

# Sanderstead Team Newsletter

September 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](mailto:alice@sanderstead-parish.org.uk)

## Jeremy writes ...

September - a time of new beginnings.

The poet H W Longfellow wrote of:

**" a bright September morn;  
The earth was beautiful as if newborn;  
There was nameless splendour everywhere,  
That wild exhilaration in the air,  
Which makes the passers in the city street  
Congratulate each other as they meet."**



I wonder what feelings September evokes in you? Is it the onset of a dark and dreary Autumn and Winter? Or is it a time of exhilaration and preparing for new things?

For many of us, this month is a time of exciting new beginnings. Our 4 and 5 year olds will be attending school for the first time, and all the other pupils are moving up a year. For July's Year 6 children, that means moving to a new school, whilst for others there is the prospect of college, university or the world of work.

So as we move into the new season, there is newness around on every hand. Over the coming few months, we will be going through a period of discernment as a Team seeking to explore how, as three churches instead of four, we might most effectively take forward God's mission in Sanderstead. To that end, we will welcome a team of students from St Augustine's College who will be undertaking their Mission Project placement with us. In their studies, they are learning about the centrality of mission to Christian ministry, and they will be available to help us develop our thinking about how to take things forward in the future. Part of their role will be to help update our understanding about the situation of our local community - what people are thinking, their concerns, needs, expectations and aspirations - in the form of a Community Audit, to help inform our approach and priorities for developing our ministry in the future. I hope you will enjoy meeting them and working with them.

Of course, there are other big changes happening around us. Martin and Emma have moved into the new Rectory, and we formally (and lightheartedly) "commissioned" them onto their Sabbatical. We wish them well over the coming months, and promise to keep them in our prayers. In the meantime, I will be available to you and Sandra and I look forward to being of service in whatever way we can. I am especially looking forward to leading the forthcoming series on "Transformation and Renewal" which will feature on most Sundays between now and the end of November. Our Homegroups will also be following through on the Sunday sermons. During this period we will look at how the gospel of Jesus Christ transforms our lives, our church, our prayer, our worship and how God can bring about a transformation in our lives even when we fail him.

This month we will also be marking the departure of the Ellis family as they move to Dorset where Revd Louise will be taking up her ministry in Lilliput. Her last Sunday with us will be 3rd September and her licensing will take place on the 26th. We wish them all the best for their move, and will miss them greatly.

But it's not just about people going away. Far from it - on the 10th we will have the joy of welcoming no fewer than four children in baptism. Also this month we will be setting up a new course, called "Life Explored" for those seeking to explore how the Christian faith relates to everyday life. And of course, the full programme of activities for our many and various church groups will resume. So September promises to be a very busy and active month! If that were not enough, I shall be commencing my studies for a Masters degree in Theology, and Sandra will be starting her studies for SPA ministry.

Traditionally, this is the month when the land yields its harvest. This Autumn our Homegroups are encouraged to embark on an outreach activity. What better time to respond to Jesus' words in Matthew 9:37-38: "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field." I hope we will use this time of new beginnings to explore new ways of serving our Lord and Saviour. And I very much hope and pray that we will all find much encouragement over the coming weeks. God is so good to us and his transforming love surrounds us at every turn!

## Croydon Churches Floating Shelter

Homelessness and rough sleeping in Croydon has continued unabated this year and our Autumn/ Winter floating shelter provision is needed more than ever. Admission waiting lists are now an established part of the shelter programme.

The floating shelter exists to help and support men and women who are rough sleeping in Croydon and are experiencing difficult and stressful times. It provides a temporary stable and safe environment in which they can stay in contact with key workers, their referral agencies and job centres, to move them on to jobs and hostels or other accommodation. Not least, to show them that there are people who care about them, not because that's what they are paid to do but because they believe it is their duty and privilege as followers of Jesus Christ to demonstrate the love of God in action.

For the second time, Martin Greenfield and the Churchwardens of All Saints' have kindly given their permission for us to use their church hall complex for our first shelter on Monday / Tuesday 6th/7th November. The remaining 6 shelters will be held at the United Reformed Church, as usual.

We have an outstanding group of volunteers, many from All Saints' as well as those from SURC together with members of 6 other churches and those with no church affiliation. We need volunteers who are prepared to cook, make beds, wash up, launder the used linen, clear up and engage with our guests. We need people who are willing to sleep on a mattress or camp-bed and stay over on a Monday night and people who can get up early on Tuesday morning to cook sausages and beans, serve cereals, toast, tea and coffee, or clear away beds and clean toilets.

On an average Monday night, up to 19 volunteers are involved in what has become a family of friendly volunteers. Some come to help for a couple of hours, others for longer. Some are able to help every week, others just once. So, whether the whole idea is new to you, whether you've thought of volunteering for some time, or whether you've helped before, please put your name down this year. A training morning will be held in the Autumn for existing and new volunteers.

