

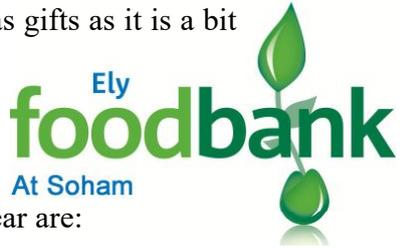
Services at the Parish Church

Sundays 8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP) 10.00 am Parish Communion (CW)
Thursdays 10.00 am Holy Communion (BCP) 3rd Sunday 10.00 am All Age Communion

Harvest Festival

The St Andrew's Church 10am Parish Communion service on Sunday 6 October will be our Harvest Festival. We will be giving thanks for the food we enjoy and the farmers who grow it but also thinking about those who don't have enough food. Howard Laver from Soham Foodbank will be telling us about their work.

As last year, we are inviting harvest gifts which can be passed on to our local foodbank. Please don't bring perishable items as gifts as it is a bit tricky to find homes for those (organisations these days only accept packets/tins, and these need to have at least 3 months still to go before their expiry date).



Gifts the foodbank would be grateful for this year are:

Long life milk/fruit juice, tea bags (packets of 40), instant coffee, cereals, tinned meat/fish, tinned vegetables/tomatoes/soup, pasta/rice, pasta sauces, tinned potatoes/instant mash, tinned fruit, tinned rice pudding/custard, tinned sponge pudding, biscuits/snack bars, jam.

Happily, St Andrew's School and Little Wombatz pre-school will be visiting church over the harvest period and will also be contributing gifts.

If you can't get to the service, donations for the foodbank can be left in church or in the basket at the co-op (near the front window.)

Fun for All Hallows' Eve



One of our seasonal drop-in sessions for children: Thurs 31



Oct, drop in from 3.15 to 5pm.

Crafts, snacks, simple games & seasonal fun.

Adults stay in church with their children. All welcome! Come dressed up as your favourite goodie or baddie if you want to.

Harvest Concert

In addition to our usual harvest service we are hosting a short seasonal concert by the choir boys of Ely Cathedral on Friday 4 October at 7pm.

Tickets £5 available from 01353 721920 or on the door. We hope you can join us.

Sing-a-Song of Harvest



A short concert by the boy choristers of Ely Cathedral

Congratulations



It has been announced that one of our Authorised Lay Ministers, John Cole, has been accepted for ordination training. John and his wife, Diane, have been members of our 10am congregation for many years, and John is also a familiar face at Soham Lodge and Fairhaven where he leads regular Communion services and hymn-a-longs. For his ordination training, he will follow the Diocese's new 'LCOM' pathway, which means that throughout his training and once he is ordained he will stay at Soham. We

are praying for John as he enters this new phase, and also for Diane and for the rest of their family and for friends - including us and the wider congregation at Soham - as we commit ourselves to supporting John in all that will follow.

Advance Notice

Bishop Stephen will be conducting a Confirmation Service at St Andrew's Church at 10am on Advent Sunday 1 December. If you are interested in getting confirmed, please contact Eleanor asap (with no obligation to buy!)

Soham Mothers' Union News

Soham Mothers' Union have been collecting items for Hygiene Boxes which are going into the local schools. Together with members of the wider congregation they have been donating sanitary products for girls suffering period poverty. They have also collected soap, shampoo, deodorant etc for all children who can't afford such things and find themselves being seen as dirty and becoming isolated. This is an ongoing project and an important part of MU's and St Andrew's' outreach to our community.

The MU continue to run the monthly breakfast café in church, The Bread Basket, (next on Saturday 19 Oct). The profits from this go to the MU 'Away From It All' holiday scheme for families experiencing difficulties. A family from Soham will have enjoyed a summer holiday through AFIA this school holiday.

Eleanor will be joining us for our October meeting on Thursday 17 October (7.30pm) at Millbrook House. She has asked us to bring a Bible – if we have one - and also, if we want to, to come with a thought of a Bible story, verse or character that is special to us. Non-members are welcome to join us for this meeting: a warm welcome awaits you all.

