

ST MARK'S PARISH MAGAZINE



You will be like a well-watered garden, like a spring whose water never fails...

May 2019

Donations to cover the cost of this publication are welcome

THE PARISH CHURCH OF SAINT MARK, REIGATE

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Tel: 01737 241161 Email: vicar@stmarksreigate.co.uk

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Mrs Louise Wallis, 01737 242129
Mr Ben Read, 01737 244440

DEPUTY WARDENS

Mrs Jane Artis, 07831 269866
Mrs Christine Ingram, 01737 217969

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Mr Terrence Hancock, 01737 761178

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Mr Toby Garrood, 01738 241979

ELECTORAL ROLL

Mrs Alison Stagg, 01737 243992

Visit our website: www.stmarksreigate.co.uk

LETTER FROM THE VICAR

Dear Friends,



We celebrated Easter on 21 April and the season continues for 50 days. My favourite service among the cycle of worship during Holy Week and Easter is the 8pm Easter Vigil and Eucharist on Holy Saturday. This is partly because we begin in the Hall garden which itself is such an articulate sermon: here we are among budding flowers, watered earth, and the memorials of friends gone on before. But mainly, it feels appropriate to be outside the confines of the building to celebrate the Resurrection!

The point with the Resurrection is not that there is a reversal of death: Jesus did not just pop back to his friends as if to say, "Sorry folks, it was all a bad dream I was kidding really." This would have conflated the joy of Easter with the much less complicated celebrations of Palm Sunday. On Palm Sunday we commemorated Jesus' entry into Jerusalem, and the end of his public ministry. The celebration and hope then, though real, was about a particular time and place and a particular set of political and economic agendas. Finally, Rome might fall! Finally, the Messiah might sit on the throne of David and restore the temple to a seat of civil power! As we know, these hopes did not work out. Even the temple itself was destroyed (but for the one 'wailing' wall, still standing) a few years later.

Resurrection is about something else and it is far more durable. Remember, even his closest friends did not recognise the resurrected Jesus until he revealed himself. Resurrection is not just about restoration, it is something entirely new and not necessarily easy to see in the moment itself. I am convinced our lives together in church prove this: how many times do we after the fact look at a particular event, or season in church life, and say, "did not our hearts burn within us?" These are the words of the disciples in Luke 24 after Jesus had disappeared from them at the Emmaus table, asking each other how they could have missed noticing it was he with whom they walked.

"Did not our hearts burn within us" when we have had laughter at one of our courses or Bible studies? Did not our hearts burn within us to work in the Winter Night Shelter, or hear the St Mark's Centre abuzz with different activities? Do not our hearts burn within us to see one another grow, and change and the life of the church develop with us? As we move forward, new life will look very different than the old, and may not always be able to be planned in advance. Nonetheless, it does happen, and our fellowship and our intention for a renewal in the coming years makes this an exciting time.

We are a resurrection people. Now let's just hope for sunshine during these 50 days of Easter!

With my best wishes



Easter Holiday Club 2019

We had great fun at the St Mark's Easter Holiday Club with over 50 children attending aged between 5 and 11. Lots of smiling faces, happy children, happy parents and the helpers had fun too. The theme was Backpackers and the hall was decorated with flags from the various countries being visited. The children were split into nine groups all named after countries and each group created a banner, these can be seen hanging in the church over the next few weeks.



Each day started and finished with a whole club assembly led by Susannah and Keith including a warm up to music, action songs, a drama involving some of the young leaders and a short video with a different stage of the Easter story. The drama took the group on a tour to the Gard du Nord in Paris, a restaurant in Rome, The Matterhorn in Zermatt and Hyde Park in London. Throughout the day the children moved on to a different activity with their group in a different location every half an hour using the whole of the church centre.

The craft activities included decorating fabric backpacks, designing and writing Easter postcards (which were posted to their families) and making a travel tic-tac-toe game. In cooking the children made individual pizzas (the flour went everywhere) and decorated boxes to take them home in. Drama and music activities took place in the church and Fr Martin talked to each group about the Easter story. The games activities were great fun outside in the car park area.



At the Good Friday Family Service, many of the children came to sing the action songs they had learnt at Easter Club and some performed drama or read prayers.

