

# KEEP IN TOUCH

## Newsletter

November 2021



“Season of mists and mellow fruitfulness  
Close bosom-friend of the maturing sun;  
Conspiring with him how to load and bless  
With fruit the vines that round the thatch-eaves run...”

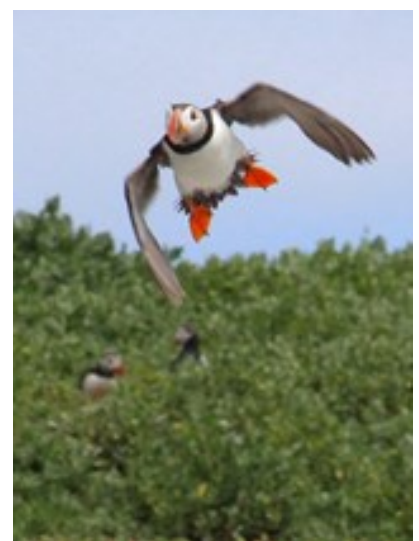
## Jeremy writes...

I sometimes wish I was a poet! I love the way in which Keats personified the season of Autumn and penned his ode to it:

"Season of mists and mellow fruitfulness  
Close bosom-friend of the maturing sun;  
Conspiring with him how to load and bless  
With fruit the vines that round the thatch-eves run....;

I sometimes wish I was an artist! I love the way Edward Burne-Jones caught that sublime moment when a distraught Mary, thinking that he was the gardener before her, gazes in astonishment and amazement when he says to her quietly: ""Touch me not; for I am not yet ascended to my Father..." (John 20:17);

But I am neither a poet nor an artist. I simply love and appreciate the work of others. Yet I do have three cameras, and I tend to let them do the talking. And my cameras have to work overtime during this season with all its variety, dazzling colours, amazing wildlife activity. I have taken my cameras all over the world - from Samarkand, to Buenos Aires, from Reykjavik to Alice Springs, on the Trans-Siberian Railway and on Safari in the Kruger National Park. I unashamedly take them wherever I go and over the years have built a vast (but dreadfully unsorted) array of images.



We live on a beautiful planet, full of rich colour, sustained through intricate balances and cycles of nature. In the coming weeks we are going to hear from world leaders as they meet in

Glasgow for the COP26 Conference on Climate Change (COP26=26th annual summit of the UN Conference of the Parties) and we are all hoping that they will work out a way of reducing the damaging impact which humans have made on the climate. Christians are people of hope. It is easy to be downcast when we look around and see what is happening. Yet it is an important part of our faith to believe that one day the whole creation will be renewed and restored. The Good News of the Gospel of Jesus Christ reminds us that God is in control, and we need to remember this whether or not our world leaders can agree a sensible and realistic way forward.

The same is true of our way forward as a Parish. You will, by now, have heard that Canon Martin has announced his retirement; and also that we will be losing Chris, our children and families pastor very shortly. We wish them the very best as they move on, and we will certainly miss them! But as we look to the future, we need not be downcast - we can be confident that God's work will continue as we PROCLAIM JESUS, CHANGE LIVES and SERVE OUR COMMUNITY. A period of vacancy can be a time of great blessing, encouragement, renewal and restoration, and I am looking forward to working with our Wardens, Mike Fixter and Sue Thomas. And already Judith, Sue and Sandra have started developing plans for continuing the excellent foundation that Chris has laid down for our children's work. The challenges ahead of us might seem no less daunting than the world leaders face in Glasgow, but by pulling together and trusting in God I am confident that the next few months can be rich, beautiful and fruitful.

### **Jeremy Groombridge**



I wrote this before the events of this week when Sandra underwent major emergency surgery. A sincere "thank you" to so many who have prayed, sent good wishes and offered help and support. We could never have seen something like this coming, but at the same time it feels like a "wave of love" has come in our direction. Sandra is still not out of the woods yet, and her recovery will be long and slow. But it has been a huge comfort to know that she is in your prayers. We'll provide an update next time." **Jeremy**



# ST. ANTONY'S CHURCH NEWS



## What's on at St. Antony's

ALL are WELCOME to our regular activities. Join us if you can!

