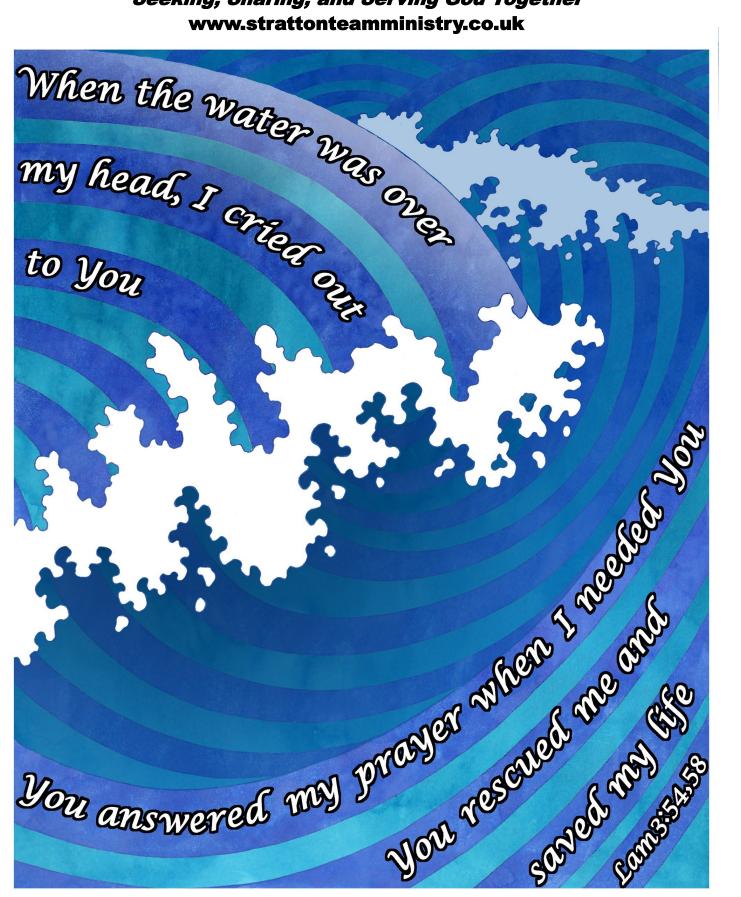


March 2023

Stratton Team Ministry Seeking, Sharing, and Serving God Together www.strattonteamministry.co.uk



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

Dear Church Family

Over the last weeks we have seen and heard the most tragic news following a horrific earthquake that has affected Turkey and areas of Syria including the region of Aleppo following a catastrophic earthquake that registered 7.8 on the Richter Scale. Nearly a week after the tragic event the death toll has risen to 33,000 and is expected to double. That depth and magnitude of loss is almost impossible to imagine and overwhelming to in reality respond to. Many charities are appealing for donations, financial and otherwise.

This last Sunday being the second before Lent as I sit to write my contribution this month our gospel reading Matthew 6:25-34 a passage titled 'Do not worry' I cannot help but contemplate what that means for the people of Turkey and Syria right now.

The Lord's Prayer in Luke 11:1-4 frames this question slightly differently in that it's the disciples that ask the question of Jesus. What comfort can be gleaned from Jesus words when asked by his disciples to teach them to pray.

I believe they watched Jesus closely, saw how he modelled a life which followed a different way of being. Retreating to a quiet place to reset and recenter himself. For Jesus it was in prayer that he brought his frustrations, his challenges, his burdens and the burdens he felt for others to his Heavenly Father. So often when Jesus acted, he responded from a place of compassion, being moved to respond and help those in need.



And I wonder if we need to follow that example.

We live in an age when we can end up suffering with what is now termed 'Compassion fatigue'. So what we mustn't do is allow ourselves to be neutralised to inaction but activated, moved to react and act to support in any way we realistically can.

It may not feel like much at the time but if we all do our bit then we can make an enormous difference to those in need.

