

ST MARGARET'S
CHURCH, STREATLEY
PROCLAMATION

MAY 2020



*Serving the Communities of Streatley, Warden Hill
and Bramingham Park/Barton Hills*

www.stmargaret-streatley.org.uk

40p

Parish Announcement

Please note that due to the current Coronavirus Pandemic and in accordance with both Government and Diocesan guidance, our church buildings including the parish centre are closed to the public. This includes for public worship, private prayer and all other meetings and activities, except for vital community services, until further notice.

In the interim the Reverend Nigel Richards will be streaming Morning prayer at 9am every week day and Holy Communion on Sundays at 9.30am via facebook.

<https://www.facebook.com/vicar.stmargarets.streatley/>

We have included details of our Groups and regular events in this magazine for information, these will recommence when restrictions are lifted.



Buggy Group

Meets every Tuesday in term time
10.15am-11.30am at
St Margaret's Parish Centre
Lucas Gardens

children ages 0-3 years welcome
come along and make new friends

Enjoy a cup of tea or coffee,
juice for the children and a
biscuit with a sing song to
end the session. Different
puppet visits every week.

“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”

Jeremiah 29:11

This is one of my favourite pieces of scripture, and so, as I prepare to embark on the next phase of my journey, I once again draw great comfort from God’s Word. At this time of transition, I also draw on the love of my family and the warm welcome I have already received from the people of this parish, in which I’m blessed to begin ministering shortly.

Firstly, I would like to thank you all for your prayers, encouraging messages and for all the work that went into ensuring the interview process went smoothly and was positive for all involved. I had a really good day, although it seems like quite a time ago now. I enjoyed the many (very many!) conversations I had with members of the congregation, PCC and ministry team and I greatly appreciated your friendliness and hospitality. When I was offered the post I was very excited, and the news is still sinking in, even three months later.

I applied for the position because I sensed in your profile that there was a strong overlap with my approach to faith and ministry, and this was confirmed during my visit. I was genuinely struck by the balance between faith and friendliness in your worship, your open and inquisitive approach to Christianity, the opportunity to work with the hospice, and the strong sense of ambition for your community that binds you together as a church family. We are greatly looking forward to joining this family and working with you all as we discern where God is leading us in this next chapter in the life of St Margaret’s Church.

By the time you read this, I will be in post - or very nearly in post - and I will get to know you all in person very soon (no doubt over a cup of tea!). But in the meantime, here is a bit of information about me. I was ordained and have, up to now, ministered in the Diocese of Oxford. Most recently, I have been the Vicar of All Saints’ Church Dedworth, in Windsor, Berkshire. Before this, I was part of the team ministry at a very large church in Warfield, with six congregations at different venues, and I began my ministry as a Curate at All Saints’ and St Mark’s Churches in Binfield. I am passionate about sharing God’s good news across all age groups and I believe strongly that parish churches should be places of welcome, hospitality and inclusion.

I first knew that Christianity was my spiritual home when I felt drawn to join the choir as a young boy, shortly after my father left the RAF and we moved to ‘Church Road’ in South Ascot. Since then I have been gripped by a love of Jesus and the power that faith has to genuinely transform lives.

Prior to ordination, I earned my living in sales, whilst in my free time engaging in street ministry with the homeless in our local town, Reading. It was there that I discovered my call to ordained ministry and I began to draw links between mission and worship, observing that they work hand in hand. I gradually felt that God was drawing me to full-time parish ministry, and while I couldn't see myself as a Vicar (standing robed in front of a congregation), God had different ideas and I haven't looked back since! I love leading worship and never tire of sharing God's Word.

In my spare time I am keen on all kinds of music and art, and enjoy spending time with my family. I have been married for almost twenty four years to Rosie, who works as a 1:1 Teaching Assistant. We have two wonderful daughters, Phoebe who is in her second year studying Fine Art at university and Mimi, who designs and makes jewellery and sculpture. We are all really looking forward to putting down roots in Streatley and Bramingham Park.

I will be praying for you all over the next few months, and I am especially grateful to the church wardens and ministry team who have been working hard to keep things running so well during this period of vacancy. In the spirit of Lent, I wait with joyful anticipation to be installed as your new priest in April 2020.

Yours, in Christ,

Nigel

St Margaret's Church, Streatley



From the Registers

Baptisms
Weddings
Funerals
Burial of Ashes

Tower Light Sponsorship

May 24th Remembering our wonderful dad, Stan Stacey on his birthday! Corinne and Barbie
May 28th Remembering our dear mum and dad, Irene & Stan Stacey on their wedding anniversary. Corinne and Barbie

To celebrate or commemorate a special occasion, please contact Clare Powell by 1st the previous month, on 01462 811165. Sponsorship £5 per week.

