



# roundabout



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

50p

Issue 505 September 2019

## A Star Weekend



On a recent visit to East Sussex, we stayed in the Star Inn in the picturesque village of Alfriston. Built in the 13th century it still retains many of its original features. At one time the inn was run by the monks of Battle Abbey and offered shelter to friars and pilgrims as they travelled to Chichester to visit the shrine of St Richard. The shrine, which was richly decorated, was plundered and destroyed in 1538 by order of Thomas Cromwell. Nowadays, the Star Inn has been extended at the back with modern rooms and facilities. It is on the South Downs Way, which stretches from Winchester to Eastbourne. Many of the guests staying there were walking all or part of this, just staying the one night.

In the centre of the village is the 'Tye' or village green, with St Andrew's Church on a hill behind it. It was founded in the 1360s and is large, with soaring arches and a tall spire. It has become known as 'The Cathedral on the South Downs'. Unusually the church is built in the form of a Greek cross (a cross with arms of equal length). Below the spire are six bells, with the bell ropes hanging down inside the centre of the church. This is unusual as there are less than twenty churches in the country like this. The spire was being repaired and a steeplejack was replacing the wooden shingles, as he hung from a harness.



Next to the church is the clergy house. This is a Wealden hall house built in the 14th century and was the first built property bought by the National Trust. It was originally a farmer's house before becoming a home for the clergy. It has an interesting history and has been lovingly restored. Its small but well-planted garden is delightful and very colourful.



I really enjoyed our visit and look forward to exploring other villages and churches in the future. I saw a postcard in the church with this quote:

*'I shall pass this way but once; any good that I can show to any human being; let me do it now. Let me not defer nor neglect it, for I shall not pass this way again.'*

The words made me wonder how many people have passed through these lovely old buildings. Maybe you have?

Sue Goodger

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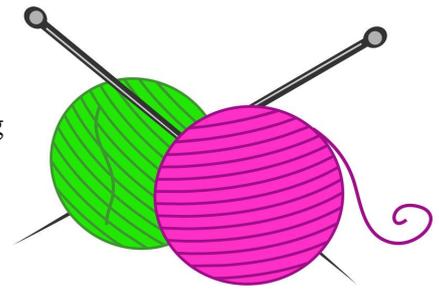


**As members of St. Augustine's with St Luke's, we seek to follow Jesus' command—to share God's love with our community.**



## Calling All Knitters Again

Following on from the tremendous response we had with the knitted poppies last year and the spring flowers this year, I started wondering if there was anything else that we could knit that would be simple enough and that we could all take part in. I missed having knitting to do but not anything too complicated.



Shortly after this, on my visit to Queen Elizabeth House with a group from our church, I was impressed to see that the elderly residents were knitting squares for blankets to send out to Africa. Could we do that? We have a special link with Kondo and I am assured that gifts of blankets would be very welcome. Sharon from Avicraft Wool in Chatterton Road has offered us a bag of odd balls of wool to start us off. I would be happy to coordinate the project and would welcome offers of help to sew them together.

If like me you enjoyed knitting the poppies and would like to knit something simple that you can pick up from time to time... then read on.

Pattern for our Knitted Squares.

Using Double-knitting wool and size 8 (4mm) needles cast on one stitch.

Knit in garter stitch, increasing one stitch at the beginning of each row until 50 stitches.

Continue in garter stitch, decreasing one stitch at the beginning of each row.

Using this method the square holds its shape better and it is more interesting to knit.

P.S. If you have any red wool left and would like to knit poppies again this year I'm sure we could find somewhere to display them.

Sue Goodger

**COMMUNITY CREAM TEA**  
*St Augustine's Church would like to invite you to enjoy a scrumptious cream tea on us!*

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## British Weather

The British weather so often reflects life in general either hot, cold, yet by and large overcast. This summer was no different. It seemed so promising, we reached the heady heights of 37/38 degrees, yet as happens so often the British summer failed to deliver. On saying all that the average temperature was still very favourable, and maybe September will prove to be better, but I am not holding my breath!