We had 18 young helpers aged from 11 to 16 who enthusiastically looked after the groups of children helping them out with all

the activities and we had lovely feedback from parents. Most of our young leaders attended the club each year when they were in primary school and look forward to the time when they can be leaders. Thanks to Tom, Ethan, Eva, Eloise, Laila, Luke D, Zack, Luke R, Alex E, Freya, Tess, Leo, Alex H, Eleanor F, Alys, Cian, Flora and Eleanor D.

Thanks also to all the adult helpers who volunteered to organise and run the activities, buddy the young helpers, make refreshments, help with registration and signing out, set up and clear away and generally make the two days run smoothly. The number of helpers we have means it is fun to be there for everyone. Thanks to Susannah, Keith, Fr Martin, Jean, Alison, Leo, Kate, Julie, Claire, Lynn, Harrie, Barbara, Cathy, Frances, Patricia, Tony, Stephanie, Alice & Sophie.



Mel Crighton

Rev Anna's Installation as Rector of Betchworth & Buckland

On 10 April St Mark's Singers and many of St Mark's joined those from St Michael's Betchworth and St Mary's Buckland to welcome Reverend Anna into her new role. Bishop Jonathan spoke very highly of Anna, confident that she will work hard for both parishes.



Bishop Jonathan,
Archdeacon Moira, Rev'd
Anna, husband Alistair,
children Elise, Darcey &
Cerys.
St Michael's Betchworth.

Photo courtesy of Shona Prosser

The Easter Vestry and Annual Parochial Church Meetings

These meetings took place on Sunday 28 April during the course of the 10.00am service, when some seventy people were present.

At the Easter Vestry Meeting, Ben Read and Louise Wallis were elected Churchwardens for the next year.

We then moved to the Annual Parochial Church Meeting, at which Jane Artis and Christine Ingram were re-elected Deputy Wardens for a further year, leaving two vacancies.

Although there were no elections to the Deanery Synod this year, we still had two vacancies to fill for the remaining year of the three-year term. In the event no nominations were received and so the position remains the same.

Vacancies for elected members to the Parochial Church Council were filled by Terrence Hancock (who has previously been co-opted) and Paul Selvadurai each for a period of three years. There is still one vacancy for a period of two years.

Some of our previous sidesmen stood down this year, and they were thanked for their service years. The following were elected to serve as sidesmen for the coming year:- Suzanne Baker-Hedge, Caryl Baughen, Elizabeth Bell, Michael and Sheila Biggs, Suzanne Collyer, Jo Cooper, Anne Cotterell, Elisabeth Davis, Keith Dyde, Thalia Hessey, Kumari Lane, Nicola Lloyd, Deborah and Dino Pelekani, Geoffrey Piejus, Helen Starmer, Pamela Walter, Sylvia Weatherald and Harriet Westwater.

The new Electoral Roll with 141 names on it was presented.

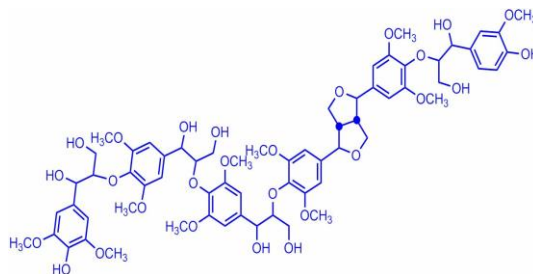
Other items of business included the presentation of the Annual Report, a report about the Goods and Ornaments of the church and, of course, a report on our financial situation. Finally a report of the proceedings of the Deanery Synod was given.

Terrence F Hancock
Secretary, Parochial Church Council

World Environment Day and the crusade against plastic

There has been an increasing effort by governments and organisations across the world to reduce our plastic consumption over the years. From the UK introducing the 5p charge on plastic shopping bags and Norway introducing a deposit scheme on plastic bottles, why is plastic such a hot topic?

