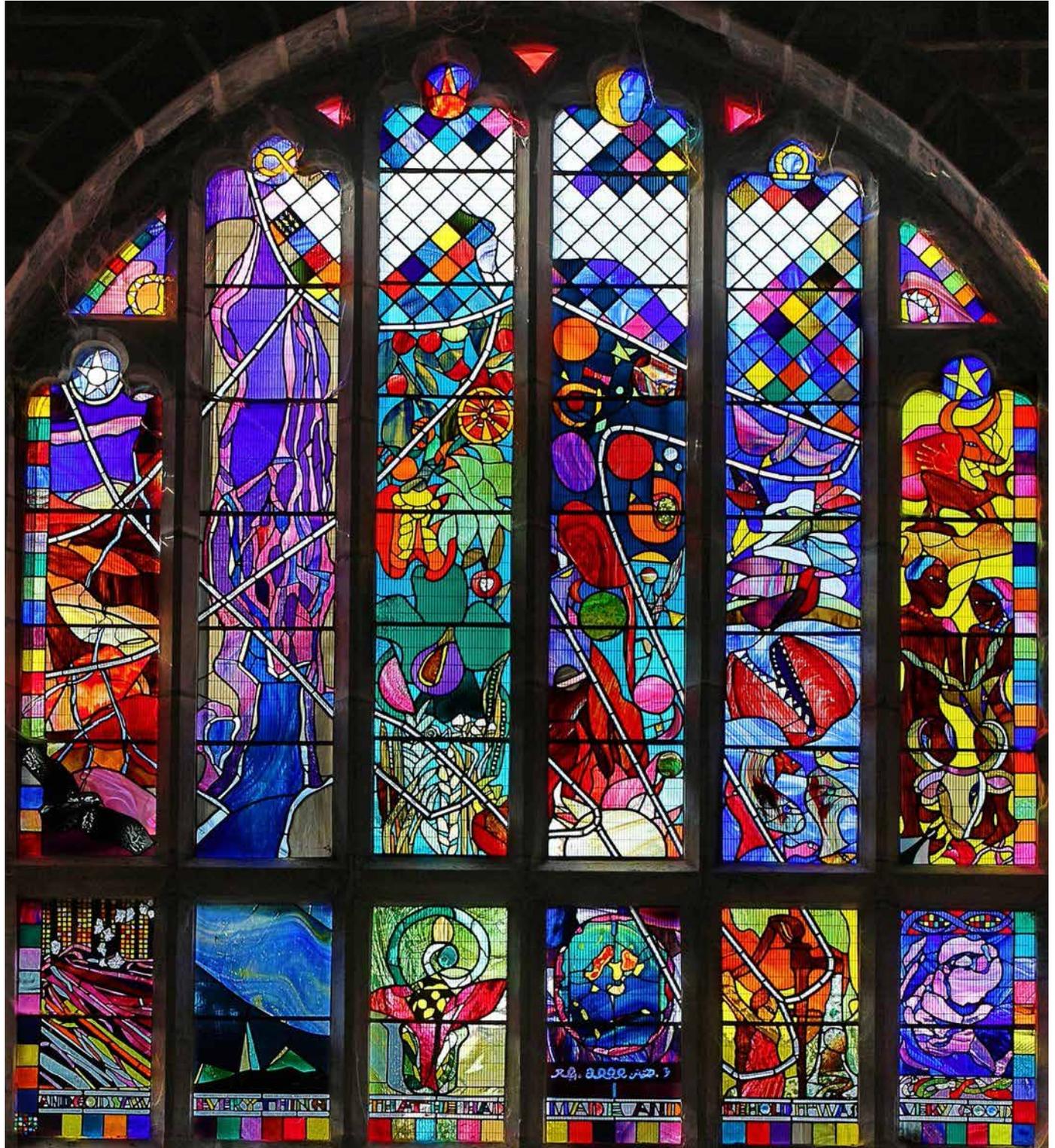


# A MARTYR'S MESSAGE

A QUARTERLY MAGAZINE FROM ST. GEORGE'S PARISH CHURCH - NEW MILLS



**THE CREATION WINDOW - CHESTER CATHEDRAL**

*More on page 4*

*“Offering a welcoming, God-centred environment to the people of New Mills”*

## FROM THE VICARAGE



FR. OWAIN MITCHELL | VICAR OF NEW MILLS

Creationtide or the Season of Creation is the period in the annual church calendar, from 1st September to 4th October, dedicated to God as Creator and Sustainer of all life. Many churches choose to use this time of year to hold special services and events to give thanks for God's gift of creation, and to renew their commitment to caring for our one planet home. There are some very good resources on the Church of England website which you may find helpful as we journey through the Season of Creation this year <https://www.churchofengland.org/about/environment-and-climate-change/season-creation>

Last year, the pandemic lockdowns and restrictions generated more free time as diary commitments were few and far between, giving more space focus on Creationtide 2021. In addition to themed services, we produced a booklet which signposted community activities, offered prayer resources. The booklet also highlighted ways to respond to God's call to be wise and generous stewards of His gifts working for a fairer sharing of the world's resources and caring for God's creation.

As Creationtide 2022 fast approaches, I find myself with very little time for reflection, planning and organising in amongst the hustle and bustle of daily ministry. Creationtide 2022 has been at the back of my mind for some months now. Planning time has moved from week to week on my 'to do' list, with nothing actually getting done. We're reaching the critical point and all we have planned is our Harvest Festival on Sunday 25th September at 10 a.m.

But this sums up my response to the issues of caring for creation and responding to the environment crisis – my good intentions and the desire to make changes verses limited resources and practical factors! I mean to do better, but reality gets in the way. So I find myself using Amazon when time is tight; I want to buy ethically but the budget doesn't always stretch that far as the economic crisis impacts; I intend to walk rather than drive whenever practical but time and the weather don't always allow this, and so forth.

