

The Shield June 2020



www.freezywater.org

Registered Charity: 1143794

40p

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Editorial Deadline

For July 2020 Issue - Please submit your article to magazine@freezywater.org by Tuesday 23rd June.

If you submit a handwritten article, please contact Roni Battley in the Parish Office.

The Parish Magazine Online

This issue, can be viewed online. To view copies from May 2020 to the present day go to:

www.freezywater.org

Sunday Readings for June 2020 Year A/2

	1st Reading	Psalm	2nd Reading	Gospel
7th JUNE	ISAIAH 40: 12-17,	8	2 CORINTHIANS 13: 11-13	MATTHEW 28: 16-20
TRINITY SUNDAY	27-31		13. 11 13	20. 10 20
14th JUNE	EXODUS	100	ROMANS 5:	MATTHEW
1ST SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY	19: 2-8A		1-8	9: 35 – 10: 8
21ST JUNE	JEREMIAH	69	ROMANS 6:	MATTHEW
2ND SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY (MU)	20: 7-13		1B –11	10: 24-39
28TH JUNE	JEREMIAH	89	ROMANS 6:	MATTHEW
3RD SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY	28: 5-9	89	12-23	10: 40-42



Facebook Live Streaming VouTube

Watch our Virtual Live Parish Mass from our Facebook page:

The Parish of St. Georges Enfield in Freezywater

or our YouTube page: More Tea Vicar.

Live Streaming

Sunday - 10am Mass

Wednesday - 12 noon Mass

Thursday - 7.30pm Mass





Free food donations are delivered each Thursday to the Church from the Felix Project. We open the church up from 6pm - 7pm for people to come and collect. Own shopping bags are needed!

For those who are in our parish boundary (in Freezywater) and who are housebound

and would like to be added to our list for home delivery, please contact Bella Lowen directly on 07768 893142 with details.

Thank you to Bella Lowen, Roni Battley & Norman Benson who have teamed up to help with this project!

The Vicar's Letter

My brothers and sisters in Christ, I sincerely hope you are all well during this lock down period. The government's plan to ease some of the lock down measures in near future sounds good, yet I still feel that the time hasn't come yet for us to go back to normal life.





The church is moving (quietly) forward though, preparing for the day when we can open the church door again to the worshipper. As you can see from the photo, the drive way is looking good with fresh tarmac, our Garden of Remembrance is also in fairly good condition! Thank you to all volunteers for their hard work and dedication.

Yet, it seems inevitable to have some strict measures in place if we reopen the church door in the future; you will be advised to sit in a certain place, keeping safe distance, of course. We will not being able to have hymn books or an order of service booklet. We may need to change some service times too, and may not be able to use the Lady Chapel, as it is rather small for a public worship under the new 'covid proof' guidance.

So many issues we are battling on with now, yet we will get through it. Where there is a will, there is a way!

During this lock down, we have been concentrating on keeping people together. Live Streaming is one of the good examples of what we do, in order to bring the church to you, rather than bringing people into the church building. Thoughts for the Night, which is another Live Streaming we do, is designed to keep the wider community in Freezywater together during this time. I do appreciate the participation from the people, and it has been wonderful to see that we remain faithful, positive and happy. Also, I must say a big thank you to my churchwardens and Fr. Vince for their pastoral care to the people. Without their support, I wouldn't be able to do anything! Truly amazing work they are doing for the people of God in St. George's.

Although we are 'doing well' in our online virtual community, I am aware of the needs of many people who don't have access to the internet. I do hope this Parish Magazine may help us to be still connected, and constantly be a source of encouragement. We are trying to keep in touch with the members of our church by visiting them or through telephone conversations. So, please, be patient, if we have less frequency in communicating with you. Our priority is for those who live alone, therefore those who live with other family members may feel a bit left behind. I just want to make sure, we never forget anyone, and we are doing our best within the time given to us.

During the last couple of weeks, I have witnessed so many positive things and they have been such a huge encouragement for me. Yet, I also have had rather sad moments too. As many of you know, we had an accident in the church: someone broke our church windows, three of them (as you can see from the photo).







