



# roundabout



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

50p

Issue 491 April 2018



## 'All God's Creation is Very Good.'

Every year on the first Friday in March a very special church service is held all around the world - the Women's World Day of Prayer. Each year a service is prepared by women from a particular country, which reflects their country and their concerns. Sometimes it is one of the few opportunities women get to speak about what matters to them.

The published service is translated into 60 languages and 1,000 dialects. Services start at sunrise in Samoa and continue round the earth ending 36 hours later as the sun sets over American Samoa.

This year's service was written by the women of Suriname - the theme 'All God's creation is very good.' Suriname lies in the north east of South America. It is part of the Guianas and means 'Land of Many Waters.' 15% of the land is coastal, less than two metres above sea level and very much at risk from climate change. Another large part is tropical rainforest. A country of high biodiversity, it has a large nature reserve which is a UNESCO heritage site.

Using Genesis 1 as the basis for the service, there is a part which vividly shows how we fail to look after God's world. Articles representing water, vegetation, animals, fish and fowl, light, sun and moon and people are brought forward wrapped in all manner of ways. The wrapping is discarded and thrown on the floor before the object is placed on a table. Later in the service 'rubbish' is picked up and placed in appropriate 'recycling' bins. At the rehearsal I found this extremely powerful as I threw away a plastic bottle in church! It felt so awful.

Sadly our local service had to be cancelled due to bad weather, but we can, as the women of Suriname want us to, think deeply about God's wonderful creation and our responsibility to preserve it for future generations.

Ann Hanrahan



Attending the World Day of Prayer in Kondo

inside	
2	<b>Church News</b> Lenten surprises The Alpha Course – An Update
3	<b>Vicar's Letter:</b> April Fool!!!
4	<b>Charity Page</b> Jubilee Park The Maypole Project.
5	<b>Overseas</b> CMS in India Kondo
6	<b>Children's Corner</b> Diary of a First-Time Mother Messy Church
7	<b>Parish Update:</b> Parish People A Parish Day
8	<b>Church Directory:</b> Dates for your Diary
<b>Editor</b> Ann Hanrahan	
<b>Layout</b> Adrian King	



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

## Lenten surprises

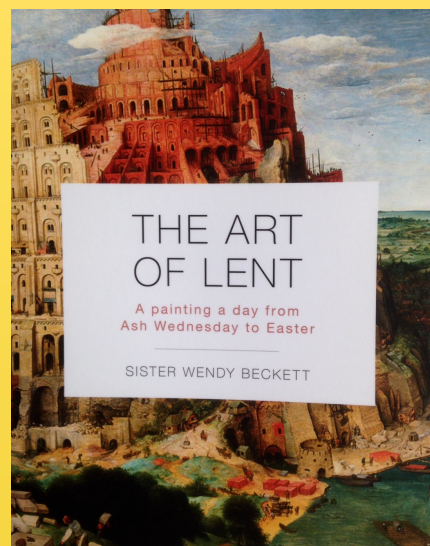
It's Lent – again! Where has the year gone?  
And what bit of discipline shall I attempt – and try to complete – in 2018?

Give something up?

Take on something extra?

Then one of the study books recommended in church came as a surprise. 'The Art of Lent' offered a painting a day with accompanying thoughts by Sister Wendy Beckett.

I love looking at pictures and was enchanted some forty years ago by her first TV series. She makes you look again, more closely, at the picture and think again, more carefully, about her comments. The experience is full of surprises. The illustrations are small, and so is the print but it has sent me back to the two wonderfully reproduced books I own, and it reminds me every day about what a lot I have to learn about art, and life, and God.



I'm enjoying it so much, I don't think it rates as a Lenten *discipline*. That's an interesting thought in itself!

*'Art of Lent' available from [spck.org](http://spck.org)*

**Betty Dawson**



## The Alpha Course – An Update

It doesn't seem possible that the Alpha course is coming towards its finish and by the time you read this we will have completed the 10-week course including the Day

Away. We have had nearly 60 different people attend, mainly on Wednesday evenings but also on Friday mornings. Along with some wonderful puddings and cakes we have spent time together, getting to know each other better and learning the basis of our Christian faith. Our discussions after the videos have been wide ranging and at times quite challenging with many stories of how faith makes a real difference to people's lives.