Yet we can be comforted and encouraged by knowing that the little things we are able to do... reducing our food waste and our carbon footprint, buying products with environmentally friendly packaging, recycling where possible, creating a wildlife area in our gardens and so on ... all make a difference. Like a dripping tap in a plugged sink, each little drop adds together to create an overflow. We may struggle to make big changes by ourselves, but we can do lots of little things that, when combined with everyone else's efforts, have a huge and positive effect upon this wonderful world in which God has placed us.

For these and all His mercies, God's Holy Name be thanked and praised.

### The Collect for Climate Sunday

Glorious God,  
The whole of creation proclaims your marvellous work:  
Increase in us a capacity to wonder and delight in it,  
That heaven's praise may echo in our hearts  
and our lives be spent as good stewards of the earth,  
Through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

With every blessing,

Fr Owain.

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reflections and prayers  
THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

## A THANK-YOU FROM I.E.N.M.

SUE RODRIGUES | INCREDIBLE EDIBLE NEW MILLS

**Incredible Edible New Mills** is affiliated to an international organisation that has its roots in nearby Todmorden. It is built on an understanding that community links can be built and nurtured through the growing and sharing of food.

Since its inception **IENM** has supported the development of a gardening club at New Mills Primary School, the Tranquillity Garden at Providence Church and the pollinator bed at Springbank Arts. For the past five years we have worked at Torr Top Car Park growing herbs, vegetables and fruit for anyone to forage. Two years ago we obtained funding for a multi-generation gardening project based at Goyt Valley House. Many **IENM** members joined the campaign to keep the home open but as most people know residents were moved out in June. Devastating for residents and staff and disappointing for the families who garden with us and lost connection as well as growing space.

A huge THANK-YOU to members of St Georges Church for providing space for us to continue gardening and equally important to continue growing community connections. Coming together as families and individuals has already fostered new relationships and bolstered self-confidence; we are confident these benefits can continue alongside a sense of pride in our town now that we have offered a new home for our project.

