

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



Did you know...?

- * The Mothers' Union currently has over **4 million** members in 83 countries.
- * The MU has a global voice with the power to influence world leaders.
- * The MU has representatives at the **United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (CSW)** which meets in New York to consider issues relating to women.
- * Many MU members from around the world were part of the **Anglican Consultative Council** delegation of women to the UN.
- * In the **UK** the MU is consulted on all legislation concerning families. Recently the MU CEO, Reg Bailey, has completed a Government Review on the commercialisation and sexualisation of childhood, entitled **Letting Children Be Children**.
- * For over 11 years, the Mothers' Union has run a Literacy and Development programme in Africa, where 80,000 people have benefited. Costing less than £30 to make someone literate, many have now achieved standard literacy levels.
- * The programme has been renamed the Literacy, Development and Financial Education Programme where literate learners are involved in many income-generating projects such as trading palm oil, rearing goats, rice and vegetable growing and handicraft making, which together with micro-loans enable them to improve their living standards.
- * More recently, MU Family Life Programme in Uganda works to bring families and Communities back together by facilitating learning groups to tackle common issues of daily life - soil erosion, food security, preventable illnesses, HIV/AIDS care, hygiene, diet and human rights.

Relief Aid

- * Emergency financial help is offered to Communities affected by natural disasters such as flood, famine and drought as well to help refugees from war-torn areas, including recently Nigeria, Sudan and Cameroon.
- * With networks of MU workers and leaders across the world emergency supplies can quickly be distributed to those most in need. MU has also worked in reconciliation projects to heal divisions in communities such as Rwanda and Kenya.

The MU Parenting Programme

- * The programme was launched over 11 years ago in the UK and Ireland and has now been extended to other countries. Now the programme has over 1000 facilitators both here and in Africa and the Caribbean.
- * Facilitators set up groups where parents participate, to share ideas, pick up practical tips and make friends in a supportive environment, and discuss the joys and challenges of raising children.

Prisons

- * Members work as volunteers in prisons worldwide. Help includes supporting prisoners' families in visitors' centres and women prisoners and their babies, and organising parenting groups.

[continued on the next page]



- ☆ **Soham Lodge Care Centre Fête** is on 10th August from 2pm to 4-30pm. Money raised will be for the residents fund and will be used for outings, entertainments and activities for the residents of Soham Lodge Care Centre. Admission is free. We will have many stalls including cakes and a cafe, a raffle, bottle stall, bric-a-brac, nearly new, lucky dip, face painting, books, crafts etc. We are located on the Soham bypass.
- ☆ **Teddies on the Tower** This popular event, planned for Saturday, 6th July has been postponed as it clashes with a number of other events on that day. Look out for the notices giving the revised date.
- ☆ **Winners for the 200+ Club** for June are: £5 - Viv Bridges, £10 - Joshua Pope
- ☆ **Items for the September edition of LodeStar** should be submitted by Friday, 23rd August. E-mails should be sent to peterdscott@btopenworld.com or printed copy left at 22 Sand Street, Soham CB7 5AA. Note that there is no edition in August.

Services for July and August

- | | |
|------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1st Sunday | 8.00 am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)
10.00am Sung Eucharist (Common Worship) |
| 2nd Sunday | 8.00 am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)
10.00am Sung Eucharist (Common Worship) |
| 3rd Sunday | 8.00 am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)
10.00am Family Service
7.00 pm Streams (a reflective service) |
| 4th Sunday | 8.00 am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)
10.00am Sung Eucharist (Common Worship) |

Please note that on the last Sunday in August (25th) we will be joining our sister church in Wicken at 10.30 am as they celebrate their annual Flower Festival, so there will be no service at 10.00 am here in Soham.

[continued from the previous page]

Campaigns

- ✱ MU actively campaigns for improvements in family life, most recently through the Bye Buy Childhood campaign, given active recognition by the government.

