

## Services at the Parish Church

Sundays 8:00 am Holy Communion (BCP) 10.00 am Sung Eucharist (CW)  
Thursdays 10.00 am Eucharist (BCP) 3rd Sunday 10.00 am Family Service

## Services for November

Sunday 10th 8.00 am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)  
10.00 am Sung Eucharist (Common Worship)  
2.30 pm Act of Remembrance at the War Memorial followed  
by a Service of Remembrance in St Andrew's  
Sunday 17th 8.00 am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)  
10.00 am Family Service  
Sunday 24th 8.00 am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)  
10.00am Sung Eucharist (Common Worship)

## December

Sunday 1st 8.00 am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)  
10.00am Sung Eucharist (Common Worship)  
3.30 pm Christingle Service at St Andrew's

You are invited to the

## OPENING RECITAL

on the new organ at  
St Andrew's Church, Soham  
at

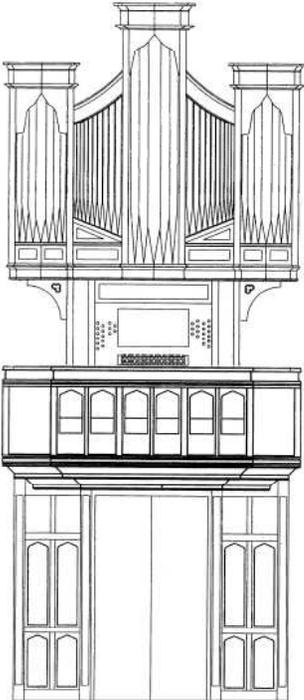
7.00pm on Saturday, 23<sup>rd</sup> November, 2013  
given by

## ANDREW LUMSDEN

Organist & Director of Music  
Winchester Cathedral

with a large screen projection of the console and player  
at the front of church

Ticket includes interval refreshments  
Advance tickets £8.00 from Soham Books or the Vicar  
Tickets at the door £10.00 (under 16s free)



## Comings and Goings

Readers may have seen the article introducing Rachel Hilditch as a new ordinand on placement here in Soham. I am pleased to be able to announce some movement from two clergymen with Soham connections. Edward Green, our previous curate, will be leaving his present post as Team Vicar in Lower Heyford at the start of December to become the vicar of Leavesden. Perhaps known these days as the home of the Harry Potter Studios, Leavesden is in Hertfordshire about 18 miles from London and near Watford. The other person to be moving is Rob Parker McGee who is leaving his curacy in the diocese of Worcester to become the vicar of Geddington, near Kettering in the diocese of Peterborough. We wish Edward and Sarah and Rob and Sarah, Jasmine and Thomas all the very best in their new homes and new roles.

## Coffee Morning: 9th November

Soham Mothers' Union are holding a coffee morning at St Andrew's Church from 10am – Noon on Saturday 9th November. Please pop in for home made cakes, coffee and tea and a bring and buy sale. Funds raised will go to the Mothers' Union 'Away From It All' (AFIA) holiday scheme for families under stress.

AFIA holidays are one way in which the Mothers' Union fulfils its aim of helping those whose family life has met with adversity. Families are able to spend time together away from their stressful situations at home, engage in activities together and have fun. They often experience healing in their relationships by spending this quality time with each other. The



reasons for them needing a holiday are varied – maybe someone in the family is sick or has just recovered from a long illness; maybe a marriage is in trouble, perhaps a mother and her children have fled domestic abuse. What they all have in common is that they can't afford a holiday themselves.

AFIA holidays are usually just a few days in a seaside caravan, so nothing luxurious, just a few days away from the strains of their normal life. Sometimes, however, families go away in a group with volunteers who can organise activities to help them bond with each other and relax.

Applicants for an AFIA holiday do not have to be members of a church, or any organisation, but each request must be supported by a caring individual or professional who knows the family, such as a member of the clergy, MU member, doctor, health visitor or social worker. If you or someone you know is in need of such a holiday please contact [mu@office.ely.anglican.org](mailto:mu@office.ely.anglican.org) or ring 01353 652718 on Thursdays for details of how to apply.

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## Preparing for the great storm.