**IENM** offers a friendly welcome to all, whether to garden, to forage or simply to join conversation and the joy of nurturing nature.

Gardening sessions currently planned for alternate Saturday mornings at 11am -1.00pm

**27th August**  
**10th September**  
**24th September**  
**8th October**  
**22nd October**

For further information:

<https://ienewmills.wordpress.com>

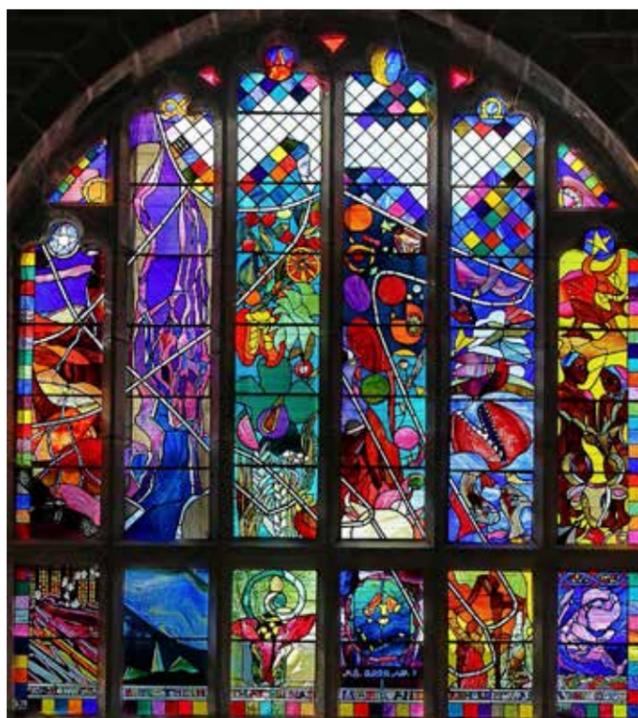
[www.facebook.com/Incredible-Edible-New-Mills](http://www.facebook.com/Incredible-Edible-New-Mills)

[incredible.edible.newmills@gmail.com](mailto:incredible.edible.newmills@gmail.com)



# THE CREATION WINDOW

CHESTER CATHEDRAL



The window was made for the cathedral in 2001 by Rosalind Grimshaw. Each panel represents one of the 6 days of creation. The white dove of peace can be seen over the top of the window and the outline of the hand of God

Day One depicts darkness and light and the spirit of God shown as an eagle, and the image of skyscrapers at night with car headlights becoming coloured lines.

Day Two shows a river estuary, together with the oceans as seen from a Hubble satellite telescope.

Day Three has grass and fruit, plus an image depicting the modern uses of plants and their ability to feed the world.

Day Four shows the planets and universe of outer space, contrasted with 'inner space' represented by a copy of a scan of Rosalind's brain, which was carried out as part of her treatment.

Day Five has fish and sea creatures together with a modern water pump to represent the hope of a future of water for all.

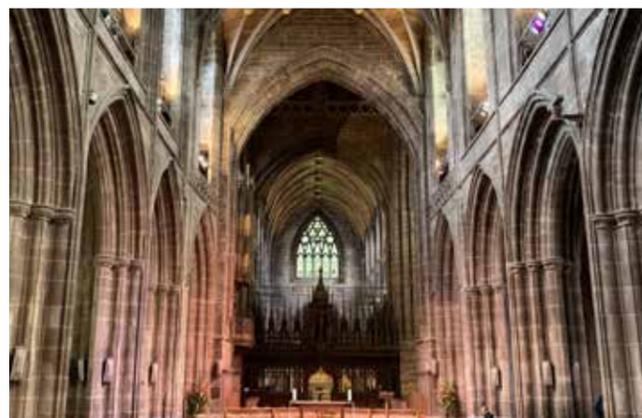
Day Six contrasts images of humans and animals with a foetal ultrasound, the double helix of DNA and the entwined snake symbol of medicine.