- **T4U** at **2pm** on **2nd & 4th Mondays** of the month. **Monday 8th & 22nd November, 13th December** etc
- **Midweek Holy Communion** at **2.30pm** on **1st Thursday** of the month. **Thurs 2nd December**
- **Women's Social Club** at **8pm on Thursdays**. Term-time only.

Contact Barbara Webster-Dudley [albarb2011@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:albarb2011@hotmail.co.uk) or the Parish Office for more details.



Photo by: Jeremy Groombridge



Two Wolves is a Cherokee Indian legend and illustrates the most important battle of our lives – the one between our good and bad thoughts. Here is how the story goes:

One evening an old Cherokee told his grandson about a battle that goes on inside people. He said, “My son, it is a terrible fight and it is between two wolves.

**One is Evil** – he is anger, envy, sorrow, regret, greed, arrogance, self-pity, guilt, resentment, inferiority, lies, false pride, superiority, and ego.

**The other is Good** – he is joy, peace, love, hope, serenity, humility, kindness, benevolence, empathy, generosity, truth, compassion and faith.”

The grandson thought about it for a minute and then asked his grandfather, “Which wolf wins?”

The old Cherokee simply replied, “The one you feed.”

*Anonymous*

## Moving On

A few weeks ago in church I gave notice of my intention to retire in early 2022, so Emma and I are now looking ahead to a different kind of life in Chichester where we have bought a home. Our last Sunday in Sanderstead will be 23<sup>rd</sup> January, nearly nine years after the licensing by the Bishop of Croydon on 19 March 2013.

My journey in Anglican mission began forty two years ago when I was ordained Deacon in St Paul's Cathedral by Gerald Ellison, then the Bishop of London. I served as one of two curates at Christ Church Cockfosters (either the end of the Piccadilly Line, or the beginning, depending on your point of view). My training vicar was Rev David Ernest Donald [Don] Churchman; apparently I was the 26<sup>th</sup> curate to learn ministry 'under the DEDC'. (Yes, it's a feeble joke, I know.)

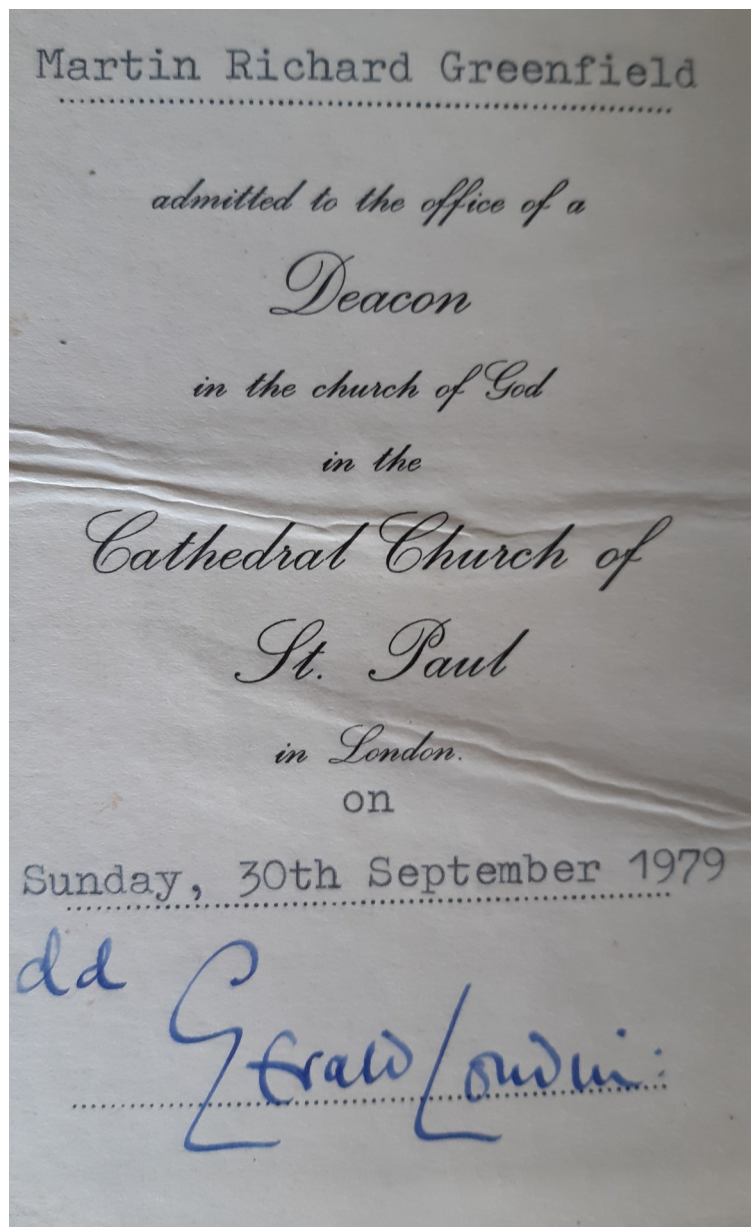
After serving in the dioceses of London, Europe, Aba (Nigeria), Chelmsford, Ely and Southwark, this part of the journey is now drawing to an end.

