

Sanderstead Team Newsletter

July 2017

Welcome to the Sanderstead Team Newsletter! This is your newsletter, so do send us your news and anything you would like us all to know. The newsletter will continue to be published for the first Sunday of every month, and items need to be with Alice the Monday of that week. alice@sanderstead-parish.org.uk

Susan writes ...

The last few weeks will long be remembered here in the UK and even further afield in such places as France, Spain and Australia. Unfortunately the memories for many will not be happy but ones of tragedy and loss.

On 22nd May in the Manchester Arena, following an Ariana Grande concert, a suicide bomber killed 22 adults and children and injured over a hundred more. There were over 14,000 people at the concert many of them children.

Then on 3rd June three attackers killed 8 people and injured many more during their terror rampage on London Bridge and through Borough Market. The victims came from around the world. In the words of the Bishop of Southwark, the Rt Revd Christopher Chessun and the Dean of Southwark, the Very Revd Andrew Nunn the attacks in Southwark "have irrevocably changed the lives of many people and have deeply affected the local community".

Yet these communities have not responded with hate; they have responded with love.

In Manchester there were many who helped the injured while they awaited medical support, people opened their homes as safe places or offered lifts to those who had no other way of getting home. The One Love Manchester benefit concert, which was organised by Ariana Grande, was attended by 50,000 people and watched by millions more worldwide raising £2.35 million in donations to the British Red Cross We Love Manchester Emergency Fund during the concert alone. I'm not someone who generally attends or even watches such concerts but along with many others from all generations I was captivated by the sheer sense of love and unity emanating from Manchester that day.

In London the response was similar. Stories of individuals who selflessly fought to save the lives of others and subsequently the outpouring of grief and love shown by those from all faiths and none not least in the countless messages and flowers left at the scene. Having visited the area a few days after the attacks it was impossible not to sense the shock, horror and love in and for the community there.

A natural response following such events could well be to seek revenge and be motivated by hate targeting individuals or certain faith groups but that is not the way to defeat such evil. In his letter to the Romans the Apostle Paul says to the Christian community, "Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good."..."Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good". (Romans 12:9-21). Paul is urging the community that Christ should be Lord of every aspect of life.

Revenge is not an option for Christians; our weapon is love.

Finding God in the Storms of Life

Elaine Leck and Angela Jones will be leading, A quiet morning on Saturday 15th July
at Emmanuel Church, Normanton Rd. CR2 7AF

10.30-12.30 pm, coffee served from 10am

To book please contact Penny by Friday 7th July

ppennybird@yahoo.co.uk or 020 8657 1176

This event is offered to all by WAYS IN TO PRAYER, an ecumenical group set up under the Anglican Diocese of Southwark

Mothers' Union,

Meeting in St. Catherine's Aisle. Monday July 10th at 8.00 pm.

Our guest speaker is Bill Jackson who will tell us about the work of the Floating Shelters for the homeless that is supported by the local churches. This is something that our churches are involved in, and promises to be an interesting and informative evening. All are welcome. Tea and coffee served.



St Antony's



Wentworth Way

Hamsey Green

(CR2 9ET)

Community Day

Celebrating

60 years

2nd July 2017

2.00-5.30pm

**Come and help us celebrate with dance &
karate displays, bouncy castle, face
painting, cream teas & refreshments.**

And it's free!!!

Contact Rev. Susan Atkinson-Jones

susan@sanderstead-parish.org.uk



TODAY!!!!

The First Christmas Day Lunch at All Saints' was in 1989

It continued every year after that, with a different couple organising it each time, until 2011. There was a break until 2016 when we revived it. It was a great success and was really appreciated by the guests and we enjoyed it very much too. We had lots of help on the day and beforehand.

