

CROSSROADS

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

Sharing God's Love



ST GEORGE'S

Sunday
Monday
Tuesday

Parish Communion at 10.30am
Evening Prayer on Zoom at 5.00pm
Parish Communion at 10.00am
Evening Prayer at 5.00pm

Wednesday

Morning Prayer at 8.15am on Zoom
Evening Prayer at 5.00pm

Thursday

Evening Prayer at 5.00pm

ST MARGARET'S

1st Sunday
2nd Sunday
3rd Sunday
4th Sunday
5th Sunday
Thursday

Evensong at 5.00pm
Parish Communion at 9.00am
Evensong at 5.00pm
Parish Communion at 9.00am
Parish Communion at 9.00am
Parish Communion at 10.30am

OCTOBER 2025

75p

RACHEL OUR VICAR WRITES...

Exciting developments... Youth Work funding and Nuns!

Last month I wrote about something of the joyful activities that happened during the Summer in our Benefice, including the Holiday Club. I'm delighted to say that this was also featured in the Diocesan news bulletin at the beginning of September, with a title "Guardians of Ancora Holiday Club: It helps us to remember that God loves everyone." If you haven't seen the article, do see the print-out at the back of church, or search on "Tuffley" on the diocesan website www.gloucester.anglican.org to find it!

There is also mention of our Youth Group and the growth of young leaders in the article. As you will be aware, we have been very surprised by the enthusiasm and eagerness of young people to come along on a Monday evening to St George's. This has not been without its challenges, and I am eternally grateful to all those who have given of their time and energy to volunteer with the group anytime over the last two years. Many of the young people who started coming along in September 2023 as new Year 7s (11-year-olds) have returned this September, now in Year 9 (13-year-olds) and we have one Year 10 pupil who is now coming along as a young leader, as well as a few in Y7.

Over the summer, we were approached by the Youth Work Development Co-ordinator for Gloucester. It seems that Tuffley is a place where there is less youth provision than other areas of the city. They had heard about our Youth Group and wanted to offer us support to continue and further expand to a second group. There is some funding with this partnership to hopefully employ a part-time youth worker. If we were able to find match funding from another source (possibly Sylvanus Lysons) and/or some generous donations within our benefice, we would be able to appoint a 2.5 day a week youth worker – who could also support our wider children, young people and family ministry. If you'd like to know more about any of this, please do speak to me or Gioia.

Another exciting development we heard about over the Summer is that a community of Anglican Franciscan Sisters have bought a house in Podsmead! They are yet to move in, but have bought the house; two are moving from a Franciscan house in Southwark and one from Leicester. The move has been led by prayer and the Spirit, with them feeling called by God to come to Gloucester. We look forward to welcoming them when they arrive and to working together to share God's love in Podsmead, Tuffley and Whaddon.

Please do pray for both these exciting developments, and especially for the Sisters, as they prepare to move.

With every blessing to you all,
RACHEL

UNITING OUR TWO PARISHES

As I explained at the APCMs this year, after many years of the two parishes working together in one benefice, the PCCs feel it is the right time to unite together as one parish. We have so much to celebrate across our benefice, with two uniquely special church buildings and a joint community of God's people. It also makes sense, since our two PCCs meet jointly already, and we have one Treasurer and one PCC Secretary for both churches. Following the APCMs people expressed support for the idea, and so the legal processes have now begun to help make this happen.

In due course, there will be a proposal document (known as a Pastoral Scheme) sent out from the Diocese, proposing the parish of Gloucester St George and the parish of Whaddon be united to form one new parish. We need to decide on the name of this parish, which can be the same as the benefice title, 'Gloucester St George with Whaddon' or we could ask to insert 'Tuffley' and/or 'St Margaret.' There will be an opportunity for anyone to comment on the proposal – the draft Pastoral Scheme will be displayed on both churches' main doors for at least three weeks. There will then be some further legal processes, and we will be notified of the official date of unity – hopefully before next year's APCMs!

If anyone would like to know any more about this now, or to share your views, please do be in touch.

RACHEL



From Crossroads in November 2011...

ALL CREATURES GREAT AND SMALL

You may be interested to hear about a Pets Service which I was asked to conduct during August this year.

It was my third Family Service at Long Marston which is way up in the northeast extremity of the diocese. To get there you go up what used to be the A46, under the line from Paddington to Worcester, keep going through Mickleton and eventually across the Warwickshire border and there at last is the pretty church of long Marston with its half timbered tower.

They have been going through a vacancy, and having agreed to help them out with one Family Service, I finished up doing three. The Pets' Service sounded too good to miss I have always wondered what they are like.

The Pets Service took place out in the churchyard, and luckily the weather was kind to us. A sound system was set up including a CD player for the hymns. The congregation I suppose numbered about 35, plus about a dozen dogs and several teddies. I must say I was rather hoping there would be a wider range of animals as in the famous Pet Service from the 'Vicar of Dibley'.

We wondered about taking Tilsit, our cat, but she would not have relished a tour hour sojourn in her basket, just to peer at some strange doggies and people! The only remotely funny thing that happened regarding the animals was a series of howls during one of the hymns apart from that the dogs were extremely well behaved. Coffee was served after the service, and everybody seemed to enjoy themselves.

The reading was John 10, 11-18 about the Good Shepherd, and I spoke about our relationship with animals, not only the pets which we cherish at home, but also working animals all over the world.

While the Church has not done a great deal in encouraging or providing liturgy for services involving animals, this is actually a rich field, where one could talk about all sorts of aspects of theology including creation and love and respect for God's creatures.

