
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 All Age Service

Autumn at St Andrew's Church

We have a busy couple of months coming up at St Andrew's Church. As well as our usual pattern of services and groups such as the Bread Basket café, we have a number of special services and fundraising events coming up. We hope you can join us for at least some of these.

Quiz and Puddings Night



Saturday, 16th September, 6.30 for 7pm start at St Andrew's School, Soham. £2 per head (pay on the door) to include puddings. Max. 6 people per team. Please bring your own drinks. All welcome!

Creation Songs of Praise

Come & sing your favourite hymns at our Songs of Praise for Creation.

St Andrew's Church, Soham.

Sunday 1st October at 4pm

followed by tea and cake

Animals and humans all welcome



'Last Night of the Proms' concert

Saturday 7th October, 7.30pm St Andrew's Church, Soham

with Newmarket Town Band.

Tickets £7 from 01353 721920

www.sohamandwicken.org.uk



Harvest Ceilidh

In aid of St Andrew's Church, Soham
Ceilidh and Ploughman's Supper

Saturday 14th October 6.30pm at St Andrew's School, Soham

Folk music by The Cyriacs with dancing led by a caller.

Please bring your own drink and glass. (Squash provided)

Tickets from Jo: 01353 723452.

Adults: £10 Children: free



I am writing this in August; for football fans like me that means the start of the new season and the transfer window. Each year players move from club to club during the month and each year the fees get higher and higher and records are set for the cost of players. This year a new world record was set when Neymar moved from Barcelona to Paris Saint-Germain for £196 million. That is an eye watering amount. It is more than five times the cost of the new Ely bypass, it would run every school in Cambridgeshire for 8 months or Addenbrookes hospital for 3 months.

Until the end of August dozens of players will move between clubs, each one valued at different amounts from free to tens of millions. The truth is that any player is worth what someone is willing to pay for them. A player's value is judged on skill, age, how desperate one club is to buy them or another is to sell them. It is a market and that is how markets work.

The labour market is the same, a financial trader who can make millions for their company is paid hundreds of thousands a year while a care worker who tends the elderly is paid little more than the minimum wage. But who is worth more to society and how do we judge? Is a plumber worth more than a nurse, an estate agent more than a teacher? These are market decisions decided by market forces.

Jesus had a different view. In one of his parables Jesus tells of the owner of a vineyard who hires workers at daybreak, then more at 9, 12, 3 and 5 o'clock. When work stops at 6 o'clock he pays each one the same amount no matter how much or how long they have worked. Jesus' point is that within the Kingdom of God we are each worth the same amount; all of us are valued equally in the eyes of God, whether we are the first or the last, the highest or the lowest. That is how the Kingdom of God works, there are no favourites, it is based on equality, righteousness, justice, love and mercy.

God has a value for each of us and has already paid for every one of us. He paid the price so that our sins may be forgiven, and he paid the same price for each of us, you, me and Neymar. The cost was the life of His Son Jesus Christ. Jesus died so that all who believe in Him may not perish but have eternal life, and have life now in all its fullness. That is how much you are worth in the eyes and the heart of God, you are worth the life of His Son

Colin Watkins

Back to School with St Andrew's Church

We wish all children and young people well as they begin a new school year especially those who are starting at a new school or college.

St Andrew's Church works with all the schools in Soham. The Vicar and one of our Worship Leaders, Delia Tickner, take school assemblies as does the Methodist Minister, Colin Watkins. Members of the congregation are governors or go in to help out. We also welcome visits to the church from schools.

Claudia Stein-Carr, who has passed her youth ministry training with flying colours, provides drop in sessions at Soham Village College which are proving popular. She also runs (in conjunction with Soham Action 4 Youth) a fortnightly youth cafe for young adults (15+) at Café Skylark.

In church we have a Sunday school most weeks in term time at 10am except for the third Sunday in the month which is our all age service. Little Fishes is a group for under 5s and their carers which meets on Tuesday afternoons. Messy Church sessions include craft activities for children, a Bible story and a hot meal. The next one is on 26th September from 3.15 - 5.00pm.



☆ **Winners of the St Andrew's 200+Club for July:**

£5 June Thorby, £10 Dominic Cater; **for August:**
£5 G. Fletcher, £10 Mrs. F. Carter

☆ **Methodist Wives' Club** meet at 7.30pm on the Third

Thursday of each month at the Methodist Church Hall, Berrycroft. All are welcome.

☆ **Soham, the Fen and Barway WI** meet on the first Friday of the month at 7.30pm in the ground floor coffee lounge in Millbrook House. Come and join a friendly group that has been running for over 70 years in Soham. For more information contact Carol Weyman on 01353 360289

☆ **Tuesday Twilight WI** meet on the second Tuesday of each month at the Fountain Pub at 7.30pm. Part of a new wave of WI's who aren't just Jam and Jerusalem, we have had some diverse evenings – the September meeting features a talk on dog behaviour.

