

In addition, we are always grateful for new members to be part of this ministry so please contact Elaine in the first instance.

Olga Freda Jones

Olga was a much-loved member of our church community who died last April when the coronavirus restrictions were at their height. This meant that many people who would have liked to attend her funeral were unable to do so.

We are now in a position to hold a service in church in Olga's memory on Saturday 18th September at 1pm which will include Holy Communion.

Refreshments will be available after the service.

Stephen, Matthew and Naomi would like to invite you to come and join them as we remember Olga, and have requested that a retiring collection be made for the life and work of St George's Church.

Baptism Helpers

Think back to when you were new to our church, or a guest at a different church, and try and remember how it felt.

"Where do I sit? What books do I need? Am I allowed to walk around if my children become fractious? What will people think? Where is the toilet?"

What you, hopefully, will remember, is someone with a smiling face, a welcoming manner and an ability to put you at your ease.

You will recall how much you enjoyed the experience. In fact, you had such a great time that you wanted to tell others about it.

Parish News Roundup

That's the experience of people who have come to our church and then they get back in touch with me to say, "Can you baptise my child? Everyone was so lovely."

That's a great accolade and is due, in the main part, to all of our sidespeople, stewards, vergers and helpers at our services.

Significantly, it's a frequent comment levelled at the whole experience of baptism and is due to the stalwart team who come and assist.

In recent weeks, we have had a flurry of baptism applications, which is a wonderful situation to be in. We are almost running out of availability and have had to add baptisms in on other days and times. Whilst it makes life busy for the clergy, we are mindful of the extra duties, willingly taken on by our fabulous baptism team.

Whilst they are not complaining, I am personally concerned about all the extra work they have been asked to do and believe me, they have more than stepped up to the plate.

So, I'm going to ask you, the reader, if you feel you can be of help.

Requirements are as follows:
smiley, kind and welcoming and with an ability to put yourself in someone else's shoes as they enter our church, maybe for the first time.

Full training, regarding the practicalities, will be given.

Be in touch with me as soon as you are able.

Thank you.

Elaine

Baptisms, Banns and Marriage bookings:

Please contact the vicar.
Telephone: 0161 456 9382
or email:
vicar@stgeorgestockport.org.uk

September 2021

Grapevine magazine dates:

Deadline copy date: **Fri 20th Aug**
Committee meeting: via email

Children's Corner

THROUGHOUT LOCKDOWN, we have endeavoured to keep a Christian presence at the forefront of all that we do; predominantly this has been online and has reached thousands of people over the months.

As lockdown eases, we have taken the decision to set aside a couple of things, one of which is Messy Church Craft/goes outdoors.

Janine has done a sterling job, starting at her dining room table, and then going outdoors helping us to explore our environment in new and ever more creative ways. She has mastered the art of film making, ensuring that each session is fun, dynamic, accessible and relevant to scripture.

Whilst we will miss that, we are hoping to start our children's work in person now that schools are back and running well. This is still at an exploratory stage and information will be shared as soon as things have been fleshed out.

So, thank you to Janine for all the hard work she has put into making Messy Church such a success.

For the time being, Messy Church Bake Off will continue on 30th July and Storytime at 5pm on 1st August.

Advance dates: September 3rd (Bake off) and September 5th (Storytime).

Compline (Night Prayer)

There has been a steady following of Compline on Sunday evenings at 9pm which has been appreciated by many.

The quiet, reflective service has helped people to let go of whatever has happened during the day, and to offer it to God and to place themselves in his hands before they retire to bed.

The decision to set this service aside is based on the increasing demands on ministry staff needed in church, which stretches out an already fully-filled day.

Clergy, in particular, have juggled scheduled services on a Sunday along with baptisms, burial of ashes and also

weddings, and we have seen the emergence of some of our evening services. We have been joined by those live streaming the services, for which we are grateful.

The final Compline service will be on 25th July as noted on Google Calendar accessible via the website, and so there will be none from August onwards.

