



## A Note From **YOUR VICAR**

I've just bought a terrarium....

I didn't know what they were until recently either...it's a glass bottle filled with soil, a few suitable plants and enough water. At the top is a cork stopper. It is a complete eco-system. There is enough water in there for the plants to survive and breathe, evaporation forces the water to condensate on the side of the glass, when it cools down it will slide to the bottom and rewater the plants. It's complete and possibly – I say possibly because I've only had it a week – a house plant that I will not kill.

If I'm honest, I don't even especially care for the plants – they're some kind of Fittonia (?) and some mossy looking things – by which I mean I just think this idea is plain cool.

The plants will grow and grow as long as I don't open the stopper, don't knock over the bottle (more likely) and occasionally rotate it so that sunlight can get to different bits. I saw one example online which hadn't been opened for 61 years. It's a closed ecosystem because it's a complete ecosystem and it was only 15 quid at Lidl.

Our Church is a charity which means that our aim is basically redistributive of public goods rather than giving profits to private individuals or shareholders like a business. In other words, we are constantly giving stuff away, whether that's time, energy or sometimes money too. If we 'make more money' I don't get paid more, we give more away. When we run projects that are branches of the main church, one of my aims is that they become self-sustaining,

a new little 'terrarium' where they can develop their own funding, volunteers and aims. I like projects that 'wash their own faces' so they make enough money to keep themselves going without the wider church having to support them financially and not needing too much prodding from me, so I can get on and start other new projects (CAP Money course coming September...). A good example is the 'community fridge' or 'Soup' (hopefully returning October-ish). People often say that the Church of England has loads of money. It does. But it's locked up in legal vaults that even Archbishops can barely access without an act of Parliament and certainly doesn't trickle down to parish churches like ours very often! We run entirely on donations, rent from the hall and the odd grant I can rustle from behind a sofa.

When thinking about this article, I nearly extended the metaphor of a terrarium to the whole church. But all metaphors have limits and this one is too big to work. The ridiculous generous thing about the Church of England is that it is open to you. Really open. It's not a closed society but an open one. There are no secrets – our meetings are public and we want you to come. There is no cork in this bottle and we don't want to keep things to ourselves, we want to share the good news and blessing of God with you too.

God bless

*Nick*

# St George's **News**

## **ON A BREAK**

Just a quick reminder that this week, Nick will still be off until Wed 3rd Sept but Rob is now back in the hot seat and raring to go... well, I hope he is...I'm sure he will be - he's just had two weeks off.

However, as many of the team are away this bank holiday weekend, Rob and Carmen will be leading our Sunday services but it does mean that for the first time in a very long time **we will not be able to livestream the service.**

For our lovely online worshippers, we're so sorry - but we'll be back again on the 1st!

*Bethan*

## **SOME MORE SAD NEWS**

Following on from saying goodbye to our friend Rose, we have heard the sad news that another dear friend, one who had been a part of St George's for many years, is our **lovely John Howe.**

John had not been too well for a while now and following a stay in Musgrove, went to spend his last days in Frethey House. He passed away peacefully in the early hours of Monday, with his daughters by his side.

We will be saying our goodbyes to John here at St George's, though a date has still to be arranged. As soon as we have any information we shall indeed let you know.

In the meantime, please do keep John, our lovely Hilary and the whole family in your prayers.

John was such a kind, gentle man and the same words have been mentioned to me over the last few days to describe him - "gentle, kind, lovely - a true gentleman," and they've also said about the twinkle in his eye too.

He will be so missed but remembered here with so much fondness by his church family.

*John - may you rest in peace and rise in glory!*

## **WEEK AHEAD**

**Sunday 25th August**

**9.30am Worship With Holy Communion**

**11.00am Worship Service - THIS SERVICE WILL NOT BE LIVESTREAMED**

**Monday 26th August**

**BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY - NOTHING OPEN OR HAPPENING**

**Tuesday 27th August**

**VICAR IS OFF UNTIL WED 3RD SEPT**

**7.30pm Bellingring Practice**

**Sunday 1st September**

**9.30am Worship With Holy Communion**

**11.00am Worship Service**

**1.30pm Baptism of Matilda Parris**

**7.00pm PRAY**

## **HARVEST UPDATE**

For those of you with an Events Calendar, we must let you know that the date for **Harvest On The Farm** will be changing.

**The new date will be Sunday 29th September**

Our Traditional Harvest Service will still continue on the 22nd in church. More information will follow about that nearer the time!



**HARVEST**

# **Barn Dance**

Celebrate Harvest With Us  
with Ceilidh music and light buffet

**Saturday 21st September**  
Starts 7pm  
at St George's Church Hall

Book here:  
<https://stgchurch.churchsuite.com/events/0zheicuf>  
OR SCAN THE QR CODE BELOW



**£10 a ticket**

**Limited Tickets BOOK NOW**

## OUR HARVEST CELEBRATION

You can now visit our website here and book your tickets to our **Harvest Barn Dance** which we hope will, be a time to have some fun together.

