



roundabout



Parish Magazine of St. Augustine's Church, Southborough Lane with St. Luke's Church, Bromley Common

50p

Issue 511 April 2020

Pictures From My Childhood

Being the youngest of three children, when it came to choosing Godparents for me, all of the close relatives had already been chosen for my sisters. My Godfather was chosen by my Dad. He was one of his school friends and someone whom we didn't see very often. I think I only met him a few times and yet he was able to provide me with a good foundation for my childhood Christian belief.

Every birthday and Christmas I would receive a parcel from him. He started sending me Gospel Picture Books which built up into a set of eight little books. Each book contained eight pictures by Elsie Anna Wood, with a title and a Bible reference, so that you could look up the story for yourself. There was also a comment for something to look for in the picture. I loved these simple books and spent many happy hours poring over the pictures as I learned about the life and ministry of Jesus.

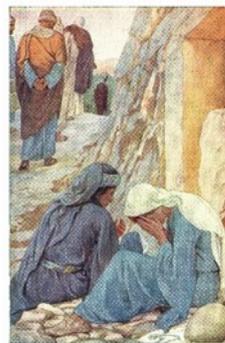


Elsie Anna Wood was born into a Baptist family in 1887 in North London. Her father worked in the art department of a publishing firm and he encouraged her to draw from a very early age. Elsie attended the Hornsey School of Art from the age of seventeen, going on to produce full colour illustrations for books in her early twenties. In 1919 she successfully applied for a job with the Nile Mission Press working in Cairo, providing the accompanying illustrations for the children's literature produced by the Press. The post was for six months and enabled Elsie to travel through Palestine as well as Egypt. Five years later she was asked to return to Egypt to work for the Society for the Promotion of Christian Knowledge (SPCK). It is this work that made her name synonymous with Bible illustration all around the world. Her first-hand knowledge of Palestinian life is reflected in her accurate and detailed pictures.



The Triumphal Entry © SPCK

My little books were also reproduced as large posters for teaching purposes and when I started teaching at my last school I was thrilled to find a set of them to show to the next generation.



Easter Even © SPCK

Sue Goodger

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Editor Sue Goodger
Layout Karen Palmer



As members of St. Augustine's with St Luke's, we seek to follow Jesus' command—to share God's love with our community.



CORONAVIRUS UPDATE

Although we will not be holding any public worship services in the coming weeks and our church buildings are closed, from home you can still join thousands of other Christians around the world in daily prayer and Sunday worship online.

For worship suggestions visit
www.st-augustines.org.uk/coronavirus
www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/join-us-daily-prayer/todays-prayer

5 To The Bar for the RNLI



On a dark, windy night in February I headed up to the hall behind the Woodman in Farnborough Village. The warmth of the welcome I got from the RNLI local committee members as I walked through the door reassured me that I was in the right place for an entertaining evening.

At about 8 pm 5 To The Bar, the jazz group, which includes Phil Emery on clarinet and sax from St Augustine's with St Luke's, played a lively selection of jazz, blues and popular music and the audience danced enthusiastically.

They raised about £800 for the RNLI. I understand that this is an annual event and I will look out for it next year and hope others will come along too.

Christine Fisher

The World Day of Prayer

The World Day of Prayer was really sunny, perfect for celebrating a country such as Zimbabwe – the country which had written this year's service.

Six of us went to St Nicholas church in Orpington. We were joined by children from the pre-school which meets there. They provided an enthusiastic percussion accompaniment to the songs. As usual, I was moved to think the same service was being used all around the world. I am already looking forward to hearing what Vanuratu will have to say next year.

Ann Hanrahan

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Coronavirus

The Coronavirus has in one way or another impacted every part of our community from the young to the elderly. Therefore, over the next few weeks and months, our community and our society will experience a major change in the way that we live, the way that we care and the way that we communicate with one another. For many, the plans for this forthcoming year will radically change. Holidays and planned trips will no longer take place, social gatherings will be cancelled, the day-to-day things that we take for granted will for the foreseeable future be different.

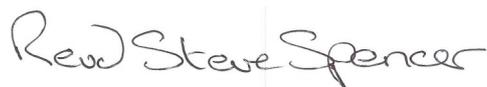
I am sure that the stress and strain that the Coronavirus is causing will lead to much anxiety for many people. We have seen that to a greater and lesser extent in the news reports from around the world. Therefore, the networks in which we engage, whether that is family and friends or social media, will become a lifeline to many for physical and mental wellbeing. This virus is blind to race, colour and creed, therefore we must come together as a community to provide support for one another in this time of need.

The world as we know it does look a bleak place and for some hope may have been exchanged for despair. But I would argue that hope is not lost. In just a few weeks Easter will be upon us and although we may not experience the Easter Services of Good Friday and Easter Day, the hope that Jesus Christ sets before us remains. Despite the darkness of Good Friday as Jesus died upon the cross, we see the light he brings into our broken world through the Resurrection of Easter Morning.

Jesus was then and remains today the Light of the World and despite the troubles of today, when our hearts are open to his love, then the world feels better as humanity embraces God's love for the world.