We do appreciate that this will cause disappointment for some but encourage people to access the Compline service online at: churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/join-us-service-daily-prayer

Contentious Christianity

THROUGHOUT MAY and June, we hosted six online discussion sessions called Contentious Christianity. The aim of the sessions was to provide a forum to learn more about and discuss some of the issues that challenge and inspire us in the Church today. We wanted to nudge ourselves outside our comfort zone, and it certainly did that!

We invited guest speakers from across Chester Diocese to talk to us about issues in which they had a special interest, and we asked our guest speakers to pose some questions that would challenge us and encourage us to think more deeply about the issues. The sessions we held covered the following topics:

1. The Church and Gender (Julie Withers and Nikki Eastwood)
2. The Church and Women (Liz Shercliff)
3. The Church and the State: Power and Politics (Ian Bishop)
4. The Church and Power (Jenny Bridgman)
5. The Church and Life (Chris Burkett)
6. The Church and Fractured Communion (Rob Munro)

Sessions were chaired by either Elaine, Janine, Peter, or Chris Dawson. Each session opened in prayer and then the guest speaker gave a talk about their topic. Each talk

lasted approximately 30 minutes. We then had the opportunity to discuss and debate some of the issues raised by our guest speakers.

Although each session was different, they were all informative and gave us much to think about. The guest speakers were all amazing and we owe them a huge thank you for providing such inspiring and thought-provoking sessions. Have you ever wondered why the Church of England is the state church? Or how the Church of England is addressing issues of power, gender and inequality? Maybe you have never thought about what it means to be a human or in communion with the wider church.

These are some of the issues we grappled with. But don't worry if you missed the sessions as they were all recorded and uploaded onto the St George's Website via YouTube. You can access them here: stgeorgestockport.org.uk/contentious-christianity/

Over 70 people requested information about the live or recorded sessions and approximately 20-30 people attended each session live. Zoom has certainly given us opportunities to explore new ways of learning and growing together so I am sure we will be seeing more online sessions in the future.

Janine

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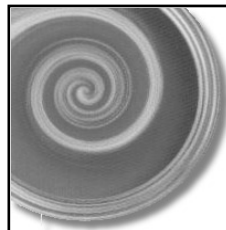
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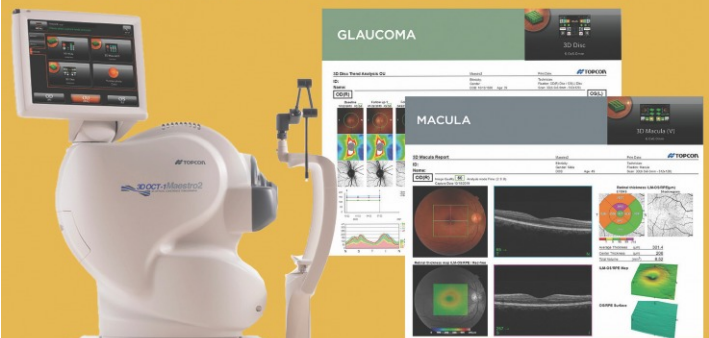
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Sudoku puzzle: easy

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

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Sudoku puzzle: intermediate

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

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(Answers to all puzzles are on p. 17)



"Due to our failure to secure a holiday-relief organist, the next hymn will also be sung to the tune, *Chopsticks*."

Crossword

1		2			3		4		5		6		
7					8								
	9			10		11		12		13		14	
15													
16													
17	18			19	20		21						
			22									23	
24								25					
26							27						

Across

- 1 Of Moses (6)
- 4 'You have been weighed on the — and found wanting' (Daniel 5:27) (6)
- 7 Where Jesus performed the first of his miraculous signs (John 2:11) (4)
- 8 Roman emperor who ordered all the Jews to leave Rome (Acts 18:2) (8)
- 9 Member of a conservative Jewish party in the Sanhedrin which believed there was no resurrection (Acts 23:8) (8)
- 13 South London Mission (1,1,1)
- 16 Sure of one's own ability (2 Corinthians 11:17) (4-9)
- 17 'At this the man's face fell. He went away — , because he had great wealth' (Mark 10:22) (3)
- 19 Airs used (anag.) (8)
- 24 'The Lord is my — , I shall not be in want' (Psalm 23:1) (8)
- 25 'He has sent me to — up the broken-hearted' (Isaiah 61:1) (4)
- 26 At or towards the rear of a ship (6)
- 27 Cross-carrying evangelist and world traveller, — Blessitt (6)

