

# ST MARGARET'S CHURCH, STREATLEY *PROCLAMATION*

## DECEMBER 2020



*Serving the Communities of Streatley, Warden Hill  
and Bramingham Park/Barton Hills*

[www.stmargaret-streatley.org.uk](http://www.stmargaret-streatley.org.uk)

40p

# Parish Announcement

Due to current Covid19 restrictions there are some changes in the times we are able to gather as a community.

- The buggy group is sadly suspended until further notice.
- The youth group will share dates and times of one-off events shortly.
- We continue to share online worship every day on either the church or the Vicar's FB page.
- We continue to share Sunday Worship at 9.00 on the FB pages and from 10.00 on YouTube.

Please call Nigel for any further information.

<https://www.facebook.com/vicar.stmargarets.streatley/>

## PRIVATE PRAYER

The church is open on Monday and Wednesday between 11.00 and 1.00 for private prayer, and Sundays between 10.30 and 12.00 or privately by arrangement.

Dear Friends

So many things that we thought we could rely on, now feel very fragile and ineffective in the face of Coronavirus. And so it is natural that many of us feel afraid and fearful, like never before in our lives.

And although we've been here before, I think this hit home hardest for me on Remembrance Sunday, as I locked up the church after morning prayer. Throughout my life I've attended remembrance services, often with many hundreds in attendance. In fact, for some people, it's the only church service they attend all year. Certainly Remembrance Sunday, rather than becoming less significant as we move further away from the two world wars, seems to be the one service that has grown in numbers, certainly in the time I've been in ministry.

I remember my first church parade as a Cub Scout, many years ago, and how proud I was to march through the village. In order to show off our uniforms we weren't allowed to wear coats which - despite it being freezing - really didn't matter to me at all. But I remember standing in front of the village war memorial, too. And I also remember my friend John complaining about how cold he was, and then the sharp (and in my case, unjustified) hard clip round the ear given by PC Adams. It hurt terribly and I was crushed with embarrassment, but I also remember most of all thinking about how important it was to still be there.

COVID-19 seems to be taking so much from us at the moment. But we must faithfully live in hope, never losing sight of Jesus, who 'is the same yesterday, today, and forever.' (Hebrews 13 v8)

Always know that as followers of Jesus, 'God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.' (Psalm 46 v1)

The latest Government and Church of England guidance means that we can no longer meet together physically on Sundays at St Margaret's, nor in our regular groups during the week, until December. This will make it much harder to encourage one another and will leave many of us feeling sad, fearful and distressed. But, the good news of Jesus always remains true. And Jesus' great commission to His disciples remains in force: 'Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, 'All authority has been given to me in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations .... And surely, I am with you always, to the very end of the age.' (Matthew 28 v18-20)

My friends, even in these troubled days, Jesus still has all authority. He is with us, always. And our task is as clear - if not clearer - than it has ever been. So, let me encourage you doubly in this time of trouble, to keep on praying to God for those in leadership and authority in the world, and for continued blessings on God's church and its people. And let us keep on, keeping on. Loving Jesus, one another and everyone in our parish and beyond. Serving joyfully and wholeheartedly, and continuing to share the Good News of Jesus with everyone, everywhere.

With love and prayers for you all, in Christ,

Revd Nigel

# St Margaret's Church, Streatley



## Funerals/Cremations

Robert Appleby  
Ronald Wheelhouse  
Doreen Baker

## Interment of Ashes

Betty Young  
Mr and Mrs Weedon  
Lieselotte Green  
Rita Lillian Biggs  
Shirley Anne Dinham  
Molly Rackley  
John Chase

## Tower Light Sponsorship

*To celebrate or commemorate a special occasion, please contact Clare Powell by 1<sup>st</sup> the previous month, on 01462 811165. Sponsorship £5 per week.*

## Altar Sponsorship

*Would you like to sponsor flowers for the Altar pedestal to celebrate a special occasion such as a special birthday, wedding, anniversary, christening, or any other celebration or may be in memory of a loved one?*

*There is a record of sponsorship in a book on the chest in the Cross Aisle in Church and as a token of thanks you will receive a commemorative card with a photograph. If you are interested, please contact Brenda on 01582 575 620 who will be happy to discuss your needs.*



St Margaret's Church, Streatley  
Christmas Toy Appeal  
Help us to put some big smiles on little faces this Christmas

**The Toy Service**  
6th December 2020 in Church at 10.30a.m.

In support of the Salvation Army's Annual Christmas Toy Appeal we will be asking for donations of new toys, books, games etc, to be given to local underprivileged children.