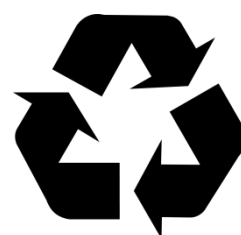
First the science. Plastic is made from oil; it is a carbon-based product. According to BP's statistical review of world energy, we have around 55 years of oil left which means our capacity to make new plastic is finite. Plastic is an inert compound which is great for storing alcohol, acid, soap etc. but it also means it doesn't break down very easily. In fact, plastic bags take over 500 years to biodegrade, cling film takes over 200 years and those take away coffee cups we use will outlive your great, great, great grandchildren.



Each year over 350 million tonnes of plastic is produced¹ but only 9% is recycled², so what happens to all that plastic? 12% of plastic is incinerated and that leaves 79% of plastic in landfill, as litter or in our oceans³. As a result of so much plastic waste in our oceans we now have 5 ocean 'garbage patches', the largest of

which is the Great Pacific Garbage Patch (GPGP) which is estimated to be 3 times the size of France⁴.

In the UK, we recycle around 44% of our packaging waste but much of the plastic is sent abroad for recycling to countries such as China, Malaysia, Poland and Turkey. There are concerns that the UK does not have sufficient oversight of the waste and some is going to landfill or contributing to pollution⁵.



- 1) <https://ourworldindata.org/plastic-pollution>
- 2) <https://news.nationalgeographic.com/2017/07/plastic-produced-recycling-waste-ocean-trash-debris-environment/>
- 3) <https://news.nationalgeographic.com/2017/07/plastic-produced-recycling-waste-ocean-trash-debris-environment/>
- 4) <https://www.theoceancleanup.com/great-pacific-garbage-patch/>
- 5) <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2018/jul/23/uks-plastic-waste-may-be-dumped-overseas-instead-of-recycled>

Top tips for reducing your plastic waste

Our best option in the fight against plastic waste is to reduce our consumption so here are six ways to cut down your plastic use:

1. Use reusable coffee cups and water bottles: the UK throws away around 2.5bn coffee cups a year and less than 1% are recycled¹.
2. Replace cling film with tin foil (which can be recycled) or Beeswax Wrap.
3. Replace plastic bags with material ones: there are some great tote bag designs and pack away bags. Make a fashion statement and an environmental one.
4. Stop chewing gum: chewing gum is made of plastic and the UK is a large consumer of chewing gum. Go for mints instead.
5. Replace plastic with bamboo: you can now get plates, cutlery and cups made from bamboo instead of plastic.
6. Take your own container to the supermarket or butcher: use these for meat and fish.



1) <https://www.wwf.org.uk/updates/ten-tips-reduce-your-plastic-footprint>

The Children's Society

The annual fund-raising and box-holders' Coffee Morning will take place on Saturday 29 June in the church hall from 10:00am to 12 noon.

Stalls: Cakes, plants, paperback books, stationery, flamingo cards, bric-a-brac and a raffle

Entrance: £1.00

Contributions would be greatly appreciated and there will be a list at the back of the church for you to sign up if you can help in any way.

We look forward to seeing you.

Tony and Patricia Bird

Are you looking for a place to party? **St Mark's Church Hall - Children's Party Package!**

Hire includes exclusive use of:
Large main hall – with tables and chairs



Use of new kitchen, well equipped with serving hatch - ideal dining area next to kitchen



Outside garden area



Great location; minutes from Reigate train station & parking
The facilities include disabled access

Available Saturdays and some Sundays
3 hours (includes ½ hour set up & ½ hour clearing)
Only £90 (additional hours charged at £25ph)

This offer applies to bookings for under 11's parties only

Further details on hiring the hall available from our website:
www.stmarksreigate.co.uk

For bookings please contact: office@stmarksreigate.co.uk

Have a HAPPY BIRTHDAY Party with us!

Coffee and cake in Surrey

If you are getting out and about over the bank holiday weekends then you might want to find yourself a nice coffee shop for a cake and refreshment. Here are 5 recommendations for hot beverages and cake across the county; we've picked a few close to home and a couple further away:

1) Dabbling Duck in Shere (GU5 9HF) – a beautiful shabby chic café set in the heart of the quaint village of Shere. The cakes and tray bakes are delicious. The range of tea will make it hard to choose and they also sell wine, beer and cider. The setting is idyllic and a great place to stop if you are taking a ramble in the area.