If you would like to help on one or more Monday evenings /Tuesday mornings in November or December, would like to help financially or would like further information about the Shelter then please contact Bill Jackson from St Mary's (Tel : 020 8657 8003 e mail : bille.jackson@gmail.com) .

After 5 years as co-ordinator, I shall be retiring this year and we will need a new co-ordinator/s for the 2018/19 season. This is a very rewarding and essential task and is well supported by our volunteers and John Broom, our Chairman. If any individual or couple would like to consider this role but need to know more about it, I would be delighted to tell you. Please contact me at the above.

I look forward to seeing my many friends from All Saints' in November / December

May God bestow His blessings on you all

Bill Jackson ( Shelter Co-ordinator) – August 2017

## Celebrating Betty and Jim Wrigley's 65th Wedding Anniversary



## Christian Resources Exhibition

The Christian Resources Exhibition is October 17-19th at Sandown Park, Surrey this year. It describes itself as 'your one-stop shop for church supplies, resources and ideas'. Tickets are cheaper for groups, at £3 per person. The tickets are valid for any of the three days, but Jeremy is interested in attending as a group on Wed 18th. If you are interested in going (on either of the three dates) please let Alice know by Sept 13th ([alice@sanderstead-parish.org.uk](mailto:alice@sanderstead-parish.org.uk) or call the parish office). More details [www.creonline.co.uk](http://www.creonline.co.uk)

## St Paul's Cathedral

Did you know that St Paul's Cathedral host events throughout the year (some of which are free) which explore the challenges, contradictions and joys of being a Christian in the 21st century? Speakers include some of the liveliest contemporary theologians, Christian thinkers and speakers of today. Events are open to everyone and all are welcome. Check out their events at [www.stpauls.co.uk/adultlearning](http://www.stpauls.co.uk/adultlearning)

## Green Group News



With the harvest season coming up, the All Saints Green Group is mounting a display in church through September to draw attention to the need to protect the earth's resources and promote climate justice. There are newly produced leaflets from USPG for you to take away showing the increasingly devastating impact of human generated climate change on Christian communities round the globe, and ideas for prayers and action. Also available is an updated version of the Green Group's sustainability guide with suggestions for how you can minimise your energy consumption and help reduce harmful carbon emissions as well as save money with colder weather on the way.

During October the Green Group will be collecting garden tools (not electric please) so that they can be renovated by prisoners at HMP Wandsworth for use in schools and community projects. There will be further information in All Saints weekly notices. Please contribute if you can.

Finally something for you to try at home. There are various "carbon calculators" available on the internet which enable you to measure the impact your lifestyle is having on the earth's resources. Green Group members have tried one such calculator produced by the World Wildlife Fund (<http://footprint.wwf.org.uk>) which is quick to navigate and easy to do and presents the results in the form of the number of planet earths which would be required to support a lifestyle were everyone in the world to be consuming at an equivalent level. One issue this has thrown up is the very significant impact of long distance air travel. However this can be countered by purchasing carbon offsets which are used for reforestation and other projects which help to reduce carbon emissions. The Church of England's environmental charity A Rocha runs a very worthwhile offset scheme through its subsidiary Climate Stewards which can be thoroughly recommended (<https://www.climatestewards.org/offset/>).

## Sensory Bands—Twiddlemuffs

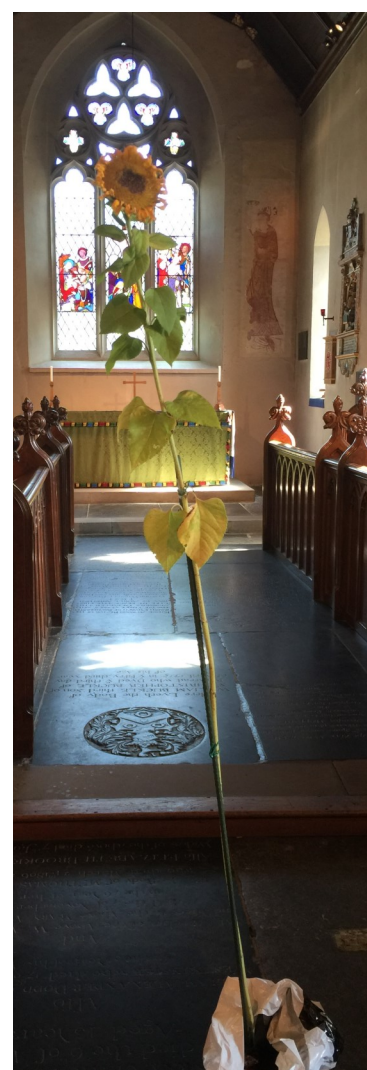
Please keep knitting as more are asking for these. We have already sent 40 to Mayday Hospital, Langley Oaks and some individuals with dementia. Patterns from Susan Roberts [Sioux745@aol.com](mailto:Sioux745@aol.com) (020 8651 4468) or Rosemary Kempself [rosemarykempself@gmail.com](mailto:rosemarykempself@gmail.com) (020 8657 0482).