The Creation Window can be viewed in the Cathedral's Refectory. Something to view and ponder on as you relax with a nice cup of tea and a slice of cake!

Article take from number of sources:  
<https://www.dailypost.co.uk/news/local-news/artists-new-creation-touch-glass-2947029>  
<http://miceforlent.blogspot.com/2011/05/creation-window.html>

# CHOIR TRIP TO CHESTER CATHEDRAL

SATURDAY 29TH OCTOBER 2022



The choir are once again looking forward to taking part in the RSCM Chester Area Festival on Saturday 29th October 2022.

All are welcome to come along.

If you would like to come along, the bus ticket price per person this year is £21.00 each and will leave from the Parish Hall at 9am prompt picking up enroute at High Lane Bus Stop.

The schedule for the day:

Arrive in Chester approx 10.30am.

As the choir rehearse in the Cathedral, non-choir members have the day to explore the beautiful city of Chester. There are many shops, museums, bars and restaurants. You can also have a good look around the cathedral while the choir rehearse. Admission to the Cathedral is Free.

There are also lovely walks around parts of the city walls and alongside the river with boat trips along the River Dee.

At 5.30pm, the choir will sing choral evensong in the cathedral.

Approx. 7.00pm the coach leaves for home arriving back in New Mills approx. 8.30/9pm.

If you would like to book a seat on the coach, please speak with Leon on the choir or email: [choir@newmillschurch.co.uk](mailto:choir@newmillschurch.co.uk)

**MARTYR'S PLAYERS**

# Kindertransport

By Diane Samuels

A deeply moving and timely modern classic about a woman's struggle to come to terms with her past.

This amateur production is performed by arrangement with Nick Hern Books.

**Thursday 20th October 2022**  
**Friday 21st October 2022**  
**Saturday 22nd October 2022**

Doors: 7.00pm | Performance: 7.30pm  
St. George's Parish Hall, Church Lane, New Mills, SK22 4NP

**BOOK TODAY**

**Tickets: £10.00 available from:**  
[www.ticketsource.co.uk/TheMartyrsPlayers](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/TheMartyrsPlayers)  
or Juice Graphics, 43 Union Rd, New Mills  
or call: 0778 951 8313

Discounts available for group bookings of 10+

# A Comedy Double Bill

Friday 15 & Saturday 16th July 2022



## The reviews are in...

Buxton may be enjoying its Festival and Fringe. But New Mills has its own production to shout home about! The first night of The Martyr's Players double bill was an all-round success. Following on from their initial triumph with The Vicar of Dibley, they chose two shorter laugh-out-loud pieces to continue building their reputation with a packed opening night audience.

This time they played in the compact Parish Hall theatre which has very limited facilities. Two new Directors were experiencing their baptism at producing shows and both promise well for the future. Overall, Paul Bowers guided his characters through Jim Jam – though he himself must have been busy: acting in the second play and being responsible for the sets of both! Kim Cooper as Mary set a high and experienced standard of comedic delivery, a good model for newcomers Matt Campbell and young Isaac Fletcher-Shaw. Both were finding their feet and did very well. Everyone enjoyed this curtain-raiser.

After the interval – well done the bar and front-of-house staff – the fictitious New Mills Amateur Dramatic Society struggled to become solvent, without presenting Seven Brides and Seven Brothers acted by a cast of four! This was Kim Cooper's maiden production for the Players and she made good use of the small acting area, ringing changes on the height and depth of her character-picture. The humour was well highlighted – at times stolen by Pat Christian's dumb Joyce and balanced by newcomer Bridget Kik's slightly over-the-top and glamorous Margaret. Darren Cooper kept everything going and under control (with a nod to John Inman) whilst Paul Bowers gave us another dim-wit in Bernard, to complement the pacy humour of the other three. It is challenging for a small drama group (the real one, not the fictitious one of Last Tango...!) to fit available cast to scripts and across this double-header, The Martyr's Players have so far done well. They probably are wise to branch out for their next production to a play of serious content.