Down

- 1 Ridicule (Luke 18:32) (4)

- 2 Encased in strapped-on light shoes (Song of Songs 7:1) (9)
- 3 Cambridge Inter-Collegiate Christian Union (1,1,1,1,1)
- 4 'Father, give me my — of your estate' (Luke 15:12) (5)
- 5 Assistant (4)
- 6 On a par (John 5:18) (5)
- 10 Credo (anag.) (5)
- 11 Beaten with a rod (5)
- 12 The fourth of Job's 'comforters', who deferred making his contribution because of his junior status (Job 32:6) (5)
- 13 Chosen as a temple attendant, he was described by Ezra as 'a capable man' (Ezra 8:18) (9)
- 14 'Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where — and rust destroy' (Matthew 6:19) (4)
- 15 Employs (4)
- 18 Associated with penitence for sins, along with sackcloth (Matthew 11:21) (5)
- 20 Association of South-East Asian Nations (1,1,1,1,1)
- 21 Sub-continent to which Baptist missionary pioneer William Carey devoted his life (5)
- 22 Recess at east end of a church (4)
- 23 One of the nine sons of Beriah (1 Chronicles 8:15) (4)

Garden Gnomes Update

OUR SMALL BAND of gardeners continues working hard to keep the church grounds as neat and tidy as possible. Sadly there is only so much we are able to achieve and jobs need to be prioritised. Please bear with us if you see weeds growing where they shouldn't, or trees which could do with trimming back. We are doing our best!

The removal of borage from the oval beds and the corner bed near the A6 has taken several weeks. Whilst attractive to bees, this herb, which is a native to the Mediterranean region, is very invasive and can grow up to six feet tall with very deep roots.

We've had some very dry weather, so James has been busy with the watering can. We bring our own coffee and still manage to find a sheltered spot (or a sunny one) where we can sit down and put the world to rights.

I have recently returned from a much delayed holiday in North Cornwall where the hedgerows have been in full bloom, looking absolutely beautiful. We were lucky to visit the open-air Minack Theatre near Land's End on a lovely, sunny day and enjoyed a production of 'The Cameraman'. The theatre has been cut out of the rocky cliff, mostly by one woman – Rowena Cade – in the nineteen thirties. The gardens are described as 'a subtropical paradise on a Cornish cliff'.

The gardens are a relatively recent addition and are heavily influenced by South African, Mediterranean and South American flora. In the early years, the spaces around the theatre consisted of gorse, grass and bare rock. In the 1990s a visitor centre and cafe were built, leaving an unsightly patch of bare ground. Some planting of this tiny area resulted in the present beautiful gardens evolving.



The coastal situation of the Minack is such that a lot of plants deemed tender throughout the rest of the country thrive in the clifftop setting. Being south-facing it is an all-day suntrap with high levels of UV light, has its own microclimate and rarely gets a frost. The wind is described as its most damaging foe, and during the winter, cold easterlies can cause havoc. (Having visited on a cold, wet day in October I can certainly endorse this). The predominant succulents around the theatre are aeoniums, an evergreen succulent from the Canaries, whilst South African plants such as agapanthus and osteospermum provide stunning summer colour.

There are endless jobs to do in the garden during August, not least finding a friendly neighbour to look after your watering needs if you do manage to get away on holiday.

- Prune the wisteria.
- Don't delay summer pruning those fruits trained as restricted forms.
- Deadhead flowering plants regularly
- Try to water using grey recycled water or stored rain water
- Collect seeds from garden plants.
- Harvest sweetcorn and other vegetables as they become ready.
- Continue cutting out old fruited canes on raspberries.
- Lift and pot up rooted strawberry runners.
- Keep ponds and water features topped up.
- Feed the soil with green manures.