Altar Sponsorship

Would you like to sponsor flowers for the Altar pedestal to celebrate a special occasion such as a special birthday, wedding, anniversary, christening, or any other celebration or may be in memory of a loved one?

There is a record of sponsorship in a book on the chest in the Cross Aisle in Church and as a token of thanks you will receive a commemorative card with a photograph. If you are interested, please contact Brenda on 01582 575 620 who will be happy to discuss your needs.



A letter from the Archdeacon

Jesus said: “Peace be with you”

John 20:21

These are difficult times for us as people, as a nation and as a church. The coronavirus pandemic has changed many aspects of life that we take for granted; work, home, school, leisure, church, and even our very lives.

May I thank you for all that you are doing to ensure your congregation, and members of the local community where you live, especially the more vulnerable members, are cared for and looked after. May I thank everyone who has stepped up to the challenge of what it means to ‘be church’ in this ‘new world’ in which we find ourselves; livestreaming services, using social media, grasping ‘zoom’ meetings, and so much more. As I’ve sampled various online services and resources from different churches across the Archdeaconry, I’ve been amazed and thankful for the creativity and willingness of people to use these technical resources to demonstrate something of the light of Christ to their community. I know that many have been surprised and delighted about how many ‘non-church regulars’ have tuned in and accepted resources offered to them.

When we emerge from this pandemic I believe we will be a very different church. Aspects of what we took for granted will have gone, but also we will have learnt new things and how to help people engage with God in very different ways. When we return to our buildings to worship, we will be able to claim back some of what we’ve lost, but I’m sure some aspects of what we considered church will have gone forever. However I also believe we mustn’t forget and lose the new things we’ve learnt, and the ‘new people’ we’ve connected with during this period. I believe it won’t be either ‘worship in church’ or ‘worship online’, but it will be ‘worship in church’ **and** ‘worship online’. We will have to discover how we help those who have dipped into our services and websites, from the safety of their own homes, to grow and develop in faith and become active members of our ‘new church’ communities.

These are difficult and dark times, but within them we’ve discovered new ways of doing church and seeing Christ. The way ahead for us as church may appear uncertain, but it is also full of new opportunity.

I’ve been struck, as I’ve read the Gospel accounts of Easter, how often a phrase like “the disciples were hiding behind locked doors in fear” occurs. Those phrases of course have always been there but they leapt off the page this year. To some extent we too are ‘hiding behind locked doors in fear’ at the moment, and as we look ahead to what church might be, we too could be uncertain and fearful. For those early disciples what they experienced was Christ stepping into their midst and saying ‘peace be with you’.

Christ does the same for us today. In our fearfulness of the current situation he steps in and says ‘peace be with you’. For those grieving a family member or friend, for those

anxious about the coronavirus, for those uncertain about their livelihoods, for those NHS workers trying desperately to help patients, and more, Christ comes and steps into the midst and says 'peace be with you'.

Christ does the same for us as church, as we work through the challenges of this current situation and what it means for us as church. As somewhere down the line we step into the 'new world' of 'new church' of post-pandemic world, he does the same for us. He stands in our midst and says 'peace be with you'.

Thank you for all that you are doing to keep church alive and to care for your communities. I pray that you will know Christ standing in your midst at this difficult time offering you His peace. I pray too that as we emerge we will know that same Christ in our midst, offering us His peace, as we relearn what it means to be church.

Take care. Stay safe.

God bless

Venerable Dave Middlebrook – Archdeacon of Bedford

ADVERTISING IN PROCLAMATION

To advertise in the magazine,
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Please supply all adverts in
electronic format

Costs are £14 per annum
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£56 for a full page advert

Adverts designed from £6

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our Church

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DEADLINE FOR JUNE 2020 PROCLAMATION

Sunday 10 MAY

but earlier if possible.

Please send usual/potential contributions to
magazine@stmargaret-streatley.org.uk

I would be grateful to receive contributions, where possible, in Word.

Thanks, Cathy Aizlewood

Make a Joyful Noise!