As I commented in my short address (I felt it wise to keep everything, fairly brief!) there isn't much in the bible or in Common Worship about pets, but we

do know from historical evidence that man has domesticated dogs, cats and a wide range of other animals since ancient times. Apparently, Queen Elizabeth I had a pet guinea pig, for example!

Perhaps this is something which we might think about for the future. Either St George's or St Margaret's would lend themselves well to a Pets' Service weather permitting! I think it might attract a lot of interest, and it would be fun.

JONATHAN

Let's see what happens at our own Pets Service, do join us!



HARVEST SUPPER SATURDAY 11TH OCTOBER

St George's are hosting a Harvest Supper which will be held on Saturday October 11th, starting at 6.00pm with a sherry reception. The cost is £15 to include a two-course meal, followed by coffee and mints, along with some form of entertainment. Please bring your own drink. There will be a raffle. It promises to be a fun night, so book the date in your diary!

Places are limited to 40 people, and we need your money by Sunday October 5th. If you've not paid by then and we have other people on the reserve list, they will be offered the place. Come and celebrate the season of Harvest and enjoy some splendid food.

Many thanks
Sylvia & Helen



SUNDAY 12th OCTOBER - HARVEST FESTIVAL

9.00am St Margaret's

10.30am St George's

4.00pm Family Celebration at St Margaret's

Donations towards both Foodbank and Bundles are invited this Harvest so, Foodbank show on their website that items such as ***Tinned Corned Beef, Tinned Pork/Ham, Sanitary Pads, UHT Long Life Semi Skimmed Milk, Tinned Ready Meals, Tinned Fruit, Tinned Vegetables, Tinned Custard & Rice Pudding*** are just some of the items they would like. Bundles have requested any **toiletries** please. We will ensure that the items you donate will be passed on the Foodbank and Bundles.



6.15pm until 9.30pm

Tickets are £9.50 for adults, and £4.50 for children

This immersive installation marks the much-anticipated return of Luxmuralis to the Cathedral, following the sell-out success of Light Eternal in 2023 and reflects on the sacrifices of the First and Second World Wars, offering a message of peace and hope for the future. As we commemorate the 80th anniversary of VE and VJ Day and approach the season of Remembrance, this moving experience invites you to pause, reflect and remember.

Brought to life through moving imagery, as well as snippets of recorded poetry read by Oscar-winning actor Eddie Redmayne, Poppy Fields offers a moment of stillness in one of Britain's most beautiful sacred spaces. Created by the world-renowned projection art gallery, Luxmuralis.

Gloucester Cathedral is pleased to welcome the Royal British Legion to Poppy Fields. Each evening, visitors will have the opportunity to make a donation for a poppy in support of the upcoming Remembrance season. The Royal British Legion's commitment to Remembrance resonates with the themes explored in the show.

Entry to the event is by 15 minute time slots. First entry will be at 6.15pm and last entry will be at 8.45pm, with the event ending at 9.30pm. We ask that you book a timed entry slot in advance, but you are welcome to stay and enjoy the installation for as long as you like!

You will need to book your tickets in advance

Don't forget

Refresh

**on Tuesday 21st October will be at
Grange Baptist Church at 7.30pm**

**Church in Tuffley Litter Pick 25th October
at 11.30am? from Grange Baptist Church
(Please check meet up time)**



‘REFLECT’
A new time of contemplation
and prayer coming to St George’s in October

As part of our worship in the next few months we are excited to offer a new time of quiet prayer that we are calling ‘Reflect’. This will run on Wednesday 22nd October at 7.00pm, Monday 10th November at 11.00am and Sunday 14th December at 3.00pm at St George’s, and we hope will provide a relaxed space of peace and restfulness. Each Reflect will involve periods of quiet, interspersed with some music or readings, followed by a short time of prayer and blessing.

What will make Reflect slightly different from usual offerings of quiet prayer is that there will be a consecrated host (that is, a circular wafer that has been consecrated in the Eucharist) that you will be able to see on the altar throughout. This host reminds us of God’s love for us and presence with us, and we are invited to look upon it and bring ourselves, and the prayers we carry on our hearts, into the loving presence of God.

There is nothing in particular you need to do or be in this time. There will be some short reflections and prayers printed off that you are welcome to read and reflect on, but you can also use this time simply to rest in the quiet, looking at the host and seeing in it the love and promise of God to be with us always. Our time together will also involve some set prayer (following the pattern of our daily prayer, or of Compline) and there will be a part of the service where we are blessed with the host as a sign of God’s love for us and God’s presence with us.

This practice of taking time to pray or even just sit quietly in the presence of a consecrated wafer is sometimes called ‘adoration’ or ‘exposition’ of the sacrament, but what it really means is our choice to take time to sit with others in the presence of God. It may sound like quite a strange idea – I know it did to me the first time I was introduced to do it – but I think in actually experiencing it we can see that there is something deeply beautiful and peaceful in just taking this time to be with God. We remember Psalm 46:10 where God says to ‘Be still and know that I am God’: our times of quiet allow us to give space to really focus our prayer and attention, to take time out from whatever may be going on for us and to just rest with God.

You are warmly invited to any of the sessions of ‘Reflect’ over the next few months, and if you have any questions do, please get in touch.

ALL MY JOURNEY THROUGH returns...
On Sunday 26th October at 4.00pm in St George's

All my journey through - an informal cafe style service where Rachel will share a little about her faith journey and life before coming to Tuffley, accompanied by some hymns and songs to join in with - Jonathan will be our compere! The service will last about an hour and there will be refreshments available.



