



May
2022

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

swallow a nest

where she may raise

Just as the sparrow has found a home and the

her young, my resting place is in your house. O

LORD MY KING and my God. Ps 84:3



STRATTON TEAM MINISTRY

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

Lay Minister: Lisa Lodwick
Alison Burston
Dan Read

Church Administrator Georgina Martin 826505
Email: stmargaretsoffice2@btconnect.com

CHURCHWARDENS

St. Margaret's Church and St Mary Magdalene Church

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

Deputy Wardens

Mr David Horne 724776
Mr Ian Jones 07769703385

St Leonards Church

Mrs Liz Hillman 762935
Mrs Liz Bannister 763657

Joint Parish Safeguarding Officers & DBS Lead Recruiters

Dr Mike Boshier 07799835437
Mrs Mary Boshier

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

Parish life letter May

Hope is an amazing thing isn't it? I'm sitting here looking out of my window at a wet, grey April day, hoping that by the time you read this it will be a beautifully sunny May day! Hope is something to hang on to when all else is lost. When we are at our wits end and everything we have tried has failed, we still have hope. When we are at rock bottom the only way is up. Of course, as I type this there are several songs and slogans that are swirling through my head and if I've done that to you then please accept my apologies!

This month we celebrate Ascension Day. It is the day that Jesus goes up to heaven. Why would we celebrate Jesus leaving us on earth? Surely that's a bad thing, after all he did on earth, surely, we are going to be worse off, so why celebrate that? There's a few reasons, here's two. Firstly, Jesus told his followers that he had to leave, so that the Holy Spirit could come. Jesus could only be in one place, in his earthly body, but the Holy Spirit could be everywhere and with everyone. The Holy Spirit goes by many names: Counsellor, comforter and guide are but a few. One name just can't cover what the Holy Spirit does for us. Secondly, we also believe that Jesus now sits at God's right side, speaking on behalf of the human race. These two reasons are the basis of our celebration. Our second and perhaps better known celebration is Pentecost. As a child you may have made a headband with paper flames, which is how the Holy Spirit first appeared to Jesus' followers. Incidentally, the funny hat that Bishops wear is the same thing, they are shaped to represent the flame of the Holy Spirit! The Holy Spirit came to the disciples first and like a ripple spreading out like a droplet hitting a pool of water, the Holy Spirit spread out. The Holy Spirit spread through the disciples as they went out to share the good news of Jesus. A once frightened group of individuals who had lost their master, now through the Holy Spirit bravely travelled out and across the world. A group of individuals who had lost all hope were suddenly given the power of the Holy Spirit and although they faced a great deal of persecution, they held on to the hope they had received.

The Holy Spirit is there waiting for each and every one of us as followers of Jesus. The Holy Spirit can help us as we seek to find the strength to face the struggles of daily life. We can find hope where there feels like there is none through faith. However, I suspect that my hope in a hot summer might be in vain, the Holy Spirit won't guarantee that for even the most devout Christian.

Blessings
Elveen



Backache season is here?



I just want to let everyone know that I am in hospital and they are keeping me in. I have only poisoned myself, what I thought was an onion turned out to be a daffodil bulb. The doctor said I should be out sometime in the Spring.



The best way to garden is to put on a wide brimmed hat and some old clothes, and with a hoe in one hand and a cold drink in the other tell somebody else where to dig



Why do potatoes make good detectives? Because they keep their eyes peeled



A weed is a plant that has mastered every survival skill except for learning how to grow in rows.



What Vegetable can tie your stomach in knots? String beans.



A toddler was found chewing on a slug. After the initial surge of disgust the parent said "Well, what does it taste like?" "Worms was the reply.



Gardening requires lots of water - most of it in the form of perspiration.



'Annuals' mean disappointment once a year



Your lawn is always slightly bigger than your desire to mow it.



Whichever tool you want is always at the back of the shed.



The only way to ensure rain is to give the garden a good soaking.



Weeds grow at precisely the rate you pull them out.





