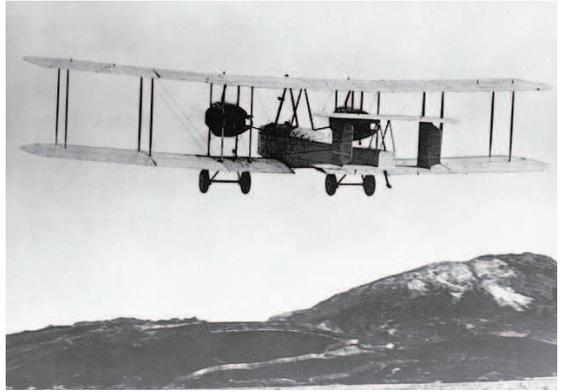

Services at the Parish Church	<i>1st Sunday</i>	10.00 am	Morning Prayer		
Sundays	8:00 am	Holy Communion (BCP)	10.00 am	Sung Eucharist (CW)	
Thursdays	10.00 am	Eucharist (BCP)	<i>3rd Sunday</i>	10.00 am	Family Service

Transatlantic Flight

This Lodestar article is being written on a sunny August evening as I sit at Minneapolis airport in the United States, waiting to board my return flight to London Heathrow, following a business trip. Flying the Atlantic safely, conveniently, and comfortably is something I know I take all too readily for granted, having done so on many occasions. Yet I know I should not.

I shall be home in Soham within 12 hours of boarding my flight, having travelled over 4,000 miles. From the mid-19th Century until the early 1960s, the main way to travel from the UK to the USA was by passenger liner, with a typical crossing time between Southampton and New York of five days. It is still less than 100 years since the Atlantic was flown non-stop for the first time and how very different that flight was to the one I will be taking.

On the 14 June 1919, in St John's Newfoundland, two aviation pioneers John Alcock and Arthur Brown climbed into the cockpit of their Vickers Vimy aircraft. This was a twin engine World War 1 biplane bomber, constructed like most aircraft at that time, mainly from wood, canvas and wire. It had been fitted with extra fuel tanks to make the flight possible. They took off at about 1:45pm local time. Almost sixteen hours later, they crash landed at Clifden in Connemara, County Galway, Ireland, seriously damaging their aircraft but escaping injury themselves.



As a result of successfully making the crossing Alcock and Brown became national heroes. The Secretary of State for Air, Winston Churchill, presented them with the Daily Mail prize for the first crossing by an aeroplane of the Atlantic Ocean in 'less than 72 consecutive hours', and they were awarded the honour of Knight Commander of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (KBE) by King George V. It was also the first transatlantic airmail delivery, as a small amount of mail had been carried on the flight.

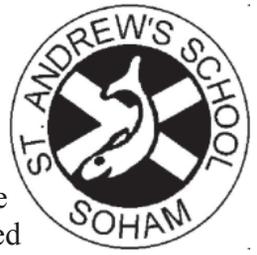
Their flight itself was far from the routine and comfort to which you and I are accustomed. The Vimy had an open cockpit, meaning Alcock and Brown were exposed to the elements throughout their flight. Brown had to climb out onto the wings six times during the flight to chip off ice that formed there. Several times, Alcock had to fly precariously close to the ocean, hoping that the warmer air of the lower altitude would melt the ice that kept clogging the engine. Their altitude during the flight varied between 12,000 ft. and sea level and their average speed was 115mph. Navigation was by map, compass and air speed indicator.

In stark contrast modern airliners are designed and built with advanced technology and materials. They have enclosed, pressurised, heated cockpits and cabins, fly at altitudes of up to 40,000 ft. and have a cruising speed of over 500 mph. Many sophisticated systems are installed to ensure they operate safely and efficiently at all times, including anti-icing and navigation systems.

