

# Poppy's Pages

The Jones Family Newsletter

December 2019

24 Spadesbourne Road, Lickey End, Bromsgrove B60 1JP

01527 576440

roger@cmm.org.uk

mary@cmm.org.uk



## Dear friends

The Christmas lights are going on all around Bromsgrove and we were almost the first in our Road, much to Rogers satisfaction. Ours are blue and white – well of course! Actually, the Blues Football Team are...well... rather in the blues themselves at the moment so enough said about that!

Roger has enjoyed going to Edgbaston again to watch Warwickshire play cricket, meeting up with various old friends who put the country to rights and give constructive criticism to the cricketers! He will really miss our dear friend, Geoff, who died recently.

We seem to have been away an awful lot this year! I'm forever watching Mary unpacking and then packing again and trying to work out where we are going this time. We went to Cornwall on holiday and they took me to Fowey where they spent their Honeymoon, also, Port Isaac where Doc Martin is filmed. I've seen some of the new Series and he still hates dogs! Our favourite place is, of course, Weston-Super-Mare, where else! At a Dog show on the beach lawns in the Summer I won two red rosettes! One was for "The Dog the Judge most wanted to take home with Him" – of course – and then "Best Young Handler" with Molly, ably assisted by Petra.

Grandchildren continue to delight us with their antics and achievements and grow dearer every day. Mary and Roger are very proud of them all and of course, their Mums and Dads.

Roger and Mary still worship at Holy Trinity, Lickey and have recently had a lovely new Vicar, Sheri Gidney. I would like to go one day – perhaps they might have a Pet Service ...

I wonder what the New Year will bring? Well, for one thing, I'll become a teenager – thirteen! Mary and Roger are more than into their three-score-years-and-ten, but God still keeps giving Roger ideas, {sigh} so CMM will carry on as long as and where He wills it. After Abu Dhabi ... ?

All is well....and all shall be well.

Have a blessed Christmas and a happy New Year

*Poppy* (lurcher to the Jones')

*See next pages for  
news from the family!*

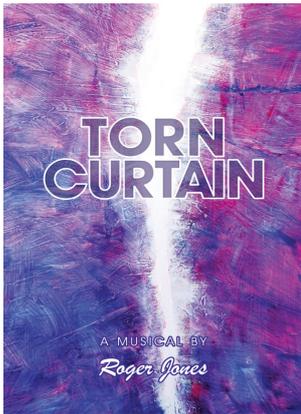




## *2019 has been an amazing year ...*

As expected **SPIRIT WORKS** and **WORSHIP WORKS** have played a large part, with evenings, days and weeks in many areas, including the UAE, and even in a local prison. Our **WILDFIRE** music weeks were also extremely successful, great times, where God's Spirit has moved in power and we have seen folk encouraged and strengthened.

A huge surprise was the call to Lambeth Palace to receive **THE THOMAS CRANMER AWARD FOR WORSHIP**, from Archbishop Justin Welby. This really was an honour for the family, EBRG, Trustees, Associates and all our many friends who have supported the ministry over the years.



We have re-issued **THE TORN CURTAIN** (originally published in 1988), and have actually created two works:

- **TORN CURTAIN the Communion Setting**— which is expanded to include a wide selection of text from “Common Worship”, some of which based around a simple chord progression, enabling easy congregational involvement.
- **TORN CURTAIN the Musical**— a worship experience leading to intimacy with God. Completely re-written and re-recorded, we have added three more songs, including our much loved “Precious and Honoured”, sung beautifully on the CD by the wonderful Jonathan Veira.

Leading **ROCK** in the United Arab Emirates, with productions in Al Ain, Dubai and Abu Dhabi, was one of the most spectacular and exciting opportunities ever! The final production, in the presence of a government minister, had 200 in the choir, soloists and many dancers, had an audience of over 700 and over 1300 watching the “live stream”. Pray that the church in UAE will be lead forwards by the Spirit of God.



A desperately sad point in the year has been the illness and death of **Geoff Rudge**, Roger's life-long friend and colleague, and Chairman of the CMM Trust. Roger and Geoff met whilst at School in 1964. We mourn his loss and pray especially for Mary as she faces life without Geoff.

**HEART & SOUL**, each Wednesday 6-8pm (repeated Thu 11am-1pm) on [www.southbirminghamradio.com](http://www.southbirminghamradio.com) has been a great success, and it is a joy to have Dave Stansbie join Debra Mayo and myself in co-hosting the show.

