



## A Note From **YOUR VICAR**

Last week I completed my first ever 'Escape Room'. It was enormous fun. Four of us tried to escape the 'Volcano Temple of Doom' (or something) in the lovely building opposite Silver Street Baptist Church. This is a relatively new business with an enthusiastic and friendly guy who is simultaneously a dungeon master guide, chief cook and bottle washer who is hoping the place takes off further; at one point I actually turned to the cameras and apologised for making a mess (which was part of the game) for as someone who has to regularly setup and setdown plans, I felt an empathy for him.

The rooms follow a sort of Indiana Jonesy type vibe and are all charmingly done in a manner reminiscent of the Crystal Maze from the 90s. Our team was made up of me, my longstanding friend and two of my children. Confronted with a challenge each of us took completely different approaches. Some stood looking at the problem and trying to figure it out in their head, others tried to touch, shake and jiggle everything that seemed like it would move. Initially, the 'sit back and observe' camp was a bit rubbish. The game needed effort; you had to try different things before you could do anything at all productive and whilst in a real Indiana Jones temple we would have been eaten by spiders/spiked to death/melted in lava by acting with such haste, in the building opposite Silver Street death equals too much paperwork and so we were fine. The truth was that we needed all of the different bits of the team. The pioneering go-getters were fine until they were so close they couldn't see the problem, the ones who

stood aloof from the group tended to see things that nobody else could see, and the have-a-go-heroes made the final puzzles get finished.

But this is all gloss that has come from our respectable finish time (47 minutes – mean time – 71...thank you). In the actual moment our differences weren't celebrated; they were kind of annoying. The noisier ones thought the quieter ones were being boring and the quieter ones could not hear themselves think. Ill let you decide who was who.

Our discomfort was actually profoundly productive; our differences made us more effective. In the New Testament St Paul writes that 'you are the body of Christ but you're not all the same...the hand is not the foot...and it's only when each part, plays it's own part (not pretending to be another) that something beautiful is produced. We live in a time where divisions are made to sell us political parties and more consumer products; churches can fall into silos where basically everyone looks and sounds the same. This can feel more comfortable but misses the trick. The church was always kind of annoying to itself; Jews and Gentiles grumbling; women and men arguing; slaves and masters worshipping together. In other words if your church is kind of annoying; that's a good thing. It means there is difference which can go forward; it's when it's monochrome, predictable and 'comfortable' (ugh) that we don't spur each other on to seek God and serve the community. God bless,

*Nick*

# St George's **News**

## **PRAYER THANKS**

On behalf of Chris and I, and all the Gospel Choir who went to Exeter Prison on Sunday, may we thank you for all your prayers - we certainly felt them.

So many of you have been asking how we got on and I can only say that it was very powerful, moving and humbling - I am almost lost for words which as you know is quite something for me.

The Choir sang the roof off the Prison Chapel as we could see bit by bit, song by song we were reaching the hearts of the prisoners AND staff.

As you can imagine, our Chris was phenomenal right from the organising every fine detail, to developing a portal sound system, to rehearsing and conducting the Choir. We spent the journey down praying in the car for all the practicalities and for the Lord to be present and boy was He ever!

So what an amazing opportunity for a door to be opened into a place which has closed doors - seeing some smiles (we even had them standing up and clapping along!) and seeing some very emotional - it was a real privilege to be there. You could really sense the Holy Spirit at work so your prayers really were much appreciated by us all.

If you would like to come and hear what those Prisoners and Prison staff heard for yourself - do get a ticket and join us for our Gospel Christmas on **Friday 20th December 6.30pm** at Wellsprings - it will be an uplifting and joyous way to start your Christmas. (see other page in NB for more details)

*Bethan*

## **PRAY**

Talking more about prayer.....**This Sunday we have our monthly PRAY**

**Service at 7pm.** As Nick always says, when we pray, stuff happens and we WANT 'stuff to happen'. We were called to pray.

Regular prayer helps build a strong foundation of faith and helps is to build a deeper relationship, so let's meet together, pray together and worship together!