## Transformation and Renewal

Between September and the end of November we shall be exploring what it means to be "transformed into the image of Christ" (2 Corinthians 3:18). We shall be looking at how the Gospel of Jesus Christ transforms our lives, and also what church, worship and prayer look like when we allow God to transform us. We will also be looking at how God can bring about positive and transforming outcomes when we feel we have failed and things haven't gone as we had hoped. At our non-eucharistic services we will take the opportunity to look at examples from the Bible of people whose lives were transformed by God's love and power - people like Naaman, the Apostle Paul, Lydia, King David, and a man born blind.

Earlier in the year our Homegroups spent a day away in Carshalton to reflect and rejoice at the way God has blessed our groups. As a departing challenge everyone was given a small, rough-looking little seed. By providing that seed with the blessings of water, soil and light, we would see how that small seed would be utterly transformed over time to become something beautiful and elegant. Full marks, then, to those who nurtured that little seed and tended it so that it was transformed into an amazing Sunflower! Here are some of the photographs of the spectacular results. Paul McCombie is standing next to his tall, healthy sunflower. Congratulations, too, to Alex Payne, Sue Chillman, George Linford, Ann Tapson and Joy Gadsby. All of them provided just the right amount of soil, water and light to allow the transformation of their seed to take place!



## *Around and About Sanderstead ...*



**Book Sale.** Sanderstead Neighbourhood Care will be having a Book Sale on Saturday 30th September, 2-4pm in the All Saints' Small Hall. Come along to help them raise some money. Refreshments will also be on sale.

**Quiz Night.** Sanderstead Neighbourhood Care's Quiz Night is on 4th November, 7pm for 7.30pm start. Tickets are £8 in advance or £10 on the door, 6 people per table. Ticket price includes a ploughman's and a dessert, but please bring your own drinks and glasses. Book your tickets by calling 020 8657 8289 or by visiting the SNC office.

**Purley Classics** presents Lunchtime music recitals. Wednesday 13th September 'Jonatan Bougt (Classical Guitar). Music by Mauro Giuliani, J S Bach and Agustin Barrios Mangore. 1.15-2pm at The Lounge, Purley United Reformed Church, Brighton Road, Purley. Open to all with a retiring collection to cover costs.

**Seeking Simplicity in September Stillness** is a quiet day led by Jane Hoskins at St James Church, Riddlesdown. God calls us to seek a life of simplicity, being content with what we have. There will be opportunities during this day to look at ways in which, even amidst the complexities of 21st century living, we might find ways to live more simply. 10.30am-3pm, Saturday 16th September. Please contact Jane if you're planning to go. [j.hoskins233@btinternet.com](mailto:j.hoskins233@btinternet.com) 07956061533

**Jumble Sale** 9th September, 11am-1pm at Sanderstead United Reformed Church Hall.

**Sunday Afternoon Concert** 17th September, 3pm, Ted Beament Trio at Sanderstead United Reformed Church.

**18th Purley Scout Group 80th Anniversary Reunion** 24th September, 12-4pm: Buffet Lunch: Scout HQ, Farm Fields, CR2 0HQ. For info, and to book a place, contact [rodneynewman@btinternet.com](mailto:rodneynewman@btinternet.com) 020 8654 1043 OR [lovatt163@btinternet.com](mailto:lovatt163@btinternet.com) 01737 553211

## *and beyond ...*

**Diocese Vocations Retreat 'Called by Name'** 29 September – 1 October 2017 at Wychcroft. How do we begin to discern what this means for our life? This weekend retreat at Wychcroft offers a mixture of short talks, led reflections, creative prayer, and plenty of space for silent meditation and reflection, giving participants the opportunity to explore their own journey of faith, and to reflect on the ways in which God is calling them. This retreat is subsidised by the Vocations Department, and so costs just £50 for participants. To register please email: [vocations@southwark.anglican.org](mailto:vocations@southwark.anglican.org)

## Walk for Nepal

I don't know if you are aware but women in Nepal are badly marginalised and not given the opportunity for schooling, bible teaching and learning about work. Hence the need for "Walk for Nepal 2017"

In response to these challenges, in 1975 Ester & a friend started to take in vulnerable local uneducated women and train them to be independent and learn a trade. As a result the Lydia project was launched to build a vocational training centre for Nepalese women where women join our five month residential course in Katmandu. On this course the women are trained to become professional seamstresses, as well as being taught skills in healthcare, sanitation, cooking, bible training and maternity nursing. To equip them to return and bless their communities when they go back to their villages with a sewing machine to assist families in emotional and practical recovery from the April 2015 earthquake. 'Walk for Nepal' is fundraising to build an extension to that building, to expand training from 44 women pa. to over 60.