So, the next time you fly anywhere, including on the low cost airlines, about which we are not often complimentary, spare a thought for those aviation long haul pioneers Alcock and Brown and appreciate their contribution to air travel. *Mark Campbell*

SCHOOL REPORT

Richard Liddington, Headteacher of St. Andrew's School



At St Andrew's we are proud to be one of the three primary schools serving the town of Soham. As a church school we are called to be distinctive, however, and we have recently reviewed what this should look like in practice. The outcome of this process is summarised in our revised logo below.



This statement isn't of course just about what we already do well but more importantly identifying the values that we deem to be 'core' to the life of our school and what we aspire to be like, in a time of continuing change.

So what do we mean by the strapline "Together, Loving to Learn, Learning to Love" and the core values of Excellence, Nurture, Respect, Integrity, Community and Hope?

The strapline reflects not just our commitment to ensuring that all of our pupils develop a life-long love of learning but also our Christian character and the command in John 13:34 to "Love one another as I have loved you." We benefit from excellent attitudes, behaviour and relationships between our pupils but this is something that needs to be continually developed through our curriculum, daily acts of collective worship and the expectations that we have of one another.

Our core value of Excellence primarily relates to ensuring that everyone connected with St Andrew's strives to ensure the highest quality of provision and academic achievement for our pupils, whatever their role or responsibility. This value also extends to the way in which the school operates, the professionalism shown by staff and the quality of relationships that operate between staff, pupils and parents.

Schools clearly carry a distinct responsibility to Nurture or support the many needs of our pupils and members of our wider community. St Andrew's prides itself on developing a climate where people receive the best possible levels of care, protection and opportunities for growth. In particular, we have a terrific team of support staff, who provide guidance and support to pupils and families on a wide range of social and emotional issues which affect both their learning and wider wellbeing.

The value of Respect is a long held value which makes a significant and positive contribution to the climate of our school. We serve a community of different cultures, religions and beliefs so the value of respect needs to be one which is universally demonstrated and fostered. Walk through our school at any point and you will see children and adults treating each other with high levels of respect and understanding.

Integrity is defined as "The quality of being honest and having strong moral principles" Trust is crucial to our effective operation as a school. Trust doesn't always come naturally but has to be built on strong foundations of implicit integrity among everyone connected with our school. Like any organisation we certainly don't always get it right but it is important that we strive to always conduct ourselves in the right way.

Schools are understandably seen as a central part of any community. We want St Andrew's to be a place that serves the needs of both our local and wider community as well as benefiting from the contributions that the community can make to our own lives. Evidence of both facets of this relationship can be found in our support for community events such as the Pumpkin fair, Remembrance Day parade, carol singing and church fete, as well as the many visitors who attend our school.

The world in which we live today can be very demanding. Schools have a special role in ensuring we equip children with the knowledge, skills and attitudes which provide them with a Hope for the future. We want to further develop the confidence and skills that events such as our annual production provide to ensure they are equipped not just for the next stage of their education but for a life filled with hope and optimism.

Living up to these values isn't of course without its challenges but it is our sincere hope and aim that they provide a framework for everyone connected with St Andrew's to operate within and become a consistent 'hallmark' for our school.

Richard Liddington

A Training Opportunity

Would you like to support your local primary school in a way that is really relevant to the schools needs and is a source of energy and motivation for your church?

Church Schools of Cambridge is launching a course on Lay Chaplaincy in schools in collaboration with the Diocese of Ely.

The course is part of the ALM-training program in the Diocese, and we are looking for clergy and PCCs to recommend people for the course, starting in September.

Working with schools is a vital part of the outreach of most churches, yet the size of the task can make a deep level of engagement seem impossible.

Lay Chaplains can be a huge asset to the church and school, if they are well trained, well supported, and have a clear role. Having real clarity over the role and matching their skills to the needs of the school is vital. Before starting the training, the trainee will work with the head and the incumbent to clarify their role in the school.

Successful participants will be authorised as Lay Ministers. Afterwards they will be supported by a network of Lay Chaplains and The Church Schools of Cambridge.

