

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

50p

Issue 490 March 2018

# Sharing God's Love



During a debate at the recent meeting of the General Synod a speaker said 'There is no hierarchy in God's love', which prompted me to reflect on a visit I made to 55 Broadway, SW1. Some of you may remember it as the London Underground's Lost Property office.

Completed in 1929, the underground's headquarters building was seen as a modern icon; the first commercial skyscraper, with an open plan arrangement for most of its employees. The cathedral-like cruciform design allowed natural light to penetrate the central areas of the building. Frank Pick the managing director and the Board commissioned leading artists, including Jacob Epstein, to contribute sculptures to decorate the exterior and inside no expense was spared: bronze doors, walnut panelling and teak parquet flooring. It was an exciting building ahead of its time.

However, the same could not be said of its workplace practices. Offices were organised to reinforce the management hierarchy. There were separate eating areas for the several layers of management, and none at all

for the 'staff.' Only the Chairman's floor had a walnut-panelled corridor, and the lift ended on the 10<sup>th</sup> floor, where the Executive dining room was sited. As it was built soon after the First World War, the structure reflected society at that time. It could have been the model for the famous John Cleese/two Ronnies sketch 'I know my place'. Today TfL's working practices are quite different, but inequality in places of work is still very much a matter of concern.

The Sunday after my visit, I found it particularly refreshing to listen to Katrina's sermon on faith. Faith is a gift we cannot earn, available to everyone, with no entitlements. The Gospels are full of examples: 'When you have a feast invite the poor, the disabled and the blind and you will be blessed, for they are not able to pay you back' (Luke 14 v 13). When we commit individually to follow in the steps of Jesus, we do not become part of a structure and this Easter everyone is invited equally to share God's love.

Mary Plummer

Easter Sunday 1 April

6 am Dawn service @ St Augustine's

8 am Holy Communion @ St Luke's

10 am Easter Day Holy Communion @ St Augustine's

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



# Moving forward together

The Parochial Church Councils of St Augustine's and St Luke's met together for the first time as a United Benefice earlier this year. A PCC will be elected on 22 April 2018 at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) to represent the new parish of St Augustine's with St Luke's. This will mark an important step in our life together and it was decided to elect two Churchwardens for each building. We would like to have a full complement of PCC members, which is 12 people excluding Treasurer and Secretary.

If you have never been or even thought about being a PCC member, we would ask you to prayerfully think about this. There are four meetings a year and the coming year will mark a new chapter in the life of our church.

Members of St Luke's PCC Back row: Brenda Walters, Sheila Knight Front row: Jill Gill, Tina Futcher-Smith, Maureen Joyce

24 March	Saturday	Visit to National Gallery (meet at Petts Wood station at 9.15 am)	
25 March	Palm Sunday	8 am Holy Communion @ St Luke's	
		10 am Palm Sunday Holy Communion @ St Augustine's	
		12 am Book Club meets after 10 am service to discuss The Art of Lent by Sister Wendy Beckett	
		6 pm Evening Prayer @ St Luke's	
26 -30 March	Holy Week	9 – 12 am St Augustine's prayer room open every morning	
29 March	Maundy Thursday	8 pm Holy Communion @ St Augustine's	
30 March	Good Friday	10 am Walk of Witness in Bromley (meet at the Glades)	
		2 pm Meditation service @ St Augustine's	
31 March	Saturday	3 pm Messy Church @ St Augustine's	
1 April	Easter Sunday	6 am Dawn service @ St Augustine's	
		8 am Holy Communion @ St Luke's	
		10 am Easter Day Holy Communion @ St Augustine's	

## Easter Services and Events



Saturday 3 March Time 6.30 for 6.45

Tickets £10.00 available from Lynn or Paul Morton Tel. 0208 467 3887 or Email <u>lynnmorto@gmail.com</u>

Leek soup. Roast Lamb, new potatoes, broccoli and carrots. Welsh cakes with blueberry coulis.

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# **Encountering God**

At the end of March St Augustine's will be welcoming over two hundred children from local schools for our **Easter Experience**. We talk them through the final week in Jesus' life from the excitement of Palm Sunday to the pain of Good Friday and the joy of the Resurrection on Easter Sunday. It's always wonderful to see their reactions as they ask questions and some perhaps hear the story for the first time.

Maybe it's symbolic of what we try to do throughout the year - as Christians we want to share the story of Jesus by explaining who



he was, why he was 'good news' and his intriguing invitation to have a relationship with God through the work of the Holy Spirit.