Enjoy your gardens during the rest of the summer months and, please, if you find after doing all the above jobs, that you still have a couple of hours to spare on a Tuesday morning, be sure you would be welcomed with open arms in the church grounds. *Gnome Kate*

Recipe of the month: Turkey Stroganoff

This is a light dish, suitable for the summer weather we hope for! It's also very quick and easy to make.

- 1 tbsp olive oil
- 500g pack skinless turkey breast, diced
- 300g mushrooms
- 1 tsp paprika
- 195g can sweetcorn, drained
- 2 tsp wholegrain mustard

- 300g soured cream
- parsley for garnish

Heat oil in a large frying pan and fry turkey for 3 mins. Add mushrooms and paprika and fry for another 5 mins. Add sweetcorn and mustard and cook for 1 minute more.

Off the heat, stir in the soured cream, heat through and season.

Pamela Ferguson

Jodi Picoult – my Favourite Author

DURING THE various lockdowns I have thoroughly indulged myself in the pleasure of reading!

Having read all my new books, I then started on re-reads: all the Harry Potter books were rattled through last summer and I then began on the 20 something Jodi Picoult novels which I have gathered over the years.

I was first introduced to her by my sister-in-law in Canada. We were holidaying there with them and I had finished reading the books which I had taken with me. Not being over keen on American writers I wasn't too sure if I would like her writing. However I soon found out that, apart from 'diapers' and 'faucet' she wasn't overly 'American', and became a firm fan – we even queued up at Borders (when the shop was in the Peel Centre) to have a copy signed by her.

This time round, I decided to read the books in order – she usually writes one a year and to date has published 26! They are all sitting on my bookshelves.

Jodi Picoult writes popular fiction which can be characterised as family sagas. She often centres storylines around a moral dilemma, or a drama which pits family members against each other. She has covered a wide range of controversial issues including abortion, assisted suicide, race relations, eugenics, LGBT rights and school shootings.

I have found all her books to be compelling page-turners and a thoroughly good read. Each time I finish a book I think 'that's my favourite'.

Give her a go! I note with eager anticipation that a new novel is due for publication in November 2021.

Kate Stephenson

Jean is always up for a spin on the dancefloor

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The Minack Theatre

IN HER Garden Gnomes article, Kate mentions her holiday in Cornwall and her visit to the Minack Theatre. She also includes a stunning photo of the gardens there. For those of you who have neither heard of The Minack theatre nor visited it, I thought I'd give you an insight into its history.



Minack means a rocky place, 'meynek' in Cornish, and, although the theatre looks as though it's been there forever, it is actually less than a hundred years old. It is perched on a rugged cliff face, overlooking Porthcurno Bay, south west Cornwall, and was built almost entirely by hand (and the occasional stick of dynamite) as it was no place for diggers and heavy machinery.

Minack's 'master builder', Rowena Cade, was born in 1893. The First World War and the death of her father brought an abrupt end to her genteel life in Cheltenham. In the early 1920s she moved to Cornwall and bought the Minack headland for £100. Here she built her home, Minack House.



In 1929, Rowena became involved with an open-air production of Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. It was such a success that the company repeated the production the following year. When they then wanted to stage *The Tempest*, Rowena offered them the use of her



cliff garden for the performance. Now she had to create a practical acting area and somewhere for the audience to sit.

Rowena and her helpers worked largely with hand tools to shape the theatre we see today. She described how they cut up the rocks and manhandled them to make the first terraces on the steep cliff side.

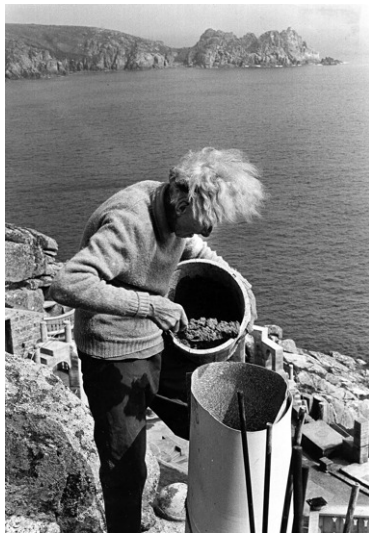
'... my gardener, Billy Rawlings, [and] another Cornishman cut up [huge boulders] by hand, much as the English cut butter. A few slices fell into the [sea] as they split, followed by some good dialect expressions of regret; most were handled into position inch by inch with bars, on the slippery slope where a careless step would have meant a ninety foot fall into the churning sea. I filled in behind them with earth and small stones.'



