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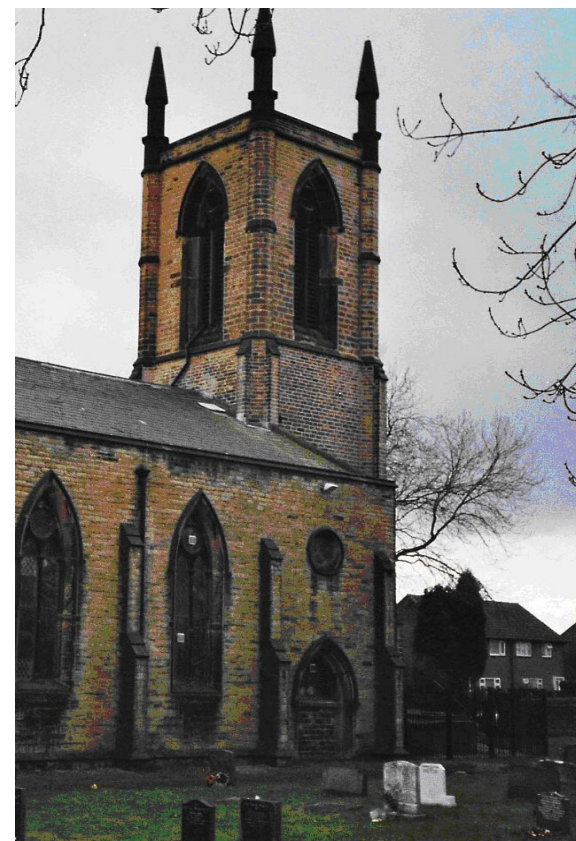
St George's Parish Church Stalybridge



Diocese of Manchester

35p

 **THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND**



April 2013

St George's Church Stalybridge

Clergy

Priest-in-Charge	Revd Philip Brierley	338 2368
Curate	Revd Keith Stewart	303 7483
Associate Priest	Revd Doreen Broadbent	330 9085
Wardens	Ms Janet Vidler	303 7689
	Mrs Gillian Cotton	303 2787
Asst Warden	Mrs Rose Hayward	303 1731
P.C.C. Secretary	Mrs Margaret Smith	338 3702
Treasurer	Mrs Juliana Stewart	303 7483
Magazine Editor	Mrs Linda Hurst	330 0518
Room Hire	Mr Norman Quest	338 4691

Worship

Sunday

8.30 a.m.	Holy Communion (2 nd & 4 th Sundays)
10.45 a.m.	Sung Communion and Sunday School (4 th Sunday – Family Service)
18.00 p.m.	Occasional Special Services as announced

Tuesday

10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion
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To receive Communion at home when you are sick or housebound, or to have the name of a departed friend or relation entered in the Book of Remembrance, please contact one of the clergy or Wardens.

For Baptisms, marriages and funerals please phone the Vicarage and follow the information given.

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From the Registers

Baptisms



17 March

Siena Isla Bailey, Bowland Close, Ashton-under-Lyne
Allison Elizabeth Baines, Cambridge Street, Stalybridge

Funerals



5 February

Henry Kenneth Press, 78yrs. of Demesne Drive, Stalybridge

19 February

Peter Andrew Diamond, 54yrs. of Mossley Road, Ashton-under-Lyne.