Every Blessing

Rev Elveen



Down Country Lanes and Tracks

Winchester Cathedral

In February I took a walk through the Water Meadows in Winchester along the River Itchen, taking in the lovely view of the river and into Winchester, a great way to enter. During the time of the Roman occupation of Britain, Winchester was a Roman town and to make the area into a walled fortification they altered the River Itchen to make it flow where it is today through gravel beds and peaty soil.

Winchester Cathedral was built over many centuries and became a centre for kings to be crowned until London became more prominent. During the 19th Century it was discovered that the foundation of the Cathedral started to sink and cracks appeared in the walls and some walls started to buckle.

William Walker was a diver who trained at Portsmouth Dockyard in 1887 and qualified as a deep water diver in 1892. In 1906 he started working on the foundation of Winchester Cathedral at a depth of 20 feet wearing the old fashioned diver's suit with the large metal breathing helmet.



235 pits were dug along the southern and eastern side of the cathedral each 6 metres deep and he began to shore up the foundation putting concrete beneath them. He spent 6 hours a day for 6 years working with his bare hands in complete darkness as the sediment suspended in the water made it difficult to see. After his work in each pit the water was pumped out and bricklayers were able to restore the walls.

Diver Bill as he was known saved Winchester Cathedral from collapsing with a total of 900,000 bricks 114,900 concrete blocks and 25,800 bags of cement and this was finished in 1911.

William Walker died not long after in 1918 aged 49 during the Spanish Flu epidemic in Beckenham London

Recently an exhibition about William's feat of saving Winchester Cathedral with his bare hands has been showing at the Cathedral and a small statue of William Walker has been displayed near the shrine of St Swithun and the remains of King Canute.

I finished the day's walk with a pub meal next to the Cathedral which was called William Walker and is a Fullers pub and a similar Diving Helmet that he wore hangs outside as the pub's sign.

Richard Pfleger





Weekly Prayers for March - Remain in me

Monday: My Father is the gardener

I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful.

John 15:1-2

Abundant God, dig deeply in our lives to prepare us for acts of service that will produce a good return.

Loving Father, our heavenly gardener, we open ourselves to your spiritual nurture.

Clear away the debris amassed over time – the dead works, the lurking selfishness, the weeds of doubt and disappointment.

Draw us close to the truest of vines, to the blessing of relationship with Christ, that we may yield a fruitful harvest of service and love for a needy world.

Amen

Tuesday: Remain in me

Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.

John 15:4

Lord, we would grow with you

New shoots reaching out, hands stretched upward, like leaves newly formed Soaking up your light and warmth Lord, we would grow with you.

Lord, we would grow with you

In sunshine and rain, in darkness and light, in cold days and summer days From Springtime to Winter Lord, we would grow with you.

Lord, we would grow with you

And bring forth fruit that is pleasing to you, fed by your living water Giving sustenance to others

Lord, we would grow with you.

Amen © John Birch



Wednesday: Remain in my love

As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you.

Now remain in my love. If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commands and remain in his love.

John 15:9-10

Christ, the true vine, beloved of the Father, we would remain in your love.

Nurture us with your lavish grace to follow your teaching and keep your commands.

Water us with your life-giving Spirit that we may flourish and grow in service to God and his world.

Cultivate within us a heart of compassion reflecting the love of our heavenly Father as we seek to obey his life-giving Word.

Christ, the true vine, beloved of the Father, we would remain in your love.

Amen

Thursday: Complete joy

I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete.

John 15:11

Christ, the true vine, beloved of the Father, we open our lives to your presence.

Work deeply within that your joy may be in us and our joy may be complete.

As we remain in your wondrous love may we be filled with your perfect joy, that no one can take away; by which we can know abundance of life.

Christ, the true vine, beloved of the Father, help us be deeply rooted in you that the Spirit may bear fruit in us; that your joy may be in us and our joy may be complete; for the growth of your Kingdom on earth.

Amen



Friday: The greatest love

Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends.