Retirement? Well, of course it's not an end to serving the Lord Jesus Christ; that is a joyful commitment for the whole of one's life, and in that sense, as Christians, we never retire. So, perhaps it's not so much '**re-tire-ment**' as a '**re-treading**' for the ongoing journey in the service of Jesus.

These years with you all in Sanderstead have been rich and precious, and we shall miss you. For the vacancy / interregnum, Rev Jeremy and the Churchwardens, along with the Church Council, have matters in hand and will guide All Saints in the right path each step of the way.

For the next nearly three months, however, we are still here; so let's continue to give all we have in service of the Lord Jesus as we worship together and shine his light to all around.

With my prayers and best wishes,  
**Martin**





**SAVE THE DATE!**

**FAREWELL!**

**to the Greenfields**

**Sunday 23 January 3pm–6pm  
Afternoon Tea**



On Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2022 between 3pm and 6pm in the Church Halls we will be saying farewell to Martin and Emma with Afternoon Tea.

Invitations will follow with full details.

*Mike Fixter, Sue Thomas  
Churchwardens*

## Thank you for the Harvest Gifts

Thank you so much for organising the Harvest gifts from All Saints' Church community; we are truly grateful, and all the things we desperately needed.

They will soon be put to good use as some of the refugees have only the clothes they were wearing when the airlift in Kabul started, or when they arrived from Calais.

We started the Refugee Centre 22 years ago. At the time it was in close proximity to Lunar House where anyone requesting Asylum or Refugee Status had to report, and we used to provide

hot meals and a social area for them to meet others from their own country; they were also given food and clothing.

Covid-19 changed the world as we used to know it with lockdowns and a list of do's and don'ts. We decided we needed to change our way of working, whilst also keeping all volunteers safe. We have changed our method of delivery, food parcels delivered, clothing on request etc.

However since July the need has been greater, with many refugees coming from Afghanistan, Iran, Africa and even North Korea. We now are working with several hotels which the Home Office supply and most get meals provided (not always to their liking) and some are in accommodation that do not supply meals. For clothing, numbers and sizing are collected, and parcels are delivered to mainly Croydon Hotels, but we have had several trips to Napier barracks in Folkstone, Hotels near Heathrow and many others. As a charity we are also working in partnership with Care4Calais who come and help sort donations and do some deliveries. The Salvation Army are working with us, often donating missing sizes of clothing nappies and vice versa.

All this work is done by volunteers who very generously give their time. Our grateful thanks to all at your Church.

Kind Regards,

Sandra  
Trustee CRDC





## Au Revoir Myrtle!

We wish Myrtle all the best on her move to Basingstoke. She has just lost her husband Michael (whose funeral was at the church on Thursday 21st October), so it's a very big move for her.

Myrtle, we have loved being part of yours and Michael's lives here in Sanderstead. We wish you happy days as you head off to Basingstoke!

