



The Creeksea Chronicle

Mothering Sunday Special – saying it with flowers

Come and collect a 'nosegay' for Mum – or for anyone who you think really deserves a thank you present for the care, comfort and support – the mothering – they offer to you, on Sunday 15th March at 10.15am

Creeksea Church has its own very special Mothering Sunday tradition of presenting to all the ladies in the congregation a posy of flowers – with more to take round to those who can no longer make the journey to church. And in recent years we have also provided the materials for creative thank you cards, as well as gifts to make, for the children of the congregation to create lovingly hand-crafted presents for Mums and Grannies.

This year is no exception. At the Family Service on the 8th March there will be an opportunity to make gifts for Mum and on Mothering Sunday itself we shall not only be celebrating mothers but also be quietly beavering away to produce tokens of our gratitude as well.

Mothering Sunday has always been celebrated – but not in the way it is now. In the past Mothering Sunday, which is always on the fourth Sunday of Lent, was the day when worshippers in parishes around went to the 'Mother' Church – or Cathedral to worship. And it has also been known as Refreshment Sunday – because for many years the Gospel reading for the day was the feeding of the 5000. Which is why, some say, the regulations regarding the Lenten Fast were eased and the eating of Simnel Cake became a tradition.

Then a new tradition arose on this day –

that of allowing servants a day in which they could return home to visit their Mothers – taking with them little gifts – a posy of flowers, a cake or some such token of appreciation. So Mothering Sunday became the special day it is now – when we rejoice in the skills of mothering – the love and care and support of those who mother us. Anyone who offers love and comfort and mothering should be included in this special day. So come and join the celebration and thank the Lord for Mums.... and.....Grannies.... and..... Aunties.... and

Marching towards Easter

The pony is having acting lessons – it's hard work being a donkey.....! The palms are being prepared – hand made.....! The crowd are practising Hosanna – quietly because they are rather shy.....!

Yes – it will soon be Palm Sunday and time for our annual procession from Elmwood Stables to All Saints' Church to celebrate the start of Holy Week.

Every year Play & Praise families re-enact the story of Jesus triumphant entry into Jerusalem with a special walk from the stables to the church – it begins in the yard at Elmwood with the reading of the story. After we've heard about Jesus sending his disciples to fetch the donkey and of his disciples leading him into Jerusalem where the crowds go wild with delight, we set off, singing at first but then settling into a companionable group of fellow travellers, strolling along the road.

Continued on page Three

Abi's Independence

ABIGAIL is a funny and delightful little girl. You may have seen her in church with her family - Mum and Dad, Georgina and Stephen, and her younger brother, Cameron. She is often at the Family Service and sometimes comes to Play & Praise. She loved joining in with the carols on Christmas morning – signing and singing those she knew. Abi has Down's syndrome, Autism and was born with several heart defects. As a result, she had open heart surgery aged 3, but that has only partly repaired the defects. She also has severe learning difficulties and limited communication and attends a new model special school for children with severe learning difficulties. Abigail loves being in the outdoors and joining in with an active, extended family. The whole family would love her to be able to join in as independently as possible and part of this would be to develop her communication, but that is not easy. Activities that most children of 10 years old participate in daily have to be adapted for her needs and understanding. The family have got to the point where they need to encourage her independence - for her mental and physical health and for a positive future. However, due to her severe learning difficulties and lack of understanding with safety, they are finding this increasingly difficult. At present, 2 adults have to accompany Abi for walking short and safe distances, either with Abi on a strong harness or in her Maclaren major buggy. As useful as the buggy is, it has its limits – it can't handle the rough terrain of say, a walk in the woods and Abi, growing up fast, is now too big to carry. But they may have found a solution to this. It is the Tomcat Fizz Trike. This trike is lightweight, stable and even has a latch on trailer bar so when Abi is tired it can be attached to an adult's bike. Very kindly the Round Table has made a contribution towards this and the bike should be delivered before Easter. Abi is a visual learner and excels at using her school iPad. The family would like to continue this learning at home to develop her speech and desire to communicate with her brother. They have found a company called 'See and Learn'. 'See and Learn' programs offer easy-to-use apps that are designed to support early development for children with Down's syndrome. They have now introduced apps for speech, language and reading, memory and numbers.

So can we as a church help Abi?

The Parochial Church Council has decided that we should start a fund for Abi's iPad – if you would like to help, just make donations payable to All Saints' Church Creeksea and we'll make the funds available to Abi's family to buy the iPad.

There will be a jar in Church for donations or you can send them to Abi's iPad, C/O Revd Vera Wadman, 8 Fernlea Road, Burnham-on-Crouch, Essex.

