

# All Saints Magazine



October 2019

Free

## **Editorial**

Thank you for picking up our magazine, we hope you find it interesting and will pass it round to family and friends.

To start we have an article from our reader, Rita Mather, on Autumn and our Harvest Festival.

Our Parish Profile this month is the second part from Liston Siregar and his family. (Part one was in last month's magazine, still available on our website).

Next is an extract from a letter about Antony Bennett's final resting place from his wife Iris. (Anthony was a former steward and gift aid secretary).

Our centre spread contains the diary dates for church activities, Notices, Baptisms, Funerals, and Weddings, followed by more information about Church Events, including resuming the choir.

The Churchwardens corner is back in its regular slot followed by more photos of activities round our stall at the recent New Eltham Festival.

Finally we have the answers to our regular monthly quiz; and an item from the past that may be of interest.

We thank our regular and new advertisers/sponsors whose support continues to enable us to provide the magazine free, and as a final goodbye to summer:

I must go down to the sea again  
To the lovely sea and the sky  
I left my shoes and socks there  
I wonder if they're dry?

## **Dear Friends**

I hope that you all have been able to have some time of rest and relaxation during the summer months. It never ceases to amaze me just how quickly the summer months come and go, but here we are at the beginning of Autumn. Chilly mornings and evenings, leaves turning beautiful shades of yellow, orange, red and brown, fields empty, being ploughed for next year's crops, it can only be harvest time.

October is upon us once more, with its nights drawing in earlier. Autumn is a season of change, the trees change, shedding their leaves and you change your clothes from summer to warmer clothes for Autumn.

October is also the month for our Harvest Festival, and this is a time when we thank God for all he has given us. Harvest is about thankfulness, but how do we respond to God's bountiful goodness? So let's stop for a moment and ask ourselves about our response to God's generosity. Christians use the word stewardship to define the ways that we look after all that God has given us. This of course has implications for the environment. How much do I recycle? We all have recycling bins, so let us all make good use of them. How much energy do I waste? Do we turn off unnecessary lights at home? Do we try and buy items that are ethically produced or sourced? A good way of doing this is to check for Fairtrade on the labels.

Harvest is also a good time for evaluating just how we receive our food. Because we are detached from the production of food we can forget the struggles made by those who produce it. Harvest is also about sharing. Sharing our good fortune, that we are able to go into a supermarket and there is a plentiful supply of food. Let's not forget there are many people in the world today who do not have the good fortune of a plentiful food supply.

So let's all celebrate our Harvest Festival on October 13th and take the opportunity of contributing, food, which will be taken to the local foodbank to help those who are struggling to feed their families.

God Bless

**Rita**

## **To live 7.300 miles away**

*(Last month we heard about life in Indonesia and first impressions of living in South London on a three year contract)*

The original 3 year break turned into 24 years of life.

During that time we cultivated a very strong relationship between the four of us. The spirit of teamwork became even better as Juang and Matta grew older and could be treated as our colleagues in running a non-profit Siregar-Nayoan Trust. We hold family meetings to take a decision on something big, from moving house to choosing a holiday destination, bound by a feeling of needing each other to make something happen. Everyone can be heard in order to guarantee that everything will work to and reach an agreement as there was only four of us.



*The team inspected the progress on London Olympic's construction work.*

When we first moved to New Eltham we considered continuing to go to The Good Shepherd, as one of the Church readers, Barbara, lives in Westmount Road, Eltham, and drives to Lee every now and then. If she can then surely we could too. We did still go there for some time after we had already moved to New Eltham until we decided: let's start again.

Thanks to Google maps we found one Anglican Church which is a bit hidden from the main road, instead of taking a suggestion from one of our new neighbours to go to one in Sidcup. The Siregar-Nayoan Trust decided to restart the whole journey in the process of finding friends. Our first service in All Saints' Church was with Rev Francis Friendship), and after a few Sunday services we learnt that he was in fact a visiting priest waiting for a permanent one.

