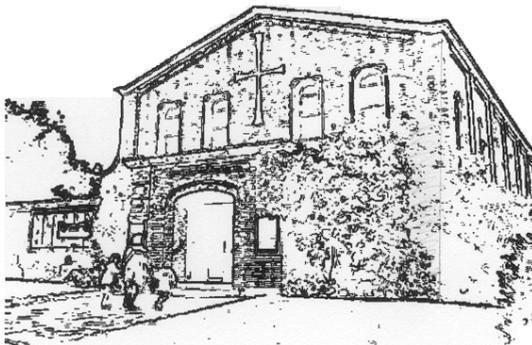




# FOCUS



**ISSUE NUMBER 111**  
**OCTOBER & NOVEMBER 2014**

[www.st-georges-urc-hemel.org.uk](http://www.st-georges-urc-hemel.org.uk)

# SUNDAY SERVICES OCTOBER & NOVEMBER 2014

DATE	TIME	SPEAKER AND NOTES
<b>5<sup>th</sup> Oct.</b>	10.30 a.m.	Speaker - Angela Such. Communion – Jane Wade
<b>12<sup>th</sup> Oct.</b>	10.30 a.m.	Jane Wade
<b>19<sup>th</sup> Oct.</b>	10.30 a.m.  3.30 – 6.00 p.m.	Jane Wade – Harvest – All Age Service  Messy Church
<b>26<sup>th</sup> Oct.</b>	10.30 a.m.	Jane Wade
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Nov.</b>	10.30 a.m.	Speaker - Angela Such. Communion – Jane Wad
<b>9<sup>th</sup> Nov.</b>	10.30 a.m.	Jane Wade – Remembrance Sunday
<b>16<sup>th</sup> Nov.</b>	10.30 a.m.  3.30 – 6.00 p.m.	A Gideons Speaker  Messy Church
<b>23<sup>rd</sup> Nov.</b>	10.30 a.m.	Jane Wade
<b>30<sup>th</sup> Nov..</b>	10.30 a.m.	Jane Wade

**No p.m. services except where stated**

## **The Minister's message**

Dear Friends,

As most of you know, I grew up in a Christian family and from about a week old attended church every Sunday (and from a teenager twice on Sundays). Only if we were ill or on holiday (and then we normally went to a local church) did we miss it. Perhaps they were simpler times, but being part of a Christian Church and attending weekly are part of who I am and have enabled me to have a faith grounded on the 'Rock'.

I know that in the 21<sup>st</sup> century things have moved on. Our lives - even with all the new technological time saving devices - seem to have got busier and busier. The pressure on our time seem even more constrained with work, family and social commitments meaning our Sundays are no longer a day of rest. It is an opportunity to take time out to be with our Church family in fellowship and worship, spending time with the 'Father' and being encouraged and equipped for the rest of the week.

There is a story told of a Minister who visits one of their members who hasn't been to Church for a while:

The minister enters the house and after being welcomed in he sits him in front of the coal fire which was aglow with a soothing red flame. Saying nothing he gestured to the young man to sit down too.

The old man smiled wisely and without a word took hold of the fire tongs and took a lump of red hot coal out of the fire and put it on the hearth in front of the young man. In silence they watched as the glow faded from the coal and it turned from red to black. The wise old man looked

enquiringly, as only wise old men can, at the young man. The young man looked at the wise old man in expectation of the wisdom that he was about to utter, but the wise old man just smiled and placed the coal back into the fire.

When the coal had heated back up and was once again glowing from the heat that it had received from the other coals, the old man took it out of the fire again and placed it on the hearth in front of the now confused young man. Again it turned black, and again the wise old man put it back into the fire, and again it began to glow red hot. The wise old man continued to take the coal out letting it cool down and putting it back into the fire to heat up until the young man understood what the wise old man was telling him. The following week the young man started meeting with like-minded Christians, and lived happily ever after.

And the moral of the story is this: The young man was that lump of coal. Away from the Church family, he had no means of receiving the fire that he needed to stay alive in the faith, *he had no glow*.

The book of Ecclesiastes puts it like this:

- <sup>9</sup> Two are better than one,  
because they have a good return for their work:
- <sup>10</sup> If one falls down, his friend can help him up.  
But pity the man who falls and has no-one to help him  
up!
- <sup>11</sup> Also, if two lie down together, they will keep warm.  
But how can one keep warm alone?
- <sup>12</sup> Though one may be overpowered,  
two can defend themselves.  
A cord of three strands is not quickly broken.

I know that for some folk attending Church regularly on a Sunday is really hard to achieve, but so that you are able to keep 'glowing' and 'growing' can I please plead with you to think about joining a **Home group** as a way of meeting with a least part of your Church family on a regular bases.