Be part of our Light Party on Tuesday 28th October from 4.30pm



TIME TO REMEMBER

Sunday 2nd November 2025 in St George's Church at 3.00pm

Each year, at about this time, we unite with our fellow Church in Tuffley members and hold a special service to remember all those who have died and whose funerals we have conducted in our Benefice. On behalf of all at St George's and St Margaret's, may I extend a warm invitation to you, your family, and friends to attend this years' service.

As usual this will be a simple reflective service, suitable for all ages, with some favourite hymns and readings. During the service, the names of all those who have died will be remembered, and you will have an opportunity, if you wish, to light a candle in memory of your loved one(s).

There will be sheets out at the back of both churches soon so you can write the names of those to be remembered on. So, if you know of someone who might benefit from this service; please do let them have the details.

All the information you need is there, but if in doubt, as always, please speak to Rachel.



SATURDAY 29th NOVEMBER
from 12.00noon until 3.00pm

We've had our first planning meeting and have identified what we would like to take place on the day and in some cases identified who might be able to help us with preparations and running stalls. But please don't wait until you are asked; offer your help and assistance for our Christmas Fair **now!**

Apart from the stalls we would like to be run by our congregation we will once again offer to sell table space to selected sellers as we did last year. If you know of someone who might be prepared to have a table to sell Christmassy gifts on the day, please let Darrell know and he will send them out a table booking form and hire terms and conditions.

Please keep your eyes on our weekly Signpost where requests for donations will appear but you will already be aware that we will be looking for bottles and new items for the Grand Raffle and tombola. Our Mothers' Union would like donations of cake for their Cake Stall, please speak to Sylvia Chamberlain directly re cake donations.

We are **not** running a Bric-a-Brac stall this year.

Please make sure that **Saturday 29th November** is in your diaries or in your phone reminders.

Thank you
Rachel, Gioia, Dawn, Jonathan T, Helen, Sylvia E and Darrell



ADVENT...

This year, the PCC has decided we will offer a few one-off events during Advent to help us think more deeply about the Christmas message, rather than the traditional set of Advent Groups - this is particularly in response to feedback that there is often a lot going on in December! Watch this space for more information, dates, and times for the one-off events!!



ST GEORGE'S AND ST MARGARET'S ADVENT/CHRISTMAS WORSHIP 2025?

Sunday 30th November; 5.00pm Darkness to Light Service at St Margaret's

Saturday 13th December; 3.00pm Christingle at St Margaret's

Sunday 14th December; 3.00pm Quiet, reflective time at St George's

Friday 19th December; 6.00pm Candlelit Carol Service at St Margaret's

Sunday 21st December; 4.00pm Carols and cake...

... a relaxed service at St George's

Wednesday 24th December; 10.00am Christmas Family Fun at St George's

Wednesday 24th December; 11.30pm Christmas Communion...

... (Midnight Mass) at St George's

Thursday 25th December; 10.00am Christmas Communion at St Margaret's...

... a relaxed, informal all age focussed worship

David Crunckhorn is arranging for Carols at the Pike for Church in Tuffley

There may be changes to the above list if there is they will be publicised in Signpost or Crossroads as soon as they are known.



A GLIMPSE OF OLD GLOUCESTER

If you walk from St John's Lane to Hare Lane, on your way to where Sainsbury's used to be, you'll have seen the top of an old church spire, standing next to the footpath. It came from St John's, Northgate (now a Methodist church).

The spire was in a bad way, and the top was taken down in 1910, a new wooden cupola and ball being put in its place, which you can see today. Here is a picture taken from Northgate Street, showing the new top being lifted into position in July of that year.

There's a lot of detail. The pony and trap has stopped, perhaps because the photographer's tripod was in the way. The two ladies in the trap are looking back to watch the cupola being moved into position. Being sheathed in lead, it weighed three quarters of a ton and must have been a tricky job for the steeplejacks. There is almost no scaffolding, just ladders and a small working platform at the top. Today's safety officers would have a fit!

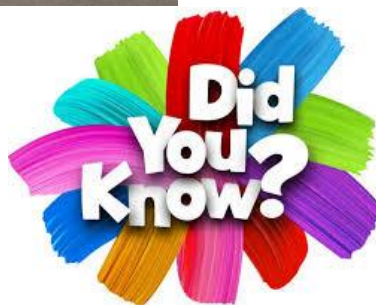
Note the tram lines, which are 3'6" gauge. Gloucester had horse trams from 1879 to 1904, then electric trams till 1935. The trolley wires unusually are fixed over to one side: they were later changed to be over the lines. Note also the handsome gas lamp on the left. There is no sign of any motor vehicle, but several horse drawn vehicles are to the left and a hand-barrow in the distance. On the right you can see the Imperial Inn, with its tiled front, advertising Mitchell's and Butler's ales. That is still going, though the area is very run down now, so many businesses having closed. I have taken a present-day photo for comparison.

The 1910 picture is from an album which belonged to the Revd Edward Prichard, who was chaplain to the redoubtable Bishop Headlam. Prichard later

became Vicar of the City Centre churches of St Mary de Crypt, St Michael's at the Cross, and St John's. There are some other interesting pictures in the album, which with the editor's permission might likewise be reproduced as "then and now" in Crossroads.

The album was given to me by Prichard's daughter, Angela, who I met by a happy chance while on a short stay in Clevedon, where she now lives. It will be presented shortly to Gloucestershire Archives in Alvin Street.

