

Services at the Parish Church

Sundays 8:00 am Holy Communion (BCP) 10.00 am Sung Eucharist (CW)
Thursdays 10.00 am Eucharist (BCP) 3rd Sunday 10.00 am All Age Eucharist

Church Fete - 9 June



Come along to St Andrew's Church's annual fete on Saturday 9th June from 1.30pm – 3.30pm (note different timing to previous years) followed by a Songs of Praise led by Soham Comrades Band who will also be performing at the fete. We will have games and stalls including refreshments, cakes, plants, tombola and stalls from local community groups and small businesses.

Entry free.

To book a stall or for more information, please contact Alison Evans on 07738 877765 or email aly-evans@hotmail.co.uk

Summer Concert and Afternoon Tea



Afternoon Tea
and
Light Music
for a summer's afternoon

Sunday, 1st July

3pm onwards: Afternoon Tea

4.30pm: Concert of Light Music from Accorde

at St Andrew's Church, Soham

Tickets: Afternoon Tea - £10 Concert - £5 available from 01353 721380

This is a fundraising event for St Andrew's Church, Soham and is part of the Isle of Ely Festival. The festival runs from 9th June to 7th July and features music, drama and the visual arts. For more details visit www.isleofelyartsfestival.org.uk or pick up a booklet from the church.

Viva Events

Friday 15 June at 10am: coffee and cake fundraising event at Chicken Shed, Mildenhall Road, Fordham

28-30 June: Grease: School edition

Venue: Ross Peers Sports Centre, College Close, Soham

Times: performances begin at 7.30pm with a matinee at 2.30pm on Saturday 30 June.

Tickets: £12.50/ £10.50 under 12s only

Box Office: 01353 722228 / www.wegottickets.com/vivaarts

25-28 July: My Fair Lady

Venue: if the weather is good, Beechurst Green, Beechurst Hall, Soham village college. In bad weather the performance will be moved inside Beechurst Hall.

Times: all performances begin at 7.30pm

Tickets: £12.50/ £10.50. This production carries an age guidance of 10+

Box Office: 01353 722228 / www.wegottickets.com/vivaarts

New Charity Shop

East Anglia's Children's Hospices (EACH) is excited to announce a new addition to its retail portfolio in Cambridgeshire. The charity has acquired its fourth shop in the county, in Churchgate Street, Soham, to open on Thursday, 7 June.

It will offer the same range of high-quality goods customers of current EACH shops are used to, helping to fund the care and support of children and young people with life-threatening conditions and their families.

The shop would be pleased to receive donations of the following clean and good-quality goods to sell: clothing, bric-a-brac, modern paperbacks, toys, jewellery, DVDs/CDs, household linens, retro and vintage clothes and small electrical items. These can be dropped off from Monday, 28 May.

In the past financial year EACH shops generated an impressive profit of more than £900,000, that all goes towards helping families make the most of their precious time together.

Anyone interested in more information on volunteering at the new shop should email volunteerservices@each.org.uk or call Sarah on 07540 335680.



A Shed Load of Help

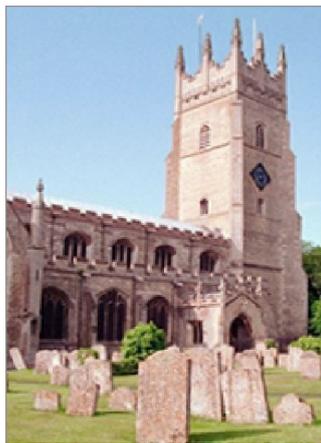
A showcase for local charities and community groups on 21st June, 7pm – 9pm at the Chicken Shed community cafe in Fordham (68 Mildenhall Road). On the longest day of the year, we will be hosting over 20 local support groups in the garden. As well as strawberries and cream we have Daisy Hill at The Shed to play some tunes and create a great atmosphere. Each group will have a moment on the mic to tell you about what they do and who they help and then you can wander around their displays and find out more. Please come along and enjoy the animals and garden and enjoy a summer community event for everyone!

St Andrew's Church News

Restoration Appeal

Holly Isted and Sue Dickinson from the Diocese's Church Buildings dept. are coming to St Andrew's on Tuesday 12 June at 7.30pm to talk with the PCC and others. Holly and Sue have been doing a lot of work behind the scenes to help us move forward with our Restoration Appeal, including getting started on an initial Heritage Lottery Fund bid. They are keen to get our views and ideas for moving forward from here. If you would like to join the conversation, whether or not you are a PCC member, please come along on the night.

Many thanks to those who have already made donations to the appeal including the audience for the Vicar of Dibley.



Soham & Wicken

As part of the ongoing consultation process concerning the proposal to separate the Benefice of Soham and Wicken, The Ven. Dr. Alex Hughes, Archdeacon of Cambridge, has called an open meeting for both PCCs and wider congregations in St Andrew's Church on Wed. 20 June at 7.30pm in order to continue the conversation and, particularly, to discuss concerns raised.

