

Sanderstead Team Newsletter

October 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 Rosanne the Monday of that week.

admin@sanderstead-parish.org.uk (please note new email address)

Susan writes ...

I am writing this just days after we have been following the path of destruction caused by Hurricane Irma. Forming near the Cape Verde Islands Irma rapidly developed from a tropical storm into the powerful hurricane, which has caused catastrophic damage in such places as Barbuda, Saint Barthélemy, Saint Martin, Anguilla and the Virgin Islands before moving on to hit parts of Florida.

At more or less the same time Mexico was hit by the strongest earthquake the country had seen in the last century as well as the country's east coast being hit by tropical storm Katia.

All of this is on top of other devastating natural disasters such as the calamitous flooding in South Asia.

We hear on our news of lives lost, homes swept away, livelihoods destroyed, power lines downed, people left with literally nothing. Anywhere such devastation hits, crops are destroyed and water contaminated making recovery more difficult and more dangerous.

Here in Britain we are comparatively fortunate for although some are certainly affected by storms and flooding, our crops are rarely destroyed and our infrastructure remains intact.

What then is our focus when it comes to celebrating our Harvest Festivals?

Traditionally churches mark the event in late September or October. This year we are asking the question "What does Harvest mean to you?" as we celebrate at St Antony's.

Although the early harvest customs date back many years in this country, the modern tradition of celebrating Harvest Festival in churches began in 1843, when the Reverend Robert Hawker invited parishioners to a special thanksgiving service at his church at Morwenstow in Cornwall. He was aware of the importance of the harvest to his rural congregation; if the harvest failed his parishioners would go hungry, if successful they would have plenty of food for the months ahead.

Victorian hymns such as "We Plough the Fields and Scatter", "Come ye Thankful People Come" and "All Things Bright and Beautiful" helped to popularise Hawker's idea of harvest festival and spread the annual custom of decorating churches with produce for the Festival Service.

As British people have come to rely less on homegrown produce, there has been a shift in emphasis in many Harvest Festival celebrations. Increasingly, churches have linked Harvest with an awareness of and concern for less well off people in the community along with those in dire need overseas.

Harvest Thanksgiving should be just that for us, an opportunity to give thanks to God.

The ancient Israelites harvest didn't just celebrate God's gift of the harvest. It was really to celebrate that God had freed Israel from slavery in Egypt, and that God brought the people to the land flowing with milk and honey. They are instructed to 'rejoice in all the good things the Lord your God has given you...' (Deuteronomy 26:1-11).

Maybe we feel that our life today is challenging and full of uncertainties or difficulties yet still we are called to feel grateful. Grateful for those things that perhaps we take for granted; our plentiful and safe food and a roof over our head unlike many others in our world.

So, yes it is right to give thanks at harvest time. Not only for the good material things we possess but for God Himself who has come into our world as Jesus Christ.

If you wish to express your thoughts on what Harvest means to you then St Antony's are running a free creative competition open to children and adults. The closing date for entries is 4pm Saturday 14 October.

ST ANTONY'S CHURCH
WENTWORTH WAY,
HAMSEY GREEN



Tell us about WHAT HARVEST MEANS TO YOU?

BY

**Entering our FREE CREATIVE COMPETITION
open to children and adults**

EITHER

image of harvest using any art form – watercolour, acrylic, pastel,
pencil collage, ipad drawing

OR

Write **a** letter, news article, short story, poem, play or short reflection based on:
your memories or understanding of harvest.

A PRIZE WILL BE AWARDED IN EACH CATEGORY

Entries to be submitted on: **SATURDAY 14TH OCTOBER BY 4PM.**

Please include your name and contact details or school/ community group

Entries will be displayed in the Church and winners announced at:

THE HARVEST FESTIVAL SERVICE

11 AM ON SUNDAY 15 OCTOBER 2017

Should you need further information please contact:

parish.office@sanderstead-parish.org.uk

020 8657 0665

ENTRY IS FREE.

St Antony's Diamond Jubilee

On Sunday 17 September it was St Antony's Diamond Jubilee. The Rt Revd Jonathan Clark, The Bishop of Croydon led the celebration and we were joined by the Rt Revd Dr David Atkinson, the Revd Jeremy Groombridge, former church members, guests and friends from around the parish. Following the service we enjoyed the anniversary cake as well as marked the 55th anniversary of the Women's Social Group (W.S.G) who are active supporters of the church.