2) Pinnock's in Ripley (GU23 6AF) – this quirky little coffeehouse offers a range of drip coffee, a change from the usual espresso served in most coffee shops. The homemade cakes are wonderful; a personal recommendation would be the raspberry brownie. The upstairs is a lovely setting for a Sunday afternoon treat, with comfy armchairs to sit on and read the newspaper.

3) Priory Farm Nursery in Nutfield (RH1 4EJ) – The café attached to the nursery has a delightful range of cakes, offering vegan and gluten free options which are just as delicious as the rest. They offer dairy alternatives for their hot drinks as well. The newly created 'quiet' area is great if you want to enjoy your coffee in peace; or the outside play area is great for young children.

4) Lamington Tea Rooms Bletchingley (RH1 4PB) – You'll need to check the opening times in advance as it doesn't open every Sunday and it is closed on Mondays but when it is open, this small tea room is delightful and great for afternoon tea, when booked in advance. The cakes on display look delicious and the pear and ginger is a personal recommendation.

5) Tanhouse Farm Shop (RH5 5BX) – This is a farm shop and café in one. As well as delicious cakes it offers homemade sausage rolls and pies. It is best enjoyed on a sunny day and has donkeys in the field next to the car park and a play area for children so you can relax and enjoy your coffee whilst the little ones have fun.



Wherever you are going over the bank holidays, have a wonderful time and if you find a coffee shop or tea room worth shouting about let us know at magazine@stmarksreigate.co.uk. We can let everyone know on our Facebook page.

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	1 st Sunday	Family Service
	3 rd Sunday	Messy Church
6.00pm	1 st Sunday	Evening Prayer (said)
	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 (30 minutes)
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MONDAY

9.30am	St Mark's Toddler Group in the hall (term-time only)
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TUESDAY

10.00am	3 rd Tuesday St Mark's Buffers (in church)
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WEDNESDAY

3.25pm	'T' Time Tales (term-time only)
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THURSDAY

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

CALENDAR FOR MAY 2019

Wednesday 1 st May	3.25pm T Time Tales (first of term)
Thursday 2 nd May	12.45pm Holy Communion (Iona) 2.00pm SMART 5.00pm Choral Evensong
Sunday 5th May	3rd Sunday of Easter 4.00pm Family Service 6.00pm Evening Prayer
Monday 6 th May	No Parent and Toddler Group (Bank Holiday)
Thursday 9 th May	12.45pm Holy Communion (Iona)
Sunday 12th May	4th Sunday of Easter 1.00pm Community Lunch 6.00pm Taizé Prayer
Thursday 16 th May	12.45pm Holy Communion (Iona) 5.00pm Choral Evensong
Sunday 19th May	5th Sunday of Easter 4.00pm Messy Church with Puppetry 6.00pm Evening Prayer
Tuesday 21 st May	10.00am St Mark's Buffers – 'buffing the silver' 8.00pm PCC Meeting
Thursday 23 rd May	12.45pm Holy Communion (Iona)
Saturday 25 th May	8.00pm St Mark's Social Dance
Sunday 26th May	6th Sunday of Easter (Rogation Sunday) 2.00pm 'Beating the Bounds' 6.00pm Evening Prayer
Monday 27 th May	No Parent and Toddler Group (half term)
Wednesday 29 th May	No 'T' Time Tales (half term)
Thursday 30 th May	Ascension Day 12.45pm Holy Communion (Iona) 7.30pm Ascension Day Service on Reigate Hill

CALENDAR FOR JUNE 2019

Sunday 2nd June	7th Sunday of Easter (Sunday after Ascension)
	4.00pm Family Service 6.00pm Evening Prayer
Monday 3 rd June	9.30am Parent and Toddler Group resumes
Wednesday 5 th June	3.25pm T Time Tales resumes
Thursday 6 th June	12.45pm Holy Communion (Iona) 2.00pm SMART
Sunday 9th June	Day of Pentecost
	1.00pm Community Lunch 6.00pm Taizé Prayer
Thursday 13 th June	12.45pm Holy Communion (Iona) 5.00pm Choral Evensong
Sunday 16th June	Trinity Sunday
	4.00pm Messy Church 6.00pm Evening Prayer
Tuesday 18 th June	10.00am St Mark's Buffers – 'buffing the silver'
Thursday 20 th June	Corpus Christi
	12.45pm Holy Communion (Iona) 8.00pm Sung Eucharist
Saturday 22 nd June	8.00pm St Mark's Social Dance
Sunday 23rd June	1st Sunday after Trinity
	6.00pm Evening Prayer
Wednesday 26 th June	8.00pm Deanery Synod
Thursday 27 th June	12.45pm Holy Communion (Iona) 5.00pm Choral Evensong
Sunday 30th June	2nd Sunday after Trinity
	6.00pm Evening Prayer