JONATHAN



- Snakes can predict earthquakes
- Lego mini-figures have the largest population on Earth!
- Astronauts grow taller in space!
- We spend at least a year on the toilet in our lifetime.
- It snows metal on Venus!



GOSPEL TRUTH BIBLE QUIZ

Questions based on the Gospel readings for August

- 1 Someone in the crowd said to Jesus, "Teacher, tell my brother to ____ the family inheritance with me". What is the missing word?
- 2 Jesus responded, " Friend, who set me to be a ____ or _____ over you". Can you identify either of the missing words?
- 3 In passage of scripture from which Q1 & Q2 are taken what was Jesus warning people against?
- 4 Jesus took ____ and ____ and ____ and went up on the mountain to pray. Who did Jesus take up the mountain?
- 5 Peter spoke, and a cloud came and _____ the disciples and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. What did the cloud do to the disciples?
- 6 In giving praise to God Mary said, "My ____ magnifies the Lord." What is the missing Word?
- 7 Mary went on saying, "His mercy is for those who fear Him from _____ to _____" The missing word is repeated. What is that word?
- 8 The disciples were arguing who should be the greatest among them, but Jesus said, "The ____ of the Gentiles lord it over them." To whom was Jesus referring?
- 9 Jesus was invited to eat at a Pharisees house and noted how the guest chose the places of _____. What places were the guests choosing?
- 10 Jesus said, "When you give a banquet, invite.....". Jesus then gave a list of those who should be invited. Can you remember any of the four groups mentioned?

The answers are printed later in Crossroads

***Check out October's Crossroads on our website,
to get the full colour version***

BY SYLVIA...

I want to smile again, without feeling guilty.
I want to miss you, without coming undone.
I want to celebrate your life,
without my heart breaking.

If there's a good side of grief,
I've yet to reach it. It's not getting any easier.
Time isn't helping. Some days I feel as if the pain deepens.

The roads ahead seem longer without you walking them beside me.
It's like I'm resistant to joy.
Pushing back against my own happiness.

I'm afraid that healing means forgetting,
and I'm not ready to leave.
Let me sit here for a little while longer.
There are things I needed to tell you
that I never got the chance to say
Things you deserved to hear....

I'm sorry.
I'm sorry for not doing more.
If it was possible to bear your pain,
I would have.
Even when distant, my world was better because you were in it.
I was always proud of you.
My love for you is constant,
unconditional, eternal.
There are pieces of you I'm discovering in me.
Little gifts you unknowingly left behind.
Even your absence is filled with moments worth revisiting.
Maybe instead of learning how to live without you,
I'll just bring the best of you with me.
Maybe we're not meant to move on,
we're meant to move with.

SYLVIA EVANS

CHURCH IN TUFFLEY

Refresh - Father Gerry Walsh referred us back 1700 years to July/August 325AD and the introduction of the Nicene Creed. After an opening prayer, a short video told of the formation of the Creed made by the Council of Nicaea. Following the video we sang the hymn 'Faith of our Fathers;' followed by readings from scripture.

Father Gerry then gave a short talk centred on an Icon dating back to the 15th century, which is displayed the Holy Trinity Church in Novgorod, we then reflected on aspects of the Nicene Creed today.

The one undivided Spirit of God who dwells in all.

The meeting, which was attended by a dozen people from the various CiT churches concluded with us reciting the Agreed Creed of Nicaea dated 325AD, followed by The Lord's Prayer, The Grace, and the hymn 'We have a Gospel to Proclaim'.

English Martyrs hosted a Cream Tea on the 14th August. 36 people, including 12 from our Benefice attended. Conversations on each table were lively before Tea/coffee and sandwiches were served. Conversations were much quieter. Conversations were even more quiet when plates with scones, a strawberry, fresh cream, and pots of jam appeared. Having enjoyed this feast Pastor David Crunkhurn played the piano and led everyone in singing many songs we knew so well finishing Edelweiss. More tea was offered plus cakes before we all thanked our host Nikki and her team and Pastor David for leading the singing. Everyone was full and happy.



Come along to **COFFEE POT** in the small hall on a Tuesday at 9.30am
Tea/Coffee and a light breakfast, and plenty of chat!
Old friends meet new friends
What more could you want?

ST GEORGE'S

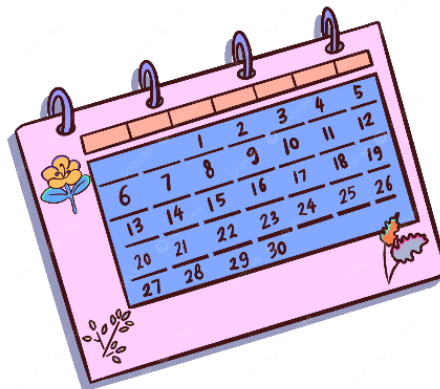


Sunday 14th September was our most recent 100 Club Draw.

And the winners were: 1st prize Darrell Stevens who won £30.00
2nd prize Sylvia Evans who won £20.00
3rd prize Hillary Brammer who won £10.00

Congratulations to this month's winners!

Of course, if you would like to know more about this draw, please speak to Darrell as soon as possible. Good luck to all participants in our last draw for 2025 on Sunday 14th December and in all future draws.



Should you be arranging an event/meeting in our church or centre don't forget to check with Laura, our Parish Administrator so space can be booked, and your event/meeting can be added to the diary and avoid you/or your group turning up and finding that someone else has booked.



