

<b>Services at the Parish Church</b>		1st Sunday	10.00 am	Morning Prayer
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

## MU CELEBRATION

To mark 140 years of Mothers' Union nine members of the Soham Branch attended an open day at Mary Sumner House in London, the hub of MU, where our founder Mary Sumner planned ways in which families could be helped and encouraged within marriage, underpinned by faith in God. We travelled in appropriately named 'Lords Travel' mini coach.



We toured the house viewing displays from around the world each depicting gifts lovingly made from members which were quite amazing. The talent shown was wonderful to see and gave you an insight into all the individual countries. To see how MU projects have changed communities was wonderful too.



One such Project was sending sewing machines to Uganda some years ago, Our Worldwide President Lynne Tembey told us that on a recent visit there she saw how the sewing machines had enabled woman to start their own businesses changing lives, giving hope where previously there was none. Spending time in the chapel was very moving. We lit candles for

loved ones and situations that touched us individually; to think we were praying where Mary Sumner supporters and others over the years have prayed for the continued work and situations MU holds so dear was quite humbling.

The MU shop was fun to browse in, dare I say I brought a rather lovely Advent Candle (must remember where I put it when the time comes though). For me one of the special times was sitting together for lunch, which was pre-ordered and presented in a brown paper lunch bag. We had time to chat, laugh and share ideas for our Branch. Our day ended with a Service of Thanksgiving which was very special too. Homeward bound in 'Lords Travel' was a fitting end to a most enjoyable day; giving thanks that our Branch in Soham is part of the legacy Mary Sumner started 140 years ago. It's a privilege to continue this in Soham and Worldwide. The photo above is of our group in one of the rooms at Mary Sumner House with a picture of a young Mary Sumner behind us.

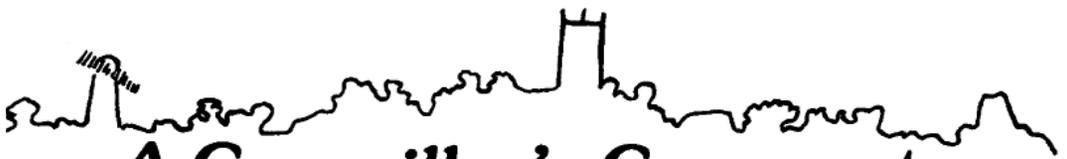
Mary Sumner's Personal Prayer written by her in 1876:

*All this day O Lord let me touch as many lives as possible for thee  
And every life I touch, do thou by thy spirit quicken,*

*Whether through the word I speak, the prayer I breathe, or the life I live. Amen.*

I hope and pray this will be for us as it was for Mary Sumner our own personal prayer and strength in our families, workplaces, churches and the wider community of Soham. Love and Blessings to you all., *Jan Frost Branch Leader*

To find out more about MU call Jan 01638 721 274. Next meeting AGM and enrolling of two new members and Bring and Share Finger Food Supper 15th September Millbrook House 7-15pm.



# A Councillor's Comments

At our July Meeting there was no one to take up the option of Public Comment so the meeting proceeded with chairman's announcements. The main item on the agenda were the figures available on the refurbishment of the Pavilion and the decision that the council had to make. This project has taken a long time as there had been problems along the way. We had to make a second scheme because the first design company went into liquidation and then, because some funding we were expecting from the Eastern Gateway Development was not yet available we had to restructure the overall scheme to meet the costs. After some reports and guidance presentations, the council accepted one of the options before us. So the work was going ahead in August and hopefully completed in a six month period. Although this present scheme will not be the full scheme which was originally presented and approved, it is hoped that when the money does become available for the development then it may be possible to fulfil the complete desired scheme. Our next council meeting will be on 12th September at the back of the pavilion, in what was St John's room.

*Councillor Ginn*

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## An invitation from Ely Cursillo



### A Quiet Day of Reflection, Prayer and Contemplation

*“Come unto me all of you who are  
weary and heavy-laden and  
I will give you rest”*

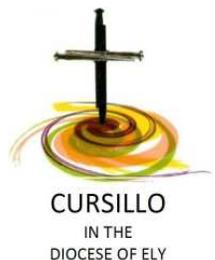
Saturday, 8th October, 2016  
from 9.30am to 3.00pm

at St Andrew's Church, Soham, Ely, Cambs

Car parking at recreation ground at rear  
of church in Fountain Lane, CB7 5ED

Light refreshments will be provided  
but please bring your own lunch.

