

ST MARK'S PARISH MAGAZINE



**Our Kitchen Project Team – Mel, Nicci & Barbara
Enjoying a day of rest!**

JULY 2018

THE CHURCH OF SAINT MARK, REIGATE

Vicar: The Reverend Martin Colton
On Sabbatical from 9th April to 31st July 2018

Assistant Curate: The Reverend Anna Moore
Tel: 07939 388607 Email: curate@stmarksreigate.co.uk

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Mrs Sarah Cousins, 01737 789943
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Visit our website: www.stmarksreigate.co.uk

LETTER FROM THE CURATE

Dear Friends

What amazing news we received this month! Through the sheer determination and stamina of our Kitchen Project team, Mel, Nicci and Barbara have been able to secure enough grants to start the work in July. I am astounded how hard these 3 people have worked, the various hoops they have had to jump through and red tape they have crossed, yet all the while have remained positive and enthusiastic throughout. They committed their time and energy to a project which seemed so distant and yet, the strong sense of teamwork carried them through a journey of epic proportions! Such an amazing achievement!

Speaking of journeys, during a recent 'Quiet Day' I attended, guest speaker Andrew Rumsey, Rector of Oxted encouraged us to take stock of where we had come from and where our destination lies. We were encouraged to reflect upon our lives as a journey, using the imagery of the M25 surrounding London, the various A and B roads that pump life in and out of the city, the various train routes which intersect, disappearing underground through long tunnels as they continue their journey out of sight. Looking upwards we see the planes, hear roaring engines as they power out of Gatwick, and yet the North Downs possesses the most ancient of roads; the Pilgrim's way which stretches from Winchester to Canterbury and has over the years embraced hundreds of pilgrims on foot. There is a myriad of routes ancient and modern which are open to us in a relatively small area of east Surrey. As we picture this, we can ask ourselves where are we on our journey? Where have we come from, where are we now and where are we heading?

As Christians we proclaim that God is Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, God is also the bit in-between too! So taking time to reflect is a useful exercise; to put into perspective where I am now and where I see God in my life. Where do I encounter the A roads that pump life and sustain me, where do I try and escape by the fastest means possible! In my recent sermon I focused on Gods Kingdom not being a place we aim to get to; the Kingdom is a spiritual reality of the here and now rather than a territorial domain. God's kingdom is already around us, but in order to receive the Kingdom it requires us to set aside our earthly wants and needs and look for the beauty and sense of fulfilment in focusing on what sustains and gives us life. That can be achieved through the realisation of how good it feels when we are able to travel together, to belong, to share experiences as I am sure Mel, Nicci and Barbara would agree!

Our lives are full of intersections where we decide to take one route only to find another would have been quicker, but I bet the longer way the scenery is so much nicer! Now and again we get caught in a jam, we have nowhere to turn and our only option is to sit and wait it out. These are all metaphors that helps us to picture our lives and to try and see from a different perspective how God is present in each and every situation no matter how hard or easy the journey maybe. Our lives can be very busy at times with no room to manoeuvre yet other

periods may offer opportunities to try new routes, new ventures as other commitments fall away.

Most Sundays you will hear a plea of some kind asking for volunteers or donations, which although necessary for various events to happen, for some this can feel a bit overwhelming, especially to those who have even felt quite guilty because they are unable to respond in a way they think they should, or feel others think they should!

These pleas are opportunities for people to respond if or when the time is right, for folk to offer a helpful lift, to take a detour off of their main route, where the extra time is given freely and willingly, rather than out of a feeling of duty. For some, the time is not right and that is fine, church should not feel like a chore but rather a place of rest, a place of comfort like the service station, when you are out of fuel, desperately hungry or need a comfort break. This can be a place of utter relief, and a breather from the road where full concentration is needed! Church should be a place of refreshment, and sanctuary as we refuel for the week ahead. But it's worth remembering, like fuel it remains with us until we run on empty and we grind to a halt, so top up regularly in order to keep moving!

God Bless

Anna.

Reverend Anna

THE CHILDREN'S SOCIETY

A huge thank you to everyone who contributed to our box-opening event on 16 June. Proceeds from the stalls raised £466 and together with money in the boxes and some generous donations we have been able to bank **£1366.**



This made everybody's efforts well worthwhile in support of this wonderful charity for which we here at St Mark's have been raising funds over many years.