At the end of October there was a large storm in the south of the country. There was a huge amount of advance publicity on the television and on the radio as people were advised not to travel and to check with the relevant authorities if they had to make a journey. We were told to make sure that the garden furniture was all secured before the high winds arrived. There was a sense of battening down the hatches in preparation for the arrival of the largest storm to hit the country for a number of years. In the event, the damage done in our part of the country was not nearly as severe as predicted or expected.

I was struck, however, by the sense of urgency which marked all the advice and preparations and how we in the church will be preparing for an imminent arrival. At the end of this month we shall be marking Advent which is, almost by definition, a time of preparation and getting ready. We look forward to the arrival not of some major force of destruction (as in the recent storm) but to someone whose coming will make a huge difference. The secular world gets increasingly worked up about Christmas (with the number of days to go being broadcast with an increasing sense of urgency) but in the church our preparations are a little more measured. We have the four Sundays in Advent which prepare us for the arrival of the babe of Bethlehem, the Prince of Peace. His coming was widely predicted and the after effects of his arrival rocked the world – though in ways that no one could have foreseen. As a result of his birth, the world has never been the same again.

We have the chance to get ourselves ready with plenty of advance warning. Perhaps we could use this time not only to make sure that we have made all the preparations for our secular celebrations but also for our spiritual state of preparedness.

Mugs; tea towels; chocolate; mobile phone cases; T-shirts; drinks coasters... You can't go anywhere without seeing five words staring at you: KEEP CALM AND CARRY ON.

The Ministry of Information was the Government department responsible for publicity and propaganda during the Second World War. In late 1939 after the outbreak of the war, they were set the task of designing a number of morale boosting posters that would be displayed across the British Isles during the testing times that lay ahead.

With a bold coloured background, the posters were required to be similar in style and feature the symbolic crown of King George VI along with a simple yet effective font. Three of these posters were designed.

The first two posters: 'Your Courage, Your Cheerfulness, Your Resolution will Bring Us Victory'; and 'Freedom is in Peril' were posted on public transport, in shop windows and on notice boards and hoardings across Britain.

The third poster of the set was again very straightforward and to the point - it simply read 'Keep Calm and Carry On'. The plan was to issue this poster only in the event of an invasion of Britain. Consequently it was never officially seen by the public.

After being forgotten for more than half a century, a rare original of the now famous poster was discovered in a second hand bookshop. It was framed and put up in the shop and customer interest was so great that in 2001 the owners started producing copies for sale. These were soon copied and recopied to make the Keep Calm poster one of the first truly iconic images of the 21st century.

It has now been developed to include things like: 'Keep calm and... carry on shopping'; or 'Keep calm and... eat a cupcake'.

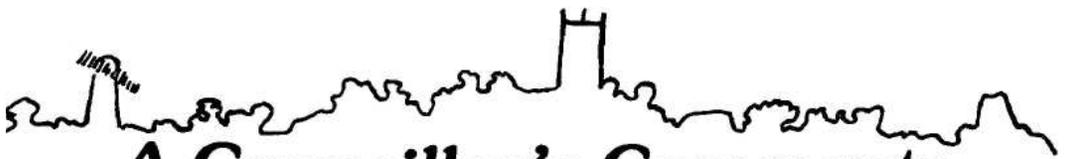
On a serious note, it is not easy to keep calm in today's world. Whilst the original idea of the poster remains a good one, the Christian has a far more effective slogan to follow from the Bible:

"Don't worry over anything whatever; tell God every detail of your needs in earnest and thankful prayer, and the peace of God which transcends human understanding, will keep constant guard over your hearts and minds as they rest in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 4:6-7 from the J B Phillips translation of the Bible). *Pastor Colin Stringer*

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### **Rachel Hilditch**

My name is Rachel and I am a first-year ordinand at Ridley Hall, Cambridge. I live in Ely and am married to Francis, an RE teacher. We were both born and brought up in Suffolk and are fiercely patriotic East Anglians! Before I began training for ordination, I studied for a degree in medieval history and then worked for a Tudor manor house, a church and a Cambridge college. Whenever I go on holiday, I seek out the oldest places in the area, particularly medieval churches – so now that I am an ordinand, it's a bit like a busman's holiday. However, I have also embraced the 21st century and enjoyed leading church youth work in Ely for five years. I am passionate about exploring different types of prayer and seeing how Christians can develop a culture of prayer. My other interests are archaeology, comedy, real ale, vegetarian cooking and baking unusual cakes - these have included a sleeping dragon, the Ark of the Covenant and a scale model of a Suffolk church. A fact you may need to know about me is that I don't like tea, which is a challenge for a future vicar! I am very much looking forward to getting involved in the life of the parish and church at Soham and I hope to get to know as many of you as possible.



