

Parish Magazine

October 2018



50p

Our regular monthly events include:

Every week:

Tuesday Meet and Make 2 - 4 pm St Andrew's Centre

Saturday Coffee Morning at St Andrew's Centre

First week of the month

Thursday Mothers Union - Quiet time (from 11-45 am) followed by lunch and meeting

Saturday Coffee morning in St Catherine's Hall

Second week of the month

Wednesday Cuppa and chat at St Mary's Hall

Third week of the month

Wednesday Mothers Union - 7:30 pm Meeting at St Catherine's Hall

Thursday Prayer and Meditation - 2 pm St Catherine's Church

Fourth week of the month

Wednesday Cuppa and chat at St Mary's Hall

Thursday House Group - 10 am at 2 Adam Way

Supporting Basildon Women's Refuge

Due to lack of space; Please only take items to St. Andrew's Church on the last FRIDAY (or as near as possible) of each month; then they can be taken to the refuge. If you are unable to take our offering to St. Andrew's then please do pass it to one of your Church Wardens or your Priest.

The Gateway Project – Foodbank

We need:

Milk - Cooking sauces - Tinned fruit
and we are running low on most things except soup!

Donations have been slower recently

Leaving

The first question Beattie Elson asked me, in her role as Church Warden was “Well, are you going to stay?” as the previous three Team Vicars at St Mary’s Church had stayed for less than two years each. So, on 30th August 1998 my seven-year ministry began here in the Wickford and Runwell Team. I was fortunate to work with excellent priests and a very welcoming community that spread across three churches.

Stuff happens, things change, expectations are either realised or thwarted. I ended up, twenty years later, having lived through so many varied times, exhilarating, challenging, creative, sad, joyful.

I have buried so many people, some I hardly knew and others were great friends. I have officiated at numerous weddings and baptisms as new hopes rise up. I have stumbled through awkward moments, been fed by generous moments and struggled through painful moments.

Twenty years of that seven-year ministry have now passed.

This is the place that my children grew into men. This is the place where I learnt so much about ministry, myself and others. This is the place where I have worked alongside and seen the great talents that were before me and will be after me.

Leaving is not something I have had that much experience of so I ask you to help me. Help me by affirming what you have found helpful, the gifts you feel we have discovered together.

Help me by speaking about your hopes for the future, your excitement about what new things this change will bring.

Help me leave well, so that I will not look back with sadness but with a great joy and satisfaction for all that we have done together. That I will rejoice as a Sue's ministry continues to flourish and grow and, when the new team arrives, I will hear with gladness stories of their growth and change, their excitement as they land in the extraordinarily beautiful communities that I have left.

It is fair to say, important to say, that Mary, Josh, Benedict and I will leave with an enriched confidence, a great gift of thoughtfulness tinged with nostalgic remembrance of times of growing. It is right that we should move, no matter how painful the temporary severance feels.

For without change, the beautiful loving grace of our ever-creating God will not find a way to dance through the days that follow. My prayer will be that you look to what you have been so beautifully given and use it with generosity and joy!

And we thank you. Thank you for all that you are, have been and will be. Thank you for helping form this person who now steps on to the next place with confidence and blessing.

Fr Jo

**My final service in the Parish will be at 10:30 am
on Sunday 4th November at St Mary's Church**

A Crazy Casino

October 6th
at the Village Hall

An opportunity for crazy
gambling and
extortionate(?) laughter

(in a safe money-free environment)



Tickets available from Linda Payne and your Wardens

Matt licenced at Lexden



With a mixture of sadness and pride we watched Matt's licencing at St Leonard's Church to the Parish of Lexden.

A Messy Harvest

13th October - St Andrew's Church
2 - 4 pm



PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE



By now most people reading this will be well aware that much change is afoot in the parish and the team. Matt, as curate, and Norbert, as team vicar at St Catherine's, have already left us for new ministries, and in November, Jo, as team vicar of St Mary's and by far the longest serving member of the team, will be moving to take up new challenges as rector of Hadleigh, Layham and Shelley in Suffolk. And just to add to the mix, my retirement date as team rector here has for some time been set for November 2019.

There has been, is, and will be sadness for all of us in leaving the people of Wickford and Runwell, and especially those with whom we have been and are privileged to work and worship alongside

in our churches. But I hope that as each of us moves to new challenges and new possibilities, so this parish and the people of St Andrew's, St Catherine's, and St Mary's will be able to look forward hopefully to what the future holds.

