



Sunday 3rd March 2024

A Note From **Your Vicar**

You can blame Adrian Youngs for my presence here at St Georges. I was part of a local church that tended to be a bit suspicious of these Anglicans in all their robes and castles and so I was a bit nervous too. Mrs Griffin was much less concerned and told of this decent vicar in Trull who loved God and taught the bible clearly. He was a proper Christian and passed all of my teenage judgemental tests. Adrian was at Trull for 14 years and transformed the place leaving behind a vibrant community and envy-making facilities.

How did he do this? First, Adrian is a fantastic preacher. He had this way of sticking fast to a bible passage but somehow illuminating it in ways that I'd never imagined. He would tell stories that I remember to this day and people that started with a fairly nominal style faith found themselves drawn deeper and deeper into God. Secondly, he was a strategist, bringing on a team to grow and look after a community that was varied and fulsome. Somehow he managed to persuade local residents that the new community centre would benefit them more than the pain of reducing their view, parking and house prices. But mostly, he grew the church by loving the people that were in it. As a young minister, he gave me time, energy and care and helped me to see that the Church of England was not at all perfect (beware the church that pretends it is!) but it certainly was a distinctively Christian place where you could be a faithful minister of Jesus.

Part of this was his raw honesty about his own struggles which was such a far cry from the vicars that I had always imagined.

In 2017, he was whisked away to Bath to be their Archdeacon. This is not an easy job. You get all of the worst bits of the Church – the disputes about buildings, grumpy vicars and bad behaviour but none of the nice bits of the parish (the people) or the palace and trappings of a Bishop. Funny old job and one which doesn't get a lot of love from the parishes. You can make a difference though in positions of power and all of the clergy I speak to in Bath speak warmly about his ministry to them. On Monday I got an email announcing that Adrian is leaving his role to begin a new ministry for Care for the Family which is based outside of the Diocese. Although he's not going far – staying in Bath - I'm going to miss my old friend who I would sometimes bump into at Diocesan events and services.

They say don't meet your heroes but it seems to me that some people you meet are heroes; you just don't know yet. Adrian was one of those and his combination of faithfulness to God, loving care for the whole community and honesty is a role model for me as a vicar and us as a community.

Pray. It's what Christians do isn't it?

God bless,

Nick

St George's News

MEALS!

From time to time we have people who are going through particularly tough and stressful times. Maybe they are recovering from an operation, been discharged from hospital, have just had a baby, supporting family or quite simply just finding life difficult. One of the ways that we, as a church family, could help in these situations, would be to provide the occasional meal for the person/family so that there is one less thing for them to organise every now and again.

We have a couple of people in our church family at the moment who would be very grateful of some help in this way

If you would be willing to cook and deliver a meal to those in particular need, please contact Hilary McKegney on

hilary@stgchurch.co.uk. Hilary is compiling a list of willing volunteers and will contact you if needed. You can also email **supportmeals@stgchurch.co.uk** Many thanks in anticipation.

Hilary



COMMUNION PREPARATION!

We are in need of some more people to come onto the team to help us to set up Communion for the 9.30am service (and the occasional 11am). At the moment we only have the lovely Yardleys who are helping us

THE WEEK AHEAD

Sunday 3rd March

9.30am Holy Communion

11.00am Worship Service

7.00pm PRAY

Monday 4th March

10.00am Buggy Buddies For more information contact:

families@stgchurch.co.uk

7.30pm Women In The Pub - with Dingbats (that's a game, not the women!)

7.30pm Mens Shed - with a nautical theme - that's nautical not naughty...

Tuesday 5th March

10.00am Mini Mossy Church - See the NB article for more info!

7.30pm Bellringing Practice- for more info contact Brenda Arscott via Parish Office.

7.30pm PCC Meeting - Dunning Room

Wednesday 6th March

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

Thursday 7th March

12.00pm SOUP- Come and bring a friend for a bowl of soup. Do get in touch with Rob at **rob@stgchurch.co.uk**

with the setting up which means that they are being AMAZING and having to help us every week, as Julia is now unable to help us (Thank you so much Julia for having helped us with this duty for so long - we are truly grateful!).

Michael and Tricia have said that they would be very happy to show people the ropes if anyone is willing to help them. There are photos to help you know where to put everything away too so we will try to make this as easy as possible for you.

