



SUNDAY 15th AUGUST 2021

Readings Ephesians 5:15-20 and John 6:51-58

A Note From **Your Administrator**

Camping.

Those of you who have been at St George's for a long time know my thoughts very well on camping. No offence is meant to those who love it but I am still struggling with the two words "camping" and "holiday" being put together.

The band amazingly all managed to get to our gig on Saturday with no major travel concerns (thank you Maura!) and got there bang on time for our sound check before performing. What we didn't have time for was putting up the tent and when we DID get the chance to put the tent up, yes you guessed it, it was when the rain and the wind were having a marvellous time. Have you ever tried putting a tent up in pouring rain and strong winds? It was not easy I can tell you. And then trying to sleep whilst the rain is thrashing down and the tent is hanging onto it's pegs for it's dear life in these huge gusts of winds....I could only think that the next night, I'll be back in my own comfy, warm, quiet bed and then it made me think about those

not even fortunate to have this canvas roof over their heads. Those struggling to survive. Those who have lost their roofs due to fire and floods. Those who have never had a home. What on earth was my problem? Our tent kept us dry. It gave us a place to rest. It kept us safe—we survived! No, it didn't feel like a holiday but it did make me thankful. Thankful for all that I have that is maybe taken for granted. I had shelter, I had food and I was clothed. I was dry...well, until we had to take it down again the next morning in the pouring rain again. But I did so with a smile. It had been another adventure with another lesson learnt. Be thankful for all that we have—food, clothes, a home, a tent and just maybe as we head off to our gig in Cornwall this weekend, I'll pack some ear plugs for a better night sleep! And pray for some sunshine to put the tent up and down in :)

Bethan

"be thankful in all circumstances. This is what God wants from you in your life in union with Christ Jesus." 1 Thess 5:18

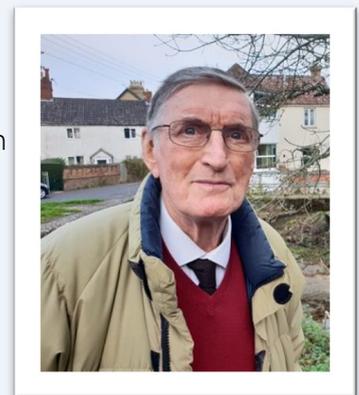
Paying Our Respects to Alan Wedderkopp

As many will know, Alan Wedderkopp, who died on 16th July aged 87, was the local Liberal Democrat councillor for the ward of Wilton & Sherford on Somerset West and Taunton Council. His ashes were interred in St George's churchyard on 28th July in the grave where his wife Abigail had also previously been interred.

Alan was well known and respected in the Wilton area and he was especially passionate and campaigned about environmental issues, particularly climate change and flooding. The need for affordable homes and green spaces were other issues of real concern for him.

He was always interested in events at St George's and kept in contact with us over the years.

His family, whom we remember at this time in our prayers, are holding a memorial service for Alan in the Church Hall on Friday 13th August. They have asked that if anyone wishes to honour Alan's memory, they could make a donation to **The Children's Society** (<https://www.childrenssociety.org.uk/how-you-can-help/donate>) who campaign for the big social changes that will improve the lives of young people and give them hope.



Peter Joyce

ST GEORGE'S
Charity Information

EMBRACE THE MIDDLE EAST have put out an urgent appeal to support the Christian brothers and sisters in the Near East Council of Churches to provide ongoing support alongside the life-saving provision of medical provisions, shelter and fuel to keep the generators going (their only source of electricity) to the people of Gaza.

Buildings near Al-Shifa Hospital (Gaza's main hospital) have been bombed during the recent escalations of violence there. Doctors who worked in the hospital were killed with their families in the blast, and the street in front of the hospital was bombed out - not even ambulances can enter. How can an already overstretched healthcare system and hospital, already struggling to cope with COVID 19, operate in this situation? When they needed a neighbour - will we be there?