The Salvation Army have issued a suggested list below, stressing that only new items can be accepted this year and ask that gifts should not be wrapped. They are keen to emphasise this list is for guidance only and any donations would be so very much appreciated.

**Babies under 1 year:** Rattles, mobiles for cot or pram. Must be labelled `from Birth`

**Under 2 yrs:** Dolls and Cars. Must be labelled `under 2yrs`. Hard cover books e.g. `That's not My Teddy`

**3-7 Yrs.:** Colouring books and pencils (or other type of colouring implements that are safe for children.) Activity Games.

**7-12 yrs.:** Craft/science kits, stationery, rubik cubes, annuals, information books with pictures. Activity games.

**LEGO Kits.** Are always popular

**Teenagers:** Toiletry sets e.g. Dove or Lynx.

**Books:** Guinness Book of Records, Annuals, Ripley`s Believe it or Not books, information books e.g. Animals, facts, science.

Thank you in anticipation for your support to help make Christmas a happy one for local children in need.

Further details to follow.



# Buggy Group

Meets every Tuesday in term time  
10.15am-11.30am at  
St Margaret's Parish Centre  
Lucas Gardens

children ages 0-3 years welcome  
come along and make new friends

Enjoy a cup of tea or coffee,  
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biscuit with a sing song to  
end the session. Different  
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our Church

## Thursday Coffee Morning

You are invited to come along to

The Parish Centre for coffee or tea on a

Thursday morning

10 am to 11 am

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month basis to make the coffee. Please  
drop in and offer!



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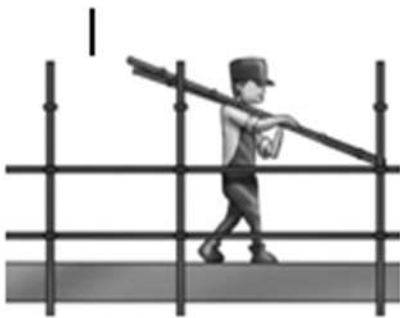
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## **LADY JANE**

***This is a work of fiction,  
based loosely on historical  
fact***



## **CHAPTER FOUR**

**LONDON 1554.** Will Knighton, musician to the late Lady Jane Grey, has been summoned to Court by the new, catholic Queen, Mary Tudor. On his way, he recalls the last time he saw Lady Jane. It was the day before her execution and she had asked to see him in her rooms at the Tower of London. She asked him to deliver a song she had written to her cousin, Elizabeth, residing, then at Highgate. On the surface it was a trite, catchy, little song but it had a deeper meaning, asking Elizabeth to keep the new protestant religion alive, if she came to the throne. Jane wanted an answer before she died but Elizabeth wouldn't give one. Will feared he had let Jane down and she died before he could see her and say he delivered the song. Now he was summoned to Court.

Will climbed out of the boat. The court at Whitehall awaited him, as he entered the palace. He was unsure of what he wanted to do, or how to behave. It was not in his nature to pretend, pay lip service to anyone, let alone this Papist Queen. He decided he would make this one appearance, as a courtesy and then find a way to leave Court, as soon as possible. Surely he would find employment at another noble house.

The first person he recognised was his old friend, the celebrated Court Jester, Will Somers. Will had been jester to King Henry and then to his son Edward. He and Will Somers had struck up a friendship. But whereas, after

the death of the young King, Will Somers had stayed at court, Will Knighton had left, following the imprisonment of his Mistress. Somers was a tall man, elaborately dressed in a bright red and yellow tunic. He had a very engaging, humorous personality. He had been a great favourite of both Kings. A young woman, known as Jane the Fool was also with him. She was a female jester and had served Queen Catherine Parr, as well as the current Queen Mary, who doted on her. She had been in Queen Catherine Parr's household after King Henry died and had known Lady Jane Grey. She wore similar clothes to Will Somers and her head was shaven, as was the custom for court jesters. It was the first time Will had seen her since Lady Jane's execution. She surreptitiously brushed Will's hand and whispered:

"I am so sorry about Lady Jane. I know how you felt about her. I miss her dreadfully, too."