I don't think it was an attempt to get into the church, rather it seems a typical vandalism. We reported it to the police and are waiting for a specialist to come and fix them. It will cost us £1200 which is not cheap at all. What makes me more annoyed is the fact that we have to waste our time and energy to deal with this situation. Yes, there are some people who don't feel shame on what they are doing. Things are now under control, I have to say, but I am still upset and deeply saddened by this accident. Yet, I want to see positive signs from it rather than staying in misery! Thank you all for your prayers and I must say that the team work from the PCC and staff members of the parish has been fantastic.

Whatever happens in our lives, we must try to see the bright and positive side too. This is, I believe, what we Christians should do in

the end. It is not because we treat things lightly and easily forget things, rather it is because we see the more important things; a simple fact that Jesus brought Salvation to us by his Passion and Death, is something we already know as the story of Easter. After the Eastertide, we, again, are being reminded by the story of the Assumption and Pentecost; Jesus left his disciples and went up to heaven, in order for them to receive a huge gift, the gift of the Holy Spirit. Yes, one might say it is irony for us to have such 'fall and rise' again and again. St. Augustine felt exactly the same way too. When he saw the fall of Adam and Eve, he didn't see the fall of human being as a failure itself. Rather, he saw that the sin of Adam was 'necessary,' in order for God to bring the Salvation to earth through Jesus Christ. Hence, when we sing Exultet at the Easter Vigil, the priest/Deacon/cantor sings;

O truly necessary sin of Adam,
Destroyed completely by the Death of Christ!
O happy fault that earned so great,
So glorious a Redeemer

Having considered that, I wonder how you feel about this Covid19 pandemic; do you think this lock down is all evil? Or can you spot any positive things out of it? As I said earlier, it is a painful thing for me to see the church's struggle, not being able to be a place of prayer and worship anymore. It makes me angry to see some people being so irresponsible, ignoring others and being so selfish. It makes me so disappointed to see the lack of leadership, humility and honesty from the leaders of the nations worldwide.

Yet, I see the signs of love and hope too. I see the signs of deep faith from the members of our congregation, the genuine love towards Jesus and our neighbour.

These are the things that sustain me at the moment, and make me feel that I am happy to be a part of this community as a vicar.

We know that it will take long for us to go back to our normal life and in many cases, we are running out of our patience. Yet, I do pray that the good Lord, our generous God, will provide everything we need, and he will guide us and protect us as we journey on. He will help us to do what we need to do, and will bless us in our action.

So, my brothers and sisters, let's not lose hope. Let us remember the message of Easter, which is the message of Salvation. Let us read the story of Pentecost, the story of God's abundant blessing towards his people. And let us pray that we, as members of St. George's Church, may stay strong in faith, and be his disciples, even in this unprecedented time.

May God bless us all, so that we may be the sign of his love and glory.

Stay safe.

Fr. Taemin





Baptisms, Weddings & Funerals

Due to the Covid19, we had no baptisms or weddings in the church. Once we open the church, we will be able to hold baptisms and weddings, according to the guidance from the College of Bishops in the Diocese of London. Thank you for your patience.

Please, pray for the faithful departed, especially those who used to worship at St. George's, those who used to live in our parish, or those who had a link with us. Among them, we pray for:



Charles Lamkin (died on 2/4/20), cremation was on Monday 20th April. Beatrice Boateng (died on 30/3/20), cremation was on Tues 21st April. Cheryl Williams (died on 12/4/20), cremation was on Friday 24th April. Dorothy Blacktopp (died on 21/4/20), cremation was on Thur 7th May. Geoffrey Howson (died on 10/4/20), cremation was on Mon 11th May. John Mason (died on 6/4/20), cremation was on Tuesday 12th May. Blanche Annis (died on 23/4/20), burial was on Thursday 21st May. Angela Stephens (died on 7/5/20), burial was on Thursday 28th May.

May they rest in peace.