'Embrace' have published a prayer for this situation which we might all use at this time.

O God, the creator of all life, we bring before you all the people who call Israel and Palestine home.

We particularly remember those living in Jerusalem and Gaza whose lives are marred by restrictions to their freedom, the threat of eviction from their homes and the constant fear of armed conflict.

We ask your forgiveness for the anger, hatred and violence that all of us have the potential to carry within us. We beseech you to soften hearts and open minds so that the sanctity of life is always protected, the right to freedom of worship upheld and the security of a safe home defended.

We pray that justice will flow like rivers. That human dignity will be respected and that each of us may strive to do justice, love mercy and walk humbly with you, our God.

Amen

To donate to Embrace the Middle East, please send your cheque to:

24 London Road West
Amersham

BUCKS HP7 0EZ

Or online donations by
visiting

www.embraceme.org/give



National Three Peaks Challenge

10 – 12
September
2021



I'm doing the Three Peaks challenge 10-12 Sept.

This involves climbing Ben Nevis, Scafell Pike and Mount Snowdon in a total trekking time of 15 hrs or less to raise money for **St. Margaret's Hospice** where I've worked for 23 years.

This coincides with my retirement so hoping to go out on a high!

If you'd like to donate, please click on link below
All donations will be very much appreciated.

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/hilary3peakschallenge>

Thankyou so much!

Hilary x

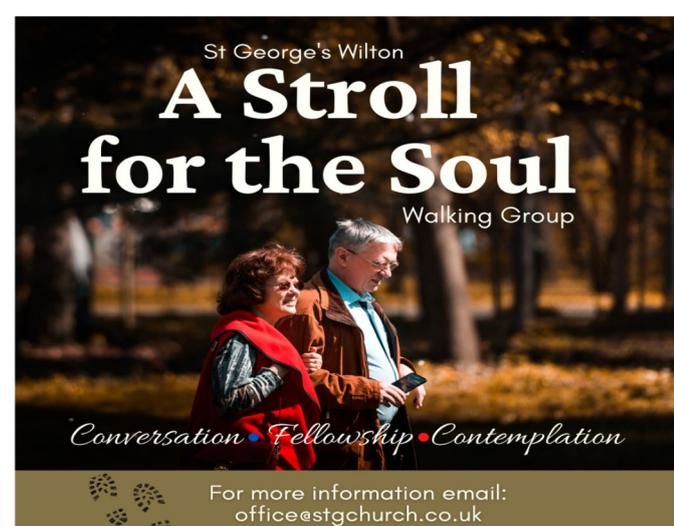


St George's **Small Groups**

The next "Stroll for the Soul" will be on
WEDNESDAY 18th August. Assemble 10.15am at the church for a few minutes of scripture reflection before strolling, with like-minded Souls, at 10.30am
It would be wonderful to have you join us if you can!