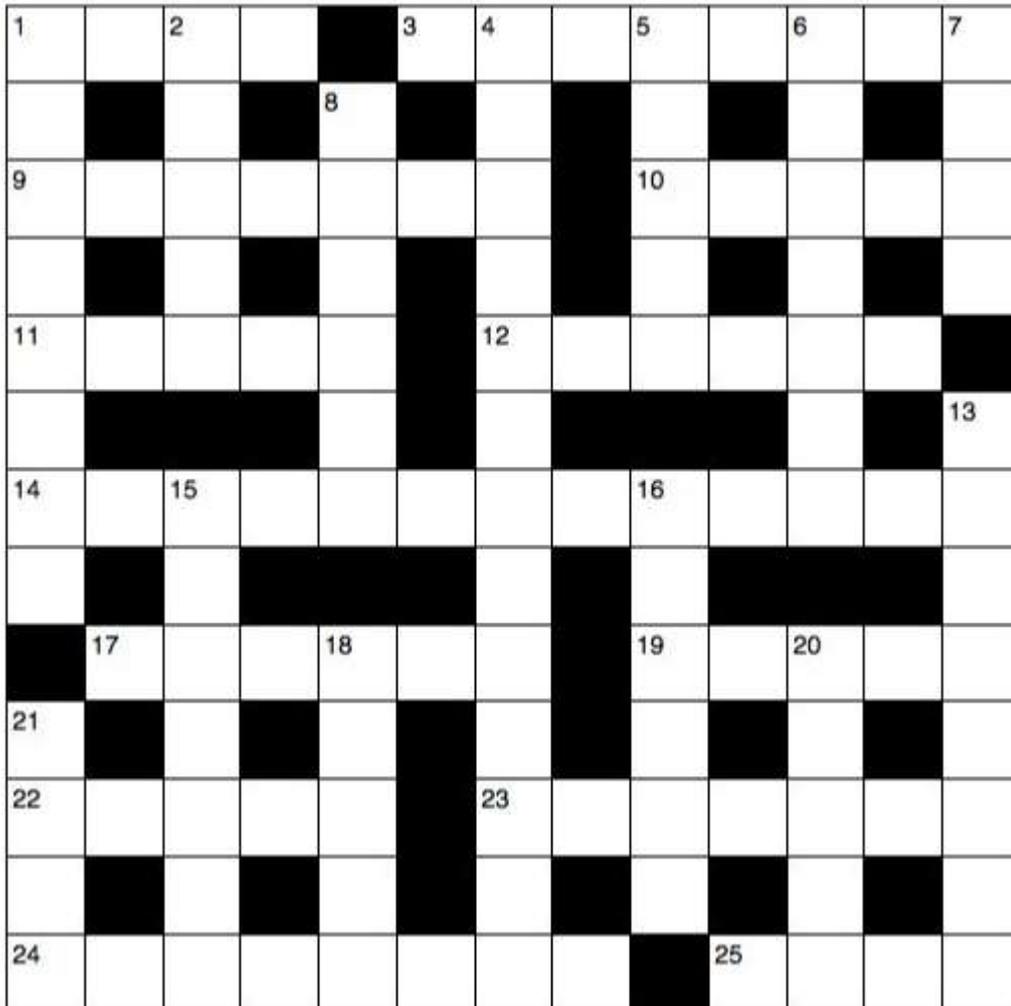
St Margaret's Church Choir meet on Friday evenings at 7.00 pm. We would like to widen our membership to include those who think they can't sing and those who do not read music, so that more of us can enjoy the fellowship of singing in a group.

We extend an open invitation. This is not committing singers to "robe" or sit with the Sunday choir. It is an opportunity to share the joy of music making and explore our beautiful sacred music with others. I hope you will try us out.

A warm welcome awaits you each Friday.

Barbara Donaldson

CROSSWORD



Across

- 1 'Therefore let us — passing judgment on one another' (Romans 14:13) (4)
 3 'I — — these persons here present' (Marriage service) (4,4)
 9 According to a prearranged timetable (Numbers 28:3) (7)
 10 Group of eight (5)
 11 The cell into which the Philippian jailer put Paul and Silas (Acts 16:24) (5)
 12 — Taylor, pioneer missionary to China (6)
 14 Otherwise known as the Eucharist, Breaking of Bread, the Lord's Table (4,9)
 17 'So that after I have preached to others, I — will not be disqualified for the prize' (1 Corinthians 9:27) (6)
 19 Attend to (3,2)
 22 Approximately (Acts 4:4) (5)
 23 Tea rite (anag.) (7)

- 24 Rule of sovereign (8)
- 25 Test (anag.) (4)