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

HOME GROUP

Contact: Mrs Susannah Dyde – 01737 221638

IONA COMMUNION – LUNCHTIME SERVICE

Every Thursday 12.45pm to 1.15pm followed by Coffee/Tea

PARENT AND TODDLER GROUP

Contact: Mrs Louise Wallis 01737 242129

PARISH SAFEGUARDING OFFICER

Mrs Rosemary Absalom 01737 240351

SMART - St Mark's Afternoon Retirement Team

Meetings on the first Thursday of the month

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

ST MARK'S BUFFERS

Meeting in church on the third Tuesday of the month from 10am - 12noon

ST MARK'S COMMUNITY LUNCH

Contacts: Mrs Angela Daniels 01737 247162 & Mrs Alison Stagg 01737 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

Editor (2019): Mrs Helen Starmer, email: magazine@stmarksreigate.co.uk

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

ST MARK'S SINGERS

Rehearsals Monday 7.30pm in the church – all welcome

Contact: Toby Garrood 01737 241979

WEBSITE & FACEBOOK

Contact: Ben Read Email: benread@hotmail.com

YOUTH WORK

Junior Church: Mrs Leonora Corden, l.corden@btinternet.com 01737 224534



St Marks Parish Magazine – Reader Survey

We'd really like to know your thoughts on the parish magazine. Please complete this quick survey and put it into the box at the back of the Church or hand it into the Parish Office by the 2 June. Many thanks.

1) What is your age? Please circle the correct answer.

Under 18 19-24 25-34 35-44 45-54 55-64 65+

2) What is your gender? Please circle the correct answer

Female Male Prefer not to say

3) How often do you read the Parish Magazine? Please circle the correct answer.

Every month Occasionally Never

4) Which subjects would you like included in the magazine? Circle as many as apply:

Book review Gardening Local businesses Local schools Cooking

Church events Fundraising Church groups Health & Fitness

News from Church of England Local Offers Children's Stories

Children's puzzles Adults puzzles Feature articles Poems Local clubs

Prize draws and Competitions Environmental News

5) If we renamed the magazine, which name would you prefer? Circle the correct answer:

Reigate Echo The Grapevine

Reigate Round-Up I don't think it should be renamed

6) How would you like to receive the magazine content?

Printed Magazine Email Website I don't know

7) Do you think this magazine should be more integrated with Facebook?

Yes No I don't know

If you have any other feedback, please send it to
magazine@stmarksreigate.co.uk

Reigate Flower Club

The Reigate Flower Club, based in St Mark's Church Hall, meets on a monthly basis (except August) on the second Tuesday, starting at 7.45pm. The club, which is now in its 67th year, is for like-minded, enthusiastic, flowery people who enjoy seeing demonstrations or doing workshops.

The photo below is from a normal club session when varying demonstrators do five or six pieces that are then raffled off at the end. There is always a sales table offering flower sundries and greeting cards and at the May meeting there will be a plant sale. The club enjoys outings to gardens not normally open, and an annual show.

Reader offer: Would you like to give the flower club a try?

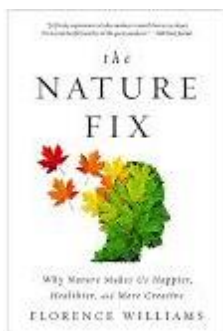
If any Parish Magazine readers would like to attend a club night as a visitor, bring a copy of this magazine for one-off free entry. Normal charge of £5 will be waived once. Membership is £38 a year.

If you'd like to find out more, please email: alfieandsandy@hotmail.co.uk
Contact the club if you are looking for event or wedding flowers.



