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Sunday 28th January 2024

A Note From **Your Vicar**

Last Saturday I tore down a shed. Well. I say a Shed. It's a 'Summer House' if you are so inclined. A friend of a friend of a friend's house is being demolished and this mature gentleman would have had to pay someone else to take it down and he wanted to give it away.

So instead, my Son and I bought a 'utility bar' or two and travelled to take this thing apart ready to be reinstalled in the Vicarage garden. I brought all of the tools in my potted tool boxes I could possibly carry, hammers, lump hammers, drills, saws, bolsters, grips and bits I couldn't be bothered to scoop out of the bottom plus a decent step ladder.

On arrival, the 'Summer House' (if you emphasise the 'M' it sounds posher) is in a slightly better and slightly worse condition than I remembered. The decking at the front was rotten to the core and a single foot would quickly descend to the green earth below. This did not inspire confidence. Nevertheless, taking up the carpet, the actual posh-shed seemed fine but the surrounding bits were grim....

Then I realised...I actually don't know where to start. The roof seemed the obvious place but there were no clear joins. There was some old guttering which I figured needed taking off...that removed...I needed to climb on top of the roof. This was a moment...I had just seen a grown man's foot crash through a rotten piece of wood, I did not know whether

I would come down through the very same structure. My help was my teenage son and a man I barely knew who was aged 'north of 80ish'. I climbed up thinking, if I die, my curate is away and I don't know who would take the service...

I did it anyway.

Would it have passed a risk assessment? No. Would I encourage others under my care to do it? No. But I wanted to get this thing out of the way for the man and I wanted to take it home for my family. Sometimes you've got to risk it. Modern life it seems to me is the removal of all potential risks. But I've been thinking about this line from Ecclesiastes 12.

'When men are afraid of heights and dangers in the streets when the almond tree blossoms and the grasshoppers drag their legs and desire is no longer stirred. Then man goes to his eternal home and mourners go about in the streets.'

It is a strange passage. What I think it means is: live. Do not be afraid but live. Do stuff. Love God, build things, learn things, love your neighbour and live.

The house was fine, I was fine and maybe in the summer you can come over and have a cup of tea in the new summer house.

There are exciting times ahead!
God Bless

Nick

St George's
News

STROLL FOR THE SOUL

Our first Stroll for 2024 will be on **THURSDAY 1st FEBRUARY**. We will again gather at the Church porch at 10.30 to begin our local stroll in Wilton.

And our next scheduled walk will be on **FRIDAY 23 FEBRUARY** when we will return, with Rachel, for a walk in the woodland at Staple Hill on the Blackdown Hills. A reminder will be sent closer to the date.

Do make a note of these days and we will look forward to sharing time and reflection together.

Jesus You Walk With Me - Help Me to Walk With You.

If you are coming to the one on 1st February, please note that the Hall car park is being used by a Hall Hirer so please can you park somewhere else on this occasion. Thank you so much! Bethan x



Our Next Stroll is
THURSDAY 1ST FEBRUARY

Conversation Fellowship Contemplation

A monthly walk with friends.
For more information email: office@stgchurch.co.uk

HOME GROUP

Would you like to join a small, gentle, friendly group of over 60s on a Monday night? Led by Michael and Hilary Hayes we chat, we explore a Bible passage and we pray. Nobody is put on the spot or needs to feel they must know their way around the Bible. We meet once a fortnight

THE WEEK AHEAD

Sunday 28th January

9.30am Holy Communion in Church

11.00am Worship Service in Hall

Monday 29th January

10.00am **Buggy Buddies**

For more information contact:

families@stgchurch.co.uk

7.30pm **Worship Team Gathering in Church**

Tuesday 30th January

Parish Office Closed for Final Sorting

7.30pm **Bellringing Practice**- for more info on joining the Bellringing Team, contact Brenda Arscott via Parish Office.