Life, of course forces us to face many difficult challenges. As a nation we face the uncertainty of Brexit, regardless of which side of the divide you stand. Each one of us will face many ups and downs in our life, some of which are in our control, yet many situations are not.

As Christians our life is no different. Many things come our way, some which we wish had not, from family disputes to bereavements. We therefore live our lives as open to the elements as anyone else, but I believe our faith helps us to face those times of uncertainty with a support that comes from God alone. That does not mean that trouble does not come our way, because it does. What it does mean is that we can turn to our Heavenly Father and He will be by our side. Yet faith in God is not just about those times when we need help, it's also about the joyous moments of our lives, when the sun is really shining, and life is good.

God is the constant in our lives no matter what may be going on. He is someone to share good and bad news with. Therefore, as we roll into autumn, we hope for the sun to continue to shine, for we know the uncertainties of the British weather. So, let us remember the one thing that we can put our faith and trust in, and that is our Father in Heaven. He alone is the one certainty we can depend upon.



God Bless  
Revd Steve Spencer, Vicar



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## One More Step

August 9<sup>th</sup> is the day when members of the Mothers' Union celebrate the life of their founder Mary Sumner. In Rochester Diocese members gather in the cathedral for Evensong. This year members from Bromley, Chislehurst and Orpington met at St. Nicholas' Church, Orpington to start a 'pilgrimage' to the cathedral. We sang 'One more step along the world we go' adding another verse at each stop. After prayers we set off for Tudeley Church to see its beautiful Marc Chagall windows. The sun was shining so they looked splendid. We were joined by



members from Sidcup. After prayers and another verse of our hymn we went to 'The Friars' at Aylesford for lunch. We used St. Joseph's chapel, one of many there, for our service.

In the afternoon we arrived at All Saints Church, Snodland. This church has evidence of being there in 1000AD and may be even older. It is full of history in its walls, windows and the many memorials and artefacts around the church. I particularly liked the plaque that recorded that a local benefactor in 1169 'gave money to be paid out of his land and distributed to poor widows in bread'.



Finally we made our way to Rochester and a big surprise – the Pitch and Putt course which was installed for the summer holidays in the cathedral nave. The clergy we spoke to were very pleased with the impact it was having. Evensong was held in the choir and now nearly 100 members joined to sing the whole of 'One more step'. A special end to a special day.

Ann Hanrahan

## A Year of Training for Lay Ministry

I'm really grateful for all the support and encouragement from members at St A's (especially Ann and Nigel Pope) during my first year of training for Lay Ministry in the Church of England.

All the training takes place at St Augustine's college of Theology in the grounds of West Malling Abbey – sharing the space with the Benedictine nuns has been very special. I've learnt about Mission – how the Church wants to bring people to be followers of Jesus but also to be a voice against injustice in the world and to care for creation.



I've had a term on the Bible, and written essays on Temple in the Bible and the theology contained in the song 'Come all you Vagabonds.' I've had to plan a service and undertake 'theological reflections'. It was really interesting to explore Local Theology – what our building says about Jesus in our community; and how we think we, as the St A's worshipping community, represent The Body of Christ.

There have been essays and presentations which have helped me to understand more; and lastly, a wonderful group of fellow students of all ages and traditions from across the diocese. Looking forward, I've been interviewed and accepted to continue to train as a Licensed Lay Minister so am looking forward to another two years of learning even more in greater depth.

Verity Mitchell

## Diary of a First-Time Mother - Angels

Unusually as we drove to summer school recently I had the radio on in the car. I was waiting for the news report to get an update on a story I had been following. Just before it started the song 'Angels' sung by Robbie Williams was played. A Little Girl I Know sat beside me quietly listening. As soon as the news finished she said, "Mummy, do you believe in angels?". Yes came my reply. Before I had a chance to say any more she told me she did also. She told me that hers were a kind of earthly angels around us every day. You know the type... those who hold a door open for you when your hands are full, those who look at you across a crowded room and smile, those who take time to ask about your day. To me these are angels. A Little Girl I Know thought for a while looking up the words of the song we had heard earlier on the CD insert she had found in the car. (You see I am a fan of Robbie Williams.) Suddenly she said, "Mummy what does the line 'it's enough to try the patience of angels' mean?". I did my best to explain that some of life's situations push us almost to the point of despair. It can often seem too much. I told her that when this happens we should be pushed to our knees to ask for God's help to get through that difficult patch.