Nothing ever looks like it does on the seed packet.



Autumn follows Summer, winter follows autumn, drought follows planting.



The only way to guarantee some colour all the year round is to buy a garden gnome.



Life expectancy would grow by leaps and bounds if green vegetables smelled as good as bacon.



How do you stop moles digging in your garden? Take away their shovels.



A woman asked her neighbour, "can I borrow your lawn mower?" the neighbor says, "no, he's not home yet".



The elementary school cook prided herself on the healthy meals she produced with lots of vegetables and fruit. When the power failed one day the cook couldn't serve a hot meal in the cafeteria so at the last minute she whipped up great slabs of jam sandwiches. As one little boy fills his plate he said "It's about time, a home cooked meal".



Knowledge is knowing a tomato is a fruit, wisdom is not putting it in fruit salad.



A husband and wife were driving through Wales. As they approached Lla.....-d they started arguing about the pronunciation of the town. They argued back and forth, then they stopped for lunch. At the counter the husband asked the waitress "Before we order could you please settle an argument for us, would you please pronounce where we are very slowly?" She leaned over the counter and said, "Burr-ger King".

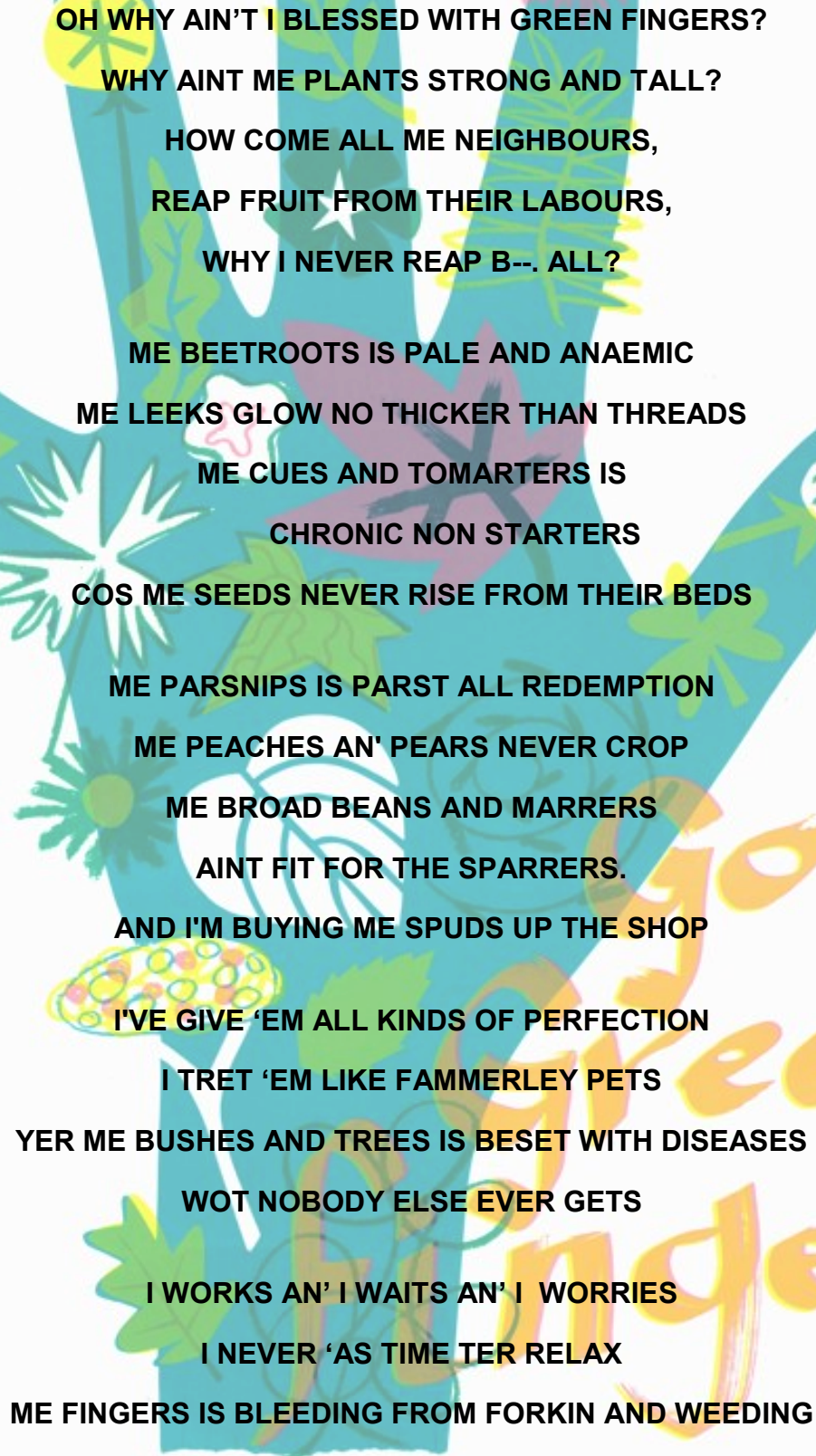
That's it



Eric's musings

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

GARDENERS' LAMENT



OH WHY AIN'T I BLESSED WITH GREEN FINGERS?
WHY AINT ME PLANTS STRONG AND TALL?
HOW COME ALL ME NEIGHBOURS,
REAP FRUIT FROM THEIR LABOURS,
WHY I NEVER REAP B--. ALL?
ME BEETROOTS IS PALE AND ANAEMIC
ME LEEKS GLOW NO THICKER THAN THREADS
ME CUES AND TOMARTERS IS
CHRONIC NON STARTERS
COS ME SEEDS NEVER RISE FROM THEIR BEDS
ME PARSNIPS IS PARST ALL REDEMPTION