## **WEEK AHEAD**

### **Sunday 1st December**

**9.30am Worship With Holy Communion**

**11.00am Worship Service**

**7.00pm Pray**

### **Monday 2nd December**

**10.30am Buggy Buddies**

**7.30pm Women NOT in the Pub**

**7.30pm Mens Shed**

### **Tuesday 3rd December**

**12.00pm SOUP**

**6.30pm Tuk Tuk Carols**

**7.30pm Bellringing Practice**

### **Wednesday 4th December**

**9.30am Stay and Play**

### **Thursday 5th December**

**7.30pm Rehearsal for Traditional Carol Service**

**7.30pm Mens Pub Club**

### **Friday 6th December**

**1.00pm Setting Up Christmas Fayre**

### **Saturday 7th December**

**CHRISTMAS FAYRE IS ON!!!**

## **UPCOMING CHRISTMAS EVENTS**

### **TUK TUK CAROLS**

Tuesday 10th and 17th December 6.30pm

### **CONTEMPORARY CAROL SERVICE**

Sunday 15th December 6.00pm

### **CHRISTMAS BUGGY SERVICE**

Wednesday 18th December 10.00am

### **TRADITIONAL CAROL SERVICE**

Sunday 22nd December 6.00pm

### **CHRISTINGLE SERVICES**

Tuesday 24th December - 4.00pm and 5.30pm

### **MIDNIGHT COMMUNION SERVICE**

Tuesday 24th December 11.30pm

### **CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE**

Wednesday 25th December 10.00am

## MENS PUB CLUB

This Thursday Mens Pub Club will be back on (first Thursday in the month) so if you can, do join them.

**Thursday 7.30pm  
Princess Royal**

It's just a great way to get to know each other better and we hope to do the occasional outing together too.

Speak to Rob if you would like to be added to the Whats App group or just turn up on the night.



*Rob*

## WOMEN NOT IN THE PUB

Women not in the Pub will be meeting on Monday 2nd December 7.30pm in the Church Hall.

We will be making Christmas Table

Decorations under the guidance of Sue Stenhouse. The cost will be £4 to include coffee, mince pie and Christmas music. If you would like to find out more about Women Not in the Pub then do speak to Kate or Jenny to find out more!



*Kate*

**Thanks to all those Women Not In The Pub (plus the one made by Matt) for these great Christmas Angels for our Church decorations! And to Elizabeth House for the donations of all the books to create them!**

A heavenly host of angels ...



## TUKTUK CAROLS

TOOT! TOOT! The TukTuk will be out and about on the roads across the Parish next week with a route to be advertised very soon.

It was so much fun - even in the rain last year and we can't wait to go around and sing some fabulous carols and hand out some hot chocolate to our community here in Wilton and Sherford. The more of us, the merrier...some local residents say they don't think anything goes on in our lovely church building so let's show them a great number of church family spending time together and bringing the Christmas message of light and hope out there to them all!

**TUESDAY 3RD DECEMBER 6.30PM**



## TRADITIONAL CAROL SERVICE - SINGERS AND MUSICIANS WANTED!!

Your Worship Director Needs You!!!

if you can sing or play an instrument, we would LOVE you to join us for one of our biggest services on our Church Calendar. On Sunday 22nd December at 6pm we have our Traditional Carol Service which involves carols (obviously) and readings.

We want to make this year really special by inviting people who enjoy singing to come and join the Choir for the service to help us make a wonderful sound. It would be wonderful to have people from both the 9.30 AND the 11am so get in touch if you're interested.

If you can play an instrument at a reasonable standard (and no, my theremin wouldn't really fit in with a Carol Service) then Chris would be delighted to chat with you about it!

Do get in touch with him - email [chris@stgchurch.co.uk](mailto:chris@stgchurch.co.uk)

There is a rehearsal for the Service on **Thursday 5th December at 7.30pm**





**SATURDAY 7TH DECEMBER 2-5PM**



**HO! HO! HOPE YOU CAN JOIN THE FUN!!**

It's nearly time...Christmas Fayre No 4....yikes!! We're excited yet nervous at the same time, hoping we've got everything sorted and in place to make it a super special day for everyone!!

If you haven't already donated yet this week is the week to bring in your goodies for us. We'll be messaging you throughout the week with updates I am sure so apologies in advance!!

HUGE thanks to those of you who have signed up to help, the team will be in touch very soon to let you know all that you need to know!

As in previous years, if mince pies and cakes can be brought to the Hall on Friday afternoon (from 1.00pm-4.00pm) or Saturday morning from (10.00am - 12.00pm). That would be very much appreciated.