Anne Kristi Rimeslaatten, PA to the Director, The Church Schools of Cambridge

<http://www.csoc.org.uk> Twitter: @csocambridge

Facebook: The Church Schools of Cambridge

Anglican Chant at St Andrew's

It has been our custom at St Andrew's for the choir to sing a Psalm between the readings at the Sung Eucharist. During Advent and Lent we use Plainchant settings (also know as Plainsong) dating from Medieval times. At all other times the Psalms are sung to Anglican Chant, which has been used since around 1700.

The Service of the Word gives us all the opportunity of singing the words of the Benedictus to an Anglican chant. As we shall use the same music each month it is hoped that everyone will feel able to join in singing these traditional words.

A sheet will be available showing how the words fit the music - the first part of this sheet is shown below. We just need to remember that all the words up to the first barline are sung to the same note and that when the following bars have more than two syllables a dot in the text shows when we move to the next note.



1. Blessed be the Lord the God of Israel,
1. Who has come to his people and set them free.
1. He has raised up for us a mighty Saviour
1. Born of the house of his ser- vant David.

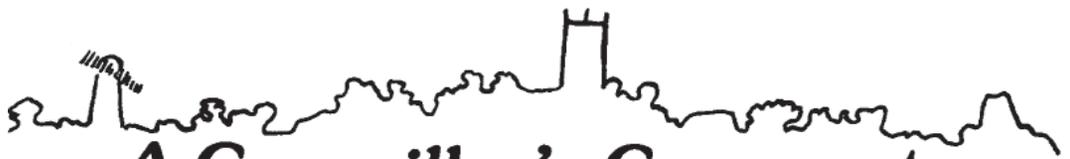
The Street Life Project

viva! After the success of Viva's previous Heritage Lottery Funded project Rich Soil Rich Heritage we are back with a new and exciting venture. Street Life will not only focus on Viva's arts & community group immediate community in Soham but we will be heading out into East Cambridgeshire to cover Ely, Littleport and Chatteris.

The project will be a bridge for the local people in Soham, Ely, Chatteris and Littleport to discover who lived and worked in their towns (possibly even their own houses) during the War from 1939-1945.



Project Manager, Hetti Wood, says: 'We are looking for local volunteers to get involved who will be recruited and trained to undertake archival research, oral history interviews to record local memories from people alive at the time, and photographic recording of buildings in the four towns. [continued on the next page



A Councillor's Comments

At our July Council meeting Mr. Ken Cranfield used Public Comment Time to congratulate Councillor Johnson in holding a surgery to receive questions and comments from members of the public.

Chairman's Announcements: The main Point concerned the possible closure of the footpath that goes through the college grounds during term time and school hours. There had been a meeting to consider this issue and the proposal brought to the meeting for a solution, was to put in place a camera to monitor the activities on the said pathway and position it near the Sports Centre. The meeting agreed to this. He also said we were to take over the care of the toilets from East Cambs who are giving us some funding to do so, but they will be bringing them up to a good condition first. East Cambs are also going to bring the bye-laws of the commons up to date because the present laws as they stand were set out by Newmarket Rural Council. CCTV is not currently running, we have everything in place at our end and we have the promise it will be running shortly.

County & District Reports: Councillor Palmer reported on the new street lighting for the town. He said there would be fewer lights but better. It would be cheaper to run.

Two Vacancies (North Ward): There were two applicants, David Woricker and David Chapman. Only David Woricker was present and he spoke a few words to the meeting before leaving to allow the council members for their consideration. They were in favour of David Woricker but not in the case of David Chapman.

Community Payback Scheme: Nick Ball of East Cambs gave a presentation of this scheme which involves using offenders to do useful tasks within the community as a way of paying back damage caused by their various offences. There was a wide range of jobs they would do under good supervision. And the council were asked to find various jobs that could be done, and request them via the clerk so they could be put in place. One task that came up that needs doing, is pulling up Ragwort from the common's before it is cut.