Much love,

**All of us**



## MYRTLE writes.

*On behalf of Michael and myself, I would like to thank everyone for the friendship we have received during our eleven years at All Saints. I will be keeping in touch with many of you, and I know some of you are planning to visit. I will really look forward to that.*

*Celia, Graham, all the family and myself would very much like to thank everyone at All Saints for their love, prayers, kindness and help when Michael passed away. Thanks also for the many beautiful cards and tributes. We will remember and treasure them all.*

**Myrtle Bourns**

# Children & Families Corner

## TODDLERS

Toddlers who meet Tuesdays & Fridays 9.30 – 11.30am in term time. Songs and Bible stories will happen towards the end of the session.



## MESSY CHURCH

Our next Messy Church is on **Sunday 21st November, 3.30pm— 5pm** with craft, stories, songs in the Church Hall.

God bless,  
**Judith, Sue & Sandra**

*Children and Families Team*



*Parish of Sanderstead and Hamsey Green*  
*Email: [children@sanderstead-parish.org.uk](mailto:children@sanderstead-parish.org.uk)*

## **Good bye from the Newman Family**

As you have probably heard by now I am moving from my role here with you as Children and Families Pastor. It is sad and painful for me and the family to say goodbye and just as we were truly getting to know you all, but we want you to know it isn't a decision that we have made lightly.

We feel privileged to have served here, and amidst the sadness we will take with us many happy memories too.

To name a few there was ADVENTure online (which is still available to watch on our YouTube channel). Toddler Group which has become a thriving group of pre-schoolers worshipping in the marquee in the summer and in the hall as Covid restrictions have lifted. Easter in a bag, which saw nearly 200 hundred families / children take part. Not forgetting Holiday club which was a really joyful time and if you don't believe me check out our highlights video.

We re-launched Family Fun as a Messy Church and as a result we have been gradually seeing more and more families coming, which is really encouraging in a world that is still far from virus free. It has been great to see families expressing themselves spiritually through craft, songs, prayer and fellowship.

I will also miss visiting Atwood and Gresham schools, the staff and pupils have been a joy and it has been wonderful to share the hope and light of Jesus there.

Our heartfelt thanks go to you all for the love support you have shown us, with special thanks to our band of volunteers including the leadership of Judith Robinson, Sue Thomas and Sandra Groombridge. I must also thank Rosanne in the office for help to keep my admin on track.

We realise that our decision to leave may have left some of you shocked and saddened, but we believe the Lord is calling us back to take care of our family who have been through a very tough time recently. However, this ministry only ever belonged to Jesus and it is for all of us to play our part in it wherever God places us; I may be gone, but mercifully the Holy Spirit remains working among you all.

I will continue to pray for your mission here in Sanderstead and Hamsey Green and for the families yet to experience the welcome and the love of the church, in other words all of you! In uncertain times I would like to leave you with some words from Jeremiah 29 verse 11 "I know the plans that I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you, plans to give you a hope and a future." That doesn't mean that those plans will happen all by themselves, of course, but through prayer and perseverance you can follow God's plan for a bright future, he gracefully allows you the opportunity to be faithful in that way.

God bless you all; in love,

**Chris Newman**

*Children and Families Pastor*





## Mothers' Union Autumn dates

Meetings are open to anyone who would find these sessions interesting or would like to find out more about MU.

### **Monday 8th November 8pm in All Saints Small Hall**

*Making 'Iris Folding' Cards for Christmas with Margo Barrett. Please bring scissors and Sellotape.*

### **Monday 13th December:**

Christmas Event: *To Be Confirmed*

For further details,  
email:

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

**Rosemary**

### **SAS Bells**

**Monday 8th Nov  
8pm  
will meet in church**



#### **Action Against Gender-based Violence**

An evening of information, outrage, action and prayer for the one in three women worldwide who have experienced domestic or sexual abuse because of their gender.



Presented by the Mothers' Union, featuring Mandy Marshall, Director for Gender Justice at the Anglican Communion.

**Thursday 25 November  
7.30 – 9.00 Zoom**

An event for men and women on the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women.

