

Diocesan Secretary retires

Farewell to Ruth Martin
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Bubble Church

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Windrush 75: honouring a legacy

On Thursday 22 June 2023, people from across the UK and the Caribbean joined together to mark the 75th anniversary of the arrival of MV Empire Windrush at Tilbury Docks. Between 1948 and 1970, hundreds of Caribbean men and women arrived in the UK in response to an invitation after the Second World War, joining together to restore the nation. Many made immeasurable contributions, shaping cultural landscape of Britain.

Prior to the National service of thanksgiving at Southwark Cathedral, The Rt Revd Dr Rosemarie Mallett, Bishop of Croydon, said: "This anniversary offers a unique moment in the life of our nation when we can honour the legacy of the Windrush Generation and hear how younger voices are building on their extraordinary heritage. We will be celebrating their achievements and expressing our deep gratitude – as well as acknowledging the struggles that they have faced."

In this edition we look back at some of the events that took place across the Diocese, from a special walk of witness to the thanksgiving service at Southwark Cathedral as well as tributes from our Diocesan family of schools, including a visit to Windsor Castle.



Children from Cathedral School of St Saviour and St Mary Overie hold a floral anchor, adorned with flags from the Caribbean Island nations to symbolise those who travelled to the UK.

Continued on pages 12 & 13 ►



Farewell to the Dean of Southwark

Large numbers gathered in Southwark Cathedral on Saturday 1 July to give thanks for the ministry of the Very Revd Andrew Nunn on his retirement as Dean of Southwark.

Welcoming the congregation, the Bishop of Southwark, the Rt Revd Christopher Chessun, said that Choral Evensong was

an important part of the daily pattern of cathedral worship and today additionally "an opportunity for us to express our love and gratitude to the Dean of Southwark, Andrew Nunn..."

Andrew was made Acting Dean by Bishop Christopher following the death of the Very Revd Colin Slee in November 2010 and was installed as Dean on the Feast of

St Agnes, 21 January 2012. He joined the Cathedral in September 1999 as Sub Dean and Precentor – serving the Cathedral for 24 years. He served as a member of the General Synod of the Church of England and on its Panel of Chairs. Dean Andrew's retirement coincided with the 40th anniversary of his ordination as Deacon.

Continued on page 3 ►

A view from The BRIDGE



As Christians, we can all see how it is that the Christian life is a journey of high points and low points – ‘mountain top’ experiences – and ditches too. We journey along as we learn about ourselves and others and as we seek to be Christ centred so that we can be outward focused.

This bumper issue of *The Bridge* has a number of examples of the milestones in the witness of brothers and sisters in Christ on their journey. In this issue, you will see that the Dean of Southwark, Andrew Nunn, is retiring – and not only retiring, but celebrating the milestone of having served the church 40 years as a Deacon, as of Monday, 3 July. Bishop Christopher also shares that significant milestone of 40 years of explicit witness and commitment to God through following Jesus. And we know in our parishes there are also many of our lay brothers and sisters who will be able to look back and thank God – for the privilege of 40 years – or even more service.

Those of us who have received God's grace in a long discipleship journey also know that our Lord reminded us (lest we become rather proud) that the last shall be first and the first last. Welcoming new members to faith, and new members of our churches at whatever age is a joy and builds up the kingdom.

For our ordained colleagues in this issue we also see those who have marked a milestone by becoming Deacons and those marking a milestone by becoming Priests.

All of us who are reading *The Bridge* in this 'Petertide' season recognise that the way in which God calls us and the way in which we respond – the time of life at which we might respond – gladly and purposefully – is going to be different for each and every one of us. In September we will be celebrating all those who have completed the Bishop's Certificate and in October we will have the licensing and commissioning service for lay ministers. The open encouragement, love and affirmation of all those willing to say 'Yes' to serving God in this Diocese has been the joy of my role as your Diocesan Secretary, and I thank God for it. I pray that we continue to celebrate all that we have in common as disciples following Jesus on the road and that this strengthens us for the inevitable challenges ahead.

Ruth Martin

NEWS IN BRIEF

More than £28,000 raised in Bishop's Lent Call

Each year, the Bishop's Lent Call raises funds for local community projects in Southwark and our Link Dioceses in Zimbabwe and Jerusalem. This year's theme is "mental health and well-being", and since the season of Lent we have been featuring projects that help with access to support and facilities to help people cope with stress and mental illness caused by the modern world. Thank you to those who have been able to give generously. Your donations will go towards the projects we have chosen this year, and at the time of publication the total amount of £28,391 has been raised so far.

For this year's projects, resources and how to donate visit: <https://bit.ly/40CqYkT>.

New Assistant Director at SDBE

Pia Longman has been appointed as the new Assistant Director at The Southwark Diocesan Board of Education (SDBE). Pia is currently Executive Headteacher across three Southwark CofE schools, Peter Hills in Rotherhithe, St Jude's in Southwark and St Peter's, Walworth. Prior to headship, Pia worked in senior leadership roles in Diocesan schools in Lambeth and Greenwich and since the beginning of the year, was seconded to the SDBE to support the work being done to manage surplus pupil places. Pia joins the team full-time in September.

Roz Cordner, Director at SDBE said, "Pia brings a fresh insight to the role which I know will enhance our engagement with schools. I am grateful to the school leaders at the three schools for their support during the secondment, which is enabling a smooth transition into the post. Please hold Pia in your prayers as she leaves the school communities that she has drawn together into a unique, successful partnership and prepares to join us here in Union Street. There is a lot to do as the Board responds to the changing landscape and Pia's appointment will be an important part in building capacity to serve our schools effectively."

Generosity Week 2023

Generosity Week is a chance for churches to celebrate God's generosity, and to consider their own generous response. This year, the week is running from Sunday 24 September to Sunday 1 October, but we're called to be generous all year round, so feel free to choose your own week! With resources for two Sunday services, themed around generosity and gratitude, fun daily challenges, and children's and young people's activities, there's plenty to get a church inspired.

Southwark's Giving Team – Gabby, Hannah and Jenny – want to help churches grow in confidence in talking about money. Gabby said, "Giving generously is a natural part of the Christian life, and our grateful response to a generous God. Sometimes churches feel awkward about 'money talk', but Jesus certainly wasn't shy about it. Generosity Week can provide a helpful nudge to open up conversations."

If you would like to hold a Generosity Week, want more information or need any advice on giving visit: tinyurl.com/2vz6nr64

Head of IT retires

Farewell to Mark Charlton, Director of IT and Data, who has retired from the Diocese after 27 years of faithful service. Mark has been succeeded by Devas (Dev) Palokkaran, who has joined us from the City of London Corporation and we are pleased to welcome him to Trinity House.

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Next Issue: Submission deadline and guidance

The SEPTEMBER edition is due to be published online and in print on 1 September 2023. Material for that edition must be with Vernia Mengot by email by **MONDAY 7 AUGUST**.

Space limitations mean that we cannot guarantee to publish everything we receive and material may be edited. All photographs submitted for publication are assumed to have the necessary permission for printing. Please ensure that people are happy for their photographs to be submitted before you do so. Forms for permission for the use of photographs of children (Form 10) and adults who may be vulnerable (Form 11) can be found at southwark.anglican.org/safeguarding/diocesan-policies-procedures

Paying tribute to Dean Andrew and Ruth Martin

◀ Continued from page 1

This summer two key figures in the life of the Diocese are stepping down.

The Very Revd Andrew Nunn has served in many roles including, Foundation Governor of St Saviour's & St Olave's Girls' School in Southwark, Chaplain to the Worshipful Company of Launderers, the Worshipful Company of Innholders and the Whitsters Club. He was Rector General of the Society of Catholic Priests until October 2017.

To mark Dean Andrew's retirement, the Cathedral Choir commissioned, by generous donation of The Friends of Southwark Cathedral, a new set of canticles written by Nico Muhly. The 'Southwark Service' was sung for the first time at the special Choral Evensong.

During his farewell sermon, Dean Andrew told the congregation about two phone calls that changed his life and bought him to Camden, New Jersey, in the United States and then to Southwark. He reminded the congregation that God calls us by name and knows us and nothing will separate us from God's love, "The lesson my friends, is always answer the phone – angels can be on the other end. Two calls, two massive life changes. The opportunity to work in the States and in doing so to gain what I can only describe as a second family. And the opportunity to move to the Diocese of Southwark and to end up in this wonderful place and this incredible role."