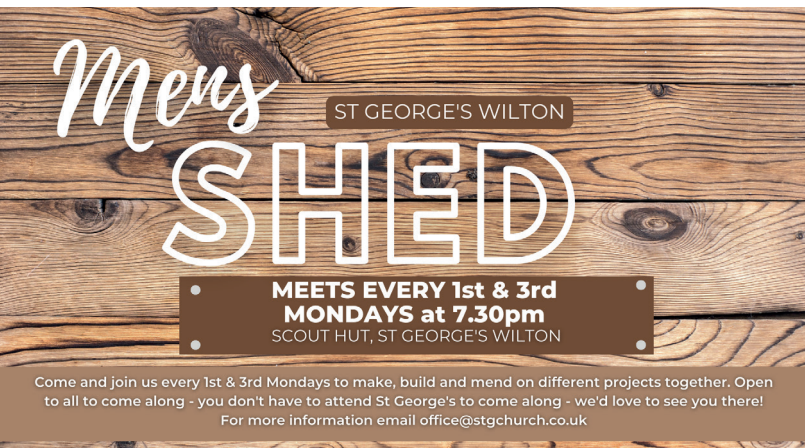
Although it is an easy way to help serve the Lord, it feels such a privilege to be able to serve in this way.

THOSE NAUGHTY...SORRY... NAUTICAL MEN IN THEIR SHED

Yes, those Men in Sheds are back again this coming Monday. Over to Terry to explain what they'll be up to this time...

"Monday will be a nautical themed film night, where our Gordon will present a short video and talk about a certain escapade involving of his seafaring great grandfather (captain). Rubber rings and armbands will be provided but will have to bring your own grog."

So do go along and join them!



MINI MOSSY ADVENTURE - THIS TUESDAY!

EXPLORE ~ ENGAGE ~ CONNECT

Join the Mossy Church team and other local families for this FREE session as we explore the wonderful world of Woodland Creatures.

In this session, designed especially for 0-5's, we'll engage with nature through activities, nature themed crafts, a scavenger hunt, stories, songs and sensory play. So pop on your welly boots and join us outdoors as we explore and connect with creation together.

Session will be fully accessible. Toilets / baby changing on site. Please note that this is a family event and children are to be supervised by their parents / carers at all times.

https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/mini-mossy-church-woodland-creatures-tickets-850362857197?aff=oddtctcreator&fbclid=IwAR2FwcZ9LbW1CsNiaDD0UAHhQtasSikpuqyoPmdztIkDeo2Mkd_I1kaX7cQ



St G's Mini Mossy Church WOODLAND CREATURES

FOR 0-5'S
TUESDAY 5TH MARCH
10-11.30AM @ ST GEORGE'S WILTON
IN THE CHURCHYARD

FREE Nature based session designed for 0-5's

Book your
FREE place
Now!

NATURE CRAFTS
ANIMAL SCAVENGER HUNT
THEMED ACTIVITIES
SENSORY PLAY
STORIES
SONGS

FREE, but limited spaces available

BOOKING CLOSES 3PM ON SUNDAY 3RD

[HTTPS://MINI-MOSSY-WOODLAND-CREATURES.EVENTBRITE.CO.UK](https://mini-mossy-woodland-creatures.eventbrite.co.uk)



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!

COFFEE TEAM

Come and join our Coffee team to provide the wake up, the calm or the energy by helping on the coffee team serving the church family with refreshments in between our services. Get in touch via email to rob@stgchurch.co.uk

COMMUNION ASSISTANT TEAM

Have you been a Communion Assistant in a previous Church? Would you like to serve in this team, especially at our 9.30am service? We would love for more to be a part of this really special ministry - one that feels a real privilege to be a part of. If you have done this before or would like to help serve in this way, please email us to let us know!

office@stgchurch.co.uk

BUGGY BUDDIES TEAM

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!

WELCOME TEAM

We want everyone who comes along to St G's to feel welcome, to see what a great church family we are and to want to come back again! If you think you could be that welcoming face for either of our services, get in touch with either Peter Joyce (for the 9.30am) or Michael Hayes (for the 11am) joyce07@btinternet.com mhayes@outlook.com

PRAY

This Sunday sees the start of another "new thing" which we do hope that many of you will come along to.

As Nick always says, when we pray, stuff happens and we WANT 'stuff to happen'. We were called to pray. Regular prayer helps build a strong foundation of faith and helps is to build a deeper relationship, so let's meet together, pray together and worship together on the **1st Sunday of the month at 7pm.** We really hope that you will come and support this new service, which is simply called PRAY.