John 15:13

Christ the true vine, beloved of the Father, we marvel at your selfless love; your supreme act of friendship for a helpless people, that we may have eternal life.

Love poured out on that cruel cross, a blood offering so we might go free. Love poured out, infusing this world with rivers of grace and hope of rebirth. Love poured out, and into these hearts, who drink from a stream that never runs dry.

© John Birch

Christ the true vine, beloved of the Father, we stand in awe of your supreme act of friendship; we are blessed that you call us your friends. Amen

Saturday: Love one another

You are my friends if you do what I command. This is my command: love each other.

John 15:14, 17

Christ, the true vine, beloved of the Father, as we remain in your love and are filled with your joy, give us the grace to follow your command to love one another.

Jesus offers a new-old commandment, that we should love each other. With the incredible power and the unfathomable depth of God's love for us we can,

we must, love one another.

And it is in this our love for one another that the world will know whom and what we worship.

Come, children of God, let us love one another. Amen

© Katherine Hawker



WE NEED YOUR HELP TO RAISE MONEY FOR OUR CHURCH at ST MARGARET'S WE ARE HOSTING A:

Clothing Collection

with Rags 2 Riches 4 Schools

Do you have clothes in your wardrobe that you no longer wear, maybe last year's fashions, or that buy that was too good to leave but it's not really you after all?

Please help us fundraise by donating your good quality unwanted, re-useable (clean, dry and wearable) clothes and accessories

(please pair and tie shoes together)

Your donations become affordable clothing in other countries

so please <u>do not</u> send poor quality, dirty or wet items, and no duvets, pillows, curtains, books, CDs or bric-a-brac.

<u>STOP and THINK -</u> is it something you'd wear out and about yourself or pass to a friend? If not, noone else will want to buy and wear it either, so unfortunately it's not reusable and can't go in the bag.

Even if it's only one t-shirt please bring it in, as it will all help our church.

If you can involve family, friends and neighbours please do.

We truly appreciate your support in helping raise additional funds for our church.

There's no better feeling than knowing you raised funds, helped the economy, the environment, and somebody on the other side of the world – and all by donating some clothes.

If we can fill 100 bags we'll have half a tonne!

Please bring your donations to St Margaret's Centre:

On the 5th March 2023



Once again, very many thanks for your contribution towards Operation Christmas Child. I have received several emails of thanks and would like to pass on the following:-

Most children in the remote Himibia village in Namibia had never played with toys. But Kangeloo desperately wanted a doll. Imagination had become her companion as she carried around a large stone and pretended it was her friend. Kangeloo sat quietly in her seat and hugged the shoebox close to her chest. When it was time to look inside she slowly opened the lid and stared at the gifts. As the other boys and girls squealed with delight and showed one another their new treasures Kangelloo continued to sit and stare unable to believe her eyes when she realised that the doll in the shoebox was now hers.

In another email recently received I was informed that 250,000 shoeboxes were sent from the UK. Highworth Collection Centre collected 1,771 shoeboxes. These were packed in 190 cartons and sent to Westbury for onwards processing.

Chris Lyne



You can't be too careful.



Two men were climbing a particularly difficult mountain when one of them suddenly fell down a crevasse 500 feet deep. "Are you alright, Bert?" called the man at the top of the crevasse. "I'm still alive thank goodness, Fred" came the reply. "Here grab this rope", said Fred, throwing a rope down to Bert. "I can't grab it", shouted Bert. "My arms are broken". "Well, fit it around your legs." "I can't do that either" apologised Bert. "My legs are broken". "Put the rope in your mouth", shouted Fred. So Bert put the rope in his mouth and Fred began to haul him to safety. 490 ft 400ft.... 300....... 200......100.... 50 feet and then Fred called: "Are you all right Bert? Yeh-h-hhh.