Community Facilities Working Party: This working party had met and it brought to the meeting the costing of the revised plan to begin the refurbishment of the pavilion. As there were insufficient funds to complete the full project immediately, the decision to begin the first stage with this revised plan was before the meeting. This included a better entrance, new roadway, and lighting and then the first stage of refurbishment of the existing pavilion itself. The proposal to demolish the St. John's building at the rear, and the erection of new hall, has been left in abeyance until the expected funds forthcoming from the Eastern Gateway Development are available. The plans to sub divide the existing L shaped room in the pavilion into smaller meeting rooms has impacted upon usage by the over 60's and the coffee morning who meet Friday's and Tuesday's. A letter was sent in by the secretary expressing their concerns. They were hoping that the dividing of the room would be left out for the present to accommodate their meetings and more especially the luncheons they hold from time to time. It was felt that we must proceed with the revised downgraded plan because the state of the facilities needed upgrading. After some discussion a vote was taken which was passed and the new plan will go out to tender.

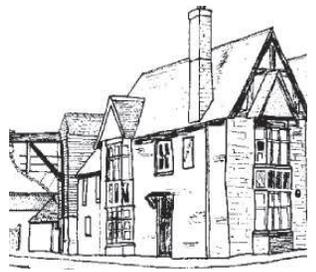
Councillor Ginn

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We cannot wait to get started and we hope we can drum up some local support'. Are you interested in becoming a volunteer? One of three launch events is on Saturday 12th September at Lodeside Hall of Soham Village College, Soham from 10am to 12noon and 2pm to 4pm.

If you would like to find out more about the project then get in touch via our website on www.hlfstreetlife.org.uk or call us on 01353 722 228. If you would like to become a volunteer or come along to one of our launch events please get in touch on volunteers.streetlife@gmail.com.

Do you have any further information that may be useful for the project? Would you like to share any objects or stories with us? Get in touch as would love to hear from you.



☆ **200+Club winners** July: £5 Rose Langham, £10 June Thorby; August: £5 Andrew Fleet, £10 Joan Brown

☆ **Items for the October edition of LodeStar** should be submitted by Friday, 25th September. E-mails should be sent to peterdscott@btopenworld.com or printed copy left at 22 Sand Street.

Soham Comrades Band

We have had an eventful year so far on the Contest front, although, because of a slight error in our postal department, we didn't take part in the regional qualifying contest at Stevenage this year. This was a big disappointment as we had already started rehearsing the test piece.

However, to counter this, we came a creditable second at an Entertainment Contest at Crawley on the 17th of May and we won some money!!

As you will see, we are not doing many Summer concerts this year. This is a new policy where we try to do better quality concert work and make up the shortfall in funds with a concerted effort over the Christmas period.

We have realized this year that we haven't really taken on enough summer jobs but next year we will try to find a better balance.

I am hoping that our list of Autumn and Winter engagements will be more exciting, which will include a repeat of the Addenbrookes Carol Concert in Cambridge just before Christmas. The remainder of our summer jobs are listed below:

Sunday, 9th August Hunstanton Bandstand at 2.00 pm

Sunday, 16th August Soham Bandstand - The Cherry Tree at 7.00 pm

Colin Smalley colin.smalley@hpn.ltd.uk 01353 721543

SOHAM MUSEUM & LOCAL HISTORY GROUP EVENTS

Thursday 3rd September Soham History Group presents 'A History of the Cambridge Colleges. Honour Ridout gives a fascinating insight into the foundation and workings of the colleges. 7.30pm at Berrycroft Methodist Church Soham. Admission £2.50, free to members

Saturday 5th September Soham Museum coffee morning. 10am – 12 noon at Soham library. Newly donated items of local historical interest will be on display. If you have any photos, artefacts or memories of Soham in bygone days, come along and share them with us. Or just come along for a chat and a coffee. All are warmly welcomed

Tuesday 8th September The Local and Family History Group's six week autumn term begins. Soham Library, 7pm – 9pm. Admission free. If you are interested in finding out about local and family history, do come along and join us!