Wednesday 31st January

9.30am **Stay and Play** - our Baby and Toddler group in Church Hall. £2 per family

12.30pm **Wednesday Prayer** in our Prayer Shed. For more information see the article in this week's NewsBoard

Thursday 1st February

10.30am - **Stroll for the Soul** - meet at Church for a local walk together - see article
12.00pm **SOUP**- Come and bring a friend for a bowl of soup. Do get in touch with Rob at rob@stgchurch.co.uk

Sunday 4th February

9.30am Holy Communion in Church

11.00am Worship Service IN OUR NEW HOME - THE CHURCH!!!

FUTURE DATES COMING UP:

Monday 5th February

- Women In The Pub
- Mens Shed

Thursday 8th February

- Besom Open Morning
- The Valley Cafe (new time of 2.00pm)

Tuesday 13th February

- Monthly Lunch at The Vivary

Wednesday 14th February

- Ash Wednesday

from 7.30 to 9 pm at Hilary McKegney's home in Sherford.

Please think about joining us, we would love you to come.

More information from Michael, Hilary or Hilary McK.

Michael and Hilary

PARISH WEEKEND AWAY IN OCTOBER

Are you wondering what this is all about?

On **Sunday February 4th** the two Hilarys will be available for question and answer chats and giving any info you need. Hilary McKegney will be in the church after the 9.30 service and Hilary Hayes will be in the hall at coffee. Please come and chat.

Would you like to come but are worried about the cost? We have a bursary fund so if a contribution to the cost would make the difference between coming and not coming then please have a private word with either Hilary. Confidentiality fully respected.

Families please chat to one another so you can know there will be other families there. Children are very much encouraged and catered for.

Try not to miss this opportunity for physical and spiritual refreshment in one of the most beautiful places in the country.

We need to finalise applications by the end of February. No money need change hands yet. Looking forward to hearing from you.

Further information from **Hilary Hayes** hilhayes7@gmail.com. or **Hilary McKegney** hilarymckegs@gmail.com



church weekend away

**FRIDAY 25th OCTOBER
TO SUNDAY 27th OCTOBER
LEE ABBEY, DEVON**

FOR INFO EMAIL HILHAYES7@GMAIL.COM OR HILARYMCKEGS@GMAIL.COM

VOLUNTEERS AREA

DON'T MISS OUT - JOIN A TEAM TODAY!

Serving on team, you don't just perform a task, you build life together and fulfilling the call of Jesus to love one another. Here are some teams you can join or may be looking for some additional hands on deck!

BUGGY BUDDIES

Another wonderful group for bumps to babies to toddlers and we'd love you to join our team where we walk and talk with the Mums/Carers and just be there to chat and provide coffee and a listening ear. If you can help once a month on a Monday morning that would be wonderful. Email **families@stgchurch.co.uk** if you would like to find out more!

COMMUNITY FRIDGE TEAM

We would like to open for another day, but that requires more folk to help with both collecting / delivering from supermarkets and also more openers/ cleaners / closers. Just once a fortnight's help for an hour or so would be brilliant! Get in touch with Mervyn via email to **fridge@stgchurch.co.uk**

KIDS@11 TEAM

I am wondering if any of you out there are wondering what it would be like to help at Kids@11. You don't have to prepare anything it is just occasional pairs of helping hands that we need. It can be anything from once a month to once a term, every little helps. You are welcome to come and look before committing to anything. Please chat to me and I can tell you all about our lovely Kids@11.

If you do decide to help we do have to ask you to have a DBS check and to complete some online safeguarding training - it's not hard I promise you!

Please think and pray about it and speak to me, Hilary Hayes, or email **families@stgchurch.co.uk**

- Hilary Hayes.

WOMEN IN THE PUB

The next meeting for Women In The Pub is on **Monday 5th February at 7.30pm.** Do come and join us for a drink, chat and this time there'll a crafty hedgehog on offer to keep us entertained!
Hope to see you there!



VIVARY MEAL

We had such a lovely time when we last met at The Vivary for the return of our lunchtime meet ups and we're back again in February. Remember to pre-order with Judith by no later than Wednesday 7th February!