13 March

Martin John Bailey, 55yrs. of Stonecliffe Avenue, Stalybridge

From Our Book of Remembrance

Apr 3	Alan Wilson	1970	Apr 17	Bertha Stanley	1965
	Fred Peck	1977		Dennis Baxter	2001
	William Dawson	1982	Apr 18	Edith Smith	1988
	Joan Brocklehurst	1994		Ada Sayce	1989
Apr 4	Grace Lee	1975	Apr 19	Mary Elizabeth Parkinson	1944
Apr 5	Geoffrey Birch	2006		Doris Hibbert	1944
	Percy Dudleston	1979		Samuel Cook	1989
Apr 6	Herbert Brocklehurst	1975	Apr 20	Louis Bowler	1990
Apr 7	Ellen Ratcliffe	1937		Lena Schofield	1997
Apr 8	Alistair William Rose	1983		Mary Wright	1989
	Forbes		Apr 22	Mark Allen Cowley	2009
Apr 9	John (Jack) Ireson	1987	Apr 23	James Johnson	1984
	Kenneth Langton	2007		Jennie Cook	1995
	Howard Steven Fogg	2008	Apr 24	George Wardle	1997
Apr 10	Walter Bramall	1977		Joan Lindley	1983
	Minnie Talbot	1984		Doreen Lilian Pritchard	2009
	Freda Mary Day	1987		Graham Webster	2009
Apr 12	Jacqueline Ruth	1987	Apr 25	John Jepson Thomas	1991
	Gillaspy			Alice Ann Walton	1998
	Andrea Louise Johnson	2004	Apr 26	Elsie Beatrice Dugdale	1974
Apr 14	Helen Shaw	1996		Beatrice Isabella Brien	1985
Apr 15	Ernest Norris	1965		Harry Blackburn	2003
	Joseph Parry	2007	Apr 27	John Kenyon	2001
	Alice Banks	2009	Apr 28	Ada Broadbent	1962
Apr 16	Joseph Shaw	1961	Apr 29	Laura Wright	2007
	Emily Spencer	1990			

Dear Friends



It was exactly a year ago that I wrote in the magazine about vocation and about parish life without a full-time vicar. At the time, both Keith and I were asked whether one of us would 'be promoted' to become the vicar. And I wrote about Ordained Local Ministry or OLM for short.

Since then, of course, the situation has changed in a way that I could not have foreseen a year ago. At my Ministerial Development Review last September, the Bishop of Middleton said that he had wondered why there had been no real interest from anyone to become the new vicar of St George's. After mulling this over he thought, perhaps, that no-one had come forward because God was saying that there is someone there already - me!

After much thought, prayer and interviews with three Chaplains, it was decided by the powers that be, that I should become Priest-in-Charge or 'the vicar' by any other name. The main difference between the two is that a Priest-in-Charge is licensed to the parish for a set number of years, usually five, and the position is reviewed after that time. With the current problems of clergy/parish ratio, there is a need to keep situations open-ended and this gives more flexibility both to the Diocese and the parish.

You may wonder how this will change things. From 22 March, when I was licensed as Priest-in-Charge, by the Bishop of Middleton, I became a stipendiary (paid) minister and transferred from Ordained Local Minister which was the voluntary position that I have had for the last twenty years. In these days of fewer people coming forward for ordination, the church is having to think of different ways of running the parishes – team ministries, for instance and/or transferring OLMs and NSMs into full-time stipendiary employment.

But this means that there is a vacancy for another OLM at St George's!!! Ordained Local Ministers each have a specific job description within a parish – mine was pastoral care, especially of the elderly. The Care Bears team was set up as a result of this and now needs someone to take over the organisation of the Team. In the parish there are many areas that need development and it is a great

privilege to serve as an OLM or indeed a Reader, as Keith and I were, before we were ordained. There are now also Authorised Lay Ministers, where a person is given responsibility to do a particular job in church without the onus of ordination. If you feel that God may be calling you to such a ministry, then please have a word with me and we can talk it through. And remember, you are never too old to learn – just look at me!

You'll know the saying about a new broom.....but the only thing I'll be sweeping up at the moment are the leaves at the front door! Seriously though, as most of you will know, I have been attending St George's all my life, and though never previously having had any personal authority, I have been lucky enough to work with former incumbents who have usually discussed any proposals regarding change before going ahead with them. I fully intend to do the same so that our shared ministry tradition continues.

As our Archdeacon and Area Dean both pointed out in their recent sermons, there must be change and there should be change, otherwise I would not be fulfilling the task that has been entrusted to me, but I cannot do this alone. We need to work together to find how we can encourage more people to come to church so that they may come to faith in Jesus. How can we get more children involved? How can we pay our Parish Share in full? There are other issues that need addressing too, such as the feasibility of installing a lift to the upstairs hall to make the whole building accessible to all. I'm planning to hold a brainstorming session sometime soon, when anyone can raise items that they believe need attention and then we'll look at each in turn.