Book Review

This month we review *The Nature Fix*



The full title of the book is *The Nature Fix: Why nature makes us happier, healthier and more creative*. This book explores the science behind the impact nature has on our wellbeing. The author Florence Williams takes the reader across various countries to explore the scientific exploration being undertaken to understand and harness the power of the natural world on our wellbeing. It walks us through the various initiatives countries

are taking to exploit the healing properties of nature including forest healing and hospital rooms with a view.

The book gives some very worrying facts around the impact of modern life on adults' and children's health and wellbeing: one example is 8% of Koreans under forty have a video gaming addiction and that goes up to 14% for children between 9-12. A subject of poignant interest, the book talks about the impact of background noise and specifically airplane noise, quoting: 'researchers followed several thousand children attending school near major airports in the UK, Spain and the Netherlands and found significant impacts on reading comprehension, memory and hyperactivity. Every 5-decibel increase in noise resulted in reading scores dropping to the equivalent a two-month delay'.

The *Nature Fix* gives specific examples of the elements of nature which are most beneficial including how birdsong can help restore our minds to a happier, more alert state and how light and fresh air can help hospital patients recover quicker. As well as being interesting, it has some practical tidbits on things we can do to improve our wellbeing through nature. The author gives examples of her own experience alongside the scientific research, documenting her move to the city and the impact it has had on her and her family. Sometimes this can take away from the more factual elements of the book.

It can be a little bit slow at times, not exactly a page turner, but the information is interesting, will invoke personal action and a riveting topic for a dinner party discussion.

Have you read this book? Got a suggestion for a book review? We would love to hear your thoughts. Please get in touch at magazine@stmarksreigate.co.uk.

Local Spotlight

This month's local business spotlight is one of our very own parishioners – Terri Delahunty and her mobile hair business.



Terri regularly attends St Mark's and helps with the toddler group. Terri lives in Reigate and has over 14 years' experience as a mobile hair stylist and colour technician.

Terri took the plunge in 2016 to create her own freelance bridal hair styling business after having her third baby and juggling family life. She wanted to follow her passion in creating beautiful hair styles and working in the wedding industry was a huge bonus, being a hopeless romantic.

Here to help you with all aspects of your bridal hair from mood boards to accessories to help you create your dream style.



Terri tells us: *'My aim is to make my brides feel amazing and be able to look back on their photos and feel like the best version of themselves. My Style is relaxed and undone, I also love adding flowers and accessories to make each hairstyle bespoke.'*

Terri has a huge amount of experience and you will not be disappointed with the fantastic service that she can provide.

Terri's top 4 tips on finding 'The One' (*the perfect hair style – rather than your true love!*)

1. When researching inspiration try to search for looks that are similar to your hair type – in colour and texture.
2. Take those INSPO pics as just that – inspiration. Nobody will be able to exactly recreate a hairstyle because it isn't your hair. Celebrate what you have!
3. Wash and blow dry your hair the night before, without using products. It helps to see your hair in its natural state.
4. Ask questions and be honest!! If you don't love it, then it's not the one for you!

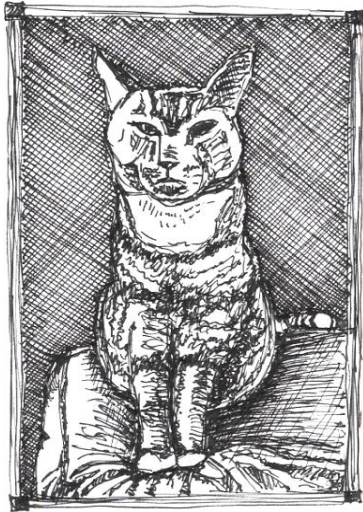


If you'd like to speak to Terri about an upcoming event please email: missdhairdesign@gmail.com

If you know anyone who lives in the parish with their own business who'd like to feature as our next spotlight, please get in touch at magazine@stmarksreigate.co.uk.

Marley & The New Adventure

Written by Shona Prosser and illustrated by Roger Lloyd



Copyright - Roger Lloyd

Marley is an old cat, a wise cat, a thoughtful cat, a comforter and a friend. Marley has travelled many miles, explored the world and made many friends along the way; he longed for a home, a place to settle, and reflect on the life he has lived. It was only a year ago, in the early summer while resting curled up on the church wall, Marley had met Candlemouse, a very bold and friendly mouse with kind eyes and big heart, who welcomed him into St Mark's. As Marley had followed his new friend through the glass door and into our beautiful church, he thought, 'I could be happy here', and he was.