These tickets will cost £10 and are available via our website, visiting the Parish Office or by scanning the QR code. Tickets are available now.

On **Good Friday** we will be having a reflective service in Church at **10.30am.**

On **Easter Saturday** we will be having something for families to come and engage in - more details will follow shortly.

On **Easter Sunday** we will have not one, not two but THREE Easter celebrations beginning with welcoming in the **Easter Sunrise Service** - which would have been great as it looked like a later time but then we've spotted that the CLOCKS GO FORWARD! Still, it is has proved a really special service where we gather outside in front of the church.

We will then have our Traditional **Easter Service at 9.30am** - Alleluia! and then the band will set up to celebrate with our **11am contemporary Easter Service.**

So we hope there will be something for everyone to engage in this Easter.

Across the town there will be an 11 hour of Prayer with Pursuit down at North Street Church led by our wonderful Maestro Chris and there is a certain buzz about some worship being sung around the town...but again more info will follow.

And following the roaring success of the Christmas Gospel, there will be another celebration on Easter Sunday evening at North Street, limited spaces available so come down and dont miss out.

So please, pop all these dates in your diaries, more information on it all shall soon follow but we do hope that you join in with our Easter services and those across the town.

ST GEORGE'S WILTON

PRAY

1ST SUNDAYS @7PM

Join us at St George's Wilton on a 1st Sunday for a short time of prayer, reflection and worship.

"For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them." Matthew 18:20



EASTER IS COMING...

It's early this year so Easter will soon be with us and so we thought we would let you know now for your diaries just what is on the calendar so that you can make sure you can join us in the preparation for Easter and then the glorious celebration on Easter Sunday.

On **Maundy Thursday at 6.30pm** we will be sharing a meal together and having Communion. As we will be seated for the meal, it does mean that we have to ticket it as numbers will be limited.

ST GEORGE'S WILTON

Maundy Thursday Meal & Communion

Join us as we share a meal, take Communion and prepare for what is to come.

TICKETS £10 AVAILABLE FROM OUR WEBSITE, OUR PARISH OFFICE OR BY SCANNING THE QR CODE



THURSDAY 28TH MARCH 6.30PM

ST GEORGE'S CHURCH HALL



ST GEORGE'S easter services

Maundy Thursday & Good Friday Services
Easter Sunday Sunrise Service
Easter Sunday Services 9.30am and 11.00am

For more information on our Easter Services visit our website www.stgchurch.co.uk

Join Us This Easter Time At St George's Wilton

WOMEN IN THE PUB

Don't forget it's Women In The Pub THIS MONDAY with a game of Dingbats to keep the brain cells going and getting together for a drink and a catch up.

It would be great to see you there - we're really enjoying these evenings together. Spending time getting to know one another better in a relaxed environment, we really do have a lot of fun!



ST GEORGE'S WILTON

Women IN THE PUB

MEETS EVERY
1st MONDAY at 7.30pm
THE VIVARY ARMS, TAUNTON

Come and join us on the 1st Monday of the month. We'll often bring something "to do" - a quiz, a craft or even share a meal but it's more about having time together to catch up!

OPEN TO ALL
you don't have to attend St George's to come along!
For more information email office@stgchurch.co.uk

THE RETURN OF CHURCHYARD GARDENING

A VERY BIG THANK YOU to all who helped with churchyard gardening last year, whether at the Saturday sessions (3rd Saturday morning of the month, March – November), or by caring for an area of the churchyard in your own spare time, as part of St George's ADOPT-A-PLOT scheme.

In case anyone is wondering what goes on at the Saturday sessions: on average between 6 or 7 come along to help. It's rewarding to see the fruits of our labours, for example, freshly raked-up grass cuttings or leaves, a pruned bush, a cleared path, swept driveway, a weeded or planted border, or a wall cleared of ivy. It's a peaceful place to work, but there's also good company between times – it's encouraging to work together over a task, or to chat generally when we break to gather at about 11am round one of the benches for a 'Bring &

Share' drink and snack. If we're working at the front of the church, many people walk through the churchyard on their way to or from town, and they nearly always greet us or return our greeting or stop and talk for a few minutes. At other times people may come to visit the grave of family or friends, and it can be very uplifting for them to know that the churchyard is valued and cared for by us; and if we have spoken with them, it can help us to feel familiar with the names on grave stones of people we haven't personally known, or whose relatives we haven't met before.