The Vision Statement we made for St George's sometime ago still stands:

God wills that all people live in peace and love.

The church is called to be the agent of God's rule, drawing people into harmony with God, with each other and with the natural world.

As part of the One Holy and Apostolic Church, as part of the Church of England, and the Diocese of Manchester, we respond with joy to God's love.

We seek to share in all that we do, clergy and lay people together, supporting and encouraging one another.

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WORSHIP

We want our worship of God to be as good as possible and involve as many as possible to try to make it awesome, worshipful and helpful as possible to people of all ages and all kinds.

NURTURE

Our pastoral care group is a sign of our concern for others. We aim to be aware of each other's needs and of the needs of our neighbours.

WITNESS

We want better communications both within the church and outside it.

We will seek to do this so that God's work may be more clearly known.

SERVICE

As a Parish Church we are for all within the parish boundary. We aim to look for new ways to ensure we grow outward in service.

If you were asked what might be the mark of an excellent church, I wonder what your reply would be. People in the pews? Paying our full share of the Quota? Having a building that is free from problems? Well, Jesus, the founder and head of the Church said this about greatness – it's all to do with service. When Jesus described true greatness in a person he contrasted the 'power structure' – the 'recognized rulers who lord it over their subjects' – with the genuinely great. 'Whoever wants to be great must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be the willing slave of all.' (*Mark 10.35-45*)

In God's kingdom, the question is not, 'How many people do we have on a Sunday?' or 'How big is our electoral roll?' No, the true question is simply, 'How much service can we give?'

With my very best wishes to you all at this Easter season and in the coming weeks and months.

Philip

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Do You Have a Brave Teddy Bear?



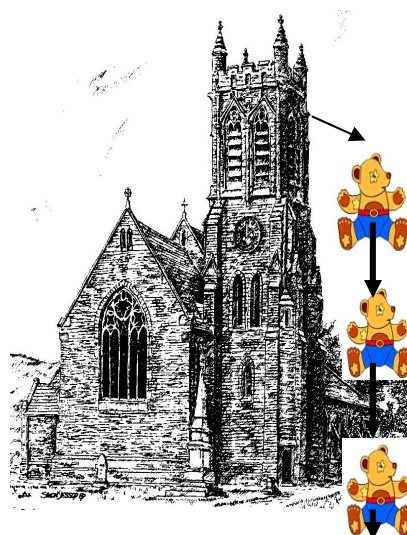
Mossley Parish Church of St. George are holding a Teddy Bear Parachute Drop from the top of Mossley St. George's Tower on Saturday 18th May

Great fund raising opportunity – get your teddy sponsored and let him jump to raise funds for your own group or Church

**Registration at 1.30pm – First jump 2.30pm
Come and enjoy the fun and excitement**



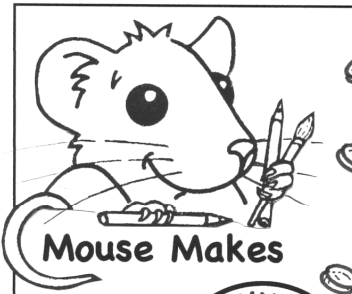
**Teddy Tombola
Games
Refreshments**



**Sponsor a Teddy Bear
90ft Parachute Drop
Come and Watch
Sponsor forms
available from Church
Join in the Fun**

**IS YOUR TEDDY
BRAVE
ENOUGH??**

Children's Page



Mouse Makes

What is your most valuable treasure?
The bible tells us that the most valuable thing you can ever have is something that can **NEVER** be lost, broken or stolen.
The most **valuable** thing you can have is to be **friends with God** through Jesus.
Read: Matthew 6:19-21

