



February
2022

Stratton Team Ministry
Seeking, Sharing, and Serving God Together
www.strattonteamministry.co.uk



STRATTON TEAM MINISTRY

Priest in Charge: Reverend Elveen Mead [Usual Day off Friday]

Lay Minister: Lisa Lodwick
Alison Burston
Dan Read

Church Administrator Georgina Martin 826505
Email: stmargaretsoffice2@btconnect.com

CHURCHWARDENS

St. Margaret's Church and St Mary Magdalene Church

Mrs June Lewis 822954
Mr Richard Pflieger 828367
Mrs Diane Whitford 824339

Deputy Wardens

Mr David Horne 724776
Mr Ian Jones 07769703385

St Leonards Church

Mrs Liz Hillman 762935
Mrs Liz Bannister 763657

Joint Parish Safeguarding Officers & DBS Lead Recruiters

Dr Mike Boshier 07799835437
Mrs Mary Boshier

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL for St. Margaret's and St Mary Magdalene

Mrs Rosalind Mitchell (Secretary) 764146
Mrs Diane Whitford
(Deputy Secretary of St Mary Magdalene) 824339

St Leonards

Mr Michael Curtis
(PCC secretary St Leonards)

LOCAL CHURCH CONTACTS

Stratton Methodist Church, 829335
St Mary's R C Church, The Presbytery, Swindon 535089

Dear Friends,

Do you ever wake up in the morning with a song in your head that you then can't get rid of for the rest of the day? I do too, and when that happens, I like to ponder on why *that* song in *that* moment. Perhaps our mood or events going on in our lives influence our 'earworm' songs, but mine mostly seem to be a bizarre random selection of odd tunes selected by a dodgy radio station that you would never willingly stay tuned into! Less frequently, but more significantly, I wake up with a bible passage on my mind, one that then stays with me for weeks and then seems to crop up in conversations or whatever books I am reading. I have learnt over the years to pay attention whenever this happens, because unlike the earworm tunes that have no purpose, the Lord is usually speaking to me through these 'earworm' bible verses. This is the passage that the Lord has been whispering in my ear since the start of 2022;

'Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us'

Hebrews 12:1

Each generation that has gone before us has welcomed new life, enjoyed abundance, experienced joy and yet has also known grief, endured hardship and at times felt immense sorrow. Being human invariably means that we will all experience these things (and more) in our lifetime. We enjoy the good times but when more challenging seasons roll in, we can become despondent and perhaps fail to see the possibilities in a new dawn. Yet, this passage invites us to remember that great cloud of witnesses - ordinary people throughout history that the Lord has worked in and through to do extraordinary things – and not only to dare to dream of a brighter future, filled with possibility and hope, but to be people that the Lord will use today to make those dreams and visions a reality here and now. We just need to shake off all that holds us back from seeing and believing and then step forward at pace into the future that the Lord has prepared for us.

I am certainly not naïve about the challenges that we face this year, both as individuals and as church, and yet these words from the letter to the Hebrews is surely just the encouragement that we need in such a time as this. So, whatever is going on in your life right now, hear the Lord whispering these words to you and with faith, prayer and a good sense of humour let's run together with perseverance the race marked out for us as God's family here in Stratton Team Ministry, and look forward to how the Lord will bless us - and others through us - in the months and years to come.

Every blessing,

Elveen



I wrote this article for the church magazine in September 2001.

Ted Oram - Licensed in 1974 as a Lay Reader at St. Margaret's Church

Ted Oram died in August 2001 and his funeral took place in St. Margaret's Church on August 17th.

We remember with thanksgiving his part within the life of the parish in many ways through the years. We offer our prayers and good wishes to his daughter and sons.