Bookings and queries to  
Lynne Turner on 01353 722146  
or email: [turnerlynne7@aol.com](mailto:turnerlynne7@aol.com)



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## CREATIVE MINDS

*St Andrew's Church*

Have you ever thought you'd like to try 'art' but never had the courage or resources? Come along and have a go at 1.30 pm on Wednesday afternoons. All materials are provided free and there's unlimited tea and coffee. There's also lots of chat and laughter. We don't take ourselves too seriously, so why not give us a try? *Sheila Roach*

## Soham Ecology Group

This group has now had three meetings and has agreed that we will meet monthly on the first Saturday of each month at 10 am in the meeting room of Millbrook House.

We would like to invite all who are interested in the protection of the environment to come and join us as we discuss ways in which we can improve access to nature and the environment of our town and find ways in which we can live more sustainably using less of the earth's valuable resources.

With this in mind, last month I wrote about the need to think carefully about how we travel. Is it possible to cycle, walk or use public transport in preference to always using the car, thereby reducing the carbon emissions that are over-heating our world?

This month I want to consider how we can further reduce our carbon footprint by thinking about the way in which we use electricity. Electricity seems to me to be the driver of our entire society from mobile phones, social media and computing to the hundred and one gadgets that we all seem to have around our homes. It seems as though the majority of us run our lives with electricity and where would we be without it? Yet few of us think about where it comes from and what produces it and we all take it for granted.

According to Energy UK 53% of our electricity is created from fossil fuels (i.e. oil, coal or gas), 22% is generated by Nuclear Plants and 25% comes from renewable energies. Therefore over half of the electricity we use comes from sources which harm our planet.

It seems that there is little we can do about this and yet there is always something. For those who may be a little more political we could ask the government to drop shale gas exploration and put the money into renewable energies instead. We can change our energy supplier to one that uses only renewable energy sources. We can switch off anything that is not in use and use our electricity less wastefully. Getting rid of the tumble drier, for example, reduces electricity bills by a surprising amount (1 hour a week costs about 45p for 2Kwh). I'm not calling for a return to the days of manual domestic labour; I appreciate labour saving devices in my own home but when we do need to replace such appliances it does make sense to opt for one that has an AA or AAA rating because of their improved efficiency.

All of these things will of course save us money but they also have the effect of reducing our carbon footprint and helping to reduce climate change. If we can reduce the amount of fossil fuels we use then we have the additional benefit of reducing global warming. To quote a recent supermarket advertising campaign 'Every little helps!'

To find further information about the effect of fossil fuels on global warming and what we can do, go to the Christian Aid web site (link below) and look at their campaign to get governments to live up to their promises and take action to limit climate change to less than 2°C. If you would like to join in discussion about these sorts of issues then come along to the next SEG meeting which is on Saturday 3rd of September.

<http://www.christianaid.org.uk/ActNow/find-out-more/background-information/climate-justice-background.aspx> *Linda Logan*

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# PARISH REGISTERS

## FUNERALS

21st July	Andrew James Young (aged 54 years)
25th August	David William Thompson (aged 73 years)

## WEDDINGS

2nd July	Ryan Fretwell & Lisa Porteus
20th August	Jason Bradley Imeson & Samantha Brook

# Street Life 1939-1945

A bridge to the local history on your doorstep



Ever wondered what your high street was like during WW2? Then we have the exhibition for you. Street Life is very excited about our tour dates that continue this weekend in our visits to Chatteris and Littleport. So far we have been very well received at all of our events and the sun has kept shining so fingers crossed for this weekend as well. If you could help spread the word about our upcoming events that would be fantastic.



Our pop-exhibition is FREE to attend and is suitable for all ages. We have worked with our local volunteers from each town to create an exhibition that makes the local history accessible to the local people as well as presenting it in a fun and interactive way. On top of our tours we have been visiting local schools, organisations and societies. Do get in touch with any questions and we hope to see some of you at The Brook, Soham on 6th August from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm or Ely Market on 7th August from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm.