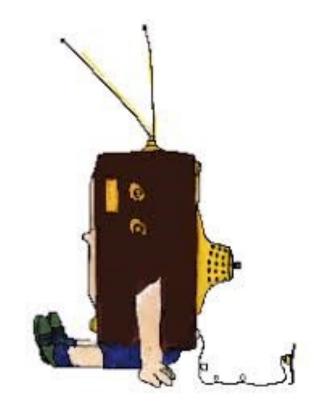
Today I saw a little worm
Wriggling on his belly
Perhaps he'd like to come inside
And see what's on the telly Spike Milligan
Do we watch too much TV?
I'll tell you the story of Jimmy Jet
And you know what I tell you is true
He loved to watch his T.V.Set
Almost as much as you

He watched all day he watched all night Till he grew pale and lean from the early show to the late late show And all the shows between

He watched till his eyes were frozen wide And his bottom grew in his chair And his chin turned into a tuning dial And aerials grew out of his hair

And his brain turned into T.V.tubes And his face to a T.V. Screen And two knobs saying video and sound Grew where his ears had been

And he grew a plug that looked like a tail So we plugged in little Jim And now instead of him watching T.V. We all sit around and watch him Be warned



Teacher: What is this a picture of?

Class: Don't know miss Teacher: It's a kangaroo Class: What's a kangaroo miss?

Teacher: A kangaroo is a native of Australia Small Boy: Wow, my sister married one of those



"Alec" said the Religious Education Teacher, "you've written here that Samson was an actor. What makes you think that?" "Well sir" said Alec "I read that he brought the house down."







March 5th - Second Sunday of Lent

9:30am St Margaret's Church

9:30am St Leonards Church

10am St Mary Magdalene Church

Holy Communion Service Sunday Morning Worship Family Service

March 12th - Third Sunday of Lent

9:30am St Margaret's Church

9:30am St Mary Magdalene Church

11am St Leonards Church

Sunday Morning Worship Holy Communion Service Family Service

March 19th - Mothering Sunday

10am St Mary Magdalene Church

Sunday Morning Team Worship

March 26th - Fifth Sunday of Lent

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.

SATURDAY

SCENE

AT ST MARGARET'S CENTRE

(KENWIN CLOSE, OFF ERMIN STREET, STRATTON ST. MARGARET)

SATURDAY 11TH MARCH

@ 4PM

SPECIAL RELATIONSHIPS

SCAN ME CHURCH STORES FOOD AUSIG CRAFT CANTES CAN ME

South Marston



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 18th March

Every Third Saturday in the month

Enquiries or for table reservations please call 01793 831473



St Leonard's Church Stanton

Hosts Coffee Morning now at

Stanton House Hotel

10:15am - noon

On Wednesday

15th of March 2023



St Margaret's Church Stratton



at

St Margaret's Centre Every Thursday

9:30am - 11:30am

Sundays after Church Services

Tea also available





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.

Swindon Guide Dogs



Great British Classics Charity Night.

Monday 13th March

From 7.00pm

(last orders 9.30pm)

Price £8.50 per main course

Raffle

At
The Crown Inn
Stratton, Swindon
SN3 4NL,

(To book a table call 01793-827530 email:

thecrownstratton@gmail.com)

WILD BUSY BEE HONEY

These are all our homemade pure products from our bees that we sell separately or in hampers which are displayed below.

Pure Honey 12oz Jar - £5

Wrapped pure honey jar - £6

Lip Balm (coconut + vanilla) contains nuts -

£2

Small Beehive candle - £3

Owl Candle - £3.50

Bee Candle - £5









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





Stratton Team Ministry

Providing spaces with respect, warmth & accessibility.

At St Margaret's Centre Every Thursday 9:30 - 14:00

This Warm and Welcome Space can be used as a place to spend time, stay warm and feel safe.

You do not have to pay to attend, tell people why you're here or participate in activities.