ME PEACHES AN' PEARS NEVER CROP
ME BROAD BEANS AND MARRERS
AINT FIT FOR THE SPARRERS.
AND I'M BUYING ME SPUDS UP THE SHOP
I'VE GIVE 'EM ALL KINDS OF PERFECTION
I TRET 'EM LIKE FAMMERLEY PETS
YER ME BUSHES AND TREES IS BESET WITH DISEASES
WOT NOBODY ELSE EVER GETS
I WORKS AN' I WAITS AN' I WORRIES
I NEVER 'AS TIME TER RELAX
ME FINGERS IS BLEEDING FROM FORKIN AND WEEDING
WHILE UVVERS JUST LIE FLAT ON THEIR BACKS!



May 1st - 1st Sunday of the Month - Third Sunday of Easter

9:30am St Margaret's Church	Holy Communion Service
9:30am St Leonards Church	Sunday Morning Worship
10am St Mary Magdalene Church	Family Service

May 8th - 2nd Sunday of the Month - Fourth Sunday of Easter

9:30am St Margaret's Church	Sunday Morning Worship
9:30am St Mary Magdalene Church	Holy Communion Service
11am St Leonards Church	Family Service

May 15th - 3rd Sunday of the Month - Fifth Sunday of Easter

10am St Leonard's Church	Sunday Morning Team Worship
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May 22nd - 4th Sunday of the Month - Sixth Sunday of Easter

9:30am St Margaret's Church	Sunday Morning Worship
9:30am St Leonards Church	Holy Communion Service
11am Coleview	Holy Communion Service

May 26th - Ascension Thursday

7pm St Margaret's Church	Holy Communion
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May 29th - 5th Sunday of the Month - Seventh Sunday of Easter

10am St Mary Magdalene Church	Sunday Morning Team Worship
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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.

We are online at 9am Monday to Saturday for Morning Prayer via
[@Strattonteamministry.co.uk](https://twitter.com/Strattonteamministry)

Come and
join us for:

Activities

Songs

Refreshments

MESSY
CHURCH

Crafts

Games

Stories

SATURDAY SCENE

FREE!

