

# **St James' West End Magazine**

**February 2022**



The church of St. Petroc, the parish church of  
Petrockstowe in Devon,  
captured by our church organist Ashley.

## Linda writes .....

January is already gone by, when we look both backwards and forwards to what the new year may bring. This was often represented by the two-headed Roman God, Janus. However, it is February when we, as a church, do our own looking back and forwards, from the crib to the cross.



On the 2nd February we are at the midpoint of winter, halfway between the shortest, darkest day of the year and the spring equinox. Thus the church chose to celebrate the climax of the Epiphany season, Christ's revelation as the light of the world, by remembering his ritual presentation in the temple, when both Simeon and Anna proclaim their satisfaction that here indeed is the Messiah, *'for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel'*

Luke 2:30-32.

So, we can see that it is a time to celebrate light and that's where candles come in, as this has become known as the Festival of Candlemas, the day of the candles. Candles are still an important part of our worship, and it was on this day that all of the candles that were to be used in the church over the coming year were brought to be blessed

In the days before electric or gas light, candles provided a source of light and they were thought to ward off all of the darkness surrounding plague, illness and famine as well as evil spirits; and of course there were superstitions and weather folklore attached to the day as well. Perhaps my favourite though is a German proverb about 'the badger peeps out of his hole on Candlemas day, and, if he finds snow, walks abroad; but if he sees the sun shining he draws back into his hole'. Who can forget the film Groundhog Day on which this American version of the proverb is based...

... January is already gone by when we look both backwards and forwards to what the new year may bring... No, let's not go there. Instead let's hope and pray for better times ahead for all of us. Snowdrops appearing to herald that Spring will soon be with us; the trees' buds surreptitiously burgeoning before their green tips appear; a happier, healthier time for all.

God bless,

Linda



Just because our January relaunch of Ignite had to be postponed it doesn't mean the party is over!

**IGNITE @ ST JAMES**  
**IS BACK**

**Youth Group for Young People aged 11 to 14+**  
**Meeting Monthly on the Second Sunday between 5.30pm and 7pm**  
**Re-launching on Sunday 13th March with a bang!**

We will be in party mode, with games, challenges, food and fun  
We would be very pleased to see you there - for more information please contact Vicky:  
at [stjameswe.ignite@gmail.com](mailto:stjameswe.ignite@gmail.com) or 07762 673350 or 023 8114 1192

# What's going on at St James Church?

## Service and Diary Dates for February

<b>Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup></b>	9.15am-10.15am 10.30am	Stay n Play (Church Hall) Sung Eucharist
<b>Friday 4<sup>th</sup></b>	11am	Lincoln Court Holy Communion
<b>Saturday 5<sup>th</sup></b>	10am-11.30am	Children's Activity Morning
<b>Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> – Fourth Sunday before Lent</b>		
	9.30am	Sung Eucharist (Livestreamed) with children's groups
	11am	Church Alive All Age Communion
	6.30pm	Evensong
<b>Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup></b>	9.15am -10.15am 10.30am	Stay n Play (Church Hall) Sung Eucharist
<b>Friday 11<sup>th</sup></b>	10.30am- 12 noon	Community Coffee Morning in Church Hall (all welcome)
<b>Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> – Third Sunday before Lent</b>		
	9.30am	Sung Eucharist (Livestreamed) with children's groups
	11am	Church Alive All Age Service
	3pm	Holy Baptisms
<b>Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup></b>	9.15am -10.15am 10.30am	Stay n Play (Church Hall) Sung Eucharist
<b>Saturday 19<sup>th</sup></b>	9.30am -12 noon	Wedding Preparation Morning
<b>Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> – Second Sunday before Lent</b>		
	9.30am	Sung Eucharist (Livestreamed) with children's groups
	11am	Church Alive All Age Service
	6.30pm	Sung Evensong
<b>Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup></b>	9.15am -10.15am 10.30am 10.30am	Stay n Play (Church Hall) Sung Eucharist Sunnycroft Communion
<b>Thursday 24<sup>th</sup></b>	11am	Prayer Time in the Lady Chapel
<b>Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> – Sunday Next before Lent</b>		
	9.30am	Sung Eucharist (Livestreamed) with children's groups
	11am	Church Alive All Age Service
	6.30pm	Taizé

## Weekly Events:

**Open Church** - The church is open to visit on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays 9am to 3pm and on Wednesdays 11.30am to 3pm.

**Morning Prayer** is said in Church on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays at 9am.

**Choir Practice** is on Tuesdays 8pm-9pm in the church

## Notices and News

### Second Friday Community Coffee Morning

All welcome to pop in for hot drinks, cake and a chat on the second Friday of the month from 10.30am to 12 noon in the church hall. We'd love to see you. Members of the pastoral team will be on hand to say hello and there will be some toys available for little ones. All ages welcome!

### Stay and Play

Our drop in play session for preschool toddlers and babies runs on Wednesdays during term time in the church hall from 9.15am to 10.15am. Cost £1.50 per session which includes an individual snack. Why not come along and meet other parents and carers.

### Food Bank

Donations for the Food Bank can be left in or around the Food Bank donation basket at the back of church.

### Thursday Prayer Time

Join for a time of prayer for the needs of the world, local community and individuals on the last Thursday of the month from 11am to 11.45am in the Lady Chapel in church.

### Children's Activity Mornings

From 10am to 11.30am on the first Saturday of the month in church. A short interactive talk, crafts and refreshments for children of all ages. Our February theme is St Valentine and God's love. For more information and to book to attend please contact Jan on [j.barrett77@btinternet.com](mailto:j.barrett77@btinternet.com)

### Tree Trail

Enjoy our February Tree trail in the church grounds.

### Ignite Youth Group

Ignite Youth Group meets every 2nd Sunday of the month. 5.30pm – 7pm here at St James' Church. It is for 11 to 14+. If you would like to join please contact Vicky at [stjameswe.ignite@gmail.com](mailto:stjameswe.ignite@gmail.com)

## A note from the Church Wardens

As we start the New Year we are thankful that we are able to join together in worship safely and continue to monitor and review our procedures so that the church can remain open and safe for everyone.

A big thank you to those that were able to help on the churchyard clearance day and those who have been regularly helping to keep the grounds and building open for us all. Please do get in touch if you are interested in being part of the this team.



Do talk to either of us, or send an email, if there is anything you would like us to know.