Tony & Patricia Bird

A WARM ST MARK'S WELCOME TO OUR VISITING CLERGY IN JULY

Sunday 8 July – Bishop Jonathan

We are delighted to welcome Bishop Jonathan to St Mark's for the 10am service, where he will preside and preach. It has been some time since we have had the pleasure of welcoming Bishop Jonathan to St Mark's and this time we have the added excitement of a baptism of twins Dexter and Rowan, so we are in for a treat.

Sunday 22 July – Mary Magdalene Archdeacon Moira

A very warm St Mark's welcome again to Archdeacon Moira, who will be presiding and preaching at our 8am and 10am Services on 22 July. We are very fortunate to have Archdeacon Moira with us again.

What is happening to the St Mark's Church Tower?

This is a question that is on everyone's lips at the moment, so I thought it best to give a quick update and a brief history.

As part of our quinquennial report, the diocese architect advised that the tower, particularly the top, was at risk of crumbling and we were advised to get scaffolding in place in order to facilitate a closer inspection. This took place in January 2017.

On closer inspection the tower was not deemed an immediate risk to the public, the scaffolding came down to save money as we waited on the Architect to produce a schedule of work and permission to proceed from the diocese.



Pierra, a company familiar with church restoration and who St Matthews had previously used, won the contract to complete the work. The second set of scaffolding was then erected. Our agreement for the repairs and restoration with Pierra is set out over an anticipated 16-week period, which commenced in mid-April and includes the price of the scaffolding.

Although at many times it appears nothing much is happening, Pierra are starting from the top and working downwards in sections called 'lifts'. Much of their work or workmen are unseen due to the height or are working inside but please rest assured they are there and are renovating our lovely tower.



I have included some photos taken by our Churchwardens on a recent visit up the tower, to illustrate the extent of the damage. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to speak to me and I'll be happy to try and answer them. If I can't answer them, I will find someone who can!

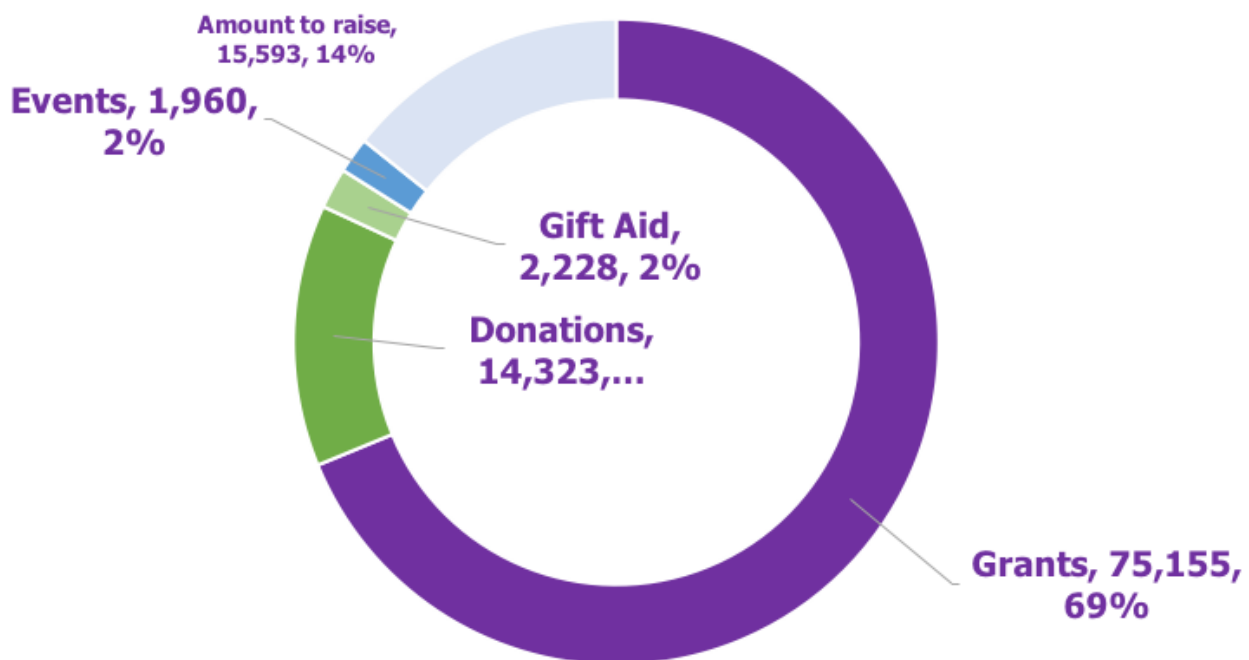
God Bless
Anna



New Kitchen Project

So much has happened in the last month and we are absolutely delighted to be able to report that the amount raised for the new kitchen project is now **£93,666**.