Before Will could answer, a servant called to the young woman.

"Hurry, Jane the Fool, the Queen is asking for you."

So she turned and ran off through the door to where the Queen was holding Court. Will Somers looked at Will and pulled him to one side.

"Have you heard the news?" he confided, looking around, in case even the walls concealed spies, listening to him. "The Queen has put Princess Bess in the Tower."

"Yes I heard," murmured Will. "Is there no end to this woman's Papist treachery?"

"Hush!" Will Somers put a cautionary hand on the other's arm, his voice still lowered. "Curb your tongue, my friend, and do not judge the Queen too harshly. She is a merciful woman and deeply committed to her faith. She did not want to execute your young mistress. She tried desperately to find a way to save her, but she could not. And she needs a husband and a son for England's future. The Princess is in the tower for her own safety, as much as anything else." Will looked at him and frowned, not totally convinced of Mary's motives.

"But King Philip, what havoc will he and his Inquisition reap on our nation?" he asked. Will Somers shrugged.

"He is the one she wants," he replied. "And there *is* a Royal connection. They have the same ancestor in John of Gaunt, Duke of Lancaster." Will was amazed by the other's knowledge

"I am impressed," he said. "You have grown serious, my friend, for a fool."

"These are serious times," replied Will Somers, soberly. "Now come and be presented to the Queen and keep your counsel. You must not offend Her Grace, if you want stay alive. There is always a catholic whispering treachery in her ear. Her spies are everywhere. And she is looking forward to seeing you, even though it is known you are of the protestant persuasion." Will nodded, wishing the feeling was mutual.

The Queen sat on a raised dais, surrounded by her Catholic aides. She was sumptuously dressed, as befitting a Queen but Will averted his eyes. He concentrated on Jane the Fool, who sat at her feet. Jane indicated that he try to smile and look up at the Queen. Will's heart hammered, as he bowed before the woman who had ordered the execution of his beloved Lady Jane. To him it was murder but her father had been ready to do the same to two of his wives. Will feared, if he raised his eyes to meet hers, he might betray his true feelings of contempt for her and one of her acolytes would recognise it. But Jane the Fool, who had also loved Lady Jane, had managed to do it. He must try, for everyone's sake, not just his own. Then he realised the Queen was talking to him.

"Mr Knighton," she said, offering her bejewelled hand for him to kiss. "Welcome back to Court. You must oblige me with a song; for I know you have such a fine voice and wish to hear it, again, for myself. In fact, we all do." When Will didn't immediately reply she added. "Well, I hope you will oblige me, as you appear to be holding back."

Will felt a nudge in the back from Will Somers, who had moved almost imperceptibly to his elbow.

“Oblige her you fool,” he whispered. “She is your *Queen!*” Will realised he had no choice. He had to put aside his grief and resentment about Jane. He raised his eyes and saw, not the expected cruel woman, who had been made ugly by her harsh actions, but one who seemed to him almost vulnerable. He remembered her dark Spanish eyes and her face was still kind, a face that would show mercy. Will Somers may be the Court fool but he was not an idiot. Mary’s life had been a succession of such contrasts. Celebrated as the Princess of Wales, she had been cast aside, when her mother was divorced by her father and exiled from all she had known. Only Queen Catherine Parr had managed to reconcile Mary with her family. Now she had fought her way back to take her rightful place on the throne. To his immense surprise, Will found he could like her. He didn’t have to pretend, or just pay lip service. He kissed the proffered hand.

“It will be an honour Your Grace,” he replied. “What would you have me sing?” She smiled.

“My father wrote a song called ‘*Pastimes with Good Company*’ for my mother, when she was his Queen. I should dearly like to hear you sing that. My father wrote many songs but that one is my personal favourite.”

“Certainly, Your Grace.”

So, Will picked up his lute and sang the song for her. He liked it, too. Jane the Fool and Will Somers both knew the song and performed a jaunty dance to accompany him. The Queen laughed and clapped her hands. Will Somers and Jane always managed to make her forget herself and laugh. And the song did remind her of a happier time.

When they finished, she applauded and smiled at Will. “You must stay in my service Mr Knighton,” she said.

Will heard his voice accepting the offer.