Scott: [stjameswe.churchwardenscott@gmail.com](mailto:stjameswe.churchwardenscott@gmail.com)

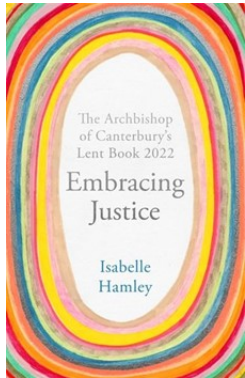
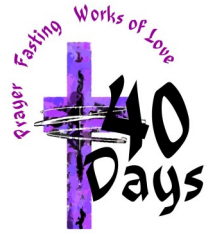
Diana: [stjameswe.dianachurchwarden@gmail.com](mailto:stjameswe.dianachurchwarden@gmail.com)





# Looking ahead to Lent....

Lent is the period in the church year when we prepare ourselves to commemorate Jesus' death on Good Friday and his resurrection on Easter Day. It is a time of reflection and simplicity to contrast with the joy and celebration of Easter. We are invited to take on a Lenten practice to deepen our faith, perhaps going to a lent course or committing to daily bible reading and prayer.



The Church of England Lent theme this year is 'Embracing Justice'. You will be able to pick up a little booklet on this theme from the church from 20<sup>th</sup> February to use during lent for a small donation. It offers a daily Bible reading, reflection and prayer. There is also a family version to use with children. Or the Church of England will be providing daily reflections online on this theme. We will also be reading and studying together the Archbishop of Canterbury's lent book 2022 'Embracing Justice' written by Isabelle Hamley. It invites us to explore the Christian understanding of justice and what the Bible teaches about it and to see "how pursuing justice is something that God intends to be hopeful, healing and freeing for all".

Look out for more information about when our lent groups/book groups will be and order your book through Rev'd Linda by **8<sup>th</sup> February** at [rev.lindagalvin@gmail.com](mailto:rev.lindagalvin@gmail.com) or 07934 419302.

Lent begins with Ash Wednesday which is on 2<sup>nd</sup> March this year. We will have services at 10.30am and 7.30pm when we will be invited to remember our need of God and to turn away from sin and towards new life.

Vicky

## Children and Young People

Our Pathfinders and Diddy disciples groups are meeting on Sunday mornings at 9.30am in the church hall. Our groups start in church for the first hymn before going to the hall where we explore the story for the week through storytelling, craft, games and prayer. We then return to the church for the blessing and final hymn.

During December and Advent our session were based on the gospel of Luke and one of the activities we did was to prepare a living pot of hope for the new year, this was an idea taken from a tradition in Madeira where decorations around the nativity scene include pots of sprouting grain or grain crop called a *searinhas* as a sign of hope for the new year. We used grass seed in our pots and as you can see from the photos they grew really well, some even needed a haircut. During January we met John the Baptist and thought about the Baptism of Jesus and our own Baptism. In February we will celebrate Candlemas and explore more stories from the Gospel of Luke.



The December activity morning was very successful, after a story from Vicky the children had great fun creating stars, lots of glitter everywhere, which were displayed around the church amongst the Christmas flower decorations in between activities we were able to share refreshments together before making beautiful Christmas angels to take home. Thank you to all the team who helped to prepare and run the morning. Our February activity morning is based on St Valentine and our Christian love, don't forget to book your place.

Jan Barrett

# February Tree Trail

The Feast of Saint Valentine is celebrated on the 14<sup>th</sup> February and our tree trail this month is based on love. Saint Valentine was a 3<sup>rd</sup> century Roman saint and has always been a symbol of Christian love. As the first letter of John says '*Dear friends, let us continue to love one another, for love comes from God.*'



At our **Welcome tree** you will find yellow hearts, a symbol of welcome. We invite you to tie a welcoming yellow heart and ribbon to the tree.



Our **Faith tree** has white hearts, a symbol of our faith in God and his love for us that will always be there. In the box you will find white hearts and we invite you to attach a heart to the string of growing hearts.



*'Give thanks to the Lord because he is good, because his faithful love endures forever.'*  
1 Chronicles 16: 34

## The Thank You Tree



Here we think about the words of 1 Corinthians 13:4,7  
*Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it is not proud.  
It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.*  
By sharing God's love we grow Gods love. In the box you will find heart shapes, we invite you to write one way God has loved you this week and tie it to the tree, lets grow a tree of hearts.



## The Praise Tree



In the box you will find everything you need to make a 'you make my heart glow' to take home to remind you that by showing love and kindness to others we are sharing Gods love and light in the world.



## The Worry Tree



When we feel down we can always count on God to listen to us. We can always call to God and he will wrap us in his love like a warm blanket. In the box you will find paper hearts, we invite you to write or draw something in the middle and fold it up into an envelope, use a sticker to seal it down. Take your heart home as a reminder that God's love can comfort you.



*Hear my prayer Lord, listen to my cry for mercy.  
When I am in distress, I call to you, because you listen to me.* Psalm 86 6-7

# Picture Reflections

The picture on the front cover this month was contributed by Ashley

*'The impressive parish church of St Petroc overlooks the small and picturesque village of Petrockstowe in south west Devon. The village stands high above the surrounding rolling countryside of farmland and woods with views to Dartmoor in the distance. What is immediately apparent is the peace, stillness and tranquillity of the location offering a time of thoughtful reflection and contemplation. The old railway station of Petrockstow (without an E) is situated in the valley a mile below the village and now forms part of the beautiful Tarka trail. And yes, after this photo was taken I got absolutely soaked!'*

Do you have a picture that you would like to be featured on the front of our magazine? Perhaps you have prayers or reflections that you contribute to go with the picture. Send your pictures to Kate Badcock at [stjameswe.magazine@gmail.com](mailto:stjameswe.magazine@gmail.com). It would be fabulous to see some of your pictures. (Please do not send pictures with people featuring in it unless we can confirm their express permission to use it)

# Celebrating Christmas Morning at Petrockstowe

The small picturesque village of Petrockstowe, population approximately 350, is situated high in the rolling countryside between Okehampton and Great Torrington with distant views of Dartmoor. The parish church of St Petroc stands on a prominent position above the village and consequently can be seen from many locations in the surrounding countryside. In common with so many rural communities it lacks a village shop, post office and at present, even a pub. A once a week bus service provides access to the local towns.

This is where step-daughter Beverley and son-in-law Bruce chose to make their new home in the summer of 2021. They have been warmly welcomed into the local community and have already made new friends and taken an active part in the life of the village. Their home, with impressive views of rolling countryside is situated next door to a working farm. With an extensive garden it now provides a home for Bruce's bee hives with substantial space for Beverley to create a large vegetable garden.