ST GEORGE'S CHURCH CLEANING CREW
Saturday 4th OCTOBER from 10.00am onwards

We had our break in August, and the Crew came along to St George's to clean in church again in September. We're very grateful to Jonathan MJ for coming along and cleaning some silverware before popping off to check on his proving bread dough. You could tell which objects he had cleaned; they sparkled on Sunday morning. We're going to have a go at the more inaccessible bits before Christmas, we'll need the big steps for that job though!

Roger and I concentrated on doing what we could in church, whilst Rachel was on her hands and knees shampooing the Softley Lounge carpet and a very good job our Vicar did too. But Rachel isn't satisfied with the end result, so, she's going to have another go with some more sophisticated equipment.

We, your Church Cleaning Crew will be back on **Saturday 4th October at 10.00am** when we will continue our cleaning towards Christmas. So, if you spot something which needs our attention please tell us, or... you could come along and help us.

If you would like to join us, please put **Saturday 4th October at 10.00am** in your diaries now, and come along, and see just what we do. We can always find a job for willing spare hands, and of course there are rewards of tea, coffee, and cakes for all helpers.

CHURCH CLEANING CREW!



T is for...

Trains? Tortoises? Temptations?

Ruth Valerio in her book 'L is for Lifestyle' chooses Technology as the subject of this month's reflection. Personally, I have a love/hate relationship with Technology and Ruth's opening sentence to her chapter echoes this.

"If ever there was a word destined to produce both love and loathing, it has to be technology."

From the Industrial Revolution (1st), through the rise of Electricity (2nd) and the advent of Computers (3rd), to our current Digital/Artificial Intelligence world, we are increasingly dependent on technology.

Ironically, those of us we have succumbed to the use of a Smart Phone (or Watch) can now download Apps which encourage us to exercise more, count our steps, drink more water and measure our 'screen time', (presumably so we can choose to put our mobile devices down and go and do something else!). We can be grateful for so many benefits we enjoy. The technology which allows real-time online meetings for example, keeping friends, families, and businesses in touch all over the world. Whilst at the same time feeling that things are moving too far, too quickly and we ourselves have become less human, being reduced to numbers, passwords, or problems to be solved.

On the environmental front, much is said about the Aviation Industry's responsibility for Global emissions but hardly anything is said about the manufacture, use and disposal of Information Technology equipment which about the same (2%).

Another deep environmental concern is the need high tech products have for irreplaceable 'rare earth' chemicals and minerals. Many of these materials are highly hazardous and their mining and extraction from the earth's crust cause environmental devastation alongside the danger of poor health, poverty and misery for the workers involved.

Here are some suggestions for living more happily with Technology, whilst we continue to pray for a fairer, richer quality of life for all.

1. We can be more mindful of the technology around us, asking ourselves, Why is this here? Is it still helpful? Is there an alternative?

2. We can schedule regular 'down' times when we do something else, preferably something including exercise, fresh air, and real people.

Love and Blessings,
LORRAINE



Editors' note: *As always there are many requests for your help and your support in Crossroads again this month so, please consider offering your help at any of the following: - Church Cleaning Crew, cleaning windows and frames, Secretary to the joint PCC, Harvest Festival donations, Christmas Craft Fair. Your help would be very much appreciated.*

Should you need to contact the Crossroads editors

You can at ds52604@gmail.com

Or on 01452 410507



That to have your
NOVEMBER 2025 CROSSROADS
ready for publication by **SUNDAY 26th OCTOBER 2025**

...ARTICLES NEED TO BE WITH THE EDITORS' PREFERABLY BY EMAIL
BEFORE, BUT NO LATER THAN...

...Monday 13th October 2025

Crossroads will be printed on Tuesday 21st October

Articles for Crossroads can be received by the editors at any time and will appear in the first Crossroads after receipt.

OCTOBER



- 1 What is the only metal that is liquid at room temperature?
- 2 Which country was formerly known as Ceylon?
- 3 What is the hardest natural substance on Earth?
- 4 Who was the first woman to win a Nobel Prize?
- 5 What is the capital of Iceland?
- 6 What is the smallest country in the world by land area?
- 7 Who invented the telephone?
- 8 What is the chemical symbol for the element with atomic number 6?
- 9 What is the term for the fear of spiders?
- 10 What is the longest-running Broadway show in history?

The quiz answers are printed later in Crossroads



"When you've done all, you can,
that's when God will step in and do what you can't"

"The LORD is my shepherd, I lack nothing...
...Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil,
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me."



WEDDINGS



Find the following words in the above puzzle. Words can go in any direction. Words can share letters as they cross over each other.

Aunts, Bride, Cake, Candles, Dad, Family, Flower Girl, Flowers, Food, Friends, Gifts, Grandparents, Groom, Mom, Music, Party, Pictures, Rings, Tuxedo, Uncles.

The answer is printed later in Crossroads



JOTTINGS

From St Margaret's



Well, its me again, that certain person who with her two friends cleans the little church at Whaddon. We do our cleaning about every three weeks, that's Marilyn, Dianne and me. We have been doing the cleaning for a number of years now and we put the world to rights while we are cleaning.

We still have a mouse problem at the moment, I don't mind the mice but I haven't a clue where they are coming from. Marilyn is not at all fond of the little creatures and neither is Dianne but we don't see them, but we sure know where they have been! I must get the cleaner out at least twice between the

official cleaning days just to make sure that the church stays as clean as possible. We try to make the place as warm and as welcoming as possible. Marilyn does the most beautiful flower arrangement at the pulpit.