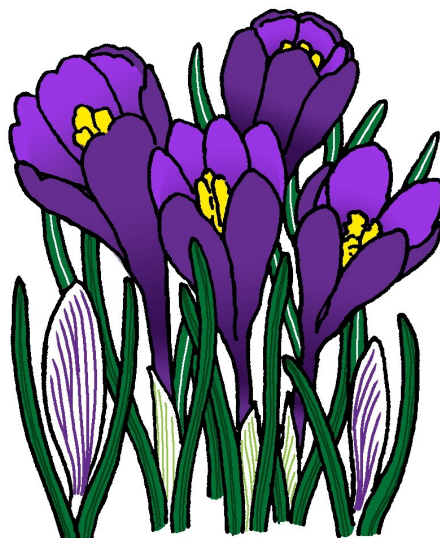
Since 1974 Ted had been a Lay Reader in our parish (in his latter years as Reader Emeritus) but amongst other things he had previously been Churchwarden, Chairman of the Men's Society, Secretary of the Bell Ringers, helper at Elm Court services and member of Evergreens.

I had the privilege of being a fellow Lay Reader along with Joy Pollard and wrote this poem as a tribute at the time.

OUR TED

"Our Ted", I remember Joy saying,
As if, in a way, she was praying
For his guidance, his strength,
Always strong, the stench
Of war had made him so;
Now, not Hitler, but another foe
To conquer - not with any weakness
Or any sort of meekness
For the fight,
What was wrong was, plainly not right.
Boldness in his ways and his walk
No mincing words in his talk.
For his C O, Jesus Christ, his King
His praise without fail to sing.
If not in words, but in his bearing
As if, always he was hearing
These words, "Come on Ted -
Up front man, the troops must be fed."

Dan Read - September 2001





A MEDICAL DILEMMA

My Dad was born in 1900 in North Wroughton, one of three boys and three girls. Home was a tiny two up and two down cottage with a lean-to scullery. The sleeping arrangements, well I never thought to ask!

Gran was suddenly widowed at 31 taking in washing to survive. Dad grew up in straightened circumstances, nevertheless he was always content. In the 1920s he was goalkeeper, trainer, first aider etc. of the local football team.

The village Hospital Fete was nigh and his out-of-work pal was a sure fine sprinter, with no Social Services there was no dole money and he could hopefully win a pound or two.

All over the country Hospital Fetes supported the local hospital and in our case this was the Victoria, Old Town, Swindon.

A week before the Fete, disaster struck, out intrepid sprinter reported to Trainer Howell with a sprained ankle. Dad sprang into action getting his pal onto the 'chaise longue', "Mother can you find my rubbing oils?" By this time, only Dad and one sister were still living at home and still two tiny bedrooms!

He heard Gran moving boxes, opening drawers until finally she appeared with the 'oils'? Dad questioned what they were but Gran was always right. As a child in the thirties even I knew that you never argued with the 'little lady with her pinnie and her hair in a bun'. Dad went to work on the ankle. On Saturday our sprinter excelled and that night in the Workmen's Club, Dad was the centre of attention!

The sequel came some months later when Dad came home from work, Gran could tell him that she had found the rubbing oils! On enquiring what was in the original bottle, he was to discover that he had used cough medicine!! He told no-one, until he told me long after I had left home, how could he?

Now as a Christian I have faith as we all do, but did faith heal his pal's ankle or was there, in the cough medicine a secret ingredient still, nearly a hundred years later, undiscovered by modern science?

The cottage is still there and I still wonder how they all fitted in, but I like to believe that Faith played it's part!

Colin Howell



FEBRUARY

February 6th - 1st Sunday of the Month -

Fourth Sunday before Lent

9:30am St Margaret's Church

Holy Communion Service

9:30am St Leonards Church

Sunday Morning Worship

10am St Mary Magdalene Church

Family Service

February 13th - 2nd Sunday of the Month -

Third Sunday before Lent

9:30am St Margaret's Church

Sunday Morning Worship

9:30am St Mary Magdalene Church

Holy Communion Service

11am St Leonards Church

Family Service

February 20th - 3rd Sunday of the Month -

Second Sunday before Lent

10am St Margaret's Church

Sunday Morning Team Worship

February 27th - 4th Sunday of the Month -

Sunday next before Lent

9:30am St Margaret's Church

Sunday Morning Worship

9:30am St Leonards Church

Holy Communion Service

11am Coleview

Holy Communion Service

PLEASE NOTE

Under current pandemic circumstances all services are subject to change.

Please see our website for the most up to date information www.strattonteamministry.co.uk

We will endeavour to give as much notice as possible to any changes but that may not always be possible.