# A Councillor's Comments

There were two people who took advantage of the 15 minutes allowed for public comment time, they were Mr. Charles Warner and Mr. Geoffrey Woollard, and they both addressed the problem listed on item 13 on the agenda namely "Litter and Street Cleaning in Soham". They both spoke strongly that something needs to be done to improve the situation.

Chairman's Announcements: These were to give notice of forthcoming meetings, the committee meetings on the 21st, planning meeting on the 28th October and the community facilities working party on 4th November at 2pm. The chairman also told of the presentation of the awards he gave the children as a result of the Reading Challenge this year. 96 children took part.

Cambridgeshire Bobby Scheme: The trust manager of this trust, gave us a well presented explanation of all that they do to help people keep safe in their homes as well as reassurance visits to victims of burglaries and help with various pieces of equipment to prevent further such events in future. He told the meeting that the Bobby Scheme was a charity and so they had to make a small charge for some of the aids they provided to make properties secure.

Litter and Street Cleaning in Soham: This item was to consider the problems faced by the town due to the contraction of the street cleaning service provided by ECDC via its contractors (Veolia). Not so long ago we had a street cleaner who did over and above what he was supposed to do. Since he finished there was no one to replace him and Soham has suffered from a build up of litter. The result is that lots of complaints have come to the town council, who have not the resources to clean the streets of litter. The town council are looking to ECDC to provide cleaning from our streets but nothing seems to be forthcoming. There was a debate about who was responsible and a suggestion was made to look again at the contract made with Veolia and see where we stand. This is the time of year when there is a build up of leaves to add to the problem, and although there is always a need for a regular cleaning of our streets by someone, most of the litter, if not all, is dropped by irresponsible, anti-social people and the same goes for dog fouling. Apart from arguing about who should clear up somebody's litter, we should politely request them not to do so and fine them if they don't comply. People who park in wrong places get fined £30 a time now in Soham, but I have yet to learn of someone getting fined for litter. The intention is not to fine, but to encourage our people to take pride in our town and make use of the many bins provided including dog bins.

Application for Financial Support: This is the annual request from the Soham Association of Trade and Commerce for the insurance to cover the Christmas Lights. This was agreed to so that the people of Soham and those who pass through during this Christmas period, can enjoy the result of the labours of those who put them up each year. *Councillor Ginn*

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## Ely Consort

We are delighted to welcome Ely Consort to St Andrew's Church on Saturday, 30th November for a concert celebrating St Andrew's Day and Advent. The choir, which celebrated its 25th anniversary earlier this year will be performing music for Advent as well as Britten's *Hymn to St Cecilia* and Howells' *Take him Earth for Treasuring*. Please contact the Vicar on 01353 720423 or vicar@soham.org.uk for further details.



☆ **The Duck Race** The race went well with a slight wind and the weather was very fine. We dropped the ducks into the Lode at Brook Dam Lane in the middle of the pond, and it was first ducks underneath the foot bridge! Many thanks to everyone who took part, either on the day or by sponsoring a duck. We raised over £300 for St Andrew's Church. The Winners were: 1st (Duck No. 522) Molly Shaw, 2nd (Duck No. 119) Sarah Beeton, 3rd (Duck No. 82) Alison Evans and 4th (Duck No. 695) Emily Sargeant.

☆ **Remembrance Sunday Parade** This will assemble at the Beechurst entrance to the College at 2:15pm with the Laying of Wreaths at the War Memorial at 2:30pm. The Church Service begins at 3:00pm after which the parade marches to the Pavilion for tea.

☆ **200+ Prizes for recent draws were:** September £5 Mary Thompsett, £10 Angela Beaver, £15 Eliza Zgardowska, £25 Clare Fisher. **October** £10 Jenny Surridge.