Paying tribute to Dean Andrew, Bishop Christopher said, "It is difficult to express how much we owe to Andrew for his service as Dean, Sub-Dean, Chaplain to Bishop Roy Williamson and Bishop Tom Butler. Andrew has been a key part in the life of this Diocese since 1995. We have all been blessed by his preaching, pastoral care and wisdom."

Bishop Christopher's tribute was followed by words from Deputy Lord Lieutenant, Colonel Simon Duckworth, on behalf of the Crown, Councillor Barrie Hargrove on behalf of the Mayor of Southwark and the civic community across Southwark, Borough and Bankside and Sub-Dean Revd Canon Michael Rawson on behalf of the Cathedral community.

In recognition for Dean Andrew's service, Bishop Christopher made him Dean Emeritus of Southwark with Permission to Officiate.

Expressing well wishes after the service Canon Michael Rawson said, "Andrew is a much loved and respected Dean who has made an extraordinary contribution to the life of the Cathedral and leaves a lasting legacy for others to build on. He has been an exemplary leader during two terror attacks and the pandemic. From

day one of the first lockdown Andrew began live streaming worship from the Deanery and this was a lifeline to so many during unsettling and challenging times. We have been blessed in having a Dean who embraces prayer and worship at the heart of his life and has a passion for building relationships and caring for others with gentleness, humility and humour. His accessible blogs and writings have helped us all to enter deep into the mystery of God. After a long and cherished ministry of service to others we pray that Andrew may now enjoy a well deserved and fruitful retirement. He will be hugely missed by all his friends and colleagues in Southwark and we wish him Godspeed for the future."

If you missed the Choral Evensong and farewell you can watch online here:
bit.ly/3XE192z

This summer we also say goodbye to Ruth Martin, Diocesan Secretary who is retiring after being in post for more than eight years.

As Diocesan Secretary, Ruth is the Chief Executive of the Diocesan Board of Finance, Secretary to the governance of the Diocese through Diocesan Synod and also the Chief Operating Officer.

Ruth is a Lay Canon at Southwark Cathedral, Licensed Reader in the Richmond Team Ministry and also supports ministry at Christ Church Clapham.

The Revd Canon Wilma Roest Rector, Richmond Team Ministry said, "Ruth has been a Reader in the Richmond Team since 2012 but has worshipped here for many more years. Ruth always reminds us that she is a Christian first, a Reader second and then a Diocesan Secretary. Her rootedness in faith is clear from all that she does and in the sermons she preaches. We all know that being Diocesan Secretary has been a very busy and demanding role, yet Ruth has still been able to preach in the churches in the Team and to walk the streets of Richmond as Street Pastor."

At Diocesan Synod Bishop Christopher expressed thanks to Ruth for her exemplary service as Diocesan Secretary and for working closely with him as well



Left: Dean Andrew is installed as the 10th Dean of Southwark. Right: With her late Majesty The Queen at Southwark Cathedral to see the Diamond Jubilee window being installed to mark the 60th year of her reign. Below: Bishop Christopher blesses Dean Andrew, making him Dean Emeritus of Southwark with Permission to Officiate.



© William Horne

as Archdeacons, other colleagues, and parishes across the Diocese though some very challenging years. He has asked Ruth to stay on part time for two years as Bishop's Lead for Strategic Development including Property Strategy, which will give continuity as the Diocese continues to emerge from the pandemic and recover.

Bishop Christopher said, "Ruth has played a very significant part in the life of our Diocese over the past eight years. Under her insightful leadership, we have implemented a much more robust and accountable system of governance undergirded by financial stability which helped us to navigate through the pandemic without being forced to reduce the number of stipendiary clergy. Ruth is a person of deep heartfelt faith and

tremendous dedication. I am delighted that she will continue to play a role as Bishop's lead for Strategic Development as we seek to build God's kingdom in this place."

Ruth will also lead the retreat for those who are being commissioned and licensed for various lay ministries in the autumn.

Ruth will be succeeded in September by Nicola Thomas, who is currently the Diocese of Southwark's Head of Justice, Peace & Integrity of Creation.

A Thanksgiving Service of Choral Evensong, followed by an informal reception for Ruth will be held on Thursday 14 September at 5.30pm at Southwark Cathedral. If you would like to attend, please email Charles Hudson-Beddows at Charles.Hudson-Beddows@southwark.anglican.org



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L-R: Ruth at Diocesan Synod; with Bishop Christopher at the Cathedral; and robed (as Honorary Lay Canon) for a Deacons' ordination service.



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NEWS FROM OUR PARISHES



Funding success for local community projects

Local churches awarded money in a five-year grant through the Reaching Communities Fund



Local people come together at the Front Room Club, St Luke, Downham.

St Luke, Downham

The Front Room Club based at St Luke, Downham has received £310,005 from The National Lottery Community Fund.

The Front Room Club is a cafe-style drop in for those who are experiencing or at risk of social isolation and provides a welcoming, supportive and social space for local people. The club offers medical assistance from a nurse, a pain management service, as well as a support and advice service. Many who visit can also get help with practical skills and IT support. In the last quarter, the club welcomed 130 guests.

The team have seen an increased need for support in the community due to the cost-of-living crisis, but without funding, the club would have had to drastically reduce its services or close entirely. Now, thanks to funding from *The National Lottery Community Fund*, the club can continue to run for the next five years and welcome more members of the community.

This grant from *The National Lottery Community Fund* supplements generous donations from a crowdfunding campaign, match funded by Co-op, and the support of existing funding partners

including The Bishop of Southwark's Lent Appeal, Lewisham Council and The Charity of Sir Richard Whittington to secure and expand the project.

St Luke, Downham is in the top 10% of poorest communities in the UK. Lucie Walsh, who volunteers at the club said, "We really get to know our group members, visiting when they are in hospital and making sure they feel a true sense of belonging. Every one of our members is unique and valuable. We make sure everyone has the opportunity to imagine a better life for themselves and to achieve for themselves."

Janet Daby MP for Lewisham East said: "The Front Room Club has always been a beacon of light in Downham but now it can shine that bit more brightly!"

Helen Bushell, Head of Regional Funding for London, the South East and East of England at *The National Lottery Community Fund*, said, "Thanks to National Lottery players, we're delighted to help the Front Room Club continue its vital services to the community."

St Francis, Selsdon

St Francis, Selsdon has been awarded £223,111 from The National Lottery Community Fund.

Funding will go towards community work supporting current projects such as their Food Stop shop, Place of Welcome coffee morning and future community events.

The funding will also support new initiatives at the church including a Men's Shed – which aims to engage hard-to-reach men. It provides emotional support and assistance, whilst giving an opportunity to make small repairs to household items in a fully equipped shed. Cooking classes and a 'Grow Your Own' vegetable garden will also be supported through these funds.

Revd Peter Wyatt, Minister in Charge said, "I am exceptionally grateful to my staff and team of dedicated volunteers, and of course to the National Lottery who have exhibited great faith in us once again."

To celebrate, a summer BBQ will held on 29 July 2023 from 12–4pm. Contact: stfrancisselsdon@gmail.com

More information

Information about *The National Lottery Community Fund* can be found here: tnlcommunityfund.org.uk/



Casting and dedication of the bells at Holy Trinity, Roehampton

Built in 1898, Holy Trinity Roehampton, has a bell chamber and a ringing chamber beneath the justly famous steeple. But for 125 years, the only bells were a little one set up for tolling, and an enormous tenor bell of indifferent tone.

When the tower was built, an 'I' beam and two trapdoors were positioned to make it easy to get the bells in and out. But the work didn't stop there and in its 125th anniversary year, the church community came together to restore the bells in the chamber.

Revd Joshua Rey, Vicar at Holy Trinity Roehampton writes:

It started with Charlotte Kirwan, Deputy Organist, insisting the church should have bells in the tower. Bob Cooles, a neighbour and Diocesan Bells Adviser, concurred. Andrew Wilby, Chairman of Taylor's Bell Foundry said the same, and added that as a boy he had attended the Church school. Excitement grew. Word spread through the bell-ringing grapevine and a committee formed itself – individuals and families agreed to sponsor bells, grants were forthcoming and we also received a very generous donation.