When I do any type of flower arrangement it turns out like something the cat dragged in. I try to do as I have been taught but how it looks in the book does not look anything like it should when I have finished, but an arrangement of any sort is better than none. I am not the best arranger by any means but I do my very best. When we go into St Margaret's either to worship or clean we go in light hearted because that little church is so special to all of us who work or worship in it, so for now my friends it's goodbye until the next time so please look after yourselves.

Best wishes from
JILL PONTER.
Deputy Churchwarden



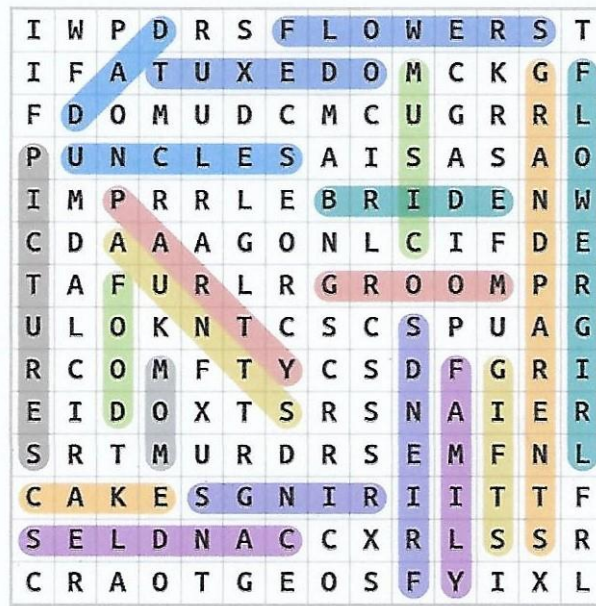


OVER THE GARDEN FENCE

I'm over here Trixie, I knew it, I just knew it Maya, I told you, didn't I? You did that Trixie, but it was just as big a surprise to me you know. You can tell when somethings up can't you? Yes, you flaming well can, the front door is shut and you can't get out and it must have been the day for the bin man because all the bags and boxes were out by the front door and first thing in the morning when I am half asleep, I nearly fell base over apex over them. I mean how do you do such things to a body so early in the morning. I know just what you mean Trixie, you just get yourself organised for the day and you are picked up and shoved headfirst in that flaming box, picked up and carted off to the motor vehicle and stopped outside Auntie Marg's house. What they do when they get together, I just don't know, but we are there for ever and then we have to be greeted by that pain in the butt JoJo and didn't she ever go on! You know Trix she could win a medal for all the screeching she does when she is in the motor vehicle. Maya you never said a truer word. How Auntie Marg puts up with her when she is in that mood, it must give her such a headache. That is an understatement Trix, a super headache, mind you she did have a pin, and did you see how big that thing was and our mum looked so pleased, did you see the look she gave JoJo, all lovey dovey I bet. She was hoping that we wouldn't make a noise when it came to us being on that table. I looked at her when she went into that box thing, the look of pure pleasure when she was shut in was a joy to see, all smiles and looking thankful it was all over, and then it was our turn. I saw how that lady doctor picked you up Trix, and put you on the scale, I don't know why they do that to us Trix, but they do it every time. You had to have a pin in your neck too, I bet it was huge, even bigger than JoJo's and when it was my turn I just looked at our mum, she was talking all soppy to me, mind you I loved it, even when I had to go back in the box I didn't mind though it is a bit of a squeeze. Do you mind Trix? No Maya I don't but I was so glad to be home. Our mum isn't so bad, but I just wish she wouldn't keep taking us to that place, but yes Maya I will say tata to everyone, so until the next time and its cheerio from me Maya, so keep safe and cheerful.

MAYA AND TRIXIE PONTER

WEDDINGS WORDSEARCH ANSWER



OCTOBER QUIZ ANSWERS

1 Mercury: 2 Sri Lanka: 3 Diamond: 4 Marie Curie: 5 Reykjavik: 6 Vatican City: 7 Alexander Graham Bell: 8 C Carbon: 9 Arachnophobia: 10 The Phantom of the Opera:

OCTOBER GOSPEL TRUTH BIBLE QUIZ ANSWERS

1 divide: 2 judge or arbitrator: 3 greed: 4 Peter, John & James: 5 overshadowed: 6 soul: 7 generation: 8 kings: 9 honour: 10 poor, crippled, lame and blind:





SEPTEMBER

Sunday 28		October Crossroads available this morning
	9.00am	Communion at Parish Church of St Margaret
	10.30am	Communion at Parish Church of St George
	4.00pm	IGBO Meeting in small hall
Monday 29	5.00pm	Evening Prayer on Zoom
	5.00pm	Brownies in main hall
	6.00pm	Rainbows in small hall
	7.15pm	Guides in main hall
	7.15pm	Youth Group in small hall
Tuesday 30	9.30am	Coffee Pot in small hall
	10.00am	Communion in St George's Lady Chapel
	1.30pm	Fun & Free in main hall
	5.00pm	Evening Prayer in St George's Lady Chapel
	6.30pm	Cubs & Beavers in main hall
	8.00pm	Karate in main hall