The sessions are between 9.30 – 12.30, but sometimes people come for just an hour. That's absolutely fine of course; although they might then miss the tea break!

If you feel you would like to come along and help this year, please do; or come and have a word if you'd like to know more about caring for a specific small area of the churchyard in your own spare time.

And THANK YOU AGAIN to all of you who do already help.
HOPE TO SEE YOU ON SATURDAY 16TH MARCH!

Jane, Michael & Tricia

On behalf of St George's Churchyard Gardeners
March 2024



"Thou shalt be like a watered garden, and like a spring of water, whose waters fail not."

Starting
Sat 16th
March

ST GEORGE'S WILTON
CHURCHYARD
gardening

Help us to care for our Churchyard

3rd Saturdays
9.30am - 12.30pm
March - November

For more information, please email office@stgchurch.co.uk

Weeding Trimming Raking
Bring some gloves and any tools and let's dig in!

LEE ABBEY WEEKEND AWAY

Lee Abbey update

The Good News. - There is still opportunity to book for Lee Abbey!

The Bad News - But sadly not if you require a single room.

The cut off for Lee Abbey did sound a bit final didn't it?!

The booking system requires that we send off our current bookings and secure the booking fee.

This then means the rooms they allocated to our church that we have not filled go back into Lee Abbey's system.

If you would still like to go to the weekend and require any other accommodation than single then we can contact them and see what is still available and add you to the group. There is no cut off for doing that. And don't forget there is bursary help available if you would like to go but the cost is putting you off. Speak confidentially to either Hilary.

So please still speak to us if you would like to come - it would be great if you could join the rest of the St George's gang heading off to beautiful North Devon in October.

Hilary and Hilary

Further information from:

Hilary Hayes hilhayes7@gmail.com. or

Hilary McKegney hilarymckegs@gmail.com

An Escape To The Country

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

FOR INFO EMAIL

HILHAYES7@GMAIL.COM OR
HILARYMCKEGS@GMAIL.COM

Mothers' Union is a Christian organisation that has been supporting families worldwide for over 140 years. Started by our founder Mary Sumner in 1876 in her local parish, we have grown into an international charity with over 4 million members in 84 countries.

As a Christian membership charity, we work tirelessly to serve communities while offering care for families regardless of faith or background. This happens as we work towards ending violence, ending poverty, ending injustice. Our members work at grassroots level around the world. They bring hope and practical support to millions of people every year through parenting, literacy and community development programmes.

100% of the profits from our shop supports the work of Mothers' Union.

There will be baskets available by the South door for any cash donations and we now have our card facility up and running for you to donate that way.

If you are a Church At Home worshipper, you can donate via their website - <https://www.mothersunion.org/donate>

CHARITY COLLECTION MOTHERS' UNION

March
**charity
collection**



Mothers' UNION
Christian care for families



Mothers' Union aims to show our Christian faith by helping the sustainable transformation of communities worldwide. They do this by helping to nurture strong relationships at all levels, promoting peace and reconciliation locally, nationally and globally.

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

Barbara Colwill and Russell Petty

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.

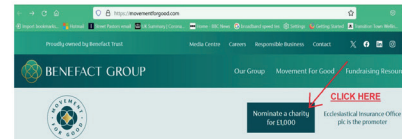
May their memories become joyful, their days enriched with friendship, and their lives encircled by your love.

*Through Jesus Christ, our lord.
Amen.*

How to nominate Wellington Street Pastors for £1000 of Benefact charitable funding.

1. Before 16 March, go to Benefact homepage: <https://movementforgood.com/>.

You will see the following page; click on "nominate a charity for £1000" as shown

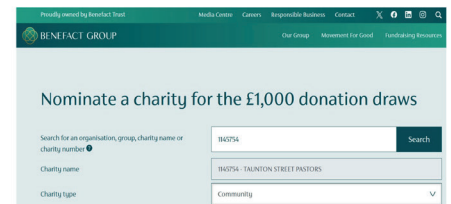


2. This will take you to the nominations page. Please enter the following number which uniquely identifies Wellington, Taunton & Bridgwater Street Pastors

1145754

This will return "1145754 Taunton Street Pastors" (Wellington, Taunton & Bridgwater combined)