**So what is a Home group?** A Home group is a small group of people from the Church who meet regularly, usually at someone's home. These groups provide the opportunity to read and discuss the Bible together, to pray together and get to know one another.

Keeping **God** at the **centre** of all we do, we seek to *love*, **encourage** and **support** each other as we *share comfortably* in a *fun* and **safe** environment, allowing the **HOLY SPIRIT** to **SHAPE** AND **DEVELOP** us into who we were created to be.

**Why go to a home group?** There are 2 main reasons: (1) to study the bible and discuss issues that come from that, a small group environment is very helpful; (2) a small group provides an opportunity to meet and to get to know a more manageable number of people than you might meet at a Sunday service. That means there is a chance to get to know a group of people well and therefore to be able to support and encourage them, and to be supported and encouraged.

**What role do Home groups play within the Church?** In the book of Ephesians the Church is described as a body with a structure, 'held together by every supporting ligament [which] grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.' (Ephesians 4:16). I believe that Home groups play an important part in encouraging godliness, and building and developing relationships, within the context of good bible study, that strengthen the Church and help it to function as it ought.

"Iron sharpens iron, and one man sharpens another" (Prov 27:17).

**What if I can't get there every week ...**

Not everyone can get to a home group every week (or fortnightly). However, by going when you can, you will get to know others in the group who will be able to support you and pray for you when you can't be there.

THOSE  
WHO SEEK THE  
LORD  
SHALL NOT LACK  
ANY GOOD THING.  
PSALM 34:10

**What will be expected of me?** The aim is to get to know you and to give you time to get to know the rest of your group. Some people are very used to this sort of environment, but it may be new to others. When you feel able to, you can contribute as much or as little as you like.



**Which home group should I join?** There are several different home groups that meet on different times of the week. Feel free to do a little tour and find one that suits you. Home group leaders will not be offended if you don't choose their group!



Current home groups you could join...

Weekly **Mondays** @ 8pm Leaders: Kevin & Linda York Northend

Weekly **Mondays** @ 7.30pm Leaders: Dan and Amanda Hobbs Cupid Green

1st and 3rd **Tuesdays** @ 8pm Leader: Tracy Malan Bourne End

1st and 3rd **Wednesdays** @ 8pm Leader: Richard Waymark Warners End

**Thursdays** @ 1.30pm Leader: Gill Griffin Church Hall

IT'S NOT JUST A MEETING.  
**LIVING UNITED**  
IS A CALL TO ACTION. TO LEAD. PARTICIPATE.  
**CONNECT.**  
THEY AREN'T ONE MORE THING TO DO.  
**SMALL GROUPS**  
ARE THE THING TO DO.  
SMALL GROUPS ARE DOING LIFE TOGETHER.

I hope you will choose to get connected. God Bless.

Jane

# A Season of Invitation



Research shows people are much more likely to come to church and keep coming if they're invited several times. So we want to build 'A Season of Invitation' with five invitational moments coming one after the other.

To facilitate in holding these five services, we will have attractive, high-quality invitation cards for each one, as well as a children's invitation card that can be used for any of the services.

So start thinking and praying about who you are going to ask.



The first of our 5 invitational events, '**Back To Church Sunday**' on 28<sup>th</sup> September, pre-dates this issue of focus. But the other dates are great opportunities to invite those who may have been to our church before for a wedding, baptism or funeral. Or people that we know who may have been to church when they were younger e.g. for Sunday school – but haven't been back since.



**Harvest 19<sup>th</sup> October** – We will be supporting the work of Tear Fund this year. Envelopes for your donations will be available from 5<sup>th</sup> October at Church. A child is trafficked every 30 seconds. With you on board we can change things. Together we can help protect 50,000 children from trafficking, disease and disaster. Tearfund is asking you to stand alongside them, as we follow Jesus, to the places of greatest need to achieve this. We need to raise £1 million to help the most vulnerable children.



**Remembrance Sunday** - 9<sup>th</sup> November



**Christmas Starts** - 30<sup>th</sup> November '**Christingle**' service at 5.00 p.m.



## **Christmas ...**

**14<sup>th</sup> December** – Nativity & gift service

**21<sup>st</sup> December** - Nine lessons and Carols

**21<sup>st</sup> December** - '**Messy Church**' Crib service @ 3.30 p.m.

**24<sup>th</sup> December** - Carol service by candle light @ 6 p.m.  
Midnight Communion @ 11.30 p.m.

**25<sup>th</sup> December** - Christmas Day celebration

Jane Wade



Date for your Diary

St Georges  
**Quiz night**  
15th November 2014

See weekly news sheet for further details

# Apps for Christians

What are apps?