Situated over a mile from the village in a valley lies the route of the old railway line which linked Halwil Junction and Torrington. Opened in 1925 by the North Devon and Cornwall Junction Light Railway it replaced in part an earlier mineral line of 1896 which was used to convey china clay from the numerous quarries situated in the area. Noted for its steep gradients and tight curves the 20 miles single track line was one of the last substantial rural railways to be built in this country. Passenger services finished in 1965 with freight services coming to

an end in 1983. The old station of Petrockstow (no E) now forms part of the picturesque Tarka Trail, a wonderful and scenic route including unusual fragments of temperate rain forest, a joy for walkers and cyclists alike.

The parish church of St Petroc is an impressive building with parts, including the tower, dating back to the 13<sup>th</sup> century. Major reconstruction and rebuilding of the main part of the church took place during the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The church has several attractive stained glass windows and is very pleasant and light inside. The bell tower retains a peal of six bells. Unfortunately the church is now without a permanent incumbent or organist, sharing services with the congregation of the Wesleyan Chapel, built 1933, who are also in a similar situation.

As an organist, when one is invited to play on an entirely unknown instrument, several questions come to mind. Is the instrument playable? Are there any faults and idiosyncrasies to contend with? Is it in tune? Where are the switches? All of these questions came to mind when I was asked to play for a Christmas morning service at the parish church attended by both congregations and the local community, when Joan and I were asked to spend Christmas with Bev and Bruce, who let slip that I was an organist.



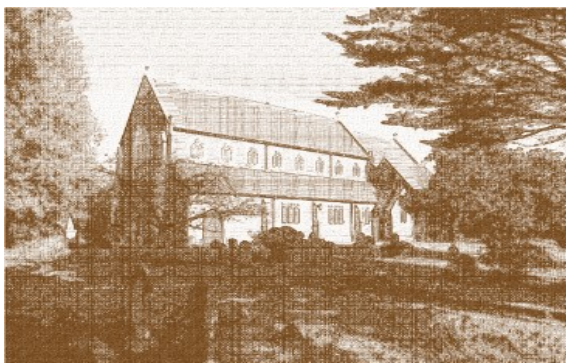


You can imagine my delight and joy to discover that the organ was a little gem. Built in 1872 by Henry Willis, builder of many cathedral organs including Winchester cathedral and large town hall and civic organs including the Royal Albert Hall, it retains all its original features including two brass candlestick holders to give light at the console. It has attractive ornamental pipework typical of the period. A two manual draw-stop organ with four stops on the Swell and five on the Great plus a pedal bourdon, it also has its original tracker action. It replaced a harmonium which in turn had made redundant the church band. The hand pump for blowing the organ is still in situ as an electric blower was not fitted until the 1950s when the village received electricity. Evidently, according to the parish records of 1904, the person who pumped the organ received the sum of £115 per annum for their services. The organ has a beautiful tone including a lovely oboe on the Swell and strong diapason stops on the great. I have to admit I fell in love with this little organ!

The Christmas morning service was an informal service and a lot of fun attended by over sixty people including many children who were actively encouraged to participate in the service which was taken by the church warden David French. Many in the congregation were surprised and pleased to find an actual live organist playing for them. David had already trained a number of children and teenagers to ring the church bells before the service which they accomplished with aplomb and in a professional manner. The singing of the carols was enthusiastic and the congregation was particularly interested to be told that when it was time to sing Calypso Carol by Michael Perry, that I was actually the organist and choirmaster at the Church of the Holy Saviour, Bitterne where he was the curate and then unusually was appointed vicar of the church succeeding the Rev. Geary Stevens.

It was a memorable service and one to be long cherished and I felt privileged to be asked to share in the village celebrations of Christmas.

*Ashley MacFarlane -Watt*



## Life At St James

**Will be back next month once we've located the relevant magazines. Meanwhile here's a teaser about what was happening 125 years ago**

Of the 15 banns of marriage read in church, how many 'men had sought their brides from outside the parish?'



# The Children's Society

Thank you to everyone who has returned their home boxes for counting, to date we have raised £165.44 for the Children's Society.

The society believe that every young person deserves a good childhood. Each young person is unique and the ways the society works with them through their most serious life challenges varies depending on the needs of the individual. The young people they meet have complicated lives, their experiences are always different, but they all have one thing in common, hope. Hope for a happier home life, hope of getting a job, hope of getting away from the people who exploit or hurt them. The Children's Society find the young person's hope and start there.

Our Christingle services were also in aid of the Children's Society. Because of the Covid situation it was decided to hold four Christingle services on four different evenings, the services were limited to 100 people attending and the places had to be pre booked.

A group of us got together to prepare the Christingle bags which had everything in them to create a Christingle. Each service was led by our very own angels, Angel Vicky and Angel Linda complete with halo's and wings we also had a few shepherds, kings and stars in the congregation. During the service the congregation got to make their Christingle which were then lit and the lights were turned off for the last hymn as we held up our Christingles .

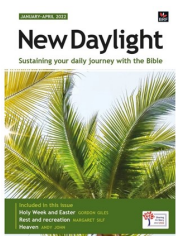
**The  
Children's  
Society**

Thank you to all who contributed to these lovely services which raised £245.34 in donations for the Children's Society.

Jan Barrett

## Bible Reading Fellowship

Bible Reading Fellowship (BRF) are celebrating 100 years since Revd Leslie Mannering offered the first monthly leaflet of Bible readings to his congregation at St Matthew's church in Brixton. As he wrote in the parish magazine at the time, 'We will make the venture, believing that God calls us to this'. God has certainly blessed that vision and the BRF's ministry over the years which has gone to reach many individuals, groups and churches. Along the way BRF have embraced new ideas, new technologies and new ministry opportunities, most notably Messy Church, Anna Chaplaincy and Parenting for Faith. There will be a special live-streamed Service of Celebration and Thanksgiving on 24<sup>th</sup> April 2022, with Canon Dr George Lings, Canon Dr Christina Baxter CBE and the Right Revd Colin Fletcher, chair of BRF board of trustees on the [BRF YouTube channel](#)



Would you like to receive a copy of the New Daylight the BRF Bible reading notes which are published three times a year, and cost £4.75 per copy? It is ideal for anybody wanting an accessible aid to spending time with God each day, deepening faith and knowledge of Scripture. The issue for January to April includes articles on Holy Week and Easter, Rest and Recreation and Heaven. If you would like to receive a copy, which will be delivered three times a year at an cost of £14.55 for the year, this is a slightly reduced group rate, please contact

Jan at [j.barrett77@btinternet.com](mailto:j.barrett77@btinternet.com) or on 07519759269.