Janet

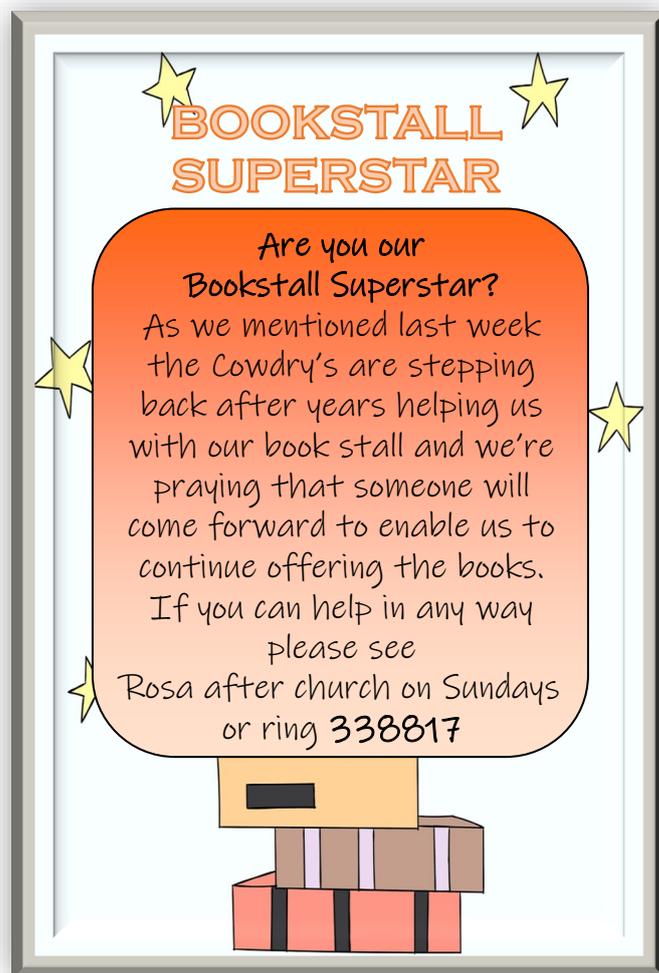
If you would like to join any of our small groups, or have an idea for one yourself please get in touch—we'd love to hear from you!! office@stgchurch.co.uk



St George's Wilton
**A Stroll
for the Soul**
Walking Group

Conversation • Fellowship • Contemplation

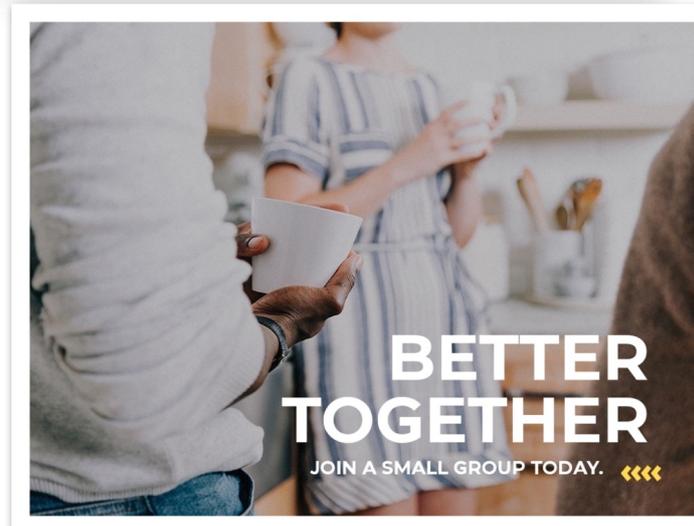
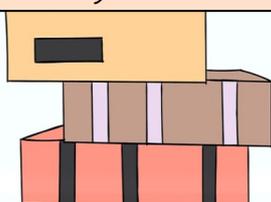
For more information email:
office@stgchurch.co.uk



BOOKSTALL SUPERSTAR

Are you our
Bookstall Superstar?

As we mentioned last week the Cowdry's are stepping back after years helping us with our book stall and we're praying that someone will come forward to enable us to continue offering the books. If you can help in any way please see Rosa after church on Sundays or ring 338817



**BETTER
TOGETHER**

JOIN A SMALL GROUP TODAY. <<<<



**CATCH
SUNDAY'S
SERMON
ONLINE!**

Find it at
www.stgchurch.co.uk
or on our YouTube channel and FaceBook Page

BIBLE IN ONE YEAR

Start your day with *The Bible in One Year*, a free Bible commentary app with readings by Nicky and Pippa Gumbel from HTB in London.



St George's
Churchyard

It's hard to believe we're already over halfway through the main growing & gardening season. This does mean that at least there'll not be quite so much grass raking to do, but of course the leaf raking season is not so far off!

One of the main reasons for raking up cut grass is to encourage the growth of indigenous wild flowers and plants, as these thrive in nutrient-poor soil. For environmental reasons, the grass throughout the whole churchyard would ideally be left uncut for the summer months. However, this would make access difficult or unsafe to most of the older graves, where the ground is very uneven. So, we're trying instead to keep a natural balance, by managing gently overall, but letting certain areas grow more freely, specifically around the path which leads up through the Yew and Birch trees to the Remembrance Area North of the war memorial, and also the area opposite the vestry steps.