Sue and David Chillman will be Co-ordinating this year (as this role is taken on a 'one year only' basis) but they need help. Please speak to Sue or David if you can offer assistance. Many thanks

Our congratulations go to Philip Cotton, who has been awarded the OBE ("Officer of the Order of the British Empire") for services to Education in Rwanda. Philip is well-known in Sanderstead, and was with us in church a few months ago. For more, google 'philip cotton obe'

All Saints' Walk

On Saturday 20th May, we had an enjoyable walk discovering the countryside and wildlife around Godstone - from birds and bees to flowers and trees. Also horses, cows, pigs, enormous koi carp in the Bay Ponds, Emus (at Godstone Farm) to name but a few. There were ten walkers plus two dogs and of the ten people, bizarrely we had THREE sets of Ann and Michaels! We were blessed with perfect weather and ended up having a picnic lunch together on the Green. We hope to arrange another walk soon, possibly at a National Trust property, on a Sunday afternoon. Ann Turner

FAMILY FUN HOUR

Come and join us for our Summer Picnic on the afternoon of July 16th!

We'll play games and eat together.

From 2.30—4.30 pm we'll be providing tea and cake; open to all church members.

If you are willing to make cakes, please speak to Judith.



Sanderstead Bible Week

14 – 18 August this year, at All Saints. I'm glad to let you know that the programme of speakers is now complete, and they are all very talented.

In the afternoons at 3pm, we have Rev Dr Simon Stocks on 'God's Word in the Psalms':

And in the evenings at 8pm we have as our theme, 'AMAZING GRACE':

DAY	SCRIPTURE	THEME	SPEAKER
Monday	Psalms 19	Looking Good	Rev Dr Simon Stocks
Tuesday	Psalms 51	Looking Back	Rev Dr Simon Stocks
Wednesday	Psalms 13	Looking Down	Rev Dr Simon Stocks
Thursday	Psalms 67	Looking Up	Rev Dr Simon Stocks
Friday	Psalms 105	Looking Over	Rev Dr Simon Stocks

DAY	SCRIPTURE	THEME	SPEAKER
Monday	John 9:1-12, 18-25	Saved by God's Grace (was blind but now I see)	Canon Martin Greenfield
Tuesday	Ephesians 1:1-14	Grace from first to last (how precious did that grace appear)	Canon Trevor Mapstone
Wednesday	1 Peter 1:1-12	Grace in sufferings (through many dangers, toils and snares)	Canon Dr Sue Clarke
Thursday	Romans 5:1-11	Confidence in God's Grace (his word my hope secures)	Rev Peter Irwin-Clark
Friday	Romans 8:28-39	Grace for eternity (we've no less days to sing God's praise)	Ven Chris Skilton



Re-ordering Our Vision

Following the overwhelming vote at last year's AGM to proceed with our plans for re-ordering the main church building, the re-ordering group chaired by Richard Bird have been working hard to progress the plans with the Diocesan Advisory Committee (DAC). This is the body responsible for providing advice to the Diocesan Chancellor who decides whether we can proceed with the plans. Our experience with the DAC has not been wholly positive. The priority they attach to preserving Victorian history and ambience do not always sit comfortably with our priorities for ministry and mission, and it has become clear that any recommendation to proceed with the wider set of proposals is unlikely to be forthcoming in the near future. However, some of the proposals - for example, those to replace the North Aisle pews with flexible seating, and the introduction of screens to enhance our worship and overcome difficulties with "lines of sight" - are relatively uncontroversial. Accordingly, the District Church Council (DCC) has decided to proceed with an application for these parts of the re-ordering. Although no guarantees can be given at this stage, we are hoping that the necessary faculty will be processed smoothly and quickly and the relatively minor work involved can take place without delay.

There is no getting round the disappointment we have faced in not being able to proceed now with the full plans. However, does that mean we are abandoning them? Far from it! The DAC are looking to us to present a more compelling statement justifying the need for the more extensive removal of pews, pillars and steps. In short, they want to see a more convincing and overarching vision - fleshed out with specific intentions rather than general aspirations.