If you are in any need please do call the church office 020 8295 1550, or the Vicarage 020 8467 1351.

God Bless



Revd Steve Spencer, Vicar



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The Knitted Bible

As you know I am fond of knitting, so when I heard about an exhibition called The Knitted Bible, I just had to go. It was held in Chislehurst Methodist Church in February and it has been touring the country in churches of many different denominations throughout Britain since 2008. It started when the Hobby Group at St George's URC church in Hartlepool were challenged to knit The Last Supper. This was finished so quickly that they decided to knit other scenes as well, with the aim of working their way through the whole Bible. Now the exhibition has 34 scenes, starting with the Creation and ending with Jesus' Resurrection.



The creativeness and skill involved is amazing. The Last Supper had tiny goblets of red wine for each person and baskets of bread on the table. I really loved the Palm Sunday procession, with its crowd of people, each figure different, especially two mothers carrying small babies and one woman with a mouse in a basket.

Not only was the knitting amazing but the scenery was very cleverly created. It was lovely to see the familiar stories brought to life in this way. The children who were at the exhibition had the stories read to them and two little girls were intrigued by the scene of Jonah being put ashore by the whale.

Sue Goodger

Pancakes and Questions about Loving God's People

This year Shrove Tuesday at St. Augustine's with St. Luke's was a little different! Not only did we gather together in the church in small groups around camping gas stoves to make (and toss!) our own pancakes - with yummy fillings, but in our groups, over coffee, tea or a glass of wine, we had the opportunity to discuss questions from the Golden Box. These had been raised by members of the congregation following the series of talks at the morning services in February. Then we had been challenged to:



- journey with those who are getting older,
- unpack how Scripture views women and gender equality in 'Is God a Feminist?'
- be more aware of the signs of hidden disability
- explore some of the issues surrounding diversity as we seek to grow as a multicultural community in Bromley Common.

Shrove Tuesday was a great opportunity for thirty one members of our congregations to reflect, ask questions and explore how we can better love and serve those in the community around us.

Hilary Chittock
Called to Grow co-ordinator

A Better Understanding

Those who live nearest to a place of pilgrimage, they say, are often the ones who don't visit. I have lived in Bromley for 66 years. My husband served in the R.A.F. and bore the scars until he died. We always gave a friendly family salute to the Spitfire and Hurricane at Biggin Hill outside the chapel as we drove past. I can remember the summer of 1940 very well and we had read the books and seen the films. I suppose we felt we knew what was there.

Well, on February 19th I went with two friends to see the recently refurbished Memorial Chapel and Museum. We were there for three hours (with a coffee and cake break!). I expected to come away better informed – and I did, but the whole experience was so much more.

We began with the Chapel, with its roll of honour, its ranked flags and striking stained glass. Two excellent guides provided information, good stories and the personal touches we might easily have missed. The Museum was in a new building next door. It's not large, but every photograph, every object or map or quotation was beautifully labelled and made a powerful impression.

Here are the famous names and faces of the men and women decorated for conspicuous bravery. Here are the local pubs with their nostalgic blackboards and scrawled names. Tributes are paid to the back-room boys and girls, drivers and mechanics, plotters and parachute packers. There are Poles and Czechs, Indians and Canadians, Norwegians and Americans and a local family with four children, all involved in the common cause. Photos of early, pre-war days stand by a huge map of the borough, showing where each bomb fell and each stricken plane came down. A repeated film clip focusses on a morning in 1940. Half a dozen young men doze on the summer grass, read or play chess while a clock face records the passing seconds. Zero! A bell clangs into life. Every one leaps up and sprints for the planes.



One panel is headed 'An unlikely friendship'. One of 'the Few' twice met, through coincidences of war, a German fighter pilot. They survived, re-met and became lifelong friends.

In a year when we shall be celebrating, on May 8th, the 75th anniversary of V.E. Day, it was good to be reminded of all the individual lives caught up and changed for ever – and of the debt we owe to each of them.

Betty Dawson

A Little Local History

We have heard recently that Sir Stephen Cleobury has died. He was the former Director of Music at King's College Cambridge from where comes the broadcast of Nine Lessons and Carols. His grandfather, Dr Frank Cleobury was curate at St Luke's.

Frank Cleobury was not a medical doctor but studied for a degree while in the Civil Service. He retired early in order to be ordained and came to St Luke's in 1951. I think the church was able to take him only because he came with a pension.

As a widower, he lived with his son and daughter-in-law in Sandford Road. Son John sometimes played the organ at St Luke's. Grandson Stephen was born in Bromley and began his education at Bickley Park School.

Rob Hutchings

Everyone Matters

As I drove towards the school of A Little Girl I Know recently I had a feeling that all was not well. Call it mothers' intuition if you like, but to me it was a strong sense that something had happened.

As she walked towards the school gate, I could clearly see that my feeling was indeed right. A sad look on her face, her need of a cuddle as if her life depended on it, and the tears that followed spoke volumes without the need for any words. The words did however follow; many of them telling me of her day, sadly not many highs, as an incident at the start of the day had meant that it somewhat flavoured the rest of it. I felt sad as I listened to her and almost powerless to help resolve the situation.