At St Margaret's Centre

(Kenwin Close, off Ermin street, Stratton St. Margaret)

Saturday 14th May

@ 4pm

**Join for Breakfast on the Beach –
when Jesus sits and eats with his
disciples after His resurrection**

St Margaret's Church, St Leonard's Church, St Mary Magdalene's
Church and Coleview Community Centre

for more information Please contact us at

✉ saturdayscene@strattonteamministry.co.uk

☎ 01793 826505



www.facebook.com/stmsaturdayscene





**St Mary Magdalene Church
South Marston**

MEETING 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 on

Saturday 21st May



**Enquiries or for table reservations
please call 01793 831473**

stm



St Leonard's Church Stanton

Hosts Coffee Morning now at
Stanton House Hotel

10:15am - noon

On Wednesday

18th of May 2022

Everyone Welcome



Bumps & Babes

ARE YOU A NEW
OR EXPECTANT PARENT?

Register Now

forms.gle/fM4NesmSPYWTNuiC7

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 11.15-12.30

Where: St Margaret's Centre,
Kenwin Close, SN3 4NY

Cost: Free

Contact Us & Useful Links



Bumpsandbabes5@gmail.com



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



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



Bumps and Babes St Margaret's Swindon

May Activities at Beechcroft Library



May is local & community history month!

Look out for our 'Stratton through the ages' display

Sat 28th - Wed 1st - Jubilee Activities for Children

Sat 28th 11am-13:00pm - LEGO Club- Royal themed!

Regular Free Activities & Groups

- Tues 13:30 - 15:30 Fun Art Group** (everyone welcome)
- Wed 10:00 - 12:00 Friendship Group** (connect with new friends)
- 13:30 - 15:30 Digital Drop In** (improve your confidence with smart phones, tablets & laptops)
- Thurs 10:30 - 11:15 Toddler Storytime** (stories, rhymes & songs)
- 10:30 - 12:30 Stratton Advice Point**
(free confidential Welfare Benefits advice)
- Fri 11:00 - 12:30 Sew, Knit & Natter Group**
- Sat 10:30 - 13:30 Board Games** (Chess, Scrabble etc)
- Sat 11:00 - 11:45 Saturday Story Time** (ages 7 & under)*



* Every first & third Saturday of the month (7th & 21st May)

AMBASSADORS FOR:  Compassion

OUT OF THE ASHES

JAZZ, R&B AND BLUES WITH GOSPEL ROOTS



Sunday 15th May 2022

Christ Church, Swindon

Doors 6pm, starts at 6.30pm

Tickets - £10 (to include beer, cider and snacks)

Purchase tickets online:

<https://cccswindon.co.uk/page/tickets>

Or in person from: Community Centre @ Christ Church

Email: ccoperations@christchurchswindon.co.uk

Tel: 01793 617237



Wardens Potting Shed

The Potting shed and greenhouse are overflowing with plants at the moment and I am looking forward to Plant sales after the St Margaret's Church Sunday morning service at the Centre on

May 1st

May 8th

May 22nd

May 29th

June 5th

Plants will be for sale as they grow bigger so there will be different plants available through May

First sale will have Sweet Peas, Geums Red, Beef Tomatoes, Salvias, Tagettes, Marigolds, Nasturtiums and Geraniums.

Hope to see you soon.

Richard Pflieger



Volunteers needed to either knit or crochet squares or blankets for the GWH

Or have you got any spare balls of wool to offer?

The GWH End of Life team and Brighter Futures are providing End of Life patient's with blankets.

Blankets are provided to make the hospital setting more homely and less medical in the patients last days of life. The family can then keep the blanket as a loving memory.

Obviously with the COVID 19 pandemic, all blankets and squares must adhere to the Trust's Infection Control Policy so if you can help out at all please contact June Lewis for the simple guidelines.