The practicalities of that future, as far as the appointment of new clergy is concerned, are already being worked out. Over the next year or so, we will move from a standard provision of three stipendiary (full-time, paid clergy), to two. That reduction is partly a response to the shortage of clergy (too many of us are reaching retirement age), and partly a response to the financial situation of the wider church.

After informal discussions with Bishop Stephen and Bishop John, it has been agreed that we will move to make appointments as swiftly as we can, and in ways which will make the transition to a new clergy team as smooth as possible. The first step has already been taken when in early September our archdeacon held the official 'vacancy meeting' with the PCC.

The intention is to recruit a team rector and a team vicar. We plan to advertise initially to seek a team vicar: if that produces a wonderful field of candidates including a potential team rector, both a team vicar and a team rector designate (to work alongside me) would be appointed. If we then find absolutely the right candidate to be a team vicar (or indeed a team rector) but make no second appointment, we would advertise again for the other post.

My hope and prayer is that by early summer next year, both will have been appointed, and I will have the privilege and joy of introducing them to you and can leave knowing that you will be

served by and serve with priests who will love you and be loved by you.

The first advertisement will go out in January – it may seem a long time ahead, but there is work to be done by us as a parish before we can get to that point, and as we come closer to Christmas, few clergy will have the time or energy to be actively thinking about moving.

We have set up a small team drawn from all three churches (Marina Bailey, Pam Petts, and Bob Peall) to take the lead in developing a parish profile: this is the document which clergy interested in applying for the posts will look at, to see who we are, and how they might fit as priests in this parish.

What is said in the profile won't just be down to these three, or to me. We want to hear as many voices as possible, and to consult as widely as we can, as the profile is put together. There will be particular issues to be thought through: where will our new priests live; how might two priests relate to three churches? Just as important will be the description we give of ourselves: what are our gifts, our hopes, our sense of the possibilities of being God's people in this place?

What the paid clergy do now, and what they will do in the future isn't, of course, the sum total of ministry.

Sue Wise will still be with us well into next year, and perhaps beyond, bringing her many gifts and skills, and her wise presence as a priest (pun intended). Sue is a self-supporting minister (ie we only pay her expenses), and she is with us only part of the week, so in the months to come we need to be careful not to make unreal demands on her.

We also have, in Steve Lissenden, an ordinand in training. Steve will become a deacon in the autumn of 2019, and a priest the next year: he will serve as curate in the parish, but part of his ministry will be in his workplace, as he continues in full-time employment.

Mike Tricker and Emma Doe are training as Licensed Lay Ministers, offering all that used to be reader ministry and more, and they will be licensed in 2020. Beyond all that official, commissioned, ministry lie the riches of the shared life of our churches, the witness of lives well and generously lived, of faithful and caring communities, of worship offered and carried out into our homes, our streets, and our workplaces in all the ordinary daily ways.

At a deanery synod in Basildon recently, Bishop John spoke of the calling of our churches in times of challenge and change to be resilient: trusting in God's grace, and living hopefully into a future which will be different from what has gone before, but is the future of God's church.

For the time we walk together into that future, and for the time beyond my time here, I pray that St Andrew's, St Catherine's, and St Mary's may be those churches, resilient, trustful, and hopeful.

Jane

100 club winners

1st.P Bartlett 2nd. E Doe 3rd M. Matuku

TEAM SERVICE

Harvest Festival

St Catherine's Church

10:30 am

14th October



Followed by lunch

(please sign up so we know how many we are catering for)

ST. CATHERINE'S HALL FILM SHOW

14.00hrs. 25-10-2018

**ASA
BUTTERFIELD**

**JACK
SCANTON**

**IN
THE BOY IN THE STRIPED PYJAMAS**



**'A TIMELESS STORY OF INNOCENCE LOST
AND HUMANITY FOUND'**

Wickford and Runwell Mothers' Union

The start of our Autumn programme on September 6th. saw a good attendance to hear Molly Hoyle speak on this year's theme "Following in Mary Sumner's Footsteps". Mary Sumner was the founder of the Mothers' Union way back in 1876 (before women had the vote)

Molly gave a brief history of Mary's life and work for she was very much a woman before her time and a woman of vision. She started with a meeting of women in her drawing room which has become a global organisation of over 4 million members in 84 countries to-day.

