



# roundabout



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

50p

Issue 495 September 2018

## A New Vicar

The Church of England sometimes gets a bad press. Descriptions have included being out of touch, disunited, even irrelevant. But one adjective is entirely appropriate when it comes to appointing a new vicar: democratic.

In the 40 years that I have been a member of St Augustine's, this is the third time that our church community has experienced a vacancy - it used to be called an interregnum. The process leading to the appointment of a new vicar is based on the wishes of those who worship in our church – the workers appoint the boss!

A small team, having consulted congregations on more than one occasion, constructed a Parish Profile: how we see ourselves and like to worship. More consultation followed on the nature and qualities of the person we would like to be our spiritual leader. It is then up to the Diocese of Rochester to start the recruitment process and by matching applicants with our wishes, a short list is compiled. Candidates and their families are invited to attend our services – anonymously if they wish – before they meet with our interview panel. The final choice is ours.

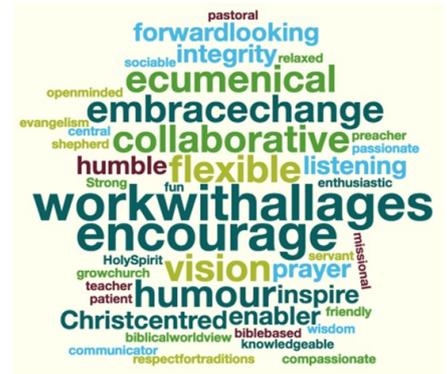
All those who are actively involved in this process need our prayerful support throughout the next few months and we trust in God that whoever He chooses will find us a welcoming, loving community.

Mary Plummer

What is the best thing about St Augustine's with St Luke's



What do we want in our new vicar?



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**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.



## Mothers' Union pilgrimage to Rochester

Every year members of the Mothers' Union celebrate the birthday of their founder, Mary Sumner. In our diocese members meet in Rochester Cathedral for the evening service. Locally members meet to go on a pilgrimage to get there, happily not on foot, and we visit interesting churches on the way.



This year our first stop was at All Saints, Tudely. This is the only church in the world to have all its windows decorated by Marc Chagall. A local landowner commissioned Chagall to design the East window as a memorial to his daughter, Sarah. Aged 21, she died in a sailing accident off Rye. Chagall visited the church for the installation in 1967 and was so impressed with the result he offered to design the rest of the windows as well. They are stunning.

After prayers and coffee we moved to The Friars at Aylesford Priory for lunch in the medieval hall and two short services in the chapels there. There were 70 of us who gathered for the evening service in the cathedral at the end of our day.

Our branch next meets on Wednesday 19 September 2 pm for a showing of the film 'Still Alice'. You are very welcome to join us.

Ann Hanrahan

## Building our link: Visit to Mwaikisabe parish, Tanzania, 12-25 October

Linda Wanniaratchy, David Allan, Ann and Nigel Pope, Valerie and Alan Gorman, Jenny Warrington and Tanya Wardley will attend the Kondoa Diocese synod, along with groups from St Peter's, Pembury and St Andrew's, Paddock Wood. We will then travel to Mwaikisabe to see at first hand progress on the building of the Pastor's house. We have sent out the first tranche of funding for this, which has been generously provided by our congregation.

- ◆ 12 October: arrive Kilimanjaro airport. Drive to Kondoa (6 hour drive we hope as we think it's now all tarmac – 2 years ago it was a 10 hour drive)
- ◆ 14 October: opening of kindergarten in Kondoa. Worship at the Cathedral
- ◆ 18-21 October: travel to Soya and daily visits to nearby Mwaikisabe
- ◆ 22 -23 October: Dar Es Salaam for safari, rest and relaxation
- ◆ 24 October: leave Tanzania for overnight flight home.



We would love to take gifts with us (suggestions below), which can be left at the back of church. Cash can be given to any of those travelling, marked 'Tanzania' who will also advise on gifts if in doubt.



Knitted blankets, baby clothes and small toys, simple wooden toys, bras (in good condition), football shirts for children and deflated footballs (we'll take pumps), tennis balls, flip flops (adults and children), wind up torches and old suitcases. Gifts do not have to be new, but in good condition please.

We are all feeling excited about our trip and most of us also a little apprehensive. Your prayers are very welcome!

Ann and Nigel Pope

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## God is love

***“Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.”***

John 4. 1, 12

When the apostle John was writing his Gospel a couple of thousand years ago, maybe someone asked him, “How can you prove to me that God exists?” People still ask that question.