We are online at 9am Monday to Saturday for Morning Prayer via

[@Strattonteamministry.co.uk](https://twitter.com/Strattonteamministry)

Come and
join us for:

Activities

Songs

Refreshments



Crafts

Games

Stories

FREE!
SATURDAY SCENE
TRUSTING GOD

At St Margaret's Centre

(Kenwin close, off Ermin street, Stratton St. Margaret)

Saturday 12th February

@ 4pm

**Join us to hear the story of
the paralysed man being let down
through the roof to see Jesus**

Luke 5:17-3

St Margaret's Church, St Leonard's Church, St Mary Magdalene's
Church and Coleview Community Center

for more information Please contact us at

✉ saturdayscene@strattonteamministry.co.uk

☎ 01793 826505

www.facebook.com/stmsaturdayscene





St Mary Magdalene Church South Marston

MEETING POINT

**The 'drop in' is for all members of our
community**

Is on the 3rd Saturday of the month

Come and Join Us for Coffee

In the Village Hall

10:00 - 12:00 on

Saturday 19th February

Followed by

19th March

Enquiries or for table reservations please call

01793 831473

stm



A Host of Angels

Thank you for all the host of Angels who helped by cutting out the paper Angels which were then decorated and hung in St Margaret's and St Mary Magdalene's churches.

Stratton St Margaret's Infant school decorated over 250 Angels and these were hung in St Margaret's Church with those from other groups and individuals.

Richard Pflieger



Down country Lanes and Tracks

In a quiet glade in the new forest near Minstead stands a simple memorial called the Rufus Stone where William II was killed on 2nd August AD 1100 whilst out hunting with a group of nobles.

William II was William the conquerors son and was known as Rufus because of his red beard. Rufus was an unpopular King and treated his subjects badly. Many people feared and hated him.

Whilst out hunting wild boar and deer with his hunting party Sir Walter Tyrrel a French nobleman a great archer fired an arrow at a deer which deflected off a tree and struck William Rufus in the chest and he died almost immediately.

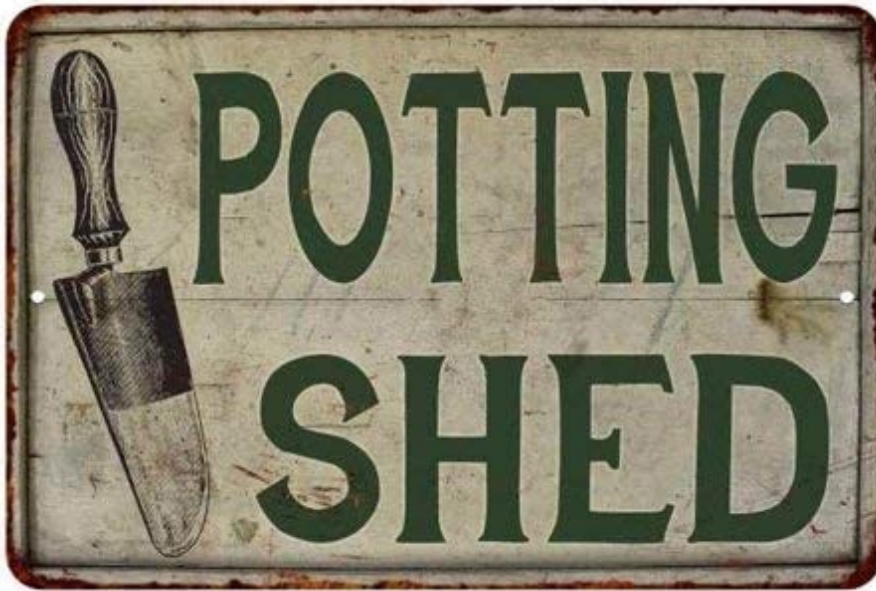
Sir Walter Tyrrel fled from the scene and rode to the coast and over to safety in France whilst a local charcoal burner named Purkiss loaded the King's body on his cart and carried his body to Winchester where he was buried. Rufus' brother Henry proclaimed himself King Henry I which was not to the liking of his brother Robert of Normandy who later fought over it.

The Original stone erected by Lord Delaware became mutilated and in 1841 W Sturges Bourne New Forest warden erected a new metal Memorial known as the Rufus Stone.