Spirituality

- ✱ The spiritual life of members is an integral part of the MU. Members worldwide are united in Prayer, Worship and Fellowship.
- ✱ The “Wave of Prayer” links members around the world, on a rolling programme of prayer 365 days a year, 24 hours a day.

In Ely we...

- ✱ run an Away From It All holiday scheme for families suffering financial hardship
- ✱ offer support to members through the Emergency Prayer Circle
- ✱ organise courses at Littlehey prison on parenting and relationships for prisoners
- ✱ host Mother and Baby tents at country shows
- ✱ support newly formed groups particularly for the young mother and her family, such as Mothers Union Mothers Active.
- ✱ publish ‘Economical Eating’, a cookery book for those on a limited income.

These are just some of the interesting facts about the MU. If you would like to know more visit the Central MU website: www.themothersunion.org or contact Judith Scott (01353) 720201 our MU Branch Leader at St Andrew’s

SCHOOL REPORT

Richard Liddington, Headteacher of St. Andrew's School



Soham Primary Schools

As most of you will be aware, Soham's third primary school, The Shade, admits its first intake of pupils in September. This is an exciting time for many residents as they prepare to send their children off to school for the first time. Far from being threatened by the opening of a new school, it's also an exciting time for both St Andrew's and the Weatheralls as we get the chance to further develop our curriculum initiatives and professional practice with another school in the town.

Both schools have already worked closely with the Staploe Trust in helping to establish this new school, which as you can see below, will share many of the principles already in place in our respective schools.

At St Andrew's we are particularly proud to release Lisa Gregory, our KS2 assistant headteacher to take up the role as Headteacher of The Shade. Anyone connected to St Andrew's will tell you what a truly outstanding professional Lisa is and there is no question that she is going to be a very hard act to follow. We are, however, absolutely delighted both for Lisa as she takes up this role, knowing that she will do a terrific job, as well as to have the opportunity to further develop our school partnerships.

Richard Liddington, Headteacher St Andrew's CE Primary School

THE SHADE PRIMARY SCHOOL

We are proud to announce the opening of The Shade Primary School in September 2013.

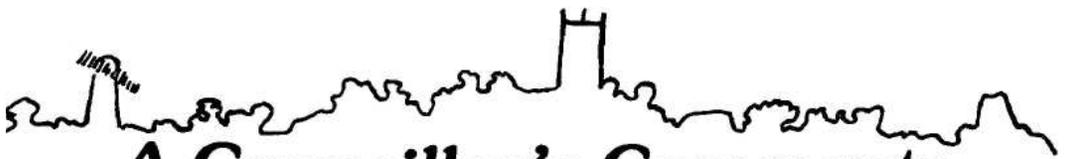
Our aim is for all children to master learning skills that bring a love of learning, achievement, confidence and independence, in order for them to be the designers of their future. To achieve this we will work with our partners to learn, develop and improve. The Shade and its community will encourage a caring attitude, take pride in our roots and celebrate our successes.

The Shade will offer a curriculum that will develop a love of learning, provide teaching that will be focused on the pupils' individual needs, encourage growth and strive for achievement. The children in our care will be at the heart of all our endeavours. Throughout the primary school journey, our pupils will develop the skills needed to become successful learners so that they can flourish into their secondary education.

Being part of the Staploe Education Trust offers fantastic opportunities for all, as we work closely with Kennett Community Primary and Soham Village College to deliver excellence and opportunities for all.

The new school building is due to be completed in November 2013. Therefore the pupils in the first Reception class will begin their school experience in temporary accommodation, at The Weatheralls Primary School. The aim is to move into the new building in January 2014. With spacious classrooms, superb facilities and an outstanding outdoor area, it will be worth the wait!