### CHURCH CHRISTMAS POST BOX

It is the intention to have the Church Christmas Post Box in Church from the 6<sup>th</sup> until the 25<sup>th</sup> December for church members to exchange Christmas cards.

To ensure everyone's safety, the logistics of how this will be managed to comply with Diocesan and Government COVID-19 Guidelines will be discussed with Rev Nigel and the PCC and notified to the congregation when agreement has been reached.

All donations received in lieu of postage will support the Keech Hospice Care, Children's Section as in the past.

Thank you in advance for your support.

Richard



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# DEADLINE FOR JANUARY 2021 PROCLAMATION

## Sunday 6 December

but earlier if possible, please.

Please send usual/potential contributions to  
[magazine@stmargaret-streatley.org.uk](mailto:magazine@stmargaret-streatley.org.uk)

*I would be grateful to receive contributions, where possible, in Word.*

Thanks, Cathy Aizlewood

### **Make a Joyful Noise!**

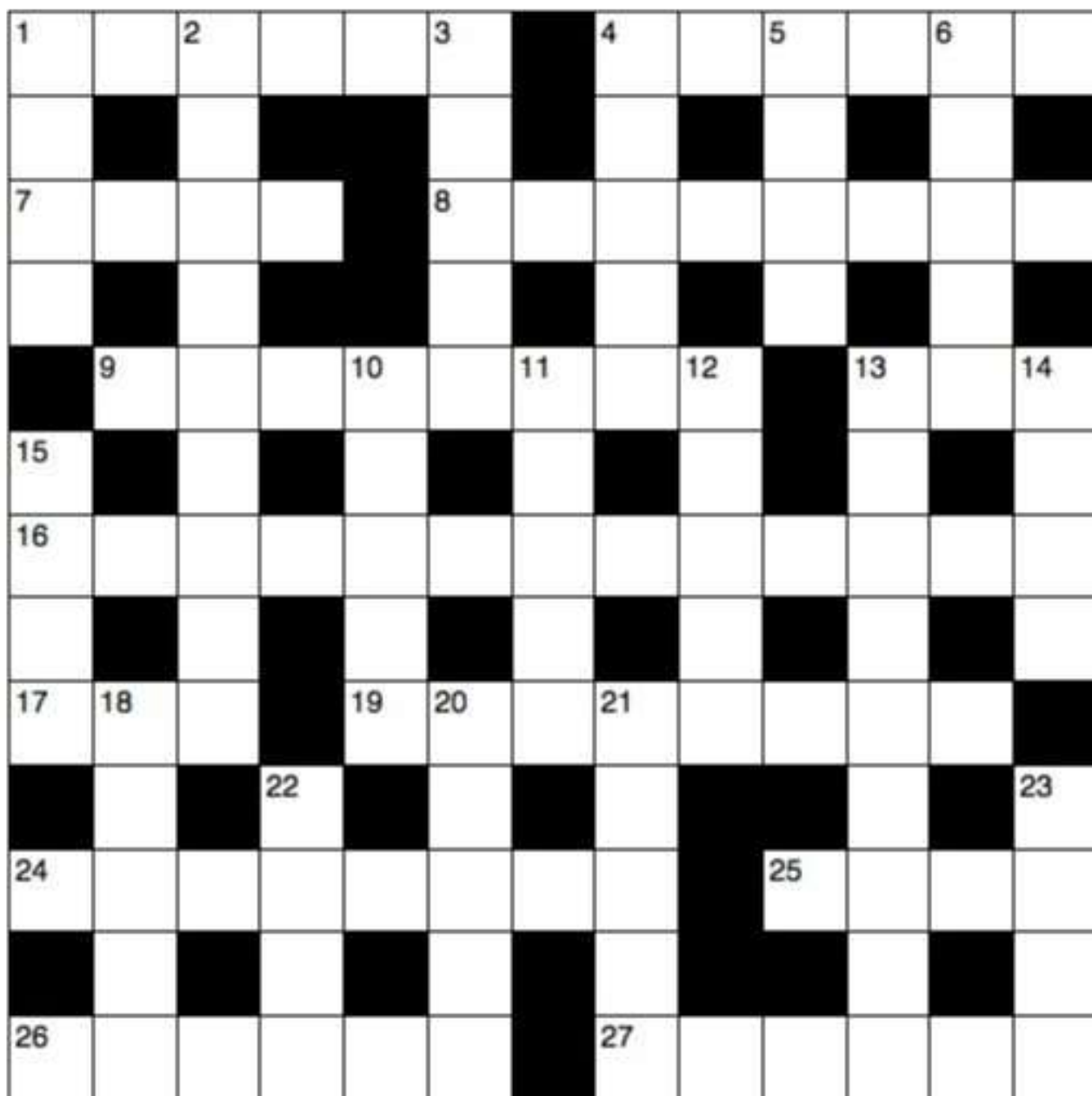
St Margaret's Church Choir meet on Friday evenings at 7.00 pm. We would like to widen our membership to include those who think they can't sing and those who do not read music, so that more of us can enjoy the fellowship of singing in a group.