I vividly remember the first time we went to tea in the hall after the service: we sat with Joyce, who was in her late 80s and lived in Agaton Road (she hated the name Agaton road which made us laugh), which is not very far from our house.



*Trying to beat snow in New Eltham*

Sometimes we would all walk together from church and we were always impressed by her energy. After a few months since, she stopped coming to church due to her health, God rest her soul, but the four of us will always remember her as a kind, warm, and energetic person.

At the same time we had the privilege of getting to know more of the congregation and found that Joyce was one of dozens of kind, warm, and energetic individuals in All Saints. Lisa and I quickly felt surrounded by warm aunts, uncles, brothers, and sisters.



*With Vera and Joey on the way for tea*

I must admit that a friendly chat during tea in the hall is one of the things that we are always looking forward to, as well as the sermons that related verses in the Bible to the complexities of modern daily life.

Early last year, just before Lisa was admitted to hospital, we were both travelling to Indonesia – a mixture of work and holiday- and I still remember moments – sitting by the beach in Bali or having coffee in one of the many malls in Jakarta- where we really missed New Eltham. Not just our house or the small back garden, but also our kind neighbours, the very handy Coop store, the tasty fish and chips next to it, the romantic vinyl shop by the station, the cosy Park Tavern pub in Eltham, even the constantly delayed Southeastern service (if you can call it a service), and of course our big lovely family at the All Saints' Church.

Lisa has just been cleared from cancer after struggling in and out of hospital for almost a year. Our daughter Matta is at home from July until September until her university term restarts and she returns to her accommodation, while Juang enjoys living in his own house, paying a visit to us every week. Lisa and I may be still naïve -definitely not young though- but brave enough to give unsolicited advice to Juang and Matta regularly (I wonder why they don't want to live with us 24/7/365?).



*Juang and Matta with Grandmother in Medan, Indonesia, 2012*

Years go by and every time Lisa and I go to our so called home country in Indonesia, we find ourselves kind of in a state of confusion as to what the actual definition of home is, since we missed Indonesia but also missed our routine in New Eltham, this small town 7,300 miles away from where I was born and grew up that become our home. This feeling of being at home would never have been completed if we haven't stepped into the All Saints' Church to enjoy the peaceful moment that is Sunday mass, followed by sitting and chatting with the congregation in the hall, feeling comfortable, safe, and secure.

That is what home is about, for us in August 2019.

But, as we had experienced over the years, life is full of unpredictable surprises. We never know where the future will bring us, all we know is the four of us will be ready.

**Liston Siregar**

**Anthony Bennett's final rest.**

We have just come back from a week in the Lake District, Theresa, Chris and the two granddaughters took me and Tony's ashes up to Grasmere where we scattered his ashes on the fells of his beloved Lakeland.



Chris said it was the only place to take him for he was always at peace up there. He forgot his anxieties and depression, so he is now finally at rest in the woods overlooking Grasmere village and lake.

We spent so many holidays there climbing all the fells. It was a magical evening, we were in the grounds of Allan Bank, now National Trust. It was seven o' clock in the evening and it was just us and the red squirrels and the sun was shining. My vicar Mike had printed us a lovely meaningful service sheet which we could all read. I have enclosed a couple of photos showing where we scattered his ashes and the view over the valley where Tony and I had climbed the fell so many times.



I hope all goes well with New Eltham.

**Iris Bennett.**

## Diary Dates for October 2019

Thursday 3rd	11.00 am	Holy Communion
Saturday 5th	10.00- 4.00	Deanery Away day. Bromley
Sunday 6th	10.00 am	Holy Communion
Wednesday 9th	10.30-12.00 7.30-8.30	Fair Trade Café Choir practice
Thursday 10th	11.00 am	Holy Communion
Sunday 13th		<b>HARVEST FESTIVAL</b>
	10.00 am	Holy Communion followed by a Barbeque
	6.30 pm	Talk on the Bayeaux Tapestry
Thursday 17th	11.00 am	Holy Communion
Sunday 20th	10.00 am	Holy Communion
Wednesday 23rd	10.30- 12.00 7.30-8.30	Fair Trade Café Choir practice
Thursday 24th	11.00 am	Holy Communion
Friday 25th	tbc	Wedding Address/Lawrence
Sunday 27th	10.00am	Holy Communion