The Pre-school which we hope will open for 2 and 3 year olds will, eventually, open in the new building at The Shade. Admissions for this are anticipated to be Easter 2014, although could be sooner. At present, we do not have open applications for placements in Pre-School but once a definite date has been agreed for the opening, we will ensure it is widely publicised. *Lisa Gregory, Headteacher The Shade Primary School*



A Councillor's Comments

The May Council Meeting of 2013 was the time to elect a new Chairman and Vice Chairman for the coming year. This resulted in Councillor Palmer becoming Chairman and Councillor Fisher as Vice Chairman. This was followed by the appointment of committees for Planning, Cemetery and Allotments, Community Amenities, and the committee for the Community Facilities Working Party.

Public Comment Time: District Councillor Fordham pointed out that the parking in Pratt Street approaching the Weatheralls School was becoming dangerous during the times of drop off and picking up time. This presented a danger to pedestrians as offending vehicles were crossing the footpath in their endeavour to park. It was suggested that this was a matter for the police to deal with and also a point to be brought to the attention of the next neighbourhood panel meeting.

Audit Commission – Annual Return For The Year Ending 31st March 2013: This was presented to the meeting who resolved to accept these final accounts for the year, resolved to approve the statement of accounts as presented in section 1 of the annual return, and the council agreed in the affirmative to the eight questions in section 2. It was noted that the Auditor had not yet completed his work but his report will be presented at the next council meeting.

Matters Arising From The Minutes: It was noted that the resurfacing work at the Brewhouse Lane Play Area had now been completed, that Phil Rose in connection with Community Land Trust was going to discuss with the County Council the use of the Town's parcel of land for community land trust status in respect of the Eastern Gateway, and, as regards grazing on Qua Fen Common there were no cattle at present probably due to the lack of grass to feed on.

At our June meeting there was no Public Comment Time, so the meeting began at 7.15pm with chairman's announcements, which included that councillor Killick had resigned and the usual steps were being taken to seek a replacement.

Buildings of Local Interest: This item was presented by the conservation officer from East Cambs. She told us that there is a wide range of buildings and structures that people can nominate to be included on a local list, and gave us detailed criteria for their inclusion. If anyone can think of any such building or structure that they think should be included they should contact her; Lorraine Brown, East Cambs, The Grange, Nutholt Lane, Ely, CB7 4EE or lorraine.brown@eastcambs.gov.uk

Report of Internal Auditor 2012/13: We received this report, which is important to the running of the council's business. It's not just an approval for what has been done, but that it has been done in a proper manner. For this thanks are due to the clerk and deputy.

We had two presentations for the support of Bus Projects: The First was for the Connections Bus Project which has 20years experience of youth work in the county. They began visiting Soham in April 2012 parking on Kingfisher Drive having 3 trained youth leaders, who encourage the young people to engage with others to discuss current topics and share issues, while they can enjoy the facilities available to them, consoles, computers and other things. There is a real chance for the young people to share problems and issues with the youth leaders. They appear to be doing a good job, being there every Tuesday from 7-9pm.

The Second was for the Fenland Elite Youth Bus which has been in operation since 2007 in and around the Soham, Burwell, Bottisham locality having been set up by a group of Soham pupils and their parents.

The council considered both applications for funding and in the end decided to support both equally, because in their different ways they were engaging with the young people which, was good; and although what was given did not meet their total costs it was hoped other charities would fund the shortfall. It was requested that the Fenland Youth Bus find a venue at the Downfield end of Soham so more of Soham's young people can engage with the helpful service both projects offer them.

Grease is the word in Soham

Soham's Viva Youth Theatre has got chills
.... and they're multiplying!

viva!

arts & community group



And so too can you if you book tickets to the group's next show which is, no prizes for guessing, 'Grease the Musical'! The cast of 36 11-16-year-olds will take to the stage on 11th, 12th and 13th July (there is also a matinee performance on 13th) to perform the well-known story of teenage life and love.



Director, Mikey Kowalczyk, says: "Everyone knows 'Grease' so it's a great show to do – the audience are bound to be singing along with our fantastic cast!"

