



ST GEORGE'S

St George's **NewsBoard**

Follow Us On



Sunday 22nd May 2022

A Note From

Your Vicar

I knew something was wrong when the Dog wouldn't come in.
The fat dog did return, the little one did not.

'Where are you? Come back'. Nowhere to be seen. Silence... If you've ever rang my doorbell or indeed walked past my house, then you'll know that nobody would call my dogs quiet. Instead, they feel it is their sworn canine duty to ensure that pigeons, crows and squirrels are thoroughly told off lest they impinge on their sacred territory. So the silence was unnerving. Squeezing into a kid's croc and an odd welly, I attempted to stomp out, all the time calling the little one in, 'where are you...'

I found her sitting quietly in the undergrowth. She was face to face with a small bird. She is silent. The bird is silent. 'Wow wow wow, lets keep it quiet now' I say in my calming Dad-dog voice. 'Now c'mon inside' I add with a little more authority. She completely ignores me. But she is a dog that is barely above the height of my ankle and wearing a collar, so she slinks inside.

The bird is a fledgling Magpie. Distinctive badger like markings racing down it's sides, it doesn't yet possess the magnificent blue flourish, the sharp beak or shapely plumage. Instead the bird is a ball of fluff which hops around looking for shelter. It is....cute.

What to do? Google tells me to leave it alone. Sensible advice but annoyingly inconvenient. The dogs now need to

be supervised when using the garden, so the children aren't confronted with a gory mess, then last weekend we hosted an open picnic, what if one of the kids disturbed it? The fledgling is an inconvenience, nature intruding on my plans and garden. It's a good reminder; I am not really in charge of nature, even the small bits that I steward. I am not even in charge of most of the functions of my body. I heard a scientist explain that humans have an inbuilt clock in the middle of their brain and that each cell in your body has a corresponding genes. Did you know that? I'm not sure I understand it, even when I read the article! Testament to an amazingly complex universe with overlapping systems that we're often unaware of. Humans may observe, think about and have a huge effect on the natural world but we're never separate from it. We're part of it; fellow creatures under a creator.

Eventually, the bird disappeared. Or at least I cannot find it and the dogs haven't eaten it. Tiny-Magpie came, annoyed me and left one part of the creation, for another part of the creation. It was plain humbling.

God bless,
Nick



St George's **News**

On Wednesday, we held our APCM in Church where we elected our Churchwardens, Deanery Synod Reps, our PCC and our Welcomers (aka Sidespeople) as well as hearing a brief overview on looking forward at St George's. Thank you to all who came along to the meeting.

Thanks also to our wonderful Churchwardens, **Peter and Hilary** for agreeing to continue in their roles for the following year. We're sure that you will agree that they are doing a brilliant job and we are so thankful to them for their commitment, support and care for this church and family. Our whole community is unimaginably enriched by their love, grace and kindness. They consistently serve in ways above and beyond – by doing things most of us will never be aware of, we really give thanks with grateful hearts to them both.

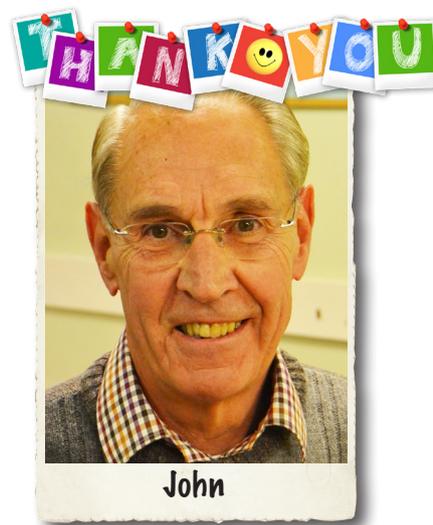
Michael Yardley and Chris Michell

have also kindly continued on with their Deanery Synod Reps role. We do have another space available for the Synod, so do pray and if you feel called to help and represent us in this way, do chat to either of them to find out more. They have done these roles for a long time so I am sure would welcome the opportunity for another to come alongside them. Thank you both for your continued support.

We also said goodbye to some of our PCC members who had also been gracious enough to go over their due time on the PCC to support the church through the vacancy, recruitment and then allowing time for Nick to step into his role. Bless you all for doing that and helping keep the ship steady for us and for all your time, energy and commitment you have given to this church. Thanks to **Carole Smith, Rosa Parsloe, Clare Steel and Jenny Norman.**

So stepping into their shoes, we are delighted to welcome onboard **Paul Cole, Mary Carson and Pete Underwood.** We so pleased you have agreed to step into this role and we hope that you will find it an exciting time to come onboard and be on this next part of the journey with us.