Services are currently postponed in Church. Please visit our Facebook Page, "The Parish of St George Enfield in Freezywater" or "More Tea Vicar" on YouTube for virtual services.

Thought for the Night will be every night at 10pm except Saturdays.

7th June - Trinity Sunday

10.00am Parish Virtual Mass

10th June - Wednesday

12.00pm Virtual Mass

11th June - Thursday

7.30pm Virtual Mass

13th June - Saturday

12 noon Virtual Mass

14th June - 1st Sunday after Trinity

10.00am Parish Virtual Mass

17th June- Wednesday

12.00pm Virtual Mass

18th June - Thursday

7.30pm Virtual Mass

20th June - Saturday

12 noon Virtual Mass

21st June - 2nd Sunday after Trinity

10.00am Parish Virtual Mass



24th June - Wednesday (Feast Day of St. John the Baptist)
12.00pm Virtual Mass

Fr. Vince's 3rd Anniversary of Ordination to the Priesthood. Ordained on 24th June 2017.



25th June - Thursday

7.30pm Virtual Mass

27th June - Saturday

12 noon Virtual Mass

28th June - 3rd Sunday after Trinity

10.00am Parish Virtual Mass

Collections for May				
	8.30am	10a	ım	Stewardship
3rd May	-		-	-
10th May	-		1	£319.00
17th May	-		1	-
25th May	-		-	-
31st May	-		-	-

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- · Carpet cleaning machine hire
- Passport photos
- Enfieldian & Roadways coach trips

Vicar	Revd Taemin Oh	07737 161 317
Assistant Curate	Revd Vince Sheehan	07515 681 923
Churchwardens /	David Jenner	01992 762541
Safeguarding	Irene Selema	07867 533 718
Verger	Dudley Williams	0208 292 8401
PCC Secretary	David Gibson	01992 760279
Electoral Roll Officer	Roni Battley	01992 760279
Gift Aid Officer	Michael Lewis	01992 711628
Garden of Remembrance	Helen Parker	0208 3636006
Children's Champion	Jacqueline Stewart	07989 240 011
Mothers' Union	Jean Benson	01992 764162
Christian Aid	Christine Nnadi	01992 766608
A.L.M.A	Joan Wayland	01992 710396
Parish Administrator	Roni Battley	01992 760279
Parish Hall Manager	Vicky Lacey-Freeman	01992 767954
Parents & Toddler Group	Monday Mornings 9.45am –11.30am	Contact the Hall

Mothers' Union Corporate Service

- 3rd Sunday and the last Wednesday of each month
- Meetings: 2^{nd} Thursday at 2pm in the vestry and last Tuesday at 8pm in the small hall.



16th Enfield Guides	Rebecca Jenner	07913 055 845
	Monday 7.30pm	sixteenthenfieldguides @hotmail.com
Enfield East Rangers	Alison Foster	07951 722 534
	Monday 7.15pm	foster9dy@btinternet.com
16th & 27th Brownies	Jeannie Webb	07966 203 042
	Thursday 6pm	webbjeannie8@gmail.com
3rd Enfield East	Lesley Fishpool	01992 763 590
Rainbows	Monday 4.30pm	
14th Enfield Scouts	Ron Beckwith	07979 593 783
	Friday 7.30pm	01992 718 449
14th Enfield Cubs	Amanda Hoy	07939 425 023
	Wednesday 6.15pm	
14th Enfield Beavers	Carol Beckwith	07979 593 785
	Wednesday 6.00pm	01992 718 449

June 2020 PCC Meeting

To be confirmed via Zoom.

St. Georges Flower Team

Flowers for all occasions; Baptisms, Weddings, Anniversaries, Memorial Flower Arrangements for display in church

We are here to help!

Chancel Walls, Basket types or Pedestals.

Please ask us for our arrangement prices.

Joyce, Joan, Lenora & Tricia.





Many Happy Returns to Mary Dwyer on her 99th Birthday celebrated on 25th May.