We extend an open invitation. This is not committing singers to "robe" or sit with the Sunday choir. It is an opportunity to share the joy of music making and explore our beautiful sacred music with others. I hope you will try us out.

A warm welcome awaits you each Friday.

Barbara Donaldson

# CROSSWORD



## Across

- 1 Rely (Psalm 62:7) (6)
- 4 'He stretches out the heavens like a — , and spreads them out like a tent to live in' (Isaiah 40:22) (6)
- 7 What the dove carried the olive leaf in, when it returned to Noah's ark (Genesis 8:11) (4)
- 8 Annoy (1 Samuel 1:6) (8)

- 9 Judah's last king, who ended his days as a blind prisoner in Babylon (Jeremiah 52:11) (8)
- 13 'They all — and were satisfied' (Luke 9:17) (3)
- 16 Eliphaz the Temanite was one; so was Bildad the Shuhite and Zophar the Naamathite (Job 2:11; 16:2) (4,9)
- 17 National Association of Evangelicals (of the USA) (1,1,1)
- 19 Popular song for New Year's Eve, Auld — — (4,4)
- 24 Able dock (anag.) (8)
- 25 The number of stones David chose for his confrontation with Goliath (1 Samuel 17:40) (4)
- 26 Elgar's best-known 'Variations' (6)
- 27 Soak (Isaiah 16:9) (6)

## Down

- 1 Money owing (Deuteronomy 15:3) (4)
- 2 Conciliatory (Titus 3:2) (9)
- 3 'Do this, whenever you — it, in remembrance of me' (1 Corinthians 11:25) (5)
- 4 A group assisting in the governance of the Roman Catholic Church (5)
- 5 One of the gifts Joseph's brothers took with them on their second journey to Egypt (Genesis 43:11) (4)
- 6 'Reach out your hand and — — into my side. Stop doubting and believe' (John 20:27) (3,2)
- 10 Be outstandingly good (2 Corinthians 8:7) (5)
- 11 'What — — that you are mindful of him, the son of man that you care for him?' (Psalm 8:4) (2,3)
- 12 Horse's feet (Judges 5:22) (5)
- 13 Notice (Deuteronomy 17:4) (9)
- 14 Comes between 2 Chronicles and Nehemiah (4)
- 15 One of Israel's northern towns conquered by Ben-Hadad (1 Kings 15:20) (4)
- 18 Narnia's Lion (5)

- 20 One of the two rivers in which Naaman would have preferred to wash (2 Kings 5:12) (5)
- 21 Avarice—one of the evils that come from inside people (Mark 7:22) (5)
- 22 Knight Grand Cross of St Michael and St George (1,1,1,1)
- 23 Jacob's first wife (Genesis 29:23) (4)



“Nice idea, Amelia, but I don’t think that the Angel of the Lord Zooming with the shepherds would have the same dramatic effect.

# PLEASE LOOK AFTER OUR CHURCHYARD



and ensure you use the bins which are provided down by the gate to dispose of dead flowers, etc.