Barbara Webster-Dudley writes "I can't tell you how happy and emotional I felt, as I saw how much support we had for our 60th anniversary service at St Antony's here in Hamsey Green. Friends, W.S.G members, former church members and fellow church members filled the church with song and praise. I myself have been attending our church for 50 years, and have witnessed our membership reducing one way and another, which is sad. But with the love and support we had on Sunday 17th, it raises my hope for the outreach ahead for us all in the parish."

W.S.G is 55 years old. We meet every other Thursday, 7.45pm at St Antony's. 02086575239



Children's Society Race Night

Our popular Race Night event will be at St Antony's, Wentworth Way on Friday 13th October at 7.30pm for a 7.45pm start. Races are screened throughout the evening with a chance to bet on the Tote or individual horses. Plenty to play for and a chance to support the Society too, as 30% of winnings go towards its work with disadvantaged children. The entry price of £10 includes a choice of fish, chicken, pie or sausage, each with chips plus an ice cream dessert – but do bring your own drinks and glasses. Please book your meal by October 11th. Order forms are available from your local Children's Society representative or Pam Dearden (tel. 020 8657 3432, email: jeremydearden@blueyonder.co.uk) and can also be sent to you electronically. Look forward to seeing you there.

Are you a scientist?

Bishop Richard and Bishop David Atkinson would like to offer scientists who are also Christians an opportunity to come together for occasional conversations about the relationship between science and theology, for mutual encouragement, and to share ideas about widening the discussion in the Diocese, perhaps through an annual study day or lecture.

A preliminary meeting will be held on Tuesday 9th January at Trinity House, near London Bridge with a light buffet supper at 6.15pm followed by conversation until 8.30pm. If you, or any scientist in your congregation, would like to register for the meeting on 9 January, or would like more information, please contact Bishop David davidatkinson43@virginmedia.com or Bishop Richard's PA, Margaret Humphries, Margaret.Humphries@southwark.anglican.org

All Saints Green Team

We are once again collecting unwanted garden tools for the charity "TOOLS SHED" which trains prisoners at Wandsworth to refurbish them for use in community projects. We cannot take electrical items, but others can be brought to All Saints' church on October 8th, 15th and 22nd. If tools need to be collected, please phone any of the following numbers: 8657 2170, 8657 1176, 8657 5224 or 8660 9817. Thank you.

The missionary notice board at All Saints' has a display by the Green Team throughout October. Please do take a look if you haven't already seen it.

Mothers' Union

Monday October 11th at 8.00pm. Ann and Julian Marcus will be giving one of their talks about their work in Tanzania. Strong Sisters of Tanzania. Warriors, Wives, Workers and Wealth Creators. Tea and coffee. All are welcome

Mother's Union will be holding a cake sale after Sanderstead Light on Sunday October 29th.

Saying Goodbye to Win Collis

Win was a member of St Edmund's for over 50 years and had carried out such roles as Churchwarden, St Edmund's Care Group Co-ordinator & KidsZone leader. She was also an active member of the Mothers' Union and is well-known throughout the parish.

We held a farewell lunch on Monday 21st August and said goodbye with a presentation on Sunday 3 September.



Around and About Sanderstead ...



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.

St Christopher's Hospice Moonlight Walk in Croydon. Take part in a sponsored moonlight walk, to raise money for bereavement services in Croydon. Saturday 21st October, 8pm. 020 8768 4575
www.stchristophers.org.uk/moonlightwalk

Sanderstead Literary Society: Walks & Climbs in the Pyrenees - Illustrated talk by Kev Reynolds: SURC Main Hall 4th October, 8pm. Setting up my auctioneer's business in Maidenhead – Illustrated talk by Aubrey Dawson: SURC Main Hall 18th October, 8pm.

Purley Classics October Recital "Rediscovering the lost art of self-accompanied song". Wendy Lawson (voice and piano) will give a lecture-recital in which her distinctive blend of musicianship and scholarship will provide a unique insight into this fascinating but forgotten performance practice. Placing her own performance within its historical context she also draws on rare sound recordings and contemporary accounts. Wendy is a graduate of Trinity College of Music, Dartington College of Arts and Cambridge University. Wednesday 11th October, 1.15pm to 2.00pm, The Lounge, Purley United Reformed Church, Brighton Road Purley. Open to all with a retiring collection and light refreshments provided.

and beyond ...