For keen gardeners, the BRF centenary rose is a new initiative to help celebrate the charities 100<sup>th</sup> year, the rose is a tribute to God's abundant provision for BRF over the last century. Details can be found at [brfonline.org.uk/rose](http://brfonline.org.uk/rose)



There is also a book The BRF Book of 365 Bible reflections, which has been especially compiled for the centenary year, this and other titles can be found at [brfonline.org.uk](http://brfonline.org.uk) where you can also find out about other events.

**AN INVITATION  
to St James'  
Community Coffee Morning  
we look forward to welcoming you**



**New for 2022  
an invitation to a  
Community Café**

<b>Where?</b>	St James' Church Hall
<b>Who For?</b>	Anyone who wishes to pop in. No need to book just come along on your own or with others
<b>When?</b>	The 'second' Friday of each month anytime between 10:30am-12 noon

Come and take the opportunity for a cup of coffee or tea, plus biscuits or cake and friendly chat in these early months of the year as we await brighter days and signs of spring.

As warmer mornings arrive and the weather allows there will be the option of resting awhile at tables and chairs outside in the beautiful churchyard when the trees will be in blossom

Covid prevention measures regarding ventilation etc. will be in place as per recommendations

The next three dates will be on February 11<sup>th</sup>; March 11<sup>th</sup>; April 8<sup>th</sup>

For further information: email [stjameswe.vicar@gmail.com](mailto:stjameswe.vicar@gmail.com) or [stjameswe.pastoral@gmail.com](mailto:stjameswe.pastoral@gmail.com)

**Offering Spiritual Care in Later Life**

Carol Kidd is Anna Chaplain for Harefield & West End

[carolkiddannachaplain@gmail.com](mailto:carolkiddannachaplain@gmail.com)

07842244876

Carol offers a listening ear to, and shares time with, older persons especially the isolated and the lonely, and if needed their families and carers in order to also support them by signposting to other help that may be available.

Initial contact can be made by phone or email and this can be followed by further phone contact or if preferred may include a home visit in your own home, in a Care Home or arrangement can be made to meet at St James' Church.

Anna Chaplains are trained in offering spiritual support to older people by the Anna Chaplaincy team at BRF - a UK - registered Christian charity.

Carol works as our Anna Chaplain in a voluntary capacity and has experience of working in the NHS, in pastoral care and in church ministry as one of St James' Licensed Lay Ministers.

Harefield & West End Anna Chaplaincy is affiliated to Anna Chaplaincy for Older People and is part of the Bible Reading Fellowship [BRF] a Registered Charity [233280]  
For further information: <https://annachaplaincy.org.uk>



Harefield and West End



## Churches Together in HEWEB Christian Unity Service 2022 'We Saw His Star in the East.'

Twelve churches gathered together on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> January, holding covid restrictions in order to do so. How encouraging it was to do so, the first time for 2 years. We worshipped and prayed through hearing God's word in Matthew 2 v1-12, about the visit of the Magi taking gifts most rare in homage to Jesus. Knowing that they needed to look up to see the sign in the night sky guided them and being carefully about the warnings, as they followed them. Seemingly fulfilling the ancient promise found in Isaiah 9 v 2 -7.

We also treasured the many stories of witness to God at work amongst our communities. There are so many good stories of people coming to faith and being baptised, especially full immersion baptism in the seas of the Solent! Alpha courses, fellowship, round the table meal-times sharing testimonies and God's word. As we come 'limping out of lockdown,' there is growth in many ways of being together; After school clubs; Men's Breakfast times; worshipping in the churchyards or Church Shed; walking the labyrinth as an aid to Christian meditation; sharing thoughts and understanding together; being Messy Church; walking the Tree Trail; staying together through social media groups; many more serving in more groups to share times of leading and planning; knitting and making angels; food basic banks; two lending libraries, one with over 3000 books; coffee and tea pots abounding; sharing services mid-week as well as Sunday morning and evenings. It seems as if there are many doors open and they are for all to seek quietness, stillness and the presence of God in prayerful thoughts and written requests for prayer.

Try new things and go along the way boldly and with courage, filled with encouragement, that the God of love is still with us and cares that we are connected and looking outward for the good of our communities.

Guided by the light of Christ as our faith grows and hands reach out in that love we know that flows from God to all. As ONE COMMUNITY we have shared some life changing times none more so than over these last two years. As we look to our Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations beginning 6<sup>th</sup> Feb, the date of her accession to the throne, we look towards working together with all. I wonder if anybody will be planting a tree?



WDP World Day of Prayer held on 1<sup>st</sup> Friday of March every year, this year will be held at St James Parish Church, West End on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> March from 7pm. The theme is 'I Know the Plans I Have For you,' says the Lord.

Do be in touch for prayer as we respond to 'SAY ONE FOR ME.'

Jane Castle

# 'Twas the night before Christmas

Indeed it all happened on Christmas Eve. Last year I had lost a dear life time friend, Charles; then two months later in August, I lost my eldest Brother John; then in October, I tragically lost my twin brother Andrew, and in December, my dear Father-in-Law Roger, who'd lived in West End all his married life (just over sixty years) lost his earthly life and gave his life to God.

We were destined to not have a very pleasant Christmas, but the Baby Jesus intervened. I had joined my local church, St James in New Malden last Easter after a very long absence from my normal work at the church for the last forty years as my faith had been so dreadfully tested during the previous ten years.

My partner grew up in West End not far from where I was born and it took me 30 years to discover St James in West End. Having been a Choirboy since I was six and had progressed through to becoming a Choir Master at a church in Sussex, I was pleasantly surprised to find, after a Google search, that St James was not only just around the corner from Mum but it also seemed to be something I could relate to and a beautiful church.

Christmas was always a very family occasion and I often sang, as a choirboy, the opening verse of 'Once in Royal David's City', which usually made my Mum cry! I found the information on Facebook and the Web which was calling out to me to give it a go. Christmas held too many memories for me to indulge in previous years. Now I was ready to break the 'habit of a lifetime' as the expression goes. Magically there at St James was a service set for Christmas day, so I made up my mind that I would go. I didn't want to go to the Friday night carols as my heart would have broken with so many memories of Christmas past with my Mother, my dad died when I was seventeen, who always liked to hear me sing.