It has for many years been the aim at St George's, Wilton, to preserve the dignity and simplicity of the churchyard, which is essentially an historical and sacred place; and the maintenance is carried out partly by contractors, partly by volunteers.

In recognition of the scope and importance of churchyards, Somerset Wildlife Trust (SWT), working together with The Diocese of Bath & Wells, has this year initiated a project called "Wilder Churches", details of which can be found on the SWT website:

www.somersetwildlife.org.uk There has been a series of 3 Zoom sessions since April 2021; and there is to be another session on 15th September 2021.

These sessions have provided step-by-step guidance for people interested in or responsible for churchyards – 'these unique spaces in our lives and the places we live, often open, welcoming, green, special, sacred, mostly unaffected by agricultural change, with a huge variety of wildlife habitats'.

Following the guidance given in the 'Wilder Churches' sessions, we are gradually getting to know our churchyard better, seeing which forms of wildlife we already have, and trying to encourage some, while managing in a non-aggressive way those that would if left alone take over &/or cause harm (e.g. brambles, ivy, elder, squirrels, badgers, wasps). We already have many well-known seasonal flowers, e.g. snowdrop, primrose, daffodil, forget-me-not, lily-of-the-valley, bluebell, foxglove, iris, cyc-

lamen. We hope to gradually discover and encourage others, and to introduce a few more; but we need to ensure that any seeds or plants we introduce are local or at least native.

If you'd like to learn more about our churchyard or help with gardening, please do come along to all or part of one of our Saturday sessions. We (on average 7 or 8 people) meet on the 3RD SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH, MARCH TO NOVEMBER INCLUSIVE, 9.30 – 12.30. There are a few churchyard tools, but if you can bring along a tool of your own, our main tasks are raking, sweeping, hoeing, shearing, pruning & weeding! Bring your own gloves and drink or snack; and it can be really helpful if you are able to take away any green refuse, especially at the moment while there are no green bin collections.

Our next session is **SATURDAY 21st AUGUST**, and our main tasks this month will be: raking grass cuttings, sweeping the driveway and car park, clearing any blocked soakaway drains, tidying the edges of tarmac path, lightly pruning the lilac bush, removing/cutting back Ground Elder from the Beech hedge and all around the Old Choir Vestry, general weeding and shearing.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU IN THE CHURCHYARD!

Jane Joyce

On behalf of the Churchyard Gardeners

COME AND JOIN US!

Churchyard Gardening

Every 3rd Saturday From March to Nov
9.30am - 12.30pm

Bring your gardening gloves, your tools and join in!

Come and care for our beautiful St George's Wilton Churchyard. For more information, contact office@stgchurch.co.uk

ST GEORGE'S

The Taunton Cancer Research UK group are collecting at the motorway service station every weekend during the summer and are desperate for more collectors. If you could spare an hour any weekend, please ring Chris on 335303. Many thanks



DIARY DATES

- SUN 15th From 9.45am
Online Sunday Service
10.00am
CW Holy Communion
- MON 16th 9.00pm
Compline Service on Zoom
- WED 18th 10.15am
Stroll For the Soul
Walking Group
Meet outside Church
- THURS 19th 10.00am -12.00pm
Open Church for Prayer
- SAT 21st 9.30am—12.30pm
Churchyard Gardening

FUTURE DATES

- WED 25th Aug—Mossy Church at the wildside
- SAT 28th Aug—Coffee Cake and Catch Up in Church Hall
- SUN 5th Sept— Outdoor Worship Service

St George's **Events**

Come and join us for our Coffee, Cake & Catch Up on **Saturday 28th August**.