Finally, dates for craft sessions in preparation for 'Gifts from The Heart' are 9th, 16th, 30th Oct. & 6th Nov. 1.30- 3.30pm (downstairs Craft Room at Millbrook). The gifts will be given away at the Soham Winter Fayre. All welcome!

Soham Winter Fayre: Friday 29th November, 6pm – 8.30pm.

Run by Soham Heritage and Tourism and St Andrew's Church for the people of Soham. Stalls and activities in and around church. To book a stall in the church, please email Claire Halley at standrewsheritage@gmail.com for a booking form. Stall fees this year are 10% of takings payable at the end of the evening. Stalls will be allocated on a first come first served basis and the deadline for booking is 31st October.

A Time to Remember

Sunday 3 November, 3.30pm. A simple service of hymns, readings, candle-lighting & prayers to remember loved ones who have died, followed by a cup of tea for those who wish to stay.

St Andrew's 200 Club

The 200 Club winners for September are: £5 Daphne Trinder, £10 Pat Gotham.



- ☆ **Soham Museum Coffee Morning**, 1st Saturday of each month, drop in between 10.00am and 12.00 noon at Soham library. All welcome.
- ☆ **Soham Museum History Group** presents 'Zeppelins to Doodlebugs, part 2' with Roy Williams. Thursday November 7th at 7.30pm at Berrycroft Methodist Church Hall. Admission £3, free to members.
- ☆ **Chattering Classes Book Group**, Soham Library, Meet on 1st Thursday of every month at 2.30pm to choose and discuss a book. Ask the librarians for more details.
- ☆ **The Big Wednesday Pop In.** 10 – 12, First Wednesday of each month at Soham Library. (Previously known as Coffee, Cake and Soham Info.)
- ☆ **Soham's third Repair Café**, 20 October 10am-2pm - coinciding with International Repair Day - a free event - bring along your broken item, be it a kettle, torn jeans or even a smashed phone screen (with a replacement screen of course!) - our experienced repairers will try their best to help give it a new lease of life.

Viva Workshop

Viva are holding a three day half-term holiday theatre workshop for children aged 5-12 years based on the hit RSC musical MATILDA! It will take place at the Performing Arts Centre, Soham Village College from 10am to 3pm daily from Thursday 24th to Saturday 26th October. On the last day students will perform a short showcase of their work at 2.30pm.

The workshop is open to everyone and costs £50 per student which includes a T-shirt and 2 tickets for the showcase. Please email jessicabea76@gmail.com to book a space or ring 07407 062961.

Printing Workshop

Printmaking Workshop (Monoprinting) at Soham Library: Saturday 26 October at 2pm. Tickets: £5 standard, £2.50 concessions. Running time: 2 hours. Minimum: age 6 yrs

Curwen Print Study Centre bring the studio to you! Work with professional tutors to learn monoprinting techniques and produce your own art work. Suitable for all abilities and levels of experience. Presses, inks, paper and materials all provided.

Items for the November Edition of LodeStar

If you have anything you want to publicise or report on please send material to aly-evans@hotmail.co.uk by Wednesday 23 October.

PARISH REGISTERS

Weddings

21 September Sophie Gilbey and Jayden White

Funerals:

12 September Peggy Gibbon
16 September Beryl Grace Badcock
17 September Kathleen May Pryke
22 September Geoff and Kizzy Moore (burial of ashes)
27 September Eva Smith

New Bishop of Huntingdon



The Diocese of Ely was delighted to hold a welcome service on Sunday 15th September for the new Bishop of Huntingdon, the Rt Revd Dr Dagmar Winter.

Guests and friends from across the Diocese came together in welcoming Bishop Dagmar at a service at St Mary the Virgin, Godmanchester. Dagmar was consecrated on 3rd July at St Paul's Cathedral, London and so Sunday's service was an opportunity to welcome Dagmar more locally to the Diocese.