Candlemouse was sitting on the front pew with his dear friend Marley. Today Marley would be leaving St Mark's on a new adventure with the former Parish Administrator. They had become very good friends over the last year and Marley knew she would appreciate his company as she moved away to a new area. Marley knew that new adventures could be scary at first; he had many in his long life and knew the secret was to find a welcoming place within the community and make friends. Just like the warm welcome St Mark's had given Marley and the support of his friend Candlemouse. How Marley would miss their chats.

At St Mark's Marley had seen that there was something for everyone; church services of all kinds both on a Sunday and during the week, classes that helped explain the Bible stories and Junior Church for the children. There were also lots of regular activities like Messy Church, that welcomed everyone of all ages, as families or those on their own share a meal and take part in activities. There were songs and stories during term time at 'T' Time Tales on a Wednesday afternoon for children up to 7-years old; for the toddlers a great play session on Monday mornings. On the first Thursday of the month there was a gathering of the St Mark's Afternoon Retirement Team – SMART at 2pm where lots of people came to laugh and chat or listen to interesting speakers. Marley loved all these events.

The Church Hall was looking wonderful with its bright new kitchen and the very smooth wooden folding doors fitted between the Main Hall and Committee Room. The hall hosted many events, regular clubs and lots of birthday parties. On the fourth Saturday evening of the month a wonderful social dance was held. Marley loved the music and watching from the safety of the stage, as the couples seemed to float around the dance floor. Marley would miss the hall.

Then all too soon, it was time to go and Candlemouse gave Marley a hug and a piece of beautiful blue curly ribbon as a gift. They both had a tear in their eyes as they said goodbye but knew that no matter how far apart, they were, they would always be friends.

Later that evening as Candlemouse sat in his favourite pew, he thought about his dear friend Marley, meeting him and getting to know him, his big heart and inquisitive mind. They had learnt a lot from each other by taking time to listen and to share. Candlemouse knew that wherever Marley would go he would make friends and bring happiness with him. Closing his eyes in the peace and quiet of the church, Candlemouse said his prayers, 'God bless and keep you Marley, may you find, bring and share happiness wherever you are.'knowing he would...



Parish Administrator

Shona Prosser has been the Parish Administrator and PA to the Vicar for the past 8 years. As she said at the APCM on Sunday 28th April, she has worked with 2 Martins, 2 Sues and 1 Anna (St Mark's has always been economical with names!)

In her time in post, the role has changed significantly. In 2011 she worked 9 hours each week. In 2013 this was increased to 12 hours each week, but by 2017, it was apparent that she was continually working for more hours than that. The PCC undertook a thorough review of the post and this resulted in an increase of the hours to 20 hours each week. This has reflected the ways in which churches, including St Mark's, have changed how they are organised including much greater transparency in the administration of the Parish and the new data rules of GDPR.

Shona is often the first point of contact that people have with St Mark's. Always cheerful and willing to help, she has given a positive welcome to so many people. Very organised, she has kept the clergy in the parish to deadlines, not an easy task! We will all miss her greatly as she moves to Scotland with Tony. We wish them all the best for the future.

However, things move on, and the administration of the Church continues to need attention, and so this month we welcome Alexia Hartman as the new Parish Administrator and PA to the Vicar. Please do call in during office hours to introduce yourselves – but not all at once!

Fr Martin

Candlemouse Creates



H	I	L	O	D	A	Y	F	A	O	M
S	S	U	N	S	H	I	N	E	U	S
A	P	P	L	M	K	N	A	F	T	P
H	O	L	I	D	A	Y	V	A	D	O
O	R	C	H	C	I	N	A	R	O	O
S	T	O	M	Y	N	O	R	M	O	R
I	S	Y	A	R	V	I	A	Y	R	D
A	D	G	J	M	X	N	C	A	S	S
B	A	N	K	F	A	R	N	R	I	A
S	Y	M	E	R	H	E	O	D	B	V

Sunshine
Bank
Holiday
Outdoors
Sportsday
Farmyard
Picnic
Sky
Caravan



Decipher the code to read this song lyric

5i49i49 58495 to 5tir the 58ul,
Rai4b8w c8l8ur5 e4twi4ed i4 fairy-tale5,
84 the Mayp8le...