Every Sunday as we meet together as a community, some people encounter God through the worship and music, some through hearing a talk or reading the Bible and some through silent prayer. Of course occasionally we encounter God in an even more curious way - through one another. That's what has been happening week by week in the Alpha course we've been running



since January. Fifty adults talking to each other about God. We might not have all the answers but it's good to meet, and good to open up and ask questions.

We are all different and God will speak to us in different ways. It could be in church but it's just as likely to be in the beauty of a sunrise or even by looking at a painting. On Saturday 24 March we are organising a trip to the National Gallery in London. You'd be very welcome to join us (see page 2).

The supper at Emmaus by Caravaggio, a picture we're hoping to see.

After the crucifixion two of the disciples met Jesus walking along the road to Emmaus. They talked and talked but didn't recognise him until they sat down and shared a meal together. 'Then their eyes were opened.'

God reveals himself in lots of different ways . . . but only if we keep our eyes and ears open. So this Easter whenever you're enjoying a hot cross bun or a chocolate Easter egg just watch out – God might not be that far away.

May God bless you and all whom you love this Easter.



Alan Mitchell

# The 23<sup>rd</sup> Bromley goes abroad



This summer 35 people from the 23<sup>rd</sup> Bromley will be embarking on an exciting two week expedition to Kenya, alongside the charity Harambee for Kenya. The team is made up of Explorers, Leaders and Network members. Harambee for Kenya are a UK based charity who have a number of safe houses in Kenya where they take homeless boys off the street and give them accommodation and education. They also invest them into the Scout movement. Harambee is Swahili for 'all pull together' and more details about the charity can be found at <u>http://www.harambeeforkenya.org/</u>.

The majority of the time in Kenya will be spent at one of the Harambee for Kenya safe houses in Kisli, but there will also be a chance for the participants to get involved in some other activities such as a visit to Robert Baden-Powell's grave, a boat ride to see hippos, a safari and a chance to feed giraffes.

The trip costs in the region of £1,500 per person so everyone has been fundraising hard. A proportion of the money will be going directly to the project work that we will be doing with the charity at their safe house. This will include maintenance and upkeep of the house and its grounds, or doing likewise at one of the local schools. We will be taking out toiletries, exercise books, pens and toys to give to the boys and to hand out in the local community around the house. In addition we will be taking out children's clothing and shoes, which have been donated to the boys. If you would like to know more, or donate any of the above items, see our Facebook page www.facebook.com23rdBromleyKenya2018 or contact myself or Les Fairhurst.

David Goodwin, 23<sup>rd</sup> Bromley Scouts

# The first Forget Me Not café

For Diana Pattison, Jacky Skinner, Celia King, Diane Anson and other 'Dementia Friends', it was definitely a leap of faith. The Forget Me Not cafés in the borough are a Christian outreach to those in Bromley who have dementia and their carers. Tuesday 16 January was the first to be held in St Augustine's.

Planning how the cafés should be run and the choice of venues has largely been down to the newly created Anna Chaplains, of whom Diana Pattison is one. On the previous Sunday morning, she had explained how the initiative had come about and asked for encouragement and support for the café. The response was very heartening.

Welcome time consisted of a selection of delicious cakes and chat. A table quiz was already laid out and was a good way to break the ice (even if the questions



were just as hard!). Diana had organised an activity table, and, looking forward to spring, there were garden pots, compost and daffodil bulbs to pot up. Decorative yellow bows made them look cheerful.

Finally, everyone gathered round to get the answers to the quiz and finish off the afternoon with singing and prayerful thoughts to take away. It was a very jolly afternoon and all are welcome to come and join in on the third Tuesday of every month at 1.30pm.

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# JOHN VICTOR MORLEY

A Reader at St Luke's Church, John was born on 8 August 1936, in Camberwell where he was brought up. When he married Frances, he adopted her two sons, Albert was 13 years old and Eddie 10. John last worked for the Lord's Day Observance Society, now called Day One.

Dear John has been a Reader at our church for about 30 years, but he has done so much more. He was in church every day at prayers, and he did so many jobs, which we are struggling to cover. He is sorely missed by every member of our congregation. He was part of the furniture and lasted longer than some of it. The Archdeacon, Paul Wright said of John "We shall never see his like again." John was a friend to everyone, and a father figure to many. He always had a smile and his sermons nearly always contained a funny story. John chose the hymns for the 8am Holy Communion service and those evening services which he led, some of these were not very well known, but he knew so many.