The Keltek Trust offered four bells from Prinknash Abbey, one of which used to hang at Caldey, where I have a long standing connection.

Four new bells were cast, and all eight were blessed by Bishop Christopher at the 125th Patronal Festival on Sunday 4 June. Several members of the congregation, with neighbours from the wider community, have already started learning to ring at All Saints, Wandsworth. This month, the bells will be installed.

I'm so grateful to everyone who has given energy, expertise and money to make this happen. These many good coincidences start to look like more than coincidence. So, we give thanks to almighty God and pray he uses these bells for the good of his church.



Clockwise from top left: Revd Joshua Rey, vicar of Holy Trinity, beneath the old tenor bell; Bishop Christopher anoints one of the new bells; Casting the bells; and All Saints, Roehampton.



A new centre for St Patrick, Wallington

At the end of last year St Patrick, Wallington opened the doors to its new centre.

Funded by donations from the church family, the sale of a property owned by the church and grants from several trusts, the aim of the building project was to replace the old church hall, create more rooms, provide step free access to the church and fit a new kitchen, as well as 17 toilets and more attractive social spaces.

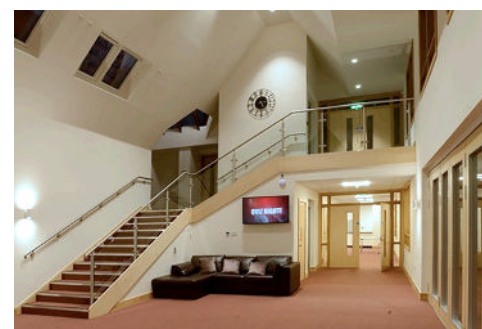
Talking about the success of the new centre for the church and community groups, Revd David King, Vicar at

St Patrick said, "I am very grateful to the Lord for his grace to us during the nine-year project, during which we faced COVID, the closing of the Suez Canal and various planning challenges. The new centre provides a great opportunity to proclaim the Gospel to our local community and beyond. We are still in the early stages of using the building to its full potential, but already our weekly lunch club is thriving and our daily drop in for refreshments, in our Woodcote Lounge area, will be opening in June. Our prayer is that the Lord will use the centre to bring more and more people to come to know and love Jesus."

If you are considering a building project and want to find out more about St Patrick's experience, contact: office@stpats.org.uk



The new centre transformed.



Left: PCC Secretaries in action. Right: Jackie Pontin, addressing delegates.

PCC Secretaries conference

On Saturday 10 June a PCC Secretaries conference took place at St Peter, Battersea.

Exploring good governance and key responsibilities, there were sessions led by Bishop Christopher, Archdeacon Simon Gates, Jackie Pontin, Gabby Parikh, Anna Drew (Communications Director),

Jack Edwards (regarding Carbon Net Zero and the Environment) and David Loft (Director of HR).

The conference was also an opportunity to pray together and give thanks for their crucial role in ministry.



IN FOCUS...

Bubble Church family ministry

Puppet-packed fun at Bubble Church

Keli Bolton, Bubble Church Mission Enabler, writes:

Bubble Church is a Sunday church service especially for little ones and their families to worship together. It's a puppet-packed, Jesus-centred, coffee-and-croissant-fuelled, 30-minute kids and families adventure!

Three things Bubble Church does:

- Grows a congregation that includes unchurched and dechurched families
- Develops and encourages giving, helping and praying
- Disciples families on their faith journey

Ascension Balham started Bubble Church as a response to families needing to 'stay in their bubble' during COVID and we have seen family attendance rise to well over 100 since then. Many of these families would not normally have attended church but love being involved together. Many of the new families have started attending our 10.30am service and we started a mid-week bible study group for them too.

Families are encouraged to get involved in Bubble Church life through giving, helping and praying. Very young children through to teenagers and adults help in the different roles at Bubble Church, with children also helping to lead the service.



One of our children, aged 8 who helps to lead services said:

"Bubble Church is different to other churches because most churches don't really have puppets and things, usually they don't have a kids service, you just stay for a bit of the normal service then you go into a group. But with Bubble Church you can stay in and there are things you can do. Children don't usually get to lead. You just sit down in most churches but you can do action songs in Bubble Churches."



"Bubble Church is different to other churches... it's a kids service... and children get to lead."

With the help of Innovation Funding from the national Church, we are beginning to take Bubble Church beyond Balham. We have four other Bubble Churches across London and Southwark Diocese and one said,

"Bubble Church is absolutely the best thing I've ever been involved in. We have new families coming to church and the kids all love it! We keep being asked to run it every Sunday!"

There's such a buzz around Bubble Church, it's fun and easy to run and we feel well supported."



"Bubble Church is absolutely the best thing I've ever been involved in. We have new families coming to church and the kids all love it! We keep being asked to run it every Sunday! There's such a buzz around Bubble Church, it's fun and easy to run and we feel well supported."



Left: Bubble Church at The Ascension Balham. Right: Keli Bolton, Bubble Church Mission Enabler.

More information

If your church is interested in joining the funded pilot to start your own Bubble Church, please visit: bubblechurch.org/run

Time to get away from it all

International Christian charity, Mothers' Union (MU), has a membership of 4 million women and men who strengthen and support family life. Through prayers, campaigning for social justice and practical action in 83 countries across the world, well over 500,000 people benefit from programmes run by MU volunteer members each year.

For over 50 years Mothers' Union across Britain and Ireland have been providing Away From It All (AFIA) breaks for families who are going through stressful times. AFIA provides families with the space to create positive memories together, to build relationships and

strengthen their family bonds. In this edition, Susan Gibbin, Fundraising and Communications Lead tells us about support for families through AFIA over the past year.

Susan writes:

In 2022 the Southwark MU supported a total of 84 people (38 adults and 46 children) at an average £650 for a four-night break. These families were provided with holidays at venues along the south coast; in bed and breakfast hotels and at holiday or caravan parks and at Butlins. Some of these trips were for a week, others for four nights and on one occasion 12 children and 12 adults from a local women's refuge were able to enjoy a day trip to Butlins at Bognor Regis.

We have supported many who are experiencing bereavements as well as those with complex family problems and disabilities. Families don't have to be a church member. Self-referrals or referrals on behalf of others are welcome too, with support from a member of the clergy, doctor, headteacher or social worker.

These services are all made possible from the generous donations from members and friends.

If you would like to help fund our project or know someone who could benefit, please contact our AFIA representative: Sally Steele email: afia.southwarkmu@gmail.com

Mothers' UNION
Christian care for families



Away from it all

Students engage with history and heritage at Southwark Cathedral Learning Centre

Southwark Cathedral Learning Centre is now taking bookings for school visits in the new academic year.

Offering a range of curriculum-linked sessions, school students can engage with the history and heritage of the Cathedral and its modern-day mission.

Students can role-play life as a monk, go on a pilgrimage, explore key symbolism in the Christian faith, and put some of our Cathedral clergy in the hot seat through a facilitated Q&A session. The centre also offers creative, hands-on workshops from candle-making to playful puppets.

School visits

Any schools interested in visiting can contact edcentre@southwark.anglican.org or for more information visit: tinyurl.com/3nxcsf24

Volunteer

If this sounds like something you or anyone you know might like to get involved with, Southwark Cathedral Learning Centre are always looking for volunteers to support work with schools, families and young people. Details from: edcentre@southwark.anglican.org



Hope, unity and compassion: six years on from the London Bridge and Borough Market attacks

Saturday 3 June marked the sixth anniversary of the London Bridge and Borough Market attacks, where eight people were killed, 48 injured and hundreds traumatised, leaving the community devastated.

Bishop Christopher and Dean Andrew led a Eucharist service at Southwark Cathedral, an opportunity to reflect on the attacks in 2017 and say prayers at the olive tree, originally planted on the 1st anniversary of the attacks to symbolise healing.



Bishop Christopher was joined by the victim's families as well as civic and political representatives.