☆ **Items for the October 2017 edition of LodeStar** should be submitted by Wednesday 20th September.



Please send material to 50 Mildenhall Road, Fordham, Ely, Cambs, CB7 5NR or email to alison.evans7@btopenworld.com.

SOHAM MUSEUM EVENTS : September 2017

Saturday, September 2nd 10am – 12 noon at Soham Library, Clay Street, Soham: Soham Museum Coffee Morning – bring along any items of local historical interest you may have, or just join us for a chat and coffee, All welcome.

Thursday, September 7th 7.30pm at Methodist Hall, Berrycroft (off Pratt Street) , Soham, CB7 5BL

Soham Museum presents Film night 'Operation Harvest', the war effort on land through archive and contemporary film, narrated by Ian Lavender. £2.50 admission, members free.

Saturday, September 23rd 10 – 12 noon at Comrades Club, Market Street, Soham: Soham Museum Traditional Jumble Sale. Clothes, vintage, books, bric-a-brac, household items, tools. 20p admission.

Soham Pumpkin Fair

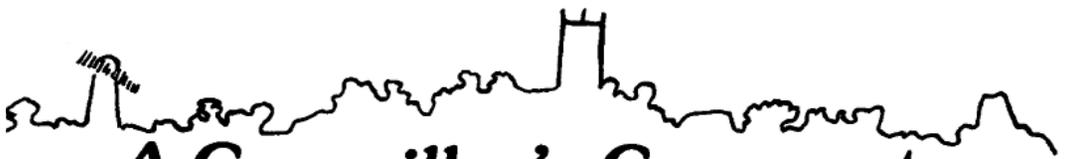


Are your pumpkins and sunflowers growing well? This year's fair is on Saturday 30th September from 1.30 – 5pm on the recreation ground and its theme is Twenty Years of Harry Potter. This year's beneficiaries will be Soham Community First Responders and

Soham Creative Minds, for whom we will be raising money by holding competitions for the largest pumpkin, sunflower and various other vegetables; there are also other competitions ranging from cookery to poetry.

Entry forms for the competitions can be downloaded from <http://www.sohampumpkinfair.co.uk> or look out for the printed programmes. Entries must be taken to the recreation ground between 9.30 and 11.30am.

Other attractions include Vintage Vehicles, Bygones, Charity Stalls, Arena Displays by local groups, a Funfair, BBQ, Refreshments, Raffle and Prize Giving Ceremony.



A Councillor's Comments

Our July council meeting was quite a long one, and the Public Comment Time extended beyond the 15 minutes allocated to it. We had three people making use of it to express their concerns. Ken Cranfield felt that the Soham District Councillors were not fully representing the people of Soham when it came to planning. Plans were being passed on developments which Soham residents and Soham Town Council disapproved of. Janet Metcalf spoke about where the exit from the Eastern Gateway would join the town. Pratt Street was originally stated but now it appears Brew House Lane has been mentioned and she was very concerned about that. Graham Loasby spoke in response to our council's decision to no longer manage the commons when the higher stewardship of the commons came to an end. We had received a grant to manage the commons to an expected level of care. But this funding was coming to an end. Graham also in his written handout said the first important issue to be addressed would be to replace the old Commons regulations, established by Newmarket Rural District Council many years ago; by a new set of rules. This council has tried extremely hard in recent years to do just that, but East Cambs. said they could not update the regulations by another authority. There is a conflict of interests regarding the commons and this needs to be resolved, and the council would welcome an opportunity to resolve the management of these commons, so unique and important to our town.

Chairman's Announcements: Apart from meeting dates, our chairman said in the light of the Fire in London she felt there was a need that we should put in place an action plan, so that if ever there was such an emergency there would be a ready plan as to where people could be evacuated too. There was also a meeting planned for a working party to discuss phase two of the refurbishment of the pavilion.

County Council and District Councillors reports: The District councillors had already faced questions during Public Time, but County Councillor Hunt began to give a long and detailed report on the County Council's plans for the short and long term, but our chairman told him he had already used more than his allotted time, and that we had not at that time really begun on the Town Council's agenda. He in future will be more aware of what is expected of him regarding his time slot.

Expulsion of Press and Public: This was to allow updates on the Eastern Gateway Agreement and the proposed sale of the Ambulance Station. There was nothing on the Eastern Gateway and the Ambulance Station is on hold until the exact ownership of the Station is resolved. *Councillor Ginn*

Local Council Information

To find out more about the town council including the minutes, go to their website: <http://www.soham-tc.gov.uk/>

East Cambridgeshire District Council deals with planning matters as well as rubbish collection, littering, licensing matters, social housing and collection of council tax. Their website is <https://www.eastcambs.gov.uk/>

Cambridgeshire County Council can be found at <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/> and deals with schools, libraries and social care among other things. You can also find timetables for the local buses on their website.

The Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority led by Mayor, James Palmer also has a website here: <http://cambridgeshirepeterborough-ca.gov.uk/>

PARISH REGISTERS

Baptisms

July 2nd	Holly Marie Elizabeth Jarvis
July 9th	Olivia Vivienne Holmes
July 9th	Aidan Christopher Paul Wood
July 18th	Evanus Karinauskas Matas Karinauskas
July 23rd	Olivia Julia Irons Amy May Bulman
July 30th	Scarlett Rhianna Hamblyn Amelia May Hiskett
August 27th	June Edwards

Weddings

June 3rd	Paul Robert Whiterod & Natalie Bell
June 24th	Matthew Burch & Emma Carter
July 1st	Samuel William James & Hayley Jayne Gilks
July 15th	Jason Honeywood & Chelsea Burgess
August 20th	Luke Paul Tams & Charlotte Ann-Marie Ashdown

Funerals

5th June	Len Langdon (aged 90 years)
June 27th	Maureen Griggs (aged 69 years)
July 10th	Charlie Fitt (aged 15 years)
July 27th	Frederick John Samuels (aged 59 years)
August 8th	Dawn Swann (aged 59 years)
August 14th	Vera Martin MBE (aged 98 years)
August 16th	Daphne Pryor (aged 71 years)

Interment of Ashes

July 28th	Pamela Helen Rind
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10am Services for Early Autumn

September

3	Morning Prayer	12th Sunday after Trinity
10	Sung Eucharist	13th Sunday after Trinity
17	All Age Eucharist	14th Sunday after Trinity with volunteer paramedics talking about Aid Camps International
24	Sung Eucharist	15th Sunday after Trinity - President & Preacher: Revd. Canon Dr. Mike Booker, Ely Diocese

October

1	Sung Eucharist	Harvest Festival with a talk by Howard Laver from our local Foodbank
8	Sung Eucharist	17th Sunday after Trinity

A View from the Vicarage



The Summer

‘Ah yes, the summer...’ said Flanders to Swann (or was it the other way round?) ‘...I missed it last year; I was in the bathroom’. As I type, with the end of August fast approaching, the summer (such as it has been) still has a few weeks left in which to prove itself. As, I might say, do I. The list of jobs I’d set myself for these so-called quieter weeks (you’ll remind me I only work one day a week) bears an incomplete quota of ticks, and I’ve an ever-growing mental equivalent of the list, which hasn’t even made it onto paper.

The fruits of at least some of St Andrew’s’ collective labours are visible in this edition of Lodestar. You’ll have spotted the notices about forthcoming events: the quiz (Sat. 16 Sept., 6.30 for 7pm at St Andrew’s School); Songs of Praise for Creation on Harvest Sunday 1 October at 4pm – do bring an animal if you’d like to, along with an appetite for the tea and cake that will follow the singing; and our very own ‘Last Night of the Proms’. Why trek to the Albert Hall when Newmarket Town Band will be here on our doorstep, in church on Saturday 7 October at 7.30pm? Bring your own flag, or buy one of those on sale at the interval. And please do spread the word: the concert is being organised by St Andrew’s Fundraising Committee, and we hope to draw a good crowd.

All these events (and others) are listed in our new church calendar, a ‘What’s On from September to December’, now available at the back of church for anyone who’d like to take one away. The calendar includes details of all the services and public events that are happening up to and including Christmas, so it’s worth getting hold of one and sitting down with it alongside your diary...

Looking back, and setting aside the above, what else stands out for me as part of the warp and weft of this summer? I told the 10 o’clock congregation last Sunday about a scene I’d watched unfold on a cross-country train as I came home from holiday. In the set of seats in front of me was a family who weren’t speaking English: a mum and two children – a boy of about 11 and a girl of about 7. The boy was lost in his tablet, and the little girl (tablet-less) was beginning to get bored. They’d been on the train for hours. Mid-way through the trip, another little girl, escorted by her father, made her way past us from the far end of the carriage to the toilet, and - ultimately – back to her seat. A few minutes later she returned: on her own this time, and clutching a ‘Frozen’ colouring book and pencil case. She went up to the non-English-speaking little girl: ‘Please can I play with you?’, she asked her. Enthusiastic shuffling ensued, and there they were for the rest of the journey: two ‘strangers’ squashed up on one seat; each of them colouring happily, neither of them saying very much, but all of a sudden the best of friends. Vibrant seeds of hope in a divided world. What a lot we adults have to learn. *Eleanor, Vicar of Soham and Wicken*

Contacting St Andrew’s Church

Our vicar is Rev’d Eleanor Whalley. You can get in touch with her by calling the vicarage on 01353 725948, or by emailing: sohamwickenvicar@gmail.com

Details of St. Andrew’s Church Sunday and weekday services; wedding and christening/baptism information and news of events can be found on our website www.sohamandwicken.org.uk . You can see the calendar mentioned by Eleanor above in the News section.

You can also find us on facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/StAndrewsSoham/>