Total Raised So Far £93,666



The majority of the increase since reporting in the June magazine is the award of a **Community Buildings Grant of over £35,000 from Biffa Award** which we applied for in March. We were doubly delighted to receive such a large grant as it also took our total to a level that enables the project to go ahead this summer. We shared this news with many of you in the congregation after the service on Sunday 24th June. We have also had some other donations and we thank everyone who has donated to the project and promoted its cause to enable us to reach this incredible figure. Having only started fundraising in September we are really pleased to be have raised so much in such a short space of time.

The total grants awarded for the project are over £75,000 and we have been amazed at how successful our applications have been. We believe this has been down to the wide range of community activities that take place in our hall and kitchen that we were able to highlight to the grantors. In particular, the Community Lunch, VARB Christmas day lunch, Winter Night Shelter, Vintage Tea, Children's breakfast club, SMOAT events, weekly coffee, messy church, harvest lunch and adhoc social events. Many of these would not be able to continue for much longer without a new kitchen. The St Mark's Community and all the volunteers who devote lots of time and energy to these events have all

contributed to these grants being awarded. It is important we continue to serve the needs of the community.

We would also like to congratulate the hardworking Community Lunch Team for being awarded the 'Mayor's Volunteer Team Award' where this year the theme is 'Taking Responsibility'.



Work starting soon!

We have been liaising with contractors to agree the start date and timetable for the project. We are hoping that the building work will start towards the end of July and the kitchen will be fitted towards the end of August/start of September. We will keep you updated through the newssheet and the magazine.

We are also still working out the practicalities of how the hall will be affected but during the works there will be no kitchen.

Please look at the plans on the board in the foyer and the noticeboard and if you have any queries do get in touch.

Many thanks as always for your support and prayers.

Mel Crighton, Nicci Lloyd, Barbara Perkins
The Kitchen Project Team

STMARK'S SOCIAL DANCE MOVES

FOR JULY & AUGUST

Due to the commencement of work on our New Kitchen, the next dances on Saturday 28th July and 25th August may be relocated
Look out for details

ST MARKS'S SINGERS CONCERT

In aid of the Kitchen Project, (who still need to raise the remaining balance) will be held on
Saturday 29th September
Look out for more information
& save the date!



GDPR – Genera Data Protection Regulations **We will miss you.....**

New data protection legislation requires us to have your consent to hold your contact details and say how we can communicate with you. Please complete the gold consent form and return it to the Parish Office as soon as possible, so we can continue to keep you informed of news and events.....A copy of our Privacy Notice can be found on our website www.stmarksreigate.co.uk or a copy can be requested from the Parish Office. Thank you.

SMART – Tea & Croquet

This month on the July 5th we will once again be enjoying a visit to Ian & Jenny Archer, for tea & cake in their beautiful gardens. Come and join us for good conversation, croquet & time to relax ... We can be contacted via Sarah Cousins (01737 789943) or Louise Wallis (01737 242129).



St Mark's Parent & Toddler Group Welcomes a new Deputy Leader



Parent and Toddler group is delighted to welcome Sophie to the team as deputy leader to help Louise Wallis run the group. Sophie joins a wonderful team of Mum's who help on Mondays from 8.30-11.30am to set up, oversee and manage the running of the group during term times. We regularly have 40 children and their mums or dads and carers. Volunteers make this fun and rewarding! Join us!

Please contact Louise Wallis if you would like to know more....

Our last meeting of this term will be on Monday 16th July and all being well with the new kitchen project running to plan, we hope to be restarting in the hall on Monday 10 September. Happy Summer to one and all!