We've booked some callers with some ceilidh music to dance along to as we Dosey Doe.

Alternatively you can scan the QR code below.

Tickets are limited in number and are £10.  
**So book your tickets NOW!**

## CHRISTMAS IS COMING....SORRY!

Well, it is nearly September so surely I can mention the C word now??

The planning for our 4th Christmas Fayre is just starting and we're wanting to make this year even BIGGER and BETTER.

So what would we need to do that? YOU!! The more people that come forward to say that they will help, the more we can do and the easier it will be all round so PLEASE get in touch and let us know if you would be able to help us out - we'll be needing help to set up on the Friday, at the Fayre and to put everything back ready for Sunday.

We'll also be advertising very soon to get Stallholders so we were wondering if any of you have a small business that would be great for a stall. Stalls are only £20 and it would be great to showcase some of our church's businesses! Email us at [events@stgchurch.co.uk](mailto:events@stgchurch.co.uk)

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

## SAVE THE DATE

The next Youth Gathering with some of the other local churches will be on **SATURDAY 28TH SEPTEMBER** More details will follow but we wanted to get you the date so our Youth can pop it in their diary....scrub that...they'll pop in "on their phone" !!!



**JOIN THE TEA-M Today**

To help with our teas & coffee, email [rob@stgchurch.co.uk](mailto:rob@stgchurch.co.uk)



## COMING UP.....

Just some more heads up on what's just around the corner.

**PRAY** will be back as it's the first Sunday of the month next week. A lovely relaxed, informal time together for prayer with some worship thrown in.

**WOMEN NOT IN THE PUB** will also be making a return and as the Vivary Arms is barely open, we'll meet in the Hall this time on Mon 2nd Sept...more details in next week's NB but just to get that date in for you!



Next one Mon 2nd Sept In Church Hall

ST GEORGE'S WILTON  
**Women NOT IN THE PUB**  
MEETS EVERY 1st MONDAY at 7.30pm (EXCEPT BANK HOLIDAYS!)

Come and join us on the 1st Monday of the month. We'll often bring something "to do" - a quiz, a craft but it's more about having time together to catch up!

**OPEN TO ALL**  
You don't have to attend St George's to come along!  
For more information email [office@stgchurch.co.uk](mailto:office@stgchurch.co.uk)



ST GEORGE'S WILTON  
**PRAY**  
1ST SUNDAYS @7PM

Join us at St George's Wilton on a 1st Sunday for a short time of prayer, reflection and worship.

"For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them." Matthew 18:20



# money

# money

# money

Free, expert money coaching

**FREE**  
4 week course  
at St Georges

Managing your money doesn't have to be a pain. Learn the skills to make it simple at St Georges Wilton, Fons George, Taunton. Best bit? It's totally free.

The course starts 10th September 2024 @7pm  
@ St Georges church hall and runs for 4 weeks 10th,  
17th, 24th September and then 1st October  
Book your free place, contact: 07813 211137

[capuk.org/trymoneycoaching](https://capuk.org/trymoneycoaching)

Charity Registered No: 1197157 (England & Wales), SC046713 (Scotland) CAP is self-managed and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority. Product code: 11942141



## **CHRISTIANS AGAINST POVERTY (CAP)MONEY COACHING**

CAP Money coaching is designed to empower you with the knowledge, skills, tools and confidence to better manage your finances, from understanding the basics of bank accounts, debit and credit cards to money saving tips, full budgeting and debt guidance.

The course is **totally free**, relaxed, friendly and will provide you with ongoing access to CAP's fantastic online budgeting tool. Robin & Helen Stamp will be guiding you through a range of topics over a four-week period, sharing from their own experiences and knowledge and using CAP Video presentations, with the individual group sessions lasting around 90mins but with them also happy to chat 1-1 with you if you want some personal guidance.

**If you want to book your place or ask any questions about the course you can call them on 07813 211137 or you can book direct via <https://capuk.org/get-help/get-to-grips-with-your-finances>**

Just pop your postcode into the search box and you will see our own course and any other local courses listed.

*Robin and Helen Stamp*

**COURSE DETAILS  
AT ST GEORGE'S CHURCH HALL  
DUNNING ROOM AT 7PM**

**TUES 10TH SEPT    TUES 17TH SEPT  
TUES 24TH SEPT    TUES 1ST OCT**

# ST GEORGE'S CHARITY COLLECTION

**TAUNTON YOUTH FOR CHRIST** is a dynamic and innovative Christian faith-based youth charity working with young people, primarily in the area of Taunton. Since 2000 they have been reaching the Youth of Taunton with the good news of Jesus in the most relevant ways possible.