'App' is short for computer 'application' program. Apps can run on the computer, on the internet, on a phone, tablet or other electronic devices. Normally, however, nowadays when people talk about *apps* they usually refer to the 'little' programs that run on mobile devices, such as smartphones or tablet computers.

## Daily Bread



Free from Google Play and Apple App Store

The Our Daily Bread app is the mobile version of the daily devotional. It offers streaming audio, scheduled daily reminders, and links to related Bible passages. It also allows you to journal, bookmark, and share via social media.



*'Excellent App, I like it very much. I appreciate the fact I can download the current month and read it offline for when I have no or poor internet connection.'*

*'Very fantastic app, that's what I use every morning for my devotion. I enjoy the insight footnote very well, and the 'reminder' is awesome'*

## **K-love**



By Educational Media Foundation

Free from Google Play and Apple App Store

K-LOVE plays positive, encouraging contemporary Christian music featuring artists like Chris Tomlin, Casting Crowns and TobyMac. K-LOVE is a not-for-profit, listener supported radio station dedicated to sharing the hope of Jesus through great music.

*'Love the fact they have a bible verse of the day. Praise God for this great contemporary gospel music.'*

## **Prayer Trainer**



Free from Apple App Store

If you think your prayer life needs a workout then this is the app for you. The Prayer Trainer a personal prayer coach who can help you develop a dynamic prayer life.

It will guide and mentor through your prayer times. It can be used for single prayer sessions or longer programs. Choose from different prayer models (A.C.T.S, C.H.A.T, Lectio Divina, Lord's Prayer, P.R.A.I.S.E, P.R.A.Y) or you can create your own.

*'I love Prayer Trainer. I never thought I would ever use an app for something as intimate as my prayer times, but this is really teaching me how to grow and structure my prayer life. I absolutely love the music option.'*

## Streams in the Desert (lite)



By Tap Tap Studio

Free from Google Play and Apple App Store

This Streams in the Desert (lite) app is based on the classic devotional book by L.B. Cowman published in 1925. Mrs L.B. Cowman was a missionary in China and Japan between 1901 and 1917. A 365 day devotional app comprising not only readings from Mrs Cowman's book but also readings taken from the bible, hymns, poems and the writings of many other Christians.

*'Easy to use. Easy to read. No extra, unneeded frills. Thank you for a great way to present this wonderful classic devotional'*

*'Much food in every one! Deep....not fluff'*

## The Word Search



By Christian Family Games

Free from Google Play and Apple App Store

The Word Search  
Christian Family Game

How many disciples did Jesus have? How quickly can you find them on a Word Search board? The Word Search makes learning about the Bible fun and interactive for the whole family. With four difficulty levels, the game is enjoyable for children, teenagers and adults of all ages.

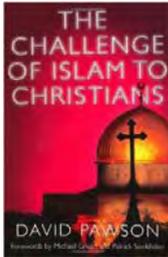
*'Fun app for the whole family to enjoy! Lovely way to brush up on Bible knowledge with some healthy competition between family members to find all the words in the fastest time!'*

## Book Review

### ***The Challenge of Islam to Christianity***

By ***David Pawson***

*'I hope I am wrong. I hope it is a false prophecy'* (DP)



The Challenge of Islam to Christianity is David Pawson's most important and perhaps his most sobering – prophetic message to date. Moral decline and erosion of a sense of ultimate truth have created a spiritual vacuum in the United Kingdom. Pawson believes Islam is better equipped than the Church to move into the gap and it is far more likely to become the country's dominant religion in the future.

The book unpacks and explains the background behind Pawson's claims, and - crucially – sets out a positive blueprint for the Church's response. Christians must rediscover and demonstrate to society the three qualities that make Christianity unique; Reality, Relationship and Righteousness.

This book is essential reading for all Christians. It includes, as an appendix, the address delivered by Pawson in the immediate aftermath of the tragedy of 11 September 2001.

David Pawson has an itinerant ministry to church leaders in the U.K. and overseas. He is the author of numerous books including *The Normal Christian Birth*, *The Road to Hell*, and *When Jesus Return*. A writer and speaker of urgency, clarity and *uncompromising faithfulness to the scriptures*, he is widely considered to be one of the U.K.'s finest biblical expositors.

*# Footnote: The Book was first published in 2003 in response to a sense of 'prophecy' which grew gradually and was shared in a series of talks given around the country. By popular demand the talks were turned into this book.*

*For more of the ministry of David Pawson you can watch and listen to him on YouTube or on his website. <http://davidpawson.org/>. His teaching and talks, some of which were recorded back in the 70's, are as interesting and current as when first given.*

Lynn Wilsher

Views and reviews from others who have read the book:

....This is written from the point of view that Jesus is the only way to God, that Christianity is more than a religion, and that the Church over the millennia has mis-sold Jesus to the world, peddling instead some half-baked mumbo jumbo to try to make people feel better. As a result, other religions, and Islam in particular are now more popular than Christianity in this country. This book is an attempt to change that around...

