

## Services at the Parish Church

Sundays 8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP) 10.00 am Parish Communion (CW)  
Thursdays 10.00 am Holy Communion (BCP) 3rd Sunday 10.00 am All Age Communion

## Harvest Concert

Do you like choral music? If so, come and join us at St Andrew's Church on Friday 4th October for a seasonal concert by the choir boys of Ely Cathedral. Tickets £5.

# Sing-a-Song of Harvest



A short concert by  
the boy choristers of Ely Cathedral

**Friday 4 October, 7pm**  
**at St Andrew's Church Soham**

Tickets £5 from 01353 721920  
or on the door

[www.standrews-soham.org.uk](http://www.standrews-soham.org.uk)

## Harvest Festival

Our harvest celebrations continue with our Harvest Festival at 10am on Sunday 6th October. Donations of tinned and dried food are welcome and will be passed on to the Foodbank.

## Church Clean Up

We are having a clean up of the church and churchyard from 10.30am - 12 on Saturday 14th September. There is dusting and polishing to be done inside and gardening and clearing of ground level gutters outside. If you can help please come along: many hands make light work.! Please bring gardening tools if you are planning to help with the outside work.

# St Andrew's Church & Churchyard Clear-up



**Saturday 14 September**

**10.30am – 12 noon**

**All welcome!**

**Please bring your own  
gardening tools**

**Soham Winter Fayre: Friday 29th November, 6pm – 8.30pm**

Run by Soham Heritage and Tourism and St Andrew's Church for the people of Soham. Stalls and activities in and around church. To book a stall in the church, please email Claire Halley at [standrewsheritage@gmail.com](mailto:standrewsheritage@gmail.com) for a booking form. Stall fees this year are 10% of takings payable at the end of the evening. Stalls will be allocated on a first come first served basis and the deadline for booking is 31st October.

### St Andrew's 200 Club

The 200 Club winners for July were Michael Tickner:£5 & Julie Tickner: £10 and for August were Carol Sennett: £5 & David Parr: £10

## Soham Pumpkin Fair



This year's Pumpkin Fair is on Saturday 28th September at the recreation ground. The fair opens at 1.30pm and finishes at 5.00 pm, however ALL ENTRIES must be bought to the recreation ground between 9.30am and 11.30am (Judging takes place from 11.30)

Admission prices are — Adults: £2.00, Children: 12 - 18 and OAPS: £1.00, Under 12: free. Cars should use the Gardener's lane entrance onto the site. Stewards will show you where to park. You will be charged the usual entry fees plus £1.00

The theme will be the 75th anniversary of the Soham train explosion – there will be lots of competitions, displays and activities linked with this, including a special fancy dress competition Not forgetting the pumpkin and sunflower competitions and a pet show (see back page for details). For details of competitions and entry forms look out for programmes around town.

Other attractions include a funfair, stalls, BBQ, displays and refreshments. Do come along for a fun day out which supports local charities.

This year's charities are: St Andrew's Church for their restoration appeal, Soham Community Group for the new Day Centre and the Friends of Soham Village College for outside seating.

### Viva News

We are desperate to find some new volunteers for The Viva Charity Shop. It doesn't matter whether people can do 2 hours a week or a whole day... anything is valuable. Also any day of the week is fine and we don't mind which tasks people choose to concentrate on.

**viva!**  
arts & community group

Our new Manager PETER LAWRENCE is really struggling at the moment having lost several people due to poor health and so on...so we need an injection of new volunteers to help us to keep our shop open. Viva is 100% funded by the profits from the shop...so if the shop goes; Viva goes too... which would be a huge loss to the town. If people are interested they can pop into the shop at The Viva Centre, 7 Churchgate Street and meet Peter to discuss or call Viva on 01353 722 228.

It is great fun and we make sure our volunteers get plenty of treats and social opportunities, as well as the chance to see our shows and come to our awards evening. We also give full training and pay any reasonable expenses.