Not many people liked King Rufus and were not sad about his death but Sir Walter Tyrrel had a New Forest pub named after him and it is still there today as I sampled the ale last year when we passes that way.

Richard Pflieger





Wardens Potting shed

As February approaches it is time to start the first sowing of seeds in the greenhouse. With the cold days recently it was not worthwhile sowing, but with the sign of slightly warmer weather and the greenhouse heating up the sowing can begin I must warm the seed compost before sowing.

I hope to be able to offer 6 hanging baskets to order and several trays of annuals as the season gets underway and will be able to update you as the months go by.

The greenhouse has been cleared so tomorrow I start to sow.

Happy Gardening

Richard Pflieger



Volunteers needed to either knit or crochet squares or blankets for the GWH

Or have you got any spare balls of wool to offer?

The GWH End of Life team and Brighter Futures are providing End of Life patient's with blankets.

Blankets are provided to make the hospital setting more homely and less medical in the patients last days of life. The family can then keep the blanket as a loving memory.

Obviously with the COVID 19 pandemic, all blankets and squares must adhere to the Trust's Infection Control Policy so if you can help out at all please contact June Lewis for the simple guidelines.

June Lewis: 07788713729 or email june.lewis13@btinternet.com





Operation Christmas Child

Thank you

for supporting Operation Christmas Child this year. Your generosity has meant that lots of boys and girls all around the world have experienced the incredible excitement of receiving a shoebox filled with love and all the joy and hope it brings. For many children this is the first gift they will ever receive and also the first time they have the opportunity of learning about God's love for them.

Thank you again,

Chris Lyne





GIVING

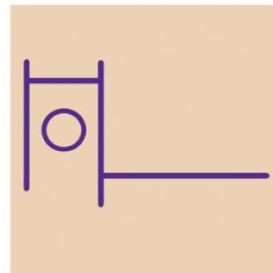
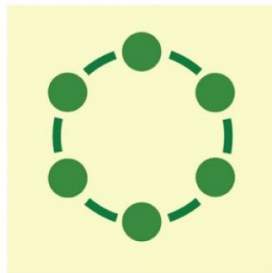
You may be aware that many charities and organisations are struggling at this time, this includes churches.

Great News! You can now sign up to join the Parish Giving Scheme (PGS) online. There is a link for this on the Giving page of our website:

<https://www.strattonteamministry.co.uk/giving/>

If you haven't considered the PGS before, we would ask you to prayerfully consider doing so. It's very easy to sign up and it works in a similar way to a Direct Debit (that it is intended to replace), in that a regular payment authorised by you goes out either weekly, monthly or yearly straight to the church. It is perfectly safe and can be stopped or changed at any time.

PGS is a great way to give to the work and mission of St Margaret's Church. Donations given through PGS come straight to the Church, there are no admin fees or bank charges for us to pay. 41 people have now signed up to do this - Thank you