The walk criss-crossing the river from London Bridge to Westminster and back to London Bridge. The walk is very social and informal, with groups stopping off for coffees or meals on the way. There is also a shorter "Accessible Route" which is 4 miles, step free and suitable for wheelchair and buggy users. If you would like to join in the sponsored walk on Sept 16th, register online now at [ineeds.org.uk/walk-for-nepal-2017](http://ineeds.org.uk/walk-for-nepal-2017) Or by phone on 01883 331 332 Registration £15 (Includes T-shirt, Welcome pack with map )

## In need of a little peace?

**Fresh Encounters services** are contemplative in flavour with poetry, music and silence as well as some liturgy. They are on Sunday evenings at All Saints' at 6 pm once a month.

Fresh Encounters dates for the autumn will be : 17 September, 15 October and 19 November. The theme will be 'The Grace'. We shall look at 'The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ'; 'The love of God'; and 'The fellowship of the Holy Spirit'. Do put the dates in your diary now!

**Words of Life** - a quiet morning exploring creative writing, with Revd Andrew Rumsey, Vicar of Oxted who is experienced in leading such events and giving encouragement. It will be held on Saturday 30 September 2017, at Sanderstead Methodist Church, Limpsfield Road, Sanderstead CR2 9EF. 10.30 am to 12.30 pm – coffee from 10.00 am. 30 places available.

To book please contact Penny by Friday 22 September [ppennybird@yahoo.co.uk](mailto: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

**Diocese Spirituality Day** 'Engaging Spirituality for Contemporary Life' Sat 21st Oct, 10am—4pm, Southwark Cathedral. Explore the rhythm of life and resources for prayer that can sustain Christian discipleship and spirituality today. Keynote speaker is The Revd Dr Andrew Walker, Workshops include: Hospitality: Bishop Karowei Dorgu, Prayer & Song: Paul Roberts, Spirituality for Extroverts: Ruth Adams, Using labyrinths: Barbara Wallace, Spirituality & Family Life: Tiff Ewins & Nick Shepherd, Diddy Disciples: Sharon Moughton-Mumby, Silent Meditation: Ian Mobsby, Intercessions & activism: Gareth Powell, Forming a Rhythm of Life: Chris Palmer, Seeing the Spirit: Bonnie Clarke. Cost: £8 for individual ticket or £5 per person booking in groups of 5 or more. To book visit [www.southwarkanglican.org/deepeningdiscipleship](http://www.southwarkanglican.org/deepeningdiscipleship) and click GoingDeeper



## What's On In September?

Please look at the website for regular Sunday services: [www.sanderstead-parish.org.uk](http://www.sanderstead-parish.org.uk)

WHEN?	WHERE?	WHAT?
8th, 10am-12pm	All Saints' Halls	Coffee Pot, All welcome for coffee, cakes and company.
10th, 3pm	All Saints' Halls	Family Fun Hour
11th, 8pm	St Catherine's Aisle,	Mothers' Union—Jean Harris speaking on 'Remembering
17th, 11am	St Antony's	Bishop Jonathan will be presiding and preaching at an 11am Holy Communion Service to celebrate the 60 years of St Antony's.
17th, 6pm	All Saints'	Fresh Encounters.
22nd, 10am-12pm	All Saints' Halls	Coffee Pot, All welcome for coffee, cakes and company.
30th, 9-10am	All Saints'	Prayer Meeting

Please note there will be no 10am service on 17th September at All Saints'. We will be attending the 11am service at St Antony's that day.

### Rector's Diary

Martin's Sabbatical is September to November 2017

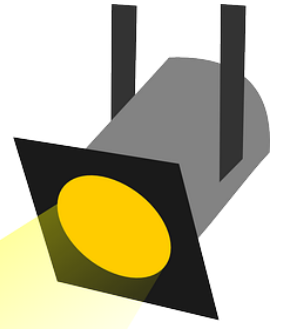
### Future Dates For Your Diary

Harvest Lunch, 22nd October Tickets £5 each available from the parish office or Lynne Davison





# *Spotlight on ...*



Each month, we'd like to shine spotlight on one of the things we do in the parish.

It could be a group that meets regularly, or a particular person. Alice would love to hear from you if you would like your group or congregation to be featured here in future.

*... ???????*