So that brings us to Christmas 2021. I knew I was going but could I encourage Frank, Mum and the carer to go? Given the wealth of info on the web site and the social activity along with tales of recent events, I had little trouble get them to say "YES!" So 10.30am at St James was a go.

Christmas Day arrived and I was so excited to be able to go. I was up early, as was Magnus, as he was coming with us. He has been coming with me every Sunday back home and I'd found out from your Vicar, Vicky Maunder that I could bring him with me to your St James 45 minutes before the service was going to start, the family were still not ready. 20 minutes to go and we were off.

The welcome we received was amazing and so very friendly. Mind you the first comment was NOT hello to me but "This must be Magnus who we've all been dying to meet"! After introductions we had a beautiful service and afterwards so many people wanted to talk to us and we felt so very much like we were amongst friends.

Magnus of course was the main attraction especially amongst the children most if not all had never seen such a big dog. He is a Great Dane. Two main questions about Magnus were, 'Why do you take him to Church' and 'Why do you have such a big dog?' Well Magnus is my 10<sup>th</sup> Dog and I have always taken them to church whether it be Holy Communion, Baptisms, Wedding or Funerals and anything else. Why not? He is one of God's creatures and he is well behaved. As to why I have such a big dog? Well I like him because he is big, he is a big cuddle and so very gentle. He particularly likes small dogs and children. He loves going to church with me and why not? He loved all the attention he got as did I.

I also was super pleased at the reception we humans got and all the love flying around this special day, was priceless. Thank you all and I promise that when I am down again on a Sunday, you will most definitely see me and Magnus again.

Peter Brunnen







## Edelweiss Sisters by Kate Hewitt

Three sisters, aged between 15 and 20, living in Salzburg, Austria in 1934 are entering a local singing competition. Their father picked a sprig of Edelweiss for each of them to wear in their hair. They didn't win the competition, that went to the Von Trap family!

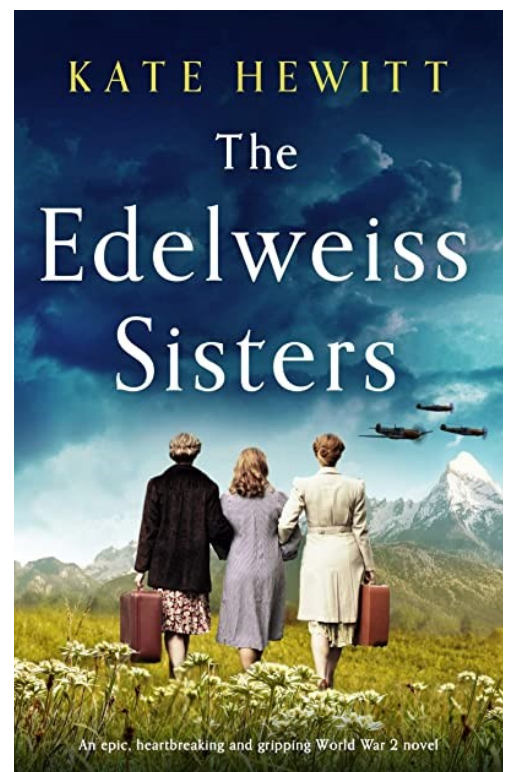
The eldest, Johanna helped her mother run the house, Bergit was apprenticed to her clockmaker father and Lotte was still studying. Their father had weekly meetings in their home with his male friends discussing their concerns with the events in Germany and the possibility of Austria being annexed by Germany.

These meetings caused their father to be arrested, tortured and when finally, being allowed to return home was unable to work again. The girls, each in turn became spies either helping with the local resistance movement, or in Johanna's case, taking a secretarial course and going away to work for the German forces near one of the Concentration Camps. This happened to be the Camp where her Jewish boyfriend was held.

Lotte, who was so frightened of events happening in Salzburg in the late 1930s' became a novice in Nonnberg Abbey in the city. Unwittingly she became involved in hiding people in the Abbey, one of whom was Johanna's boyfriend. Birgit had fallen in love with an Austrian soldier in 1937. The Austrian army was taken over by Hitler, therefore he was then a German soldier. Bergit in turn would get information of movements and pass onto the Resistance. The two youngest girls were caught near the Swiss border while trying to get Johanna's boyfriend to safety. They ended in a concentration camp also.

This was a book I could not put down. I knew a gentleman, born in Vienna in 1929, the only child of Jewish parents. His father was put into a Concentration Camp in 1935 and died in 1939. Freddie was helped to escape into France at the age of 10 years by a French Catholic Priest. From events Freddie had sometimes recalled I could imagine them in *The Edelweiss Sisters*.

*Thankyou to June who submitted our 'Book Club' review this month. Please send in your reviews to [stjameswe.magazine@gmail.com](mailto:stjameswe.magazine@gmail.com), it is always lovely to share the likes, dislikes and recommendations of books, fiction or non-fiction.*



# PCC Meeting held on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> November 2021

*These are the bullet points from the meeting. A full copy of the minutes can be obtained from the PCC Secretary at [pccsecretary.stjameswe@gmail.com](mailto:pccsecretary.stjameswe@gmail.com)*

Seventeen members of the PCC attended the meeting via Zoom.