Building Minack took Rowena Cade the rest of her life. Most of the structures visible today are created from concrete mixed with sand from the beach, which she carried up the cliffs in sacks.



Rowena was an artist as well as a builder. Throughout the theatre she etched complex designs into the wet concrete with an old screwdriver. Many of the seats bear the names and dates of plays performed there. She continued working on her theatre well into her eighties. She died in 1983, a few days before her ninetieth birthday. A granite plaque half way down the theatre marks her achievement, but her true memorial is found in every stone and every vista.



The technical facilities have evolved dramatically. In the early days, the ticket office was a picnic table in Rowena Cadell's garden: now there is online booking. Battery lamps and car headlights lit the first productions: today the complex lighting system is capable of wonderful effects, although moonshine over the sea is still the greatest lightshow.



Sustainability is high on the list of priorities at Minack. Mains electricity is from renewable sources, supplied by Good Energy. Low-energy light bulbs are used, also hand dryers and measured-flow taps in the toilets. Recyclable materials are used wherever possible and there is onsite recycling. Non-plastic food containers are provided for food and drink, and customers are rewarded for bringing their own sustainable drinks containers. All garden waste is removed by a green waste company, or composted on site. The use of herbicides and fungicides is limited and slug pellets are

not used. There is a wildflower meadow next to the theatre, for the benefit of the pollinators.



Minack is a subtropical paradise, featuring rare plants from across the world, and should be on every garden lover's bucket list. Despite the rough sea spray and the occasional Atlantic gale, the gardens thrive and there is always something new to enjoy. A living tapestry of plants



carpet the cliffside, woven through winding paths and rock walls. Add the breathtaking vista of the ocean beyond and the gardens are a perfect harmony of nature and art.



*Information and photos obtained from Vanessa Jackson, Marketing Manager and the website: www.minack.com
Rosie Stead*

Lost – and found!

ALL DICTIONARIES must continually revise their content, adding words that are new to the language and removing those no longer in common currency. The majority of criticisms made usually concern the purported need for new entries. Since January 2020, for example, the OED has accepted *shero* meaning *heroine*, *cakery* (cakes and baked goods) and *cakeage* (price paid for the cutting and serving of cake brought in by customers, usually at a wedding or birthday celebration.) There can be uncertainties over spelling or usage of a new term: an example is *zhuzh/josh/zooch*, usually a verb followed by *up*, and meaning ‘to make minor adjustments or additions to something in order to render it more attractive’.

In 2007, however, it was the removal of words that caused dissension. The cuts made by the Oxford Junior Dictionary and reported on the 6th December 2008 in the Daily Telegraph involved four main subject areas: people, food and farming, religions, and plant and animal life. There was also a sad little trio in the category, “In the faerie worlds”, *dwarf*, *elf*, *goblin*.

“Regarding food and farming” is a strange collection of words: 13 of the 35 could be said to relate mostly to rural life (e.g. *blacksmith*, *bray*, *bridle*, *brook*) but 17 are names of foods found in any supermarket (*almond*, *apricot*, *bacon*, *beetroot*) and how *county* was put in this group is hard to imagine!

“Regarding people” removed *coronation*, *duchess*, *duke*, *emperor*, *empire*, *monarch* and, somewhat oddly, *decade*.

