

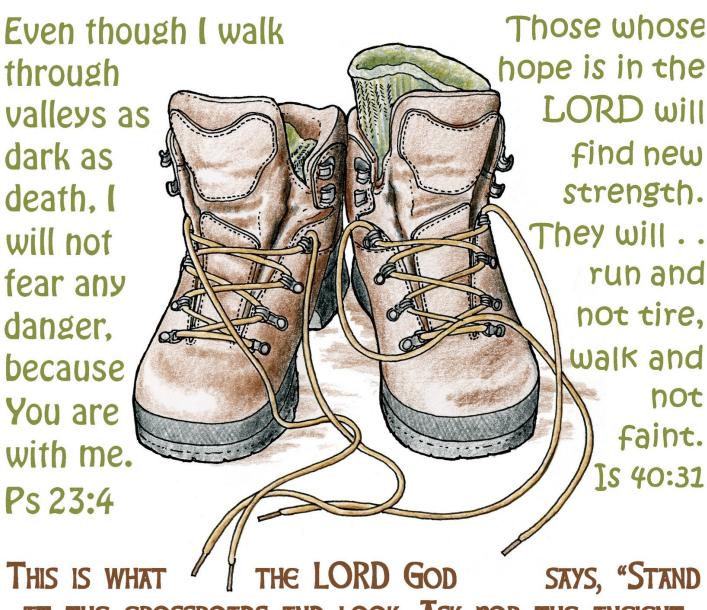
September 2022

Stratton Team Ministry

Seeking, Sharing, and Serving God Together

www.strattonteamministry.co.uk

What does the LORD God want from you? To respect Him, walk in all His ways, and to love and serve Him. Deut 10:12-13



THIS IS WHAT " THE LORD GOD SAYS, "STAND AT THE CROSSROADS AND LOOK. ASK FOR THE ANCIENT PATHS, THE GOOD ROADS. WALK IN THEM AND YOU WILL FIND REST FOR YOUR SOULS." JEREMIAH 6:16

STRATTON TEAM MINISTRY

Priest in Charge: Reverend Elveen Mead [Usual Day off Friday]

Lay Minister: Lisa Lodwick

Alison Burston

Dan Read

<u>Church Administrator</u> Georgina Martin 826505

Email: stmargaretsoffice2@btconnect.com

CHURCHWARDENS

St. Margaret's Church and St Mary Magdalene Church

Mrs June Lewis 822954
Mr Richard Pfleger 828367
Mrs Diane Whitford 824339

Deputy Wardens

Mr David Horne 724776

Mr Ian Jones 07769703385

St Leonards Church

Mrs Liz Hillman 762935

Mr Chris Pope

Joint Parish Safeguarding Officers & DBS Lead Recruiters

Dr Mike Bosher 07799835437

Mrs Mary Bosher

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL for St. Margaret's and St Mary Magdalene

Mrs Rosalind Mitchell (Secretary) 764146

Mrs Diane Whitford

(Deputy Secretary of St Mary Magdalene) 824339

St Leonards

Mr Michael Curtis

(PCC secretary St Leonards)

LOCAL CHURCH CONTACTS

Stratton Methodist Church, 829335 St Mary's R C Church, The Presbytery, Swindon 535089

Thoughts from the vicarage – September 2022

September is here and we look forward once again to enjoying the colours of autumn all around us, the fruit trees heavy with fruit in our orchards and gardens, the leaves and seeds falling to the ground, perhaps walks through woods with the crispness underfoot that we associate with the season, the 'seedtime and the harvest' being sung about again in our churches and schools, and all being well as we recognise the familiarity of the turning of the seasons.



But the recent heat wave and drought in parts of Britain and also in significant areas of the globe have meant that the browned dry grassland and fields, hedges and verges have been with us for quite some time, with wildfires breaking out across both field and forest. The seasons seem less defined, the wildlife less prevalent, and the lives we live just a little more precarious perhaps.

What are we doing to our world and what are we doing to mitigate disaster?

The Millennium Seed Bank at the Royal Botanical Gardens, Kew suggests that two in five plant species are in danger of extinction – not just from this year's drought or fire but as a consequence of our failure to look after our world with respect and the devastating changes to the climate that are happening as a result. The Millennium Seed Project is collecting seeds from as many species across the UK and the world as it can. It will keep them at sub-zero temperatures in specially designed underground flood, bomb and radiation-proof vaults. They currently have over 2.4 billion seeds - and counting! A 'Noah's Ark' of seeds for the future, should we need it.