So, what might be the Christian’s answer? John’s response was first of all to say that he believed that God equals Love. So when we see love in action in the world, when we go about our lives loving one another, then that is proof enough of God. Secondly he points us towards Jesus Christ. God loved humankind so much that he sent his Son, Jesus, to live on earth that we might have eternal life through him. *‘We love because he first loved us.’* John 4. 19



During our 10am Sunday services in September we will be exploring what Christians mean when we say that **God is Love**. We’ll start by looking at the nature of God himself and then go on to consider what Jesus said were the two greatest commandments, **Love God** and **Love your Neighbour**.

If you have ever found it hard to know and accept that God really does love us deep down, even with all our human weaknesses, sadnesses and failures, then make a point of joining us on 9 September when Rev Carol Morrison is speaking on **Accepting God’s Love**. Carol was Rector at Keston church for a number of years and is now Head of the Chaplaincy team at Burrswood Health and Wellbeing, a wonderful centre for medical and spiritual care, near Tunbridge Wells. Could this be the Sunday to invite someone to church who needs to hear about God’s love for the first time?

May God bless you this coming month.

Alan Mitchell  
Licensed Lay Minister

	Theme	Speaker
2 September	God is Love	Jenny Warrington
9 September	Accepting God's Love	Carol Morrison
16 September	Love God	Helen Baker
23 September	Love your Neighbour	Jane Peters

We have a

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## Evelina Children's Hospital, London SE1

The Evelina Hospital for Sick Children was founded in 1869 on Southwark Bridge Road by Baron Ferdinand de Rothschild, whose wife Evelina, had died in premature labour, together with their son. Nearly 80 years later, it became part of the new National Health Service and is now part of the Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Trust. In 2005, a new state of the art hospital was built at St Thomas' enabling the NHS to provide whole-family facilities and accommodation.

Today, the Evelina treats over 55,000 babies and children up to 18, many of whom have complex needs requiring long stays in hospital. It specialises in bowel, heart and neurology needs and provides one in five UK kidney transplants in children in England.

At St Augustine's, many people know Helen Scothern as a leader of Parent and Toddler on Wednesdays mornings and then running Wednesday evening Rainbows. However, her other life is Deputy Ward Sister Helen of the Mountain Surgical Team at Evelina, where for 10 years she has been caring for long stay children with bowel and ENT needs. She also fundraises, as I discovered when I went to visit her to talk about her latest venture.

Mary Plummer

## Helen and 'Ride London' 29 July 2018



Ride London is a 100-mile cycle ride with about 30,000 riders, starting from the Olympic Park, through Surrey and back to the Mall. This is the second time I've done it. I cycle about 40-50 miles with friends every Thursday and we thought we'd give it a go this year. I decided to do it for Evelina.

It's been the only day this whole summer when the winds were at 40 mph and the heavy drizzle was horizontal! It was really slippery with flooded roads and debris and the wind at the top of the hills was quite scary. I couldn't wait to have a shower when I got home, but noticed the next morning my legs still needed a body scrub to wash off the oil from the road!

We were riding from 7.30 until 4.30 – longer than anticipated because a rider had collapsed and died of a heart attack and they had to shut the roads and divert us. I raised nearly £1000.

Helen Scothern

The Evelina website is [www.evelinalondon.nhs.uk](http://www.evelinalondon.nhs.uk)



### Harvest Supper

Saturday 29 September 6.30 for 6.45

Tickets £10.00 from Lynn Morton Tel 020 8467 3887  
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Spiced Lentil Soup with French bread and butter  
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Spiced plum and apple crumble, custard or ice cream



## Diary of a First-Time Mother: We Are All the Same, Yet Slightly Different

Since A Little Girl I Know was really small I have taken her to places that some might think odd or unusual for one so young. You see, to me it is important that she grows up knowing that we are all special and important to God, no matter what. We all have eyes, ears, noses, etc, but the shape, the size and the colour vary from person to person. It would be a strange world if we all looked and acted the same.



Towards the end of the previous term at school, one half of girl twins joined the class of A Little Girl I Know. For the children this was a new experience. They had always thought that twins were always a boy and a girl. There were already two sets like this in their year group. Two girls the same was difficult for some to comprehend. A Little Girl I Know struck up a friendship with one of the girls in her class. She got to see that, although the girls might look the same, they had different mannerisms and habits and often had contrasting ideas on the same subject.

Importantly, A Little Girl I Know understands that people are different and have many different abilities. Each week at St A's we welcome friends from the local day centre for people with needs, to join us for coffee, tea or cake in the Garden Room. Many of them are not as physically able as others, but each in their own individual way brings something special to the times we share together.