Time for Some St Mark's TLC 29th June to 3rd July



We need to come together to lavish a little time and love on St Mark's; there is a list of jobs that we would love to tackle both inside and outside to keep our beautiful church looking her best. Just an hour or 2 of your time, talents and goodwill would be appreciated. This year we have divide up the tasks, suggesting they be fitted in between Friday 29th June and Tuesday 3rd July. Please look out for the job list and see what takes your fancy! A power washer or 2 are needed, along with paint rollers! (Both with volunteers attached!) Thank you.

Next Issue – 5th August 2018

Contributions are welcome, along with your suggestions for content and items you would like included. All items should be emailed to the Parish Office by **10am on the 25th July 2018**

Editing & Collation Team

We are seeking keen and IT friendly help to collate the magazine. Please speak to Reverend Anna if you would like to help shape our communications for the future!

St Mark's Pull-Out Guide

REGULAR SERVICES AND EVENTS AT ST MARK'S

SUNDAYS

8.00am	Each Sunday	Holy Communion (said) Book of Common Prayer
10.00am	1 st Sunday	Parish Eucharist (with Junior Church)
	2 nd Sunday	Sung Eucharist (with Junior Church)
	3 rd Sunday	Sung Eucharist (with Story Telling)
	4 th Sunday	Sung Eucharist (with Junior Church)
	5 th Sunday	Sung Eucharist (with Junior Church)
4.00pm	3 rd Sunday	Messy Church
6.00pm	1 st Sunday	Healing and Wholeness
	2 nd Sunday	Taizé Prayer
	3 rd Sunday	Evening Prayer (said)
	4 th Sunday	Evening Prayer (said)
	5 th Sunday	Evening Prayer (said)

MONDAY TO THURSDAY

9.15am	Morning Prayer in the Lady Chapel
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MONDAY (during school term-time)

9.30am	St Mark's Toddler Group in the hall
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WEDNESDAY

10.00am	1 st Wednesday	Vintage Tea – in the Church
	3.25pm	'T' Time Tales (during school term-time)

THURSDAY

	12.45pm	Holy Communion (Iona) followed by tea or coffee
2.00pm	1 st Thursday	SMART

SATURDAY

8pm	4 th Saturday	St Mark's Social Dance
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A Handy Pull-Out Guide to 'What's On' at St Mark's

CALENDAR FOR JULY

Sunday 1st July

Trinity 5

12.30pm Baptism

6.00pm Healing & Wholeness Service

To Tuesday 3rd July

Lavish some Love on St Mark's – please sign up to help with practical projects to give care and attention to our church.

Wednesday 4th July

10.00am -12noon Vintage Tea in the Church
'Independence Day' in USA

Thursday 5th July

12.45pm Holy Communion (Iona)

2.00pm SMART – Outing to Ian & Jenny Archer's
Tea & Croquet

Sunday 8th July

Trinity 6 - Bishop Jonathan - Baptism

1.00pm Community Lunch

6.00pm Taizé Prayer

Wednesday 11th July

3.25pm T Time Tales (Last of term)

Thursday 12th July

12.45pm Holy Communion (Iona)

Friday 13th July

11.00am Memorial Bench dedication

Sunday 15th July

Trinity 7

4.00pm Messy Church

Monday 16th July

9.30am Toddler Group – last meeting of term

Thursday 19th July

12.45pm Holy Communion (Iona)

Sunday 22nd July

Mary Magdalene - Archdeacon Moira

Monday 23rd July

New Kitchen Project – work begins

8.00pm PCC Meeting

Thursday 28th July

12.45pm Holy Communion (Iona)

Saturday 28th July

8.00pm St Mark's Social Dance to be relocated due
to building work.

Sunday 29th July

Trinity 9

12.30pm Baptism

A Handy Pull-Out Guide to 'What's On' at St Mark's

CALENDAR FOR AUGUST

Wednesday 1st August Fr. Martin returns from Sabbatical
10.00am -12noon Vintage Tea in the Church

Thursday 2nd August 12.45pm Holy Communion (Iona)
2.00pm SMART – Garden Party
at Patricia & Tony Bird's

Sunday 5th August Trinity 10
1.00pm Community Lunch
6.00pm Healing & Wholeness Service

Thursday 9th August 12.45pm Holy Communion (Iona)

Sunday 12th August Trinity 11
6.00pm Taizé Prayer

Thursday 16th August 12.45pm Holy Communion (Iona)

Sunday 19th August Trinity 12

Thursday 23rd 12.45pm Holy Communion (Iona)

Saturday 25th August 8.00pm St Mark's Social Dance (may be relocated)

Sunday 26th August Trinity 13

Thursday 30th 12.45pm Holy Communion (Iona)

St Mark's New Kitchen Project

We are extremely grateful to all those individuals for supporting the project. Although we have sufficient funds to start the project in July, we still need to raise the remaining 14% ourselves. If you would like to make a donation, of any amount, this can be made by cheque payable to St Mark's PCC or online by using the following link:

<https://mydonate.bt.com/events/newkitchenstmarks>

and simply press the 'Donate Now' button. Please Gift Aid donations if you can as the project benefits by an additional £25 per £100 donated.