As Bishop of Huntingdon, she will be working alongside the Bishop of Ely, The Rt Revd Stephen Conway, across the whole Diocese, but with a particular focus on the many and varied rural communities in the region.

Bishop Stephen said of Dagmar's welcoming service: *"It was wonderful to see so many friends from across the Diocese, from civic and church life, in Godmanchester as we welcomed Bishop Dagmar and celebrated the beginning of her ministry among us. She brings significant experience of rural and market town ministry and of the wider church through her national and ecumenical responsibilities. It is a joy that she has come to join us here in Ely and I am very pleased to have her as an episcopal colleague and to be working with her."*

Bishop Dagmar added: *"I am so grateful for the warm welcome I have received, in Godmanchester, during my walk of the Fen Rivers Way and in numerous other first encounters. Thank you especially for the hospitality I have enjoyed. There is much for me to learn about the people and places of the Diocese and I look forward very much to working alongside all of you as we seek to deepen and share our faith in order to serve God in the way Jesus taught us."*

Dagmar is of British and Swiss-German descent and studied theology at various universities including Aberdeen and Heidelberg, where she completed a PhD in New Testament studies.

She served her title from 1996 - 1999 in Bromley, in the Diocese of Rochester, before becoming Associate Vicar and Deanery Training Officer at Hexham Abbey. From 2006 she was Rural Affairs Officer for the Diocese of Newcastle, as well as Priest-in-Charge of a group of rural parishes in Morpeth Deanery, Northumberland. In 2015 she returned to Hexham as Rector.

Dagmar has been a member of General Synod since 2005, has served on the Rural Group and the Mission and Public Affairs Committee of the Church of England and is currently on the Meissen Committee.

In her rural role she has chaired a community-led rural development funding programme for the Northumberland Uplands and in Hexham she has been involved in setting-up a Community Bank. Since 2012 she has been on the Bishop's Senior Staff as Bishop's Adviser for Women's Ministry.

As time allows, she has continued to make contributions to academic discourse and furthering the understanding of theological issues in today's context. Her interests include walking and running, especially with her lurcher, Tilda.

News from Wicken Fen



*Fen Harvester and windpump
by Luke Underwood*

Our cutting management of the Sedge Fen is now well underway, and the Fen Harvester can be seen most days either cutting compartments of the Sedge Fen behind the Visitor Centre, or the sections alongside the droves. It's exciting that we'll be able to complete the cutting for the second year this year; the regular cuts ensure that the fen plant communities will thrive, and a healthy bird population is sustained.

We're expecting work to start on our café expansion project during October. We'll still be serving your favourite scones, soup, sausage rolls, sweet treats and drinks from a new mobile café unit next to the café while the work takes place. The work will finish in February next year, and we're excited

that we'll be able to offer a wider range of delicious food for visitors to enjoy.

We're hoping to see lots of people from Soham at our Walk for Wicken on Sunday 13 October. It's our first ever sponsored walk, raising funds for our Eyes Over the Fen project. You can choose either a 7.5km route along the picturesque Monk's Lode and through Baker's Fen or a 12.5km route that follows a raised path, off the beaten track, with elevated views over beautiful Burwell Fen. To find out more and to enter, see <http://bit.ly/walkforwickenfen>

Don't forget that you can join us with your family for lots of outdoor fun during October half term. As well as favourites such as Geocache Challenge (Wednesday 23 October) and the Fenland Spooktacular (Friday 25 October), there will be drop in activities throughout the holiday and the last chance for a boat trip this season.

There's a lot more information about Wicken Fen and our events on our website, go to <https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/wicken-fen>

Ely Apple Festival

Sat. 19th Oct 2019, 10.00am - 4.00pm - Palace Green (opp. Ely Cathedral)

National Apple Day, traditionally held on or around 21st October, was launched in 1990 by Common Ground. Ely has been joining in with the celebrations since 2000 and the event has now become one of the best loved apple festivals in the area.

