



Newsletter for June 2018

Parish Office, Church Road, Ham Common, Richmond, Surrey TW10 HG
standrewsham@btinternet.com
020 8948 7374
<http://standrewsham.church>

Services at St Andrew's:

1st July, 10.15am
30 Minute Service

29th July, 10.15am
All Age Holy Communion
A service designed to help children feel included, learn about communion and know that all of us are invited to 'the Lord's table' to remember Him.

29th July, 6.30pm
Compline
A simple, quiet reflective service, compline originates from the earliest monastic communities. Some of the service will be sung to plainsong which is gentle music and easy to sing.

5th August, 10.15am
30 Minute Service

For all enquiries including:

- Wedding, Baptism and Funeral Services
- Hall bookings
- Sunday school at 10:15am for ages 3-11
- Youth group for ages 12-18
- Prayer groups
- Social events
- Joining the choir
- Joining the gardening team

Please contact the Parish Office.
Monday – Thursday,
9:30am – 2pm.
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standrewsham@btinternet.com

Space to reflect...



Next dates for 2018
Saturdays 10 - 11am

16th June
21st July
11th August
15th September

An hour of peace in the beautiful surroundings of St Andrew's Church. Gentle choral music will be playing. You can come and go quietly during the hour.

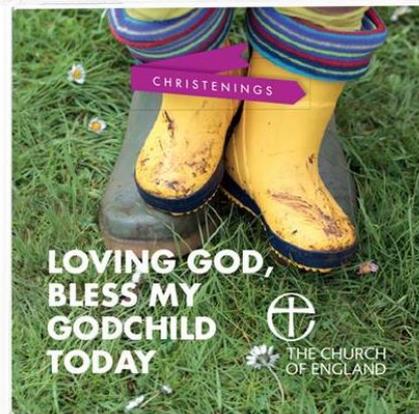


WELL DONE to Lucy

Adams for her fundraising efforts for Diabetes. She is taking part in Swim 22 for Diabetes UK. Lucy will swim the equivalent of the English Channel to raise money - but not all in one go!

If you'd like to sponsor Lucy, her justgiving page is:
<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/lucy-adams19>

Godparent Sunday 6th May *by Joan Smith*



Reverend Alice reminded us that at a Baptism service the whole congregation says to those being Baptised, 'We welcome you into the fellowship of faith' and promises to uphold them in their journey of faith. There is an important role for us all in supporting each other- to listen patiently, offer practical support and pray for each other. We also have an important role in helping others learn and seek and grow and walk in the way of Christ, and hope we can set a good example as parents, god parents, grandparents and friends. Thanks to Alice for the badges and fridge magnets and note paper which the children and adults sent on with love to those who are in our thoughts.

Highlights from my Mother's Union life *by Stella Hill*



This all began in October 1966 when I joined the section that Mrs Valerie Seedhouse had started three years before. We met in the Scout Hut on Tudor Drive so that the young mothers could attend the meeting and then collect children from Latchmere School.

In 1973 I was asked by the then vicar of St Andrew's John Burrige to be leader of our Mother's Union branch – and completed my full six years. During this time, with the Rev Burrige, his wife Marion, Joyce Walters and willing helpers from local churches and Mothers' Union branches, I helped set up the canteen for prisoners and visitors at the Latchmere Remand Centre which was open for thirteen years until the facility's purpose changed. My further period of service as Branch Leader was from 1982-1991. In 1979 I was elected as Presiding Member of Kingston Deanery (now the term is 'leader') and the following year was a Diocesan speaker, visiting branches all over the Diocese. At the end of six years as Deanery Leader I was elected as Area Vice President, covering the areas of Merton, Battersea and Lambeth- a daunting task without a sat-nav! When my husband Norman retired in 1988, I resigned so we could enjoy our retirement together.

Since 1988 I have been Deanery Literature representative, and Branch and Deanery treasurer for many years. All this I have enjoyed enormously, proudly carrying our banner around churches in the Deanery and in Southwark Cathedral. In 2009, I became branch leader for my final time; mother's union meetings have been held in my house since 2011 when I moved closer to St Andrew's. It's now 2018 and I've reached my 89th birthday and know that by the end of the year I will need to give up my leadership. I have made many friends throughout our church, branch deanery and diocese and would like thanks all those who have been involved in the mother's union. One particular thank you is to the late Mrs Rose Forward, the Rev Frances Forward's mother for her encouragement and advice.

'I will always be a Mother's Union member.'

Lunch with Sister Veronica 13th May by Wendy Duldig



We had the very great pleasure of welcoming back Sister Veronica and her fellow Sisters from the Solomon Islands. Two of whom have never been out of the Solomons before this visit to the UK! At their suggestion, they offered to 'sing in' the bible in a small canoe for our service, Sister Doreen gave a reading, and Sister Veronica spoke about her experiences adjusting to her role as Sister Provincial back in the Solomon Islands,



speaking openly about all the challenges she's faced. A lesson for us all to learn, that even when things get really tough, you feel lost and confused, and in her case 'Why Lord have you put me here now - what am I to do?' that surrendering ourselves to God, comes up trumps - he doesn't fail us. Shortly after her prayer back home, Sister Veronica went for a walk along a nearby dirt road leading to TNK and came across some small children playing on the road. They were from the plantations nearby, and had no school to go to. Concerned for their wellbeing and lack of education, this was the moment Sister Veronica decided to start up Mother Emily's Kindergarten, which is now attended by over 30 children. Without this intervention, it's likely these children would just have served as child labour on the plantations for many years to come.



After our service, we invited the Sisters back for a party where we enjoyed some wonderful food and listened as the Sisters showed us on the map, the different islands they came from in the Solomons, some many days' boat ride away from their current home in Honiara. Jenny and the Choir welcomed the Sisters with singing from our islands, then we all were treated to singing and dancing Solomon Islands style. In a moment of reflection that afternoon, I couldn't help but think how special our connection is with the Sisters and the Solomon Islands, and how privileged we are to share this. We pray and hope that this time for Veronica and the Sisters showed how much we value and love them, and wish them all the very best for the remainder of their stay in the UK.