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Although unconnected it wasn't the first time that week not knowing how to respond had left me with feelings of being useless. When we got home, I did as my Mum had done many years before, I made some toast! I sat with A Little Girl I Know and I listened to some more and then said although talking was good, that it was time to work out how she could move forward from the problem. After what seemed like ages, we had a going forward plan ready to be put into place the following week.

That night as I went to see her to say goodnight it was clear that it was still on her mind. This time we talked only briefly, instead choosing to tell God about it. Earlier that week she had kindly held my hand as we told Him of fears and concerns about my friend. This time I held her close to me as I prayed and asked God to help her to have the courage to talk to someone at school who might be able to help resolve the problem.

Just before I left her, I reminded her that she was so special to me, to lots of other people and especially to God. I told her that God also loved the people who had done her wrong; even when we really don't want to believe that to be true.

You see we are all special, important to God, and everyone really does matter, always and forever no matter what. For that I will always be grateful.

Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the LORD forgave you. Colossians 3:13

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Parish People

Congratulations to:

Jean Archer who recently celebrated her 90th birthday. Jean celebrated with friends and acquaintances at Southmore Court.

Some family news from **Pam and Len Holliday**. **Peter**, one of their twins was married last August in Canterbury. The Bride is one of the Cathedral bell ringers so they had the special privilege of a wedding service in the crypt. Peter's best man was his son from his first marriage and the whole party were applauded by the tourist crowds as they walked to their reception in the city.

We extend our sympathy to the friends and family of:

Don Burville – From Christine Fisher - I recently heard from **Linda** and **Pamela**, Don Burville's daughters, that he died in the middle of January. Before Christmas he moved, with his wife **Betty**, to a nursing home in Hailsham to be nearer his daughters. Don was a lay reader in our church for many years before moving to Orpington where he continued his ministry.

Joan Nicholson who passed away recently. Joan was one of those quiet ladies who always was immaculately dressed and always gave a warm greeting. Our thoughts are with **Ray** and her family at this time.



Here is a photo of the lovely floral tribute for **Tony Holding** from his wife **June**. He was a staunch supporter of Crystal Palace Football Club and at one time had been a football referee. Tony and June had been together for 55 years.

A prayer for all those affected by Coronavirus

Keep us, good Lord,
 under the shadow of your mercy.
 Sustain and support the anxious,
 be with those who care for the sick,
 and lift up all who are brought low;
 that we may find comfort
 knowing that nothing can separate us from your love
 in Christ Jesus our Lord



An Easter Prayer

Christ is risen. Alleluia!
 Lord Jesus Christ, in dying you conquered death and rose again in glory.
 Through your great love and abiding grace, we will one day be with you in your heavenly kingdom.
 Lord, we pray that we may make each day of our earthly life worthy of your great sacrifice on the cross.
 Thank you that we can find sanctuary in your love because you have chosen to love us just as we are, with all our faults and failings and that, if we truly repent, you will forgive our sins. Amen

Mothers' Union member Margaret Devlin
 Diocese of Newcastle

Keep your news coming to me. Please email me at jackysskinner@gmail.com. Thank you.

Services and Activities

All church services and activities are suspended - please see page 2

Children and Youth Activities		
Club JC	Helen Baker	07576 233119
Parent and Toddler	Victoria Bouwer	07779 009064

Scouts & Guides		
Joint Group Scout Leaders	Jenny Owens Sandra Goodwin	020 8467 4702 01689 831654
Beavers' waiting list	Ellie Howard	07923 507995
Brownies	Ruth Higginbottom	01689 818104
Visit the Scout website— www.23rdbromlevscouts.org		

Church Activities		
Mothers' Union	Linda Wanniaratchy	0776 1853653
Church Rooms	Liz Carter	020 8467 8155
St Luke's Hall Hire	Church Office	020 8295 1550
The Three Cs	Jacky Skinner	07812 714803
Roundabout Manager	Lorna Murray	020 8467 0536
Bell Ringing	Chris Lawrance	020 8462 3485

Church Staff		
Vicar	Steve Spencer	020 8467 1351
Youth & Schools Minister	Helen Baker	07576 233119
Licensed Lay Minister	Alan Mitchell	07985 070734
Reader Emeritus	Kenneth Gil	020 8467 1260
Reader	Brian Kendall	01689 832304
Churchwarden	Pam Poynter	020 8402 9008
Churchwarden	Viv Emery	01689 861929
Treasurer	David Wardley	accounts@st-augustines.org.uk
P.C.C. Secretary	Johanna Gurney	020 8467 9587
Children's Officer	Helen Scothern	07909 824099
Safeguarding Officer	Helen Scothern	07909 824099

Church Office	
Parish Administrator	020 8295 1550
Open : Monday to Friday 10.00 to 1.00	

We welcome your emails at: office@st-augustines.org.uk
 You can also find out about more recent and future events in our church by visiting :
www.st-augustines.org.uk

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