A gathering, organised by *Living Bankside*, at the memorial plaque on London Bridge followed the service, and the wider community, families and loved ones came together to remember and pay respect to those killed and injured in the attack. Here a collective commitment was made to continue to promote the values of hope, unity and compassion. Flowers were also laid at the plaque by the victims' families, joined by civic and political representatives, Southwark Council and Amir Eden, Executive Chairman on behalf of *Living Bankside*.

Amir, who was a first-hand witness of the attacks and a Borough Market resident said, "Six years on from the London Bridge attacks and we continue to remember those who were killed, injured and traumatised. As a community, we continue to hold onto and commit to the values of hope over fear, compassion over hatred and unity over division."

"The light shone on that dark night and it continues to shine brightly, resembling the love and kindness which exists in our neighbourhood."

Top tips to get you started with the *Energy Footprint Tool*

We are excited to draw your attention to The Energy Footprint Tool (EFT).

This is a user-friendly resource that allows your church to understand its carbon footprint based on the energy used to heat and light your buildings. We have some top tips to get you started on using this valuable tool.

1 Accessing the EFT

The EFT is conveniently available on the Online Parish Returns System. This system utilises the information we already have about your church, making it easy to populate your answers. All you need to do is provide a small amount of additional information. To access the tool, simply log in to the Online Parish Returns System. This is the same system used for the financial returns and mission statistics so someone on your PCC should already have access.

2 Gather your utility bills

To accurately calculate your church's carbon footprint, you will need your electricity and gas/oil bills for the year. If you are completing the tool in 2023, make sure you have your 2022 bills at hand. Additionally, if your church has solar panels, gather information on their energy generation over the preceding year. Having these bills ready will ensure accurate calculations.

3 The tool will remain open until 31 August 2023

Please make sure you submit your information before the closing date. This ensures that as many parishes as possible contribute to the national picture of our baseline and progress towards becoming net zero carbon by 2035. Visit the online parish return system at: tinyurl.com/4jwerw49

4 The EFT measures...

The amount of carbon produced annually by heating and lighting your church buildings. It also provides two useful graphs that show your efficiency scores based on building size and attendance. If your church has separate buildings, such as church halls, ensure you have the utility bills for them as well. The EFT takes all these factors into account to give you accurate energy efficiency measures.

5 Help and resources to guide you through the EFT process

The national Church has provided an instruction sheet and a demo video on how to calculate your carbon footprint. To find these resources see information box below or Google 'energy footprint tool Church of England'. Don't hesitate to reach out to Jack Edwards, Diocesan Environment Officer if you have any questions or need further assistance.

Using the EFT is an important step for your church to contribute to the Church of England's goal of achieving net zero carbon. By understanding your carbon footprint, you can make informed decisions and take meaningful actions to reduce your energy consumption and environmental impact.

Let's work together to safeguard God's creation and create a just world.

More information

CofE Energy Foot print Tool:
tinyurl.com/44fns247

Contact Jack Edwards, Diocesan Environment Officer: jack.edwards@southwark.anglican.org

An evening of welcome for newly elected Mayors across Southwark

Last month, Bishop Christopher welcomed newly elected Mayors from across Southwark – including The Mayor of the London Borough of Southwark 2023–24 and Councillor Michael Situ (pictured fourth left from Bishop Christopher) – to an evening at Bishop's House.





IN FOCUS...

Vocations

Meet Southwark's brand new Revs...



Newly ordained Deacons in the Diocese of Southwark.

On Saturday 24 June the Bishop of Southwark, The Rt Revd Christopher Chessun, ordained 20 new Deacons to serve in the Diocese in a special service at Southwark Cathedral.

The new deacons come from a rich variety of backgrounds and experiences and include a former airline pilot, an accountant, academics and solicitors, consultants and teachers. Some will serve in stipended clergy roles, while others will be self-supporting curates, training for ministry alongside other roles and professions.

Speaking ahead of the ordinations, Bishop Christopher said, "Each one of our brothers and sisters to be ordained, God willing, Deacon at Petertide, has been on a journey of faith and discernment that has led them to this day. The Church has now discerned God's call on their lives

and their ordination as Deacons will be a moment of great joy – both for them and their families as well as for the Church and the parishes where they will serve. The Bishops of Woolwich, Croydon and Kingston join me in welcoming each of them to the Diocese. They bring diverse gifts and I commend them and their parishes to your prayers as they continue to learn, to grow and experience all that God has in store for them."

Dean of Southwark, Revd Andrew Nunn, led the ordinands' retreat and preached at the ordination service. He urged the new deacons to "Go out – and find the old and the young, the rich and the poor, the women and the men, the gay and the straight, the black and the white. Find them in all their rich and lovely diversity. And tell them that they are loved, and that it is Jesus who loves them, and that the Church loves them – because,



"Each one of our brothers and sisters to be ordained has been on a journey of faith and discernment... they bring diverse gifts to their parishes."

with all your failings and frailties and vulnerabilities, you know that you are loved."

Ordained Deacons

Croydon Area

Kerry Jane Evans
Horley Team Ministry

Jonathan (Jon) Fox
All Saints with St Margaret,
Upper Norwood

Ian Nott
The Good Shepherd, Carshalton Beeches

Joshua Pollard
St Alban the Martyr, South Norwood

Kingston Area

Gillian (Gilly) Bailey-Smith
St James, Clapham

Dr Giacomo (Jack) Belloli
St Paul, Wandsworth (Wimbledon Park)

Grey Collier
St John with St Andrew, Waterloo

Sarah Cornick
St Thomas with St Stephen, Telford Park

Sarah Curl
St Margaret, Putney

Jonathan (Jonny) Fitter
St Michael & All Angels with St Stephen,
Wandsworth

Natalie Jones
St Peter, Norbiton

Dr Matthew Linfoot
All Saints, Tooting

Alex Mutyaba
St Mark, Kennington

Dr Hannah Swithinbank
St Philip and All Saints with St Luke, Kew
(United Benefice)

Sarah Williams
All Saints, Kingston upon Thames

Woolwich Area

Andrew (Andy) Blacknell
Herne Hill

Christopher (Chris) Henriette
The Good Shepherd with St Peter, Lee

Ejovwokoghene (Ivan) Ibuno
St Phillip and St Mark, Camberwell

Dominic (Dom) Toms
St James, Kidbrooke

Peter Welby
St Mary Magdalen with St Olave, St John
and St Luke, Bermondsey



Bishop Christopher hosted a garden party reception at Bishop's House for this year's Ordinands.

Explore your call...

Find out more at:
tinyurl.com/4zxdnv8e



Priests ordained

Seventeen people were ordained to the priesthood in Southwark Diocese on Saturday 1 July, having served as a deacon during the past year. They will each serve their curacy in the parish indicated.

Croydon Area

The following were ordained Priest by the Bishop of Croydon, the Rt Revd Dr Rosemarie Mallett, at Holy Trinity, Redhill. Bishop Rosemarie was joined by the Venerable Moira Astin, Archdeacon of Reigate; the Venerable Gregory Prior, Archdeacon of Croydon and the Revd Canon Jeremy Clark-King, Director for Clergy Formation and DDO, who preached.

Molly (Mo) Budd

St Mary the Blessed Virgin, Addington

Robert (Rob) Hindmarch

St John the Divine, Felbridge

Sarah-Louise Schofield

Holy Trinity, Redhill

Melissa (Mel) Wynn

Springfield Church, Wallington



Kingston Area

The following were ordained Priest by the Bishop of Kingston, the Rt Revd Dr Martin Gainsborough, at All Saints, Kingston upon Thames. Bishop Martin was joined by the Venerable Simon Gates, Archdeacon of Lambeth; the Venerable John Kiddle, Archdeacon of Wandsworth, and the Revd Dr Sharon Moughtin, who preached.

Georgia Ashwell

St John with St Andrew, Waterloo

Jennifer (Jen) Houghton

St Andrew, Ham

Stephen Jullien

Christ Church, Brixton Road, to serve also at Holy Trinity with St Matthew, Southwark

Sam Parker

St Mary Magdalene, Wandsworth Common

Janice Price

St Andrew & St Mark, Surbiton

Felix Stevenson

Holy Trinity, Clapham

Edward (Ed) Veale

Holy Trinity, Clapham

Benjamin (Ben) Vertannes

St Peter, Streatham



Anne (Annie) Wanjohi

St John the Divine with St James the Apostle, Kennington

Claire Whitmore

Holy Trinity, Roehampton

Woolwich Area

The following were ordained Priest by the Bishop of Southwark, the Rt Revd Christopher Chessun, at St Luke, Camberwell. Bishop Christopher was joined by the Rt Revd Dr Karowei Dorgu, Bishop of Woolwich; the Venerable Alastair Cutting, Archdeacon of Lewisham & Greenwich; the Venerable Jonathan Sedgwick, Archdeacon of Southwark and the Revd Patrick Eggleston, who preached.