Electronic Giving We are setting up an online donations page to enable people to donate easily to St Andrew's. Look out for a link on our website. We are also looking into card readers and text giving for occasional visitors who may not carry cash. As always we are very grateful for any donations given, whatever the method of payment.

Christian Aid

Many thanks to those who donated prizes and helped man the stalls at May's coffee morning, and to those who came and had a lovely morning. We made £257.15

GDPR

We are updating our privacy policy which will be available on the website.

PARISH REGISTERS

Baptisms

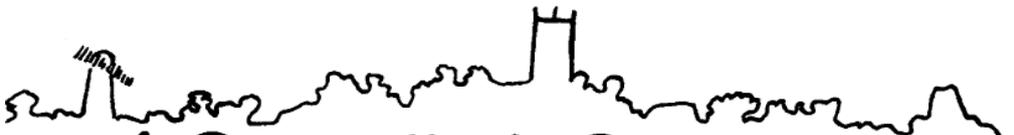
- | | |
|--------|---|
| 6 May | Sofia and Emily Simoes
Sebastian Amoraal |
| 27 May | Jimmy Cooper |

Wedding

- | | |
|--------|---------------------------------|
| 26 May | Ashlea Bysouth and Lee Nicholas |
|--------|---------------------------------|

Funerals

- | | |
|----------|--|
| 26 April | Lucy Elizabeth Johnson (aged 12 years) |
| 8 May | Malcolm Wells (aged 61 years) |
| 11 May | Margaret Lawrence (aged 82 years) |
| 21 May | Ivan Thorby (aged 91 years)
Joan Thorby (aged 90 years) |
| 22 May | Vivienne Audrey Barron (aged 82 years) |
| 29 May | Bernard 'Bernie' Roy Bavester (aged 85 years) |



A Councillor's Comments

There was no Public Comment Time taken up at our May Meeting, but District Councillor Goldsack took the opportunity to explain the lack of police presence over a recent period. It was due to a combination of holidays, sickness and training. He also referred to the delay in clearing away the rubbish gathered up by a recent litter pick. He also said that our streets would be cleaned more often.

As this was the first meeting of the council's year we had to appoint a chairman and vice chairman, but traditionally our council usually allow these positions to continue for a two year period. This was still open for change but as no one was nominated for these positions both the chair and vice chair were duly elected for another year. The chairs of the committees will be voted on at the June committee meetings.

The Meeting then got under way with the previous meeting's minutes. Here it was pointed out the continuous numbering of items on the agenda, the reason for this is to locate the date of the meeting. When it came to payments of accounts the clerk pointed out a new system to show where the money is being spent. The council had to give its approval for final payment of refurbishment of pavilion. There was a payment for Audio Improvements to meet new legal requirements. We were asked to approve a plan to have our meetings recorded and after some discussion we gave our approval. If we had failed to do so other bodies could step in and record the meetings.

There was no update on the Eastern Gateway but we were told there would be a meeting on the evening of our annual town meeting on the 21st May in the form of consultation. *Councillor Ginn*

Roadworks

The A142 Stuntney Causeway will be closed overnight from Mon 4 June to Fri 8 June (9 pm - 5.30 am) to allow for the surfacing of the new roundabout on the Ely Bypass. Please follow the signed diversion route.

There will also be 18 months of work done laying electricity cables between Burwell and Lakenheath mainly along the B 1102 from June. This will involve temporary traffic lights and occasional road closures with diversions so allow extra time for your journey along this route.

New Playground

The refurbished playground at the Recreation Ground on Fountain Lane is open for use. The official opening party will be on Saturday 16th June with fun and food for the children.





☆ **Winners for the St Andrew's Church 200+Club** are:
April: Brian Diver £5, Tim Vinall £10; May: Caroline Vinall £5, Paula Cousins £10.

☆ **Soham, The Fen and Barway WI** meet on the first Friday of each Month at 7.30pm at Millbrook House in the coffee lounge. 1st June: Tara Constable 'The Work of Emmaus'

☆ **Twilight Tuesday WI** meet the 2nd Tuesday of every month at the Fountain Inn, Soham at 7.30pm. 12th June: Corsets, Crinolines and Camisoles – looking at women's underwear through the ages!

☆ **Soham Phoenix Club** meet on the 2nd Wednesday of each month between 9.30-11.30 at The Causeway Community Room, Soham. Each month we have a speaker, raffle, refreshments and a warm welcome. All for £2

☆ **Soham Museum Coffee Mornings** – First Saturday of each month at Soham Library, 10am – 12 noon. Bring along any items or photos of local historical interest you may have, or just join us for a chat and coffee, All welcome.