- The minutes of previous meeting were agreed.
- **Matters Arising** Thank you letter from *Bats in Churches* received re survey and thanks to Jane Castle noted.
- **Business by Correspondence** PCC and Standing Committee decisions made since last meeting; approval of gifts of appreciation to Organ Scholar and relief organist; special fee for initial AA meetings in church hall.
- **Church Magazine** PCC Extraordinary meeting of the PCC agreed 39 copies of December/January edition would be printed and delivered to those not online with subscription letter. Thanks noted to those coordinating deliveries. Responses received from advertisers for next year's magazines.
- **Finance reports** Treasurer pleased with figures to end of October, which showed a real surplus of £5,019. Payments to Common Mission Fund were up to date. All debtors on the Balance Sheet were now clear, and all bills relating to Project Aurora had been paid.
- **Fees Review** Standing Committee had discussed changes to fees and charges for 2022. Treasurer proposed the Fees Review figures and these were agreed by all.
- **Budget Worksheet** An excess for the year 2021 of £6,291 was anticipated not including Christmas Fayre result of £1,950. Budget for 2022 is £87,676 for payments, many figures seeing little change. Major Building Repairs added for 2022, due to the possible necessity of work to the bell and bell tower. Also noted, though not included in budget, is awareness of possible repairs to the organ, estimated £5K - £50K. Buildings Officer will take over contact with organ builders during Music Director vacancy. Vicky thanked David for all his hard work on the finances and the budget for 2022 was proposed and agreed by all.
- **Vicar's Report** Review of Church Life during autumn, including Covid measures, increase in choir numbers and the return of Church Alive inside the church. All services have seen new faces in congregations and refreshments again being served. Vicky pleased that services for Remembrance Sunday and Anna Chaplaincy commissioning/Pastoral Team service had gone well. Welcome event for new folk was well attended. Care home services recommenced and social events including Macmillan coffee morning, Harvest Lunch and Christmas Craft Fayre were popular. The LLF course was reasonably well attended and feedback will be discussed at future PCC meeting. Follow-up course on biblical texts planned. Report included Advent and Christmas Services details. She also announced Rev'd Linda Galvin's election to represent deanery at Diocesan Synod along with her involvement in the Diocesan Board of Education. Linda is also on the Deanery Synod Standing Committee and secretary of both Deanery Synod and Deanery Chapter. Reluctantly agreed not to serve refreshments after Lessons and Carols and Special Lives services due to current Covid situation.
- **Director of Music** Myles' last service would be on the morning of Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> January. Following in-depth discussions on recruitment and requirements for the position, Vicky suggested a small sub-group be formed; Geoff, Scott and possibly Bethea would join her in this. Also noted grateful thanks to Debbie and Matthew Thomson and Diana for leading Church Alive music, but no expectation of them taking on Church Alive job.
- **Building and Fabric** Report covered successful ULV fly removal treatment; securing of hall Velux window and stonework repairs at West door. Flush in men's WC repaired and quotes requested to deal with leaks in church roof. Problems with plastic mounts on nave speakers rectified by API.

Mentioned that a reply to application to Archdeacon for removal of pews still awaited. Sound checks run using different phones due to problems with sound on livestream during services. SIM card to be trialled in donated iPhone will hopefully save those operating the livestream having to use their own phones and data.

- **Safeguarding** – Various policies re-approved including Parish Domestic Abuse statement 2021, Policy Statement on recruitment of ex-offenders 2021a and Statement of Safeguarding Policy 2021 (Carol explained that this is a new style of policy which incorporates the former separate "Safeguarding Children" and "Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults" policies.) PCC also told that in the New Year all parishes will be undertaking in-depth parish safeguarding audits.
- **Social Media Policy** Requires revision; Linda will be looking at it with a view to re-adopting it next year.
- **Health and Safety Policy** After query on the review date and suggested revision to the Lone Worker section of the policy, this was accepted by all for review next October.
- **Churches Together** Minutes and prayer points from meeting provided by Jane Castle, who also wished to highlight the meal at Salvation Army centre for those alone on Christmas Day and service for Christian Unity in January.
- **HOPE** had not met since the last PCC meeting but shared Christmas Card was now in church for all to sign.
- **Forthcoming Events and Services** covered in Vicar's Report. Carol wished to check that those not on email or online were aware of requirement to book for Christmas services; this was covered in the magazine including a telephone number. A request was made for events to be mentioned in notices at services, particularly for Wednesday congregation.
- **Dates for future PCC meetings** agreed, the next to be held on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> January. Meeting closed with the Grace.

## Quiet Spaces



After the busy period of Christmas and the New Year do you feel the call for some quiet space to regularly spend time with God in the company of a small group of people from the church community?

- We meet in small groups of no more than 5 people three times each school term.
- The sessions are held in the daytime or in the evenings to suit family life and work schedules. Bookings are made when the days and times are circulated to members.
- It is planned to start a group that will meet in half terms and school holidays to cater for those with teaching commitments and busy schedules during term time. That group will have only 6 or 7 meetings each year instead of the 9 for the other groups.
- Each session is a maximum of one hour in length.

What happens at a Quiet Space meeting?

- We open with prayer
- We have a time of stillness which may follow a relaxation exercise
- In a confidential setting we share our reflections on themes which bring God's presence into our everyday lives
- We finish with prayer

If this is something you would like to explore in more detail please contact Brenda Holden tel. 02380474826 / email [bmholden84@gmail.com](mailto:bmholden84@gmail.com)



Thank you to everyone for supporting our Charity Christmas Card, the card raised £315.11 for our charities. Each of our three Christmas charities Mountbatten Hospice, Mission to Seafarers and the St James Shelter each received £105 each.

At our recent committee meeting we put plans in place to continue our fundraising throughout 2022.

Unfortunately we have taken the decision to cancel the Brunch this year, but the good news is that we will be offering a takeaway cream tea in a bag instead, the bags will be available for collection on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> March in perfect time for Mothering Sunday on the 27<sup>th</sup>. Why not buy one to share with an important person in your life. Please book a bag by contacting Jan on 07519759269 or at [j.barrett77@btinternet.com](mailto:j.barrett77@btinternet.com). We are asking for donations for the bags.

The World Day of Prayer will be held on the 4<sup>th</sup> March here at St James at 7.30pm, the theme this year is 'I Know the Plans I have for You' and the service will be followed by refreshments in the hall. Please look out for further information in the near future.

Fairtrade Fortnight this year is the 21<sup>st</sup> February to the 6<sup>th</sup> March; during these two weeks we are encouraged to consider how we can stand with farmers and workers around the world who are seeking to improve the inequalities at the heart of trade and how we can encourage governments, business, and individuals to take collective action for a fairer future. There will be an opportunity to buy fairly traded goods in church on the 27<sup>th</sup> February and the 6<sup>th</sup> March.

Our Lent appeal this year is in going to be in aid of CAFOD and Water Aid.

The CAFOD challenge for Lent is to **Walk against Hunger**.



There are 200 million children in the world whose lives are at risk from malnutrition. So this Lent why not challenge yourself to stamp out hunger one step at a time and walk 200k. You could go it alone and walk 5k a day (about 10,000 steps) for 40 days or do it as a group or a family. Maybe you could get someone to sponsor you. You can sign up on line for the walk [Walk Against Hunger | CAFOD](#) or bring your money to church and we will send it on to them.

The Water Aid Lent appeal is **Jars of Change**.