There will be several stalls safely spaced, with hand sanitizing available and windows kept open to ensure good ventilation. Do get in touch with us if you are able to help bake a cake or in these Covid times, some mini individual cakes—what's your speciality? Maybe you cannot bake but you have some good quality donations of books and raffle prizes instead? If so, please bring it along on Sunday and put them on the table at the back of the church after the **Sunday Services on 8th, 15th and 22nd August**. That would be wonderful! It will be so good to be together again so do come and join in the fun and fellowship and help us to raise some much needed funds!

For any enquiries, do contact either Rosa or the Church Office office@stgchurch.co.uk

ST GEORGE'S **Contact Info**

Rev'd Dr Nick Griffin Vicar

Tel: 01823 774128

Email: nick@stgchurch.co.uk

Day Off: Fridays

Bethan Administrator

Tel: 01823 284253

Email: office@stgchurch.co.uk

Office Hours Mon—Thurs 10-1pm

Peter Churchwarden

Tel: 01823 257094 or 07761 407 433

Hilary Churchwarden

Tel: 01823 976694 or 07460 471 514

Website: www.stgchurch.co.uk

Facebook: St Georges Wilton

Twitter: @StGeorgesWilton

Instagram: @StGeorgesWilton

YouTube: St George's Church Wilton

ST GEORGE'S WILTON

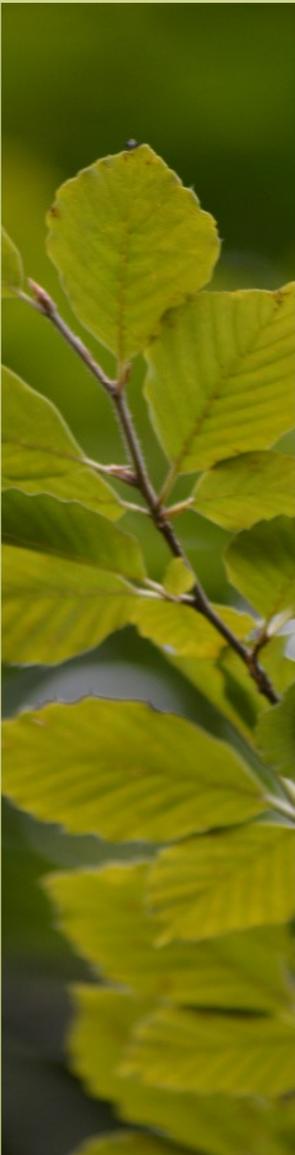
Coffee Cake & Catch Up

*Come and join us for a cuppa and some cake!
With Stalls, Raffle and more!*

10.30AM - 12.30PM
SATURDAY 28TH AUGUST 2021
ST GEORGE'S CHURCH HALL
FONS GEORGE, TAUNTON

Email: office@stgchurch.co.uk
Web: www.stgchurch.co.uk

All proceeds go to St George's Wilton
Refurbishment Projects



ST GEORGE'S WILTON

Mossy Church on the Wildside

**FREE* EVENT FOR FAMILIES
WITH CHILDREN AGED 0-14**

EXPLORE: WOODLAND, MEADOWS & HABITATS

ENGAGE: FARM & WILD ANIMALS, NATURE & CAMPFIRES

CONNECT: OTHER FAMILIES, CREATION & THE CREATOR

25TH AUGUST

10AM-1PM

**@WILDSIDE EXPERIENCES,
HEMYOCK (BLACKDOWN HILLS)**

TICKETS AVAILABLE TO BOOK FROM
[MOSSYCHURCHONTHEWILDSIDE.EVENTBRITE.CO.UK](https://mossychurchonthewildside.eventbrite.co.uk)