Facing Depression Together Awareness Day: an opportunity to learn about depression and how to support those living with depression. The day will include a clinical, a personal and a pastoral perspective of depression, a dramatic perspective to challenge stigma and an introduction to the work of PeerTalk, a charity underpinned by the Methodist Church. This free event takes place on Sat 14 Oct, 10am – 3.30pm, at The Holiday Inn, Egerton Road, Guildford. Lunch is provided. Booking essential. More details at www.peertalk.org.uk/index.php/events or contact admin@peertalk.org.uk

Goodbye from Alice

It is with sadness that I say goodbye to you all within the Sanderstead Team, I have thoroughly enjoyed serving you all. I have already started my new course, which is a diploma in Mission, Theology and Ministry with the Pioneer Leadership team at CMS. It is a three year course, which will help prepare me for my future ministry. Over the past two and a half years my husband and I have been on a journey, discerning God's call to pioneer ministry. Pioneer ministry is doing something new, taking the gospel to new communities, and nurturing the seeds that grow into a fresh expression of church. I completed the Mission Shaped Ministry course that was held at All Saints' during 2015 and 2016 and then explored options for future training and ministry, settling on the Pioneer Leadership course. Our current plan is that in two years time we will leave Croydon, moving to a new community, looking to bring God's kingdom to a new context. I am very grateful for all your support, and will be staying in touch with All Saints'. If you would like to stay in touch, I send out a quarterly prayer letter, and would be glad to add your email to the list. alicejprice@hotmail.com Alice

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 and click GoingDeeper

Martin and Emma: Update

Thank you all for your kind wishes and cards, sent following our move into 53 Glebe Hyrst on 23rd August. It is a lovely home and we are very grateful (despite all the stress and frustrations). Praise be to God, that the dreams and wishes of many over many years have now been realised. There are still boxes to unpack (of course...).

Martin's mother Enid's funeral was held in All Saints Church, North Ferriby, East Yorkshire, on Monday 4 September. She was 97. However because all her adult life (even into her 80s) she had been a Church youth leader who cared and prayed for all of them, the church was absolutely packed, with 320 adults, many of whom had been with 'Mrs G' in clubs, on outings and to camps. So the day was a triumph and a celebration of the gospel of Jesus Christ. Of course, it was also a great opportunity to catch up with family members whom one doesn't often see. I met one of my cousins for the first time since I was about 8yrs old. It was also good to visit my late Dad's old office/warehouse which is now a 'hip' coffee shop in Hull's old town. Google 'Thieving Harry's'.

Emma and I are enjoying getting settled in this new home, and are grateful for help received. The garden needs a fair bit of remedial 'TLC', but it will be lovely.

In about 2-3 weeks' time, we go to Versailles, to lead services at St Mark's (English) church there. We hope to have opportunity to travel around during the week. Do please pray for us, asking God in the words of St Paul to give us 'a spirit of wisdom and revelation so that we might know Him better' (Ephesians 1:17).

With prayers and best wishes

Martin and Emma

What's On In October?

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

WHEN?	WHERE?	WHAT?
6th, 10am-12pm	All Saints' Halls	Coffee Pot, All welcome for coffee, cakes and company.
15th, 3pm	All Saints' Halls	Family Fun Hour
15th, 6pm	All Saints'	Fresh Encounters
20th, 10am-12pm	All Saints' Halls	Coffee Pot, All welcome for coffee, cakes and company.
22nd, 1pm	All Saints' Halls	Harvest Lunch, tickets £5
28th, 9-10am	All Saints'	Prayer Meeting

On Sunday 29th October in All Saints' church at 2.30pm, pianist Chris Sayles will be coming over from Berlin to continue his series of Beethoven Sonatas. Tea will be provided, and a retiring collection will go towards charities supported by the church.

Are you interested in

Communication? A group from All Saints' has just been formed to look at our communication in both All Saints' and across the team. If you would like to join, please contact Judith Robinson. All welcome.

Visual technology? All Saints' DCC are currently discussing the use of screens and monitors in the church on which hymn words, videos etc can be displayed. They would like to know if anyone would be interested in operating the system which uses a computer. If you're interested, please talk to Richard Bird or David Chillman.

Rector's Diary

Martin's Sabbatical is September to November 2017

Future Dates For Your Diary

Christmas is in December!

This newsletter is produced by the Rector's Admin Assistant

Send your news and diary dates to admin@sanderstead-parish.org.uk

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.

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