### DATE FOR YOUR DIARIES: VIVA OPEN EVENING!

September 17<sup>th</sup> at 7.45pm at the Performing Arts Centre, Soham Village College. Come along to our open evening to find out about our programme for 2020, ways to audition or get involved, our Viva Charity Shop and much more! Newcomers welcome! Hope to see you there!

**Viva Weekly Performing Arts Classes** for 5-12 year olds will resume on Wednesday 11 September at 3.45pm (Juniors) / Thursday 12 September at 4pm (Seniors) At the Viva Centre, 7 Churchgate Street, Soham CB7 5DS (above the Viva Charity Shop)

You do not need to register simply come along!



- ☆ **Soham Museum coffee morning**, 1st Saturday of each month, drop in between 10am to 12 noon at Soham library. All welcome.
- ☆ **Soham Museum History Group** presents “Vanishing Cambridgeshire” with Mike Petty. Thursday 5th September, 7.30pm at Berrycroft Methodist Church Hall, Soham, off Pratt Street. £3.00 admission, free to members
- ☆ **Viva Baby and Toddler Group**: a weekly singing and dancing class designed for little ones! (12 months to pre-school age). Every Wednesday morning at 9.45am-10.30am at the Viva Centre, 7 Churchgate Street, Soham (above the Viva Charity Shop) Resumes 11 September
- ☆ **The Big Wednesday Pop In**. 10 – 12, First Wednesday of each month at Soham Library. (Previously known as Coffee, Cake and Soham Info.)
- ☆ **Items for the September Edition of LodeStar**  
If you have anything you want to publicise or report on please send material to [aly-evans@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:aly-evans@hotmail.co.uk) by Wednesday 18th September.



## Thank You Soham

Thank you Soham.... The Neighbourhood Cares pilot has been very successful and we are now focusing on how we can learn from the pilot and share the positive experiences and outcomes across Cambridgeshire. As such we, the Neighbourhood Cares team, are leaving for new roles with the County Council in other areas during September and October. The County Council will ensure that there is support available to continue to work with residents in Soham. Weekly coffee mornings will continue, and the council will be working in partnership with Royal British Legion to ensure the lively Coffee, Cake and Soham Info sessions continue under a new name: The Big Wednesday Pop In.

We have thoroughly enjoyed learning new ways of delivering services closer to communities and are very thankful for being able to do this pilot in the wonderful community of Soham.



## PARISH REGISTERS



### Baptisms

14 July	Ottillie Kim Fretwell
21 July	Yasmin Lily Croxford
18 August	Auguste and Gabriella Anochinaite

### Weddings

12 July	April Cox and Liam Eley
24 July	Nicholas Lancaster & Antonella Suma
17 August	Adam Harley and Mary Peachey

### Funerals

9 July	Anne Ellis
18 July	Anne Goswell
25 July	David Peacock
13 August	Sheila Stanley
28 August	Audrey Kear



## News from Wicken Fen



*Fen Harvester and windmill  
by Luke Underwood*

September is a month of wildlife change: summer birds are off on their southerly travels, gathering to spend the last days of summer feeding up on insects before their long journey. We'll also start to see returning winter visitors later in the month. Wigeon could be around the wet areas of the fen, and fieldfare and redwing may be feeding on the early berries of buckthorn and hawthorn.

Our cutting management of the Sedge Fen is now well underway, and the Fen Harvester will be seen most days either cutting compartments of the Sedge Fen behind the Visitor Centre, or the sections alongside the droves. It's

exciting that we'll be able to complete the cutting for the second year this year; the regular cuts ensure that the fen plant communities will thrive and a healthy bird population is sustained.

Our Cycling Festival takes place throughout the month of September. We're part of the Cambridge Festival of Cycling, encouraging people to enjoy cycling in Cambridge and the surrounding areas. We've got a new cycling trail to Tubney Fen for people to follow, and have a special offer with cycle hire for September too; see <http://bit.ly/WickenFenbikefest> for more information.

We're also offering a free Sunday Walk on 15 September from 10:00-11:30am. Meet in the Visitor Centre for a steady 3 to 4 mile walk lead by a ranger, for some gentle exercise in the wider reserve. Why not come along and use this as a training walk for our Walk for Wicken challenge on Sunday 13 October? You can choose either a 7.5km or 12.5km route and help us raise money for our Eyes over the Fen project – see <http://bit.ly/walkforwickenfen> for more information.