To book your place, email:  
[ministryandtraining@southwark.anglican.org](mailto:ministryandtraining@southwark.anglican.org)

**THE NORTH DOWNS CONSORT**  
CHAMBER CHOIR

*Presents*

# MUSIC IS BACK!

A concert of uplifting  
music to celebrate  
our return to singing

**Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> November**  
**at 7.00pm**

**St. Paul's Church, Woldingham**  
**Croft Road, CR3 7EN**

**Tickets: £10**  
**(£5 for Children under 16)**

**Telephone:**  
**07517 276254**

Registered Charity No: 282466

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



# All Saints Sanderstead

Sunday 21st November at 3.30pm

Crafts

Songs

Activities

Stories

Refreshments

In the church Halls



# All Saints Sanderstead

In the  
Church Halls

**Messy**  
Church

Crafts  
Stories  
Songs  
Decorations  
Refreshments

# Christmas

Wednesday 8th December

3.15pm—5pm





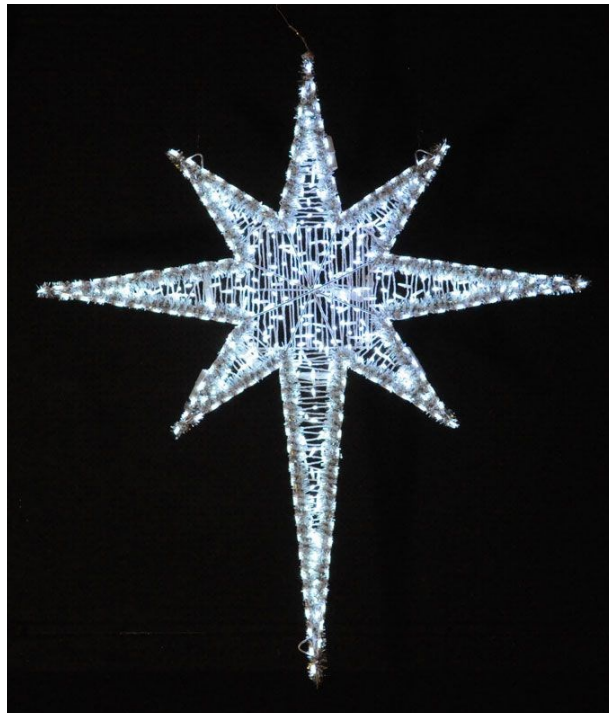
## Sanderstead Lights Switch-on

The Sanderstead Lights Switch-on event will take place on **Saturday 27 November at 6pm** on the Recreation Ground (behind Priscilla's Tea Room).

Unfortunately I cannot be there this year, but it would be great if we could lend some support to this community event. If you can join in singing some carols, as we have done in previous years, I know our friends in the Rotary would be delighted.

Please let me know in the next couple of weeks whether you would be willing to turn up and make a joyful noise - this is not a professional choir, but an opportunity to sing God's praises along with the local community. I have plenty of carol sheets, and I am sure the Rotary will be providing accompanying music.

**Jeremy**



**ALL SAINTS  
CHRISTINGLE SERVICE**  
this year will be held on  
**Sunday 12 December at 9.30am**  
in Church.  
**Everyone is welcome.**





## **ALL SAINTS COFFEE POT**

*Alternate Fridays*

Coffee, tea, cakes & friendship

**Friday 19 November, 3 December**

**10.00 – 12pm**

**in All Saints Church Halls**

For more details call the Parish Office on Tel: 020 8657 0665.

## **YOUNG AT HEART**

*Alternate Fridays*

Social Club for over 65 year olds,  
Programme of speakers and lunch.



**12 & 26 November, 10 December**

**10.00 – 12.30pm**

**in All Saints Small Hall**

**Call 020 8657 8289 for more details & to book lunch.**

## **SUNDAY LUNCH**

*1st Sunday of the month*

Hot main course, dessert & coffee

**Sunday 7 November & 5 December**

**12.30pm for 12.45pm**

**All Saints Church Halls**

Cost £5

**Call 020 8657 8289 for more details & to book lunch.**






## PARISH of SANDERSTEAD and HAMSEY GREEN

All Saints & St. Antony's - our Services of Worship are in Church and some are also livestreamed. [www.sanderstead-parish.org.uk](http://www.sanderstead-parish.org.uk)  
These services are at All Saints Sanderstead unless specified.