June Lewis: 07788713729 or email june.lewis13@btinternet.com





GIVING

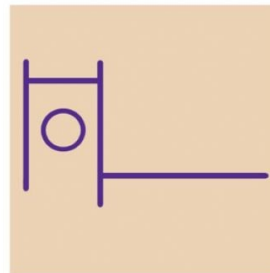
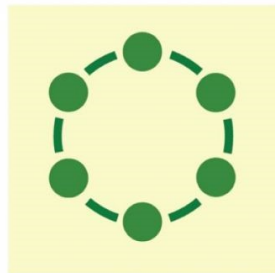
You may be aware that many charities and organisations are struggling at this time, this includes churches.

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



TM

PARISH
GIVING
SCHEME



Recycling @ St Margaret's Centre

**RECYCLE YOUR
CRISP PACKETS HERE!**



RECYCLE FOR



**WILTSHIRE
AIR AMBULANCE**



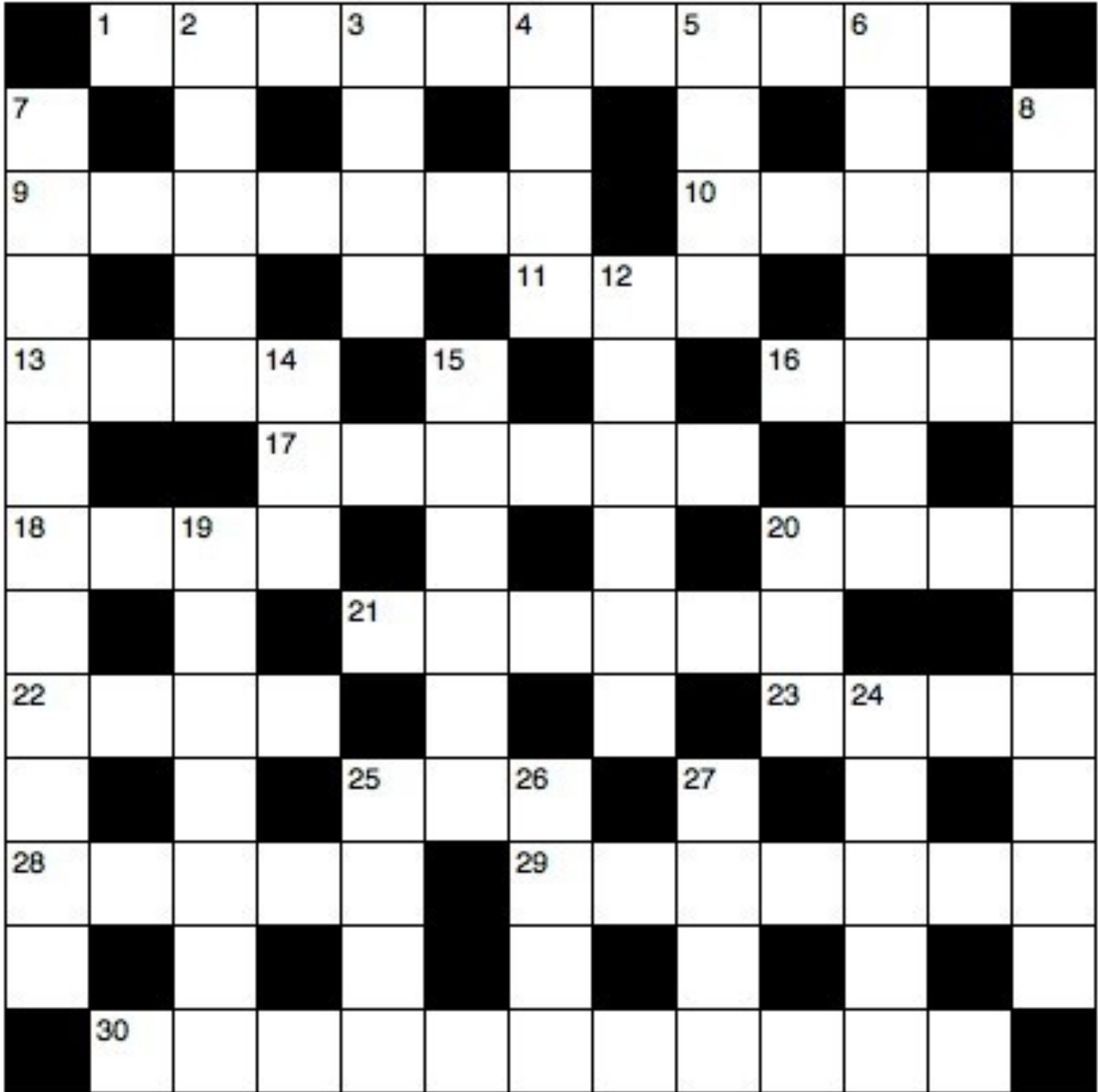
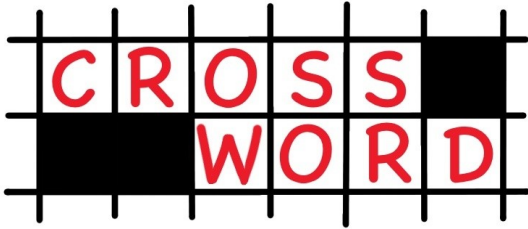
In support of