TM

PARISH
GIVING
SCHEME



Recycling @ St Margaret's Centre

**RECYCLE YOUR
CRISP PACKETS HERE!**



RECYCLE FOR



**WILTSHIRE
AIR AMBULANCE**



In support of

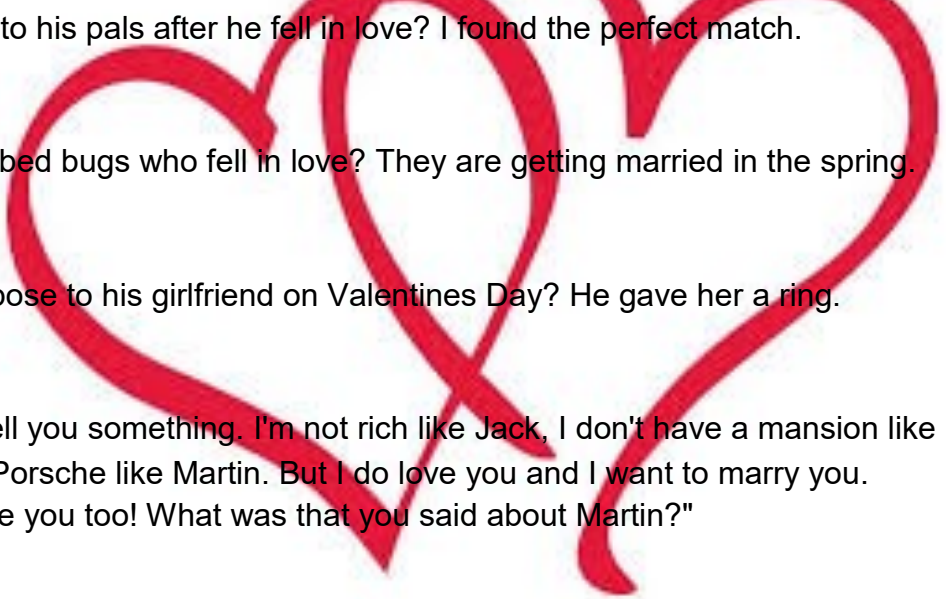
**WE ARE
MACMILLAN.
CANCER SUPPORT**

ACCEPTED WASTE



Any brand of EMPTY medicine blister packets

A Few Thoughts for Valentines Day.

- 
- ♥ What did the flame say to his pals after he fell in love? I found the perfect match.
 - ♥ Did you hear about the bed bugs who fell in love? They are getting married in the spring.
 - ♥ How did the phone propose to his girlfriend on Valentines Day? He gave her a ring.
 - ♥ Man: Honey I want to tell you something. I'm not rich like Jack, I don't have a mansion like Russell, I don't have a Porsche like Martin. But I do love you and I want to marry you.
Woman: "Oh dear, I love you too! What was that you said about Martin?"
 - ♥ What did the toast say to the butter on Valentines Day? You're my butter half.

Enough of valentines day:

Weather:

- ☁ It was so cold, I had to put my food in the refrigerator to warm it up.
- ☁ My room is so cold, when I open the door the light goes on.

Stupidity:

- ☞ It took him five hours to look up 'vegetarian' in the dictionary. He didn't realise it was in alphabetical order.
- ☞ He couldn't tell you which way the lift was going if you gave him two guesses.

Newspaper headlines:

- 📰 Girl disappears in swimsuit.
- 📰 Three men held in cigarette case
- 📰 Egg laying contest won by local man.
- 📰 Man refuses to give up biting dog.

A few introductions:

- ☺ Tonight I'm not going to bore you with a long rambling speech, but I am going to introduce you to a man who will.
- ☺ This is a man who has been admired for years- but none of them recently.
- ☺ Some people bring happiness wherever they go. Our next guest brings happiness whenever he goes.

To end with a Pun.

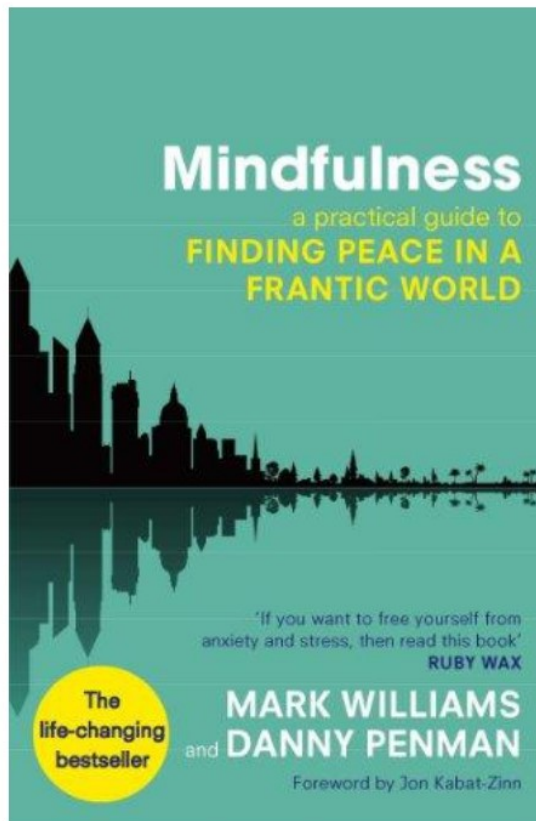
Two young women went into a hairdressers. One had a mass of curls, the other girl had straight hair. Both asked the hairdresser for a perm but he said he could only accommodate one because he was running low on solution. "Please let me have it," begged the girl with the curls. "No let me," pleaded the girl with the straight hair. After a moments deliberation, the hairdresser chose the girl with the curls. "Why are you giving her the treatment?" demanded the girl with the straight hair. "You can see that I need it more than her." "Ah, yes," he said, "but remember the proverb: the curly bird gets the perm."