D. A. Stephens 2007

... The book does provide an interesting discussion which is very relevant as more people attend Mosques in the UK than do church...

Mr. A. Palmer 2004

... A clear, well-written book, in harmony with the Bible, looking at the serious threat Islam poses to Western Christians: where it differs from Christianity, and in reply, what Christians need to focus on.

Paul Parkins 2004

... If you are feeling in any way apathetic about your Christian faith right now, or just that living in the U.K. in this day and age saps you of your zeal for God, then this book is guaranteed to give you a big-picture perspective and re-align your priorities.

C. Boxer 2009

This book is rather over egged, but the fundamental truth is there, if slightly hidden by too many words in some places. Still recommended to those who haven't previously thought much about the subject, it will open the eyes of many! ...

Silver Surfer in Bracknell 2012

The book is good and it explains things well. Very intense read. It makes people think, and predicts a very dark future for England and the Churches.

Lynda Matkin 2013



All ladies are invited to come and enjoy a  
Chocolate Party & Social Evening.



Friday 14th November  
8pm @ St George's Church Hall

A lovely social evening for all the ladies of St  
George's & your friends  
Free Entry – Please bring your own drinks.

During the evening there will be a short presentation, lots of  
samples to taste and then an opportunity to buy those all  
important chocolate gifts for Christmas.

Payment for anything that you buy will be due on the night and you  
can pay by cash or cheque. Orders will be delivered by the end of  
November.

Any questions please contact Angela Such 07941 534123

**Hope to see you there! 😊**



# **DISCOVERY**

Amy: “ I’m proud of my Bible. I’m reading a few pages every night.”

**7000 children 34 schools**  
**Christian Resources for Primary Schools**

Thank you for all your support and encouragement. As I look forward to the new term and the opportunity to share the wonderful stories in the Bible, also to be able to encourage them to read it for themselves, I thought of these verses:

Jesus said,“I praise you Father,Lord of heaven and earth, because you have revealed these things to the little children.” Luke10v21.

And Eph. 6v19:

“Pray that whenever I open my mouth words may be given me so that I will make known the mystery of the good news”.

Thank you for your prayers. We really need to pray for the door to be opened wider for all those Christian organisations who work in schools across the country.

Next term we will be presenting 1170 Childrens Bibles and 970 Good News Bibles. We now have £8400 toward the Bibles including all the pledges of support, so we need a further £2000. Thank you to all have given to the Bibles.

As I look back over the last school year I attribute the success of this work to your prayers. Please continue to pray for the door to remain open.

Thanks, and bless you all  
Andrew Masters

## Discovery - Items for prayer September 2014

1. The door to remain open in the schools.
2. For the door to open to Hammond School and Yew Tree School, also Potten End School. Pray that that I will be invited to these schools.
3. For the finance for the Bibles we currently have £8400 including money pledged and need about £2000.
4. For the health and safety of my family.
5. For the Lord's continuing provision. I am always so grateful for his goodness to us.
6. For the head teachers' and teachers' workload - which is beyond realistic.
7. For the Secretary of State Mrs Nicola Morgan.
8. Please pray for inspiration and anointing for the next assemblies.
9. Please pray for the school clubs that are running:
  1. Pixies Hill Monday 12.15 Discovery Club - Andrew Masters
  2. Lime Walk Monday 3.15 JAM Club - Sarah Moreton
  3. Ayclffe Drive Monday 3.15 Discovery Club - Jenny Howells, Sarah Hutton, Daniella Hobbs.
  4. Nash Mills Thursday 12.30 Jigsaw - Sue Jakeman
  5. South Hill Friday 12.30 Roxolid - Anna Nicks
  6. St Paul's Chipperfield and Sarratt School both have clubs run by their church intern.
  7. Please pray for more volunteers as there are other opportunities for clubs in school.

Thank you so much for praying and for supporting Discovery, this work is a true partnership. Bless you all, Andrew

To support **Discovery** send to:-

Discovery  
128 St Johns Rd  
Hemel Hempstead  
HP1 1NR

Or go to the website  
<http://www.discoveryhemel.org.uk/donate.php>

Andrew Masters Email [andrewjmasters316@gmail.com](mailto:andrewjmasters316@gmail.com)  
Mobile: 07886886951

To support **Bibles** send to:-

Bibles for Children  
28 Crocombe,  
Timsbury,  
Bath.  
BA2 0JS



[www.biblesforchildren.org.uk](http://www.biblesforchildren.org.uk)

Please state the money is for the Hemel Hempstead follow-on account.