PARISH ACTIVITIES, EVENTS, GROUPS & CONTACTS

CHURCH FLOWER ROTA

Contact: Mrs Valerie Jones 01737 246538

CHOIR PRACTICE

Each Thursday in Church - all parts at 7.00pm - other practices as notified

DATA REQUESTS

Contact: Parish Office – 01737 210785

IONA COMMUNION – LUNCHTIME SERVICE

Every Thursday 12.45-1.15pm followed by Coffee/Tea

PARENT AND TODDLER GROUP

Contact: Louise Wallis 01737 242129

PARISH SAFEGUARDING OFFICERS

Mrs Rosemary Absalom 01737 240351 & Mrs Kate Lovegrove 01737 226776

SMART - St Mark's Afternoon Retirement Team

Contacts: Mrs Sarah Cousins 01737 789943 or Mrs Louise Wallis 01737 242129

ST MARK'S COMMUNITY LUNCH

Contacts: Mrs Angela Daniels 247162 & Mrs Alison Stagg 243992

ST MARK'S CHURCH HALL

Regular Lettings Secretary: Mrs Jean Hatton 01737 765759

Party Bookings & Church Bookings via Parish Office 01737 210785

ST MARK'S OVERSEAS AID TRUST - SMOAT

Chairman: Mrs Barbara Perkins, 01737 226632

ST MARK'S PARISH MAGAZINE

Advertising: Mrs Jane Artis, email: janeartis@hotmail.com 07831 269866

Distribution: Mrs Jenny Toye, 01737 247016

Editing & Collation Team: Contact via the Parish Office 01737 210785

ST MARK'S SINGERS

Contact: Toby Garrood 241979

VINTAGE TEA

First Wednesday of month, 10am-12noon in St Mark's Church

WEBSITE & FACEBOOK

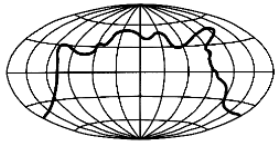
Contact: Ben Read Email: benread@hotmail.com

YOUTH WORK

Junior Church: Mrs Leonora Corden, l.corden@btinternet.com 01737224534

'ROOTS' Youth Group (from Sept in Kingswood):

Reverend Anna 07939 388607



S · M · O · A · T

ST MARK'S OVERSEAS AID TRUST



Dear Friends, I'm here to talk about the future of the world.

The world population currently stands at around 7.6 billion people, of which over 2.2 billion are children. The number of children in the world living in poverty is 1.1 billion – **THAT IS HALF OF THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN IN THE WORLD LIVING IN POVERTY**. My jaw dropped open when I saw that statistic.

1 in 3 of those children has no adequate shelter
1 in 5 has no access to safe water
1 in 7 has no access to any kind of health provision



There are 121 million children worldwide who are out of education.

Over 10 million children die before they reach the age of 5.



Over 3 million children each year die from hunger.

Over 1.4 million children each year die from lack of access to safe drinking water and adequate sanitation.

2.2 million children die each year because they are not immunised.

Why are children having to live in a world where 42 people hold as much wealth as the 3.7 billion who make up the poorest half of the world's population? 82% of the global wealth generated in 2017 went to the most wealthy 1%.



Children are our future but what hope do they have in a world like this?

Please help to eradicate poverty, so that there might actually be a future for this world.

Let us keep praying and working towards that goal....

Barbara Perkins
Chair of SMOAT





ROOTS YOUTH GROUP

Another success story! Roots youth group was launched in October 2017 and is run with the help of a Youth Worker from Surrey Clubs for Youth charity. Roots is aimed at Year 6 and above in the Reigate and Banstead area and is a joint venture with our neighbouring parish Kingswood. By working together with another parish to serve the community, we have been able to secure a generous grant from the Deanery which has helped source a youth worker, set up and stock the tuck shop and will be used for new equipment and outings.