Following our Alpha Day Away and our final Celebration Service on Easter Day I hope to bring a fuller report next month.

Those who have not previously been part of a house-group, either at St Augustine's, St Luke's or Holy Trinity are welcome to join a group, so the discussions may continue. After Easter, we will be meeting fortnightly in various people's homes, where we will be considering the gifts that God gives us and which bind us together as church.

For further details contact Jenny Warrington [thewarringtons@gmail.com](mailto:thewarringtons@gmail.com) 07981 942760

**Jenny Warrington**

## April Fool!!!



On April Fools Day 1957 the BBC current affairs programme 'Panorama' broadcast the 'Spaghetti Tree Harvest in Switzerland'. It showed the spaghetti harvest at a time when the dish was not as widely known in the UK as it is now. In those days many in the UK were unaware that spaghetti was made from wheat flour and water. Decades later it is still regarded as the biggest hoax that any reputable news establishment has ever carried out.



The Alexamenos Graffiti<sup>1</sup> pictured above dating from about 200 years or earlier after the death and resurrection of Jesus, was found in 1857 in a guardroom on the Palatine Hill near the Circus Maximus in Rome. The drawing shows a man with an ass's head being crucified and beside is a man raising his hand as if in prayer.

The translation of the Greek text reads: '*Alexamenos worships his God.*' The graffiti highlights just how absurd the idea of a crucified God was to pagan thinking. Just 100 years earlier St Paul had written in his letter to the church in Corinth that the crucifixion was, 'to Jews a stumbling block and foolishness to Greeks'<sup>2</sup>. He also wrote that Christians are 'Fools for Christ.'<sup>3</sup>

This year Easter Sunday falls on April Fool's Day. There are those who think that being a Christian in a hi-tech modern world is rather foolish. And it can be very tempting to make the events of Good Friday more wholesome, present them in a way that would not offend anyone. However, the first Good Friday was brutal and bloody. Roman soldiers were tough and ruthlessly efficient. Jesus was dead – but it didn't stop there. Three days later his followers began to say that the impossible had happened, Jesus was alive! God had raised him from the dead!

It must have been amazing on that first Easter Day as the disciples realised what had happened. The followers of Jesus, both men and women, went on to transform the world. Since then countless others have come to discover for themselves the fact that Jesus is alive. Each Eastertide I am struck once again by the amazing wonder of God's love, as well as his patience with me, when I am being particularly obtuse. The love of God in Jesus is a love that never gives up. It is a love that gave everything, so that we may know that love for ourselves. No other day is like Easter Sunday. It's a day to celebrate, a day to shout about and enjoy. For He is the God who can be trusted with our lives, our relationships, with old age and even with death.

Fools for Christ? Yes, definitely, that the world may be healed.

*Alleluia, Christ is Risen – He is risen indeed Alleluia!*

*Yours In Christ*  
*Katharine*

1. Now housed in the Palatine Antiquarian Museum

2. 1 Corinthians 1. v.23

3. 1 Corinthians 4.v. 10

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## The wildlife park on our doorstep

Between Blackbrook Lane and Crescent Drive there are 62 acres of beautiful countryside. Jubilee Country Park is a hidden gem comprising ancient woodland (existing since 1600 or earlier), recent woodland and a variety of grassland meadows and scrub, mainly on London clay. It also has a number of ponds which are home to frogs, toads and both the smooth newt and the great crested newt, which is a protected species.

It is designated a Local Nature Reserve and a Site of Metropolitan Importance for Nature Conservation – and the London Loop (a sort of M25 for walkers) runs through it linking Scadbury Park and Hawkwood to Crofton and High Elms.