You are invited to give something up for Lent, and by donating the money you save in your jar you can give people the gift of clean water and with it, the power to keep their families safe and healthy. What to give up? This can be something you buy often, something small like a cup of coffee, a chocolate bar. That small amount of change soon adds up to bring about a bigger change to someone's life. What will you do ?

### Dates for the diary for future events are

23<sup>rd</sup> April      Discovery Trail

15<sup>th</sup> to the 21<sup>st</sup> May Christian Aid week and our Christian Aid lunch.

3<sup>rd</sup> July      Hope BBQ in the church grounds

Sept/Oct      Harvest Lunch.

We thank you for your continued support of our work and look forward to seeing you at some of the events.





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**Youth Group for Young People**  
**Meeting monthly on the Second Sunday**  
**Between 5.30pm and 7pm**  
**Ages 11 to 14+**  
**Fun, Food and Friendship**  
**Restarts March 13th 2022**  
**We would be pleased to see you there**  
**for more information please contact:**

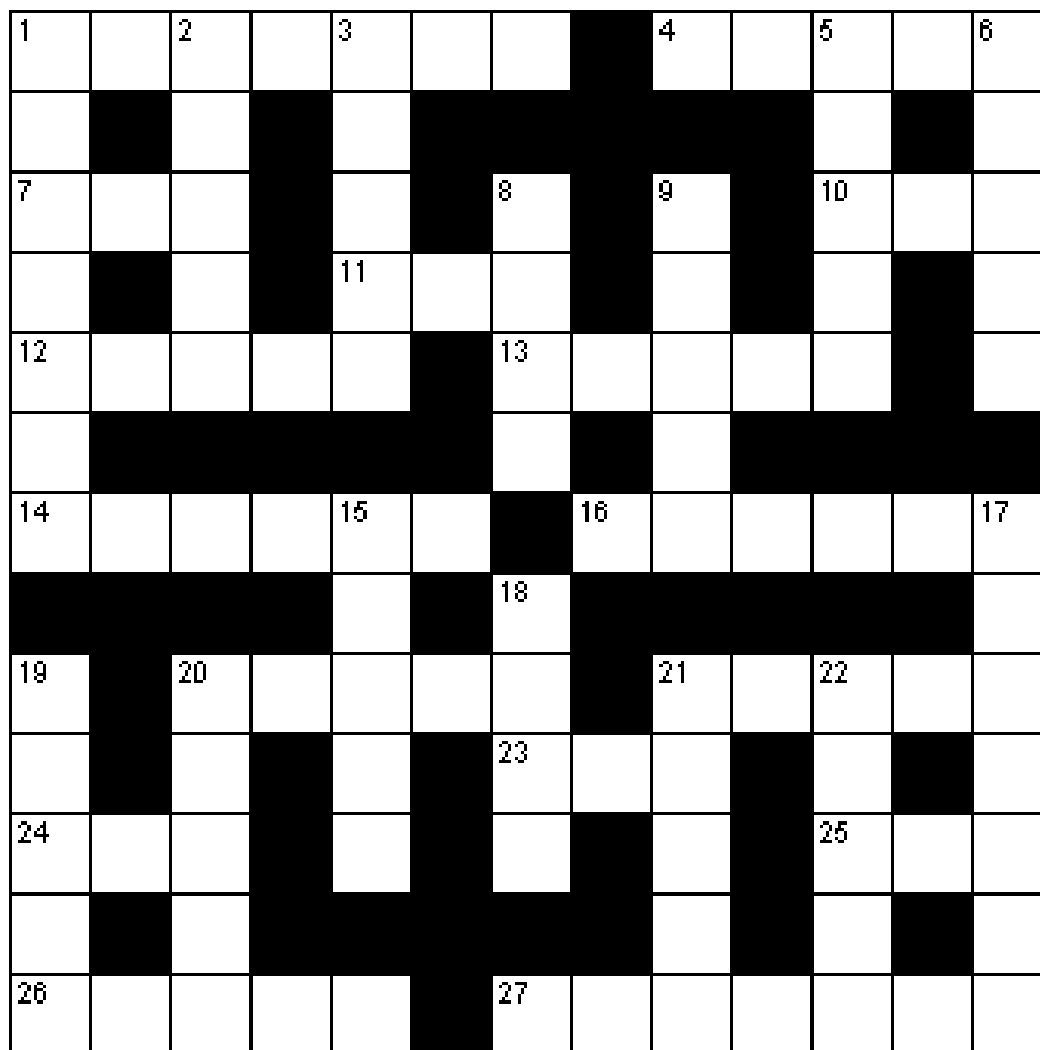
Vicky at  
stjameswe.vicar@gmail.com  
07762 673350 or 023 8114 1192

## Solution for December Arrow

	T		O		E			P		P		N
B	A	F	F	L	E		H	A	R	A	S	S
	L		F	A	L	C	O	N		L	O	W
C	L	O	A	K		A	T	O	M		D	
		F	L	E	C	K		P	E	C	A	N
E	L	F			H	E	A	L	T	H		E
	Y	E	W		E			Y	E	A	S	T
I	R	R	I	T	A	T	E		O	P	U	S
	I		T	E	P	I	D		R		N	
A	C	T		M		N	I	B		F		F
	S	H	A	P	E		T	O	M	A	T	O
		E	X	E	R	T		S	A	T	I	N
C	A	M	E	R	A		A	S	P	E	C	T



# Crossword for February 2022



## Across

1. Small African antelope, Thompson's \_\_\_\_ (7)
4. Parasitic arachnids (5)
7. Bone forming part of a cage (3)
10. Simian (3)
11. Feline (3)
12. Freshwater fish, resembling catfish (5)
13. Sign of the zodiac aka The Ram (5)
14. Domestic breed of goat raised for its silky hair (6)
16. Deciduous horn of a member of the deer family (6)
20. Omnivorous mammal of Central America and South America (5)
21. Small plant-sucking insect (5)
23. Young goat (3)
24. Young bear (3)
25. Female swan (3)
26. Ophidian (5)
27. Tropical birds with short, hooked beaks (7)