Down

- 1 The name of the street where Judas lived in Damascus and where Saul of Tarsus stayed (Acts 9:11) (8)
- 2 'The playing of the merry — , sweet singing in the choir' (5)
- 4 'We have been saying that — — was credited to him as righteous' (Romans 4:9) (8,5)
- 5 Dr Martyn — Jones, famous for his ministry at Westminster Chapel (5)
- 6 Port at which Paul landed on his way to Rome (Acts 28:13) (7)
- 7 Observe (Ruth 3:4) (4)
- 8 Minister of religion (6)
- 13 'I am — of this man's blood. It is your responsibility' (Matthew 27:24) (8)
- 15 'Greater love has no one than this, that he — — his life for his friends' (John 15:13) (3,4)
- 16 Archbishop who calculated that the world began in 4004BC (6)
- 18 'No one can — the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit' (John 3:5) (5)
- 20 Establish by law (5)
- 21 Product of Gilead noted for its healing properties (Jeremiah 46:11) (4)

PLEASE LOOK AFTER OUR CHURCHYARD



Please ensure you use the bins which are provided down by the gate to dispose of dead flowers, etc.

Care Committee

Proceeds collected following the Sunday Communion Services during the months of January, February and early March this year amounted to £118.14p and a cheque has been sent to Music24, a local charity offering music therapy and related activities to people who are socially isolated and vulnerable.

The CARE Committee would like to say a special thank you to the Church Coffee Group for making copious cups of coffee each week, supplying delicious biscuits, making everyone feel very welcome and for washing and tidying up afterwards and doing it all with a smile. Thank you also to the generous congregation who stay behind to enjoy the fellowship. Donations for coffee after the Sunday Communion Services in the four quarters in 2019 enabled us to send £157.33p to ZAWT (Zimbabwe Agricultural Welfare Trust), £162.82p to Wheels for the World Charity, £157.33p to The RNLI (Local Branch) and £134.35p to Sight Concern Bedfordshire specifically for providing Liquid Level Detectors for the visually impaired in Bedfordshire.

All the efforts and donations are greatly appreciated. Thank you.

Sadly due to the current COVID-19 situation along with everything else the church coffee has been suspended for the foreseeable future. We look forward to happier and healthier times ahead. Stay safe and well everyone.



Patron: Brindley Sherratt

Wednesday 15th April 2020

Brenda Daniells
PCC St Margaret's Church

Dear Brenda Daniells

Thank you so much for your extremely generous donation of £118.14p. It is so kind of you to think of us and having local support of our work such as yours, means a great deal to us.

This cheque, and donations like this, are a lifeline to our charity and will help us to continue to provide and expand our support services to some of the most isolated and vulnerable people in Luton.

Once again, thank you so very much to the Parish Church Council of St Margaret's Church and all of your congregation!

Yours sincerely

Graeme Davis
Co-founder & Lead Music Therapist

Music24's Registered Charity No.: 1182196

Music24, Luton Wellbeing Centre, 46 - 56 Dumfries Street, Luton, Bedfordshire, LU1 5BP
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St Margaret's Church, Streatley
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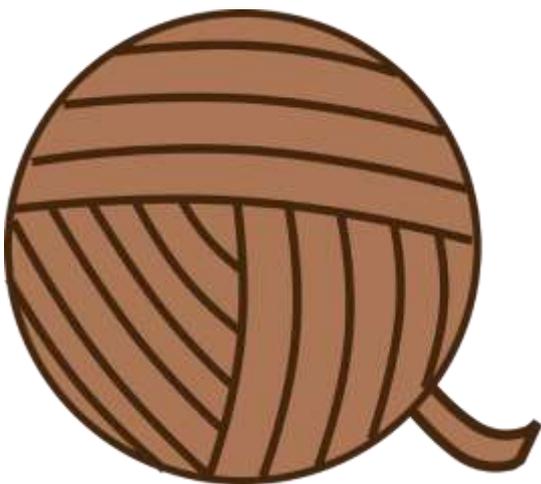
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Wool please

If anyone has spare wool which
might be used by the blanket
knitters, can you please pass it
to Jean Flower.

Thanks

THE MAJOR OAK

A new adventure tale of Robin Hood. Rob and Tilly's parents want to marry but the kids don't like each other! On a visit to Sherwood Forest, Tilly wants to find out about The Major Oak, Robin Hood's Tree but Rob thinks it is a dumb idea. But then he goes to climb inside the huge trunk. Tilly stops him and they both fall on the grass.

CHAPTER TWO

There was a sudden gust of strong, almost angry wind. The boughs of the old tree seemed to enclose over them and they were buffeted around.