Bye Now



MINDFULNESS FOR PARENTS & CARERS

A practical guide to looking after yourself in the midst of parenting



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Adapted from the bestselling book "Finding Peace in a Frantic World" by Mark Williams & Danny Penman. Also including informal meditations that you can share with your child/children.

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FREE TASTER SESSIONS

Find out more

Thursday 10th Feb - 8-9pm

Thursday 17th Feb - 8-9pm

Mindfulness offers many benefits: it helps our mental and physical well-being and has been shown to alleviate anxiety, depression, stress and chronic pain.



COURSE GUIDE

Susie Stead is a freelance mindfulness teacher based in Oxford. She was trained and competency assessed by the Oxford Mindfulness Centre (OMC) and is an OMC teacher. She also has 3 now adult children.

www.susiestead.com/mindfulness-teacher,

<https://www.facebook.com/mindfulnessinoxfordshire>

For an application form or further information, please contact:

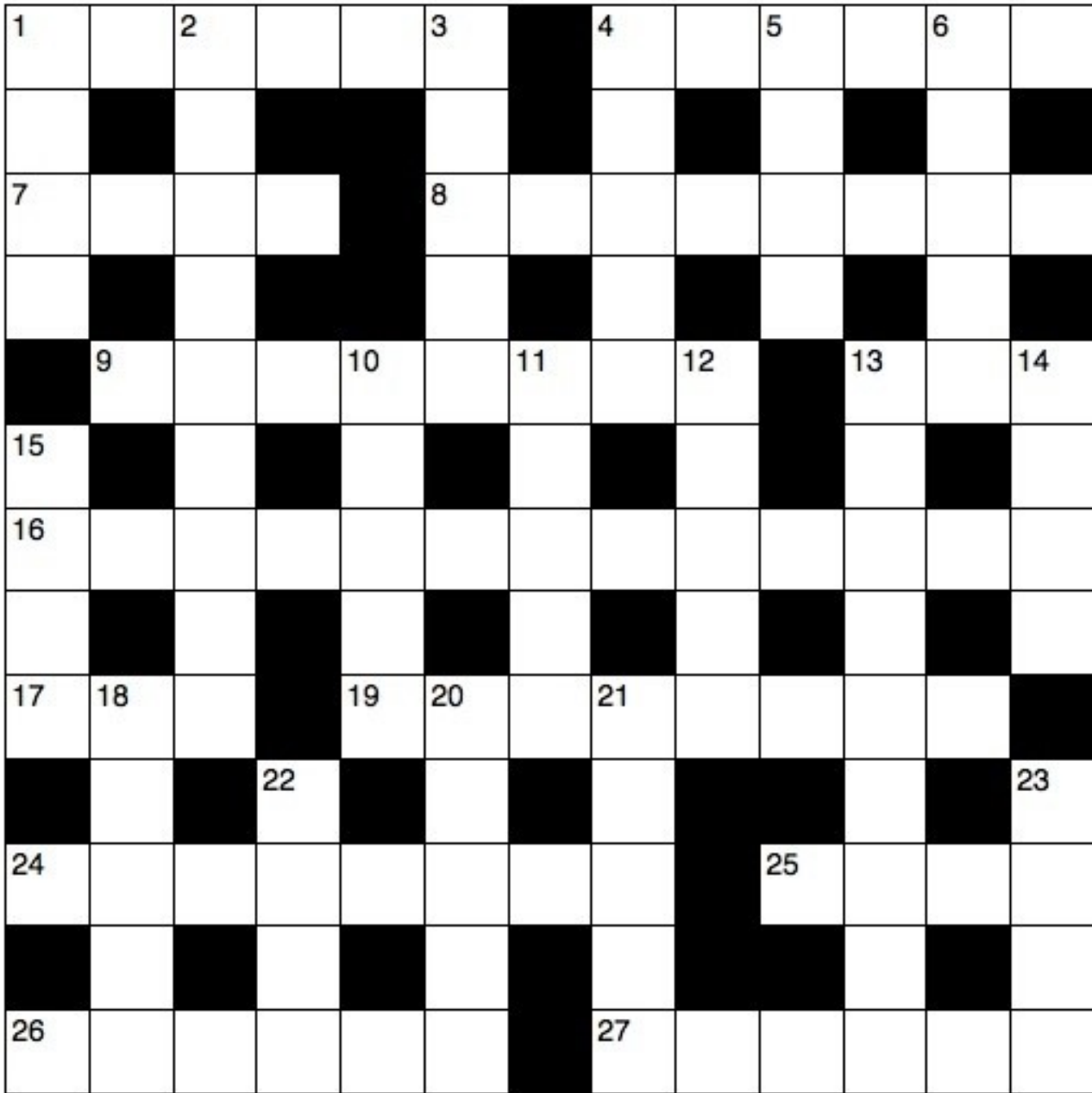
Chris Smith

Community Centre @ Christ Church, Development Manager

Mob: 07582 305760

Email: chris@christchurchwindon.co.uk

CROSS
WORD



Across

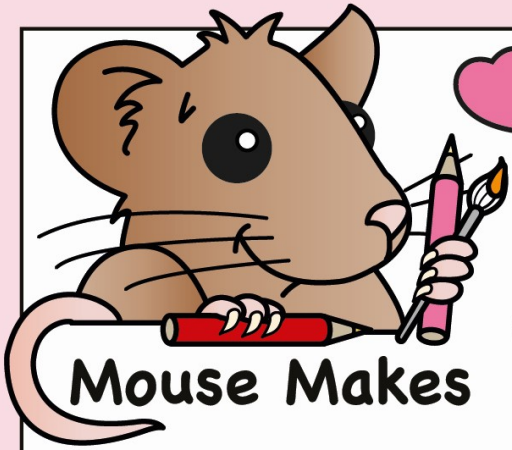
- 1 'If you love those who love you, what — is that to you?' (Luke 6:32) (6)
- 4 'They threw the ship's — overboard' (Acts 27:19) (6)
- 7 The first murderer (Genesis 4:8) (4)
- 8 He was the head Levite in charge of the singing when the ark of God was brought back to Jerusalem (1 Chronicles 15:22) (8)
- 9 Samson was noted for this (Judges 16:6) (8)
- 13 Solicit money or food from passers by (Acts 3:2) (3)
- 16 What William Booth's Christian Mission became in 1878 (9,4)

Across