He was well known to many other churches (to my knowledge eight others) which he preached at. He also played the piano when no one else was available. John was well known and loved in the local community. Frances, who died six years ago, was always available for refreshments at church and in the hall. She formed and organised the Kneeler group, she made an Altar Frontal and did many other church practical jobs. They made a good team and often had prayer meetings and house groups at their home. I'm sure that they are together again, now. (Frances used to say that the church came before her.) John's favourite food was a cheese sandwich and he loved going to the carvery. When off duty, it was John's pleasure to visit other churches and cathedrals.



I'm sure he will be welcomed into God's presence with open arms. John didn't give up or relax until three weeks before he died of 'Aussie Flu' and many complications. John died peacefully on 24 January in hospital. His son Eddie was with him.

Sheila Knight

John's funeral will be at St Matthew's Church, Lilford Rd, Camberwell, SE5 9HY on the 8 March at 10am.

### Bromley Philharmonic Choir Spring Concert Sunday 11 March 7.00 pm

Christ Church URC, Tudor Way, Petts Wood BR5 1LH Music from Contemporary Composers, Including compositions by Bob Chilcott, Howard Goodall, Karl Jenkins, Morten Lauridsen, John Rutter and Eric Whitacre.

> Tickets: £10 in advance from box office – 01689 862941 £12 on the door available from 6.30 pm £1 for under 25s

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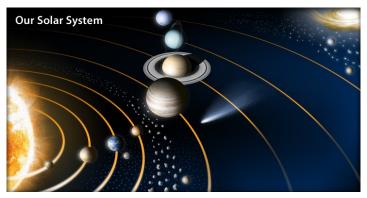
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Mob: 07876 218889 Email: helen.powell27@hotmail.com

# **The Solar System**

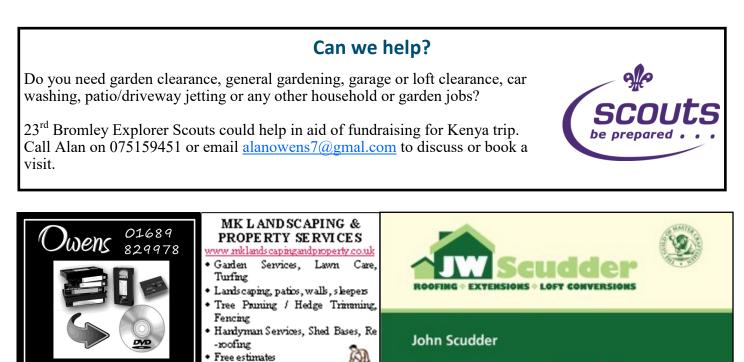
A Little Girl I Know has been doing homework since her second or third week at school. She is getting used it by now and even starting to agree that my idea to do as many of the eight tasks for the term early on gives us a few weeks off at the end of the term. This was especially useful in the lead up to Christmas or before family birthdays. Many of her friends are still trying to complete them, and we have just the spellings left.

During the recent half term we decided on a wet afternoon to tackle the solar system homework. This meant that we had to find a way of making a model of the planets in a different way. We had seen models from other children, so we wanted to do something different. A Little Girl I Know and I sat at the dining room table making circles of different colours out of small plastic beads and ironing them to fuse them together. It was a fun way to do a piece of homework that might well have been more difficult otherwise.



As we worked together (sorry I couldn't help but join in) we talked about the stars and planets. A Little Girl I Know recalled how one evening recently we came home and it was very dark. She laughed as she spoke about her giving me a lecture on the planets as we stood on the driveway with my teeth chattering as I was full of cold at the time. Her father, far more sensible than me, had already gone inside to make himself a cup of tea.

We talked too about God's wonderful creation and how every single star and planet was in the heavens above because God had put them there. WOW! That evening we read from a children's Bible the story of creation and all the other amazing things that God made during that busy week. I guess I will never just think of them as 'just' stars again, but like us special, unique and precious to God.