Monthly Lunchtime Meals Returns

Enjoy some food and some company at The Vivary Arms together

NEXT LUNCHTIME DATE
TUESDAY 13TH FEBRUARY
12.15PM FOR 12.30PM

PRE-ORDERS NEED TO BE IN BEFORE WEDNESDAY 7th FEBRUARY. PLEASE CONTACT JUDITH PICKLES
judithpickles@hotmail.com / 07798 834495



BESOM OPEN MORNING

On Thursday 8th February between 10-12, Besom are having an open morning for you to drop in and find out a bit more about what the charity does.
The Besom in Taunton is a Christian

organisation providing a bridge between those who want to give and those who are in need in the Taunton and Wellington area. Giving is at the heart of their mission providing everything free of charge to clients referred to Besom. They receive donations from individuals and a wide range of organisations - furniture, kitchen equipment, bedlinen, money and more.
Do pop along to find out more about how this charity is working across the town!



What is Besom?

You are warmly invited to visit our warehouse to see what we do.

Open morning, Thursday 8 February

Drop in any time between 10-12md



Coffee and cake provided

Follow signs for Toolstation and continue to the end of the cul-de-sac.

Wear warm clothes!

More information from Hilary Hayes, Helen Clegg, or Jane Hamilton

Unit 8
Crown Industrial
Estate
TA2 8RX

WORSHIP TEAM GATHERING

We are going to have a full worship team gathering on **Monday 29th January at 7.30pm** in the church. Can I please ask everyone on the 11am Worship team to make every effort to join us as change is afoot!

We are running out of space at the Eleven (which is exciting) and so we trialling having both services in the main church to see if this might work. We want to maintain the difference in feel and style for the more contemporary service but don't want people to not come to church because they can't find a seat.

There are many positives to using the church, but there are a couple challenges which relate to our worship so on Monday we will have a training session learning how to setup and use all the new equipment and run through how the new 11am services will work and each of our roles.

Do check your emails for more details about equipment/headphones and looking forward to seeing you on Monday!

Chris

COMMUNITY FRIDGE

News

We are always looking for new volunteers for the St. George's Community Fridge. All it would involve is you doing an online Food Saety course which does not take long and a short 'in shed' training session.

We would like to open for another day, but that requires more folk to help with both collecting / delivering from supermarkets and also more openers/ cleaners / closers. Just once a fortnight's help for an hour or so would be brilliant! We also need more offers from supermarkets but we're working on that one though we can't start that process until we get more offers of help

Also if you're wanting to donate your food waste to the Community Shed that's always welcome (as long as it fits in with our criteria, shown inside the Fridge shed - a more detailed list can be obtained by emailing fridge@stgchurch.co.uk)



ST GEORGE'S CHURCH
COMMUNITY FRIDGE

OPENING HOURS
**SUNDAYS, TUESDAYS,
WEDNESDAYS
& FRIDAYS**
9.30am to 4.00pm
St George's Church Hall
Fons George
Taunton
TA1 3JT
mail: fridge@stgchurch.co.uk

TAUNTON TOWN COUNCIL

COMMUNITY FRIDGE
ST GEORGE'S CHURCH
ESTD 1203
WILTON

- Bring Your Own Bag
- Help yourself to whatever food is there with a max of up to 5 items
- Food available will vary in quantity and description
- If you're bringing food to date, pop them in the basket
- Helping to tackle Food Waste and Food Poverty
- Please sign out by clicking the clicker

We would REALLY appreciate your offers of help. This is OUR Community Fridge and will only work well with your help. if this is something you think you can help with, please do email fridge@stgchurch.co.uk.

Thank You so much!

Mervyn

CHARITY COLLECTION

OPEN DOOR ROOF APPEAL

The Open Door day centre for Taunton's homeless community is housed in a grade 2 listed building that dates back to the 1880s, and the Charity is responsible for the good repair of the building.

A recent building survey has revealed that they need to make major repairs to the roof of the building and need to raise £50,000 to complete the major structural work including structural timbers, chimney repairs and replacement roof membrane.

By the end of November, the total raised for this important campaign has reached £10,000.

Many thanks to everyone who has helped so far but they need more help to reach that target, so for January, we are putting our charity collections on a Sunday to help them with this appeal.