Molly went on to enlighten us about some of the many projects undertaken around the world to help families and family life. "The Literacy and Development Project" in Africa has helped thousands of women to read and write, with a knock-on effect that they are then able to help their children.

This project was helped with a grant from "Comic Relief" Thank you Molly for coming to talk to us but also for bringing a great selection of M.U. cards, diaries and gifts for us to purchase, the sales amounted to over £300 {all profits go to help the projects}

Wednesday evening, September 19th was a special evening in many ways as Father Jo came to speak to us for the last time.

"The writer within" was the title of Fr. Jo's talk and we were very privileged to hear some of his poems and were probably the first

to hear an extract from his book that he said had taken him ten years to write.

He encouraged us all to write, even if it was jotting down odd thoughts that came into our heads. Jeannette, in her vote of thanks, said what a good friend he has been to the M.U., how we have appreciated his support and how much he will be missed. We wish him well in his new ministry.

Finally, a lively chorus of “Happy Birthday”, a procession of cupcakes (one with a candle), a card and a bouquet of flowers to celebrate our Branch Leader’s birthday later this month! Happy Birthday Jeanette!

Meetings in October

Thurs 4th

12 noon Quiet time

12.30pm Fish and Chip lunch

1.30 pm Triennial meeting

(at this meeting we will elect a new Branch Leader and
committee)

As this is important in the life of our Branch, we urge members to please make every effort to attend

Wednesday 17th

7.30pm “That was Interesting” at St. Catherine’s Hall

The Gateway Project

Our joint churches' foodbank offering to those in need in our community

Fact and figures:

This stage in 2017 we had handed out 599 food parcels, in 2018 at the same time the number is 687, an increase of 88 food parcels. Approximately 2¹/₂ parcels more every week.

We continue to see new people register on a weekly basis.

Stocks are running low, but it hoped that Harvest donations from schools will soon be delivered or collected to help us restock. Donations from churches has declined over the past few months – can we 'rekindle' the fire for this project at our churches?

Leaflets and posters will soon be sent out to doctors' surgeries, community centres and to hostels promoting the foodbank and offering help.

Christmas

We will do the same as we have for the past few years asking people to provide a 'Christmas goodie' bag. However, the bag this year will contain fewer items as last year it was felt there was too much. If needed extras can be provided to larger families.

It is hoped that on Thursday 6th and Thursday 13th December we will provide a Christmas breakfast for those attending, bacon rolls, sausages in a roll etc.

Kenya

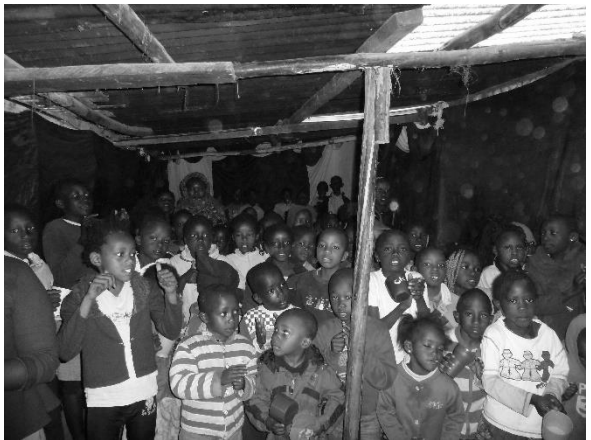
The destination of our Honeymoon!

As most of you know Steve and I were married at St Andrews in Wickford on 14th July 2018. It was a glorious day and we shared it with many of our friends and family – related and church alike. Steve and I were both humbled to be asked to go with Norbert and his family when they went to Kenya in August.

And so, on 10th August 2018 we left for Kenya. I don't think either Steve or I were prepared for just how much more than a holiday it became.

As well as going on a fabulous safari with Norbert, Mercy, Steven and Trisa to the Masai Mara (which was out of this world!) Steve and I spent the day with Mary from Positive Life Kenya.

We received such a warm welcome from Mary. She expressed her condolences on the recent loss of Val Harris and again thanked our Parish for the sewing machine and the donations that we send. She said they were a real blessing.



But neither Steve nor I were equipped to process and comprehend just how much Mary, Catherine, Faith, Betty and Abigail face on a daily basis.