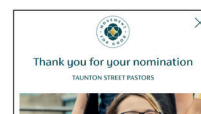
3. On the line below, please chose "COMMUNITY" from the drop-down list of charity types, as in the screenshot below:



4. Continue down the page, filling-in your personal details, then press the "nominate your charity for £1000" button at the bottom of the page and shown below:



5. Once completed successfully, you'll see the following screen confirming successful nomination:



Street Pastors are in need of help to get some funding to help their work in Taunton, Wellington and Bridgwater. It just takes a couple of minutes to complete, and would be really great if a good number of people could support us! There are a number of people associated with Street Pastors at St George's, so would mean a lot to us all! Thank you so much!

Di

ST GEORGE'S WILTON Buggy Buddies

Term Time Mondays at 10am

MEET IN ST GEORGE'S CHURCHYARD

To find out more email FAMILIES@STGCHURCH.CO.UK

A relaxed walking group for parents/carers of bumps, babies & toddlers

walk
natter
songs
stories
coffee
fresh air
fitness
friendship
...and free!

See you on Monday!

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

The West Somerset Singers
with tenor soloist Gregory Steward

Road to Calvary

Music for Holy Week

Olivet to Calvary - J.H. Maunder
God So Loved The World - Stainer
Il fervido desiderio - Bellini
Agnus Dei - Bizet



Saturday 23 March 2024 - 7.00pm

St George's RC Church, Taunton TA1 3NN

Tickets £10 from Chris Knapman on (01823) 335303 or on the door

westsomersetsingers.org

FILM SCREENING AND Q&A:

AFTER THE FLOOD

THE CHURCH, SLAVERY AND RECONCILIATION

Q&A Speakers include:

 **Rev Alton Bell** Co-host
Chair of Movement for Justice & Reconciliation

 **Susann Savidge** Co-host
Somerset African Caribbean Network

 **Robert Beckford** Guest Speaker
Professor of Climate and Social Justice at Winchester University, BAFTA award winning film maker, After the Flood narrator

Saturday 9 March 2024

1.45 p.m. - 4.45 p.m. (arrival from 1.15 p.m.)

Cedars Hall, Wells BA5 2ST

Tickets: £10/Students £8
via wells cathedral.eventbrite.co.uk
Tea and Coffee provided during the interval

After the Flood study booklet available
@ £5 cash only at the event



This 67 minute feature documentary shows how the 18th century Church became embroiled in chattel slavery. We discover how the Church justified its involvement in the trade and its lasting impact. The film then explores what this means for Christian reconciliation today.

"This film represents a watershed moment for the church. The case for the wrongs of the transatlantic slave trade to be addressed through restitution leading to true reconciliation has been made. I commend this film as a must watch for every person."

Bishop Mike Royal
General Secretary, Churches Together in England, CTE

To watch a trailer and find out more about the film visit
www.mj-r-uk.com/aftertheflood



Tuesday and Sunday Nights

PURSUIT

'One thing I ask...' Psalm 27:4

@North Street Church, Taunton

St James Players present

Bodysnatchers

Fri 5th & Sat 6th April 2024

A Whodunnit Mystery for Easter written by Jenny Wakefield

at St James Church, Taunton
Doors Open 7pm Performance 7.30pm

Tickets are £10 (Students £8) available from:
Ticket Source:
<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/st-james-church-taunton>
Phone 07796 248369

All proceeds go to

Ticket Price Includes:
Nibbles, "Banger in a Bun" at the interval
Followed by Cake & Coffee after the show
Bring your own drink to enjoy the evening!



GIVE IN LENT



HELP SUPPORT YOUR FOOD BANK WITH FOOD THIS LENT

In the 6 weeks of Lent, the food bank will provide emergency food parcels for local people and families facing hardship.

The amount of help needed is outstripping the donations we're receiving. Please donate an item or two from our shopping list, if you can.

SHOPPING LIST TOP TEN ITEMS

- UHT Milk (all types)
- Tinned Fruit
- Tinned Carrots
- Tinned Sausage & Beans
- Tinned Ravioli/Spaghetti
- Tinned Macaroni Cheese
- Tinned Vegetarian Meals
- Mug Shots/Cup a Soup
- Tinned Rice Pudding
- Tinned Custard



THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

To find out how to donate food visit
taunton.foodbank.org.uk

Registered Charity in England & Wales (1163094).