And just as importantly, we want you to all come!!!

We have artisan stalls, tombola, activities (inflatable maze, pin the tail, facepainting) for children. Our Mens Shed will have a stall and a demonstration in the Scout Hut. We'll have pizza making, bbq, mulled wine and a fabulous raffle where you can win a Radley handbag, Panto tickets, West Somerset railway tickets, a family Golf Voucher with Mendip Activity Center, Butcombe beer and a few more gems....

So please do come and support us, lets try to raise as much money as we can for our wonderful church!

Thanks everyone!!

*Christmas Fayre Team*

**FAYRE CHECKLIST**

DONATE	
✓	Chocolate for Tombola
✓	Bottle for Tombola
✓	Nearly New Gift
BAKE	
✓	Mince Pies
✓	Cake/Traybake
HELP	
✓	Setting up/Clear Down
✓	Helper on Stall (Maze, Pizza, Tree Festival)
✓	Entrances (Need 12 people in total!)
PLEASE HELP WHEREVER YOU CAN AND SIGN UP ON THE SHEETS IN CHURCH	

Every child  
should have  
someone

The  
Children's  
Society

## ST GEORGE'S CHARITY COLLECTION - DECEMBER

"We are a national charity working to transform the hopes and happiness of young people facing abuse, exploitation and neglect. We support them through their most serious life challenges and we campaign tirelessly for the big social changes that will improve the lives of those who need hope most. We've been doing this for 140 years and we won't stop until we've built a society where hope is alive in every child.

We walk towards the young people that society crosses the road to avoid. We see something in these children, that something is:

### **Hope**

Hope for a happier home life, hope of getting a job, of getting away from the people who exploit and hurt them.

Hope of overcoming the obstacles modern life puts in front of them and hope that tomorrow can be better than today.

It's right there in the centre of every young person in Britain. Even those who have it toughest of all, those who are exploited, neglected, unsafe.

### **We see it.**

And we fight for it.

Sometimes hope takes a battering. Sometimes it's hidden by doubt, aggression or mistrust. Sometimes it's hanging by a thread. But we know it's there.

And that's why we do everything in our power to restore it, protect it and strengthen it.

We're building hope in the young people

who need it most, through campaigning and support.

And we won't rest until we've created a society built for all children.

Where hope is alive in every child.

**Because no young person should be left without it.**

We fight for hope by deeply understanding the needs of young people and by supporting them through their most serious life challenges. We work with young people who have suffered years of abuse, who have run away from home or are struggling with mental health issues. We look out for young carers and those who are at risk of being groomed by criminal groups. We help refugees who have no one else to turn to in this country.

The young people we meet have complicated lives. Their experiences are always different, but young people all have one thing in common. It's a thing called hope.

Hope for a happier home life. Hope of getting a job, of getting away from the people who exploit or hurt them. So we find their hope and start there, working with them little by little, giving them whatever they need and empowering them to make decisions for the future they want.

We work with young people for as long as it takes and across all different aspects of their life as it's rarely simple for them. There might be aggression, mistrust, anger or disappointment, but even when hope is hanging by a thread we help them find it again.

# *In Loving Memory*

*We remember*

**Pete McKegney,  
Hilary Dodman, George Pye,  
John Wilkinson and  
Rosemary Williams**

*and pray that you would bless those who mourn with the comfort of your love that they may face each new day with hope and the certainty that nothing can destroy the good that has been given.*

*May their memories become joyful, their days enriched with friendship, and their lives encircled by your love.*

*Through Jesus Christ, our lord.  
Amen.*

Please remember **Joy Twemlow** and her family as they mourn the loss of her passing last week.

Please remember them in your prayers as they prepare her funeral here at St George's on **Tuesday 3rd December at 12pm**

## **Would You Consider A Gift In Your Will To St George's?**



In the scriptures, financial giving is part of our worship and as many people have supported this church throughout their lives and giving a gift in your will enables you to make one last significant gift to the whole community.

Your legacy will help us to continue to give glory to God and serve our community for many years to come.