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**DEADLINE for  
DECEMBER 2014 & JANUARY 2015  
ISSUE OF FOCUS**

**WEDNESDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER**

Ideally send contributions to [Hwatson@melsted16.co.uk](mailto:Hwatson@melsted16.co.uk)  
but hand-written articles given to Judy are also very  
welcome!



## **‘Don’t abandon them’**

Release's ministry to Christian prisoners of faith goes back to the very origins of Release – and to the courageous life of Pastor Richard Wurmbbrand who inspired a generation to ‘remember those in prison’ (Hebrews 13:3)

Being imprisoned for your faith in Christ is not the most common form of persecution in our world today – but it is one of the most distinctive. To be locked away, to be denied your freedom, and very often to suffer prolonged inhumane treatment brings obvious pressure, both on the faith of the individual concerned and on their family. Release International's Prisoners of Faith ministry has specialised in supporting imprisoned Christians and their families over the past ten years, but the origins of this work go back to the very beginning of Release International.

The inspiration for Release's ministry was Pastor Richard Wurmbbrand, who endured a total of 14 years of imprisonment at the hands of the Communist regime in his native Romania. First arrested in 1948, he initially served eight-and-a-half years in prison. During that time he was kept in solitary confinement for extended periods, seeing no one but his military torturers. Cruelly his family were told he had died in prison. He was eventually released and resumed his gospel ministry with the underground church of Romania, before being re-arrested in 1959 and sentenced to 25 years in prison. The conditions he lived under – and faithfully endured - are described in his famous book *Tortured for Christ*.

Richard was released from prison as part of a general amnesty in 1964. By then he had become a high-profile individual and Christians in Norway negotiated with the Communist regime of

Romania for his release. As a result, he was ransomed out of the country for \$10,000. His story quickly spread around the Christian world, and he and his wife Sabina inspired a number of Christian missions to support those who were being persecuted for their faith in Christ, which is why Release continues to honour the Wurmbrand name.

When we turn to the New Testament we encounter believers suffering imprisonment for their faith, Peter and John (Acts 4) and Paul and Silas (Acts 16). We find Paul urging young Pastor Timothy not to be 'ashamed of the testimony about our Lord, nor of me his prisoner' (2 Timothy 1:8). From a purely human point of view it can be considered a deeply shameful thing to be locked away in prison – even if it is for no other reason than one's faith in Christ and one's determination to preach Him to others. Visiting someone like Paul in prison could have been risky, as in doing so Onesiphorus would have been identifying himself with the same 'subversive sect'. And yet we are told he searched for Paul 'earnestly'. (2 Timothy)

*Tortured for Christ* continues to be a challenging and inspirational read testifying as it does to the sustaining grace of God in the most awful and testing of circumstances. The ability to see such harrowing circumstances as a God-given opportunity for the gospel is itself a gift of God's grace. Many have testified to this down the years, including Richard Wurmbrand. He wrote in *Tortured for Christ*: 'It was strictly forbidden to preach to other prisoners, as it is in captive nations today. It was understood that whoever was caught doing this received a severe beating. A number of us decided to pay the price for the privilege of preaching, so we accepted their terms. It was a deal: we preached and they beat us.'

Today a Christian imprisoned for sharing the gospel can easily feel alone in a hostile world. Their family, too, may feel marginalised and isolated. So the support of Christians in the UK and Ireland – prayerfully, pastorally and practically – can be a real blessing.

After his release from prison Richard Wurmbrand discovered that Christians in the 'free West' knew of his plight and had been praying for him. To him these believers 'were like angels sent from God!' Later they brought him Bibles and other Christian materials for use in the underground church. 'It was not only that they gave us the word of God, but we saw that we were beloved,' he wrote.

In the final chapter of *Tortured for Christ* Richard Wurmbrand urges Christians living in freedom to express Christian love and concern toward their persecuted and imprisoned fellow Christians, not just in prayer, but also financially and practically. He also reminds us of the need to care for the families of those in prison. 'When a member of the underground church is arrested, a terrible tragedy strikes their family. It is usually illegal for anyone to help them. This is very well planned by the Governments to increase the suffering of the family left behind. When a Christian goes to prison – and often to torture or death – the suffering only begins. The family suffers endlessly. I can state for a fact that if rank and- file Christians in the free world had not sent me and my family help, we would never have survived to write these words!'

Richard concluded *Tortured for Christ* with a passionate plea to Western churches not to forget persecuted Christians, especially prisoners: 'Don't abandon them!' His stark words remain as true today as they were in his lifetime.

Lynn Wilsher

Adapted from a current Release magazine article written by **Kenneth Harrod**. You can download and read the full article in the latest Release magazine at <http://www.releaseinternational.org/download-release-magazine/>





## Visit by Gideons International

On November 16<sup>th</sup> Gideons International will visit St. Georges, using part of the service to talk about their recent work at home and abroad.