**WE ARE
MACMILLAN.
CANCER SUPPORT**

ACCEPTED WASTE



Any brand of EMPTY medicine blister packets



Across

- 1 Overpowered (Deuteronomy 11:4) (11)
- 9 'The — are mantled with corn' (Psalm 65:13) (7)
- 10 'Each man—a sword to his side'(Exodus32:27)(5)
- 11 On the death of Jesus the curtain in the temple was torn from— to bottom (Matthew 27:51) (3)
- 13 Stagger(Isaiah 28:7)(4)

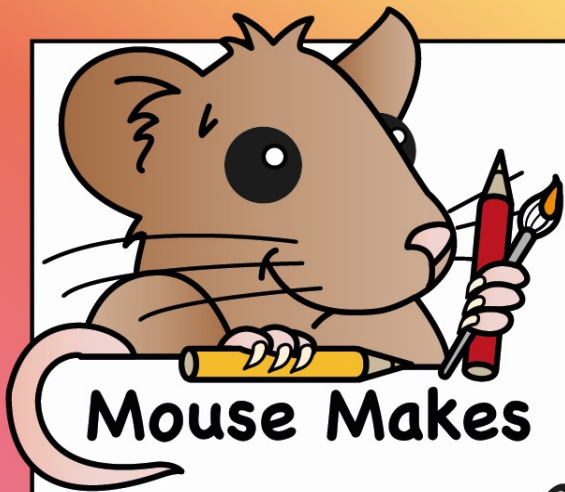
Across

- 16 'Anyone, then, who knows the good he ought—and doesn't do it, sins' (James 4:17) (2,2)
17 Stir up or provoke (Acts 13:50) (6)
18 Burden (Luke 11:46) (4)
20 'As far as the east is from the—, so far has he removed our transgressions from us' (Psalm 103:12) (4)
21 Sign (Luke 23:38) (6)
22 'After that, Jesus poured water into a basin and began to—his disciples' feet' (John 13:5) (4)
23 The nature of the seven ears of corn which swallowed up the good ears in Pharaoh's dream (Genesis 41:23) (4)
25 Has (anag.) (3)
28 'This is the account of Shem, Ham and Japheth,—sons' (Genesis 10:1) (5)
29 'I will...make them drunk, so that they...sleep for—and— awake' (Jeremiah 51:39) (4,3)
30 Paul said of him, 'he often refreshes me and is not ashamed of my chains' (2 Timothy 1:16) (11)