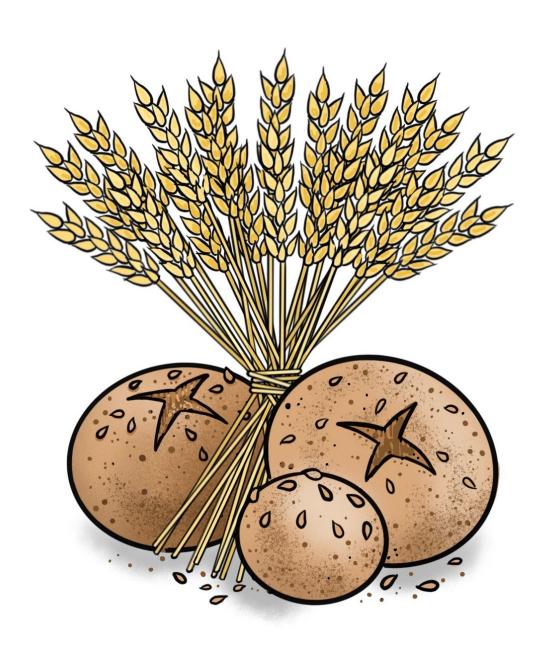
Seeds are the precious treasure-chests of life. They provide the food we eat as grain for bread, and crops of all kinds. They provide flowers and shrubs for our pleasure. They grow into trees for the cleansing and replenishing of the air we breathe. In so many ways they sustain life.

Julian of Norwich, the 14th Century Mystic and anchoress, in one of her many visions found herself holding a hazelnut in her hand, as miniscule in God's eye as a tiny round ball floating in space, and she asked God what it was, and the reply came *'it is all that is made......and God loves it'*.

The seed is so important for the future of our world, so important for our survival, so important to God that we should be mindful to make sure that we do our best to protect and preserve it.

This autumn perhaps we could find the space and time to reflect on the precariousness of our ecosystems, to think about how we use the world's resources and to make the changes needed in our own lives to preserve our world. Perhaps also, we could sow, plant or grow something new for God and for the future of our world.

Blessings this September Revd Elveen



Eric's musings

Eric Barnes family have given us a few more of Eric's Musings.

The Wasp he is a nasty one.

The wasp he is a nasty one
He scavengers and thrives
Unlike the honest honey bee
He doesn't care for hives
He builds his waxy nest
Then brings his mates from near and far
To sneak into your house
When you have left your door ajar

Then sniffing round for jam he goes
In every pot and packet
Buzzing round the kitchen
In a black and yellow jacket.
If, with a rolled up paper
He should spot you creeping near
He'll do a backward somersaults
And sting you on the ear

You never know with wasps
You can't relax, not for a minute,
Whatever you pick up, look out!
A wasp might still be in it!
You never even know
if there's a wasp against your chest
For wasps are very fond of
Getting folded in your vest.

And he always comes in summer
In the winter time he's gone
When you never go on picnics
And you've put your jersey on
What other single comment
Causes panic & despair
Like someone saying "keep still
There's a wasp caught in your hair"



But if in a speeding car
He finds his favourite abode.
He likes poor dad to swat like mad
And veer across the road.
He likes to watch dad's face
As all the kids begin to shout
"Dad, I don't like wasps!
Oh, where's he gone? Dad get him out!"

And I'd like to make a reference
To all the men who say
"Don't antagonise it
And the wasp will go away"
For I've done a little survey
To see if it will or won't
And they sting you if you hit them,
And they sting you if you don't

As we step into the sunshine
Through the summers and the springs
Carrying our cardigans
And nursing all our stings,
I often wonder, reaching for the blue bag
Just once more,

If all things have a purpose - What on earth can wasps be for!



Down country lanes and tracks and a little further this time.

St David's Cathedral Pembrokeshire Eglwys Gadeiriol Tyddewi

I have wanted to visit St David's Cathedral for quite a while and this year we had the chance to go.

I always thought of St David's built on a hill but taken aback to find it in a valley with the Bell tower on the hill top.

St David founded a 6th Century monastery and trained Missionaries to spread Christianity to Ireland. The present Cathedral was started in 1180 by the Norman Bishop Peter de Leia. The shrine to St David was a pilgrimage site and people travelled from Europe as well as Britain to visit. The Shrine was lost during

the Viking raid and rebuilt in 1275, but was later removed during the Reformation by Bishop Barlow in the sixteenth century.

David was born in Wales and his Mother was St Non who came from the area. Many myths and stories were told about St David but his last Message to his followers was.

