

Coulsdon Cross

News & Views from St. Andrew's Church

July and August 2022



St Andrew's Vision Statement

A joyful, daring, diverse and generous Christian community, setting the world alight with the love of God.

Disclaimers: This magazine is published by St Andrew's Church, Coulsdon as part of its outreach and mission in the community. All contributions for publication are provided on a voluntary basis and reflect the thoughts and opinions of their authors, which are not necessarily those of the editor or of the PCC. The author or affiliation of all articles submitted should be clearly stated. The Parochial Church Council of St Andrew Coulsdon accepts no responsibility for any goods or services in this magazine. Any articles and requests for help are welcome – please email Esther estherfoss79@gmail.com

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Every Monday 10 -12 noon Time 2B: Coffee chat and craft in church.

Every Wednesday 10 am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer; 3rd Wednesday Holy Communion with laying on of hands and anointing for healing)

Every second Tuesday Pop in Tea at 2 pm preceded by Holy Communion at 1.30 pm

Every third Tuesday 3.30 – 5 pm Messy Church (Please note, there will be no Messy Church in August)

Wednesday 7.30 pm Zoom Prayer Group. (1st Wednesday Celtic Evening Prayer, 3th Wednesday Lectio Divina. Informal fee prayer at other times. Please note that the prayer group will not meet in August. Please contact Gerry for more information.)



Dear Friends,

Summertime, and the livin' is easy. Fish are jumpin', and the cotton is high. Oh, your daddy's rich, and your ma' is good lookin'. So hush little baby, don't you cry."

George Gershwin's 1934 hit has been covered many times by some of the world's best artists including Nina Simone, Paul McCartney and Frank Sinatra. We won't mention the Muppets' 'Angus McGonagle' duetting with Star Wars actor Mark Hamill – but it's worth a look just for a laugh 😊 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6NngpdMh2qEA>

However, we know that for many people the living is far from easy this summertime. According to the Joseph Rowntree Foundation's UK Poverty report, more than 1 in 5 of the UK population are in poverty – 14.5 million people. Of these, 8.1 million are working age adults, 4.3 million are children and 2.1 million are pensioners.

The picture is distressing across the globe. Research undertaken on behalf of the World Bank reports that "for almost 25 years, the number of people living in extreme poverty — on less than \$1.90 per person per day — was steadily declining. But the trend was interrupted in 2020, when poverty rose due to the disruption caused by the COVID-19 pandemic combined with the effects of conflict and climate change." <https://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/poverty/overview>

Ukraine was making progress in eliminating poverty before COVID-19, a trend that is sadly quickly reversing due to the Russian invasion, with an impact that is being felt far beyond its borders.

What can we do? It's easy to feel powerless in the face of such need. But as Tesco's motto reminds us, "Every little helps."

It's wonderful to report that with gift aid, St Andrew's has raised £2000 for Christian Aid. A big thank you to David Frost and for all who have given so generously.

Many of us support the foodbanks, leaving items for collection in our local supermarkets and by supporting Purley Food Hub. Donations are needed more than ever. As Louise Wilmer of the Food Hub reports; "For totally understandable reasons, we are now noticing a reduction in the number of donations we receive because of all the other demands that people are facing. So we - and our clients - remain grateful beyond words for each and every tin, packet, box and bottle that is donated."

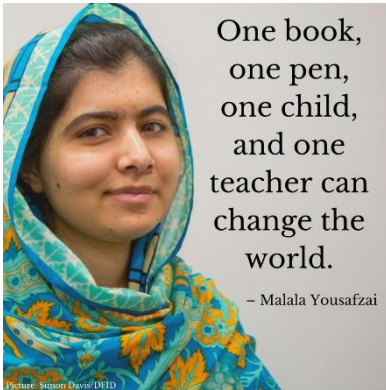


Our ongoing collection for Ukraine is making a difference too. Grateful thanks to Carla who takes all donated items to the main collection point in Purley.