Recycling @ St Margaret's Centre





WILTSHIRE AIR AMBULANCE





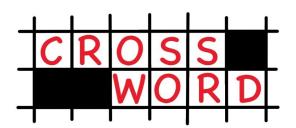


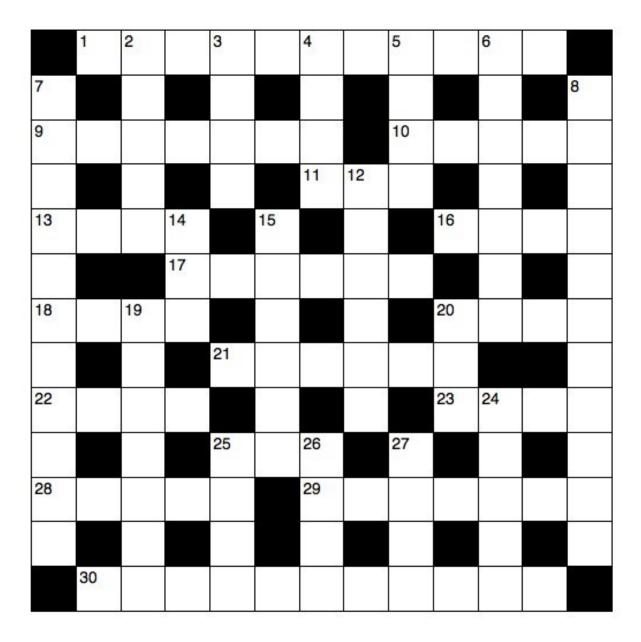






Any brand of EMPTY medicine blister packets





Across

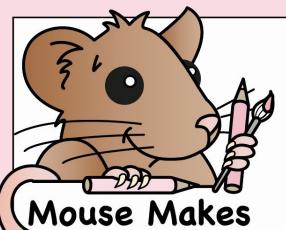
- 1 These letters come between Romans and Galatians (11)
- 9 'You will not me to the grave' (Psalm 16:10) (7)
- 10 King of Moab to whom the Israelites were subject for 18 years (Judges 3:14) (5)
- 11 Town possessing mineral spring (3)
- 13 Mede (anag.) (4)
- 16 High-fidelity (abbrev.) (4)

Across

- 17 He succeeded his father Rehoboam as king of Judah (1 Kings 14:31) (6)
- 18 A son of Simeon (Genesis 46:10) (4)
- 20 Controversial religious book of the 1970s, The of God Incarnate (4)
- 21 'He has received from the Father the promised Holy Spirit and has poured out what you and hear' (Acts 2:33) (3,3)
- 22 'You me together in my mother's womb' (Psalm 139:13) (4)
- 23 Edit (anag.) (4)
- 25 'Who has believed our message and to whom has the of the Lord been revealed?' (Isaiah 53:1) (3)
- 28 Abraham's brother (Genesis 22:23) (5)
- 29 'When Mordecai learned of that had been —, he tore his clothes' (Esther 4:1) (3,4)
- 30 Sympathetic (Proverbs 11:16) (4-7)

Down

- 2 'That was why his parents said, "He is —; ask him" (John 9:23) (2,3)
- 3 Integrated Services Digital Network (1,1,1,1) 4
- 4 'Saul has slain his thousands, and David his of thousands' (1 Samuel 18:7) (4)
- 5 Concept (John 8:14) (4)
- 6 'Do we, then, the law by this faith? Not at all! Rather, we uphold the law' (Romans 3:31) (7)
- 7 Industrious (2 Timothy 2:6) (11)
- 8 'I pray also that the eyes of your heart may be in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you (Ephesians 1:18) (11)
- 12 'Out of the same mouth come and cursing' (James 3:10) (6)
- 14 This was how many of the Jewish leaders described Jesus (John 10:20) (3)
- 15 Vitality (Job 20:11) (6)
- 19 He urged David to kill Saul at Hakilah (1 Samuel 26:8) (7)
- 20 'So for a whole year Barnabas and Saul with the church and taught great numbers of people' (Acts 11:26) (3)
- 24 'Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord (Deuteronomy 6:4) (2,3)
- 25 Parched (Matthew 12:43) (4)
- 26 'In the image of God he created him; and female he created them' (Genesis 1:27) (4)
- 27 Disparagement (Psalm 15:3) (4)



BIBLE MOTHERS

Who had two sons called Cain and Abel?