No review would be complete without praise for the technical accomplishment. Sound, lighting, and transformation of the work-a-day Parish Hall into a welcoming theatre do not go without notice. As well as having some experience and skills on board, there appears to be a band of hard-working volunteers ready to take this small and ambitious group of drama enthusiasts forward. All power to their elbows!

Phil Kendall | July 17th 2022

We look forward to seeing you at our next production...  
**'KINDERTRANSPORT' By Diane Samuels**  
Thursday 20th, Friday 21st and Saturday 22nd October

St. George's Parish Hall, Church Lane, New Mills  
**Tickets available from:**  
[www.ticketsource.co.uk/TheMartyrsPlayers](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/TheMartyrsPlayers)  
Tel: 0778 951 8313  
Juice Graphics, 43 Union Rd, New Mills

# DONATE TO ST. GEORGE'S PARISH CHURCH HERE



St. George's Parish Church relies entirely on the generosity of our regular congregation giving because we do not receive any funding from the government. The money we receive goes towards the community work, pastoral work, missionary and ministry work within the parish of New Mills.

We are also responsible for the upkeep of this beautiful and historic building of St. George's. The money that our regular congregation gives also has to cover the electric, lighting, heating and repairs. This special building is here as a place of prayer, sanctuary as well as being a useable space for the whole community.

For the work and life of St. George's to continue, we need your help.



Visit [www.newmillschurch.co.uk](http://www.newmillschurch.co.uk) for more information.

giftaid it



1. Scan the above code with your smart phone camera.
2. Click on the link.
3. Select your donation amount.
4. Choose the 'Gift Aid' option\*.
5. Complete payment using the safe donation site.
6. Your donation is gratefully received... Thank you!

\*If you are a UK taxpayer and eligible to Gift Aid your donation, please consider selecting this option. This will increase your gift by 25p for every £1 given (at the current rate), at no extra cost to you or us.



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## WHAT A WORLD, WHAT A WORLD

POEM BY MEGAN CARTER

What a world, what a world, whirling and twirling  
Twisting and turning spinning in space,  
God with His finger brings order from chaos  
Mountains and seas all put in place.  
Man the peak of all His creation  
Awakes to a world full of beauty and grace,  
Walks in the garden with God his creator  
Fellowship sweet as they meet face to face.

What a world, what a world, whirling and twirling  
Twisting and turning peace now has gone  
Ignoring his Lord bringing chaos from order  
Fellowship broken, man now all alone.  
It's His world, not our world  
He has come to reclaim it,  
Restoring communion foolishly lost,  
Our Saviour, Redeemer with undeserved grace  
Brings us back to the fold through the work of His cross.

## WHEN THE CHURCH FIRST AGREED THAT THE EARTH WENT AROUND THE SUN

FROM THE PARISH PUMP



It was only 200 years ago, on 11th September 1822, that the Roman Catholic Church admitted that the 16th century astronomer Galileo Galilei might have been right about the Earth orbiting the Sun. The College of Cardinals reversed the Church's condemnation of his ideas. Galileo had spent the last nine years of his life under house arrest for publishing his work on the subject.

Galileo (1564 –1642) was a brilliant scientist and a pious Catholic. Albert Einstein called him the father of modern science, and he was one of the first to state that the laws of nature were mathematical. He was not infallible, however: his theories on tides were quite wrong; he described the idea that the moon influenced them as “childish” and “occult”.

His support for heliocentrism, a theory that had existed since the Ancient Greeks, however, was spot on, but the consensus at the time – political, scientific and religious – held that the Earth was the centre of the universe, and that any other view was “foolish, absurd and heretical”. That was the conclusion of the Inquisition in 1615.

Some 17 years later, Galileo published his theories, but unfortunately in a way that alienated the Pope, who until then had given him support as a scientist. He was tried by the Inquisition, who found him “vehemently suspect of heresy”, forced him to recant, and subjected him to house arrest. It could have been worse.