* If anyone you know is celebrating a birthday, anniversary, a place at a new school or University etc. let us know so we can celebrate together! *

The 27th Enfield Brownies meet every Thursday Evening (excluding school holidays) 6pm - 7.30pm in St. Georges Church, Freezywater Small Hall.

Brownies are aged between 7 - 10 years. If you want to come and join and experience fun packed evenings with also weekends and trips away we would love to see you!

Come along one Thursday evening or contact us.



Contact Tel: 07966203042





We do cool stuff

Brownies opens up a world of exciting challenges and the opportunity to try new things and make brilliant friends.



Registered sharlly number 20000

St. George's Parent and Toddlers Group

Every Monday (Term Time Only)

From 9.45am—11.30am
In the Large Hall

Craft table, toys, story time with drinks and healthy snacks.

The session ends with songs.

£1 for first child then 50p per additional child.



Parish Primary School

Freezywater St. George's Cof E VA Primary School
Mrs. Michelle Sheehan (Headteacher) 01992 764 737
www.freezywaterstgeorges.org.uk

The Friends of St. George's School Katie O'Donnell (Chair) Kelly Sullivan (Vice Chair) Rebecca Egunjobi (Secretary) Tony Cunningham (Treasurer)

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My Lockdown Experience in Nigeria

I thank Almighty God for His grace and mercy upon my family and I as well as every member of our beloved church.



I also acknowledged with David in thanking everyone who in their own way has supported one another in this challenging period.

My family and I arrived in Nigeria for a period of 10 days for the children, 3 to 4 weeks respectively for me and Daso. NO sooner we arrived, the country went into lockdown.

Our initial lockdown was a bit relaxed in the sense that you can visit your family while observing social distancing and washing hands/use of sanitiser. When you go to the mall/shopping centres or restaurants, you must wear your face mask, your temperature is checked and sanitiser is provided at the entrance.

When we are at home, just like you in London, everyone is either watching films or on social media with friends.

However, we tried to link up some activities with Laura and her family back home by playing some quiz games and one of the quiz games we played is attached below for anyone to try and see if they can identify all the symbols as it applies to the current situation.

Quiz Time, what viruses are these? OOOOOO



The other aspects of our activities was linking up with services on Sundays and Thought for the Night. How excited we were at the first day we worshipped together, I think it was Palm Sunday, I felt homesick and sad that we all hat to stay away from church. Also as that would have been our first Holy Week preparation as Churchwardens. "I thank God upon every remembrance of you". Never mind!! We have next year to look forward to by his grace.

One thing I must mention, is that the Anglican Churches over here have adopted to having four service times instead of two in other to comply with social distancing thereby having less congregations at each service. These times are 7.00am, 8.30am, 10.00am and 11.30am. As every Nigerian or African knows our services are usually longer than 2 hours for each of two services times. So, this is a new experience for everyone.

That is it for now.....I really look forward to the lockdown being lifted for us to have fellowship together for I have missed seeing everyone.

Thanks and remain blessed.



Irene Selema



Jean Howson and family would like to thank everyone for their kind messages, phone calls, prayers and cards received after the loss of her husband Geoff.

They were all gratefully received and a comfort to us all.

Anna O'Hara

MSSCh, MBChA

Qualified Surgical Chiropodist

Registered member of the British Chiropody and Podiatry Association



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David Gibson (PCC Secretary & Deanery Synod Member) writes:

I have been working from home for 4 weeks since the country went into Lockdown, after that I had been placed on Furlough as there was not enough work for me to be doing online remotely, but I am in contact with most of the people I work with via WhatsApp messaging.

I have continued to be studying on Christian Studies Course for the final term which now has moved online using the Moodle online platform which is very easy to use. This is a completely new way of learning for me as I am used to classroom style learning, but this is not possible at the moment.

My daily routine is still of a regular pattern where I make sure that I go out and get some exercise in the form of a walk, which usually involves carrying shopping bags! We are blessed that we can go and enjoy our Lord's creation where last Saturday I saw two families of ducklings which had not long been hatched and were padding along nicely.