☆ **Soham Museum's History Group** have a talk at the Methodist Hall, Berrycroft, Soham, 7.30pm on Thurs July 5th - From Zeppelins to Doodlebugs (Part 1) by Roy Williams - Friends free, Guests £2.50 - all welcome.

☆ **Neighborhood Cares:** Coffee, Cake & Soham Info sessions first Wednesday of each month 10-12 at the library. Plus our new Friendly Dog Café third Friday each month, 12.30-1.45pm also at the library.

☆ **Over 60s Club** meets at the Pavilion on the Recreation Ground every Friday from 2-4pm.

☆ **Coffee Morning at the Pavilion**, Tuesdays from 10am-12noon. Open to all.

☆ **Soham Branch of the Royal British Legion** meet at 7.30pm on the second Thursday of every month at the Soham Rangers Football Club, Julius Martin Lane in Soham. Membership is open to everyone.

☆ **Items for the June edition of LodeStar** should be submitted by Wednesday 20th June. Please send material to aly-evans@hotmail.com

LodeSTAR

Carpenters Arms

Save your local pub - The Carpenters Arms Brook Street. Meeting at the Pavilion Tuesday 19June 7.30pm. Come along and see how you could help!

Fetes, Festival and Fun Day

The Weatheralls Summer Fair: 30th June from 1pm till 4pm.

The Shade Family Fun Day: The Shade Primary School, PTFA is organising a Family Fun Day on 7th July 2018. Everyone welcome!! Bouncy castles, family events, stalls, Desserts R US and much more!!

Soham Lodge Fete: Soham Lodge Fete is on Saturday 30th June at 2-30pm at the Soham Lodge care Home on the bypass. Raising money to provide extra activities for their residents.

Soham Beer and Music Festival: This year's Soham beer festival is on 6-7th July on the Rec. 6th - 6pm-10pm, 7th - 2pm - 10pm. Lots of beer, cider, bands and dancing! All profit goes to Arthur Rank. Free entry. Organised by Soham Staploe Rotary Club and Blue Shed Studios



A View from the Vicarage



Lending an ear

By the time you read this, the Church of England will have begun its annual trek through what a member of St Andrew's' congregation called last year 'those interminable Sundays after Trinity'. There'll be 22 of them in 2018, taking us up to 4 November, which we at St Andrew's will keep as All Saints' Sunday. By way of an opening gambit on Trinity Sunday morning, I planned to talk about a piece of painted glass in Holy Trinity Church, Long Melford. Maybe you've seen it in situ. It's a tiny

medieval roundel and depicts – memorably – three hares (or, if you believe the guidebook, 'three rabbits'), each lending an ear to the others. Literally.



Again according to the guidebook, the painting is believed to represent the Trinity: three persons in one God – Father, Son and Holy Spirit – and to show the inseparable bonds between them.

A quick Google-search, however, and the theory seemed suspect at best. I found a forthright article dated 1932, submitted to The Suffolk Institute by Francis Seymour

Stevenson, scholar and MP for Eye. The picture on the roundel was, he said, 'neither distinctively Christian nor reverent in its composition'. However Stevenson imagined God, it certainly wasn't as three hares – or, for that matter, three rabbits.

And so what might have been a sermon ran aground.

I returned to what is always, in fact, my starting point: I went back to the readings for Trinity Sunday. In the first reading, Isaiah comes face to face with 'the Lord' in a vision so awe-inspiring he believes he will die (for such was God's word to Moses: 'no one shall see me and live' Ex. 33: 20). Isaiah doesn't die, however, but instead commits himself to God's service. He answers the call to be a prophet: 'Here I am; send me!' (Is. 6: 8) - three hares, one imagines, might not have elicited such devotion. Next, Psalm 29 (I'll leave you to look that up for yourselves – a precis wouldn't do it justice) and finally the Gospel, John 3: 1-17, when Nicodemus, 'a Pharisee and a leader of the Jews' comes to Jesus 'by night' and has his horizons expanded by light-years. 'Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?' Jesus asks him (I like to think Jesus spoke with raised eyebrows and, of course, with a smile). Nicodemus can't've been put off, for we meet him again some 16 chapters later, after the crucifixion. He shows up with 'about a hundred pounds' weight' of myrrh and aloes; a priceless gift to anoint the body of him whom he now acknowledges as Lord.

Nicodemus came – in chapter 3 – by night. He came when it was dark, when 'seeing' was impossible. He couldn't see literally, and he couldn't see figuratively – he didn't get what Jesus was saying. What he did, though, was stay around. He must've hung about with Jesus and hung about with the disciples to the point where somehow, three years later, he was one of them. This teacher in Israel had understood these things – or was content to accept them as mysteries. Two thousand years later, we're called to do the same. Why not turn up on a Sunday after Trinity? Why not come and lend an ear? *Eleanor*

The Revd Eleanor Whalley, Priest in Charge of Soham and Wicken
sohamwickenvicar@gmail.com 01353 725948
www.sohamandwicken.org.uk