The Cardinals' decision in 1822 was a bit late to help Galileo, but it represented a big shift for the Roman Catholic Church – though it was not until 1835 that his work was removed from the Vatican's list of banned books. And it was only in 1992 that Pope John Paul II conceded officially that the Earth was not stationary in the heavens. Eight years after that he apologised to Galileo for the way he had been treated.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Sunday 18th September  
6.30pm - **Festival of Choirs**

Sunday 25th September  
10.00 - **Harvest Festival**

Saturday 15th October  
**Autumn Fair** - Parish Hall

Thursday 20th, Friday 21st, Saturday 22nd October  
7.00pm - **'Kindertransport'** - Parish Hall

Saturday 29th October  
**Choir Trip to Chester**

Sunday 13th November  
**Remembrance Day Service** (Time TBC)

Sunday 27th November  
**Advent Sunday**

Thursday 1st to Monday 5th December  
**Christmas Tree Festival**



Sunday 18th September 2022  
6.30pm

Choral Evensong sung by choirs  
from the local area.

St. George's Parish Church  
Church Lane, New Mills  
SK22 4NP



WWW.NEWMILLSCHURCH.CO.UK

# SYNOD ENDORSES PLAN TO REACH NET ZERO CARBON BY 2030

FROM THE PARISH PUMP



The Church of England's General Synod has endorsed detailed plans designed to help the Church to reach net zero carbon by 2030.

The Routemap to Net Zero Carbon by 2030, published this Summer, encourages cathedrals, churches, schools and theological education institutions to make changes to their daily activities to reduce carbon emissions.

The Bishop of Norwich, Graham Usher, the Church of England's lead Bishop for the Environment, said: "The 2030 target is hugely ambitious, but the process is as important as the target. I see it as a key part of our obedience to God's call to be stewards of creation."

The Routemap, he said, "has been refined in consultation. It's a pragmatic, step-by-step approach." It focuses first on "simple steps that every church community can take": such as changing to LED lighting on a renewable energy tariff, reducing draughts, good maintenance, and heating people, rather than the angels carved on church roof bosses.

The Routemap is not legislative and does not obligate any part of the Church but is the basis of the road to net zero carbon by 2030.

## "CIRCLES"

BY CARL SANDBURG

Carl Sandberg (1878 - 1967) was a famous American poet and journalist. His poem, 'Circles' tackles cultural awareness, calling for knowledge of and respect for other cultures. It reminds us of how we still tend to judge other people and different cultures by our own cultural standards.

The white man drew a small circle in the sand and told the red man, "This is what the Indian knows", and drawing a big circle around the small one, "This is what the white man knows".

The Indian took the stick and swept an immense circle around both circles: "This is where the white man and the red man know nothing".

Contribution: Gill Crosland

## PRAYER REQUESTS



Please submit your prayer requests to Fr. Owain by calling the vicarage on: (01663) 743225 or email: vicar@newmillschurch.co.uk

**Come and join us!**  
Call: 01663 746226  
Email: choir@newmillschurch.co.uk

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## - WEEKLY SERVICES -

### Wednesdays

9.15am - Said Holy Communion

### Sundays

8.00am - Holy Communion

10.00am - Sung Parish Holy Communion

6.30pm - Evening Prayer

*Please keep an eye on our website and Facebook pages for up-to-date information and events.*

*A warm welcome always awaits you at St. George's.*



A new community amateur theatre group based at St. George's Church, New Mills

PLAYS | PERFORM | ENTERTAIN

[www.newmillschurch.co.uk/martyrsplayers](http://www.newmillschurch.co.uk/martyrsplayers)

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*This magazine is free of charge.*

If you would like to support us by advertising in our next issue (December 2022), or if you have a story you would like to share with us, then please get in touch:

**publicity@newmillschurch.co.uk** or call: **(01663) 749323**

All information in this magazine was correct at the time of going to print.

**The Deadline for the next issue of 'A Martyr's Message' is Friday 18th November 2022**

*This magazine is also available to download and view on our website.*