I miss being at Church on Sundays and serving with the

team children servers and Ajoke. I have been listening to the service on BBC Radio 4 at 8:10am and then watching the Sunday Worship programme on BBC 1 at 10:45am, trying to watch a Facebook live streaming did pose a few problems as my phone signal was going down and the picture quality was buffering a bit at times (everyone must have been online at that time).

Hope everyone at St. George's are keeping well and I am looking forward to the time when we can all meet again at Church.

Take care everyone.

Stephen (PPC Member) writes:

It all began with a couple of floors in the office block where I work having staff that tested positive for coronavirus. And gradually, the other tenants in the building decided to work from home with the number of staff turning up at the building dwindling eventually to zero. Just a couple of days later, the general lockdown was announced.

Initially, I felt a sense of relief as several weeks before the lockdown arthritis in my knees, particularly the left knee flared up.

Unfortunately, during the lockdown my wife Anna who works at an NHS rehabilitation centre in Chingford, developed a dry cough accompanied with sore throat but no other symptoms. This got a bit scary when the cough continued for several weeks. Anna not being someone who will voluntarily agree to stay at home, particularly with a boring and non talkative husband; had to be talked to and cajoled by our daughter calling daily from New York and myself to eventually agree to call the Ordnance Unity Centre to speak to a GP.

The GP then prescribed antibiotics and ordered Anna to stay at home. The prescription had been sent to a pharmacy in Winchmore Hill and both of us being permitted to staying at home, we needed someone to go and collect it. Fortunately, I telephoned one our Church members, Charles Ladosu, and he kindly agreed to help. Glad to report that Anna has since returned to work once again.

Sadly, I have lost two friends, ex Merchant Navy colleagues of mine to coronavirus. The worrying fact is that Anna and I were at a service of songs gathering with both now deceased friends on the 7th of March. We were six friends sitting at the same table, and for two of them to die within two weeks of each other was very sad, worrying and shocking. Being the honorary secretary of the Organisation of Nigerian Mariners and Friends in the UK, I was able to pass the hat around via telephone, WhatsApp and emails to raise a bit of donations for the relatively young widows and their two very young kids. May their souls and the souls of all the departed during this Covid-19 pandemic rest in perfect peace.

Meanwhile, I have turned to walking in our garden to try and get my ten thousand steps a day. Since the Furlough has been further extended, I will have to break my walk in the garden to 3 X 100 laps per day. Anna and I did manage a walk to and from Tesco in Ponders End, doing a good 14,000 plus steps in total. But it took me a few days to recover from the long trek.

It has been a great help for mental health to have the live streaming from St. George Freezywater. A big thank you to Fr. Taemin, Fr. Vincent, Comedian/Church Warden David Jenner and their families for the services and Thought for the night videos.

We pray for God's protection, mercy and survival during this perilous time and may we all be reunited in not too distant future. Amen.

Michael Lewis (PPC Member) writes:

I have spent most of my time indoors. I lost all my personal students for English as the exams had been cancelled and the schools had been closed. I have been furloughed as an examiner for Cambridge International Exams. My main concern is that of my 92 year old mother who is in sheltered accommodation and lives 100 miles away and it is only recently I have been satisfied that she has had shopping done for her and that she can speak to the staff working in the complex. I can not wait for all this to end!

Margaret Blazey (PPC Member) writes:

It does not seem possible that we have been in "lockdown" since the middle of March and I do wonder how life is going to pan out in the future. Den and I are having to be extra careful and realise how lucky we are to have family near by who are looking after us; a BIG thank you to daughter Jane and the Jenner family especially Rebecca who has done our weekly shop.

It has been great to join the live streaming of the Church services and "Thought for the Night"— thank you to Fr. Taemin, Fr. Vince and David Jenner for giving us these opportunities to feel connected to St. George's. Now I know how to connect to ZOOM and enjoy family catch-ups each Sunday and was able to connect to the PCC meeting. You are never too old to learn!!

We so look forward to meeting up with everyone in church again soon.

"If God is our heavenly Father and we are his children, that makes us equal. We are all brothers and sisters of the same one family."