The Friends of Jubilee Country Park are a group of volunteers dedicated to protecting and conserving this precious amenity. Every Monday a working party of volunteers meet to clear scrub, coppice woodland, maintain paths and hedges, clear ponds and do whatever is needed to help preserve the park and its wildlife. Most months we organise a walk, a talk or a nature survey. Recently we walked to High Elms and conducted a small mammal survey when we found, weighed and sexed three bank voles and two wood mice! Recent events in the Garden Room have included talks on Badgers, the Green Belt, and Horticulture (by the Head Judge of Britain in Bloom) – as well as Jennie Randall's ever popular quiz night.



At our AGM on March 21 in the Scout Hall Emma Pooley will tell us about the fascinating life of hedgehogs.

In the summer I will lead our annual wild flower walk (made famous by Sally Morris) and we are looking for help in organising our Magnificent Meadows Day on July 7. So do come and join us. If you are not a Friend of Jubilee Country Park do consider joining. It costs only £5 a year per household, and if you give us your email address we will let you know what is going on every month.

Please see our website <http://www.jubileecountrypark.btck.co.uk> or email [jubileecountrypark@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:jubileecountrypark@yahoo.co.uk)

I look forward to hearing from you.

**John Bruce**

## The Maypole Project

This is a local charity based in Green Street Green. It was founded in 2003 and due to its success became a registered charity in 2007. It is lottery funded and its work has now spread to Southwark, Lewisham, Greenwich and the edges of Kent and Surrey.

The Maypole Project provides a lifeline of support for children with complex and life threatening illnesses and their whole family. Every year, 12 to 17 of every 10,000 children are diagnosed with an illness and/or disability that threatens or shortens life. 65% of these families will need to seek professional support. The diagnosis itself is life-shattering and stressful for each and every family member. The Maypole Project's unique blend of emotional support for children with complex medical needs and their families can be about all aspects of life and is there as long as it is needed. It aims for all families who have a child with a chronic illness or disability to have access to a Support Worker at this time of great need.

The Maypole Project provides help and support in a variety of ways:

- 'Befriending' – regular meetings with someone who will listen, over a cup of tea.
- Counselling – to address a variety of issues affecting the family.
- Group sessions – to provide opportunities for families to meet others in similar situations.
- Maypole Active is an inclusive sports and activities club, designed for children with a complex medical need or disability to gain access to sport. It meets twice a week in Raglan Primary School.
- Activity Days are arranged with opportunities for arts and crafts, sports and activities, a sensory area and soft play, face painting, a bouncy castle and for the parents and carers to take a well-deserved break.
- Information/Advocacy service – to get information, advice and additional support.

To find out more or to donate see their website [www.themaypoleproject.co.uk](http://www.themaypoleproject.co.uk)

**Sue Goodger**

# CMS in India

Congratulations to our mission partners in Bangalore, Eric and Rheena Clouston, who celebrated their silver wedding anniversary in December. Eric writes, 'We have happy memories of our wedding in 1992, although Bangalore is a lot warmer in December than St Augustine's was!'

Their life as CMS mission partners involves a range of activities based at their church, Wellspring Fellowship. So far this year Eric has run a couple of student 'City Forum' midweek seminars and a Saturday short course on management. The aim is to help the students make wise choices about which organisations to work for, as well as how to lead and manage other people. Rheena, in conjunction with a local café, has started a monthly women's group where encouragement and support can be



shared over drinks and chat. Eric and Rheena's daughter Kitty is now at university in England, while son Sam's hobby is playing volleyball. Sam was therefore pretty fed up while trying to cross the road in the chaotic Bangalore traffic, when a van came too close and ran over his foot. It has taken two months to heal!

They ask for our prayers for new students at Southern Asia Bible College and for Wellspring's new 'Christian Care and Counsel' course.

**Mary Plummer**

## Our link diocese of Kondoa, Tanzania

The diocese has 34 parishes, one of which is Mwakisabe, which a number of our congregation visited in 2016. It is the poorest diocese in Tanzania.

The Anglican church in Tanzania established the Kondoa diocese in 2001 and it serves about 10,000 members. Bishop Given was appointed to the see in 2012 and since taking up the post has been a fervent supporter of the Kondoa Bible College. Educational attainment in the area is low, so the college is the key to building a church community in the diocese. Supporting the college financially is one of the ways in which we in the UK can help encourage Christian growth in a predominately Muslim area.