After careful consideration, the age of the young people able to attend was lowered from that of CHUMS to help in the vital transition stage of primary to secondary. This change is daunting, but friendships that are established through Roots can widen the chances of knowing a familiar face when they begin secondary school.

Roots is currently held on the fourth Sunday of the month 5-7pm. We have on average 25 members plus young leaders. The Tuck shop facility is run by older members, the 'Young Leaders', who handle the cash, stock take, cook toasties and help and supervise activities that are co-ordinated by the Youth Worker. This also includes the use of a Pool Table, Nintendo Wii, Table Tennis and team games, these are wonderful activities which encourage teamwork. We recently entered into an art competition against other Surrey clubs, which was awesome! The artwork was amazing and all entries were put on display in The Light box gallery, Woking, which also exhibits Picasso's work! All entries were presented with a certificate and a small prize, and there was great excitement as we discovered we had 3 winners within our club, who won £15 each.



Roots allows the members to decide how the club is structured and what type of activities they want to be involved with. By doing this it encourages friendship, respect, tolerance, consideration, patience, trust and responsibility. As a result of the overwhelming support from Kingswood Parish, especially Jackie Cox, who has helped establish and run Roots with me, we have taken the opportunity to reflect on where we thought the club was heading. In April 2018, we explored the possibility of moving Roots to lower Kingswood where over 90% of our members are from. There were a number of reasons for this, we looked geographically at the areas where we could grow Roots. By linking in with Tadworth as well as Reigate the central position was naturally Lower Kingswood.

In a relatively short time, Roots has gone from strength to strength welcoming new members and attaining a '**Platinum**' Affiliation with Surry Clubs for Young People. A status that only 5 groups have achieved in the Surrey Area.

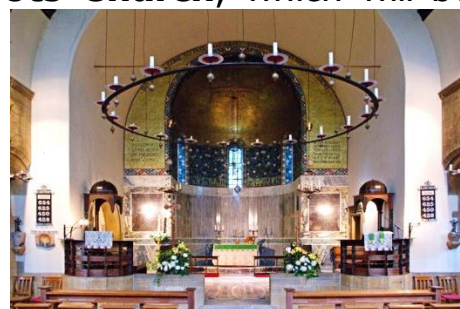
On 23rd September we are relocating and launching Roots at Lower Kingswood and to mark the occasion the High Sheriff is being invited to open the venue, together with local, who have offered to buy a new piece of equipment for the

club. The launch will hopefully put the club in the limelight for those who wish to know more and use the club from the local communities including Reigate.

We asked our members to design a new club logo for the launch and the winning logo is at the top of this article. The entries were voted on in a secret ballot and Bonnie Alexander won, (well done Bonnie!). Jackie and I agreed the logo demonstrated that Roots was outward looking, emanating colour and vibrancy to the communities it serves.

It doesn't stop there, we are continuing to develop! With the kind help of our Archdeacon Moria Astin, we are also launching **Roots Church**, which will be affiliated to Roots Youth Club in October 2018. This will take place on the 2nd Sunday of the month in the Wisdom of God Church. Roots Club will then follow on the 4th Sunday – Term Time.

Roots together with the expertise of Surrey Clubs for Youth, hope to offer a wide range of activities, including a voluntary faith element, which caters for all. Exciting times!



God Bless
Reverend Anna

SOLUTION TO LAST MONTH'S CROSSWORD

ACROSS: 1, Wickedness 7, Harpist 8, Teach 10, Side 11, Impostor 13, Encamp 15, Saddle 17, Ignorant 18, Tent 21, Grass 22, Olivier 23, Wrongdoers

DOWN: 1, World 2, Crib 3, Entomb 4, National 5, Started 6, Whispering 9, Harvesters 12, Imprison 14, Centaur 16, Unload 19, Evils 20, Give

THE JULY SUDOKU CHALLENGE

SUDOKU

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

Solution to June's Sudoku

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

So.....What does the Parish Administrator do?

Following on from last month's article about a week in the life of our curate and the diverse roll our clergy must fill. It was suggested I make time to give you all a peek at what goes on behind the office door, Monday to Thursday 9am-1pm...and in the few extra quite hours when the office is shut. My job description runs to a couple of pages but the item that takes most of the time is 'Ad Hoc tasks as required'!