You see, we are all the same, but slightly different.

## EQUIPPING GIRLS TO TAKE ON THE WORLD

Girlguiding has undergone the biggest ever overhaul in the charity's history, revamping its iconic badges and activities to create a programme **#EveryGirl**.

The new programme for all girls aged 5-18 was launched on 21 July 2018. Activities are all developed around six themes: Skills for my Future, Have Adventures, Be Well, Know Myself, Express Myself and Take Action.



Interest badges will enable girls to tailor their Girlguiding experience to both expand their knowledge and to try new things. They will carry out three challenges independently before being awarded their badge. Girls can choose from a wide variety of interest badges such as Grow your own, Speaking out, Saver, Digital Design and Construction.



For the all new Skills Builder badges girls will take part in small group activities to develop their skills over six different stages. Each stage builds on the previous one as girls progress through Girlguiding, from Rainbows, Brownies, Guides and on to Rangers. This gives them the chance to take on challenges and develop their skills in camping, leadership and first aid to name a few.

As well as interest badges and skills builders, additional group activities have been specially created for the traditional weekly meetings. They cover topics like DIY, Survival Skills, Exploring Nature, Money Management and 3D Craft and Design and will ensure there's something different on offer each week.

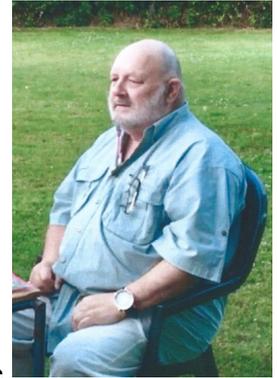


The new programme is being phased in over the next twelve months and will be fully rolled out by September 2019.

Hilary Chittock

## George Collett

On Friday 17 August, over 180 people gathered in Holy Trinity Church to mark the passing of a much loved man of God. The service was very much George, with most of the elements within it chosen by the man himself during several conversations in the weeks leading up to his death on 12 July at St. Christopher's Hospice in Sydenham. George first came to Holy Trinity Church as a seeker after truth. He had experienced an encounter with God whilst working as a chauffeur, driving some American tourists (who happened to be Southern Baptists) around in a Cadillac.



George was no 'Saint' in the sense of being a perfect person (he would be the first to admit that and, indeed, did so in his spiritual journal). He was, however, a 'saint' in the sense of being a disciple of the Lord Jesus who he was always looking to know more and seeking to follow better. Bishop Michael Nazir-Ali proposed him to become the first, and only, person from Rochester Diocese to be trained on the Ordained Local Ministry course run by Canterbury Diocese. It was a great joy for all at Holy Trinity when George, who had been at the centre of its evangelical life, was ordained as Deacon and then as Priest and became the Self Supporting Curate.

When Bromley Welcare vacated Holy Trinity Cottage, which they had been using as offices, George moved into what was to be his home for the next 26 years. His chosen career was as a Funeral Director, first for Francis Chappell's and subsequently for W. Uden & Sons, and he was a man who was faithfully seeking to exercise a ministry among all those he met.

A move came when Ven Paul Wright stepped back from his role as temporary Priest-in-Charge of the parish of St Luke, Bromley Common. George was delighted to be appointed to fulfil that role, whilst remaining Associate Vicar at Holy Trinity. He quickly endeared himself to the congregation at St. Luke's, who soon became used to his eccentricities and his determination to do things in his own way. Holy Trinity, the churches of Bromley and, indeed, the wider world, will miss a local boy who defied the expectations of his peers. In his life, and the impact that he had on those who knew him, he led many to seek to know more about the God who had changed him. "Well done, good and faithful servant."

Rev Roger Bristow

## Charlie Edmondson

We give thanks for the life of Charlie Edmondson. Charlie had a long connection with St. Luke's, during his time he served as Churchwarden and was a faithful supporter of the 5th Bromley Scouts Troop of which his three children were members. Our thoughts and prayers are with wife Val, children, John, Thomas and Ellie, daughter in law Kirstie and grandson Stanley at this time.

A band of bellringers from local churches joined some from St Luke's to ring a quarter peal of Grandsire Triples on 26 July at St Luke's. Quarter peals are rung for various reasons and we dedicated this one to celebrate the lives of George Collett and Charlie Edmondson: former Priest-in-Charge and former Churchwarden at St Luke's respectively. The quarter peal lasted 48 minutes and was rung on the hottest day of the year to date.