9 = g, 5 = s, 4 = n, 8 = o



Match the footprint with the animal



E

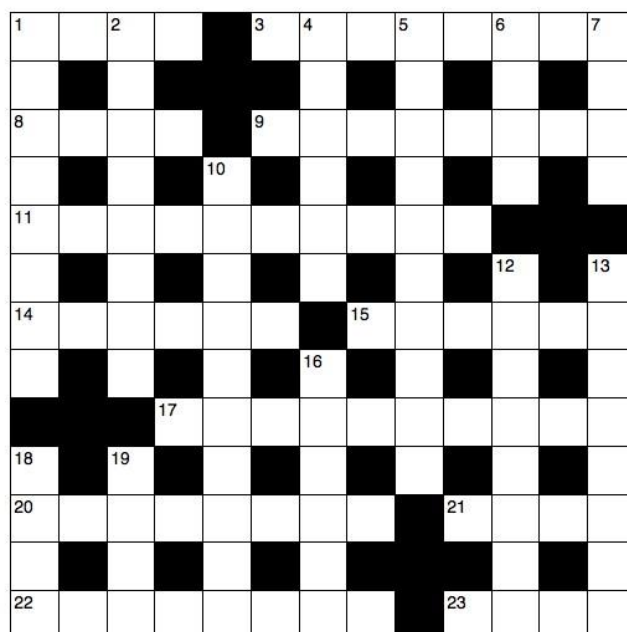


Answers - A-3, B-4, C-5, D-2, E-1

(Biblical references are from the New International Version)

Across

- 1 Infant (Luke 2:12) (4)
 3 Luis must (anag.) (8)
 8 What Jesus called the devil (John 8:44) (4)
 9 'My God, my God, why have you — me?' (Matthew 27:46) (8)
 11 Anglican form of church government (10)
 14 'Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like — ' (Isaiah 40:31) (6)
 15 Ministers of religion (6)
 17 Make stronger (1 Thessalonians 3:13) (10)
 20 Devoutness (1 Timothy 2:2) (8)
 21 The father of Jesse (Ruth 4:22) (4)
 22 Pool where Jesus healed a man who had been an invalid for 38 years (John 5:2) (8)
 23 '[Jesus] said to them, " — here and keep watch"' (Mark 14:34) (4)



Down

- 1 Follower of Christ (Acts 16:1) (8)
 2 One of the punishments endured by Paul (2 Corinthians 6:5) (8)
 4 Soldiers (Exodus 14:9) (6)
 5 Scholarly study of melody, harmony and rhythm (10)
 6 'I am God, and there is none — me' (Isaiah 46:9) (4)
 7 'And how can they preach unless they are — ?' (Romans 10:15) (4)
 10 Favourable reception (1 Timothy 1:15) (10)
 12 Hip orbit (anag.) (8)
 13 End of life (Isaiah 22:14) (5,3)
 16 'About midnight the sailors — they were approaching land' (Acts 27:27) (6)
 18 He married Jezebel (1 Kings 16:30–31) (4)
 19 'According to your great compassion — out my transgressions' (Psalm 51:1) (4)

SOLUTION TO LAST MONTH'S CROSSWORD

ACROSS: 1 Priesthood 7 Replica 8 Get up 10 Calf 11 Governor 13 See you 15 Not see 17 Incident 18 Sake 21 NSPCC 22 Trample 23 Perishable

DOWN: 1 Papal 2 In it 3 Shalom 4 Huguenot 5 Outings 6 Procession 9 Perseveres 12 Mordecai 14 Escapee 16 Snatch 19 Apple 20 Lamb

May Sudoku Challenge

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

April Sudoku Solution

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

Meet the Parish Magazine Team

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Your Views & Contributions

Next Issue will be available from Sunday 2 June 2019

All Contributions to the Editor by Friday 17 May 2019

Email: magazine@stmarksreigate.co.uk

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