Tickets are already flying out the door so to book yours please contact the Viva office on 01353 722228 or email vivayouth@homail.co.uk as soon as possible. Alternatively you can book online at www.wegotickets.com and type 'Grease' into the searchbar.

The show is being performed at the Performing Arts Centre, Beechurst, Soham Village College, at 7.30pm each night with a 2.30pm matinee on Saturday 13th July as well as the evening show. Tickets are £12 and £10 concessions. ↔



Aaron Lord (Kenickie), Charlie O'Connor (Danny), Madison Eddy (Sandy) and Laura Day (Betty Rizzo)

And for another great evening's entertainment, why not go and see 'Footloose', the show Viva Touring is taking to this year's Edinburgh Fringe Festival in the summer? Home shows are 25th, 26th, 27th July at The Brook, Soham, a week before the cast head to Scotland. Tickets, £10 and £8 concessions, are already on sale via the telephone number/email/website above but this time type 'Footloose' into the search bar of wegottickets.com

Notes: Viva Youth Theatre now stages at least two major productions a year and has taken shows to the Edinburgh Fringe Festival – many of which have received five stars – and to a theatre off Broadway, New York. And the awards keep coming, the latest being the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service – The MBE for Voluntary Groups.

An adult theatre group has at least 30 members who perform at least two productions a year and Viva has branched out into other areas as well such as after school drama clubs and accredited arts training such as LAMDA (London Academy of Music and Dramatic Arts). In 2008 it purchased its own premises, a converted Methodist Chapel in Churchgate Street, Soham, where it continues to run its successful charity shop. The shop generates core funds for outreach and performance work. Without a doubt, Viva's roots are firmly planted in the local community and it continues to flourish.

Just a few words

Tim Alban Jones

The Vicar writes,

One of the very positive developments in the modern church over the past 50 years has been the growth of ecumenism – in other words, the way in which churches of different denominations and backgrounds have begun to work together more. In times past Christians often seemed to take great delight in emphasising the differences between different traditions rather than seeing the many things that we hold in common. The Church of England, as the Established Church, used to hold a dominant position and tended to look askance at other denominations (such as Methodists and Baptists) referring to them as ‘non-conformists’. These days we talk about our fellow- travellers as being from the ‘Free Churches’ and we are much better at co-operating and working together – though we still don’t always manage to get it right.

In the thirteen years that I have been in Soham it has been a blessing to have worked with colleagues from the other Christian churches here in Soham. I am now the longest serving paid minister in the town. Last month we said goodbye to our Associate Priest at St Andrew’s, Richard Worsley. This month sees more departures and arrivals in two of the other denominations.

Captain Emma Knights of the Salvation Army is leaving at the end of June. Emma has been a key player in setting up the Foodbank here in Soham and we are grateful to her for her support and commitment to our town. She is being succeeded by Kevin and Wendy Brown who are the officers at Waterbeach. They will be assuming responsibility for Soham in addition to their existing duties. We look forward to welcoming them here in Soham on Sunday 28th July at their induction service at 2.30.

The Reverend Sara Cliff, our Methodist minister in Soham is also leaving for pastures new and we wish her well in the next phase of her ministry. We will have a chance to say a goodbye to her at St Andrew’s in our morning service on July 21st. We look forward to welcoming and working with her successor.

In Christian ministry to the world it really is a case of ‘united we stand’. There are things over which we find it difficult to reach an agreement, but there are many more, important things over which we readily stand together. Our combined and united witness is far more effective than anything we can achieve on our own and is, we believe, in line with that unity which Jesus wills for his people, the church, on earth.

With every good wish, Tim Alban Jones

PARISH REGISTERS

Funerals

June 11th John Barcham Stevens

Baptisms

June 2nd Kane Freddie Peacock
 Jenson John Ivan Jarvis
June 9th Owen Brown
 Rowan Charley Seal
June 15th Libby Kate and Isabella Grace Allen

Weddings

June 15th Jason Allen and Lottie (Driver)