We can also make a difference by being mindful of our own food and energy consumption and reducing our waste. Did you know that wasted food would be the third largest producer of carbon dioxide if it were a country? With 3.3 billion tons of carbon dioxide produced, food waste has a big impact on the world climate. When we make a purchase, do we consider buying a fair trade product, so that the profits are shared equably? I remember reading a book (but I can't remember which one!) which contained this sentence: "In every choice we make, we're either saying yes or no to God." What do our choices say?

One of my favourite stories highlights the power of just one person's choices. There was once an old man who went for a walk on the beach each morning. One day he found that the sands were littered with starfish as far as the eye could see. In the distance he saw a small boy, who looked as if he was throwing things into the sea. As the man came closer he called out, "Good morning! May I ask what it is that you are doing?"

The lad looked up and replied “I’m throwing starfish back into the sea. The tide has washed them up. When the sun comes up, they will die, unless I throw them back.” The old man replied, “But there must be tens of thousands of starfish on this beach. I’m afraid you won’t really be able to make much of a difference.” Undeterred, the boy bent down and threw yet another starfish into the sea. Then he turned and smiling said; “It made a difference to that one!”



As Nelson Mandela put it; “We can change the world and make it a better place. It is in your hands to make a difference.”

This summer, may we renew our efforts to be God’s change agents, making his world a better place for everyone.

Esther and Jessie the Vicarage dog x

ECO CHURCH: TAKING A BREAK

Our Eco-church co-ordinator Ann Witham asks us to consider the impact of our holiday choices.

In the coming months many of us hopefully will be able to take a break away from home. The most obvious and arguably the most important ethical consideration involved in choosing a holiday is the greenhouse emissions of the plane, car, ship,

coach or train that will transport us to our destination. However our



holidays raise other issues such as the social and environmental effects on the places we visit and the ethical credentials of the travel companies we support.

Tourism can certainly be helpful to many host countries providing jobs and money and protecting the natural and cultural heritage, but holiday makers can unwittingly cause social and environmental damage. Sadly, many marginalised people have been forced legally or physically off their land to make way for modern beach complexes or nature parks.

Large scale tourist development can decimate biodiversity, cruise ships dump sewage and other waste into the oceans and in countries that lack decent waste disposal tourist waste may end up in rivers that both people and wildlife rely on.

The economic benefits gained by people in visited countries can be enormous. However with package holidays, particularly those which are all inclusive, the main beneficiaries are often not local people but multinational companies. Try to be a more independent traveller so that not only do you learn more about the local culture but you also financially benefit the people who live in the area. We need to ensure too that our money is not going to support corrupt or oppressive governments.



The term ecotourism has become popular in recent years. At its best it encompasses responsible travel to natural areas that conserves the environment and sustains the well being of local people but the term has no legally binding definition so it is important to check whether

companies are genuinely committed to sustainable travel or are green washing. When choosing your destination try to avoid some of the most popular areas many of which are becoming overwhelmed both in this country and abroad, or think about considering areas recovering from natural disasters.

If we wish travel companies to concentrate more on responsible and sustainable travel we need to challenge them on their existing policies and let them know how we wish them to change. Only with continual public pressure will we see positive action.

FESTIVAL OF CREATION AT ST ANDREW'S

Saturday October 15th will be an exciting day at St Andrew's – we're planning a Celebration of Creation including a Wildlife show from 'Living Things' in the church at 2 pm. We're hoping to transform St Andrew's into a forest paradise complete with life sized Gruffalo, where we can think and pray

about how God is calling us to look after our planet. We want people of all ages to enjoy our festival – and we need a group of folk to help plan this event, as we'll be holding our autumn fair concurrently. **If you are interested in helping, please contact Esther** estherfoss70@gmail.com 02036201885. Thank you!



SCAM EMAILS

Unfortunately, a number of scam emails claiming to be from Sheila, our churchwarden, have been doing the rounds. Esther's email has also been previously hacked.