*Please check the weekly news sheet for any change*

### **On going to Church**

Some go to church just for a walk—Some go there to laugh and talk  
Some go there for speculation—Some go there for observation  
Some go there to meet a lover—Some the impulse oft discover  
Some go there to meet a friend—Some go there the time to spend  
Some go to learn the parsons name—Some go there to wound his fame  
Many go there to doze and nod—But few go there to worship God.

**Anon**

## **Parish Pump**

### **Weddings**

22nd September, Nicholas White and Natasha Lee.

### **100 Club**

The September prize was won by Graham Lyons.

### **Quiz Results.**

The August Quiz prize of £15.50 was won by R. Ellenor, whose entry was picked from the correct quiz sheets returned.

### **Harvest Festival**

As we collected money for the Falconer Trust earlier in the year, this year we are not asking for children's clothes etc for harvest. Food donations will be going to the local food bank.

By popular choice, the Harvest Service will be followed by a barbeque. Tickets will be on sale in the preceding weeks. (see weekly pewsheet for details)

### **Talk on the Bayeaux Tapestry**

On Sunday 13th at 6.30pm, in the hall, Michael Lewis, an archaeologist at the British Museum, will be giving a talk on the Bayeaux Tapestry. He is working on the project to bring the tapestry to England for restoration. There will be a small charge and refreshments will be included.

### **Monthly Charity.**

This month we are continuing to raise money for Macmillan Nurses, a charity that provides support for cancer sufferers.

### **All Saints Choir**

The Choir will be meeting in the Church vestry on Wednesday evenings at 7.30 to 8.30. If you are interested and would like more details please contact Aaron Mather by e-mail at [anjmather@gmail.com](mailto:anjmather@gmail.com) or just come along to one of our rehearsals. All abilities welcome.

### **Future Events**

Sunday 3rd November, All Saints-Confirmation Service 3 pm

Sunday 10th November, Remembrance Day, 9.30 service followed by community act of remembrance at 10.45.

Saturday 16th November, Concert for Demelza

Saturday 23rd November, Quiz night in the Hall

Sunday 1st December, Advent and Christingle Service at 4pm

Sunday 15th December, CTNE Carol Service 6 pm. at All Saints

## Churchwardens' Corner

### **New Eltham Village Festival – Saturday 14th September**

The annual festival (this year was the fifth) always takes place in September and is organised by NEBA (New Eltham Business Association). As some of you may know NEBA, with membership funding from local organisations, is also responsible for our Christmas Tree lights and for the planters that are filled with flowers throughout the year.

The Festival is an opportunity for local organisations to introduce themselves to local people and always features a wide range of entertainment, which this year included Katz Eyes Dance Group, Make A Noise Choir, Dance Wise, New Eltham Community Productions and the Redeemed Church Choir.

Our thanks go to Emma and Peter who helped to set up and run the stand, and to Brian, Rita, Paul, Richard, Beryl and Simon who also helped. Our thanks also especially to Evelyn who was with Neal on the stand throughout the day. It is extraordinary how many people Evelyn knows! Although, by the end, Neal's constant question "Who was that?" started to get a few withering, stop testing my memory, looks from Evelyn!



*(more photos over the page)*

### **Thank you**

A special thank you to Rita for her always creative Family Services and also to the following who, in the last month, have covered our Sunday services during Annette's sabbatical:

Christine Latham

Bruce Driver

William David.

Thank you also to the PCC which does not often get a thank you for all the work that is done both individually and collectively. As the lone tenor and the less lonely bass in our choir we would particularly like to thank the PCC for agreeing to the purchase of a Yamaha Piano to replace two pianos (one in the Hall) which sadly have come to the end of their long lives.