At present Margaret and I are contacts for the Gideons in St Georges; so look out for, and read, the display in the church.

We are very thankful for the “Friends” of Gideons International in our church – we have 12 at the present time, but we would love to have more members. The task is not onerous – just keep praying for God’s work through Gideons and pray also for the recipients of Bibles and Testaments Gideons give out. Pray, too, for the recipients to read them and experience the power of the Holy Spirit in their lives.

Also many of our “Friends” collect spare coins themselves and often ask friends, family and neighbours to do the same. All funds raised in this way go to buying Bibles and Testaments – no money goes towards administration. “Friends” are the largest contributors of funds for Gideons’ West Herts Branch; so a big thank you to our Gideons “Friends”.

The peace of the Lord be with you,

Steve & Margaret

# MURDER MYSTERY!

The St George's Players will present another of their popular Murder Mysteries on Saturday October 11th.



It is *THAT* time of the year. It is time again for the ANNUAL PANTOMIME OSCARS! Best actors and actresses from far and wide will be there vying for the coveted 'PANTOMIME ACTOR WHO GAVE THE MOST MEMORABLE PERFORMANCE OF THE YEAR' (PAMMPY) award.

Tickets for the **PANTOMIME AWARD CEREMONY** can be obtained from Gill Griffin or Ai Ling Chang. They are priced at £12.50 each and includes a 5 course dinner.

## **Praising God**

Having trouble praising God during your prayer time?

Play,

### **ALPHABET ALLITERATION**

Each day take a letter of the alphabet and think of an adjective and noun for which you can praise God, for instance,

Praise God for his...

- A - Amazing Acts**
- B - Benevolent Blessings**
- C - Caring Control**
- D - Daring Deeds**
- E - Eternal Effectiveness**
- F - Faithful Friendship**
- G - Great Goodness**

Spend a minute just thinking about how God has worked this way in your life and you will find yourself praising God.



# The Sponsored Sleep- Out 2014

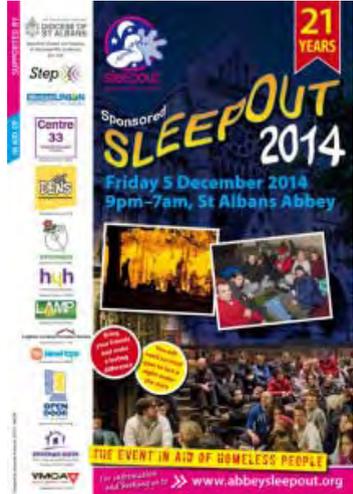
**Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December  
9 p.m. – 7 a.m.  
St. Albans Abbey**

The young people of St. George's (and a few of their brave and mad leaders) are once again taking part in this event. The aim of the sleep-out is to raise awareness of homelessness and to raise funds for ten local charities dedicated to helping homeless people – we will be raising funds for DENS.

Parents, if you would like your young person (aged 11-18) to take part please return their completed permission form as soon as possible.

So for those who are not sleeping outside the Abbey on Friday 5th December 2014, you are invited to spend the evening in the luxury of your own home, beneath the comfort and warmth of your own duvet and make a DONATION to DENS by sponsoring our Youth group. Please see sponsorship form at the back of the Church

\*\*\*Please note that children under 11 years of age may attend the sleep-out only if accompanied by their parent or legal guardian who will be fully responsible for their care.



Jane Wade

## Wednesday ladies bright and cheery

Wednesday ladies bright and cheery  
Greeting each other and having a chat.  
Sometimes, though, the day is dreary,  
The news is grim and I am weary,  
I stand at the front and watch for a while  
And very soon you make me smile.

Wednesday ladies meet and greet,  
Whether making the tea or saving a seat.  
Like birds on a wire with news to tell,  
There's me at the front....I'm in charge of the bell!

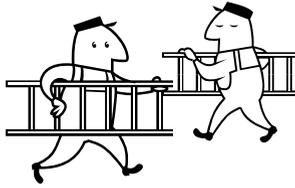
Notices, birthdays, a speaker or two  
Our club has been busy all year through.  
Wednesday ladies full of compassion  
Your generous help doesn't go out of fashion!  
The food bank and DENS, and IIMC,  
I thank you so much for sponsoring me!

Macmillan, the hospice, your support won't subside,  
On several occasions you brung and you buyed!  
Your prayers for each other are a blessing, I know,  
Helping the Kingdom of heaven to grow.

Moya Patel



**Wednesday Welcome** meets every Wednesday in term time, from 10.30 a.m. to 11.30 a.m. in the Martin Whittle Room, with coffee/tea from 10.15 a.m. See Church notice boards for programme information. Contact details in the Directory section of Focus.