Keep my words, treasure up my commands
Prov 7:1

Do not store up treasures on earth
Matt 6:19

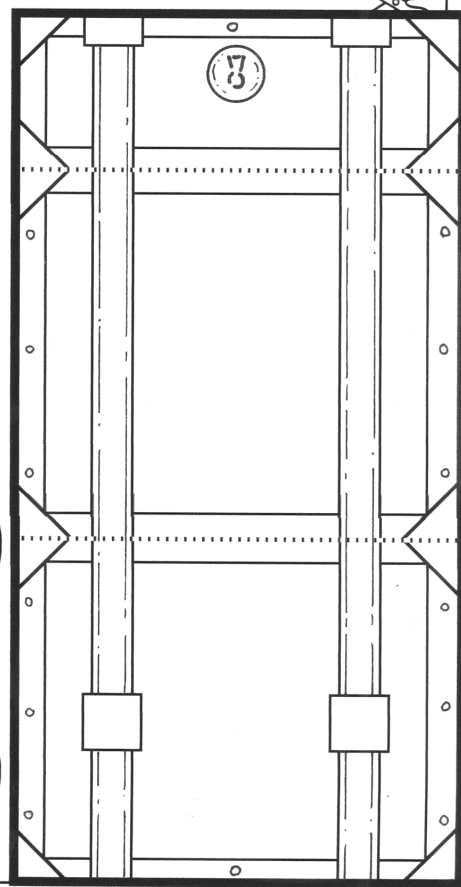
Your **HEART** will be where your riches are
Matt 6:21

In **Christ** are hidden all the **treasures** of **wisdom** and **understanding**
Col 2:3

Be **RICH** in good deeds
1 Tim 6:18

Be **generous** givers
1 Tim 6:18

Cut out these coins. Cut out the treasure box and fold along the dotted lines. Glue the coins inside the box



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Readings and Psalms for April 2013

Tues 2 nd	10.30	Acts 2.36-41; Psalm 33.4-5,18-end; John 20.11-18
Sun 7 th		2nd Sunday of Easter
	10.45	Acts 5.27-32; Psalm 118.14-end; Revelation 1.4-8; John 20.19-31
Tues 9 th	10.30	Acts 4.32-end; Psalm 93; John 3.7-15
Sun 14 th		3rd Sunday of Easter
	8.30	Acts 9.1-6; John 21.1-19
	10.45	Acts 9.1-6; Psalm 30; Revelation 5.11-end; John 21.1-19
Tues 16 th	10.30	Acts 7.51-8.1; Psalm 31.1-5,16; John 6.30-35
Sun 21 st		4th Sunday of Easter Celebrating St George
	8.30	Acts 9.36-end; John 10.22-30
	10.45	Acts 9.36-end; Psalm 23; Revelation 7.9-end; John 10.22-30
Tues 23 rd	10.30	Revelation 12.7-12; Psalm 126; 2 Timothy 2.3-13; John 15.18-21
Sun 28 th		5th Sunday of Easter
	8.30	Acts 11.1-18; John 13.31-35
	10.45	Acts 11.1-18; John 13.31-35 Worship For All
Tues 30 th	10.30	Acts 14.19-end; Psalm 145.10-end; John 14.27-end



BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE

To have the name of a loved one entered into this special book, and remembered in our intercessions for their anniversary please have a word with one of the wardens or one of the clergy.

The cost for the special inscription is £10 per entry

Some dates for your diary - April 2013

Sunday	7th	2nd Sunday of Easter
		10.45a.m. Parish Eucharist & Junior Church
		12.30p.m. Holy Baptism x 2
Saturday	13th	2.00pm to 4.00pm Fair Trade Afternoon Teas
Sunday	14th	3rd Sunday of Easter
		8.30a.m. Holy Communion
		10.45a.m. Parish Eucharist & Junior Church
Tuesday	16th	8.00p.m. Annual Parochial Church Meeting
Thursday	18th	9.30a.m. Time 4 Fun 0 - 5yrs
		7.30p.m. Tameside Community Voices Practice
Sunday	21st	4th Sunday of Easter
		10.45a.m. Parish Eucharist & Junior Church
		12.30p.m. Holy Baptism x 1
Tuesday	23rd	7.45p.m. Knit & Natter (Craft Group)
Thursday	25th	9.30a.m. Time 4 Fun 0 - 5yrs
		7.30p.m. Tameside Community Voices Practice
Sunday	28th	5th Sunday of Easter
		8.30a.m. Holy Communion
		10.45a.m. Worship For All
MAY		
Thursday	9th	8.00p.m. A Service for The Ascension of Our Lord
Saturday	11th	11.00am to 2.00pm Spring Fair