Later that week after a not so good day at summer school she cried. She told me what had made her so upset. We talked about possible ways to resolve the problem. We finished with a simple prayer asking God to be really close to her the following day.

The next day was better. She said she felt that she was being held up and looked after. Maybe angels are her new teachers in disguise. This reminded me of another pop song with the line, 'I believe in angels, something good in everyone I see'. These are the kind of angels I believe in.

Angels are around us all the time if we take the time to notice. Praise God!



**Sue Goodger** is hosting The World's Biggest Coffee Morning again this year in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support. It will be at her home at 22 Sunningdale Road from 10.00 to 12.30 and 2.00 to 5.00 on Friday 27 September. Please come and enjoy a friendly chat and of course home-made cakes. Everyone is welcome.

## Before and After (to come)

About four years ago on a balmy evening in Calcutta sipping beer in the lingering shade of a Sports Pavilion with some Rotary friends, I first heard about their plans to celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Rotary Club of Calcutta - the first club in mainland Asia. It was to be on the 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2020. I promised to be there.

We have met since then and their plans have become clearer and clearer. It will be a celebration of some note, covering entertainment, a celebration dinner and visits to sites of some of their humanitarian and educational activities. My own Battersea Park Club has recently contributed to the provision of toilets and bore wells in villages where there were none. There will be leading civic and Rotary personalities and well as members of clubs from around the world who have joined Calcutta on those works. There will be a group from my club. We will aim to arrive by 29<sup>th</sup> December, stay about for a week for the celebrations, thereafter travelling on as may suit individual interests.



I plan to call in at Mumbai on the way back to see friends in Rotary Club Bombay Central - an itinerary is already being planned for me! This is the club we worked with for the provision of solar lighting for villages in the hinterland of Mumbai, for sewing machines for village ladies and desks and equipment for schools. Although not in tablets of stone yet, I hope to return by the middle of January. At that stage it will be AFTER and I guess another story.

John Lee

## News from the 2nd Bromley Brownies

We have started to work on the new programme that has been given by Girlguiding, which is taking time to get used to but we will get there.



Hopefully you all enjoyed the refreshments served by the Brownies after the June Church parade. We enjoyed serving them to you. Thank you for your support. We had our usual family fun night, which we have every term, when we had a Where's Wally evening. Families went out in groups with a sheet of photos to find the places that Where's Wally had been and had his photo taken - a very fun, interesting and competitive evening.

Also this year Greater London Kent celebrated their 50th Birthday by having a fun-filled day at Charles Darwin School with 2400 guiding girls, with different activities and lots of inflatables, which happened to be the hottest day of the year!

As a unit we also did the GLK Challenge Badge. Some of the challenges included collecting food items for Food bank, collecting money in Smartie tubes in exchange for doing good turns for people, learning about Guiding 50 years ago, playing games and eating food from different countries and plenty more besides. The girls all received a badge for completing the challenges.

We didn't have our annual Brownie holiday this year. Instead we did a sleepover in the Scout Hut to finish our summer term off. We went to Jubilee park, completed a Woodland booklet with lots of things for the girls to do while in the park, came back had mud puddings to eat with worms in, animal yoga followed by campfire, toasting marshmallows and hot chocolate. Not much sleep happened but everyone went home happy.

Ruth Higginbottom

You are invited to join Jenny on her special day  
**Ordination of Deacons**  
Saturday 28th September 2019 @ 3pm  
At Rochester Cathedral, ME1 1SX  
And afterwards @ Christ Church, Orpington  
BR6 9EP from 6 -10pm  
(The Jolly Knight Pub in Rochester is available for drinks after the service.)  
RSVP [thewarringtons@gmail.com](mailto:thewarringtons@gmail.com) 07981 942760

Jenny Warrington has sent us this message and invitation to her ordination.