Dr Tatiana Gutteridge-Kalveks

St Alfege, Greenwich

Dr Joanna (Jo) Lewis Burgess

St Luke, Camberwell

Joel Soares

St Peter, Brockley



NEWS FROM OUR PARISHES

Faiths gather for climate justice at St John, Waterloo

On Sunday 11 June, as part of the Great Big Green Week, St John, Waterloo celebrated an interfaith reflection on climate justice. The Great Big Green Week is a nationwide celebration of action on climate change, which took place from 10-18 June 2023 across the UK.

The gathering was co-organised with Faith for the Climate (FFTC) and the Brahma Kumaris UK, in solidarity with the people and places around the world that have done the least to cause climate change but are

suffering its worst impacts. Contributions came from Revd Canon Giles Goddard, Vicar at St John, Waterloo and chair of FFTC, Dr Husna Ahmad OBE from Global One, and FFTC trustee, Rabbi Jeff Berger, Rambam Shephardi Synagogue, Jamie Cresswell, Centre for Applied Buddhism and FFTC Trustee, Sister Maureen Goodman from Brahma Kumaris UK, who were joined by Bishop Martin. In a post on Twitter, Bishop Martin said, "A delight to join faith leaders at St John, Waterloo in the call for climate justice at the start of #GreatBigGreenWeek."



© Sharon Shah

The gathering was followed by an eco-festival and picnic in the churchyard, with music, storytelling, poetry, and face-painting, and a nifty One Pot Garden stall by the Yoko Forum.

Above (l-r): Rabbi Jeff Berger, Jamie Cresswell, Sister Maureen Goodman, Dr Husna Ahmad OBE, Bishop Martin and Revd Canon Giles Goddard.

A time to celebrate at All Saints, South Wimbledon

On Sunday 11 June, the church community at All Saints, Wimbledon laid their traditional carpet of flowers for the Solemnity of Corpus Christi to celebrate the day of thanksgiving for the institution of Holy Communion.

Chris Maurice, Churchwarden at All Saints said, "Work to lay the flower carpet began three days prior to Sunday, when the greenery and designs were laid out. Then, from 6am on Sunday morning, the petals – provided by the congregation – were arranged so that the scent and colour was at its best for the service. This year's theme was 'his mercy is from age to age' – the Holy Spirit blessing and accompanying every fruitful encounter between different generations: between grandparents and grandchildren, between young and old."

Following the celebrations for Corpus Christi, just three days later, on Wednesday 14 June, the church hosted the visitation service for the Archdeaconry of Lambeth, during which the congregation witnessed the taking of oaths by those appointed to be churchwardens for the coming year. The mass was celebrated by the Venerable Simon Gates, Archdeacon of Lambeth who also preached.

Chris added, "A large catering operation by members of the All Saints' congregation ensured that everyone had their fill, and it was a great pleasure to be able to share time with so many people from other churches."



Top: 'His mercy is from age to age' flowers decorate the aisle of the church. Bottom: Celebration mass.

New Rector for St Margaret, Chipstead

Revd Hannah Gordon has joined St Margaret, Chipstead, as its new Rector. During a service on 30 May, the congregation welcomed Bishop Rosemarie and Revd Moira Astin, Archdeacon of Reigate, and Revd Martin Colton, Area Dean of Reigate, who led the service.

The Worshipful the Mayor of Reigate and Banstead, Councillor Eddy Humphries, and his consort were also in attendance and the Mayor made a short speech to welcome Revd Hannah to her incumbency.

Deborah Mathews, Parish and Financial Administrator at St Margaret said, "Hannah's previous parish was 'The Good Shepherd' in Carshalton and we were extremely pleased to see some of them joining us on this very special occasion.

"It was a joyous occasion and the church was at full capacity, with representatives from local parish organisations, clergy from Reigate Deanery, Hannah's friends and family, and also members of her new parish from Chipstead and the surrounding areas. "We are all very much looking forward to Hannah's ministry here among us."



L-R: Revd Martin Colton, Revd Hannah Gordon, The Bishop of Croydon, Mayor of Reigate, and his consort.

Lead for Farsi ministry licensed at Christ Church, Gipsy Hill

Revd Emma Lowth, Associate Vicar at Christ Church, Gipsy Hill was licensed on 7 June. Revd Emma leads on Farsi ministry, supporting Iranian asylum seekers and the Farsi-speaking community through their Christian faith journey. Farsi is the main language spoken in Iran.



L-R: Revd Emma, Bishop Martin and Revd Jonathan Croucher.

Streatham's first interfaith circus event

Revd Sarah Simpson, Vicar at Immanuel and St Andrew Church, Streatham, writes:

When someone asks if you would be interested in hosting an event involving a female Jewish Rabbi who is also an aerial circus artist is there anything to be said but, yes? This opportunity presented itself through a conversation with Rabbi Nathan Godleman from the South London Liberal Synagogue who wanted to invite Rabbi Miri Lawrence and a band of performers but did not have a suitable space. So, on

a balmy Saturday evening in Immanuel and St Andrew's church hall our two faith communities came together full of anticipation and excitement.

We were not disappointed; the show was spectacular. Rabbi Miri and her band of performers from *My Aerial Home* circus school told us the story of the Blumenfeld's, a German Jewish family of travelling actors and performers and the circus they founded in 1811. We were dazzled by acrobats on aerial silks, climbing and spinning and hanging upside down with core strength and agility I can only dream of. There was tightrope walking and mischievous horses, comedy strongmen and plenty of audience participation too. I'm not sure many people can say they have been to an event where a Rabbi played the fiddle while hanging from a hoop and a Priest walked a tightrope (okay, so in my case I was holding on to two glamorous assistants who kept me steady as I had a go).

Afterwards we mingled and shared refreshments and those who wanted



The Revd Sarah Simpson, Vicar at Immanuel & St Andrew, Streatham walks the tightrope!

to have a go at the circus skills had the opportunity. Members of the synagogue and the church reflected on the joy of joining together for this social time, breaking down barriers and building

relationships between our communities. We are looking forward to joining together for an event in the future, though not sure we will quite be able to reach the heady heights of this one.

A platinum celebration in Mottingham



Revd Ian Welch, Rector at Mottingham, St Andrew, writes:

From 10 June through to 25 June 2023, the Parish of Mottingham, St Andrew with St Alban, marked its Platinum celebration for St Alban's, Coldharbour, and double Platinum celebration for St Andrew's, Mottingham, with 16 days of lively arts and community events.

Centred on the two parish churches, the three halls and the church grounds, the celebrations honoured the mission, ministry and outreach of the two churches over the last 70 and 140 years respectively, with a festival programme designed to have broad appeal.

The programme featured professional actors and musicians, including Bishop

Rob Gillian, Diocesan Bishop for the Arts, who brought his acclaimed one-man show, 'The Visit', to Mottingham, on the opening evening of the festival.

Other popular events included a community BBQ for Coldharbour, also on the 10 June, a scorching hot day, and an inclusive community event to inaugurate the celebrations; concerts featuring the accomplished Vanbrugh String and Woodwind ensemble, who played a sumptuous feast of baroque music; the piano music of Chopin and Beethoven, amongst other instrumental delights; medieval folk songs, sung by Margaret Cameron of the BBC singers; an exhibition of flowers and paintings by local artists; crafts mornings; a delightful Folk Night; a talk on the history of Coldharbour;

performances of 'The Little Prince'; and a Young Writers' Competition.

The festival concluded with the Platinum Patronal Festival Eucharist for which we were delighted to welcome Bishop Christopher as celebrant and preacher, along with Rt Hon Clive Efford MP and other local councillors, a fitting culmination to 16 days of diverse and lively events. There is every hope that, going forward, our two parish churches will build on these outreach initiatives, and continue to offer meaningful worship and an engaging community presence for the next 140 years!