**Pick up a leaflet or speak to one of the team to find out more**



## **Help us to grow in Spirit and Number**

### **ST GEORGE'S GIVING**

- If you have started coming to St George's regularly, or have been coming for some time but haven't yet done so, may I encourage you to **join our committed Christian Giving scheme** by completing a pledge form and possibly a standing order form. Just email Robin on [giving@stgchurch.co.uk](mailto:giving@stgchurch.co.uk) to find out how you can begin to give to the work of St George's
- If you pay income tax, and have not already done so, please consider **Gift Aiding your giving**
- If you are putting your affairs in order and are considering making a will or revising an existing one, would you like to remember **St George's in your will?** It can make a huge difference to us.
- Another way to donate to the work of St George's, is via our **Give A Little page** which you can access on our website, Alternatively you can donate directly into our bank account using the following information and putting 'Donation' reference:  
Account Name: **St George's Wilton Stewardship**  
Account No: **59935227**  
Sort Code: **60-80-06**

*Thank you so much!*

# ST GEORGE'S DATES DATES AND MORE DATES



## A MONTHLY WALK WITH FRIENDS



Join our walking group, **Stroll for the Soul**, where we meet monthly for a gentle walk together. We go to a different location each time, talk as we walk and stop for reflection and prayer.

## STROLL THE SOUL DATES

**FRIDAY 22ND NOVEMBER**

**THURSDAY 12TH DECEMBER**

**FRIDAY 24TH JANUARY 2025**

**THURSDAY 20TH FEBRUARY 2025**

For more informations email [office@stgchurch.co.uk](mailto:office@stgchurch.co.uk), chat to Janet or Rachel or check Newsboard!

*Jesus you walk with me, help me to walk with you.*

## ST GEORGE'S Worship News

Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth!  
Serve the LORD with gladness!  
Come into his presence with singing!  
*Psalm 100:1-2*

With so much going on with worship, we thought we'd give you all the dates you'll need right up to Christmas so you can jot them down in your diaries.

**ST GEORGE'S 9.30AM CHOIR**  
THURSDAY REHEARSALS 7.30pm

Join us in the Choir Room upstairs in Church Hall

**7th November**

- Rehearsal for

Joint Remembrance Service

**21st November**

- Rehearsal for

Christmas Carol Service

**12th December**

- Rehearsal for

Christmas Carol Service

**ST GEORGE'S 9.30AM CHOIR**  
SUNDAY SERVICES 9.30am

Join us in the Choir Room upstairs in Church Hall at 9am for Warm Up!

**10th November**

- Joint Remembrance Service at 9.45am

**24th November**

**22nd December**  
**REHEARSAL 4PM IN CHURCH**  
**SERVICE 6PM**

**ST GEORGE'S**  
**WORSHIP TEAM GATHERING**  
MONDAYS AT 7.30pm

Join us in the Church for a time of teaching worship songs, praying together and rehearsing

**25th November**

**ST GEORGE'S**  
**WORSHIP JAM**  
MONDAYS AT 7.30pm

Bring your instrument, your voice and join us just getting together for a time of worship

**11th November**

For any more information email [chris@stgchurch.co.uk](mailto:chris@stgchurch.co.uk)

## ST GEORGE'S CHURCH COMMUNITY FRIDGE

St George's Church Hall, Car Park  
Fons George, Taunton, TA1 3JT

### OPENING HOURS

**SUNDAYS, TUESDAYS, WEDNESDAYS & FRIDAYS**

**9.30am to 4.00pm** Autumn/Winter

**9.30am to 5.00pm** Spring/Summer



HELPING TO TACKLE FOOD WASTE AND FOOD POVERTY IN TAUNTON

### IF DONATING...

If you wish to donate to the Community Fridge, please put them in the crate to your right of the door.

If it requires refrigeration please pop it in the basket on the top shelf in the fridge. Check our facebook page to see what can/can't be donated first.

### IF COLLECTING...

Bring your own bag and help yourself to whatever food is in there up to a maximum of 5 items and follow the instructions in the Fridge Shed.

The food will vary in quantity and description from day to day. We never know what will be donated!

### IF WANTING TO HELP...

If you wish to help us to keep this Fridge open and serving the Community - we'd love you to join the team!

email: [fridge@stgchurch.co.uk](mailto:fridge@stgchurch.co.uk)



**06/10**

SUNDAY

### B1 United Service

We will join to worship together with other churches across the town at Wellsprings Leisure Centre.