Genesis 4:1-2

Who was 90 years old when she had her son Isaac?

Genesis 17:19

Whose prayers for a child were answered by God?

1 Samuel 1:20

Who was Ruth's Mother-in-Law?

Ruth 1:1-5

Eunice was Timothy's mother, but who was her mother?

2 Timothy 1:5

Who saved her baby by putting him in a basket in the river?

Exodus 6:20

How many other words can you make from:

MOTHERING **SUNDAY**

WHO IS MY MOTHER?

CAIN

ELIZABETH

ISAAC

HANNAH **RACHEL**

JESUS .

REBEKAH

IACOB

EVE

TIMOTHY JOSEPH

MARY

SAMUEL

SARAH

EUNICE

IOHN

Look up the Bible verses then find the answers and the names below in the word search

> REBEKAH **ELIZABETH EUNICE**

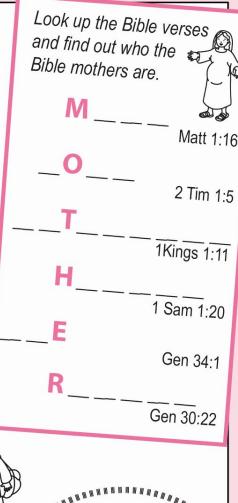
RUTH MARY

RACHEL LEAH

ZIPLAH **MOTHER**

MUM

В В E K Н В



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92 Ermin Street
Stratton St Margaret
SN3 4NN
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Crossword Solutions

ACROSS:

1, Corinthians. 9, Abandon. 10, Eglon. 11, Spa. 13, Deem. 16, Hi-fi. 17, Abijah. 18, Ohad. 20, Myth. 21, Now see. 22, Knit. 23, Tide. 25, Arm. 28, Nahor. 29, All done. 30, Kind-hearted.

DOWN:

2, Of age. 3, ISDN. 4, Tens. 5, Idea. 6, Nullify. 7, Hardworking. 8, Enlightened. 12, Praise. 14, Mad. 15, Vigour. 19, Abishai. 20, Met. 24, Is one. 25, Arid. 26, Male. 27, Slur.

STRATTON TEAM MINISTRY NEWS - NEXT EDITION DEADLINE for Articles and Information anytime before 15th March 2023

Georgina Martin: Church Office,

Tel: 826505 St Margaret's Centre

Email: stmargaretsoffice2@btconnect.com

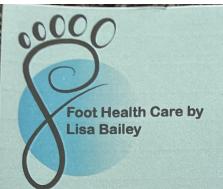
Also, by hand or call Georgina Martin on 07768 243675

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 bumbsan	bumbsandbabes9@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	
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	



Foot Health Care

by Lisa Bailey Dip MCFHP MAFHP

I am a fully qualified and insured Foot Health Professional and a member of the British Association of Foot Health Professionals- Insured and DBS checked.

I offer a mobile service to patients in the comfort of their own homes, residential/ nursing homes. In the Swindon area and surrounding villages.

Appointment Includes

- Full neurovascular assessment (then yearly or more frequent check-ups for high risk clients).
- Full medical history taken, including allergies and a current list of your medications. Discuss any concerns you may have.
- Full assessment of your feet to help provide an individual treatment plan.

Appointment will include routine footcare as discussed in treatment plan such as:

- Toenail cutting + filing
- Diabetic foot management
- Ingrown toenails
- Corns and calluses
- Thickened and fungal nails
- Athletes foot
- Fingernail cutting + filing (additional cost of £8)

Advice will be given to maintain good foot health until your next treatment.

Standard Charge Per Visit: £35

© phone - 07762700558

email - baileylcbhome@icloud.com

Facebook - Foot Health Care by Lisa Bailey





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.

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