"What's happening?" gasped Tilly.

"Dunno," replied Rob, hanging on to branch to try and steady himself. "I thought this tree was so old the branches were held up by ropes, in case they snapped."

"It is," muttered Tilly.

Rob scowled, trying to keep his balance.

"Feels pretty solid to me."

Tilly had to agree, as she dodged under a branch. What was going on? They couldn't move. It was as if they were caught up in a raging wind, which made the tree sway violently. Then, quite suddenly, the wind dropped and the branches gave way, swinging back to their previous height.

They stumbled to their feet, blinking in the bright light, as the sun was shining brightly. There was no hint of any wind now. Tilly looked round. Everywhere was different. There was no fence and no ropes holding up the oak's branches. There was no path round the tree, just a clearing and masses of undergrowth, and no ice cream van. There was also a delicious smell of cooking. A large pot hung over a fire and was bubbling away. Some metal bowls, beakers and spoons stood on a small wooden table nearby. There were several stools arranged around, too, and two large, stone flagons. Several long bows and leather quivers of arrows hung from an over-hanging tree.

"Wow," said Rob. "I'm hungry. Let's try some."

"Hang on," cautioned Tilly. "What is all this? It's different here. I don't like it. What's going on?"

"A re-enactment I expect," replied Rob. "We must have been blown round the other side of the tree. It's you who has been banging on about history. This is what they do isn't it? What you'd call living history."

"But there's no-one here watching. There should be some kind of audience, walking round taking a look."

"It must be a rehearsal."

“There was nothing about it in the visitor centre.”

Rob ignored her and walked over to the pot. He was about to pick up a spoon, when the snap of a twig suggested someone was coming into the clearing.

“Get behind the tree,” said Tilly. “The re-enactors might not like you trying to nick their grub!”

They dived behind the oak, as a small man walked through the undergrowth, carrying three large loaves of bread. He had fair, wispy hair down to his shoulders and wore a brown tunic, black leggings and leather, ankle length boots. He had a thin wispy beard.

Good costume, thought Tilly.

The man looked quite grubby, though and put the bread down on the table. He picked up the spoon and gave the pot a stir.

“I’m going to ask him for a bowl full,” said Rob, but, before he could set foot from his hiding place, someone else walked into the clearing from the opposite side. Tilly gave a small gasp. It was a taller man, with black hair, a small beard and a red face. He wore a green doublet over a brown tunic, dark green leggings and knee high, leather boots. A small green cap perched on his head and a hunting horn hung from a leather belt round his waist.

“It’s him. It’s Robin Hood, just as I imagined,” she muttered.

“As if. He’s just an actor,” sneered Rob. The man carried a large wooden box.

“How is the dinner, Much?” he said. “It smells good.” His voice was deep and sounded surprisingly posh.

“Soon be ready, Robin,” replied Much. “I’ve just fetched thee some fresh bread from Pa’s mill.”

Robin Hood put the box down on the grass.

“And I’ve just been to the fletcher in Edwinstowe and got more arrows!”

“Did anyone see thee?” Robin laughed.

“Of course, but not anyone like the Sheriff or his men. I’m well known in Edwinstowe. They all like me.” He pulled up a stool. “Where’s Marian?”

“She went out with Little John and Will Scarlet. They said they wouldn’t be long.”

Robin picked up one of the loaves and broke off a chunk. Then he poured some liquid from one of the flagons into a beaker.

“They’ll be looking for rich pickings on the Great North Road, I expect.”

He started to eat the bread and take great gulps from the beaker. Rob decided to take a photograph.

“Looks dead authentic,” he said. But his phone wouldn’t work. “There’s no signal!” he muttered. “The battery can’t be flat. I charged it just before we came out!”

So, Tilly and Rob just watched. The smell from the pot was making them both feel hungry. It must surely be lunch time. Suddenly, Robin turned and looked straight at their hiding place.

“Ye better come hither and join us. No point in hiding.”

Tilly jumped and hesitated.

“Come on,” said Rob. “I’m starving and this is only a re-enactment. They’re only actors.”

Confidently, he strode forward.

“Sit thyself down, lad,” said Robin Hood, pointing to a stool. “And thee, little lady. Don’t be shy.”

Cautiously Tilly walked out into the clearing. At close quarters she saw the men’s clothes were quite grubby, which must look authentic she supposed. But Much whiffed as well. Robin Hood didn’t, except for the smell of the woodland and a hint of leather. She was surprised by this. She sat down on a stool next to Rob. Robin Hood broke off two hunks of bread and handed them over. His hands looked none too clean. Rob didn’t care but Tilly just nibbled at hers. It tasted really good, freshly baked bread, straight out of the oven.