### NOVEMBER 2021

Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> November		2.30 pm	Holy Communion at St. Antony's	
Sunday 7 <sup>th</sup> November		9.30 am	Parish Eucharist with choir <i>Confident Living</i>	
		4.00 pm	Memorial Service <i>Remembering those who have died</i>	
Sunday 14 <sup>th</sup> November		10.00 am	Remembrance Sunday <i>Lest we forget</i>	
Remembrance				
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> November		12.30 pm	Holy Communion	
Sunday 21 <sup>st</sup> November		9.30 am	Family Communion with choir <i>The day of salvation</i>	
		4.00 pm	Messy Church <i>For children &amp; families in the Church Hall</i>	
Saturday 27 <sup>th</sup> November		9.00 am	Parish Prayer <i>St. Catherine's Aisle</i>	
Sunday 28 <sup>th</sup> November		9.30 am	Family Worship & Baptism <i>Advent 1</i>	
		11.00 am	Said Holy Communion	
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> December		2.30 pm	Holy Communion at St. Antony's	
Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup> December		9.30 am	Parish Eucharist with choir <i>John the Baptist</i>	

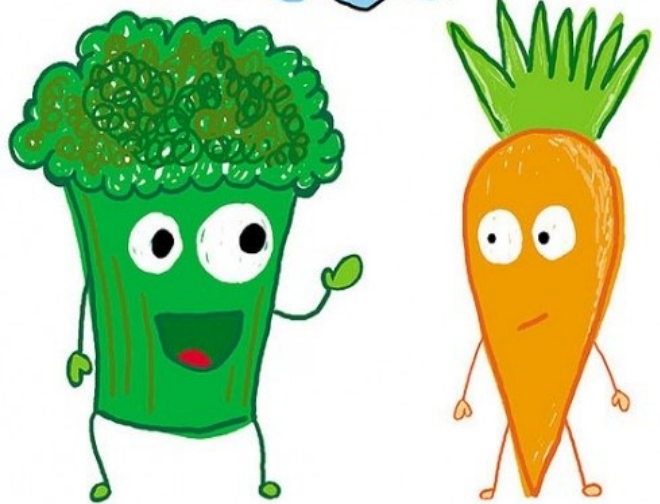
*Proclaiming Jesus, changing lives, serving our community*

What do you call a  
Frenchman wearing  
sandals?



Phillipe Phillope.

HOW DO YOU KNOW CARROTS ARE  
GOOD FOR YOUR EYES?  
YOU NEVER SEE A RABBIT WEARING GLASSES!



WHERE DID  
NAPOLEON KEEP  
HIS ARMIES?



IN HIS  
SLEEVES!

WHAT IS THE  
OPPOSITE OF A  
CROISSANT? A  
HAPPY UNCLE



The past,  
present and  
future walked  
into a bar. It  
was tense.



Shared by Sheila Wilkie

**Church services & updates are on the website...**  
**[www.sanderstead-parish.org.uk](http://www.sanderstead-parish.org.uk)**

## **Contact Us:**

**Rector: Revd Canon Martin Greenfield**, rector@sanderstead-parish.org.uk,  
020 8657 1366, day off—Fri

**Asst Priest: Revd Jeremy Groombridge CB**,  
jeremy@sanderstead-parish.org.uk, 020 8668 7795, day off—Mon

**Parish Office: Paul Shipley** parish.office@sanderstead-parish.org.uk,  
020 8657 0665

**Rector's Admin Assistant: Rosanne Morris** admin@sanderstead-parish.org.uk,  
020 8657 0665, option 5 - Mon, Tues & Thu 10am - 2pm.

## **Can we pray 4 u?**

**We would be very happy to pray for you in confidence.**  
**Email: [prayer@sanderstead-parish.org.uk](mailto:prayer@sanderstead-parish.org.uk)**



## **Midweek Holy Communion services...**

Thursday 18th November 12.30pm, All Saints  
Thursday 2nd December, 2.30pm, St. Antony's  
Thursday 16th December 12.30pm, All Saints

Please continue to send me your thoughts, articles & ideas.

Thank you,  
*Rosanne*

[admin@sanderstead-parish.org.uk](mailto:admin@sanderstead-parish.org.uk)