Chris Lawrance, Tower Captain

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## Parish People



Our next round of Top of the Pew will be at Hayes Free Church, 111 Pickhurst Lane, BR2 7HU on Sunday 2 September at 8:00pm. Sorry we've got to go away again – but Hayes have also been away.

Liz Carter



**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 28 September. Please come and enjoy a friendly chat and of course home-made cakes. Everyone is welcome.

### *From the Parish Register*

#### **Baptisms**

We welcome into the church family

Francesca Annie ALDERMAN  
Grace Caroline TAYLOR

#### **Funerals**

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

Charles Frederick James  
EDMONDSON  
Joyce Margaret HURRELL  
John William KIRK  
Rev George COLLETT  
Rev Norman TOOLEY

Congratulations to Liz and Alan Carter's daughter, Stephanie and husband Mark, on the birth of their first child, a health 8 lb 8 oz girl: welcome to Phoebe Elizabeth Rose.

## Norman Tooley - As I Knew Him

I first encountered Norman – and his twin brother Geoffrey – at St Augustine's when I was ten and they were a couple of friendly amusing young men twice my age. I got to know the family better when older sister Daphne became our Guide lieutenant. When I joined the choir in 1951 all three were already in it. The boys were active in Scouting, and we were all members of the Senior Austins 18-30s youth group, which also served as St. A's 'marriage bureau' where Daphne and Geoff found their future partners, but Norman somehow escaped being hooked. The boys also took over the running of Bible Class, and became a great help to me as a questioning teenager. We had many long conversations after church, interspersed with a few hair raising tales of theological students when Geoff went off to college in his early twenties.



Senior Austins and choir also became involved in taking Services at Elmwood, a tradition which I carried on when Norman also entered theological college in his mid thirties, having felt himself 'being literally pushed' at Geoff's ordination. Before that he was active with curate Derek Garton in running the younger youth group. Once they hired a minibus and took a group to Lee Abbey – broke down at South Molton and arrived there at 2 am!

After a curacy in Rochester Diocese Norman moved to Liverpool where he trained as Chaplain to the deaf, later moving to West Ham in the same capacity. On retirement he returned home to us, where from his little house in Crown Lane he was a great help to St. A's during the interregnum following Brian Ash's retirement. He also joined my house group for a few years, until he eventually moved into Burrows House on the Penge/Anerley border.

A great talker all his life, especially at telling hilarious stories backed up by sign language, he became strangely quiet in his early nineties, but until a few months ago at least he was still able to play Scrabble sometimes.

Christine Regas

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.

## Church Directory

Dates for Your Diary		
Sept 8	Messy Church	3 - 5 pm
Sept 15	Dad and Kids	9 - 10.30 am
Sept 18	Forget Me Not Cafe	1.30 - 3.30 pm
Sept 19	Mothers' Union Film Bits & Pieces	2 pm 7.45 pm
Sept 29	Harvest Supper	6.30 pm

Children and Youth Activities		
Club JC	Helen Baker	07795 007724
Parent and Toddler	Helen Scothern Mandy James Victoria Bouwer	07909 824099 0796 3721309 07779 009064

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	01689 818104
Rainbows	Helen Scothern	07909 824099
Visit the Scout website— <a href="http://www.23rdbromleyscouts.org">www.23rdbromleyscouts.org</a>		

Church Activities		
Mothers' Union	Linda Wanniaratchy	0776 1853653
Church Rooms	Liz Carter	020 8467 8155
The Three Cs	Jacky Skinner	07812 714803
Roundabout Manager	Lorna Murray	020 8467 0536
Singing Group (Thursday evenings 7.45pm)	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
Wed 10.00 am	Parent and Toddler
Thurs 10.30 am	Sally's Exercise Class

Church Staff		
Vicar (Interregnum)	See Church Office	
Youth & Schools Minister	Helen Baker	07795 007724
Licensed Lay Minister	Alan Mitchell	07985 070734
Ordinand in training	Jenny Warrington	01689 834375
Reader	Kenneth Gill	020 8467 1260
Reader	Brian Kendall	01689 832304
Churchwarden	Pam Poynter	020 8402 9008
Churchwarden	Viv Emery	01689 861929
Treasurer	David Wardley	07952 736491
P.C.C. Secretary	Johanna Gurney	020 8467 9587
Children's Officer	Helen Scothern	07909 824099

Church Office	
Parish Administrator	020 8295 1550
Open : Monday to Friday (except Thursday) 9.00 to 12.30	

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)

## roundabout

OCTOBER 2018

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