The Mothers' Union

Soham Mothers' Union Welcomes Members and Friends to an evening entitled 'Be Still and Know That I am God'

I'm thrilled to say that our evening will be lead by Lynne Turner who many of you will know. She has some wonderful ideas for us to explore so it promises to be a lovely evening - do come and join us.

We will meet in St. Andrews on September 17th at 7-30pm

For those who are not familiar with Mother's Union we are a Worldwide Christian Charity who through our common faith with others at home and worldwide promote marriage, support and nurture families in all their different guises, help when things get tough, raise awareness of real issues concerning and effecting our society and families within our communities. If you feel you would like to find out more about MU please come and join us. We'd love to see you and a warm welcome awaits you.

Love and Blessings to you all. *Jan, Branch Leader 01638 721274*

Just a few words

Dear friends,

After the emotion of Tim's farewell at the end of July, and the lull in activities during August, we are entering a new phase in the life of St Andrew's Church. Over the coming weeks and months there will be reflection on how we see our future and the kind of leader we are looking for; there will be a recruitment process and hopefully, in a while, the appointment and, later, arrival, of a new incumbent. But what happens until then?

Being without a full-time leader doesn't change the role of St Andrew's Church. The Bible tells us that, as the people of God, we are the body of Christ. Between us we have a vast array of characteristics, skills, talents and gifts. We complement each other. Working together as a body, we represent Jesus in this place.

How do we do that? What does it mean to be the body of Christ? When Jesus was on earth in a physical body there were three characteristics of the way he lived that I would like to suggest we want to reflect. He loved unconditionally. He served. He gave sacrificially. With or without a full-time leader we can still represent Jesus in this place by loving unconditionally those around us. Out of that love we can serve those around us. In that loving service we can give sacrificially of our time and skills.

There is one other characteristic of Jesus that we also want to reflect: he put God at the centre. At the heart of his loving, serving and giving was his relationship with his Father. As a priority he took time out by himself and with his followers to be with God. In the busyness of our lives this can seem almost impossible to do, but there are ways forward. There are many resources to support us in taking time out with God. Some online resources, giving space for prayer and reflection, can be found at www.wordlive.org, www.pray-as-you-go.org, www.sacredspace.ie and the Daily Prayer App from the Church of England website. Soham Books sells a range of resources for prayer and Bible reading. For those with minimal time, the book *Twitturgies* (reviewed below) provides a very short daily prayer which can be revisited and reflected on throughout the day. For being with God in the company of others, our Sunday services, Thursday morning communion, our home group (on Tuesday evenings, recommencing in September after the summer break) and those at St Laurence's in Wicken, give space to do this, as do the quiet days run at Bishop Woodford House in Ely (www.bishopwoodfordhouse.com) and others further afield.

This is the beginning of a new stage in our life together. In some ways it will without doubt be challenging. But it also provides us with an opportunity to look afresh at our calling, our priorities and our life together. I pray that over the coming months we will grow together as we take time to be with God and as we represent Jesus in this place.

Ruth Dennigan. Licensed Lay Minister, Soham and Wicken

Book Review: *Twitturgies* by Gerard Kelly (Integrity Media Europe, Eastbourne 2011)

If you have trouble formulating your prayers, or finding time to pray, then this book is for you. *Twitturgies* are brief prayers written using the Twitter format of 140 characters or less. There is no need for prayers to be long and wordy; many of us don't have the time or ability for this anyway. *Twitturgies* provides a daily prayer encapsulating what we are wanting to say to God and pointing us in the direction of hearing his response. They are both brief and deep. They are also memorable so that, having prayed the day's twitturgy first thing in the morning, it comes to mind throughout the day and, in that ongoing reflection, God speaks. This book could revitalise your prayer life.

