

October 2016



# ST ANDREW'S

NEWSLETTER



Parish Office, Church Road, Ham Common, Richmond, Surrey TW10 5HG  
tel: 020 8948 7374 | web: [www.standrewsham.org.uk](http://www.standrewsham.org.uk)

**Interregnum news:  
Geoff Davies**

**Vacancy Update**

Our advertisement for a new priest in charge was published in the Church Times on Fridays 16<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> September and also appeared in various Church of England websites. At the time of writing (Sept 27<sup>th</sup>) we know from the Archdeacon's office that there's been interest and information packs have been sent out. The closing date for applications is Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> October.

**Wanted – could this be you?**

**Saint Andrew's needs a new Leader of Building and Works.** This is a rather grand title but what we are hoping to find is someone who will work with the churchwardens and others to keep an eye open for small maintenance jobs that need doing. Then arrange for them to be done before they become big, more expensive and urgent jobs. If you think you can help please have a word with one of the churchwardens

**Upcoming Services at St Andrew's:**

**Sunday 6 November 10.15 am  
30 Minutes Service**

**Sunday 13 November \*9.45am  
Remembrance Sunday Service**

**(\*PLEASE NOTE EARLIER START TIME)**

**West End Appeal**

**Having started an appeal in the spring to raise some £75,000 to pay for the completion of the West End development, we are now just £6,500 short of our target. If you feel you are able to help us reach our goal it is not too late. Cheques should be made payable to 'PCC of Saint Andrew's' and brought along to church or sent to the Parish Office.**

**There will be a series of *Autumn Bible Studies* on the book of Galatians on Wednesdays at St Michael's Convent at 8pm on:**

*28<sup>th</sup> September*

*5<sup>th</sup> October*

*12<sup>th</sup> October*

*19<sup>th</sup> October*

*Please ask Sister Veronica for more information and to sign up.*

**PARISH ADMINISTRATOR VACANCY**

Our Parish Administrator, Tina, is moving on to a full-time post and so we are looking for a replacement. The post is 20 hours a week and you will need to be well organised and a proficient user of MS Office. The salary is currently under review. More details are available on the poster at the back of church – for a job description, person specification and application form please contact Geoff Davies on [kngdavies@btinternet.com](mailto:kngdavies@btinternet.com)

## **The 'Lost Sheep' parable in Luke 15: Sister Veronica 11<sup>th</sup> September**

In her sermon, Sister Veronica told us about Jesus responding to the complaints of the Pharisees about his associating with 'sinners' (tax collectors) and making himself unclean. (As tax collectors worked for the Roman government they were despised by their fellow countrymen, and not allowed to participate in worship.) Jesus's parable of the lost sheep would have been meaningful to the people, many of whom were involved in farming. The message of Jesus searching us out in our sins, to carry us home is a powerful story of compassion, hope and healing. Sister Veronica reminded us that in the most difficult times, Jesus lifts us up and carries us, and read us this poem.

### **Footprints in the sand**

**One night I dreamed I was walking along the beach  
with the Lord.**

**Many scenes from my life flashed across the sky.  
In each scene I noticed footprints in the sand.  
Sometimes there were two sets of footprints,  
other times there were one set of footprints.**

**This bothered me because I noticed  
that during the low periods of my life,  
when I was suffering from  
anguish, sorrow or defeat,  
I could see only one set of footprints.**

**So I said to the Lord,  
"You promised me Lord,  
that if I followed you,  
you would walk with me always.**

**But I have noticed that during  
the most trying periods of my life  
there have only been one  
set of footprints in the sand.**

**Why, when I needed you most,  
you have not been there for me?"**

**The Lord replied,  
"The times when you have  
seen only one set of footprints,  
is when I carried you."**

For the full story of Mary Stevenson who wrote the poem 'Footprints in the Sand' when aged only 14 years  
[www.footprints-in-the-sand.com/index.php?page=Bio.php](http://www.footprints-in-the-sand.com/index.php?page=Bio.php)

## *Young people's corner*

At book-giving day for the Sunday School children on 11<sup>th</sup> September it was wonderful seeing many of the 40 children who regularly attend, from the various groups: Bubbles, Splash and X-treme. Margaret Rees described the Bubbles group as the 'most delightful children in the world'. And one boy was advised not to let his sister see his book 'No girls allowed'!

**Best wishes and prayers to all those who have moved on from Sunday School:**

**Daisy Dickinson to Grey Court  
Reagan Ebanks to Surbiton High School  
Riley Hector to New College Worcester**

**Special wishes, hopes and prayers for all the young people who will be moving on to University:**

**Jacob Horner  
Christopher Howden  
Hazel Scurr**



We hope all the young people have an enjoyable time, but when life's challenge do think of the poem.....



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## PCC HEADLINES *Chris Ruse*

Key points from the PCC on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> September

- Vacancy: Interviews are scheduled for Monday 24<sup>th</sup> October. The Parish Profile is available on the new St Andrew's website: [www.standrewsham.org.uk](http://www.standrewsham.org.uk)
- West End: Cabinets and noticeboards will be installed at the end of October with new noticeboard lights following in early December. A further £6,500 is required to finish the project with plate glass internal doors.
- Leaks above the Pulpit: Initial investigations have failed to identify the problem so our Architect will be commissioned to carry out a thorough survey which will probably involve scaffolding. Flaking paint also noted.
- Heating in Church: It was agreed we need to turn the heating up a bit more this winter!
- A small works day will be organised which will include cleaning.
- Finance: Income is down on budget but with lower expenditure we are likely to break even.
- Pop-In lunches: a meeting with the four people who have responded to the appeal for volunteers will be arranged to discuss the purpose and future of the 'Pop-Ins'



## PRAYER GROUP

The next Prayer Groups meet on **Tuesday 18 October** at **8.00pm** at 69 Lock Rd, Ham and **Saturday 5 November** at **9.00-9.30am** in church. For prayer requests or further information contact Kay Davies on 020 8940 2021.

## KINGSTON DEANERY SYNOD

The Kingston Deanery Synod meets three times per year. The first part of each meeting is open to any church member and provides an opportunity for discussion. July's meeting focussed on mental health and implications for church members and priests. The first part of the forthcoming meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> November at 8pm at Christ Church Surbiton Hill will consider our Christian response to refugees. All church members are welcome. Minutes of the meetings are at the back of the church. St Andrews Deanery Synod reps are Liz Dean, Diana Lees, Chris Ruse, Geoff and Kay Davies.

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