**10/11**

SUNDAY

### Joint Remembrance Service

A joint service at 10.00am followed by the laying of the wreath and Act of Remembrance at 11.00am

**03,10,17/12**

TUESDAYS

### Tuk Tuk Carols

We will be touring the Parish on 3 Carolling journeys with our sturdy Tuk Tuk, mulled wine & hot chocolate

**07/12**

SATURDAY

### St George's Christmas Fair

Our very success Christmas Fayre will be back with Santa, stalls and lots more fun for all the family

**15/12**

SUNDAY

### Contemporary Carol Service

Our Contemporary Carol Service will be led by our worship band, with responses and prayer

**22/12**

SUNDAY

### Traditional Carol Service

Our popular traditional candlelit Christmas Carol Service with readings, a talk, and with popular Carols

**24/12**

TUESDAY

### Christingle Services

There will be 2 Christingle Services at 2.30pm and 4.00pm making Christingles and singing carols

**24/12**

TUESDAY

### Midnight Christmas Eve Service

A traditional candlelit Holy Communion Service at 11.30pm will bring in Christmas morning

**25/12**

WEDNESDAY

### Joint Christmas Day Celebration

We will join to worship together and celebrate this special day at 10.00am followed by Holy Communion

For any information on any of the above events/services email [office@stgchurch.co.uk](mailto:office@stgchurch.co.uk)  
More events will be added but we hope this gives you a flavour!

**SOLD OUT SHOW  
LAST YEAR**

# A GOSPEL Christmas

**FRIDAY 20TH  
DECEMBER  
6.30PM**

Wellsprings  
Leisure Centre,  
Taunton, TA2 7QP  
Doors open at 6pm

## **DON'T MISS OUT - BOOK YOUR TICKETS NOW!**

Last year sold out so quickly and following the success of this wonderful Gospel night, it's sure to sell out quickly again so get your early bird tickets now by scanning the QR code or by visiting the ticket website only - <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/gospel-christmas-2024/a-gospel-christmas-2024/e-dejkr1>

**DO NOT**  
buy your tickets from  
any other source.

Our Chris leads the  
Pursuit of Gospel Choir,  
so you know you're in for  
a Christmas treat!!



### **BOOK TICKETS**

EARLY BIRD			FROM 1ST DEC		
<b>£8</b>	<b>£4</b>	<b>FREE</b>	<b>£10</b>	<b>£5</b>	<b>FREE</b>
Adults	Children (-16Y)	0-2 years (on laps)	Adults	Children (-16Y)	0-2 years (on laps)

Come and celebrate Christmas with a live **Gospel Choir and Band** for an evening of Christmas Carols, Gospel Classics and more.

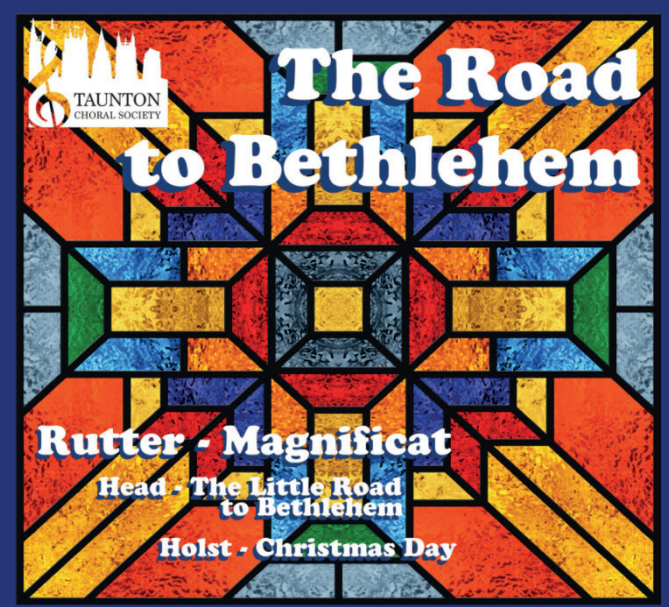
Hosted by the Pursuit of Gospel Choir & Band, Living Light Christian Church, Oakwood Church, Taunton Vineyard Church, St George's Church Wilton, TYFC, New Creation Church, Riverside Church, Wellsprings Community Church, St. James' Church, Taunton Baptist Church, Good Shepherd Church, North Street Church, Creech Baptist Church, All Saints Trull

**Taunton Choral Society** is the largest and oldest choir in Taunton with a membership of around eighty singers, coming from all walks of life and with a range of musical abilities. It features professional, student and amateur musicians who all work together towards achieving our vision of presenting "inspiring music, without boundaries".