- 17 Alliance of Religions and Conservation (1,1,1)
19 'I will praise your name for ever and ever. — — I will praise you' (Psalm 145:1–2) (5,3)
24 Simon had (anag.) (8)
25 Desperate (Deuteronomy 28:48) (4)
26 Elisha witnessed the boy he was seeking to resuscitate do this seven times before opening his eyes (2 Kings 4:35) (6)
27 The belly and thighs of the statue in Nebuchadnezzar's dream were made of this (Daniel 2:32) (6)

Down

- 1 'Before the — crows, you will disown me three times' (Matthew 26:75) (4)
2 Relating to the books of the Bible between Acts and Revelation (9)
3 'They have — the Lord out of the tomb, and we don't know where they have put him!' (John 20:2) (5)
4 Belief (5)
5 'Take the following fine spices: ... 250 shekels of fragrant — ' (Exodus 30:23) (4)
6 'Do not — Jerusalem, but wait for the gift' (Acts 1:4) (5)
10 A seer (anag.) (5)
11 'Even there your hand will — me' (Psalm 139:10) (5)
12 The wild variety was part of John the Baptist's diet (Mark 1:6) (5)
13 A non-Greek speaker who was looked down on by civilized people (Colossians 3:11) (9)
14 Famous 1950s musical whose characters included members of
16 Across, — and Dolls (4)
15 The province from which Paul wrote to the Corinthians (1 Corinthians 16:19) (4)
18 'He was standing in the gateway with a linen cord and a measuring — — his hand' (Ezekiel 40:3) (3,2)
20 'Today, if you hear his — , do not harden your hearts as you did in the rebellion' (Hebrews 3:15) (5)
21 The Jericho prostitute who hid two Israelite spies on the roof of her house (Hebrews 11:31) (5)
22 'And now these three remain: faith, — and love. But the greatest of these is love' (1 Corinthians 13:13) (4)
23 'God has numbered the days of your reign and brought it to an end' (Daniel 5:26) (4)