“Regarding religions”. The list: *abbey*, *aisle*, *altar*, *bishop*, *carol*, *chapel*, *christen*, *disciple*, *ministry*, *monastery*, *monk*, *nun*, *nunnery*, *parish*, *pew*, *psalm*, *pulpit*, *saint*, *sin*, *devil*, *vicar*, can be seen both as a rueful reflection of our times and a sharp reminder of reality. Why, though, does the list say, “religions”? Only Christianity seems to be targeted here! And why, in an otherwise alphabetical list, should *devil* be placed between *sin* and *vicar*? On another level it seems ironic

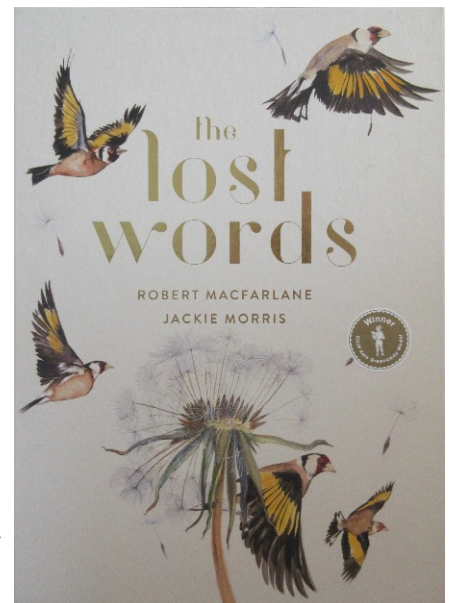
that *aisle* should be included here – what about Pam Ayres’ “Nowadays we worship at Saint Tesco”?

There appears to have been remarkably little reaction to the removal of any of the words in these categories. Objections were voiced by the Catholic News Agency on the 10th December 2008. In reply, Vineeta Gupta, in charge of Children’s Dictionaries at the OUP, cited reduction in church attendance, and the growth of multiculturalism. She is quoted as saying, “Changes in the world are responsible for changes in the book.”

The removal of 82 words from the group, “Regarding the world of plants and animals”, had a very different fate, but seems to have caused the slowest of slow burns, possibly reflecting the gradual awareness of our duty and allegiance towards our planet. Seeing the whole list, from *acorn* and *adder* to *willow* and *wren*, (www.lostwordsdorset.org.uk/words+lost) is helpful in understanding people’s consternation and anger. It explains the strength of emotion being expressed in 2015-18 by naturalists, writers and artists who grouped together to produce an open letter. Their influence will undoubtedly spread as it already has in Dorset’s schools, and their talents will inform society’s attitudes in many areas of the natural world.

In particular, Robert Macfarlane and Jackie Morris were inspired to produce possibly the most beautiful book of the decade, “The Lost Words” (Hamish Hamilton).

Angela Foulkes



Plant-Based Pantry: Sesame, Black Bean & Peanut Tofu

Vegan (strict vegans may object to the honey, in which case use maple syrup)

This began life as a Deliciously Ella recipe, but over time I’ve adapted it to my own methods and tastes, which also – rather satisfyingly – makes it cheaper and more environmentally friendly. There are many brands of tofu, but the only one I personally like is Tofoo, which is easily obtainable in any big supermarket (and made in the UK, from sustainably-sourced soy beans). This is quick, easy, and a big favourite of mine. As always, feel free to experiment to make it a big favourite of yours.

Serves 2

400g extra-firm tofu

3 tbsp of sesame oil, or any nut/seed or flavourless oil
2 tbsp of tamari (although normal soy sauce is fine)

Salt

100g broccoli, cut into bite-sized pieces (or any green vegetable you care to try. I like it with cavolo nero – black kale cut into strips and blanched for a couple of minutes)

4 spring onions, finely sliced

2 garlic cloves, crushed

½ tsp of chilli powder (mild or hot, and more or less of it, as you prefer)

1 tbsp black pepper (ideally freshly ground. Think of the grinding as therapeutic)

2 tsp honey (or maple syrup for strict vegans)

2 tsp rice vinegar

(continued from previous page)

2 tbsp peanut butter (I like it crunchy and sugar free; the original recipe called for almond butter)