There's a lot more information about Wicken Fen and our events on our website, go to <https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/wicken-fen>

## Soham Comrades Band

Soham Comrades Band are holding a charity concert as a tribute to Philip Bignell who played for Soham, Burwell and Cambridge bands over the years.

Sadly Philip is no longer with us.

The money raised will go to Parkinsons UK.

The concert takes place at St Mary's Church, Burwell at 7.30pm on Saturday 14th September.

Tickets are £7.50 (under 16s free) and can be bought from Burwell Post Office, Tina's (Burwell), Centrepeace (Burwell), or from Soham Books.

**SOHAM COMRADES BAND**

presents  
a Charity Concert  
in aid of Parkinsons UK

**Saturday 14th  
September 2019  
7.30pm  
St Mary's Church,  
Burwell**

Tickets £7.50  
(under 16's free)  
available in Burwell  
at the Post Office,  
Centrepeace,  
Tina's & at  
Soham Books

**PARKINSONS<sup>UK</sup>** Sponsored in memory of Philip Bignell

# A View from the Vicarage



## 'And now for the notices...'

Sunday services at St Andrew's usually end with 'the Notices': a hotch-potch of information and thank yous, sandwiched between marriage Banns and Happy Birthday. My jottings this month feel a bit like that:

**Confirmations** Wonderfully, Bishop Stephen will be joining us on Advent Sunday 1 December at 10am to confirm at least two members of our congregation. It's never too late to get confirmed: I went to a confirmation service in Cambridge earlier this year to support two 16-year-old friends of mine; standing alongside them was a lady of 83! Likewise, if you've not been christened and would like to be, that can happen during the same service (done by Bishop Stephen) or on a Sunday between now and then (done by me). You need to have been christened before you can be confirmed. If you'd like to talk through what's involved, please give me a ring or send an email.

**Pet Show** From the sublime to the ridiculous... One of many highlights for me since I've been in Soham has been co-judging the Dog Show at the Carnival. My friend Linda from PerfeqPets who organises that is running a Pet Show at Pumpkin Fair, and she's invited me to judge that too. I've said yes (of course), so now all we need are the pets! All pets are welcome, and the list of classes/categories is on the Pet Show poster. If you've a sociable pet who won't mind an outing, please bring it along (but do think about what you'll do with it once the show is over. It might prefer to bask in its glory at home than to do a lap of honour round the rec...)

**Lodestar Subscriptions** Last year, the cost of printing Lodestar was about £250 more than came in through

subscriptions. I'm told that the price of Lodestar has been £3 per year (30p per copy) for many years, so the Church Council has agreed that this should increase to £5 per year (50p per copy) from January. If this will cause difficulties for any of you, please let me know. Thanks to our volunteer editors, collectors and deliverers, the only financial outlay for Lodestar is printing costs, but these – like everything else – have increased over the years, and that is the reason for the change.

**Thank you** It's always heartening to receive feedback on Lodestar articles, and we received a good deal in response to those about the 75th anniversary of the Soham Train Explosion. Veronica Shirley Young who lives on Queensway rang to tell me she was just six months old at the time of the blast: it threw her from her cot, and her parents thought she was dead. Her mum always said afterwards she was lucky to be alive. We've kept a record of this and all other reminiscences, and we'll store the information for future commemorations. Thank you to all who have supplied it.

'And now let's stand for our final hymn...' Eleanor

**Soham Pumpkin Fair**  
Saturday 28th September 2019  
**Pet Show**

**Judging starts 12:00 midday**

Just bring your dog/pet along in their collar and/or harness (no extendable leads or check chains please) and have some fun.

- 1) Best looking pet
- 2) Best biscuit catcher
- 3) Best group of pets
- 4) Cutest pet under 12 months
- 5) Cutest pet over 12 months
- 6) Pet the Judge would most like to take home

For details contact:  
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