**Thank you for all your prayers and support.**

The journey to this point has been filled with joy and friendships as well as struggles and heartache. Allan and I are grateful for all the support and prayers along the way and are excited to see what God has in store for us both in the next few years.

*Let us not become weary of doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.  
Galatians 6:9*

**You are very welcome to come and celebrate with us.**

If you would like tickets for the cathedral please let me know and numbers for catering for the evening celebration would be handy too!

Jenny's letter and sign up sheet are at the back of church.

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## Parish People

### Congratulations to:

**Christine** and **David Mason's** granddaughter **Daniella** who has achieved a BA in English and History with first class honours.

**Katherine Emery** who graduated from Leicester University with a 2.1 in Archaeology. She hopes to work as an archivist.

**Thomas Pope** who started a new job at the end of June. He is now a Senior Economist at the Institute for Government.

Congratulations also to **Tina Futcher-Smith** who celebrated her 60<sup>th</sup> birthday in August.

We send our good wishes to **Jess Skinner** who has recently started secondary school and **Genevieve Bouwer** who starts school for the very first time soon.

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On our recent holiday we met up with **Daphne Layton** who was my old Guide Captain and Churchwarden until she moved to Weston Super Mare with her husband **Fred** sometime back. Daphne wished to be remembered to her friends in Bromley and we passed on greetings from those who remembered her round here.

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It is with sadness we announce the passing of **Jackie Lewis** on 14th August 2019. Please hold **Dennis** and the family in your prayers at this time.

We have also recently heard of the passing of **Julia Farrar** and our prayers are with her husband **Andrew** and daughter **Mary** and her family.

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The Brownie and Rainbow groups have moved out of St. Luke's Hall after almost 60 years. We wish all those involved well in their new home at the Scout Hut by The Crown Carvery.

The Three Cs on a Tuesday morning are still looking for cake makers, table putter uppers and taker downers. Please see Jacky if you are able to help. Thank you.

### Holiday Club 2019

This year I have only been able to go to one session of the great holiday club that Helen puts on. I really enjoyed the morning that was filled with craft, learning about the Bible story in this case the story of Adam and Eve and the Snake. We watched a piece from the film. 'Monsters Inc.'. Helen must have spent ages sorting out the amazing crafts we were able to take part in.

A big thank you to all those who helped, but especially to Helen for all her hard work behind the scenes that made it such good fun. Next year it would be really good to see lots more children there. They really will enjoy it.

Jess Skinner

Keep your news coming to me either by seeing me in church on Sunday morning or at The Three Cs on a Tuesday morning. Alternatively you may like to email it to me at [jackysskinner@gmail.com](mailto:jackysskinner@gmail.com). Thank you.

Dates for Your Diary		
Sep 7	Community Cream Tea	2.30 - 4.30
Sep 10	Trefoil	8 pm
Sep 18	Mothers Union	2 pm
Sep 18	Bits and Pieces	7.45 pm
Oct 5	Harvest Supper	6.45 pm

Worship with us on Sundays	
8am Holy Communion	St Luke's Every Week
10am Morning Worship	St Augustine's 1st and 5th Sunday
10am Holy Communion	St Augustine's 2nd and 4th Sunday
10am Family Service	St Augustine's 3rd Sunday

Children and Youth Activities		
Club JC	Helen Baker	07576 233119
Parent and Toddler	Helen Scothern Victoria Bouwer	07909 824099 07779 009064

Join us during the week	
Mon 9.15 am	Morning Prayer
Wed 11.45 am	Holy Communion
Tues 10.00 am	The Three Cs
Wed 10.00 am	Parent and Toddler

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— <a href="http://www.23rdbromleyscouts.org">www.23rdbromleyscouts.org</a>		

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	<a href="mailto:accounts@st-augustines.org.uk">accounts@st-augustines.org.uk</a>
P.C.C. Secretary	Johanna Gurney	020 8467 9587
Children's Officer	Helen Scothern	07909 824099
Safeguarding Officer	Helen Scothern	07909 824099

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 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](mailto: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](http://www.st-augustines.org.uk)**

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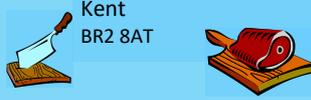
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