This December they are performing at St James Church and the evening includes:

- Rutter – Magnificat
- McDowall – Christus Natus Est
- Head – The Little Road to Bethlehem
- G Holst – Christmas Day
- Audience Carols

Tickets can be bought by scanning the QR code.



**Friday 6th Dec - 7:30pm**  
**St James' Church,**  
**Taunton**  
(next to the County Ground)

For tickets, information and much more, search **Taunton Choral Society**



Registered Charity Number 900173



# WHO'S WHO

## **Rev'd Dr Nick Griffin - Vicar**

Tel: 01823 774128

Email: [nick@stgchurch.co.uk](mailto:nick@stgchurch.co.uk)

Day Off: Fridays

## **Rev'd Rob Cromwell - Curate**

Tel: 07889 452524

Email: [rob@stgchurch.co.uk](mailto:rob@stgchurch.co.uk)

Day Off: Fridays

## **Rev'd Richard Kelley - Associate**

Email: [richard@stgchurch.co.uk](mailto:richard@stgchurch.co.uk)

## **Churchwardens**

Peter Joyce 07761 407433

Lisa Westlake 01823 284253

## **Worship Director**

Chris Sampson

Email: [chris@stgchurch.co.uk](mailto:chris@stgchurch.co.uk)

## **Reader**

Kate Taylor

Email: [kate21taylor@icloud.com](mailto:kate21taylor@icloud.com)

## **Parish Administrator**

Bethan Baigent

Tel: 01823 284253

Email: [office@stgchurch.co.uk](mailto:office@stgchurch.co.uk)

Office Hours: Tues - Thurs 10-1pm

## **Safeguarding**

Nick Griffin

Email: [safeguarding@stgchurch.co.uk](mailto:safeguarding@stgchurch.co.uk)

## **PCC Secretary**

Lucy Norris

Email: [pccsecretary@stgchurch.co.uk](mailto:pccsecretary@stgchurch.co.uk)

## **Treasurer**

Ian Pinder

Tel: 07747 496842

## **Christian Giving Officer**

Robin Stamp

Email: [giving@stgchurch.co.uk](mailto:giving@stgchurch.co.uk)

## **Families Coordinator**

Email [families@stgchurch.co.uk](mailto:families@stgchurch.co.uk)

## **Pastoral Care Coordinator**

Hilary McKegey

Email [pastoral-care@stgchurch.co.uk](mailto:pastoral-care@stgchurch.co.uk)

## **Digital & Technology Coordinator**

Matt Norman

Email: [matt@stgchurch.co.uk](mailto:matt@stgchurch.co.uk)

## **Small Groups Coordinator**

Carmen Cromwell

Email: [carmen@stgchurch.co.uk](mailto:carmen@stgchurch.co.uk)

## **Community Fridge Coordinator**

Mervyn Roberts

Email: [fridge@stgchurch.co.uk](mailto:fridge@stgchurch.co.uk)

## **Hospitality Coordinator**

Rob Cromwell

Email: [rob@stgchurch.co.uk](mailto:rob@stgchurch.co.uk)

## **Health & Safety Coordinator**

Paul Cole

Email: [paulcoleassoc@btconnect.com](mailto:paulcoleassoc@btconnect.com)

## **Prayer Circle**

Email: [prayer@stgchurch.co.uk](mailto:prayer@stgchurch.co.uk)

## **Electoral Roll Officer**

Laurie Jeffery

Email: [laurie.jeffery@sky.com](mailto:laurie.jeffery@sky.com)

## **Support Meals**

Email: [supportmeals@stgchurch.co.uk](mailto:supportmeals@stgchurch.co.uk)

## **Deanery Synod Rep**

Hilary McKegey

## **PCC Members**

Matt Norman

Paul Cole

Pete Underwood

Katie Lanchbury

Nick Griffin

Peter Joyce

Richard Kelley

Lisa Westlake

Mary Carson

Laura Willetts

Bethan Baigent

Rob Cromwell

Hilary McKegey