OCTOBER

Wednesday 1	8.15am	Morning Prayer on Zoom
	9.30am	Phonics with Robot Reg in main hall
	3.30pm	Slimming World in main hall
	5.00pm	Slimming World in main hall
	6.30pm	Slimming World in main hall
	5.00pm	Evening Prayer in St George's Lady Chapel
	6.30pm	G.A.G.S.in small hall
Thursday 2	10.30am	Thursday Club in small hall
	10.30am	Communion at Parish Church of St Margaret
	2.00pm	Art Group in main hall
	5.00pm	Evening Prayer in St George's Lady Chapel
	6.30pm	Clubbercise in main hall
	7.30pm	Charter Band in small hall
Friday 3	7.30pm	Entertainers in main hall

Saturday 4	10.00am	Karate in main hall
	10.00am	St George's Church Cleaning Crew
Sunday 5	10.30am	Communion at Parish Church of St George
	3.00pm	Celebrating our Pets at St George's
Monday 6	5.00pm	Evensong at Parish Church of St Margaret
	5.00pm	Evening Prayer on Zoom
	5.00pm	Brownies in main hall
	6.00pm	Rainbows in small hall
	7.15pm	Guides in main hall
Tuesday 7	7.15pm	Youth Group in small hall
	9.30am	Coffee Pot in small hall
	10.00am	Communion in St George's Lady Chapel
	1.30pm	Fun & Free in main hall
	5.00pm	Evening Prayer in St George's Lady Chapel
	6.30pm	Cubs & Beavers in main hall
Wednesday 8	8.00pm	Karate in main hall
	8.15am	Morning Prayer on Zoom
	9.30am	Phonics with Robot Reg in main hall
	3.30pm	Slimming World in main hall
	5.00pm	Slimming World in main hall
	6.30pm	Slimming World in main hall
	5.00pm	Evening Prayer in St George's Lady Chapel
Thursday 9	10.30am	Thursday Club in small hall
	10.30am	Communion at Parish Church of St Margaret
	2.00pm	Art Group in main hall
	5.00pm	Evening Prayer in St George's Lady Chapel
	6.30pm	Clubbercise in main hall
	7.30pm	Charter Band in small hall
Friday 10	7.30pm	Entertainers in small hall
	7.30pm	Gardening Club in main hall
Saturday 11	10.00am	Karate in main hall
	10.00am	Harvest Supper preparations
Sunday 12		Harvest Celebration
	9.00am	Communion at Parish Church of St Margaret
	10.30am	Communion at Parish Church of St George
Monday 13	4.00pm	Family Praise at Parish Church of St Margaret
		Crossroads deadline is today
	10.30am	Say Aphasia in small hall
	5.00pm	Evening Prayer on Zoom
	5.00pm	Brownies in main hall

	6.00pm	Rainbows in small hall
	7.15pm	Guides in main hall
	7.15pm	Youth Group in small hall
Tuesday 14	9.30am	Coffee Pot in small hall
	10.00am	Communion in St George's Lady Chapel
	1.30pm	Fun & Free in main hall
	2.30pm	Mothers' Union in small hall
	5.00pm	Evening Prayer in St George's Lady Chapel
	6.30pm	Cubs & Beavers in main hall
	8.00pm	Karate in main hall
Wednesday 15	8.15am	Morning Prayer on Zoom
	9.30am	Phonics with Robot Reg in main hall
	3.30pm	Slimming World in main hall
	5.00pm	Slimming World in main hall
	6.30pm	Slimming World in main hall
	5.00pm	Evening Prayer in St George's Lady Chapel
Thursday 16	10.30am	Thursday Club in small hall
	10.30am	Communion at Parish Church of St Margaret
	2.00pm	Art Group in main hall
	5.00pm	Evening Prayer in St George's Lady Chapel
	6.30pm	Clubbercise in main hall
	7.30pm	Charter Band in small hall
Friday 17	6.15pm	The opening of Poppy Fields by Luxmuralis in Gloucester Cathedral (see article)
	7.30pm	Entertainers in small hall
Saturday 18	10.00am	Karate in main hall
Sunday 19	10.30am	Communion at Parish Church of St George
	5.00pm	Evensong at Parish Church of St Margaret
Monday 20	5.00pm	Evening Prayer on Zoom
	5.00pm	Brownies in main hall
	6.00pm	Rainbows in small hall
	7.15pm	Guides in main hall
	7.15pm	Youth Group in small hall
Tuesday 21		Crossroads printing today
	9.30am	Coffee Pot in small hall
	10.00am	Communion in St George's Lady Chapel
	1.30pm	Fun & Free in main hall
	5.00pm	Evening Prayer in St George's Lady Chapel
	6.30pm	Cubs & Beavers in main hall
	7.30pm	Refresh at Grange Baptist Church

Wednesday 22	8.00pm	Karate in main hall
	8.15am	Morning Prayer on Zoom
	9.30am	Phonics with Robot Reg in main hall
	3.30pm	Slimming World in main hall
	5.00pm	Slimming World in main hall
Thursday 23	6.30pm	Slimming World in main hall
	5.00pm	Evening Prayer in St George's Lady Chapel
	10.30am	Thursday Club in small hall
	10.30am	Communion at Parish Church of St Margaret
	2.00pm	Art Group in main hall
	5.00pm	Evening Prayer in St George's Lady Chapel
Friday 24	6.30pm	Clubbercise in main hall
	7.30pm	Charter Band in small hall
Saturday 25	10.00am	Karate in main hall
Sunday 26	11.30am	CiT Litter pick, meet at Grange Baptist Church
		November Crossroads available this morning
	2.00am	Clocks go back by one hour
	9.00am	Communion at Parish Church of St Margaret
	10.30am	Communion at Parish Church of St George
	2.00pm	Private Let in main hall
	4.00pm	IGBO meeting
	4.00pm	My Journey Through in St George's (see article)
Monday 27	10.30am	Say Aphasia in small hall
	5.00pm	Evening Prayer on Zoom
	5.00pm	Brownies in main hall
	6.00pm	Rainbows in small hall
	7.15pm	Guides in main hall
	7.15pm	Youth Group in small hall
Tuesday 28	9.30am	Coffee Pot in small hall
	10.00am	Communion in St George's Lady Chapel
	1.30pm	Fun & Free in main hall
	4.30pm	Light Party at St George's
	5.00pm	Evening Prayer in St George's Lady Chapel
	6.30pm	Cubs & Beavers in main hall
	8.00pm	Karate in main hall
Wednesday 29	8.15am	Morning Prayer on Zoom
	9.30am	Phonics with Robot Reg in main hall
	3.30pm	Slimming World in main hall
	5.00pm	Slimming World in main hall