“What’s thy name, lad?” asked Robin Hood, pouring some liquid from the flagon into another beaker. Tilly saw it was some kind of beer.

“Robert,” replied Rob, “but my mates call me Rob.” Robin Hood grinned, showing even white teeth.

“My name’s Robert, too, but my men call me Robin.” He handed Rob the beaker, “hath thee some ale, lad.” He looked at Tilly. “How about thee, little lady?”

“I’m fine thanks,” replied Tilly. “And my name’s Tilly.”

And they’re using old fashioned words, she thought. That’s clever.

“Tilly? Ah, Matilda. That be Marian’s name too. But she prefers Marian.”

Rob took a swig from the beaker and coughed. Robin Hood bellowed with laughter.

“Meant to tell thee, lad, it’s a bit strong! Sip it to start with.”

There was a noise to the left of the clearing. They all looked up and saw four figures walk through the undergrowth. One was a finely dressed lady, in a blue silk gown, with long blonde hair under her pointed hat. She had rings glinting on her fingers and a golden chain around her neck. She carried a small bag and was blindfolded by a piece of rough, green material. Another woman held her arm, as if guiding her. She was young, dark haired and wearing the same kind of clothes as Robin Hood. She was attractive rather than pretty. She carried a bow and quiver of arrows. A big man, with a rough beard was similarly dressed. He carried a large staff of wood. The fourth figure was a shorter man dressed in similar clothes, with red hair and a small beard. He carried a bow and quiver of arrows.

Maid Marian, Little John and Will Scarlet, I’d guess, thought Tilly. But she didn’t recognise the woman. Who was she? Robin Hood climbed to his feet.

“Ah, Marian, who hath thee brought here?”

“Lady Edwina of Nottingham,” replied Marian. Her voice was soft and sounded posh, too.

“From whence did thee find her?”

“She said she was lost in the forest.”

“We found her wandering,” added Will Scarlet.

“Most unfortunate, My Lady,” said Robin. “How did ye become lost? Tis dangerous to wander alone in the forest.”

“I walked away from my friends,” replied Lady Edwina. Her voice was equally posh. “Then I could not find my way back.”

“Nay fear, My Lady, we shall help ye,” said Robin Hood. “Remove the blindfold, Marian.”

Marian undid the cloth and pulled it from the lady’s face. They saw she was a pretty woman, with a cream coloured complexion and vivid blue eyes, matching the colour of her gown. Tilly wondered if she had seen her on television, perhaps in one of the soaps. Robin smiled at her and gave a small bow.

“Ye art welcome, Lady Edwina.” He nodded to a stool. “Sit thyself down.”

The Lady sat without a word. Marian looked at Tilly and Rob.

“Who hath we here, Robin?”

Robin smiled at her.

“This be Robert and Matilda.”

Marian looked curiously at Tilly, especially her T shirt, with a picture of her pug on the front. She walked over and touched the shirt. She smelt of a spicy perfume.

“Is this thine?” “Um ,yes,” replied Tilly.

“And that?” Marian pointed to the picture.

“It’s a pug. It’s my pug.” “A p..u..g?” repeated Marian, slowly. “What is Pug?”

You’re having a laugh, thought Tilly but just smiled.

“It’s a dog,” she said. “My pet, Pugsly.”

She was aware that Robin Hood, Little John, Will Scarlet and Much were all looking at her curiously. Then they all bust out laughing, including Rob.

“She wears a picture of a cur,” giggled Marian. “Thou art strange girl!”

Tilly felt offended and thought they’d gone a bit far but pretended to join in the joke.

Lady Edwina did not join in the laughter. She sat tight lipped on the stool, clenching her hands together, so the knuckles were white. She looked genuinely scared. Much gave the pot a stir.

“Food’s ready,” he said.

Little John and Will Scarlet muttered words Tilly didn’t understand and sat down. Marian sat next to Lady Edwina. Much handed round the bowls and began to serve. It

looked like some kind of stew, meat, carrots, potatoes and greens in thick gravy. He handed it out in great dollops from a ladle. Everyone took a hunk of fresh bread, except Lady Edwina and began to eat heartily. Robin and Marian both pulled out sharp looking daggers and cut the remaining loaves into quarters.

“Thou hast cooked well, Much,” said Robin Hood, wiping gravy from his mouth.

“Aye,” said Little John, speaking for the first time in, a coarse, rough voice.