Fantastic OPPORTUNITY!

MEET PEOPLE - MAKE FRIENDS

The next *Work Day* is on

Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> November

9.00 a.m. until noon

REFRESHMENTS AT HALF TIME

LOTS TO DO FOR EVERYONE – REGARDLESS OF AGE,

GENDER OR ABILITY!



## Focus on the Home Groups - 2014

### ◆ **What is a home group?**

Quite simply, a group of people drawn from the St George's Family who meet together regularly in a home (or even at Church!). We have 6 groups currently, with a total membership of over 60.

### ◆ **What is it for?**

To enable the members of the small group to get to know and care for one another, and help each other grow in the Christian life. The groups are really appreciated by long-standing and new members alike.

### ◆ **What happens at a home group?**

Each group develops its own particular style of sharing and learning together, drawing on the ingredients of worship, prayer, Bible focussed study/discussion, and maybe a "cuppa". Leading is shared among those members of the group who feel happy to do so, and the subject may be of their own choosing or part of a prearranged series. Meetings typically last 1½ to 2 hours.

### **When and where do the groups meet?**

| <u>Leaders</u>                      | <u>Time</u>                                                                             | <u>Venue</u>                                                |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Amanda &amp; Dan Hobbs</b>       | For the time being, day, venue, leader & time can vary. Telephoning advised 07725525176 |                                                             |
| <b>Kevin &amp; Linda York</b>       | Mon 8.00 p.m.<br>Weekly                                                                 | 6 Stronsay Close,<br>Northend, Hemel                        |
| <b>Tracy Malan</b><br>HH 389022     | 1 <sup>st</sup> /3 <sup>rd</sup> Tues 7.45 pm                                           | "Lauries" London Rd,<br>Bourne End<br>(Peter and Jo Taylor) |
| <b>Richard Waymark</b><br>HH 262646 | Wed 8.00 pm<br>1 <sup>st</sup> /3 <sup>rd</sup> in month                                | 4 Sidford Close<br>(Richard Waymark)                        |
| <b>Gill Griffin</b><br>HH 243267    | Thursday<br>1.30 – 2.45 pm<br>Weekly in term time                                       | The Bell Lounge                                             |

### **Can I join?**

***Yes! If you are interested, or would like to find out more, please speak to Jane Wade or one of the Home Group leaders.***

# WEEKDAY ACTIVITIES

|                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|-------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Mondays</b>    | <b><u>Home Group</u></b> : - 8.00 p.m. Leaders: Linda & Kevin York<br><b><u>Home Group</u></b> –Leaders Amanda and Dan Hobbs<br>NB For the time being, day, venue, leader & time can vary. Telephoning advised – 07725525176                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Tuesdays</b>   | <b><u>Home Group</u></b> – 1 <sup>st</sup> /3 <sup>rd</sup> week of each month at 7.45 p.m. at Peter & Jo Taylor’s home. Leader: Tracy Malan.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>Wednesdays</b> | <b><u>Wednesday Welcome</u></b> – 10.30 a.m. in Church Hall in term time. Coffee/Tea served at 10.15 a.m.<br><b><u>Prayer Fellowship</u></b> : - 2 <sup>nd</sup> /4 <sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each month from 7.00 – 8.00 p.m. in the Bell Lounge<br><b><u>Home Group</u></b> – 1 <sup>st</sup> /3 <sup>rd</sup> week of each month at 8.00 p.m. Leader: Richard Waymark                                                   |
| <b>Thursdays</b>  | <b><u>Toddlers’ Group</u></b> - 10.00 – 11.45 a.m.<br><b><u>Pilots</u></b> :<br>Deckhands – 5.30 – 6.30 p.m.<br>Adventurers – 5.45 – 7.00 p.m.<br>Voyagers – 7.00 – 8.15 p.m.<br>Cell Groups. (Navigators) 8.30 – 9.30 p.m.<br><br><b><u>Grandparent &amp; Toddlers’ Group</u></b> – Weekly in term time,<br>1.30 – 3.00 p.m.<br><br><b><u>Home Group</u></b> – Weekly in term time; 1.30-2.45 p.m.<br>Leader: Gill Griffin |
| <b>Fridays</b>    | <b><u>Youth Chill Zone</u></b> 4 – 6.00 p.m.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Saturdays</b>  | <b><u>Table Tennis</u></b> - 9-11.00 a.m. – Church hall, Leader Dennis Chang and Gill Griffin                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |

**Music Group Practice** – TBC weekly by Worship Leader

## CALENDAR FOR OCTOBER & NOVEMBER 2014

|                                   |                  |                     |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|---------------------|
|                                   |                  |                     |
| <b>Sat. 11<sup>th</sup> Oct.</b>  | 6.30 p.m.        | Murder Mystery      |
|                                   |                  |                     |
| <b>Tues. 14<sup>th</sup> Oct.</b> | 7.30 p.m.        | Elders' Meeting     |
|                                   |                  |                     |
| <b>Sun. 19<sup>th</sup> Oct.</b>  | 10.30 a.m.       | Harvest Sunday      |
|                                   |                  |                     |
| <b>Sun. 19<sup>th</sup> Oct.</b>  | 3.30 – 6.00 p.m. | Messy Church        |
|                                   |                  |                     |
| <b>Sun. 26<sup>th</sup> Oct.</b>  | After service    | Church meeting      |
|                                   |                  |                     |
| <b>Tues. 4<sup>th</sup> Nov.</b>  | 7.30 p.m.        | Elders' Meeting     |
|                                   |                  |                     |
| <b>Sat. 8<sup>th</sup> Nov.</b>   | 9.00 - Noon      | Workday             |
|                                   |                  |                     |
| <b>Sun 9<sup>th</sup> Nov.</b>    | 10.30 a.m.       | Remembrance Sunday  |
|                                   |                  |                     |
| <b>Sat. 15<sup>th</sup> Nov.</b>  | Evening          | Quiz Night          |
|                                   |                  |                     |
| <b>Sun. 16<sup>th</sup> Nov.</b>  | 3.30 – 6.00 p.m. | Messy Church        |
|                                   |                  |                     |
| <b>Sun. 30<sup>th</sup> Nov.</b>  | 5.00 p.m.        | Christingle Service |
|                                   |                  |                     |

### CHRISTMAS DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> December – Nativity & gift service

Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> December - Nine lessons and Carols, 10.30 a.m. and 'Messy Church' Crib service at 3.30 p.m.

Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> December - Carol service by candle light at 6 p.m. and Midnight Communion at 11.30 p.m.

Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> December - Christmas Day celebration

# DIRECTORY

## ST. GEORGE'S URC

|                                          |                                                          |                                                                                                             |
|------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Minister:</b>                         | Revd. Jane Wade                                          | Tel: 216597                                                                                                 |
| <b>Secretary:</b>                        | Jeremy Flynn                                             | Tel: 215268                                                                                                 |
| <b>Treasurer:</b>                        | Brian Hardy                                              | Tel: 266337                                                                                                 |
| <b>Focus Magazine:</b>                   | Judy Watson<br>Ai Ling Chang                             | Tel: 261056 or<br><a href="mailto:Watson@melsted16.co.uk">Watson@melsted16.co.uk</a>                        |
| <b>Magazine Distribution:</b>            | Alf Guilder                                              | Tel: 256926                                                                                                 |
| <b>Junior Church co-coordinator</b>      | Sharon Boyall                                            | Tel: 213538                                                                                                 |
| <b>Pilots:</b>                           |                                                          |                                                                                                             |
| <b>Captain:</b>                          | Jane Wade                                                | Tel: 216597                                                                                                 |
| <b>Deckhands</b> (Years R-2)             | Andrew & Yvonne Masters                                  | Tel: 389278                                                                                                 |
| <b>Adventurers</b> (Years 3-6)           | Jane Wade                                                | Tel: 216597                                                                                                 |
| <b>Voyagers</b> (Years 7-9)              |                                                          |                                                                                                             |
| <b>Toddlers Group</b>                    | Carol Edgeworth                                          | Tel: 392389                                                                                                 |
| <b>Wednesday Welcome</b>                 | Jo Taylor                                                | Tel: 862754                                                                                                 |
| <b>Home Groups</b>                       | Revd. Jane Wade                                          | Tel: 216597                                                                                                 |
| <b>Music Group</b>                       | Co-ordinator: Mark Wade<br><br>Music Director: Dan Hobbs | Tel: 216597 or<br>07869131756<br>248427 or 07717201775                                                      |
| <b>Prayer Co-ordinator</b>               | Penny Crosswell                                          | Tel: 211457                                                                                                 |
| <b>Prayer Chain</b>                      | Dan Hobbs                                                | e-mail at:<br><a href="mailto:dan@thewadetribe.co.uk">dan@thewadetribe.co.uk</a><br>or Text on: 07717201775 |
| <b>Hall Bookings</b> (Church Activities) | Dave Greenwood                                           | Tel: 258757                                                                                                 |
| <b>Transport Co-ordinator</b>            | Denise Chennells                                         | Tel: 246277                                                                                                 |
| <b>Table Tennis Leaders</b>              | Dennis Chang & Gill Griffin                              | Tel: 243267 (Gill Griffin)                                                                                  |
| <b>Women's Ministry</b>                  | Angela Such                                              | Tel: 07941 534123                                                                                           |