Be Joyful and keep the faith, do the little things you have seen me do.

His faith was a simple one of caring for all people. He did not eat meat just vegetables and water.

The Cathedral was rebuilt several times and added to, one unique feature is the sloping Nave.

There is a shrine to St David again now when work was carried out inside they found one of the original walls behind the altar and reinstated the shrine to St David.

The building has Romanesque features and the same masons who built Wells Cathedral could have been used as there are similarities. Gilbert Scott carried out restoration work in the Victorian period.

There is a memorial to the first Tudor, Edmund Tudor father of Henry VII which was moved from Carmarthen when Henry VIII dissolved the monasteries. The oak ceilings were added from 1472 made from Irish Oak.

There are ruins of the Bishop's Palace next to the Cathedral now in a state of disrepair. They were built by Bishop Gower in 1340 and represents a different side of early Christian life where he entertained rich and influential people who arrived on a pilgrimage to the Cathedral. This was so different from St David's life style and actions.

Richard Pfleger





4th September - 1st Sunday of the Month -

Twelfth Sunday after Trinity

9:30am St Margaret's Church

9:30am St Leonards Church

10am St Mary Magdalene Church

Holy Communion Service Sunday Morning Worship

Family Service

11th September - 2nd Sunday of the Month -

Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity

9:30am St Margaret's Church

9:30am St Mary Magdalene Church

11am St Leonards Church

Sunday Morning Worship

Holy Communion Service

Family Service

18th September - 3rd Sunday of the Month -

Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity

10am St Margaret's Church

Sunday Morning Team Worship

25thSeptember - 4th Sunday of the Month -

Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity

9:30am St Margaret's Church

9:30am St Leonards Church

11am Coleview

Sunday Morning Worship Holy Communion Service Holy Communion Service

Please see our website for the most up to date information **www.strattonteamministry.co.uk**We will endeavour to give as much notice as possible to any changes but that may not always be possible.

The Sun Flower

I planted a seed in a winter's ground,
so small it might never be found.
But after days of rain and sun
it popped up a shoot; almost for fun.
It decided to grow; it seems, just to see
if it could outgrow a nearby tree.
But after a while it decided to stop
and instead, grew a head on its wavy top.
That head turned into a stunning flower
Vivid with colour of magical power.

It made me think of the faith that we sow,
so small at first, you would never know,
And yet with feeding and learning how to pray,
we grow to learn what God has to say.
And although we might push to reach the top,
God shows us how, and where to stop,
Where to recognise our sin
and how to pause and be of value to Him.
And to think it all started with the tiniest seed,
like the mustard tree that Jesus decreed;
how from the smallest start we can grow quite tall,
in the faith He wants us to share with all.
Like a flower that wants to face the sun,
our lives need to turn to the Holy One.

Some Classroom Humor.

Q: What do you get when you throw a lot of books into the ocean?

A: A title wave.

Q: Why was the math's book always worried?

A: Because it had so many problems,

Q: What do you give a sick lemon?

A: Lemon-aid

Q: What did the mayonnaise say when the refrigerator was opened?

A: Close the door, I'm dressing.

A: Why did the teacher have to wear sunglasses?

A: Because her students were so bright.

Q: What day of the week does the potato look forward to the least

A: fry-day

Q: What is the best way to talk to a T-Rex?

A: From a distance.



Our school had just installed a new air-conditioning system and a representative from the company wanted to make sure it was running smoothly. Poking his head into an empty classroom he asked the teacher, "Any little problems here?" "No," she said, smiling." All our little problems have gone home."

A lonely Frog telephoned the Psychic Hotline and asked what his future holds. His Personal Psychic Adviser tells him: you are going to meet a beautiful young girl who will want to know everything about you. "The frog is thrilled. "This is great, will I meet her at a party?" he croaks. "No" says the psychic, "in Biology class."



Some 'Daffynitions':

 \odot

 \odot

Abbreviate: the cheese we had yesterday.

Aquarium: interactive television for cats.

Bigamy: a large small, person

Flabbergasted: appalled over how much weight you have gained

Paper clips: the larval stage of wire coat hangers

Balloon: bad breath holder

Education Quotes:

Yesterday I couldn't spell engineer, now I are one.

Nigel Rees

Children's low math's grades today are usually due to a week battery in their pocket calculators.

Les Dawson

It's only when you get the bill that you realise what Higher Education really is.

Bob Monkhouse

I would never send my son away to school unless I hated him.