The cost of £500 was funded by the Mission Development Fund which was set up very much with the aim of funding this type of "small seed" development, which will provide us with a piano that is of a standard and quality: for choir rehearsals and performances; to offer piano lessons and for potential use in one-off concerts/performances.

## **Garden Working Party – Saturday 19th October**

The next working party will be on 19th October. Neal will be there throughout the day so please feel free to drop in at any time from 10.00 – 4.00. The day will continue our aim over the autumn/winter period to ensure that the gaps in planting in the Memorial Garden are filled and the entire area is completely mulched. So, if you can spare or contribute any of the following we would be very grateful: Lavender cuttings or plants; Foxgloves; Phlox; Michaelmas Daisies; Bluebells; Daffodil bulbs.

## **Graham & Neal**

### **All Saints at the New Eltham Festival**



*Local children enjoying a free colouring in session.*



*The setting up team at the start of a busy day, raising All Saints profile locally.*

Answers to the September Quiz sheet

CAN YOU SPOT THE DOG?



1 Dogtanion



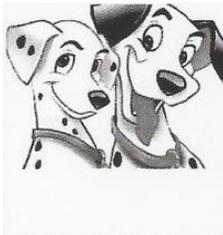
2 Spike



3 Belle &  
Sabastian



4 Deputy Dawg



5 Perdy &  
Pongo



6 Roly  
(Eastenders)



7 Brian



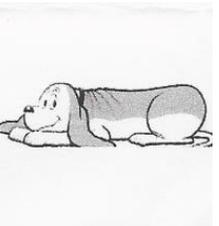
8 Hong Kong  
Phoocy



9 Marmaduke



10 Roobarb (&  
Custard)



11 Fred Bassett



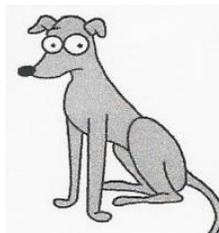
12 Tramp &  
Lady



13 Rowlf  
(Muppets)



14 Goofy



15 Santa's little  
helper



16 Wellard

From the Archives – *snippets from the October magazine of 1939, price twopence*

### THE BLACK OUT

Black Out regulations have necessitated many alterations in our parish plans. Alas, many arrangements have to be cancelled and all idea of going forward with them given up for the time being. The whole C.E.M.S. programme has been cancelled. This is a bitter disappointment in view of the arrangements that had been made including the visit of the Bishop of Ely for the Admission Service. I fear the same fate for our Missionary programme, which was to have included a film.

The Senior and Junior Guild Concerts have also gone, and, in fact, practically all evening work, is at a standstill.

Saddest of all will be the curtailing of our Patronal Festival arrangements.

Evening Services will be impossible, and many will be prevented from joining in the Festival. Still, we must make the best of what is left to us, and keep smiling, and carry on.

### SALE OF WORK

If the Fire Brigade are still in possession of our Hall, the Sale of Work will be held in the Bridgeman Hall, Southwood Road.

The Committee of the Bridgeman Hall have been very kind to us, and have offered us their Hall, free of charge.

We greatly appreciate their kindness and the splendid spirit in which they have offered all help they can give.

The sale will take place as arranged on Thursday and Friday, October 12th and 13th, and we look forward to welcoming Lady Wood, as our Opener on Thursday, at 11 a.m.

Owing to the Black Out, time of opening has been altered from 3 p.m. to 11 a.m. It will be a daylight Sale, opening each day at 11 a.m., and closing about 4 p.m. We are bound to be badly hit by the War, and things are very difficult, but we are just going to do the best we can, and prove that we can smile through.

*The "Church Logbook" for October 1979 records:*

Just beginning, finally, to get things moving on the heating conversion (*Church & Hall boilers—oil to gas*) after much delay due to engineers strike.

*We hope to provide "snippets" from the relevant month of 80 and 40 years ago.*