25 Brookmead Avenue Bromley Kent BR1 2JX t: 020 8467 8361 e: john@jwscudderroofing.co.uk www.jwscudderroofing.co.uk

**Phone Mark** 

07802 217535

YOUR VIDEOS TO DVD

Queensway, Petts Wood

From the Parish Register

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

Margret HATTERSLEY-POPE

# **Parish People**

#### **Congratulations** to

**Rev Andy** and **Jill Hobbs** on the birth of **Lilyella Ruth**, born on 6 February weighing in at 10 lbs 2 oz. A sister for **James**, **Caleb** and **Annabelle**.

Also to **Naomi** (nee Ash) and **Toby Smith** on the birth of their son, **Rupert Robin** born on 9 February, weighing in at 8 lb 5 oz. **Margaret Owen** (Great Grandma) and **Tricia Ash** (wife of Nick) were proud to show us some photos when they came up for the morning service recently.

In January **Catherine Pope** played for the GB U24 women's Ultimate frisbee team - the world championships were held in Perth (Australia, not Scotland) 7-13 January and while the team didn't do quite as well as they hoped, Catherine played really well and was one of the stars of the team (according to her parents!).

Following the article in the February edition Alan Skinner writes:

My first introduction to the art of bellringing was in the tower of St. Luke's, Bromley Common when there was a general appeal for bell ringers to be trained up to ring in the Millennium. I subsequently spent many hours in learning the art, mainly at Biggin Hill and St. Mary Cray. The following is a poem written by one of the ringers at Biggin Hill:

#### <u>The Bell Tower</u>

Tall and proud I sound aloud, The throng to call to God and all. This music, in your bones you feel, Listen to my joyful peal. Sometimes happy, sometimes sad, sometimes mournful, sometimes glad. My arcane art to the few I do impart. It will take you years and years to learn this Art: Sallies, Hastings Stays, Clappers and Pins – strange and unusual are these things.

Treat me with the respect I deserve For I will be here when you leave this earth. If you are lucky and wish of me I will play a tune for thee. I can welcome you in, or see you out, or see you married, Your precious child to shout. From nine to ninety you can be mine, But only I will stand the test of Time.

Douglas Fisher

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 <u>jackysskinner@gmail.com</u>. Thank you.



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#### **Church Directory**

Dates for Your Diary			
2 Mar	Women's World Day of Prayer at Southborough Baptist Church	2 pm	
3 Mar	St David's Day Meal	6.30 pm	
13 Mar	Trefoil	8.00 pm	
21 Mar	Mothers' Union soup and rolls	11.45 am	

#### **Children and Youth Activities**

Club JC	Helen Baker	07795 007724
Parent and Toddler	Mandy James Helen Scothern	07963 721309 07909 824099

Scouts & Guides			
Joint Group Scout Leaders	Jenny Owens Sandra Goodwin	020 8467 4702 01689 831654	
Beavers' waiting list	Claire Pester	07810 426666	
Brownies	Ruth Higginbottom	n 01689 818104	
Rainbows	Helen Scothern	07909 824099	
Visit the Scout website— <u>www.23rdbromleyscouts.org</u>			
Chu	urch Activitie	s	
Mothers' Union	Christine Sanger	0208 249 7199	
Church Rooms	Liz Carter	020 8467 8155	
The Three Cs	Jacky Skinner	01689 878452	
Roundabout Manager	Lorna Murray	020 8467 0536	
Singing Group (Thursday evenings	Lucy Adcock	020 8467 4535	

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		
6pm Holy Communion	St Luke's 1st Sunday		
6pm Evening Worship	St Luke's every week except 1st Sunday		
6.30pm Holy Communion	St Augustine's 3rd Sunday		
Join us during the week			
Mon - Sat 9.15 am	Morning Prayer (not Wednesdays)		
Wed 11.45 am	Holy Communion		
Tues 10.00 am	The Three Cs		

### Church Staff

Parent and Toddler

Sally's Exercise Class

Vicar (Day Off Saturday)	Rev. Katrina Barnes	020 8467 1351	
Youth & Schools Minister	Helen Baker	07795 007724	
Licensed Lay Minister	Alan Mitchell	07895 070734	
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	Viv Emery	01689 861929	
Treasurer	David Wardley	07952 736491	
P.C.C. Secretary	Mary Plummer	01689 820961	
Children's Officer	Liz Carter	020 8467 8155	
Church Office			
Parish Administrator (		20 8295 1550	
Open : Monday to Friday (except Thursday) 9 00 to 12 30			

Open : Monday to Friday (except Thursday) 9.00 to 12.30

#### 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

Wed 10.00 am

Thurs 10.30 am



7.45pm)