The biggest thanks of the night, however, went to **John Page** who, now he has presented the Annual Accounts to the APCM, has stepped down after 13 YEARS!!!! John told us all how 13 for him was a lucky number in his family and we have to say that we were blessed to have him as our Treasurer, seeing us through high times and low times with our finances. John - your naval experience kept our ship here afloat and we knew we would always be navigated into safe waters under your watch. THANK YOU for your time, dedication, patience and help throughout these last 13 years. We hope you can enjoy the wine and get something nice for the garden with your gift and that you can enjoy more cricket and holidays with Judy now you're not having to check the bank statements! Bless you John. Thank you for your service, love and care.



As some of you may know, **Ian Pinder** has kindly stepped in as our interim Treasurer until we can find someone willing to take on this role for us on a more permanent basis. If you think that could be you and you'd enjoy being able to serve in this way and work alongside Nick, Bethan, the Wardens and the PCC, then please do get in touch. In the meantime - Thank you Ian!

The next **STROLL FOR THE SOUL** walk will be on **FRIDAY 27th May**.

Please note the change from Thursday to Friday for the walk this month.

We will be following a short (1.75 mile) circular walk starting at MAUNSEL LOCK on the Taunton-Bridgwater Canal. There is a good footpath for the whole of this level route, with the option of retracing your way back along the towpath after completing about a third of the walk, if you don't fancy going all the way.

There is an excellent tea/coffee shop at Maunsel Lock so we will be able to look forward to that whilst we walk!

All are welcome. Please contact either Rachel (tel 07818003297) or Janet if you are able to offer a lift in your car, or if you require a lift, or need more precise instructions to find the venue. If you can't catch us in person, you can get in touch with us via the church office by emailing **office@stgchurch.co.uk**



We want to begin a Men's Shed here at St Georges

The idea is simple: men will gather regularly-ish to work together on a project or activity and get to know some new people.

Open to all who want to come along – you don't have to be 'religious-y' or connected to St Georges.

To start with, the initial project will be working with Terry Ware on converting the new Tuk Tuk but projects and activities will evolve over time depending on the talents and interests of the group.

Contact **office@stgchurch.co.uk**



Mini Mossy Church Seaside Adventure

ST GEORGE'S WILTON

FREE OUTDOOR NATURE BASED SESSION FOR 0-5'S & THEIR TEDDIES!

Seaside themed crafts, stories, songs & nature activities

May 23rd @ 10-11.30am

Bring a picnic blanket & Join us for this fun 'Mini' Mossy session in the St George's Churchyard.

Book your FREE place now at... <https://minimossychurchseasideadventure.eventbrite.co.uk>

Toilets & baby changing facilities available. Booking closes 22/5/22 @ 8.30pm

#exploreengageconnect #stgminimossychurch #mossychurch

BOOKING CLOSING ON SUN 22ND MAY AT 8.30PM



Families at St G's

Our popular, friendly playgroup for Babies & Toddlers is back with fun and fresh snacks for them and an excellent coffee for you!

We're
BACK!
15th Sept

£2 PER FAMILY!

Stay & Play

9.30AM - 11.00AM
Term Time Wednesdays

Toys
Crafts
Art
Stories
Songs
Snacks



St George's Wilton Church Hall
Fons George. Taunton TA1 3JT
For more info: office@stgchurch.co.uk

ST GEORGE'S WILTON
Buggy Buddies

Every Monday @10am
Term Time Starting from St G's Wilton

Fresh Air Friendship and FREE!

FREE COFFEE
Just bring your own travel mug!

A relaxed walking group
run by a team of friendly Mums for Parents/Carers of Bumps, Babies and Toddlers
Email: families@stgchurch.co.uk for info!



ST GEORGE'S
Charity Information



CHARIS (Christian Help and Action for Refugees In Somerset) is a Taunton based charity helping to settle refugees in Somerset and will be our Charity Collection this fortnight.

As a Christian charity, CHARIS believe wholeheartedly in loving our neighbour, whether they live next door, across the street or across the other side of the world. CHARIS' mission is to see individual refugees and families happily settled in the UK and contributing to the wellbeing of their communities.

They seek to be friends to refugees and to provide the practical, emotional and spiritual support they need to settle and live happy and healthy lives.

Ukraine Sanctuary Appeal

CHARIS has launched the Ukraine Sanctuary Appeal for those who would like help us respond to the needs of those who arrive and their hosts.

Many Ukrainians will arrive traumatised by the war and their journey to safety. Their needs will be many and varied; language training, accessing health care, employment and benefits, to name a few. These needs will be very similar to those faced by the refugees from the Middle East we have settled in the Southwest. CHARIS will make the services we already provide to refugees from the Middle East

available to Ukrainians. They are also coordinating with other local organisations to ensure an effective and timely response that is most beneficial.

Please give generously to enable them to provide these services when Ukrainians arrive and in the longer term.