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◀ Continued from page 1

WINDRUSH 75

Bringing together diverse communities, faiths and organisations

Walk of Witness and national service of thanksgiving

The day began with a special walk of witness. Setting off from Waterloo train station, Christians joined in unity to walk alongside church leaders, community figures and NHS representatives, as well as colleagues from the London Fire Brigade, Metropolitan Police and the Black Police Association. Devotions were said around the Windrush memorial which was unveiled in 2018 to mark the 70th anniversary and people gathered for speeches and prayers. Walkers set off towards the Cathedral with a floral anchor, a replica to symbolise the ship, MV Empire Windrush that docked at Tilbury in 1948.

Richard Reddie, Director of Churches Together in Britain and Ireland, said: “The Windrush Generation’s impact on Britain has been incalculable. For instance, they have transformed the spiritual climate on these shores since 1948; they have been a blessing to historic churches that were previously struggling numbers-wise, while Black Pentecostal congregations are bucking the trend of decline in attendance. This is to be celebrated, and God is to be praised!”



“The Windrush Generation’s impact on Britain has been incalculable.”

Arriving at the Cathedral churchyard, the floral anchor was passed on to schoolchildren in exchange for a specially designed Windrush flag to symbolise passing on the legacy of Windrushers to the next generation. This was followed by a procession into the cathedral to mark the beginning of the service.



Full charge! The London Fire Brigade take part in the walk of witness.



© Eve Milner

The silk flag (pictured right) included the flags of the Caribbean islands in the lettering, a pink hibiscus, and various colours to reflect the vibrancy of the Caribbean as the children envisioned. The six students from St Saviour’s and St Olave’s, who worked on the banner, were Cheri’ane Taylor, Kaydia Pinnock, Susan Popoola, Jenesis Brown, Kayfaya Bartley and J’adore Ward.

Organised by the Windrush Planning Committee and the Racial Justice Advocacy Forum, the service entitled *Remembering the Struggle, Celebrating the Contribution and Flourishing for the Future*, was an opportunity to celebrate the significant role of the Windrush Generation in shaping the cultural landscape of Britain. The service was attended by visiting Caribbean bishops, local councillors, MPs and dignitaries, including royals The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester.

Joining together in worship, the congregation heard unique contributions and reflections, readings and prayers from descendants of the Windrush Generation.

In a moments silence during the service three students from St Saviour’s and St Olave’s held up the names of Stephen Lawrence, Paulette Wilson and Kelso Cochrane, murdered in violent racist attacks – a symbolic action to represent those whose lives have been impacted by the struggles associated with Windrush.

Dionne Gravesande, Chair of the Windrush 75 planning committee, said: “This momentous occasion brings together diverse communities, faiths, and organisations in a spirit of collaboration and partnership. The service presents a unique opportunity for people of all backgrounds to unite,



© Eve Milner



© Eve Milner

Top: Gathered at the Windrush monument at Waterloo Station. Middle: Schoolchildren hold up the Windrush flag in the churchyard as the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester arrive at the Cathedral. Bottom: Remembering those whose lives were impacted by the struggles associated with Windrush.

celebrate the Windrush Generation’s profound contributions, and reaffirm our commitment to a shared society where all people can flourish.”

After the service Bishop Christopher said in a post on Twitter “We were very

honoured to host the National Windrush 75 Service @Southwarkcathed sharing words of greeting with the Archbishop of the Province of the West Indies. Bishop @RosemarieMallet paid tribute powerfully to the Windrush Generation and their descendants.”



“This momentous occasion brings together diverse communities, faiths and organisations in a spirit of collaboration and partnership.”



Bishop Rosemarie during the service at Southwark Cathedral, wearing the Windrush Cope, a ceremonial robe originally made for the 70th anniversary.

Something inside so strong

St Martin-in-the-Fields High School for Girls attended the Windrush anniversary event at Windsor Castle. Not only did the schoolgirls (pictured below) meet King Charles III, but the school choir also sang ‘Something inside so strong’ during the service at St George’s Chapel.



Coming together at Bishop’s House

In the week of the national Windrush service, Bishop Christopher hosted a dinner for The Rt Revd Michael Maxwell, Bishop of Barbados to welcome him on his visit to the UK and introduce him to the Southwark Racial Justice Committee. It was also an opportunity to join and give thanks for the committee’s commitment to promoting and addressing racial justice concerns across the Diocese..



DISCIPLESHIP & MINISTRY
Pilgrimage to the Holy Land

Journeying to Jerusalem

Over 70 Christians joined an ecumenical pilgrimage to the Holy Land in February 2023, an opportunity to encounter the Jesus story. Ian Archer, Reader in the Croydon Episcopal Area shared his experience on visiting the holy sites around Jerusalem.

Describing his trip, Ian said, “It was a privilege and a great joy to go on the ecumenical pilgrimage to the Holy Land, led by Bishop Christopher and the Roman Catholic Bishop, Paul Hendricks. It was superbly organised by Canon Andrew Nunn and the Catholic Canon Michael Branch. There were some 72 of us in two coaches, each coach having our own guide and they both seemed to have far more knowledge of the Bible and the places we were visiting than we could ever do. We were also provided with a ‘whisper’ machine to attach to an ear to enable us to always hear what the guide was saying. I knew no one on this trip, however I soon made friends with them all.”

The pilgrimage was an opportunity to join in and worship together with new friends on the pilgrimage. Ian said, “What was remarkable was that every service we took part in was shared with Roman Catholics and Anglicans, only separating into queues to receive Communion, as that was what the Pope would require. We did not know which denomination everyone that we spoke with belonged to, as we worshipped the same God.”

Having visited the Mount of Olives and seeing the panoramic views of the Kidron Valley, Garden of Gethsemane the group visited the “beautiful Church of All Nations where a large choir of women was singing a lovely anthem,” said Ian.

“We were driven on to Ein Karem to visit the church of John the Baptist and had lunch in the eaves of the Convent of the Sisters of Zion. We ended the day’s trip by a visit to Abu Gosh (One of the possible sites of Emmaus) where we celebrated Eucharist.”

Walking around the old city, Ian told how the group “entered the Old City by St Stephen’s Gate and went to the Church of St Anne by the pool of Bethesda. We followed the Via Dolorosa, with three of us carrying a large cross, stopping at each station to say a prayer. Singing along, we reached the Church of the Holy Sepulchre where Jesus was believed to be crucified. This was very crowded at that time.”

After this the group visited the Lutheran Church of the Redeemer to celebrate the Eucharist. They had lunch at an Armenian restaurant – thought to be the Upper Room for the Last Supper, they then

walked through the Jewish Quarter. Many visits followed during the trip, including The Shepherd’s Fields, Manger Square, and the Basilica and the Grotto of the Nativity and St Jerome’s Caves.

Upon walking to the Holy Sepulchre, “I was able to see the rock where Jesus had been crucified”, said Ian. The group travelled to Jesus’ baptismal site on the River Jordan, then on to the desert oasis of Jericho, the lowest city on earth where we could see the mountain on which Jesus suffered his temptations.

“We were taken to places associated with Jesus’ life around Galilee, to the convent of the Beatitudes commemorating the Sermon on the Mount, and then to Tabgha to visit the Church of the loaves and fishes. We saw where Jesus might have appeared to his disciples after his resurrection and visited Capernaum, Jesus’ Galilean base and the Golan Heights”, said Ian.

The group renewed their baptismal vows after travelling from Caesarea Philippi to a source of the Jordan “It was here that Bishop Christopher baptised Isha, a lady I first met at the Jerusalem Hotel and again in the Upper Room, and after telling me her story about her challenges with faith, her family and losing her husband to a terminal illness, she was baptised with water from the source of the Jordan, all of us – Catholics and Anglicans, holding candles to provide her with a good send off in her Christian faith. This was a really high point in our pilgrimage.”