We went to see the school – Tumaini – it was the holidays but there were still about 35 children there ranging from about 4-12 years old. They were overjoyed to see us and sang a beautiful song about how good God is and that it was a gift from God that we had gone to visit them. We went armed with Squash and biscuits but they quickly vanished! We later learnt from Betty that most of the children that attended Tumaini only had the 1 meal they were given at school – most didn't eat until the next day at school.

It really opened our eyes to just how much we have every day but don't appreciate because it's just there. Its normal for us to turn on a tap and get clean water but the reality for the children and their families was that if they didn't have anything to sell or have some kind of work there was no clean water or food. The amazing thing was that a few pounds could buy so much.

We learnt from Mary that the children could be sponsored through school, helping their parents to use the money they do earn for food and water instead of school fees, uniform etc. And from our standards it was such a small amount of money, and yet it would mean that a child was educated and fed even if it were just once a day.

After our visit to Tumaini we were shown where some of the children lived – it was appalling. There was so little space for very often large families.

We were then taken to see Kiotani, a school also run by Mary and her team but was intended as a boarding school where children learnt to look after their belongings, keep clean and learn social skills as well as get an education.



There were still some children there in the holidays, they were orphans. We found it very hard to comprehend that these children had no-one.

Children at Kiotani also need sponsoring as the fees include board and lodging but the environment at Kiotani was so much cleaner and less noisy. For some children leaving their home and family to go to school was safer for them.

Trying to understand that going to school kept children safe was so alien. Children in the UK hate school most of the time but it is free and safe. There were so many awesome places and yet just a stone's throw away you would see such poverty and hardship.

Kenya was an amazing time for both Steve and I. We had an amazing honeymoon! But we have also come home having had our blinkers removed. Knowing as we now know the incredible work that Mary and her team do with rapidly dwindling funds we both hope to help financially in any way we can. Knowing that even a small donation goes so far in Tumaini or Kiotani and does so much is heart-warming.

I pray that this opens all our eyes and that with God's help we can make a difference, even if only a very small one. God bless and Pole Pole!

Beth Lissenden

THE GREAT WICKFORD FLOOD EXHIBITION



Over three days in late September, more than 300 people flowed through St Andrew's to explore the history of Wickford's 'Great Flood' of 1958.

The realities of storm, rain, high tides and an overflowing river were recorded in the photographic display by Wickford Community Archive, and in memories written and recorded – most notably in a wonderful video interview with Jeannette Cardnell, recalling her wedding on day of the flood.

To all of these were added poems, stories, drawings, news articles, and even photographs of a dance drawn from schools across the town as they made their own imaginative responses to the dramas of 60 years ago.

For much of the time there was a buzz of conversation as so many of those



who came had their own stories to tell – of swimming in the murky water, delighting in (or regretting) missing school, and, of course, of Mr Carter's famous 'duck' (DUKW).

On Saturday afternoon we were joined by Bishop John, the Bishop of Bradwell, who reminded us of the recent floods in his own homeland of Kerala, and of the golden thread of kindness, care and courage which disasters, great or small, so often draw out.



Our thanks go to everyone who contributed to the exhibition and everyone who came – and especially to Matt Simpkins, formerly curate of this parish, whose brainchild it was, and who gave us the gift of an event which brought so many from our community together.

Also, well done Jane, who picked up the pieces of the plan and made it happen!

Join in the BIG Sleep Out!!

Local charity CHESS Homeless is asking the community of Essex to swap their duvet and grab a sleeping bag to experience a night out under the stars, by taking part in their Annual Sleep Out.

This year's event takes place on Friday 30th November from 7.30pm in the grounds of Chelmsford Cathedral. The charity is encouraging you, your friends, family and company to take on the challenge and help raise vital funds so they can continue supporting single homeless adults from Chelmsford and Essex.

And if you can't make the CHESS one then why not "Host Your Own Sleep Out" it's so simple you can even hold it in your own back garden.

Homelessness is on the increase and can happen to anyone.

CHESS believes that everyone should have a warm safe environment to stay, with meals, drinks and hygiene facilities along with the support they need to help them turn their lives around.

For further information and to register to take part visit:
www.chelmsfordchess.org/sleepout

Chess works to relieve homelessness and hardship amongst single adults in Chelmsford and Essex through the provision of support services and temporary accommodation. Chess provides a safe place to stay along with meals, drinks, hygiene and laundry facilities. However, for every fortunate person who receives our help there are many more that are still sleeping rough and living each day to the next.