Facebook: StreetLifeHLF • Twitter: @StreetLife\_HLF • Web: [www.hlfstreetlife.org](http://www.hlfstreetlife.org)  
*Hetti Wood, Project Manager, Street Life 1939-1945*

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## With Grateful Thanks

We all owe a huge debt of gratitude to Mrs Sylvia Hobbs who, for over 20 years has voluntarily managed the monthly preparation and counting out of LodeStar for the deliverers - even delivering a good many copies herself. Sylvia is now 'retiring' from this onerous task and we thank you so much, Sylvia, for your faithful service; what would we have done without you? Three volunteers have now shouldered this responsibility.

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### Wicken

Sunday, 9th October

Harvest Festival Service at 6.30 pm

Saturday, 15th October

Harvest Auction and Ceilidh at Wicken Hall at 6.30 pm

### Soham

Sunday, 2nd October

Morning Prayer for Harvest at 10.00 am



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## HARVEST

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## Heritage Open Days

September 9th – 11th

If you are looking for something to do on the second weekend of September, Ely and Cambridge are both taking part in Heritage Open Days with tours, talks and exhibitions and the chance to see historic buildings not normally open to the public.

**Ely** events are free but some must be pre booked via Ely's Tourist Information Centre: 01353 662062 Email: [tic@eastcambs.gov.uk](mailto:tic@eastcambs.gov.uk)

Friday 9th September – Open Night in Ely: Oliver Cromwell's House, The Stained Glass Museum and Ely Museum will open their doors with free admission in the evening so you can experience these atmospheric buildings after hours.

Saturday 10th September – Open Tours. Enjoy free guided walk around Ely City's Centre as well as guided tours of Ely's Visitors Attractions including The Old Palace.

Sunday 11th September – Open Houses. See behind the doors of a variety of buildings not normally open to the public including Silver Street Cottages, Monastic Barn, Ely Porta, Ely Cathedral and Prior Crauden's Chapel.

**Cambridge** has exhibitions and tours on subjects from Antarctic exploration at the Scott Polar Museum to Cambridge Market at Great St Mary's and the college boathouses. More details can be found at [www.opencambridge.cam.ac.uk](http://www.opencambridge.cam.ac.uk)



- ☆ **St Andrews' Home Group** Are you interested in exploring your faith in greater depth in the company of others? Join us fortnightly (usually - but not always! - on Tuesday evenings) for informal discussion centred around Bible study and topical issues. For more information contact Ruth Dennigan on 01353 725152 or [ruthdennigan@talktalk.net](mailto:ruthdennigan@talktalk.net)
- ☆ **Soham Museum History Group** presents 'Memories of an Ely Man', Thursday 1st September, 7.30pm at Berrycroft church hall. Local historian Mike Rouse shares his memories of growing up in Ely in the 1950s and 60s. Mike's new book 'The Story of Ely' will be on sale. Admission free for members, £2.50 for non-members.
- ☆ **Soham Museum Coffee Morning**, Saturday 3rd September, 10am – 12 noon at Soham library. Bring along your items or photos of local historical interest to share with others, or just come along for a chat and a coffee. All welcome
- ☆ **Winners of the 200+ Club for July and August:** July - £5 Charlotte Clark, £10 Carole Reeve; August - £5 Dorothy Clark, £10 Margaret Fisher.
- ☆ **Items for the October edition of LodeStar** should be submitted by Saturday, 24th September. E-mails should be sent to [peterdscott@btopenworld.com](mailto:peterdscott@btopenworld.com) or printed copy left at 22 Sand Street, Soham CB7 5AA.

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## New Vicar

We are delighted to announce that we have appointed a new vicar. The Revd Eleanor Whalley is currently curate at St Mary's in St Neots. Before she was ordained she was involved in church administration at St Andrew's, Chesterton, running the church hall and editing the parish magazine. She will be licensed at an evening service on 14th November.