The final days of the pilgrimage saw the group travel to Nazareth, Kibbutz Nof Ginosar, to see the remains of a boat used in Jesus’ time. “We were able to all board a large open boat for a ‘voyage’ on the Sea of Galilee”, Ian continued. Concluding the trip at Caesarea Maritana, the group could see a Roman theatre and arena, and the remains of a Roman aqueduct on the Mediterranean. They received a blessing in oils by the Bishops before travelling back to the UK. Reflecting on his time in Holy Land Ian said, “My vicar, before I left for this pilgrimage, told me I would come back a different man. Of course, he was right, as visiting these marvellous sites in the company of so many lovely people, can’t leave one unchanged. At this short time after it all, I feel it was an oasis in my life that I will remember as long as I live.”



IN FOCUS...

Diocesan news

Celebrating our long service staff

This month we want to say thank you to particular colleagues at Trinity House for their contributions to the Diocese, who have carried out more than two decades of faithful service across different departments.

Mark Charlton, former Director of IT and Data

Heather Cassidy, Administrative Officer

Wendy Robins, Director of Discipleship, Lay Ministry and Continuing Ministerial Development

Sonia Lee, Administrative Officer

Matt Hewitt, Lead Developer

Jackie Pontin, Deputy Diocesan Secretary and Secretary to the Diocesan Mission & Pastoral Committee

Odette Penwarden, Welcoming Officer

Anne Love, Secretary, Mothers' Union



Long service colleagues at Trinity House (l-r): Heather Cassidy, Sonia Lee, Mark Charlton (on his last day), Anne Love and Wendy Robins.

Church administrators take retreat at Wychcroft

Church administrators from the Kingston Episcopal Area joined together for a retreat day at Wychcroft led by The Venerable John Kiddle, Archdeacon of Wandsworth, and The Venerable Simon Gates, Archdeacon of Lambeth, on 12 June.

The day was an opportunity to spend time not on 'how to', but on 'how to be' and Archdeacon John began the morning session by talking about God, nature, trees and the connectivity of it all.

After lunch, the group were invited to explore the grounds at Wychcroft and find something that made them think about nature. Sitting in the gardens, they talked about what they found and were drawn to – ranging from a bit of wool, a daisy to

a textured piece of wood. The day allowed the group to reflect on God's beauty and the need to stop, listen and wonder.

The afternoon session was led by Revd Helena Whittaker, Priest and school Chaplain, based in Putney.

One attendee said, "The retreat day definitely delivered. A glorious day with lovely fellow parish administrators, delicious food, and time to reflect with excellent sessions on well-being. My hope is that this first retreat day for parish administrators becomes an annual event, a chance to be refreshed and inspired. Thank you to the Kingston Episcopal Area for making it happen. It was wonderful and very much appreciated."



LET US PRAY...

JULY/AUGUST

The Venerable John Kiddle

Archdeacon of Wandsworth

At the midpoint of this month there is a feast day that often goes unnoticed. St Swithun's day falls on 15 July. Swithun was Bishop of Winchester in the ninth century, remembered for his simplicity and holiness.

His request for a simple burial and an undistinguished resting place was ignored when a shrine was built in the new cathedral and his body moved there 100 years after his death. The move coincided with terrible storms; it rained for 40 days. Since then it has been said that if it rains on St Swithun's day it will rain for 40 days, but if it is dry then it will remain dry for 40 days. Let's see what happens this year.

For me, St Swithun is associated with one of the most beautiful walks in the south of England. St Swithun's Way runs from Winchester to Farnham, travelling for several miles alongside the lovely Itchen river. You can continue the walk along the Pilgrim's Way to Canterbury.

Perhaps we might put St Swithun at the heart of this month. His life calls us to simplicity, to graciousness and holiness. His legend invites us to reflect on the seasons of our lives, to know the presence of God, in both good and hard times. His way inspires us to walk as pilgrims, seeing the beauty around us and allowing God to bless and deepen our inner journey.

It's a great privilege to be invited to contribute to Let us Pray. Every reader of The Bridge over the last 20 years has been inspired by the words and prayers of Andrew Nunn, who retires this month as Dean of Southwark. We thank God for



Andrew's ministry in this Diocese and in these pages, the beauty and gentleness of his words and prayers have touched many lives.

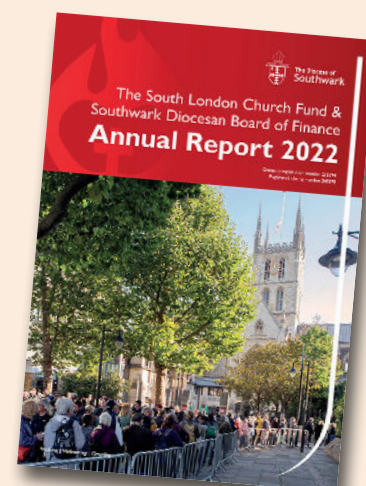
Loving God

*Bless us, through this month,
with simplicity and joy
Bless us, this summer, rain or
shine, with your restful presence
Bless us, body and soul, in our
journeying and our pilgrimage
That we, with Swithun and
all your saints,
May be blessing to all we meet
and to the world we share.
Amen.*

Annual Report 2022

The South London Church Fund & The Southwark Diocesan Board of Finance, Annual Report for 2022 has now been published on the Diocesan website.

Copies have been delivered to parishes and you can download a digital version here: bit.ly/3NGdVJts



WHAT'S ON

Please send details of your next events for SEPTEMBER ONWARDS to Trinity House **BY MONDAY 7 AUGUST**

July

UNTIL 2 SEPTEMBER

- * **CLAPHAM** – Photography exhibition *Windrush: A Voyage through the Generations* (Jim Grover). Clapham Library, SW4 7DB. Free. Opening times: bit.ly/3MC63JS

SUNDAYS 23 & 30 JULY

- * **FARLEIGH** – Complines by candlelight with talks on *Persons of Faith*. 7pm at St Mary, Farleigh Court Road, Farleigh CR6 9PX. Free. Contact: bit.ly/42ji38f

September

SEPTEMBER

- * **SOUTHWARK** – *Aurora Youth Ministry Course* – starts September (date TBC). The first part of a two-year course equipping you to be effective leaders of young people in church. Leads to formal commissioning as a Youth Worker – a recognised qualification in Southwark Diocese. In person at Trinity House (three Saturdays) and online (eight evenings). Register at: bit.ly/41rarjo#

1-3 SEPTEMBER

- * **OXFORD** – ‘Find Your Voice’. The CofE Racial Justice Unit is inviting young adults (aged 18–23) of all UKME/GMH backgrounds to represent their diverse communities. Christ Church Saint Aldate’s, Oxford OX1 1DP. Free. Details/tickets at: tinyurl.com/ym4ac28b

SATURDAY 9 SEPTEMBER

- * **SURREY** – Surrey Churches Preservation Trust *Ride & Stride*. Bike or walk to raise funds for Surrey’s churches and have a great day. Discover Surrey’s heritage and make a real difference. Routes visit churches across the county and can be found at: bit.ly/3MyNrKr.

SUNDAY 10 SEPTEMBER

- ♪ **DULWICH** – David Goode, internationally known for his performances of JS Bach, plays the historic 18th century George England organ. 7.45pm at Christ’s Chapel, 14 Gallery Rd, Dulwich Village SE21 7AD. Free, generous donation please.

THURSDAY 14 SEPTEMBER

- * **SOUTHWARK CATHEDRAL** – Thanksgiving Service of Evensong for Ruth Martin (Lay Canon), as she retires from her role as Diocesan Secretary. 5.30pm, followed by an informal reception. If you would like to attend please email Charles.Hudson-Beddows@southwark.anglican.org

THURSDAY 21 SEPTEMBER

- ♪ **CROYDON** – Organ recital with Marilyn Harper. 1.30pm at Fairfield Halls, Croydon CR9 1DG. £5, under-18s free. Details/tickets at: tinyurl.com/mn35b9h5

SATURDAY 23 SEPTEMBER

- * **BRISTOL** – NECN National Conference 2023 – *God With Us: Sharing our journey* – focusing on lived

experience with estate practitioners sharing their wisdom, sharing aspects of ministering in social housing estates and disadvantaged communities. £20. Details at: tinyurl.com/52wnp3r8

SATURDAY 30 SEPTEMBER

- * **ELTHAM** – Craft Fair and Macmillan Coffee Morning. Stalls selling goods. Refreshments in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support. 10am–1.30pm at St Luke’s Church, Westmount Road, Eltham SE9 1XQ. Free. Details from churchwardens@saintlukes-eltham.org.uk

October

THURSDAY 5 OCTOBER

- * **SHEFFIELD** – NECN National Conference 2023 – *God With Us: Sharing our journey* – focusing on lived experience with estate practitioners sharing their wisdom, sharing aspects of ministering in social housing estates and disadvantaged communities. £20. Details at: tinyurl.com/52wnp3r8

SATURDAY 7 OCTOBER

- * **SOUTHWARK CATHEDRAL** – *Black History Month* thanksgiving service. We are partnering with the Southwark Diocesan Board of Education for this exciting celebration with worship and afternoon workshops, exploring this year’s theme ‘*Windrush 75 and the legacy*’. 11am at Southwark Cathedral. Free. Details to follow shortly on our website: southwark.anglican.org.