☆ **Items for the December edition of LodeStar** should be submitted by Friday, 22nd November. E-mails should be sent to [peterdscott@btopenworld.com](mailto:peterdscott@btopenworld.com) or printed copy left at 22 Sand Street, Soham CB7 5AA. Note that there is no edition in January.

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## St Andrew's Day Concert

*Peter Lancaster writes on behalf of Ely Consort:*

"Ely Consort are delighted to be performing in St Andrew's Soham, our first visit for many years. The first half of the concert features three substantial choral works: we celebrate the 100th anniversary of the birth of Benjamin Britten with a setting of W.H Auden's words 'Hymn to St Cecilia'. St Cecilia is the Patron Saint of Musicians, and by a remarkable coincidence Britten was born on St Cecilia's day – 22 November, 1913. By another remarkable coincidence, John F Kennedy was assassinated on St Cecilia's Day exactly 50 years ago; for his memorial service, the English composer Herbert Howells was commissioned to write the incredibly moving anthem 'Take him, earth, for cherishing'. Our concert falls on St Andrew's Day, and in honour of this as well as the fact that we are performing in St Andrew's Church, we will be singing a fabulous Sixteenth Century setting of 'Andreas Christi famulus' (Andrew, a servant of Christ) by the little known composer Thomas Crecquillon.

The second half of the concert turns to an Advent theme, with some familiar favourites to herald the start of Advent the following day. We will be joined in this concert by Ely Cathedral's new Assistant Organist, Edmund Aldhouse, as our soloist, playing St Andrew's brand new pipe organ. Don't miss this chance to hear a concert which should truly contain something for everyone!"

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## Dates for the Diary

November 23rd, 7.30 pm	Opening Organ Recital at church
November 30th, 7.30 pm	Ely Consort Concert in church
1st December, 3.30 pm	Christingle Service
6th December, 6.00 - 9.00 pm	Christmas Fair - Christmas Stalls and events in church.
14th December	Christmas in the Aisles. KD Productions returns to St Andrew's for an evening of seasonal entertainment with the stars of the future.

# Just a few words

Tim Alban Jones

Dear Friends,

Readers of Lodestar will, I am sure, have noticed that we are getting a new organ at St Andrew's! During the last three or four weeks we have been watching with increasing excitement as the instrument has been taking shape. The Bishop of Ely is coming on Friday 8th November at 7.00 pm to bless the organ and this will be the first time it will be used for its primary purpose (leading our worship and praise of God). I do hope that many people will come to this service which will be followed by refreshments.

The inaugural recital will be on Saturday 23rd November at 7.00 pm (please note the slightly earlier time). We are thrilled and delighted that Andrew Lumsden, Organist and Director of Music at Winchester Cathedral will be playing for us. It promises to be a spectacular event. Tickets will be available from the vicar or on the door. An added attraction will be the live video relay so that we shall be able to see Andrew as well as hear him.

The following week we will be welcoming the Ely Consort to St Andrew's for a seasonal concert. The choir will be joined by Edmund Aldhouse, the new Assistant organist at Ely Cathedral. Further details are in a separate article in this edition of Lodestar.

I do hope that you will be able to come and hear the organ either at one of the concerts or any Sunday. This gives me a chance to say publicly how very fortunate we are with our organist here in Soham. Vicars and organists do not always get on or see eye to eye, but I could not be more fortunate than to have Peter Scott as my colleague here. His contribution to the worship and ministry at St Andrew's over many years would be hard to overestimate. I know that I am not alone in being grateful to Peter for all that he has done and continues to do.

With every good wish, *Tim Alban Jones*

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## PARISH REGISTERS

### Funerals

October 11th	Arthur Taylor
14th	Paul Jinks
22nd	Cyril Mann
29th	June King

### Baptisms

29th Sept	Macey Jean Pinkney
	Dexter Jack Palmer
	Sophie Jade Barron
6th Oct	Oliver James King
13th Oct	Kiera Elizabeth Harvey
	Georgia Rose Harvey
	Rohan Lumley

### Weddings

October 5th	Robin Sugg and Harriet Jugg
26th	Shawn Brinkley and Danielle Lee