Mouse Makes

See what great love the Father has for us that He would call us His

1 John 1:3

Lord, you are a God who shows _____ and is _____
 ...You have great _____ and _____

Psalm 86:1

Love the Lord your God with all your

_____ with all your

_____ and with all your

_____ Matthew 22:37



How did God show He loved us?
 Read 1 John 4:9

D	B	S	E	N	S	S	E
P	C	O	M	P	A	S	S
R	U	T	M	E	R	C	I
Y	O	N	I	G	R	A	C
O	U	F	J	U	S	T	J
D	D	A	E	M	E	J	A
T	K	I	N	D	V	H	B
Y	L	V	S	E	O	U	P
D	I	Y	P	R	P	N	A
N	U	K	E	E	D	T	S
G	O	D	S	F	A	I	T
H	L	U	N	E	I	B	O
N	L	T	N	N	E	N	
D	T	G					

_____ is love.
 Whoever lives in love lives in _____, and _____ lives in them.

1 John 4:16

Love is ..
 Read 1 Cor 13:4-7

Love your _____ the same as you love

Matthew 22:39

Love is:
 PATIENT • KIND • GRACIOUS • JUST • TRUTHFUL • TRUSTING • HOPEFUL
 PERSEVERE • ENDURES • GOD

Love is not:
 JEALOUS • ENVY • BOASTFUL • PROUD • SELFISH • ANGRY • RUDE • EVIL

God's love is:
 LOVE • MERCIFUL • FAITHFUL • UNFAILING • ABUNDANT • COMPASSIONATE

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Crossword Solutions

ACROSS: 1, Credit. 4, Tackle. 7, Cain. 8, Kenaniah. 9, Strength. 13, Beg. 16, Salvation Army. 17, ARC. 19, Every day. 24, Admonish. 25, Dire. 26, Sneeze. 27, Bronze.

DOWN: 1, Cock. 2, Epistolic. 3, Taken. 4, Tenet. 5, Cane. 6, Leave. 10, Erase. 11, Guide. 12, Honey. 13, Barbarian. 14, Guys. 15, Asia. 18, Rod in. 20, Voice. 21, Rahab. 22, Hope. 23, Mene.

STRATTON TEAM MINISTRY NEWS - NEXT EDITION DEADLINE

for Articles and Information anytime before 15th February 2022

Georgina Martin: Church Office,
Tel: 826505 St Margaret's Centre
Email: stmargaretsoffice2@btconnect.com

Also, by hand or call Georgina Martin on 07768 243675

Errors and omissions — while we do try to ensure that all details are correct, some things may slip through and we apologise for that.

PARISH DIRECTORY & CENTRE USERS

ORGANISATIONS

Babies & Toddlers	Georgina Martin	07768 243675
Bell Ringers	Wendy Sears	07769 788821
Boys' Brigade	Teresa Daghish	07796 925621
Brownies - Mon	Yvette Webster-May	825398
Cadley Dance	Maria Howse	824446
Centre Bookings	c/o Church Office	826505
Choir	Geoff Walters	822006
Church Cleaning Rota	Pat England,	822786
Coleview	Church Office	826505
Church Flowers	Richard Pflieger	828367
Evening Fellowship Group	Anne Pope	722187
	email eannepope@gmail .com	
FWO Envelopes	Ray England	822786
Gift Aid Sec.	David Horne	724776
Guide-Brownie Commissioner	Zoe Smith	831190
Kentwood Choir	Mrs S Harrod	725863
Music Group	Rob South	822811
Organists	Rob South	822811
	Geoff Walters	822006
Preschool	Hayley Woods, Supervisor	07816 547752
WI. Ermin St.	Sue Mould,	670634
WI. Stratton St Margaret	Mrs Covell	829900

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