Please do give what you can and let's help to give them a good donation towards their goal.

If you cannot attend in person then please do donate via their website directly to their



January
charity collection

Open Door
Taunton

**Helping Taunton Open Door to raise
£50,000 for their Roof Appeal.**
Please give what you can in the basket by the font

roof appeal here <https://cafdonate.cafonline.org/24100#!/DonationDetails>

If you are attending in person then we are trialling having card payments to the charity as we are aware that many no longer carry cash these days (though we know many of you are good crusaders to keep cash going!) There are donation amount options but you can choose the amount and give as little or as much as you wish.

LAST WEEK TO DONATE

ST GEORGE'S GIVING

- If you have started coming to St George's regularly, or have been coming for some time but haven't yet done so, may I encourage you to **join our committed Christian Giving scheme** by completing a pledge form and possibly a standing order form. Just email Robin on giving@stchurch.co.uk to find out how you can begin to give to the work of St George's
- If you pay income tax, and have not already done so, please consider **Gift Aiding your giving**
- If you are putting your affairs in order and are considering making a will or revising an existing one, would you like to remember **St George's in your will?** It can make a huge difference to us.
- Another way to donate to the work of St George's, is via our **Give A Little page** which you can access on our website, Alternatively you can donate directly into our bank account using the following information and putting 'Donation' reference:

Account Name: **St George's Wilton Stewardship**

Account No: **59935227**

Sort Code **60-80-06**

Thank you so much!

In Loving Memory

We remember

**Joy Tyrrell, Tim Blackwood,
Eileen Northam, John Wyatt
and Harry Brooks**

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.



THURSDAYS | **12.00PM-2.00PM**
In Term Time

**ST GEORGE'S
CHURCH HALL**

www.stgchurch.co.uk

*Say it
with flowers*

**To mark a special occasion
with flowers in church,
contact Sue & Sheena
or The Parish Office**

*"Flowers are the sweetest things God ever
made and forgot to put a soul into."*

- Henry Ward Beecher

Who's **WHO**

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SPEAK WITH ANY OF OUR TEAM, PLEASE CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE OR GET IN TOUCH VIA EMAIL

Rev'd Dr Nick Griffin

Tel: 01823 774128

Email: nick@stgchurch.co.uk

Day Off: Fridays

Churchwardens

Peter Joyce 07761 407433

Di Vickery 07598 319163

Curate

Rev'd Rob Cromwell

Tel: 07889 452524

Email: rob@stgchurch.co.uk

Day Off: Fridays

Associate Minister

Rev'd Richard Kelley

Email: richard@stgchurch.co.uk

Worship Director

Chris Sampson

Email: chris@stgchurch.co.uk

Reader

Kate Taylor

Email: kate21taylor@icloud.com

Parish Administrator

Bethan Baigent

Tel: 01823 284253

Email: office@stgchurch.co.uk

Office Hours: Tues - Thurs 10-1pm

Safeguarding

Nick Griffin

Email: safeguarding@stgchurch.co.uk

PCC Reps

Matt Norman

Paul Cole

Mary Carson

Pete Underwood

Laura Willetts

Katie Lanchbury

Families Coordinator

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

Pastoral Care Coordinator

Hilary McKegney

Email pastoral-care@stgchurch.co.uk

Digital and Technology Coordinator

Matt Norman

Email: matt@stgchurch.co.uk

Small Groups Coordinator

Carmen Cromwell

Email: carmen@stgchurch.co.uk

Community Fridge Coordinator

Mervyn Roberts

Email: fridge@stgchurch.co.uk

Hospitality Coordinator

Rob Cromwell

Email: rob@stgchurch.co.uk

Prayer Circle

To be in contact for confidential prayer amongst our Prayer Circle email:

prayer@stgchurch.co.uk

Christian Giving

Robin Stamp

Email: giving@stgchurch.co.uk

Electoral Roll Officer

Laurie Jeffery

Email: laurie.jeffery@sky.com

Deanery Synod Reps

Hilary Hayes

Hilary McKegney