Please note that no member of the ministry team will ever send emails asking for money. If you do receive a suspicious email, please follow this advice from <https://www.gov.uk/report-suspicious-emails-websites-phishing>:

- Do not give out private information (such as bank details or passwords), download attachments or click on any links in emails if you're not sure they're genuine.
- Do forward suspicious emails to report@phishing.gov.uk. The National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC) will investigate it.

QUIZMASTERS!

Well done to Alex and Edward Innes who won the Platinum Jubilee Quiz. Here are the correct answers:

1. The official pudding for the Platinum Jubilee was Lemon and Amaretti trifle.
2. George Gordon Byron, Lord Byron, was a great poet but he was never poet laureate.
3. Her Majesty's favourite football team is reputed to be West Ham. I guess they need all the support they can find!
4. Corgis are Her Majesty's favourite dogs, but she has not had one named Samson. Maybe that would suit a more hirsute canine?
5. The longest reigning monarch was Louis XIV of France. He reigned for more than 72 years after ascending to the throne at just four years old.
6. HRH Queen Elizabeth II was crowned on 2 June, 1953 in Westminster Abbey. 38 sovereigns had been crowned at the Abbey before her.
7. The Coronation ring, known as 'The Wedding Ring of England' was not worn by Queen Victoria because her finger was too small.
8. HRH Queen Elizabeth never went to school. True. She was tutored at home. A Girl Guides company, the 1st Buckingham Palace Company, was formed specifically so she could socialise with girls her own age.
9. HRH Queen Elizabeth's full name is Elizabeth Alexandra Mary Windsor
10. HRH Queen Elizabeth has 8 grandchildren: Peter Phillips and Zara Tindall (from Princess Anne and Mark Phillips); William, Duke of Cambridge and Harry, Duke of Sussex (from Charles and Princess Diana) Princess Beatrice of York and Princess Eugenie of York (from Andrew and Sarah, Duchess of York) and Lady Louise Windsor and James, Viscount Severn (from Edward and Sophie, Countess of Wessex)

Jessie's favourite part of the Jubilee celebrations was seeing Seamus, the Irish Wolfhound, on parade!



Is anyone going camping over the summer? Even if you're not going under canvas, you might enjoy this camping wordsearch. A prize goes to the first correct wordsearch returned to Esther 😊



Camping



R Y M C T E G N I K I H N S F O J B X U P
 Q J N A H N V D Z S A L S I S L A M I N A
 M E M O R I E S F M W E P J B T S N C G H
 D O X P O S Q L M U R I C Z T A K A Y A K
 I C S J B C H O L T A G M E P N C T W F O
 F A Y Q E X C M T E C V R M O D I U S L G
 Z M O H U K J A A W P I F G I L T R M A E
 U P N Y G I M Q R L E E X C V N S E B S N
 D S K O F R T B W S L K R A J M G G Z H O
 N I G N I K O O C R O O D T U O N P M L I
 A T V A H T U J E G X B W F C I I Q D I T
 L E F C D Y A R H S N M Z U P E T K O G A
 S B O S W M I V T R A I L E R Q S J E H C
 I W T U L F Z S R Y G T E X D H A N S T A
 K N U M P I H C J E Q L A O K W O T I B V
 Y L D M C O M P A S S F B H N X R E G Z D
 B H A E J W K S M O R E S N I A T N U O M
 X C N R E T N A L Z V Q R D Y G C T F P R

air mattress	compass	marshmallow	roasting sticks
animals	flashlight	memories	s'mores
batteries	hammock	mosquitoes	sleeping bag
cabin	hiking	mountains	summer
campfire	insect repellent	nature	swimming
campsite	island	outdoor cooking	tent
canoeing	kayak	raccoon	trailer
chipmunk	lantern	reservation	vacation



Tree Valley Academy

JESSIE'S JOKES

A 90 year old couple were worried because they kept forgetting things. The doctor assured them there was nothing wrong, and suggested they carry a notebook and write things down so they wouldn't forget.