Down

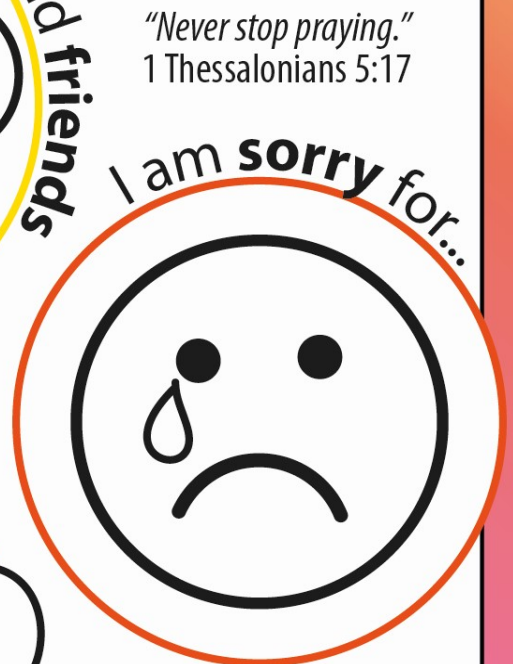
- 2 Worth (Matthew 13:46) (5)
3 'A bruised — he will not break' (Matthew 12:20) (4)
4 'Suddenly a great company of the heavenly — appeared with the angel' (Luke 2:13) (4)
5 Slip (anag.) (4)
6 'Take an awl and push it through his — — into the door, and he will become your servant for life' (Deuteronomy 15:17) (3,4)
7 Bountiful (2 Corinthians 8:2) (11)
8 'Therefore, as we have — , let us do good to all people' (Galatians 6:10) (11)
12 Acquire (2 Timothy 2:10) (6)
14 Container cover (Numbers 19:15) (3)
15 'He...became obedient to death, even death on— —
' (Philippians 2:8) (1,5)
19 Refrain (1 Peter 2:11) (7)
20 'She began to—his feet with her tears' (Luke 7:38) (3)
24 One who worships Brahma, Vishnu or Shiva (5)
25 'Give to everyone who—you' (Luke 6:30) (4)
26 'I lift up my eyes to the hills; where does my—come from?' (Psalm 121:1) (4)
27 One of those whom the Lord said would be taken from Jerusalem and Judah as judgment on them (Isaiah 3:2) (4)





Mouse Makes

"Give thanks to the Lord for He is good, His love endures forever"
Psalm 136:1



Jesus said,
"This, then, is how
you should pray:

Our

_____ in _____
hallowed be your

_____ your

_____ come,
your _____ be
done, on

_____ as it
is in _____.
Give us this day our
daily _____.
And

_____ us our _____,
as we also have
forgiven our debtors.

And _____
us not into
temptation, but

_____ us from the
_____ one."

Read Matthew 6:9-13
to fill in the words.

"Never stop praying."
1 Thessalonians 5:17

"Do not be anxious about
anything, but in every situation,
by prayer and petition,
with thanksgiving,
present your requests to God."
Philippians 4:6

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Stratton St Margaret
SN3 4NN
01793 832072
www.pearcefuneralservices.co.uk

Crossword Solutions

ACROSS: 1, Overwhelmed. 9, Valleys. 10, Strap. 11, Top. 13, Reel. 16, To do. 17, Incite. 18, Load. 20, West. 21, Notice. 22, Wash. 23, Thin. 25, Ash. 28, Noah's. 29, Ever not. 30, Onesiphorus.

DOWN: 2, Value. 3, Reed. 4, Host. 5, Lisp. 6, Ear lobe. 7, Overflowing. 8, Opportunity. 12, Obtain. 14, Lid. 15, A cross. 19, Abstain. 20, Wet. 24, Hindu. 25, Asks. 26, Help. 27, Hero.

STRATTON TEAM MINISTRY NEWS - NEXT EDITION DEADLINE

for Articles and Information anytime before 15th May 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 Daghish	07796 925621
Brownies - Mon	Yvette Webster-May	825398
Bumps and Babes	Bekki	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 Pflieger	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
Wl. Ermin St.	Sue Mould,	670634
Wl. Stratton St Margaret	Mrs Covell	829900

Golden Charter

Funeral Plans



INDEPENDENT FUNERAL DIRECTORS

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Where excellence comes as part of the service.

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