March Crossword Solution

ACROSS: 1, Awaken. 4, Quench. 8, Hit me. 9, Sadness. 10, Semitic. 11, Ridge. 12, Testimony. 17, Psalm. 19, Indulge. 21, Deserve. 22, Ariel. 23, Rose as. 24, Beggar.
DOWN: 1, Aghast. 2, Attempt. 3, Eject. 5, Undergo. 6, No end. 7, Hasten. 9, Sacrifice. 13, Samaria. 14, Yelling. 15, Spider. 16, Dealer. 18, Asses. 20, Drake.



Dorothy Hewitt, a member of our congregation, came to speak to us about her time in the Land Army during World War II. Dorothy explained, that because she didn't work in a reserved occupation, on reaching 17 years of age she would be called up to do some sort of war work and had hit on the idea of joining the Land Army. Mainly because she didn't fancy the forces and she certainly wasn't going into "munitions". At first her father was having none of it, but eventually came round to the idea. Her trip to Manchester to be fitted for her uniform didn't go smoothly - apparently she was an inch too short and they didn't have a uniform small enough. Anyway this problem was eventually conquered and on the allotted date she set off to Reaseheath College in Cheshire for a month's training. On arrival the girls were paired up and given a timetable of the different farming jobs they would be doing each day. Her partner only lasted 3 days! So Dorothy spent the remainder of her time happily "ploughing on regardless" (no pun intended).

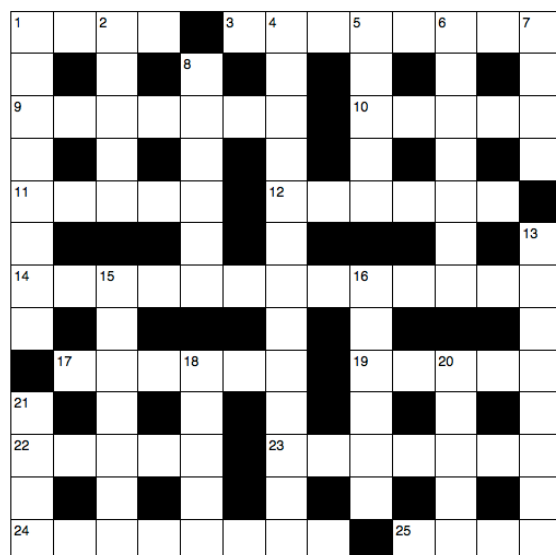
Even her journey to the farm she had been allocated didn't quite go to plan but eventually she arrived and spent three and a half happy years working on a farm with a wonderful family. The children are still visiting her today.

But it wasn't all work and no play!! With two other Land Girls from a neighbouring farm she seems to have spent a considerable amount of time at all the village dances within cycling distance. An added bonus was that there was a RAF aerodrome nearby, so plenty of dance partners! In fact this is where she was to meet her future husband Reg - but that's another story!

I won't say how old Dorothy is - but as she herself said - "you have to be at least eighty six to have been working during the war". Obviously all the hard work and fresh air during her youth have kept her looking so fit and young today. Thank you Dorothy for a hilarious evening.

Knit and Natter Group

April Crossword



Across

- 1 'The baby in my — leaped for joy' (Luke 1:44) (4) 3 A 'don't know' in matters of faith (8)
 9 In the distant past (Jeremiah 2:20) (4,3)
 10 Armada (1 Kings 10:22) (5)
 11 Where Moses was confronted with the burning bush (Exodus 3:1) (5)
 12 Hair colour indicative of skin infection (Leviticus 13:30) (6)
 14 'The worries of this life and the — of wealth choke it, making it unfruitful' (Matthew 13:22) (13)
 17 Expel (2 Kings 13:23) (6)
 19 What Jesus wrapped round his waist when he washed his disciples' feet (John 13:4) (5)
 22 The sixth plague to afflict the Egyptians (Exodus 9:9) (5)
 23 For nine (anag.) (7)
 24 Where there is no time (Psalm 93:2) (8)
 25 Goliath's challenge to the Israelite army in the Valley of Elah: 'This day I — the ranks of Israel!' (1 Samuel 17:10) (4)