1 x 400g tin of black beans, drained and rinsed

1. Preheat the oven to 200°C or 180°C fan.
2. Dice the tofu into bite-sized squares. Combine in a bowl with 1 tbsp of the tamari, 2 tbsp oil and a generous pinch of salt. (You can prepare this earlier in the day and refrigerate until needed). Scatter into a baking tray and cook for 15 minutes.
3. Blanch the broccoli (or whichever vegetable you're using) by placing in a bowl of boiling water and draining after 3 minutes.
4. Warm the final tbsp of oil and add the spring onions, garlic and chilli powder; cook on a medium heat for a minute or two, then add the other tbsp of tamari, the pepper, honey and rice vinegar and cook for a further minute.
5. Add the peanut butter and stir in, then add the black beans, broccoli and tofu. Heat together for five minutes until the flavours have melded and serve.



Andrea Webb Reilly

St George's School, Year 6, 2020-21

IN SEPTEMBER the children arrived excited and eager to accept the challenges of Year 6. During the autumn term we focused on WW2 and immersed ourselves in a variety of books associated with this including: Father, Memorial, Rose Blanche, Letters from the Lighthouse, The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas to name but a few. We held an Evacuee Day where the staff and children embraced the whole day by dressing up as evacuees: singing wartime songs; rag-rugging; practising taking cover for air-raid sirens; listening to Vera Lynn; singing along with Flanagan and Allen and cooking wartime recipes with our rations. It was a thoroughly enjoyable experience for all involved.

At Christmas we were determined that the children should have their 'Rite of Passage' at St George's through their re-enactment of the twelve days of Christmas. The children dressed up and learned sign language in order to be able to sign the song with COVID restrictions in place. They were amazing and "sang" their hearts out and made a special video which was then sent to all their adults.

In January whilst it wasn't possible for us all to attend school we used our wartime spirit to 'Keep Calm and Carry On'. The keyworker children who were in school continued to receive their lessons in person whilst the remainder of the class had lessons filmed for them and a teacher ready on Class Dojo to answer or explain any of the work to them. The response was incredible. Our parents/carers were so supportive and helped us enormously. Each week we met with the children on Zoom to keep up to date with all the goings on. During this term our studies took us to South America and we learned lots about this fascinating continent.

When everybody returned it was so lovely, and we were able to talk about our hopes and aspirations for the future as the children transition from St George's to their respective high schools. The link below will take you to our Chester Diocese Leavers' Service which was held virtually on the 9th July. It is especially amazing, because it contains some of the children from Year 6 at St George's. We hope that you enjoy it. The children were truly blessed as on Monday 19th July Rev Canon Elaine Chegwin Hall and Mrs Grindrod took our Leavers' Service at St George's and it was absolutely beautiful, a truly fitting celebration of the children's wonderful years at St George's.

See the Diocesan Year 6 Leavers' Service here:
www.youtube.com/watch?v=P-uJZFNf6Wk





ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH, STOCKPORT

MUSIC LIST – AUGUST 2021

Music listed may be subject to change

Sunday 1st August – The Ninth Sunday after Trinity	
10:15am – St. George's Service with Baptism	
Setting:	Mass of St. Thomas – Thorne
Hymns:	165 Christ is the King! O friends rejoice 505 Lord, Jesus Christ, you have come to us, 375 Amazing grace, how sweet the sound 455 Guide me, O thou great Redeemer,
Anthem:	Ave verum corpus – Elgar

Sunday 8th August – The Tenth Sunday after Trinity	
10:15am – St. George's Service	
Setting:	Mass of St. Thomas – Thorne
Hymns:	305 I come with joy, a child of God, 467 How sweet the name of Jesus sounds 278 Alleluia, sing to Jesus! 591 The kingdom of God is justice and joy,
Anthem:	Teach me, O Lord – Attwood

Sunday 15th August – The Eleventh Sunday after Trinity	
10:15am – St. George's Service	
Setting:	Mass of St. Thomas – Thorne
Hymns:	401 Come, let us join our cheerful songs 362 Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord! 383 Be still, for the presence of the Lord, 81 Lord, for the years...
Anthem:	Magnificat in D – Brewer