St Margaret's Church, Streatley  
Parish Centre - Bramingham Park



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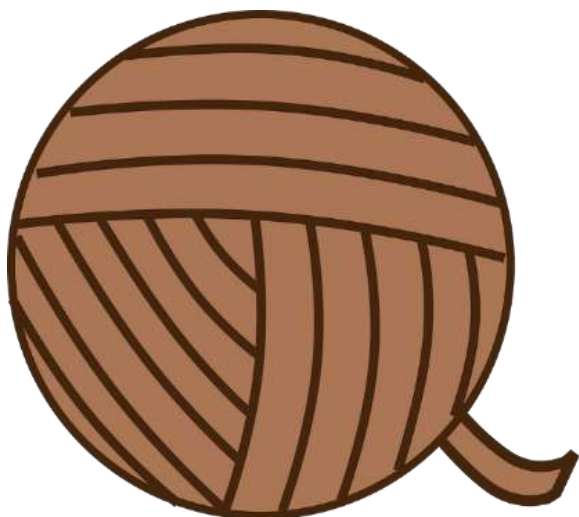
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## Wool please



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Thanks

## MAGAZINE SUBSCRIPTIONS

Our loyal and regular subscribers will be expecting a reminder that subscriptions are overdue for another year's worth of Proclamation.

Obviously in these strange times, the magazine is not being printed by the usual group of helpful ladies but the contributors and the Editor trust that many of you are getting to read it on line.

We clearly hope we will get back to our usual presentation method 'some time' but for now, we are leaving a decision about subscription renewal until the January magazine.

**ACROSS:** 1, Depend. 4, Canopy. 7, Beak. 8, Irritate. 9, Zedekiah. 13, Ate. 16, Job's comforter. 17, NAE. 19, Lang Syne. 24, Blockade. 25, Five. 26, Enigma. 27, Drench.

**DOWN:** 1, Debt. 2, Peaceable. 3, Drink. 4, Curia. 5, Nuts. 6, Put it. 10, Excel. 11, Is man. 12, Hoofs. 13, Attention. 14, Ezra. 15, Ijon. 18, Aslan. 20, Abana. 21, Greed. 22, GCMG. 23, Leah.



## St Margaret's Church, Streatley Remembers

John Maddox, Deputy Lieutenant, Bedfordshire; Rev Nigel Richards; Sally Machell, Vice Chair, Streatley Parish Council and John Farrant, Church Warden held a quiet ceremony at the Streatley Village Memorial on Saturday, 7th November 2020.

Sadly not the normal commemoration but all those who gave their lives for our freedom were poignantly remembered.







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## Care Committee – Medical Dogs

(Extract from Sniff magazine)

We were absolutely delighted to welcome our Royal Patron, HRH The Duchess of Cornwall, to our Centre in September.

Her Royal Highness has been following the progress of our COVID-19 detection dogs project with keen interest. When we announced the project in May she sent a message of support saying: “Having been the proud Patron of Medical Detection Dogs for six years, I have every faith that these brilliant dogs will achieve remarkable results in the fight against COVID-19.” It was therefore fitting that she was one of the first in the world to see some of our COVID-19 detection dogs in training demonstrate how they are learning to detect the virus. Even in those early stages of the project our amazing Asher and brilliant Belle showed signs that it does indeed have an odour.

Her Royal Highness was greeted on arrival by COVID-19 dogs Storm and Basil who were completely unfazed by their VIP visitor and gladly enjoyed a rub under the chin. She was accompanied by our CEO, Claire Guest, as she made her way into John Church Bio Detection Centre, named in honour of our Co-Founder.



After watching Asher and Belle in the training room, The Duchess moved to the Cowan Suite where she watched chocolate Labrador, Bea and black Labrador, Marley portray passive screening. The dogs went up and down a queue of people made to look as if they were waiting in a travel hub, to detect the smell, as they could in public places during phase 2 of our trial. A dog could potentially

screen as many as 250 people per hour this way, faster and more efficiently than any other current testing methods.

At the end of her visit, Her Royal Highness, who has been Patron since 2014 said she “would like to thank everybody here who does such a fantastic job to keep everything going through these difficult times”. She went on to comment on how much the charity had changed since her first visit in 2013 when we “were literally a portacabin with one dog. From the minute I visited you, I just knew that there was something very special about these dogs and as we’ve seen today with COVID-19, how quickly they’re learning to sniff the scent.

“It will be a game changing moment for this country and the world, and luckily it’s Britain that is leading the way. Thank you very much.”

As she finished her remarks, Medical Alert Assistance dog, Magic, barked his support, right on cue!

Thanking Her Royal Highness for her fantastic support, Claire Guest said how proud Medical Detection Dogs is that she is our Patron and that she was “delighted to be able to show her our dogs working on COVID-19 samples”. Dr Guest went on to talk about the potential impact COVID-19 detection dogs could have in the fight against this disease and how the dog’s nose could be key to helping people move about freely and safely.