In September 2022, they launched our Outreach van that you can find at various locations across the town throughout the week. They go into schools as well as running Youth Alpha's and Bible Studies. They have a deep conviction to love the young people of this town and by providing them with a supportive community, practical skills, and a foundation in Christian values, we aim to empower young individuals to navigate life's challenges, make positive contributions to society, and become compassionate leaders who positively impact their families, communities, and beyond. Ultimately, they aim to serve as a beacon of hope, fostering personal growth, spiritual resilience, and a sense of purpose in the lives of our young people.

Our call and commitment revolves around the profound desire to reach young people with the transformative power of the Gospel.

Rooted in prayer and reliant on the Holy Spirit's guidance, they are sowing seeds of faith, nurturing spiritual growth, and equipping young people to become devoted disciples of Christ, empowering them to impact their communities and the world for His glory.

If you are unable to attend the church services, you can still donate to this wonderful local Christian charity by visiting their website:

<https://taunton.yfc.co.uk/donate/>

## 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...

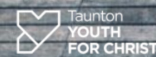
If you wish to help us to keep this Fridge open and serving the Community - we'd love you to join the team!  
email: [fridge@stgchurch.co.uk](mailto:fridge@stgchurch.co.uk)



# August charity collection



Taunton  
YOUTH  
FOR CHRIST



By showing Jesus in a  
way which is relevant  
to every young person  
in Taunton.

Taunton Youth for Christ is a dynamic and innovative Christian faith-based youth charity working with young people, primarily in the area of Taunton. We were established in the year 2000 and since then, have been reaching the Youth of Taunton with the good news of Jesus in the most relevant ways possible.

# *In Loving Memory*

*We remember*

**Michael Hawkins, Monty Monelle,  
Frank Price, Dorothy Lee, Ursula  
Steele and Peter Baker**

*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.*

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you.  
I do not give to you as the world gives.  
Do not let your hearts be troubled  
and do not be afraid.  
John 14:27

## 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@stchurch.co.uk](mailto:giving@stchurch.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!*

### **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**

*Each man should give what he has  
decided in his heart to give, not  
reluctantly or under compulsion,  
for God loves a cheerful giver. God  
is able to make all grace abound  
to you, so that in all things at all  
times, having all that you need, you  
will abound in every good work.*

*2 Corinthians 9:7-8*



# WHO'S WHO

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

Tel: **01823 774128**

Email: **nick@stgchurch.co.uk**

Day Off: Fridays

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

Tel: **07889 452524**

Email: **rob@stgchurch.co.uk**

Day Off: Fridays

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

Email: **richard@stgchurch.co.uk**

## **Churchwardens**

Peter Joyce **07761 407433**

Lisa Westlake **01823 284253**

## **Worship Director**

**Chris Sampson**

Email: **chris@stgchurch.co.uk**

## **Reader**

**Kate Taylor**

Email: **kate21taylor@icloud.com**

## **Parish Administrator**

**Bethan Baigent**

Tel: **01823 284253**

Email: **office@stgchurch.co.uk**

Office Hours: Tues - Thurs 10-1pm

## **Safeguarding**

**Nick Griffin**

Email: **safeguarding@stgchurch.co.uk**

## **PCC Secretary**

**Lucy Norris**

Email: **pccsecretary@stgchurch.co.uk**

## **Treasurer**

**Ian Pinder**

Tel: **07747 496842**

## **Christian Giving Officer**

**Robin Stamp**

Email: **giving@stgchurch.co.uk**

## **Families Coordinator**

Email **families@stgchurch.co.uk**

## **Pastoral Care Coordinator**

**Hilary McKegney**

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## **Digital and Technology Coordinator**

**Matt Norman**

Email: **matt@stgchurch.co.uk**

## **Small Groups Coordinator**

**Carmen Cromwell**

Email: **carmen@stgchurch.co.uk**

## **Community Fridge Coordinator**

**Mervyn Roberts**

Email: **fridge@stgchurch.co.uk**

## **Hospitality Coordinator**

**Rob Cromwell**

Email: **rob@stgchurch.co.uk**

## **Prayer Circle**

**For confidential prayer**

Email: **prayer@stgchurch.co.uk**

## **Electoral Roll Officer**

**Laurie Jeffery**

Email: **laurie.jeffery@sky.com**

## **Support Meals**

**Providing meals to support one another**

Email: **supportmeals@stgchurch.co.uk**

## **Deanery Synod Rep**

**Hilary McKegney**

## **PCC Members**

**Matt Norman**

**Paul Cole**

**Pete Underwood**

**Katie Lanchbury**

**Nick Griffin**

**Peter Joyce**

**Richard Kelley**

**Paul Cole**

**Mary Carson**

**Laura Willetts**

**Bethan Baigent**

**Rob Cromwell**

**Hilary McKegney**