Robbie Coltrane (Hagrid)

The only saving grace of being at a boarding school was freedom from my mother's

cooking.

Spike Milligan

You can tell a child is growing up when he stops asking where he came from and refuses

to say where he's going.









richard james







Schedule of Events



St Margaret's Church Stratton



at

St Margaret's Centre Every Thursday

9:30am - 11:30am

Sundays after Church Services

Tea also available





South Marston

SEEDIG POINT

The 'drop in' is for all members of our community
Come and Join Us for Coffee
In the Village Hall
10:00 - 12:00

Saturday 17th September

Enquiries or for table reservations please call 01793



St Leonard's Church Stanton

Hosts Coffee Morning now at

Stanton House Hotel

10:15am - noon

On Wednesday

21st of September 2022





Come and join Stratton Team Ministry for our Bumps and Babes group on Tuesdays.

Bumps & Babes is a place for expectant parents and parents with babies (up to one year old*) to meet and chat over a coffee – sharing in the experiences of pregnancy and the joys and challenges of the early months of parenthood.

Mats and toys are available for you to play with your babies, as well as time for a few songs!

We are joined by guests each a month to share with us about subjects from weaning to breastfeeding; faith to reusable nappies!

Register for your place now via the link or complete a form on arrival – we look forward to welcoming you!

When: Tuesdays 11.15-12.15

(term time only)

Where: St Margaret's Centre,

Kenwin Close, SN3 4NY

Cost: Free

Contact Us & Useful Links

Bumps and babes 9@gmail.com



www.strattonteamministry.co.uk/explore /kids-and-youth/bumps-babes/



Register for your place now https://forms.gle/fM4NesmSPYWTNuiC7



Bumps and Babes St Margaret's Swindon

^{*}Bumps and Babes aims to provide a safe place for younger babies to explore, therefore the group is only open to babies up toa year old or until they are very mobile - you will be responsible for your child at all times. A babies and toddlers group runs in the St Margaret's Centre on a Wednesday and Friday where there are more age-appropriate toys for toddlers. Please contact us if you have a special request.





THANK YOU

To all those who have knitted squares for 'Brighter Futures'. They have asked if we would now do Twiddle Muffs. Please see pattern below.





Twiddle Muff Pattern

A Twiddle muff is a double thickness hand muff with ribbons, buttons and knitted features attached to the inside and out. It is designed for patients suffering from dementia as it provides stimulation activity.

What you need:

- Wool approx. one 150 gram ball will probably be enough it varies a great deal depending on the individual wool.
- 1 Pair of needles (size depends on the type of wool you want to use).
- A tapestry needle for sewing up.
- Oddments of yarn, ribbon, trimmings, buttons, beads etc. for embellishment.

Getting started:

This pattern can be knitted in any wool but you will need to adjust the number of stitches you cast on depending on the size of the needle and the type of wool used. Look on the ball band, if there is one, of the wool for information about needle size and tension. Because of the simple nature of the pattern the measurements do not have to be exact and you can easily test them out on your own hands!

Double knit wool on size 5-7 needles comes out at about 5 to 5.5 stiches per inch. Chunky wool on size 7-9 needles comes out at about 4 to 5 stiches per inch.

The width of the Twiddle Muff needs to be about 12 to 13 inches wide (this is the length of the muff – so you can check against your own hands to see if you have made this the right size).

The length of your knitting needs to be twice the width (60 cm)24 inches long(30 cm)12 inches wide

To begin:

In a lighter wool cast on 60 stitches, or the number of stitches to give you about 30cm width. In chunky wool cast on 48 stitches.

Keep knitting until you reach about 24 inches / 60 cm or double the width the cast off. Or try stocking stitch – one row knit, the next row purl for a smooth finish.

Step 1

Decorate the Twiddle Muff on the right side of the knitting. Leave a small area halfway down (in the middle) that is free of decoration.

Step 2

Fold along the middle, with the decoration showing on both sides and then sew up the three open edges. Now you have double thickness.

Step 3

Now sew the cast on / cast off edge to the middle fold edge together to make a tube that has double thickness and is decorated inside and out.

Step 4

Now wash the Twiddle Muff at 30 degrees in the washing machine and let dry (do not use a tumble dryer). Once dry bag up and send them in to:

Brighter Futures Great Western Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust The Great Western Hospital Marlborough Road Swindon, SN3 6BB





You may be aware that many charities and organisations are struggling at this time, this includes churches.