	6.30pm	Slimming World in main hall
	5.00pm	Evening Prayer in St George's Lady Chapel
	6.30pm	GAGS Committee in small hall
Thursday 30	10.30am	Thursday Club in small hall
	10.30am	Communion at Parish Church of St Margaret
	2.00pm	Art Group in main hall
	5.00pm	Evening Prayer in St George's Lady Chapel
	6.30pm	Clubbercise in main hall
	7.30pm	Charter Band in small hall

Friday 31

NOVEMBER

Saturday 1	10.00am	Karate in main hall
	10.00am	St George's Church Cleaning Crew
Sunday 2	10.30am	Communion at Parish Church of St George
	3.00pm	Time to Remember at Parish Church of St George
	5.00pm	Evensong at Parish Church of St Margaret

Remember that dates can change, be cancelled, or added so keep an eye on our weekly Signpost Newsletter for the latest information



'Reflect' starts on **Wednesday 22nd October at 7.00pm**, and continues on **Monday 10th November at 11.00am** and the final **Reflect** will be on **Sunday 14th December at 3.00pm** all will take place at St George's Church.

Christmas Fair at English Martyrs: 8th November from 12.00noon until 4.00pm.

Gloucestershire Police Male Voice Choir: Will be singing in St George's Church on **Friday 21st November at 7.30pm**. More information to follow.

There will be a **farewell service for the Venerable Hilary Dawson, Archdeacon of Gloucester** on Sunday 23 November at 3.00pm in Gloucester Cathedral. Everyone is welcome to attend this service.

Christmas Craft Fayre: Our Fairs and Fun Day planning group have set the date for St George's Christmas Craft Fayre for **Saturday 29th November 2025 from 12.00noon until 3.00pm**. More details will be available soon. The group will meet again on Tuesday 1st October so please pass your suggestions onto Rachel, Gioia, Dawn, Helen, Sylvia E, Jonathan T or Darrell as soon as you can.

St Barnabas (not a Christmas Fair, but a 'build your own Nativity'): 29th November from 10.00am until 12.00noon.

Grange Baptist Church Christmas Fair: 6th December from 11.00am until 3.00pm (not completely finalised yet, but most likely date and time)

Wedding Fayre / Celebration of Marriage: Sunday 25th April 2026 (and/or Saturday 24th TBC) More information to follow.

Summer Fun Day 2026: Saturday 11th July 2026 is the provisional date for next year's Summer Fun Day.

Please make sure that you have the above dates in your diary and where you can please offer to help.



A LITTLE BIT OF HUMOUR TO FINISH WITH...

Jack was working out in the gym when he spotted an attractive young lady. He asked a nearby trainer, "What machine should I use to impress that lady over there?" The trainer looked him up and down and said, "I would try the ATM in the lobby."

Jack walked into his local and saw Chuck Norris, Arnold Schwarzenegger, and Jean-Claude van Damme, sat in the corner having a drink. He bought his own drink from the bar and went over and sat at the table next to theirs and overheard the following conversation. Chuck Norris asked, "If you were a musician, who would you be?". Jean-Claude van Damme said, "I would be Beethoven." Chuck Norris, himself said, "I would be Mozart." Arnie then said, "I'll be Bach!"

Jack was bragging about his knowledge of the state capitals of the United States, and he proudly announced to Jill, "Go ahead, ask me any of the capitals, I know all of them." Jill said, "O.K., what's the capital of Wyoming?" Jack replied, "Oh, that's easy, 'W'."

Jill was talking to some friends who had come round for a cup of tea and a chat, she said to them, "In the recent hot weather, I found the best way to keep cool was to strip off and stand in front of an open refrigerator. Unfortunately, I've been banned from Asda, Sainsbury's, and Morrisons, now!"

Jack had just taken up a new job as a photographer for his daily paper. He was so enthused that he called his local airport to charter a flight. He was told a twin-engine plane would be waiting for him at the airport. Arriving at the airfield, he spotted a plane warming up outside a hanger. He jumped in with his bag, slammed the door shut, and shouted, "Let's go." The pilot taxied out, swung the plane into the wind, and took off. Once in the air, Jack told the pilot to fly over the hills and valleys and make low passes so he could take pictures of the bushfires on the hillsides. "Why?" asked the pilot. "Because I'm a photographer for our daily paper, and I need to get some close-up shots." The pilot was strangely silent for a moment, finally he stammered, "So, what you're telling me, is... you're NOT my flight instructor?"

St George's Church and Centre, Grange Road, Tuffley, Gloucester GL4 0PE
St Margaret's Church, 2 Church Lane, Whaddon, Gloucester GL4 0UE