The diocese is also embarking on a new relationship with Tearfund. The Church and Community Mobilisation plan aims to help UK parishes connect and communicate more easily with Kondoa. It is an area poorly served by GPS, so mobile and email contact is patchy. Using the Tearfund infrastructure makes it easier for established churches in Rochester diocese to share good practice with growing parishes in Kondoa. Not all of us are able to visit Kondoa, but we can all support these young churches in prayer.

**Mary Plummer**

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## Diary of a First-Time Mother

### When I Am Older

'I want to be a nurse, a teacher, a round-the-world sailor' and so the list goes on and on. These days the list is almost never-ending. So much to choose from; so many amazing opportunities available.

Recently A Little Girl I Know returned from school a bit subdued. She told me that her friends had been able to make their choices of secondary schools, universities and, even further ahead, careers. She told me that it seemed a long time away and that she could only think as far as her spelling test on Friday. I told her that it was good to focus on the here and now, and that she should trust that God had a plan for her that was made long before her friends had thought about their plans for the future. God's special plan had been in place long before she was born.

She asked me about what I had wanted to do when I was younger. I told her of my experience on my first day at secondary school when the Head Mistress, as they were called in those days, had come to the classroom and asked us what we wanted to do when

we left school. I recalled that I thought it was a strange thing to ask, especially as leaving school seemed such a long way away. I told her that I didn't know and remember her stern words to me, to start thinking about it as it wouldn't be long. At the time I thought it was years away, five years in my case. Now, I have to admit the Head Mistress was right.

Since the birth of A Little Girl I Know, time has flown by. It is hard to believe that this Autumn we will have to submit our choices for secondary schools. Where has my tiny baby gone? Grown up too fast that's for sure. I pray that little by little, God will reveal to her His plans for her life, so that she can start to prepare for future education or work. It says in the Bible, in Jeremiah 29 verse 11, *For I know the plans I have for you declares the Lord.* Praise God He does.

As for me, when I grow up, I will let you know what I want to do. Until then, I will continue to enjoy the best job I have ever had - being Mum to A Little Girl I Know.




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Messy Church is a different form of church for children and families, that involves creativity, celebration and hospitality. It usually includes a time playing games, a long creative time to explore the Bible story through craft, a short celebration time with a story, prayers, songs and games followed by a sit-down meal together at tables. It is a fun time for all ages and has been enjoyed by adults and children alike.

Our Messy Church runs on the second Saturday of every month, from 3pm-5pm.

Don't forget **Messy Easter** on  
**Easter Saturday 31 March**  
**at 3.00 pm**

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## Parish People

### A Parish Day - St Augustine's with St Luke's - Sunday 22 April 2018

*Sharing God's love  
All welcome*

This year on Sunday 22 April, between Easter and Pentecost, we will be setting aside a whole day to celebrate our new parish and bring everyone together from our different congregations. Our theme is **One Spirit: Many Gifts**. The Parish Day will include worship, fellowship, food, and plenty of discussion about our current and possible future activities. It should be a wonderful occasion to get to know each other better.

After the 10 am Holy Communion service we will have the first Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) of our new parish. We will reflect on the Annual Report for 2017, hear about some of the different areas of ministry that are flourishing, then after lunch we will begin to explore what God may have in store for us in the coming year. There will be a range of workshops to help us recognise and value the different gifts we have all been given and explore opportunities for service ranging from pastoral care to outreach to our local community.

In the Bible the apostle Paul reminds us that the church is like a human body made up of many different parts. We all have different gifts and roles, but to function properly we need all the arms and legs, eyes and ears, to work together. We do hope all our members will be able to join us for this day - if you are missing, we will be incomplete.