If you attend either our 9.30am service or our 11am service, please do bring along a donation which will be sent off to Charis at the end of the month.

The collection pot is by the font at the door in the church or on the Welcome table in the Church Hall for the 11am.

If you are new to St G's:

Instead of our weekly collection going to Church funds, we give away our collections to various charities at home and abroad, so do read up on the Charities we choose and give if you can.

If you would like to donate to them but are unable to get to church, please either follow the link below to their donations page which is specifically for the Ukraine Sanctuary Appeal

<https://account.stewardship.org.uk/donation/oneoff/charisukraine>

They have so far managed 1% of their £20,000 target.

St George's are looking at ways to work together with them to help provide support where we can.

If you would like to find out more about Charis and the work that they are doing in our town, do take a look at their website www.charisrefugees.org



GIVE-A-LITTLE HELP-A-LOT

If you would like to donate to the work of St George's, we now have more ways to donate. We now have a Give A Little page which you can access either on our website or simply by hovering your phone camera on the QR code below which will take you directly to our giving page.



We remember

Eileen Thorpe, Ernest Bond, Cavill
Stutt and Joyce Edwards

*and pray that you would bless
those who mourn with the comfort
of your love that they may face
each new day with hope and the
certainty that nothing can destroy
the good that has been given.
May their memories become
joyful, their days enriched
with friendship, and their lives
encircled by your love.
Through Jesus Christ, our lord.
Amen.*

St George's

Sunday Services

SUN 22ND MAY	9.30am Holy Communion Service <i>with Choir and sung liturgy</i> 11.00am Worship Service -
SUN 29TH MAY	ASCENSION 9.30am Holy Communion Service 11.00am Worship Service -
SUN 5TH JUNE	PENTECOST 9.30am Holy Communion Service 11.00am Worship Service - IN CHURCH 11.00 Pre-recorded Online Service
SUN 12TH JUNE	TRINITY 9.30am Holy Communion Service <i>with Choir and sung liturgy</i> 11.00am Worship Service -
SUN 19TH JUNE	9.30am Holy Communion Service 11.00am Worship Service with Communion

The Collect Sunday 22nd May 2022

God our redeemer,
you have delivered us from the power of
darkness
and brought us into the kingdom of your Son:
grant, that as by his death he has recalled
us to life,
so by his continual presence in us he may raise
us
to eternal joy;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen

Risen Christ,
by the lakeside you renewed your call to your
disciples:
help your Church to obey your command
and draw the nations to the fire of your love,
to the glory of God the Father.

Amen

OUR CONTACTS

Rev'd Dr Nick Griffin

Tel: 01823 774128

Email: nick@stgchurch.co.uk

Day Off: Fridays

Bethan Baigent

Parish Administrator

Tel: 01823 284253

Email: office@stgchurch.co.uk

Office Hours: Tues - Thurs 10-1pm

Churchwardens

Peter Joyce - 07761 407433

Hilary McKegney - 07460 471514

Prayer Circle

To be in contact for confidential prayer amongst our Prayer

Circle, please email:

prayer@stgchurch.co.uk

Pastoral Care

If you or you know of someone who you are concerned about or think would benefit from some TLC, get in touch with our Pastoral Team on

pastoralcare@stgchurch.co.uk

Families

If you would like to find out more about what we have on for families here at St G's email

families@stgchurch.co.uk

Small Groups Coordinator - Study Groups

Geoff Treasure

Tel: 01823 288505

Email: geoff.treasure@googlemail.com

Safeguarding Officer

Liz Flower

Tel: 07436 014562

Email: lizflower1@hotmail.co.uk

Christian Giving Officer

Michael Small

Tel: 01823 350722

Email: mikeasmall@aol.com

OUR WEEK Ahead

Sunday 22nd May

9.30am Holy Communion

10.00am Coffee Zoom

11.00am the eleven Service LIVE

Monday 23rd May

10.00am Buggy Buddies

10.00am Mini Mossy Church

Seaside Adventures for 0-5's

9.00pm Compline on Zoom

Tuesday 24th May

7.30pm Worship Jam in Church

Wednesday 25th

9.30am Stay and Play

1.00pm Prayer and Worship in Church

Thursday 26th May

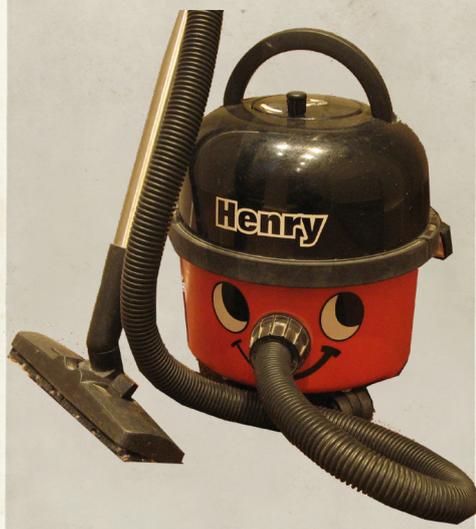
7.30pm Bible In One Year group

Friday 27th May

10.15am Stroll for the Soul - starting at Maunsel Lock



ST GEORGE'S



Henry the Hoover

My name is Henry and hope you can help me because I feel so very lonely and unloved; you see, even though live in your church and do my best to be helpful and useful, I don't have many friends. I would love to get to know more of you; you all seem to be such lovely people when I listen to you each Sunday and sometimes during the week too.