My week always starts with putting the kettle on and checking my favourite piece of equipment.... 'The Copier' transformed the time taken to do so many jobs! I would be lost without it! I then look at all the notes and items left in the vestry over the weekend, check the emails to see what needs to be done.... Preparing the service books for the week and weekend ahead, along with checking diaries (I'm also PA to both the Vicar & Curate), filling out Baptism and



Banns registers with associated cards, candles & certificates. This forms much of my routine work. Thursdays often see celebrations for saints and those of great influence within the church at our IONA lunchtime service. I prepare the serving tray and usually serve for the minister presiding, this service plus the chat over tea & coffee afterwards is always a highlight of my week.



At the moment, General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) has taken over from the iKnow System' as the most time consuming of my tasks. Being appointed the PCC Data Controller for St Mark's has involved much more than I had anticipated but learning all about Data Control has enabled me to pass on advice to some other voluntary groups and friends who are also facing the concern of managing data records correctly.

The Magazine collation has recently moved to the office, while an Editorial Team is found to take this on. It has been fun to draw on my past experience to collate the great articles provided and lovely to hear the support and appreciation given to Reverend Anna for ensuring it continued to be provided when Malcolm Toye decided to take a well earned retirement from being Editor. It will take a team to replace him!



Never bored! No week is the same; I could be discussing Party Bookings, amending a rota, updating contact details, producing signup sheets and posters or taking time to help a visitor, answer questions and concerns over the telephone or dealing with email enquiries. It is this variety and need for flexibility to field such diverse

requirements, which makes this job so very rewarding. I shall be so sorry to leave when we sell our house and move out of the area.

Parish Administrator Post

Part-time, 20 Hours per week (16 core hours plus 4 flexible)

Form and orderly que..... this really is a fascinating job to have, with wonderful people to work with and such a variety of ways to make life better for all those who support our church. If you seek a job that is fulfilling, varied and interesting – this could be for you!



Not vacant yet.... So watch this space. In time the Vicar and PCC will decide how they would like the role staffed. However, as this will not be my decision, I do promise you all that I will leave handover notes and all in as good order as I can for the next Parish Administrator! Meanwhile, it 4pm and well beyond the time I should be away....

Shona Prosser

Parish Administrator

PA to Vicar & Curate

Data Controller

Coffee makers and 'Ad hoc task Master!'



Copyright - Roger Lloyd

Hello Marley

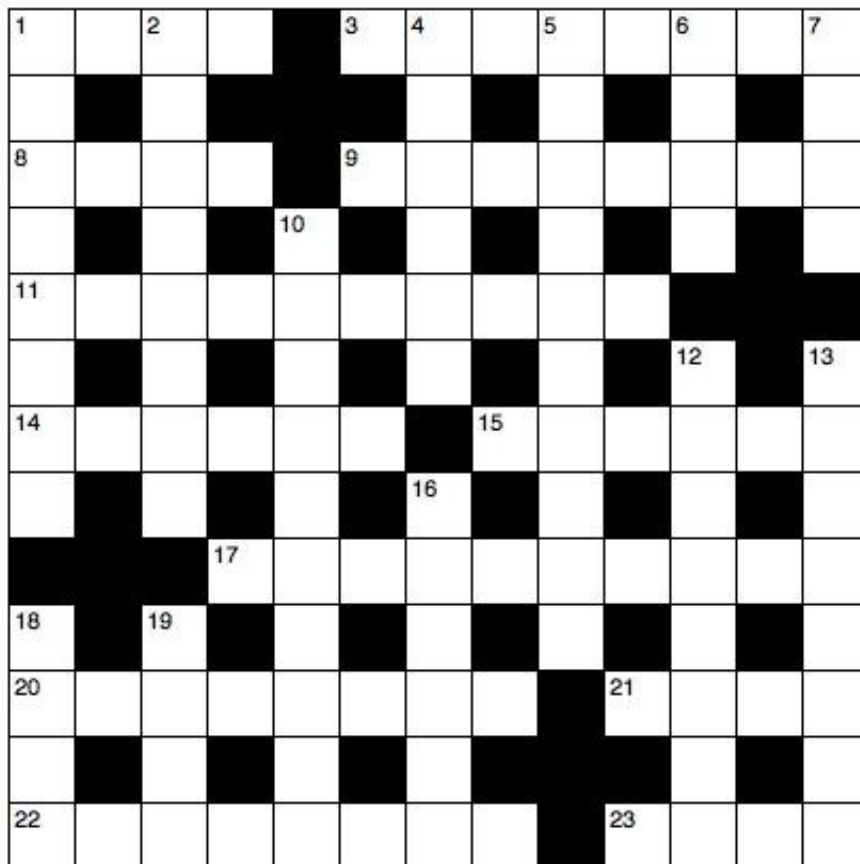
Marley is an old cat, a wise cat, a sad cat. Marley has explored the world and made and lost friends along the way. Marley has seen many beautiful places and met interesting animals. However, he is sad and longs for a home, a place to settle, and ponder on the life he has lived. A warrior, a comforter, a loner, a watcher – Marley has been them all. Marley wants to make friends, share his tales and try to settle his mind on the many questions he has..... It was while wandering along the Pilgrims Way he took a short detour and found himself a very cosy wall to curl up on, as he dozed a small voice called to him. 'Hello' said the little voice, 'would you like some food and shelter?' Marley was surprised to find the voice came from a mouse, a very bold mouse with kind eyes. 'Yes, I would welcome rest and something to eat, thank you' said Marley, introducing himself. The friendly mouse with the kind eyes said 'my name is Candlemouse, please follow me, this is my home and all are welcome here at St Mark's, I know where you can find a nice cushion, plenty of water and some rather nice biscuits.' Marley followed his new friend through the glass door and into a beautiful church, filled with colours as the sun danced through the stained glass windows, I could be happy here, he thought.