Experts from East of England Apples and Orchard Project will once again be in attendance to identify any apples that you wish to bring along. It is easier to identify if you can bring part of the stalk and/or leaf as well as the actual apple. So, if you have been mystified as to what kind of apples have been growing in your garden all these years, now is the time to find out.

There will be several competitions, demonstrations, birds of prey, Morris dancing, storytelling and activities running throughout the day including the ever-popular longest apple peeling competition, apple and spoon races and apply shy. Yes we pun a lot on apples!

Watergull Orchards, who kindly supply all our apples and bottles of juice for the various competitions, will be on hand to talk you through over 25 varieties of apples as well as over 10 varieties of juice and cider. As you might expect, all our food vendors have an apple twist so from apple teas to pork and apple sausages you can expect a wide variety of apple related culinary delights.

A View from the Vicarage



‘Spread a little happiness...’

Last Friday afternoon, I was pleased to take part in the Over 60s harvest celebrations, alongside friends from other churches.

Pastor Colin Stringer from Soham Baptist Church gave the talk, and he began with a quiz, coming out with advertising slogans and seeing if we could remember the products they related to. Only Rev. Colin Watkins knew the answer to the first one: ‘They’re GRRRRreat!’ Either he’s a fan of Frosties, or, as (the other) Colin suggested, we ministers spend too much in front of the telly (we only work Sundays, after all...). Other starters for 10 were ‘Bread wi’ nowt taken out’ (no one got that); ‘Made to make your mouth water’ (we got there in the end); ‘Central heating for kids’ (that’ll date you); ‘Ahhhh...’ (any ideas?); and finally, ‘Do you love anyone enough to give them your last -----?’ (Answers on a postcard, please). He got the rest of his talk out of that one. Clever stuff!

I thought of another slogan this morning: ‘Spread a little happiness’. Isn’t that for some kind of butter? I can’t get the jingle out of my head. It’s a good one for Soham, I think. ‘Spread a little happiness’ is what so many of you do when you see me fly by on my bike. Your waves and your smiles always cheer me up. It’s not that I’m gloomy (at least not most of the time!), but even so, they always make my day. Thank you for them all. As an aside, a friend texted me a few weeks back to say her dad had seen me shoot past him, but he wasn’t sure if it was me or Batman... I grin about that every time I think of it.

People often ask me if I’ve got a car. The answer is yes, but I only drive when I need to – for example to the crematorium, or up to Ely. Most of the time, I cycle. If I cycle, I see people, and people also see me. I get a chance to soak up the smiles. On a good day, I might throw in a smile of my own.

Cycling is also, of course, so much better for my health, and for the health of the environment. As I type this, the UN Climate Change summit is beginning in New York. It’ll take more than a few of us dusting off our bicycles to change the course of climate change, and I’m conscious that for many of us, cycling or walking is no longer an option, now that our health isn’t what it used to be. As the documentaries keep telling us, though, all of us can do something to make a difference.

I’ve been really inspired by the 16-year-old Swedish girl Greta Thunberg and her commitment to spreading the message about action to reduce climate change: whatever our personal circumstances, we each have the power to reduce the toll we take on the planet. At St Andrew’s Church in July, we switched to renewable energy suppliers, a move that will also save us money. Renewable energy deals are, of course, available to all of us, and it may be that in changing you too will find you’ve reduced your bills as well as your emissions.

Then there’s the question of shopping. Again, for some of us, our options will be restricted, but in case you can get there and you’ve not already heard of it, I read in last week’s paper about ‘Unwrapped’, the environmentally-friendly organic greengrocery, refill-larder and shop that’s just opened in Lynn Road in Ely, run by Prospects Trust. It’s plastic free: you take your own bags and containers, and fill them with what you find there.

Everything gets weighed at the till. On its own, a decision to shop at ‘Unwrapped’ won’t solve the problem, but like all our other options, it’d surely be a step in the right direction.

To use another slogan: ‘Every little helps’. Why not give it a whirl? *Eleanor*



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