Not only does Chess provide a roof over their head for the night, they have a dedicated team of support staff who help individuals deal with the root of their problem and to get them back on their feet by helping them secure a permanent place to stay, look for work or gain qualifications.



ST ANDREW'S CHURCH
A SERVICE TO REMEMBER
the people we have loved



6.30 pm Sunday 4 November
2018

WICKFORD AND RUNWELL
TEAM MINISTRY

Confirmation

21st October at St Andrew's Church, Basildon

Preparation 6th October

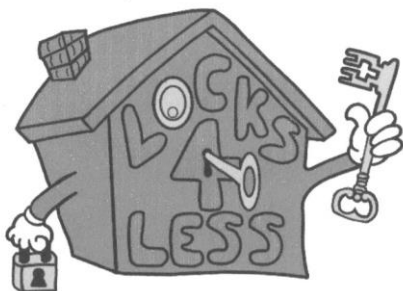
For more information
please speak to one of the clergy

Other stuff that's coming soon

November	10 th	Messy St Peter
	11 th	Centenary Armistice Commemoration
	24 th	St Mary's Christmas Bazaar at Village Hall
	25 th	St Catherine's Patronal Celebration
	30 th	St Andrew's Patronal Celebrations
December	1 st	St Catherine's Christmas Bazaar
	10 th /17 th	Advent Quiet Times



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Graham & Anita Hellewell

WICKFORD AND RUNWELL TEAM MINISTRY

<u>CLERGY</u>	Jane Freeman	St. Andrew's Church	734077
	Jo Delfgou	St. Mary's Church	732068
	Sue Wise (available Sunday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday)		07941 506156

<u>P.C.C.</u>	Vice-chair	Pam Petts	734183
	Secretary	Bob Peall	
	Treasurer	Yvonne Branson	
	Electoral Roll Officer		

<u>St Andrew's</u>	Churchwarden	Val Bryan	561446
	Churchwarden	Marina Bailey	07800 760975
	D.C.C. Secretary	Marina Bailey	
	D.C.C. Treasurer	Mike Gibson	
	Hall Lettings - contact 766749		

<u>St Catherine's</u>	Churchwarden	Richard Feldwick	733362
	Churchwarden	Andrew Morl	
	D.C.C. Secretary	Sarah Randall	
	Hall Lettings		

<u>St Mary's</u>	Churchwarden	Lyn Bear	421685
	Churchwarden	Lisa Griffiths	
	D.C.C. Secretary	Coral Upham	
	D.C.C. Treasurer	John Skinner	
	Hall Bookings - contact either 765360 or 732033		

Mothers' Union Enrolling Member: Jeannette Cardnell

<p>FOR INFORMATION ON GIFT AID AND PLANNED GIVING PLEASE CONTACT CHRIS BEAUCHAMP ON 762205.</p>
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SUNDAY SERVICES

<u>St Andrew's</u>	9:30am 6:30pm	Sung Eucharist Healing Eucharist (<i>on 3rd Sunday</i>)
<u>St Catherine's</u>	8:00am 9:30am 11:00am 6:30pm	Holy Communion Family Worship Sung Eucharist Evening Prayer (<i>Sung Evensong 4th Sunday</i>)
<u>St Mary's</u>	9:30am 6:30pm	Sung Eucharist Taizé (<i>2nd Sunday</i>)

WEEKDAY SERVICES

Monday	9:00 am	Morning Prayer at St Catherine's
Tuesday	9:00 am 7:30 pm	Morning Prayer at St Andrew's Eucharist at St Mary's
Wednesday	9:00 am 9:30am 10:30 am	Morning Prayer at St Catherine's Eucharist at St Catherine's Eucharist at St Andrew's
Thursday	9:00 am 10:00 am	Morning Prayer at St Mary's Eucharist at St Mary's

OFFICE HOURS

St Andrew	Saturdays	11:00 - 11:30am	in the Church
St Catherine	Mondays	7:00 - 8:00pm	in the Church
St Mary	Mondays	7:00 - 7:30pm	in St Mary's Hall

Articles for the next Magazine to the Editor by 15th of the month

Thank you - email: delfgou@live.co.uk

And our website: <http://wickfordandrundwellparish.org.uk/index.php>