Saturday 21st August			
	1:00pm – Wedding & Nuptial Mass (BCP)		
	Responses:	Smith arr. Darke	Psalm: 128 [Buck]
	Setting:	A People's Mass – Murray	
	Hymns:	See Order of Service for details	
	Anthems:	If ye love me – Tallis	

Sunday 22nd August – The Twelfth Sunday after Trinity	
10:15am – St. George's Service	
Setting:	The Canterbury Service – Barker
Hymns:	423 Fight the good fight with all thy might; 626 Ye holy angels bright 309 Let all mortal flesh keep silence 578 Stand up, stand up for Jesus,
Anthem:	Be thou my vision – Chilcott

Friday 27th August			
	3:00pm – Wedding Blessing		
	Hymns:	See Order of Service for details	
	Anthem:	If ye love me – Tallis	

Sunday 29th August – The Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity	
10:15am – St. George's Service with Baptism	
Setting:	Said Service
Hymns:	To be confirmed



ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH, STOCKPORT MUSIC LIST – AUGUST 2021

Saturday 28th & Sunday 29th August 2021
St. George's Church Choir tour to Worcester Cathedral

Saturday 5:30pm: Choral Evensong

Preces & responses: Ayleward
Psalm: 118 [Smart, Cutler, Smart]
Canticles: Evening Service in B flat – Stanford
Anthem: Be thou my vision – Chilcott
Voluntary: Fanfare – Leighton

Sunday 10:30am: Cathedral Eucharist

Setting: The Canterbury Service – Barker
Psalm: 15 (No Gloria) [Hopkins]
Motet: Teach me, O Lord – Attwood
Voluntary: Tuba tune – Cocker

Sunday 4:00pm: Choral Evensong

Preces & Responses: The Ripon Responses – Wilby
Psalm: 119 (1-16) [Hopkins]
Canticles: Evening Service in D – Brewer
Anthem: If ye love me – Wilby
Voluntary: Pavilioned in splendour – Lloyd



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Services at St George's in August

Services in church, with congregation:

Sundays: 8am Holy Communion (BCP)
10.15am Parish Communion (also live streamed)

Wednesdays: 9.30am Morning Prayer (also live streamed)
10am Holy Communion (BCP)

Services which are live streamed only:

Mondays to Fridays: 9.30am Morning Prayer (also in church on Wednesdays)

The church will also be open for individual private prayer in the chapel on Wednesdays and Sundays from 11am to 12 noon

Note: there will be no Choral Evensong at St George's in August (see choir tour to Worcester above)

Online events on Facebook:

Friday 3rd Sep: 1pm Messy Church Bake Off
Sunday 5th Sep: 5pm Story Time with Nicola

Puzzle solutions

Easy Sudoku solution:

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

Intermediate Sudoku solution:

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

Crossword

M	O	S	A	I	C		S	C	A	L	E	S	
O		A				I	H		I		Q		
C	A	N	A			C	L	A	U	D	I	U	S
K		D				C	R		E		A		
	S	A	D	D	U	C	E	E		S	L	M	
U		L		E		A		L		H		O	
S	E	L	F	C	O	N	F	I	D	E	N	T	
E		E		O		E		H		R		H	
S	A	D		R	A	D	I	U	S	E	S		
	S		A		S		N			B		E	
S	H	E	P	H	E	R	D			B	I	N	D
	E		S		A		I			A		E	
A	S	T	E	R	N			A	R	T	H	U	R

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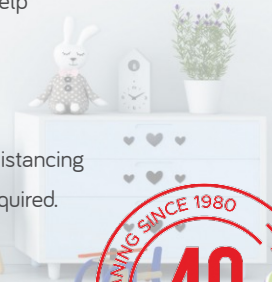
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September 2021 Grapevine magazine dates:

Copy deadline: Fri 20th August
Committee meeting: via email

Printed by: Frank Aspinall & Co, Building 4 Unit 5,
Tameside Business Park, Windmill Lane, Denton,
Manchester M34 3QS. email: frankaspinall@hotmail.com

Contributions to the Editor: Richard Parr. Tel. 0161 439 8644.
Please e-mail contributions to: ricmar77@gmx.com and also
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