But almost nobody talks to me, which makes me feel sad. I don't often get out to see you and have to spend most of my time in a dark cupboard with just the other cleaning equipment for company. It can sometimes feel rather a sad place to be, especially because I know what beautiful and special building I live in. When I do come out I have such a wonderful time with the few friends I have, exploring all round the church building and showing you special places where you can sit, pray and reflect, and perhaps encounter God in His quiet sanctuary. How happy I would be if I could be friends with more of you - and show you that God always blesses beyond our expectations when we serve him. Try it, and you may discover that helping me to clean our lovely church is another way to have a very special encounter with God.

If you think you could be my friend and spend some time with me, do contact the Church Office on office@stgchurch.co.uk

Henry x



Somerset County Council Update

May 2022

ELECTION RESULTS

The results of the Somerset County Council elections are as follows in terms of the number of councillors elected:

Liberal Democrat: 61

Conservative: 36

Green Party: 5

Labour: 5

Independent: 3

In this area which forms part of the Comeytrove and Trull Ward, Habib Farbahi and myself were elected for a term which ends in 2027. Full details of the results for individual divisions and candidates can be found on the elections results page on the SCC website. Your support in such numbers put Habib and I top of the table for elected Liberal Democrats in SWT (Habib 2219 votes, Dawn 2216 votes). The results mean that the Liberal Democrats take overall control of Somerset County council with immediate effect. For their first year, the councillors will take responsibility for all current County Council services and oversee the local government reorganisation to establish the single unitary Somerset Council on 1 April 2023. District councils will remain until 31 March 2023 and the councillors serving on them will continue in their roles until that date.

NEW COUNCIL FOR SOMERSET

A dedicated inbox to ensure enquires about the new council and the unitary programme are dealt with quickly and efficiently has been set up. Email info@newsomersetcouncil.org.uk

NEW JOURNEY PLANNING WEBSITE FOR SOMERSET

SCC has developed a new journey planning website called 'Think Travel'.

The website is dedicated to planning journeys within Somerset and includes information on public bus services, community transport and the demand responsive 'Slinky' service. There is also a dedicated noticeboard area to help facilitate car sharing.

The website will be particularly useful to individuals or groups who have difficulty accessing public transport and want to know what other transport options are available to them. <https://somerset.thinktravel.info/>

SOMERSET COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Growing Grants Somerset County Council (SCC) has set up Growing Grants to support community-led food projects that make healthier food affordable for everyone.

It is a partnership between the Council and Somerset Community Foundation, assisted by the SCC Healthy Lifestyles Team and Somerset Community Food.Growing Grants will support projects that involve:

- growing food as a community effort
- educating local people about healthy food and nutrition
- teaching and supporting people in your community how to shop and cook healthier
- serving balanced and nutritious communal meals
- using food and growing projects to help connect local people to each other
- building networks of community-led food projects.

Groups can usually apply for a grant of between £500 and £5,000, which would need to be spent within 12 months. You must submit your application by 5pm Friday 10 June 2022. SCF will not consider any applications submitted after that date. <https://somersetcf.org.uk/growing>

LOCAL WORK

Along with members of the Galmington Stream Keep it Clean group Habib and I met with Brookbanks management at the Orchard Grove site to raise concerns over the discolouration of the Galmington Stream. We were shown silt-busting machinery in place which should ensure any water leaves the site clean. We were told of a recorded breach of the holding pond which may well explain the time the water in the stream became a milky white. Water quality testing monitors have been promised up and down stream of the works to ensure water standards are being maintained. Further community engagement sessions will be planned.

Whilst canvassing for the election the poor condition of one of the bus shelters on Middleway was raised as an issue. I'm pleased to say that the window panel and damaged board have now been replaced.

Highways have confirmed the grass areas around Wilton and Sherford that they will maintain over the summer. Please report to us any areas that you feel are being neglected and we will work to get them tidied up.

Please continue to seek support from Habib and I with any local issues.

Dawn Johnson 07803 925944 DJohnson@somerset.gov.uk
Habib Farbahi 07968 069192 HFarbahi@somerset.gov.uk
Liberal Democrat Somerset County Councillors for Comeytrove and Trull



Cllr Dawn Johnson