

August & September 2016



ST ANDREW'S

NEWSLETTER



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A message from Simon:

Dear Friends,

I am now living in a small cottage whilst work to the Vicarage (called the White House) is progressing and I hope to move in by Christmas and get my belongings out of storage and unpacked. I am adapting well to rural life and enjoying it immensely, though I do miss you all. Thank you for your generous leaving present and to all of you who contributed to it. I am enjoying my bicycle which I bought with the money and will be spending the rest on a garden to remember Jan by. Thank you too to all those who came to my Installation and to those of you who have been in touch with good wishes. You really have been very kind and I thank God for you all and for all your encouragement, love and support.

I hope I will see some of you in Southwick soon.

Love,

Simon

Upcoming Services at St Andrew's:

Sunday 28 August 6.30pm Taize Service

This service is a quiet contemplative service of readings, prayers and chants as adopted by the Taize community in France. The service will be led by Sister Veronica.

Sunday 4 September 10.15am 30 Minutes Service

Sunday 2 October 10.15am 30 Minutes Harvest Service

This is the Harvest Festival service. All produce will be donated to Kingston Churches Action for Homelessness (KCAH) via the Kingston Foodbank – a list of what is urgently needed will be available in church in September



Upcoming Events at St Andrew's Church Hall:

Saturday 1 October 7.00pm Harvest bring and share Supper

A sign-up sheet will be available in church in September

Interregnum News

The Parish Profile is being finalised: thanks to all for their assistance and to Michael Broad for photographs.

Please continue to pray for a replacement for Simon.

Sunday School Barbecue and Sports: 2nd July

Margaret Rees

Would we avoid the terrific showers or be soaked? An indoor programme was in place just in case! On the afternoon of 2 July 32 children and their parents plus about a dozen helpers had a great afternoon in the Vicarage garden. The barbecue, manned by Selwyn Lloyd and Mike Annetts, produced tasty sausages and burgers with various salads made by Sunday School teachers and helpers. Very young children soon understood the idea and joined in with lots of laughter. There were no prizes because everyone was a winner and all had lots of applause. Limbo dancing was very popular in the break with some very amusing contortions as the children attempted to clear the bar. Many thanks to all who helped in any way.

Joy Scurr, who teaches our Bubbles group, asked parents during the afternoon for suggestions as to what we can do to attract more children to Sunday School. Some very interesting and worthwhile ideas were put forward and we shall be taking them on board.

30 Minute Service on 7th August: Olympic Theme *Joanna Horner*

We each received a laurel leaf as we entered the Church and were greeted by the Olympic rings; Geoff Davies in leading the service, explained the meaning of the rings, which represented the five continents when the symbol was first used in 1912. When the congregation was asked about sporting achievements, it was impressive to see how many people had competed at county and national level.

Next - the question: 'What makes an Olympian?'

Raw talent, practice, technique, fitness and the will to win were all listed with a picture representing each (with Chris Ruse doing a very nifty job dashing up and down the ladder). With hymns and readings, Geoff led us on the Christian message, how each symbol can illustrate the striving of the Christian life towards Jesus who has already won the Crown for us. The readings, presented as a 'team effort' by the choir, all had a theme of fitness and sport. 1 Timothy 4: 8-10, Isaiah 40: 28-31, 1 Corinthians 9: 24-27 Hebrews 12: 1-2, Ecclesiastes 9: 11- each worth a refreshing visit during the Olympics.

We closed with a lovely prayer read by graham, and a reminder that we are all members of the back-up team!

Selwyn and Mike manning the BBQ



Special thanks to Selwyn who has worked so hard since Simon left keeping the grass short so we can use the garden.

Sunday School Children and Friends enjoying themselves.



Geoff, third from left, failed to mention his own rugby sporting achievements being capped twice for Wales at the 30 min service.....



Visit of Ham United Group to St Andrew's *Geoff Davies*

On the evening of Tuesday 28th June Richard Woolf and Geoff Davies hosted a visit by Ham United Group (HUG) to Saint Andrew's. Ham United Group are a local non-political community group who seek to improve and enhance the environment and the quality of life for the community in Ham and Petersham. Their visit was part of an evening focussing on five places of worship in Ham and Petersham- which includes Saint Peter's, Saint Michael's Convent chapel, Ham Evangelical church and Saint Richard's. After a brief introduction from Geoff about our place within the Church of England's spectrum of styles of worship and the different services we offer, Richard concentrated on the building and its contents.

The group were told that the first part of the church to be built, the nave (1830-31), was designed by Edward Lapidge, the county surveyor at the time, who also designed the current Kingston Bridge. The South Aisle was added in 1860 to a design by Hugh Ray Easton and later, in 1900-01, the chancel was built by Bodley and Garner.

Richard then discussed the chancel, children's corner and the new West End development in greater (and quite fascinating) detail. Incidentally, the Children's Corner is dedicated to the paediatrician and author Sir Hugh Jolly and one of the HUG members present worked in the same department at Charing Cross hospital he did and was able to tell us a little about this extremely hard working man. The HUG members were very appreciative of Richard's talk. We hope that he could be persuaded to do a repeat performance of his tour for church members.

Saint's Day, 31 August, St Aidan *Sister Veronica*

Aidan was an Irish monk who restored Christianity in the war ravaged kingdom of Northumbria early in the seventh century. In the year 631 pagan invaders wrecked all the churches in this kingdom: Aidan having been consecrated Bishop, established a monastery on an island called Lindisfarne. As the Venerable Bede later said of him: "Aidan used to travel everywhere on foot.....in order that, as he walked along, whenever he saw people, whether rich or poor, he might at once approach them and, if they were unbelievers, invite them to accept the mystery of the faith; or, if they were believers, that he might strengthen them in the faith, urging them by word and deed to practise almsgiving and good works." As he journeyed, Aidan founded monasteries and saw to the building of churches, taught people how to use the Scriptures to strengthen their faith and obtained freedom for children were held as slaves. After 10 years of missionwork, Aidan retired from Lindisfarne to a much smaller island nearby and gave himself entirely to prayer and contemplation, dying there in 651.