Great News! You can now sign up to join the Parish Giving Scheme (PGS) online. There is a link for this on the Giving page of our website:

https://www.strattonteamministry.co.uk/giving/

If you haven't considered the PGS before, we would ask you to prayerfully consider doing so. It's very easy to sign up and it works in a similar way to a Direct Debit (that it is intended to replace), in that a regular payment authorised by you goes out either weekly, monthly or yearly straight to the church. It is perfectly safe and can be stopped or changed at any time.

PGS is a great way to give to the work and mission of St Margaret's Church. Donations given through PGS come straight to the Church, there are no admin fees or bank charges for us to pay. 41 people have now signed up to do this - Thank you





Recycling @ St Margaret's Centre





WILTSHIRE
AIR AMBULANCE



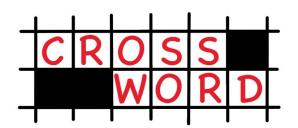


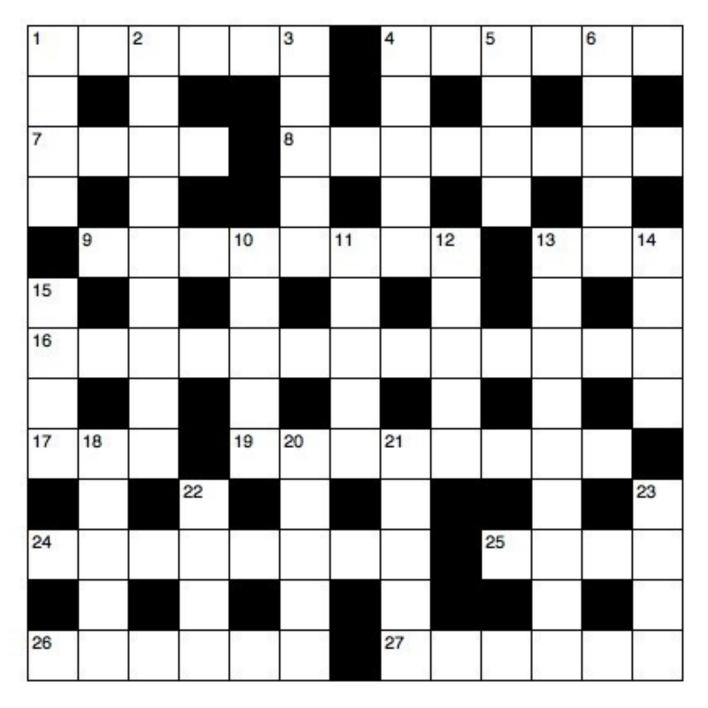






Any brand of EMPTY medicine blister packets





Across

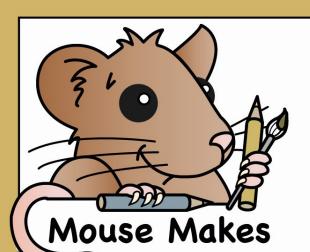
- 1 'Unless the Lord builds the house, its builders in vain' (Psalm 127:1) (6)
- 4 Season of the year (Psalm 84:6) (6)
- $7\,$ 'My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death. here and keep watch with me' (Matthew 26:38) (4)

Across

- 8 It came over the whole land from the sixth to the ninth hour on the first Good Friday (Luke 23:44) (8)
- 9 Paul invariably did this in the synagogues he visited on his missionary journeys (Acts 17:2) (8)
- 13 'It is God who works in you to will and to according to his good purpose' (Philippians 2:13) (3)
- 16 Members of the Church of Scotland (13)
- 17 'Now when he saw the crowds, he went up on a mountain side and down' (Matthew 5:1) (3)
- 19 Mock(Luke14:29)(8)
- 24 Disgrace(Psalm44:13)(8)
- 25 First month of the Hebrew calendar (Exodus13:4)(4)
- 26 Christianity of the Britons before Augustine arrived from Rome(6)
- 27 Mean (Numbers 35:23)(6)