Down

- 1 'I will become angry with them and forsake them; I — my face from them' (Deuteronomy 31:17) (4,4)
 2 Usual description of prophets such as Amos, Hosea, Micah, and so on (5)
 4 'They cannot see the light of the gospel of the — — —, who is the image of God' (2 Corinthians 4:4) (5,2,6)
 5 An animal's internal edible parts (Leviticus 4:11) (5)
 6 Popular 20th-century religious novel by Lloyd C. Douglas, which became a 1953 film starring Richard Burton (3,4)
 7 'A — on a hill cannot be hidden' (Matthew 5:14) (4)
 8 One of the exiles, a descendant of Bebai, who married a foreign woman (Ezra 10:28) (6)
 13 Old Testament hymn-singing (8)
 15 'And O what transport of delight from thy pure — floweth' (7)
 16 Of felt (anag.) (3,3)
 18 'So — the — sets you free, you will be free indeed' (John 8:36) (2,3)
 20 Comes between 'bad' and 'worst' (John 5:14) (5)
 21 'Neither height nor depth... will be — to separate us from the love of God' (Romans 8:39) (4)

Confirmation 2013



This year's Confirmation Service for our church will be on Sunday 16 June at 6.30pm at St. Gabriel's Church in Cockbrook.

Children must be in Year 6 or above (i.e they must be 11 years old on the date of Confirmation). There will be a series of preparation groups for those wishing to be confirmed, each lasting no more than one hour. These will be arranged to suit members of the group and will look at a range of issues to do with Christianity. There will be an opportunity to think about faith and explore ideas. All are welcome and even if you are an adult you can still be confirmed or just attend the sessions.

Please have a word with Philip if you would like to be confirmed.

+++++

GIRLGUIDING CONGRATULATIONS

Rainbows Congratulations to our Rainbow Unit who will be celebrating their Silver Jubilee this month. Twenty five years ago they were the first Rainbow Unit to be opened in Stalybridge. To celebrate this event we will be holding a Coffee Evening on Tuesday 30th April from 6.30pm. Everyone is welcome to attend, especially if you have been a Rainbow or had connections with our Unit in the past. There will be a Handcrafted Soap Stall, a Rainbow Stall and a Raffle. Please come along and help us to celebrate our special occasion.

Brownies and Guides Congratulations also go to our Brownies and Guides, who since Christmas have been carrying out a Challenge to see how many toothbrushes they could collect for the orphans in Malawi, Africa. Two years ago for a similar Challenge they collected almost 500 tablets of soap for the same orphans and so we were hoping to equal that number this time. However, we are delighted to say that we exceeded all expectations by collecting 716 toothbrushes and 50 tubes of toothpaste. Well done everyone!

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**Please donate the cost of an Easter egg to
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or £10 to 70070 e.g. EGGS13 £10 to 70070

Online: www.trusselltrust.org/appeals

Thank you!



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A bit overwhelmed

Three years ago I thought producing 1,000 Real Easter eggs would be enough to prove there was a place for a faith based, charity Easter Egg. How wrong I was.

Three years later we are about to finish our 400,000th Easter egg. 200,000 in this year alone!

We are also on target to donate a total of £60,000 from sales.

So, if you are wondering if the campaign to introduce a message of faith and hope into the Easter Egg market can make an impact, well yes it can and you have helped make it happen.

Do send me stories of how it has worked for you, your news and any events you have planned. We would love to share them and you might end up in next year's brochure.

Thanks again for being a champion and supporting the campaign to establish The Real Easter Egg as an Easter tradition.

David, team member and creator of The Real Easter Egg

To follow on from this thank you to all the chocoholics who bought the eggs at Church, we sold an amazing 6 dozen (72) and we also made £30 on the raffle for the Organ Fund.

If everyone is agreeable we hope to repeat the sale in 2014.

Thank You All again, Rose & Ann