The timing of all this is perhaps fortuitous. From the turn of the year there will be changes to the structure of the Sanderstead Team Ministry, as St Mary's move out of the current team. This provides us with opportunities to sharpen our vision for the new Sanderstead Team. We are beginning to work on the kind of vision we need to take us forward - and as I said when I mentioned this a couple of Sundays ago, our plans for the physical design of our buildings need to be driven by our vision for ministry and mission, working with the local community and understanding what future needs are. Yes - the heading on this article wasn't a mistake - we now have to "re-order our vision"! We've got a lot of work to do to update our understanding how best to serve our local community in Sanderstead, Riddlesdown and Hamsey Green. To this end, I have started discussions with my old college, St Augustine's School of Theology, to explore the possibility of inviting a group of students in the Autumn as part of the "Mission Project" in which all first-year students participate and which is subject to formal academic examination (mine was examined by none other than Canon Simon Butler!). I'm hoping they might be able to help us undertake a "community audit" which would be an essential building block for developing our future approach to mission and ministry.

I will keep you posted on all this. I believe strongly that our vision will be developed through prayerful consultation and conversation, and all of us need to "own" and "commit" to it. So watch this space - and please do drop me a line if you have any thoughts/ideas/suggestions at this early stage.

My email is grmbj@aol.com.

Revd Jeremy Groombridge

Around and About Sanderstead ...



Hard Questions: A series of discussions hosted by St Swithun's and St Mark's Purley.

How do you live with depression? - 7.30pm, 2nd July at St Mark's Purley, Personal experiences of living with crippling clinical depression, with clinical psychologist Dr Paula Redmond.

Are you at risk of Compassion Fatigue? - 7.30pm, 13th August at St Swithun's Purley, Vicarious Trauma can threaten all who care for others, from aid workers to family carers, with clinical psychologist Dr Paula Redmond.

Join Croydon's inter-faith bike ride and big picnic in the park this summer This year the Council are supporting a special Big Get Together event on Sunday 9 July 2017 to show that we #WeStandTogether. This ride through Croydon visits our diverse sites of worship before joining a dedicated Big Get Together picnic in the park. Everyone is welcome to take part in the interfaith bike ride and to join the interfaith picnic which runs from 2-5pm at Parkhill Recreation ground.

10am - Starting point for Group A: Croydon Arena, SE25 4QL for a route safety briefing

10:30am - Starting point for Group B: Boxpark, CR0 1LD, Dingwall Road side

11:20am - arrive at Gurdwara (Siri Guru Singh Sabha), CR0 2BU

12:30pm - arrive at Synagogue, CR0 8YX

1:30pm – arrive at Park Hill Recreation Ground, Fairfield Road, for the Big Get Together interfaith picnic

5pm - picnic ends

Places on the ride can be reserved via: www.eventbrite.co.uk or www.faithstogetherincroydon.org.uk

18th Purley Scout Group, 80th Anniversary Reunion on Sunday 24th September 12noon—4pm at Scout HQ Farm Fields CR2 OHQ. Buffet lunch, local beer and wine, bouncy castle & activities, Anniversary cake
Contact: rodneynewman@btinternet.com 020 8654 1043, lovall163@btinternet.com 01737 553211
Or visit our web site: www.18thPurley.org.uk

Abbeyfield Annual Garden Party, Saturday 22nd July, 2.30—4.30 pm, Refreshments, Raffle, homemade cake stall, bric-a-brac stall, home made greetings cards, plant stall. All proceeds in support of Abbeyfield.
At Abbeyfield at 2 Beechwood Road, Sanderstead, South Croydon, CR2 0AA

Seeking Stillness, Saturday 22nd July, 2.00-5.00 p.m. at St James Church, Riddlesdown,
Seeking Sabbath time led by Jane Hoskins.

To book your place, please e-mail j.hoskins233@btinternet.com or ring 07956 061533.