Read Paul's own words in  
[Romans 12. 4-8](#)

**Alan Mitchell**

*From the Parish Register*

**Funerals.** We extend our love and sympathy to the family and friends of

June RICHARDS

**Baptisms.** We welcome into the church family

AMELLE FANIETHA DRUMMOND -  
PEARSON

#### Proposed timetable for the day

##### At St Luke's

8.00 am Holy Communion

##### At St Augustine's

10.00 am Holy Communion

11.15 am Refreshments

11.30 am Annual Parochial Church Meeting

1.00 pm Lunch

2.00 pm God's mission in our parish

2.15 pm Workshops and breakout sessions

3.30 pm Afternoon tea

4.00 pm Closing worship

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**CONGRATULATIONS** to **Emma Gurney**, daughter of **Andrew and Johanna**, and husband **Daniel Earl**, who were married on 3 March 2018 at St Giles the Abbot Church, Farnborough.

### Dates for your Diary

30 March	Good Friday Service around the Cross	2.00 pm
31 March	Messy Easter at St. Augustine's	3.00 pm
9 April	MU Lady Day at St. Mary's, Hayes	2.00 pm
10 April	Trefoil Guild - 75 years in Bromley	8.00 pm
22 April	APCM day in St. A's Church -	10.00 am

### Children and Youth Activities

Messy Church Youth House Group	Helen Baker	07795 007724
Club JC	Helen Baker	07795 007724
Parent and Toddler	Helen Scothern Mandy James	0790 982 4099 0796 372 1309

### Scouts and Guides

[23rdbromleyscouts.org](http://23rdbromleyscouts.org)

Joint Group Scout Leaders	Jenny Owens Sandra Goodwin	020 8467 4702 01689 831654
Beavers	Claire Pester	07810 426666
Brownies	Ruth Higginbottom	01689 818104
Rainbows	Helen Scothern	0790 982 4099

### Church Activities

Mothers Union	Linda Wanniaratchy	7761853653
Church Rooms	Liz Carter	020 8467 8155
Three Cs	Jacky Skinner	01689 878452
Roundabout Business Manager	Lorna Murray	020 8467 0536
Singing Group Thursdays 7.45 pm	Lucy Adcock	020 8467 4535

### Worship with us on Sundays

Sun	8.00 am at St. Luke's	10.00 am at St. Augustine's	Evening Worship
1st	Holy Communion	Morning Prayer	St. Luke's - 6.00 pm
2nd	Holy Communion	Holy Communion	St. Luke's - 6.00 pm
3rd	Holy Communion	Family Service	St. Augustine's - 6.30 pm
4th	Holy Communion	Holy Communion	St. Luke's - 6.00 pm

### Worship with us on Weekdays

Mon - Sat: 9.15 am	Morning Prayer (not Wednesdays)
Wednesday 11.45 am	Holy Communion

### Join us on.....

Tues 10.00 am	The Three Cs
Wed 10.00 am	Parent and Toddler
Thurs 10.30 am	Sally's Exercise Class

### Church Staff

Vicar	Rev. Canon Katrina Barnes (Day off - Saturday)	020 8467 1351
Youth & Schools Minister	Helen Baker (Day off - Friday)	07795 007724 <a href="mailto:youth@st-augustines.org.uk">youth@st-augustines.org.uk</a>
Licensed Lay Minister	Alan Mitchell	07985070734 <a href="mailto:llm@st-augustines.org.uk">llm@st-augustines.org.uk</a>
Ordinand in Training	Jenny Warrington	01689 834375
Reader	Kenneth Gill	020 8467 1260
Reader	Brian Kendall	01689 832304
Churchwarden	Les Fairhurst	020 8462 8992
Churchwarden	Vivienne Emery	01689 861929
Treasurer	David Wardley	07925 736491
P.C.C. Secretary	Mary Plummer	01689 820961
Children's Officer	Liz Carter	020 8467 8155

### Church Office

Parish Administrator	Nickie Streek	020 8295 1550
Open: Monday to Friday 9.00 am to 12.30. pm (Closed Thursdays)		

You can easily contact us by sending an email to: [office@st-augustines.org.uk](mailto:office@st-augustines.org.uk)

To find out more about our church and to view back numbers of this magazine, please visit our website: [www.st-augustines.org.uk](http://www.st-augustines.org.uk)

## roundabout

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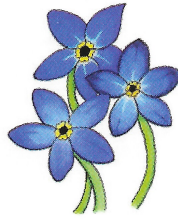
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