Down

- 1 'Whoever finds his life will it' (Matthew 10:39) (4)
- 2 'My lord the king, let the — on me and on my father's family, and let the king and his throne be without guilt' (2 Samuel 14:9) (5,4)
- 3 O raid (anag.) (5)
- 4 'If two of you on earth about anything you ask for, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven' (Matthew 18:19) (5)
- 5 Take care of (1 Samuel 17:15) (4)
- 6 What the older son heard as he came near the house the day his prodigal brother came home (Luke 15:25) (5)
- 10 'Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with judgment' (Romans 12:3) (5)
- 11 Do ten(anag.)(5)
- 12 Architectural style first used in Greek temples in the sixth century BC (5)
- 13 Capable of being used(1Kings7:36)(9)
- 14 'Each one should his own actions' (Galatians 6:4)(4)
- 15 Among the items imported by Solomon's fleet of trading ships (1 Kings 10:22) (4)
- 18 'But I am afraid that just —— was deceived by the serpent's cunning, your minds may somehow be led astray' (2 Corinthians 11:3) (2,3)
- 20 Outstanding 18th-century hymn writer, Watts(5)
- 21 One of the four sons of Asher(Genesis46:17)(5)
- 22 Be distressed(Proverbs24:19)(4)
- 23 He was the father of Gaal, who threatened rebellion against Abimelech (Judges 9:28) (4)



Everyone who hears Jesus' words and does them will be like a

Everyone who hears Jesus' words and does *not* do them will be like a

The __ _ _ fell,

The floods came and the blew.

Matthew 7:25

On what did he build his house?

man.

Matthew 7:24

man.

On what did he build his house?

Matthew 7:26



Matthew 7:24-27 and Luke 6:46-49

What happened to the houses?

Read Matthew 7:25 and 27

E B

Look up the Bible references to find the missing words then look for them and the words below in the word search

JESUS • HEAR • LISTEN • WORDS DOES • BUILT • FOUNDATION • MAN DUG • DEEP • SOLID • GROUND STREAM • RIVER • BURST • FLOODS TORRENT • HOUSE • FELL • COLLAPSED

RUIN • DESTROYED

How many other words can you make from the word

FOUNDATIONS



What was the reaction of the crowd to Jesus' teaching? Read Matthew

7:28-29



PEARCE FUNERAL SERVICES



Our Family Service Caring For You

John Pearce DipFD MBIE
92 Ermin Street
Stratton St Margaret
SN3 4NN
01793 832072
www.pearcefuneralservices.co.uk

Crossword Solutions

ACROSS: 1, Labour. 4, Autumn. 7, Stay. 8, Darkness. 9, Reasoned. 13, Act. 16, Presbyterians. 17, Sat. 19, Ridicule. 24, Reproach. 25, Abib. 26, Celtic. 27, Intend.

DOWN:1,Lose.2,Blamerest.3,Radio.4,Agree.5,Tend.6,Music. 10, Sober. 11, Noted. 12, Doric. 13, Available. 14, Test. 15, Apes. 18, As Eve. 20, Isaac. 21, Ishvi. 22, Fret. 23, Ebed.

STRATTON TEAM MINISTRY NEWS - NEXT EDITION DEADLINE for Articles and Information anytime before 15th September 2022

Georgina Martin: Church Office,

Tel: 826505 St Margaret's Centre

Email: stmargaretsoffice2@btconnect.com

Also, by hand or call Georgina Martin on 07768 243675

Errors and omissions — while we do try to ensure that all details are correct, some things may slip through and we apologise for that.

PARISH DIRECTORY & CENTRE USERS

ORGANISATIONS

Babies & Toddlers	Georgina Martin	07768 243675
Bell Ringers	Wendy Sears	07769 788821
Boys' Brigade	Teresa Daglish	07796 925621
Brownies - Mon	Yvette Webster-May	825398
Bumps and Babes	Bekki bumbsandbabes	s9@gmail.com
Cadley Dance	Maria Howse	824446
Centre Bookings	c/o Church Office	826505
Choir	Geoff Walters	822006
Church Cleaning Rota	Pat England	822786
Coleview	Church Office	826505
Church Flowers	Richard Pfleger	828367
Evening Fellowship Group	Anne Pope	07790 730 685
	email eannepope@gmail .com	
FWO Envelopes	Ray England	822786
Gift Aid Sec.	David Horne	724776
Guide-Brownie Commissioner	Zoe Smith	831190
Kentwood Choir	Mrs S Harrod	725863
Music Group	Rob South	822811
Organists	Rob South	822811
	Geoff Walters	822006
Preschool	Hayley Woods, Supervisor	07816 547752
WI. Stratton St Margaret	Mrs Covell	829900





INDEPENDENT FUNERAL DIRECTORS

Care and compassion when you need it most PERSONAL SERVICE

A dedicated personal service 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

Tried and trusted since 1916.

Where excellence comes as part of the service.

01793 611060

WWW.BLACKWELLSOFSWINDON.COM

38 CHENEY MANOR ROAD, SWINDON, WILTSHIRE SN2 2NS