·NIGEL BATES & FRIENDS' at Sanderstead United Reformed Church - SUNDAY 16th JULY at 3PM
A Concert featuring a varied and lively programme of music and song from jazz to Widor's Toccata.
Admission by programme at the door £7 (or £3 if 18 or under)

Martin's 3-month Sabbatical, September to November

"Sabbaticals are an important part of a creative and disciplined approach to the ministerial life... they aim to enrich and safeguard the spiritual, emotional and physical health of the church's ministers... The word 'sabbatical' is derived from the same root as 'Sabbath'. This indicates that a fundamental purpose of a sabbatical is to have a time for rest, renewal and re-creation so as to return refreshed for one's ministry".

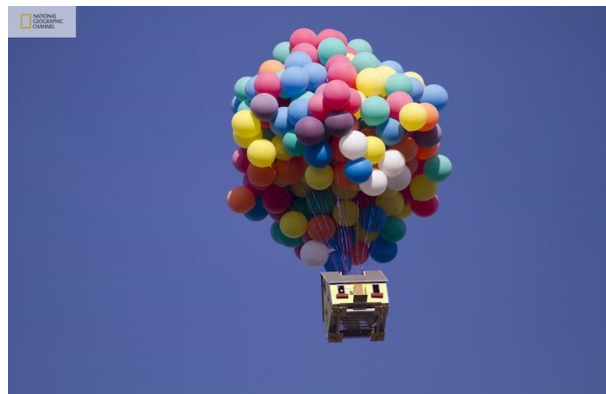
Our plans are well advanced for me to do a month's locum chaplaincy in St Mark's (English) Church in Versailles, near Paris, from October. Emma will be coming as well and is making the necessary arrangements with her work. Mainly, I'll be taking Sunday services and preaching, and there should be plenty of time for other things. St Mark's Church is made up of British living or working in France, as well as other nationalities who prefer to worship in English. I'm looking forward to sharing fellowship in Christ with a more international congregation.

Progress on 53 Glebe Hyrst

A new home for Martin and Emma.

Progress is being made! Wood Brothers, builders, have been cracking on with work on converting the garage into a Rector's study, and making a new kitchen-dining room, along with everything else to make a really good home for the Rector of All Saints Sanderstead. All the delays have been very frustrating, but Sean from the Diocese of Southwark Property Department tells us that the work will be completed on schedule. It's almost a shock, and hard to believe, that we soon will be preparing to move.

Inevitably, there will be things that need to be done after the builders finish; but the end (or should I say 'beginning'?) is in sight. Thank you all for your support, encouragement and prayers; and particularly to Mike Fixter for helping to keep everything on track.



What's On In July

Please look at the website for regular Sunday services: www.sanderstead-parish.org.uk

WHEN?	WHERE?	WHAT?
2nd, 2-5.30pm	St Antony's	Community Celebration for 60th Anniversary
14th, 10am-12pm	All Saints' Halls	Coffee Pot, All welcome for coffee, cakes and company.
14th, 12.30 pm	All Saints' Church	Funeral, Barbara Shakespeare
16th, 2.30—4.30pm	The Gruffy	Family Fun Hour
23rd, 6pm	All Saints'	Fresh Encounters.
28th, 10am-12pm	All Saints' Halls	Coffee Pot, All welcome for coffee, cakes and company.
29th, 9-10am	All Saints'	Prayer Meeting

Rector's Diary

Martin's Sabbatical is September to November 2017

Future Dates For Your Diary

August 14th—18th, God's Word For Today—Sanderstead Bible Week (afternoons and evenings)

Sunday 17 September Bishop Jonathan will be presiding and preaching at an 11am Holy Communion Service to celebrate the 60 years of St Antony's.

Parish Office

We hope and pray that Paul will return to the Parish Office sometime in July. Thank you for your patience and understanding whilst Alice covers the office Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays 9am—1 pm, assisted by Sue Carter. This may mean that August to October rotas are produced later than normal.