Tilly found the stew rather greasy but the meat was tender and not anything she had tasted before. She picked at it warily but Rob gobbled it down.

“Dost thou like the venison, Tilly?” asked Robin Hood.

“Yes, very much,” replied Tilly, truthfully but wondering what venison was.

“It is a fine feast. We eat as well as the King!” added Robin.

“Tis his venison,” chortled Little John. He took a swig of ale from his beaker. Robin Hood topped up everyone’s cup, including Rob’s.

“Help ye self to more stew,” he said. “We have plenty.” He raised his beaker. “God save the King.”

The other men all did likewise.”

Which King are they talking about, thought Tilly? Is it Richard the Lionheart or another one?

More next time



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LADIES GUILD REPORT – 2019

This year I will start on a rather sad note – a few of our ladies have passed on – Nancy Fletcher, Christine Fevyer and Gill Davis all of whom we are very sorry to lose. Christine and Gill were both active members of the Mothers' Union prior to it becoming the Ladies Guild. Gill was a lady who could give wonderful talks and also had a lot of input into our monthly meetings - we very much miss you for this. Also, Janice Waters – another long-time member moved to Sutton on Trent – she was an active Committee member and well known for her appearances in various guises at the Ladies Guild Christmas parties. There have also been a number of long-time members who have left us due to ill health and our thoughts are with them all.

Although 50 members registered, our regular monthly meeting numbers dropped from 44 to 35. We have been pleased to welcome a few new ladies.

Now on to what we did.

In **February** we welcomed Janet Stow who talked to us about the work her mother in law did at Buckingham Palace – a very interesting speaker and informative talk.

Then in **March** we heard from Brenda London on Charles Rennie Mackintosh – Was he just a chairman? No, he was a very hands on Architect, Designer and artist and one time suspected as a spy when walking round in Austria and Germany with notebook in his hand. There are many examples of his designs still available to purchase today.

April brought Gordon Hamilton who, with Central Bedfordshire, runs the NEED project. This exists to provide a Christian response for people in our communities who are facing various situations of need – a very worthy cause.

May was our AGM where we again enjoyed a very pleasant ploughman's supper before the matters of the evening – Election of Officers – Chair – Judy Seymour, Secretary – Maureen Ingram, Treasurer – Kathy Rutherford, Committee – Jean Flower, Ronné Guy, Marian Hibbert, Barbara Pattenden, Phyllis Smith and Shirley Weedon. After this, Judy, Barbara and Kathy talked about the happy years they had spent in Guiding – in Kathy's case this was in South Africa. Sadly there was not enough time for Ronné to tell us her story. There were lots of pictures, handbooks and badges brought in by other members. Lovely Memories!

June we welcomed Lionel Mann a former chef at Buckingham Palace – who was a local lad attending Silsoe and Barton schools between 1945 and 1955 and gained his Cook's badge in the Barton Scout Group. He had a very interesting career in the Royal Residences and was made Head Cook in 1974. Apart from cooking he was responsible for starting the

Royal household cricket and football club which he handed over to Prince William in 2004.

July we took a coach and visited Van Hague Garden Centre in Ware – a lovely few hours passed away, drinking tea/coffee and eating, as well as surveying and purchasing some goodies.

August – time to welcome back Colin Oakes who this time told us some funny stories he had encountered as a Guide/Lecturer taking groups mainly around London although there were other venues he had visited.

Ian Peace came in **September** to talk to us about Greenhouse Mentoring – which had nothing whatsoever to do with gardening, as anticipated by many. This charity is mainly for children 6 -11 years who suffer from Autism, Aspergers, ADHD or broken homes. They can be referred by Schools, Doctors, Social Services or parents. The work they do is brilliant and to see the children flourish made us think of plants in a greenhouse coming into full flower. This is a much needed service and we felt what a wonderful job they were doing.

October brought us Gill and Barry Goodman with their talk entitled Good Morning, Lords and Ladies – this was a most entertaining evening where we learnt about unusual English customs, with songs and pictures. We were encouraged to join in some of the songs.

November was more music with a Ladies Barber Shop Choir – Firebirds – all 4 members were school teachers and again we were entertained but also invited to join in with some of the songs.

Another year comes to an end with the Ladies Guild Christmas party – on 6th **December** 56 of us sat down at beautifully decorated tables to enjoy a most enjoyable lunch cooked by Magda (from Bushmead church) and her team. Then we had games, skits and music provided by Brian – another chance to sing. The main skit this year being – If I were not upon the stage I'd rather be – again the Committee came up trumps entertaining the audience with all their usual enthusiasm.