Of course our **FAMILY** are a huge joy, forever growing and achieving great things. The picture on the first page showed a miracle—getting them all together at one time and in one place!

Have a very joyful Christmas and Jesus-filled New Year!

## *Roger and Mary*

## *Massive changes ...*

Karl resigned as Senior Head Chef at **Jamies Italian** just weeks before they went into Administration, a complete shock. Knowing we could have been out of work suddenly with no warning is a scary thought!

Earlier this year **KARL** and **SALLY** took a giant leap of faith and started their own innovative business, a local Mexican Takeaway -

**Buena Comida**. It's been one of the hardest things they've ever done and still jumping hurdles. Karl is proud to serve his own menu, that's fresh, locally sourced and homemade. The USP of 'Restaurant quality food delivered to your door', minimal wastage, recyclable/compostable packaging and 1st class customer service has contributed getting to the Finals of Britain's Best Takeaway of Year! Karl is also in the running of Best Chef being shortlisted to top 5. Ultra proud! Sally handles book-keeping and staff management as well as working in the kitchen and front of house.



**MOLLY** (8) is doing well at school showing artistic flair in her artwork but also incredible imagination in creative writing. She's recently taken up Recorder lessons under tuition from her grandad.

**PETRA** (3) started nursery and Absolutely loves it. She never wants to come home at pick up time. She's developed Frozen fever and insists on wearing princess dresses to bed almost daily.



*Karl, Sally, Molly & Petra*

*+ Gracie!*



## *Christmas is always an exciting time...*

**ANDREW** and **GEMMA** have had a busy year, with Andrew now having been at Lloyds for over a year with plenty of trips down to London, but mainly because they finally started the build on the house extension after a long wait and it's almost complete – taken 6 months!

Gemma can't wait for it to be finished but Andrew's still got to finish off fitting the kitchen, then there's the bathroom to do, the garden, the utility... it's a long list, and most importantly **FLORENCE'S** new extended bedroom – which she wants pink including the door! But she can have two pink walls and somewhere for her Barbies to go. She's also doing very well at her two nurseries and has a great imagination when she's playing with her toys and makes up songs.

**HENRY** is now in Year 2 at school and is on the school council. Loving Maths and English with themes such as Paddington Bear and Narnia. He enjoys playing with Lego, and is currently building a Star Wars Millennium Falcon (which might take a while!). Both have swimming lessons every week, and Florence has a dance class which she loves, while Henry goes to Football and Olympic clubs after school. They're both being good as they know Santa is ALWAYS watching...



Merry Christmas to everyone! *Andrew, Gemma, Henry & Florence*

## *Ted's tales!*



Hello everyone!

I'm **TEDDY**. I'm a lovely little cockapoo and have lived with Tim, Emma, Michael and Bethany for 3 years now. Tim has asked me to do the family news this year. What an honour!

**BETH** has had a very busy year. She got a Merit for her Grade 5 Violin AND Grade 5 Piano! Wow, I don't know how she does it. I'm not sure I could hold the bow... Beth is doing very well at high school and does some amazing artwork. She plays

violin and sings at church, and has even played piano for the Youth Christmas Carol Service. She plays with me a lot, but doesn't give me as many treats as Emma does 😊



And... now she has another

pet! What!?? I'm not enough...?? **JOEY** the hamster now has his own little room in mine and Beth's room. He's very cute I suppose, but I'm not allowed to play with him. It's a shame, he looks tasty!



**MICHAEL** is enjoying his A levels at King Edwards Sixth Form College in Stourbridge. He recently got a Merit for his Grade 6 Piano, and will be doing his Grade 8 Electric Guitar soon. Michael plays guitar, drums and sometimes piano at church. He leads worship regularly. If he has sausages for tea, he always saves me some (don't tell Beth!)

**TIM** works in the CMM office and takes me with him so I can see Poppy, my best doggy friend. Tim deals with sales and customer service at CMM and makes the best tea. Well, that's what he tells me! He plays piano and drums at church.

**EMMA** is a Deputy Head at St Francis Primary School. I don't see her as often as I'd like because she leaves the house very early and comes home late. I miss her a lot... ..because she gives me the most treats! Biscuits, meaty sticks and chews. Beth tells her off a lot, but I don't mind! Emma plays violin and church and leads some of the children's groups.

Well, that's it from me. I'm off to get a biscuit from Tim. Maybe some sausage. Maybe he'll give me some pizza today, hmm ...



## *Teddy + Tim, Emma, Michael & Bethany!*