*** OPTIONAL COLLECTION TAKEN ON THE DAY
FOR OUR HOSTS WILDSIDE EXPERIENCES**

*Take a Mossy Moment this week
and spend some time outside!*

**STOP.
THE PACE OF LIFE IS FAST
BUT THE PACE OF CREATION IS STEADY!**



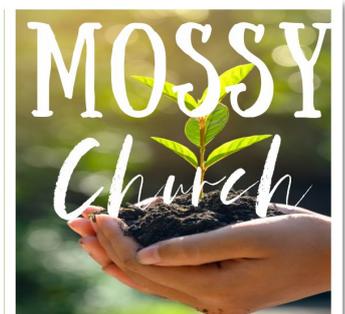
"EVERY GOOD ACTION AND EVERY PERFECT GIFT IS FROM GOD. THESE GOOD GIFTS COME DOWN FROM THE CREATOR OF THE SUN, MOON, AND STARS, WHO DOES NOT CHANGE LIKE THEIR SHIFTING SHADOWS"

JAMES 1 V 17

Book your **FREE** place now for your family at Mossy Church on the Wildside. Join us as we explore, engage and connect together in the beautiful Blackdown Hills. Explore meadows & woodlands, do nature activities, meet animals, picnic by the campfire and more. Places are booking fast, so make sure to get yours at <https://mossychurchonthewildside.eventbrite.co.uk>

If you have any questions about the session, or anything else to do with Mossy Church, do drop us a message on our facebook page or email families@stgchurch.co.uk.

There will be lots more Mossy Church fun in the Autumn term and beyond so watch this space!



ST GEORGE'S
Prayer Space



Please remember our dear Richard Booth in your prayers as he was laid to rest in our Churchyard last week. Lord, we ask that Constance may feel Your comfort and peace at this difficult time. *Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. Matthew 5:4*

Prayers this week

Everlasting God as we approach your throne in the House of Wisdom in humility and simplicity we ask that you will hear our prayers of thanksgiving and intercession. Almighty God we pray for our churches in Taunton and ask that our church here in Wilton be given a clear vision of what is needed to be both focused and relevant in all that is good and serves your purpose of spreading the Good News to both residents and visitors.

Lord, in your Mercy: Hear our Prayer

Creator God we thank you for the beauty of the created world; for its wonderful variety and the bounty that it brings forth. Help us all to be good stewards showing love and friendship to all peoples and the enjoying the warmth and light they bring to our lives. Be close to all who govern ensuring the decisions that they make, day by day, are made for the benefit all of the people entrusted to them in their leadership. **Lord, in your Mercy: Hear our Prayer**

Father God we pray for our own communities and all of our neighbours. We thank you also for our families and friends, raising before you those we know with particular needs. May your peace and love surround them bringing with it comfort and strength. **Lord, in your Mercy: Hear our Prayer**

Gracious God we thank you for those we know who are on the road to recovery and for the miracle of healing. We pray for all who minister to the sick and infirm, both at home and in hospital care centres. We name before you now, those we know who are ill or in need of our prayers asking that through these requests they may all experience the light of the Gospel and a real sense of your healing presence. **Lord, in your Mercy: Hear our Prayer**

Faithful God receive our intercessions and thanksgiving on behalf of the church and the world. Hear our prayers and reward our stewardship of this earth with the riches of heaven.
Merciful Father: **accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen**



ST GEORGE'S
Pastoral Care

If you feel that you would like to chat on the phone or for someone to be in touch from our Pastoral Care Team in the church, please either email me: rachelmneal@btinternet.com or Bethan in the office office@stgchurch.co.uk and she will pass on the message to me. I would be very pleased to hear from you.

Morning Prayer will be back again on Wednesday 25th August over on our YouTube channel from 8am

The Collect for Sunday 15th August

God of glory,
the end of our searching,
help us to lay aside
all that prevents us from seeking your kingdom,
and to give all that we have
to gain the pearl beyond all price,
through our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen

In Loving Memory

Merciful God we pray for those whose lives have been shattered by the death of someone close and dear to them. We pray for members of our natural and church families who have died and whose anniversary we remember now.

**Kay Rice, Denys O'Brien, Lily Shire,
Betty Winterson**

Hold them in your eternal kingdom and may they rest peace and rise in glory.

Amen