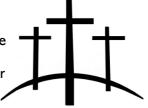
Galatians 3.28

Caroline Shaw (PPC Member) writes:

Chris and I are keeping well, thankfully, and keeping busy. We are fortunate that we can both work from home. We have family members who are finding the situation tough, and we're doing our best to keep in touch with them. We're also taking part in online music and dance events, and looking forward to getting back to the real thing!

New Enfield Area Dean

Bishop Rob has emailed me to announce that the new Area Dean for Enfield Deanery will be Fr Stephen Gallagher who is the Parish Priest of our neighbouring parish of St. Peter & St. Paul, Enfield Lock.



Fr Stephen was ordained in 1989 has served in parishes in the Dioceses of Durham, York and Chichester before he became Shrine Priest at the Shrine of Our Lady at Walsingham and more recently as Parish Priest of St. Peter & St. Paul Enfield Lock.

Fr Stephen will be 'virtually commissioned' as Area Dean on 27 May by Bishop Rob (which will have happened by the time you read this article).

Bishop Rob has asked that we keep the Deanery, Fr Stephen and Fr Stuart Owen (current Area Dean as he is moving to be Rector of Berkhamsted) in our prayers.

David Gibson



Parish Administrators Report - May 2020

Our Lent lunches ended after two weeks. We had 43 people both weeks through our doors and in total we made £274.15.

Back in early April, we sent out letters to members of our congregation, with all the relevant information regarding worship, pastoral care, church finance and bank details. We also included a printed prayer leaflet. It seems that everyone got their post! Very happy about that!

We have been in contact with members of the congregation, by phone or popping cards through their doors, to see if they are ok and if they need anything. People are very grateful for this contact and we thank Fr. Taemin, Fr. Vince and David Jenner, who have been actively contacting people.

Every Thursday, we have The Felix Project deliver food to the church. The food is placed on tables inside the church, ready for 6pm when the doors are opened to the public for an hour. Any food left is delivered by Bella to families in the community. This has been a great success for all who are in need at this time and we thank Fr. Taemin, Bella Lowen and Norman Benson for all their hard work.

We printed off The Shield Magazine for May. Rebecca Jenner has taken over the magazine. People are very happy with the new design! We printed off some and David and Rebecca kindly delivered them to members of the congregation. Thank you both for delivering the magazines and Rebecca, our new Editor!

Money was banked last week. We have had a steady amount of Stewardship envelopes delivered. The amount was £319.00 in envelopes. Hall money banked was £872.02 and Church money was £566.38.

Between Fr. Taemin, Fr. Vince, The Churchwardens and myself we regularly keep the sick list and anniversaries of death up to date. Any post that is delivered to the hall for Sticky Fingers I send on to Sheniz, the owner. Any post for Pre School, I pop through Rebecca Egunjobi's door.

Lynn Winter writes...

St George's Church has been a part of my life for as long as I can remember; I attended School, Sunday School, Brownies, Guides, Rangers and Young Families. I no longer visit regularly but keep up to date through my Mum, Jean Benson.



It is the anniversary of my Dad's death in April and I would usually attend church at this time so I started to watch the live streaming of services via Facebook, to hear him remembered in the prayers. I then found that, because we were not being allowed to leave our homes, I had the time to continue watching the services which I found comforting during this pandemic.

I subsequently started watching the Thought For The Night and I often see the names of others watching that I have known for many years. This makes me feel a closeness, albeit virtual, and sense of unity. I particularly enjoy the musical interludes — even David's!

As has often been said recently, these are very strange and unprecedented times but the live streaming has given me a certain strength so I would like to give my thanks to all those concerned with making it happen.

Hannah Dyson writes...

My name is Hannah Dyson, I'm from Enfield and recently I discovered the St Georges Freezywater Church Community. I enjoy watching and listening to some of the services by Father Taemin and Father Vince. I absolutely love the Thought For the Night at 10pm each evening and actually look forward to it now! I found the Covid 19 crisis pretty stressful at times especially at first as I have three children and was just starting a new job in the NHS when the outbreak was gathering pace. Beginning a new job after a one year maternity leave can feel strange and it certainly did feel overwhelming in the sense that we were all entering the unknown.