### Note from Editor

This charity popped up on Antiques Road Trip on 10 November.  
Clearly a great and worthwhile organisation.

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29th October 2020

Thank You  
FOR YOUR  
SUPPORT

Support for the Luton Foodbank and Luton Refugees



NOTE FOR NEXT  
COLLECTION  
FIRST THURSDAY  
IN DECEMBER TO  
CONFORM TO  
LATEST  
LOCKDOWN

A special thank you to our Church Wardens, John F and Dorothy and to John W for expertly organising and sorting the donations for delivery.



Appeal for Men's Toiletries



Clothing Appeal for Luton Refugees

Overwhelming responses from our generous and caring church and local community provided much needed items of food and supplies which were taken to the Luton Foodbank this afternoon.

We had an amazing response to the request for donations of men's toiletries and a tremendous and humbling response for clothes and shoes for the Luton Refugees as can be seen in both the photos above. Thank you everyone for your generosity. A special thanks to Lisa and Anna and The Hub Youth Club and their families for the simply splendid effort in providing, collecting and organising the clothing.

We shall continue to collect for the Luton Foodbank on a monthly basis at the Parish Centre, Lucas Gardens, Luton, LU3 4AE on the last Thursday in the month.

## Have you herd?

Keech Hospice Care is bringing something BIG to Luton.



### Can you spot the elephant?

From 3 July to 18 September 2021, Luton will come alive with a perfect parade of vibrant and beautiful, uniquely decorated elephant sculptures as The Big Trunk Trail arrives in town!

Over 30 giant elephants will form the biggest and most unique outdoor public art event Luton's ever seen. These stunning sculptures will trumpet along the free, fun and family-friendly art trail around Luton's key landmarks, streets and open spaces, bringing together the community for one unforgettable jumbo event. Smaller sculptures – adopted and decorated by schools, colleges and community groups – will also be displayed as part of the big adventure.

The Big Trunk Trail will bring together communities and visitors. Trail explorers young and old will have fun rediscovering Luton, learning about the artwork and spending time together.

**Join the herd, get outdoors, walk more and #SpotTheElephant.** Share your stories on social media via **@bigtrunktrail** and download **The Big Trunk Trail app (launching 2021)** for even more fun!

After entertaining and bringing people together, the legacy of The Big Trunk Trail continues as many of the sculptures will be auctioned to raise vital funds for Keech Hospice Care.

### Why an Elephant?

**An elephant is the perfect match – after all, everyone knows an elephant never forgets. We know The Big Trunk Trail is going to be a fantastic opportunity for you to make amazing and unforgettable memories as you enjoy exploring this vibrant and family-friendly free art trail.**

The money raised from the auctioning of the elephants will help raise vital funds for Keech Hospice Care. As the children's hospice for Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire and Milton Keynes, and the adult hospice for Luton and south Bedfordshire, so much of the charity's work continues to be around helping patients and families create wonderful memories and make the best of their time together.



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# The Old Forge Bed and Breakfast

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(All numbers begin 01582 unless otherwise stated)

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<b>READER</b>	Teresa Dales	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/vicar.stmargarets.streatley/">https://www.facebook.com/vicar.stmargarets.streatley/</a>	
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Church Wardens	J Farrent		881 662
	D Iszatt		580 077
Secretary	J Jeans	<a href="mailto:secretary@stmargaret-streatley.org.uk">secretary@stmargaret-streatley.org.uk</a>	
Treasurer	P Ingram	<a href="mailto:pingram6526@gmail.com">pingram6526@gmail.com</a>	508 273
Sacristan	J Flower		592 105
Verger	G Farrent		881 662
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CARE Committee		<a href="mailto:care@stmargaret-streatley.org.uk">care@stmargaret-streatley.org.uk</a>	
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Fund Raising			
<b>PASTORAL TEAM</b>			
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Parish Worker	L Logan		585 400
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Magazine (Ads/Editorial)		<a href="mailto:magazine@stmargaret-streatley.org.uk">magazine@stmargaret-streatley.org.uk</a>	
Website		<a href="http://janor.co.uk/stmargarets/">http://janor.co.uk/stmargarets/</a>	
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