Several days later, the husband got up to go to the kitchen. His wife said, "Dear, get me a bowl of ice cream while you're up." "Okay," he said. "...and put some chocolate syrup on it and a few cherries, too," she added. "You'd better write all this down." "I won't forget!" the husband promised. Twenty minutes later he came back into the room and handed his wife a plate of scrambled eggs and bacon. She glared at him. "Now, I told you to write it down! I knew you'd forget." "What did I forget?" he asked. She replied, "My toast!" 😊

I was listening to the radio when I heard the weather report; "A snow emergency has been declared. You must park your cars on the odd-numbered side of the street." So I got up, dressed and moved my car to the right side. Two days later - the same thing. "A snow emergency has been declared - please park your cars on the even-numbered side of the street". Again, I had to get all bundled up, go outside in the cold and find another spot. A week later they announce that a foot of snow is coming. This is crazy! I'm just going leave my car in the garage this time. 😊

Dear Grandson, I've become a little older since I saw you last, and a few changes have come into my life. Frankly, I have become a frivolous old gal. I am seeing five gentlemen every day. As soon as I wake up, Will Power helps me get out of bed. Then I go to visit Lou – many times. Then Arthur Ritis shows up. He doesn't like to stay in one place very long, so takes me from joint to joint. After such a busy day, I'm really tired and glad to go to bed with Jack Daniels. What a life. Oh yes, I'm also flirting with Al Zymer. Love, Grandma

P.S. The preacher came to call the other day. He said at my age I should be thinking of the hereafter. I told him, "Oh, I do it all the time." No matter where I am, upstairs or down, I ask myself, "Now, what am I here after?" 😊



A special prayer

Heavenly Father, help us remember that the jerk who cut us up in traffic last night is a single mother who worked nine hours that day and was rushing home to cook dinner, help with homework, do the laundry and spend a few precious moments with her children.

Help us to remember that the pierced, tattooed, disinterested young man who was dismissive to us at the checkout is a worried

20 year old student, balancing his apprehension over final exams with his fear of not being able to pay off his student loans.

Remind us, Lord, that the scary looking guy begging for money in the same spot every day is a slave to addictions that we can only imagine in our worst nightmares.

Help us to remember that the old couple walking annoyingly slow through the store aisles are savouring this moment, knowing that, based on the biopsy report she got back last week, this will be the last year that they go shopping together.

Heavenly Father, remind us each day that, of all the gifts you give us, the greatest gift is love. It is not enough just to share that love with those we hold dear. Open our hearts not simply to those who are close to us, but to all your children. Let us be slow to judge and quick to forgive. Renew in us the virtues of patience, empathy and love. We ask it in the name of Jesus our Saviour.
Amen.

USEFUL CONTACTS AT ST ANDREWS

Woodmansterne Road CR5 2DD Website: standrews.coulsdon.net

- Vicar:** Rev'd Esther Foss – 020 3620 1885
(Day off – Friday)
Email: estherfoss79@gmail.com
- Readers:** Susan Goddard (PTO)
Gerry Daley
Email: gerrydaley@btinternet.com
- Churchwardens:** Audra Proctor 07710377966
Sheila Linney 07815 091206
- SPA & Messy Church Co-ordinator** Jenny Atkinson
- Treasurer:** John Linney
E-mail: jlinney1@aol.com
- Baptisms/Weddings:** standrewsoffice@yahoo.com
- Contact Group Co-ordinator:** Monica Jefford
- Hall Lettings:** hall.lettings@standrews.coulsdon.net,
- Junior Church:** Beth Ten Cate
- Parish Canine Rep:** Jessie Foss
(Days off Monday – Sunday. Don't contact unless you have treats. Thank you.)

PARISH MAGAZINE:

Editor: Rev'd Esther Foss (details as above)

**Parish Administrator: Danielle Stobart, Parish Office 020 86762966
(open Monday and Wednesday 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.)**

E-mail: standrewsoffice@yahoo.com

USUAL SERVICES

- Sunday 9:45 am Parish Eucharist (1st Sunday Junior Church, 3rd Sunday Renew All Age Eucharist)
- Wednesday 10.00 am Book of Common Prayer Holy Communion, 3rd Sunday Holy Communion with prayers for healing.