## Down

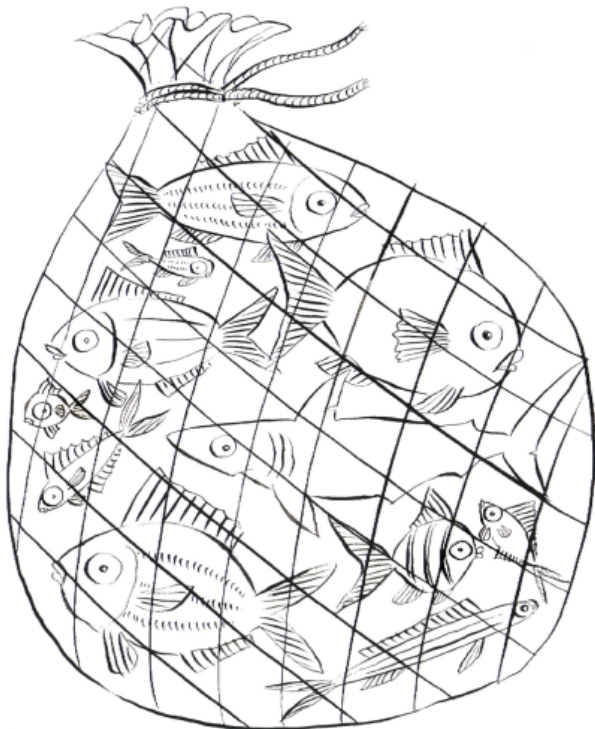
1. Largest anthropoid ape (7)
2. Striped African equine (5)
3. Bloodsucking worm (5)
5. Talons (5)
6. Woolly ruminant (5)
8. Male red deer (4)
9. Pertaining to or characteristic of birds (5)
15. European freshwater food fish (5)
17. Small gnawing animals (7)
18. Long-snouted freshwater fish with lean flesh (4)
19. Web-footed, broad-billed swimming birds (5)
20. Venomous elapid snake of Africa and Asia (5)
21. Small terrestrial viper (5)
22. Massive thick-skinned animal of Africa, in short (5)

# Kingdom Kids



## Luke 5.1-11

The fishermen are frustrated after fishing all night without catching anything, but Jesus instructs them and they catch an enormous load! Jesus then tells them to 'fish for people' and tell others about God.



Jesus instructs the disciples that from now on they will be fishing for people; catching others to hear God's story.



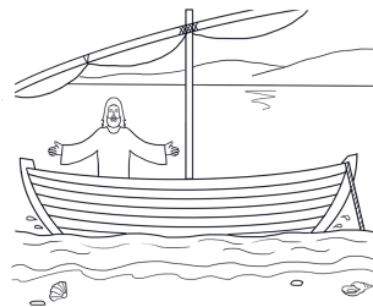
Can you find these words from today's Bible passage in the word search?

Galilee  
Jesus  
fish  
nets  
disciples  
afraid  
water  
boat  
Simon  
James  
John  
catch

f	y	g	i	o	d	k	r	j	j	e
i	n	e	t	s	i	e	t	a	o	b
s	s	i	n	u	t	f	e	s	u	S
h	i	m	q	a	t	v	e	J	l	i
p	t	m	w	x	r	l	p	a	o	m
a	o	x	a	z	p	h	k	m	l	o
f	e	s	e	i	s	u	s	e	J	n
r	u	j	c	w	z	d	b	s	o	k
a	w	s	s	c	a	t	c	h	h	m
i	i	t	y	c	a	e	a	i	n	z
d	w	g	f	e	e	l	i	l	a	G



Draw the disciples listening to Jesus' stories and instructions inside the boat and on the shoreline.



Circle which of these actions might show someone who is 'caught up' in God's story.





## Church of England Telephone Line

If you know of someone who doesn't have access to online services the Church of England have launched a free national telephone line offering music, prayers and reflections as well as full services. It is available 24 hours a day on 0800 804 8044. Callers will hear a special greeting from the Archbishop before being able to choose from a range of options including hymns, prayers and reflections. Please do let anyone know who might find this helpful.

## WEST END CORONAVIRUS SUPPORT

This group has a Facebook page called "West End Coronavirus Support Group" and residents can also contact Julie Haylett, the organiser, on 028 8047 0610.

They have also collected shopping and other essentials thanks to the volunteers in the group who are offering their time to help other in need within their community.

The team are also working with local fish and chip shops in West End on a Wednesday and have been delivering meals to those who are currently stuck inside.

## Solution for December Crossword

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





# World Day of Prayer

The World Day of Prayer is a world-wide movement led by Christian women of many traditions who call the faithful together to observe a common day of prayer each year. 2022 is a special year for the World Day of Prayer in England, Wales and Northern Ireland, as our three countries have prepared the service which will be used by more than 120 countries on Friday 4th March 2022.

We will be hosting the service here at St James on **Friday 4th March 2022 at 7.30pm.**

Refreshments will be available in the church hall after the service.

Covid precautions are in place, and you are requested to wear masks inside the church unless exempt.

Further information about the World Day of Prayer is available on the WDP website [wwdp.org.uk](http://wwdp.org.uk) or contact Betty Wood on 02380466000 or email - [bettyrosina@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:bettyrosina@hotmail.co.uk)



Betty Wood (Secretary WDP Hedge End, West End & Botley)

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### **Children's Society**

Mrs Janet Barrett  
023 8047 6777

### **Church Catering**

Jill Marten & Linda Playford  
[jillmarten@btinternet.com](mailto:jillmarten@btinternet.com)

### **Director of Music**

[stjameswe.music@gmail.com](mailto:stjameswe.music@gmail.com)

### **Burial Ground Officer**

Vacant at present  
Please contact the Vicar

### **Christian Aid**

Mrs Eileen Durkin  
023 8046 4773

### **Churches Together**

Mrs Jane Castle  
Mrs Hazel Moore

### **Electoral Roll Officer**

Mrs Margaret Baker  
023 8047 6163

### **PCC Treasurer**

Mr David Forster  
023 8047 3935

### **Parish Administrator**

Kate Badcock  
[stjameswe.office@gmail.com](mailto:stjameswe.office@gmail.com)

### **PCC Secretary**

Mrs Sue Overell  
023 8032 6275

### **Sacristan Team**

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### **Saint James' School**

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## Looking ahead.....

**Ash Wednesday** – Wednesday 2nd March - services with the imposition of ashes at 10.30am and 7.30pm

**Women's World Day of Prayer** Friday 4th March - service at 7.30pm

Check out our Facebook and Website for more information about church life.

<https://www.facebook.com/stjameschurchwestend/> and <http://www.stjameswestend.org.uk/>

We are always actively looking for copy for future magazines, so do pass on any articles or stories of what is happening, good news stories and special memories, to our email address:

[stjameswe.magazine@gmail.com](mailto:stjameswe.magazine@gmail.com)

We'd also love to hear from you, so do contact us

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