My way of coping with Covid 19 was gardening, taking photos of flowers on my walks, listening to bird song, keeping positive even through a tough shift at the hospital, listening to Ed Sheeran and getting to know my local community



which includes St Georges. I have loved the afternoon teas with Father Taemin and the parishioners, recording a message to wish Mary a happy 99th birthday, singing along to Fr Taemin's songs thinking we all sound fabulous but actually sounding like a sick cat.

I would like to take this opportunity to encourage everyone to get involved in local democracy and increase their learning, education and knowledge by watching or listening to our webinars. The Facebook group Enfield Voices, a community forum and Globalnet21 produce a range of webinars on various subjects such as immigration, local environment, national and international environmental issues, local government, homelessness, home education, local history, poetry, authors, writing, park groups, positivity during a crisis, money management, domestic abuse, identity politics.

The webinars are produced by Francis Sealey who is an ex BBC journalist who used to produce programmes for the BBC Open University. This reflects the style of many of the webinars as they are educational and informative. We also interview local politicians about subjects such as holding local government to account and making democracy accessible to all by holding Council meetings online via Zoom.

Find out more about us here https://www.facebook.com/groups/763895757039726/about/

We also have a website called Globalnet21 https://www.globalnet21.org/ which contains all the podcasts of interviews we have done over the last few years.

I've lived in the borough most of my life. I've always been interested in what's going on locally whether it's local events or issues affecting many residents.

In 2017 during the general election, I joined Enfield Voices and got involved in the online hustings via Zoom by asking questions to the local candidates. Francis Sealey and Emma Rigby did a great job in interviewing the candidates and I got carried away in the tide of enthusiasm for holding politicians to account. I was then asked to be Admin for the group.

Part of the reason for having interviewed local candidates during elections like in 2017 is the sad but inevitable demise of local newspapers and local journalism. The amount of local journalists has declined dramatically and they can't be everywhere. There is also the natural political bias for one reason or another. When you have citizen journalism, they normally have the ability to tease out the answers, ask the awkward questions but they're not afraid of being shunned by local government because it's voluntary and not our paid job, rather it's a vocation, something in built in our DNA which probably makes local politicians feel quite nervous. I know when Francis Sealey and I put our heads together, we are quite a force to be reckoned with!

So, what is citizen journalism? It is when us the people empower ourselves by reporting on local events or situations, gain knowledge and hold local government to account. With the demise of local newspapers this has never been more important. Without proper scrutiny, we cannot have true democracy as democracy has to be seen to be done not just carried out behind closed doors. I'm very passionate about local residents getting involved in democracy. It's not just about the physical act of voting during elections. The walk there and back to a polling station. It's about getting to know your local councillors, thinking about what issues you have in your locality and how your voice can make a difference. Your voice can make a difference.

So many think politics doesn't apply to them. Well, it applies to all of us!



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Choir Cushions & Kneelers

With the arrival of our lovely new chairs at the beginning of the year you may remember in February we were all getting ready to start a new project making cushions for the choir and kneelers for the servers. In the first instance we were looking at raising the money and we placed a box at the back of church for donations. During the Lent Lunches we started a raffle selling tickets every week hoping to draw the winners on the last Thursday before Holy Week.

As you know two weeks into Lent Lunches all gatherings/meetings had to be suspended and at the time of writing this article, the situation has not changed.

The sold raffle tickets and money together with the prizes are in safe keeping along with your kind donations collected from the box. When it is possible we will continue to sell the raffle tickets for a few more weeks and then hold the draw.

It is so frustrating because during this time of lockdown, individuals on furlough had offered to start stitching the kneelers but after contacting the company who is supplying us is in lockdown itself!

We will keep in touch and continue with this project as soon as we can.

Margaret Blazey

Tel: 01992 715210 Mob: 07753 931832

Prayer about the outbreak

God of compassion,

be close to those who are ill, afraid or in isolation.