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## Pumpkin Fair

This year's Pumpkin fair will be held at the rec on Saturday 24th September from 1.30pm - 5pm. Competition entries must be brought to the fair between 9.30am and 11.30am for judging. This year there will be a Children's Fancy Dress competition on the theme of 150 Years of Beatrix Potter!



The fair has been running since 1975 and is held annually on the last Saturday in September. Every year they raise money for local charities, while providing the community with an enjoyable day out. Other attractions include Vintage Vehicles, Bygones, Charity Stalls, Arena Displays by local groups, a Funfair, BBQ, Refreshments, Raffle and Prize Giving Ceremony.

More details and entry forms can be found at [www.sohampumpkinfair.co.uk](http://www.sohampumpkinfair.co.uk) or look out for the programmes around town.

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## A Request

Timothy Clark is trying to get together sufficient information about Jessie Hunt to write a feature on her for the Soham Town Forum. Here is Councillor Elizabeth Johnson admiring her tulip which survived in her garden and which she gave to my mother. Her brother Billy Hunt was a great friend of my father and went down with H.M.S. Hood.

They did a great deal for Soham and there may well be people who, like me, remember them when they were children. If you have recollections of Jessie then Timothy Clark would be glad to hear from you - or e-mail him at [timothy.r.clark@btinternet.com](mailto:timothy.r.clark@btinternet.com)



# Just a few words

Ruth Dennigan

Dear friends,

As I write this we are fast approaching the bank holiday weekend and I am in the midst of preparing to go to Greenbelt, the festival billed as “a collision of the arts, faith and justice”. This will be my third visit and the programme looks to be as good as ever. Using about twenty venues around the site, there is a range of music, performing arts, visual arts, talks, workshops and worship. Contributors come from around the globe and this year are considering areas as diverse as immigration, justice and joy, the state of the Church, mindfulness, climate change, designer babies, child exploitation, sexuality, politics, and building community. The music and arts are as diverse as the topics, and so is the worship. There is the opportunity at Greenbelt to worship God in a wide variety of ways; with the Celtic, Franciscan, Northumbrian and Corrymeela Communities; with Godly Play, Forest Church and Wild Church; in silence, song, dance, nature, Bible study, creativity, activism and story... Not only is there something for everyone but there is ample opportunity to try something new!

The diversity of the festival reflects the diversity of the people of God. God’s people are a mixed bunch, with wide-ranging - and sometimes conflicting – passions, priorities and preferences. God doesn’t call us all to be the same, to be concerned about the same issues, to worship in the same way. The Bible uses the analogy of the body; God’s people are like one body made up of many different parts, with different gifts, abilities and functions. Following Jesus isn’t about becoming clones, it’s about becoming, through our relationship with God, more fully who we were made by God to be; in all our glorious diversity, taking our places as unique parts of the one body, the people of God. Not only, as Greenbelt shows, can that diversity exist in one place; but it is essential that it does. To be a fully functioning body as the people of God here in Soham, we need that diversity: to respect and welcome the differences in each other. Reflecting on this leads me to wonder: how well do we currently reflect that diversity at St Andrew’s, in the opportunities we provide for worship and for growth? How good are we at respecting and welcoming difference? Perhaps we could consider, over the coming weeks, in what ways we could work on this.

In the mean time, I’m looking forward to being part of that diversity this weekend. Why not think about experiencing Greenbelt for yourself? If you’re not keen on camping there’s the option to stay off site, or as it’s not far away (just north of Kettering) if you’d like to dip your toe in the water it’s possible to go just for a day. If you’d be interested in going as part of a group next year then let me know.

Ruth Dennigan, *Licensed Lay Minister, Soham and Wicken*

Book Review: Disappointment, Doubt and other Spiritual Gifts by Mark Yaconelli (SPCK, London 2016)

We may not easily see disappointment, doubt, anger, suffering, burn-out, loss or other difficult circumstances as spiritual gifts. But Yaconelli demonstrates that in facing them with honesty and with God they can become gifts which make us more whole, more compassionate towards others and more open to receiving and sharing God’s love. Without minimising the difficulty of these experiences, this book takes a hopeful look at many of the challenges we face. It is available to buy from Soham Books.