Again this year we have manned the cake stall at the summer fete (despite the very strong wind taking away our shelter and several cakes rolling down the field), Christmas bazaar and also served teas at the Hospice Remembrance Service. I also continue to decorate a window in the church at Easter and Christmas on behalf of the Guild. This Christmas it featured Gill's nativity scene.

Hopefully the year ahead will be good to us and we may continue to enjoy fun and friendship always remembering those who are too ill to join us.



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Crossword Answers

ACROSS: 1, Stop. 3, Call upon. 9, Regular. 10, Octet. 11, Inner. 12, Hudson. 14, Holy Communion. 17, Myself. 19, See to. 22, About. 23, Iterate. 24, Monarchy. 25, Stet.

DOWN: 1, Straight. 2, Organ. 4, Abraham's faith. 5, Lloyd. 6, Puteoli. 7, Note. 8, Cleric. 13, Innocent. 15, Lay down. 16, Ussher. 18, Enter. 20, Enact. 21, Balm.



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St Margaret's Ladies Guild Streatley

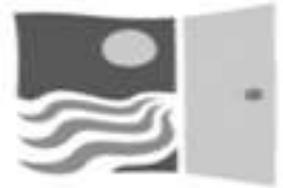
We normally meet on the first Wednesday in the month, (except January) at Streatley Village Hall from 7.30 pm to 9.30 pm.

PROGRAMME

6 th May	AGM with Ploughman's Supper followed by a Games Evening. £3 to be paid at April meeting if you wish to have a supper
3 rd June	Wendy Warren - Jewellery
1 st July	Outing - Proposed Trip to Springfields Outlet Shopping and Gardens, Spalding Coach will leave Village Hall at 9.30 am. Cost £18
5 th August	Mr Healey - Ampthill Great Houses
2 nd September	John Peace - Band Days in the 1960's
7 th October	Julia Leafe - A childhoods War
4 th November	Valerie Dearnley - That's Entertainment
FRIDAY 4 th December	Christmas Party at lunch time (further details later)

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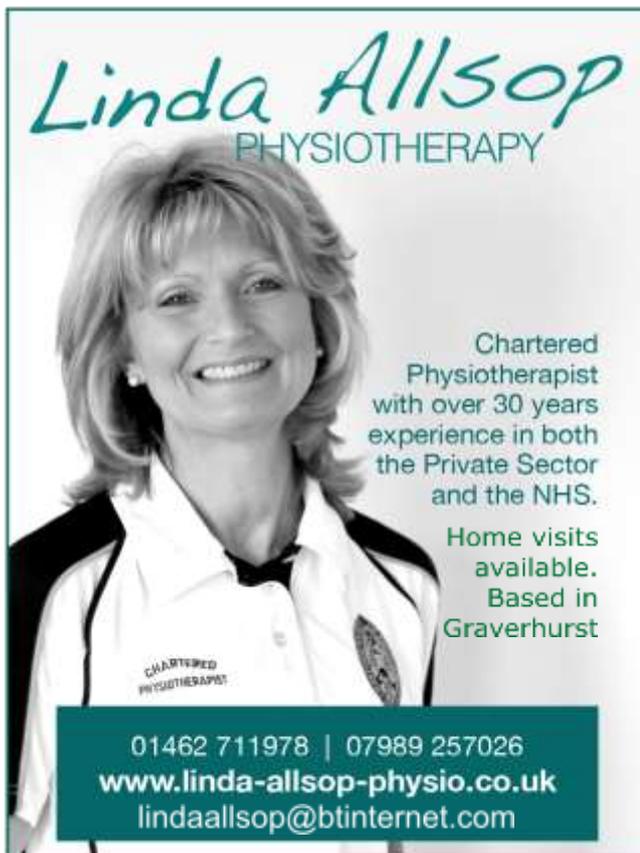
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Church Calendar – May 2020

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(All numbers begin 01582 unless otherwise stated)

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Church Wardens	J Farrent		881 662
	D Iszatt		580 077
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Treasurer	P Ingram	pingram6526@gmail.com	508 273
Sacristan	J Flower		592 105
Verger	G Farrent		881 662
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Parish Worker	L Logan		585 400
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Ladies' Guild	J Seymour		883 308
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Youth Club	Anna and Lisa Wright	07896	562 956
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Magazine (Treasurer)	G Twells		598 147
Magazine (Ads/Editorial)		magazine@stmargaret-streatley.org.uk	
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