In their loneliness, be their consolation:

in their anxiety, be their hope;

in their darkness, be their light;

through him who suffered alone on the cross.

but reigns with you in glory,

Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.





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Dates for the Diary!



Tuesday 8th September

Sunday 13th September

Sunday 27th September

Sunday 1st November

Monday 2nd November

Our Church Birthday

- Dedication Service

- Harvest (Bring & Share)

- All Saints' Day

- All Souls' Day



Allotment Diary

Well the two of us survived...just. We went through the most awful experience so far of our lives. I am sure there are people in greater suffering but it felt a close thing to approaching our coffins, I don't think they make a double!



Recovery was a bit shaky bit it's allotment time. Breathing is a bit laboured at times for us both especially for heavy lifting, so I said don't lift your purse then...(it's full of copper coins). The garden has various vegetables started off and potatoes (First Earlies) and onions are in, together with a small patch of carrots. Digging hard soil was wearing on me as we do not have all the raised beds set up yet.

The wife noticed a delivery of council compost in the distance on the allotment, I said no chance too far away for me to get it. The boss (the wife) is clearly getting better as my annual leave was spent between allotment, DIY and planning DIY. The phase "When you are retired " and "I was thinking... " sends a shudder down my spine as they are followed by an explanation of further large scale DIY projects.

We moved the cold frame from the garden to the allotment but I had to take it apart slightly to reduce the weight. Now, I built that solidly never to be re located. There was a lot of puffing and groaning of muscles and limbs as it was re positioned at the allotment site. She reminds me that it was "your idea" to re locate it! Me and my big mouth. A lot of an apple tree had to be pruned to get it into position but hopefully it will be of use for the cucumbers.

We social distance at the allotment but you still get people that want to talk and compare practices and look over your produce. The wife directs activities while thinking of home DIY. I am so lucky that many DIY stores make visiting difficult (Can't stand in a queue for ages nowdays).

The wife worries when I go cycling but I say "You know where the will is " and go on my way. I return to find a face of "I told you so , your too warn out for anything!" as I gasp "Tea, tea by the gallon ...one sugar." I forget that it was 30 years ago when I used to compete in cycling and now I have youngsters and pensioners beating me up the hills.

I must remember to earth up the potatoes as if they get too much light the go green and poisonous and we have had our fill of ill health. I believe people prayed for the wife to get better, not sure if I was included in that ?We clearly have a different outlook on life considering we both feel that we were so ill and either wanted death to end it or felt we were heading towards death.

I am sure I kept going because I was not going to waste the money we spent on those raised vegetable beds at the allotment. We had better have a good crop this year as one of our plot neighbours 24 years older than me seems to take it in his stride together with his multiple ailments that he is happy to enlighten a listener as he suggests having an allotment is easy ...but then he does own a tractor!

C.Ray

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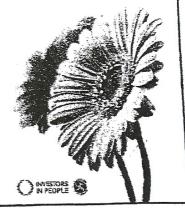
Enfield

187 Hertford Road

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113/119 Lancaster Road

020 8363 6301



14th Enfield Scout Group



Scouts - Fridays 7.30pm - 9.30pm St Georges Large Hall.

Cubs - Wednesday 6.15pm - 7.45pm St. Georges Large Hall.

Beavers - Wednesdays 6.00pm - 7.30pm St. Georges Small Hall.

For further information please contact

GSL - Keith Spong

07950 436 244



Did you know the 14th Enfield Beaver Colony meet at St. George's Community Hall every Wednesday night?

Join us for:

- Games
- Competitions
- Badgework
- Camping
- And much more fun!



If you are aged between 6 and 8 and want to be involved with the world's largest youth organisation please contact Carol (Badger) on 01992 718449 or come along on a Wednesday night to take a look!



(If you're not yet 6 you can put your name on our waiting list)

Boys and Girls welcome!

St. Georges Parish Hall & Community Centre

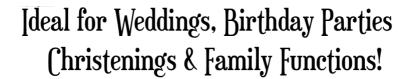


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The Parish of St. George's Enfield