November

THURSDAY 9 NOVEMBER

- ♪ **CROYDON** – Organ recital with Herman Jordaan. 1.30pm at Fairfield Halls, Croydon CR9 1DG. £5, under-18s free. Details/tickets at: tinyurl.com/2fr6ktyj

FRIDAY 24 NOVEMBER

- * **SOUTHWARK CATHEDRAL** – *Robes SleepOut* in the Cathedral grounds. Fundraising for homelessness. Details at: tinyurl.com/5f32zavy

SATURDAY 25 NOVEMBER

- * **BLACKFRIARS** – Southwark Diocese Pioneering team ‘*Towards a mixed ecology of Church*’ – explore what a mixed ecology of church could look like in your context. 10am–4pm at Christ Church, 27 Blackfriars Rd, SE1 8NY. £15 includes lunch. Book at: tinyurl.com/5yuvzh8p



This newspaper is printed with premier paper and the Diocese is part of the Forest Stewardship Council® (FSC®) and a Carbon Capture customer. This means that we are part of the Woodland Trust’s Woodland Carbon scheme, a scheme that aims to mitigate the CO2 emissions generated by the production, storage and distribution of the paper purchased. For every pack of the paper sold, 5p of the wholesale price goes directly to the Trust. Of this, 2p goes towards Woodland Carbon and 3p to their other work, such as the protection and restoration of ancient woodland.

Email your upcoming events to bridge@southwark.anglican.org



The Bridge editorial and production team would like to thank all those across our Diocese who contribute news, stories and photographs. Please keep them coming! We wish all our readers and contributors a peaceful and enjoyable summer.

© Ton Patron



IN FOCUS... Chaplaincy in the NHS

Founded on 5 July 1948, the National Health Service (NHS) treats over a million people every day and is the first universal health system to be available to all. NHS hospitals often lean on the spiritual support of Chaplains and in this edition, we speak to those who lead chaplaincy and spiritual care in hospitals within our episcopal areas, supporting those most in need.

Lending a compassionate ear

Revd Stanley Njoka has been a hospital Chaplain for the past 15 years, with a wealth of experience across different Trusts. He has also been Minister in Charge at St Matthew, Camberwell since 2011.

In talking about some of the challenges of hospital chaplaincy, Revd Stanley who is also Chair of Woolwich Area Racial Justice Group, Vocation Advisor, and BAP on liturgy said, "Hospital Chaplains often encounter a diverse patient population with varying cultural backgrounds, religious beliefs, and spiritual needs. Providing appropriate and sensitive support to individuals from different faith traditions or those with no religious affiliation can be challenging."

He also shared how the giving of adequate care to each individual seeking support, the emotional toll dealing with patients and their families during times of illness, trauma, and grief during difficult situations, whilst working closely with healthcare professionals also present challenges.

In these complex situations, Chaplains provide a comforting presence, lend a compassionate ear, and offer guidance and support to help people cope with their emotions, fears, and anxieties. Revd Stanley added, "Our presence and support can contribute to individuals' healing and well-being during challenging times. It is the ministry of journeying or accompanying others in their most difficult, uncertain, or dark times."

Helping patients and their families explore and address their spiritual needs while promoting understanding, respect,

and collaboration among different faith traditions – where individuals from diverse religious and cultural backgrounds can express their beliefs and values, are all key to the role of a Chaplain.

Revd Stanley refers to the scripture, Matthew 25:36,40 'I was naked, and you clothed Me; I was sick, and you looked after me, I was in prison, and you visited Me.' 'The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'

Understanding different beliefs, faiths and life philosophies

Revd Susan Van Beveren has been in ministry as a Chaplain for 30 years, in a variety of public, private and charitable sector organisations. She began as a workplace Chaplain in Melbourne, Australia, and has also served in Amsterdam, and the UK. Since she has been an NHS Chaplain in acute hospitals, hospice and community health and social care settings for the past 10 years. Revd



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L–R: Revd Stanley Njoka, Head of Chaplaincy and Spiritual Care at Surrey and Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust. Revd Susan Van Bevern with CEO, Joe Farrar as the tree is planted on the green at Kingston Hospital. Revd Steve Thomas, Head of Chaplaincy at Lewisham and Greenwich NHS Trust.



Susan has been at Kingston Hospital NHS Foundation Trust as Head of Pastoral and Spiritual Support Services since 2015, recently expanding her role to include the Hounslow and Richmond Community Healthcare NHS Trust.

"I often say much of my ministry has been about doing God's work in non-God language. It demands a broad understanding of different beliefs, faiths and life philosophies and how they need to be addressed in complex pastoral situations pertaining to the life and death realities of a person's unfolding health crisis or treatment journey. At its heart, Chaplaincy has to be person centred, we are there to draw alongside, to hear the person's story and to love them through the situation they find themselves in. The story of Jesus with the woman at the well in John 4 is a great example of this ministry. He came alongside and heard her story. In the telling of it and the deep listening she gained new insight and hope was born."

Together with a staff team of multi-faith and philosophy Chaplains "We work to demystify spirituality and develop approaches that can enhance skill and confidence for health and social care workers to address the pastoral and spiritual well-being support needs of their patient or teams as part of holistic care", said Revd Susan, who has a wide network across the Healthcare sector through connections to other Chaplains and broader interfaith networks in the community.

Speaking ahead of the celebration at Kingston Hospital, Revd Susan said, "We are leading a time of reflection and candle lighting, I am speaking at the CEO's planting of a tree, and my team are inviting others to join us as we gather with our picnic lunches in the Hospital gardens. Of course, there will be cake!"

Leaning into the pain

Revd Steve Thomas is the new Head of Chaplaincy at Lewisham and Greenwich NHS Trust. He has been a Chaplain for six years and originally trained in the United States, as a Clinical Chaplain in both Orlando, Florida and Houston, Texas with the Methodist Church. From then, he relocated to the UK and has been with the Diocese for over a year, previously working at Kings College, Denmark Hill.

He described seeing people at the end of their life as the most challenging part of his role, as well as working through

difficult times during the pandemic "Not being able to reach out and touch was really challenging", said Revd Steve.

"I have been with someone, I have journeyed with them and I have provided as much as possible and in Chaplaincy we use the phrase 'leaning into the pain' anytime it's difficult, rather than running away, you get engrossed in what's taking place and I think that you can learn from it and often times you go home and reflect – I am happy that I can be there for that person, especially if they don't have family and may have died alone."



"At its heart, Chaplaincy has to be person centred, we are there to draw alongside, to hear the person's story and to love them through the situation they find themselves in."

When talking about a scripture that best describes the work he does within the NHS, Revd Steve said, "I love Luke 24, the road to Emmaus after Jesus' crucifixion. Out of sadness comes joy, Christ is in the midst of that pain. I see a Chaplain, as a person who joins individuals in their sad moments and in their happy moments and just walks with them, listening and sharing with them the wonderful possibilities of tomorrow."

Celebrating 75 years of the NHS, doesn't go without celebrating 75 years of the contributions made by hundreds of Caribbeans who came to the UK as part of the Windrush Generation, Revd Steve adds, "I see 75 in 75, a chance to utilise the celebration taking place to help us be aware and I want to encourage us to remember the Caribbean people and celebrate together."

More information

Find out more about healthcare chaplaincy from the UK Board of Healthcare Chaplaincy at: ukbhc.org.uk