JULY CROSSWORD CHALLENGE

ACROSS

(Biblical references are from the New International Version)

- 1 Proverbs describes her as being 'of noble character' (Proverbs 31:10) (4)
 3 'Shall we go up again — — against the Benjamites, our brothers?' (Judges 20:23) (2,6)
 8 A descendant of Shem (Genesis 10:28) (4)
 9 'Anyone who does not carry his cross and follow me cannot be my — ' (Luke 14:27) (8)
 11 Resentment (Ephesians 4:31) (10)
 14 In Cain (anag.) (6)
 15 'Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, too lofty for me to-' (Psalm 139:6) (6)
 17 Intense (1 Thessalonians 4:5) (10)
 20 Third Order of the Roman Catholic Church (8)
 21 'At midnight the cry rang out, "Here's the bridegroom! Come out to — him"' (Matthew 25:6) (4)
 22 'My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in — ' (2 Corinthians 12:9) (8)
 23 'As the — pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, O God' (Psalm 42:1) (4)



DOWN

- 1 Nickname of popular First World War chaplain, the Rev'd G.A. Studdert Kennedy, — Willie (8)
 2 Occasion of religious joy (Lamentations 2:22)(5,3)
 4 'We three kings of — are' (6)
 5 Allegation or charge (Jude 9) (10)
 6 Kind (1 Chronicles 12:33) (4)
 7 'Open your — and look at the fields!' (John 4:35) (4)
 10 Also known as the Feast of Lights (John 10:22) (10)
 12 Area that saw the healing of two demon - possessed men and a herd of pigs stampeding to their deaths (Matthew 8:28) (8)
 13 Forebear (James 2:21) (8)
 16 Name given to the first two books of the Apocrypha (6)
 18 Esau sold his birthright for this (Genesis 25:34) (4)
 19 You shall have a designated — (Deuteronomy 23:12) (4)

HELPFUL CONTACTS

Useful contacts with personal recommendations from the congregation

This does not constitute an endorsement by St Mark's Church, other suppliers are available....

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A chuckle from the Pulpit

A minister told his congregation, "Next week I plan to preach about the sin of lying. To help you understand my sermon, I want you all to read Mark 17."

The following Sunday, as he prepared to deliver his sermon, the minister asked for a show of hands. He wanted to know how many had read Mark 17. Every hand went up. The minister smiled and said, "Mark has only sixteen chapters. I will now proceed with my sermon on the sin of lying."



We can't help everyone, but everyone can help someone.

Plan ahead - It wasn't raining when Noah built the ark.

Moses had the first tablet that could connect to the cloud.

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