Steve, will be doing a London to Paris sponsored bike ride for the Down's syndrome Association in July this year and if through your generosity there is more money than needed the balance will be given to the Down's Syndrome Association.



*Right; Our Abi sings along to some of her favourite music.
Left; the Tomcat Fizz Trike which will enable Abi to share adventures with her family in the great outdoors bought with help from Round Table*



If you would also like to sponsor Steve on his epic bike ride there is a **Virgin Money Just Giving page** - http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/Stephen_Bowyer

Marching towards Easter—continued

At the church the pony is securely tethered and attended to, while the crowd go into the church for a very short service – and refreshments.

Then it will be time for the 'Donkey' to be taken home to a quiet stable and for the church to be made ready for the evening Choral Service

Just what Algernon will make of the whole event is impossible to say – but he'll be there with his own special take on Palm Sunday. Let's hope that the Donkey is.

From glad 'Hosanna!' to 'Crucify'

It took just one week. No, less than a week, for the crowd to be turned from a cheering roadside group bellowing out 'Hosanna to the Son of David' into a hostile churning mob chanting 'Crucify Him' What ever happened in those few days?

This is the story of Holy Week

A week where every action, every thought, drives this story onwards. All the past three years of a man's ministry, of his healing, preaching teaching, praying, loving, caring, are brought into sharp focus as the powers that be draw a net closer and closer around him.

This is the story that we explore in words and music on Palm Sunday Evening. This Choral Service presents the evidence, hears the voices of the dispossessed, the excluded, the witness of the accusers. What did Jesus do?

What brought the Empire and the Temple into accord? Why did they conspire for his death?

Why?

The answer to that is to be found on Easter Sunday.

Come and discover the meaning of Easter – the Holy Week Experience – from Palm Sunday on 29th March to Easter Sunday the 5th April. During this week there will be a whole series of services to challenge our thinking and to fascinate us with the character of Jesus. And then we can really look forward to the glory of Easter Morning.

Christ the Lord is Risen**Today....**

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

Thank God for Babies, Baptism and Easter

A family service with a real difference – that's a promise for Easter Sunday.

Because as well as a welcome for a new Christian into our congregation – there will also be a Baptism.

Easter always was the preferred time for Baptisms. Christians in the first few centuries AD would learn about the faith during Lent and then receive their Baptism on Easter morning.

It makes perfect sense – for Easter is about the renewal of hope, about rising to new life, about the triumph of Christ over sin and death

And that is just what Baptisms are all about too.

So when Jodie and Andrew Kennedy were talking about Baby Ella's christening in April – it seemed absolutely perfect for Easter Sunday on the 5th.

And while we are about it – isn't it the perfect opportunity for us to remind ourselves of what we promised – or was promised on our behalf - at our Christenings. Most of us were probably too young to have any recollection of the day. Although we may have taken on the promises made at our Baptism when we were confirmed, we may not have very firm memories of that either. So, although we cannot renew our promises, they were made once for all, we can refresh them.

This will be a joyous celebration of the Easter message – and in case it all sounds too serious – remember it is a family service and there will be an Easter Egg Hunt as well as a visit from Algernon and plenty to make and do.

As Easter is one of those Festivals of the Church when all confirmed members should receive Communion this will be available at the end of the service for all those who wish to receive or be blessed on this very special day.

Inner Wheel's Bag a Bra Project

The Inner Wheel Club of Burnham on Crouch are collecting new and good second hand bras to raise funds for both Breast Cancer Research and traders in Africa. Help to raise funds for dedicated research to improve the detection and survival of cancer.

The charity Breast Cancer Care, has teamed up with BCR Textiles who help small businesses in Africa. Through their textile project they are preventing valuable textiles from going to landfill and giving them a new lease of life in developing countries across Africa where bras remain too expensive to produce. BCR are donating £1000 per tonne (or £1 per kilo) to the research project. This equates to about 9000 bras.

When you give a bra to this scheme, your bra is whisked away to start a new life on the other side of the world where traders support their families by selling textiles locally. Successful ventures like this keep many families in developing countries out of poverty whilst providing employment for people at home in the UK. Any bras beyond redemption will be disposed of humanely (*sorry I mean properly!*)! Unwanted bras can be given to Rosemary Norden, 35 Station Road, Burnham.

See www.breastcancer.org for more information.

ROSEMARY NORDEN.

Summer Series of Choral Evensongs

27th April – Sail your vessel – Tom Harrison talks about Wind-Surfing across the North Sea

Tom had just returned from a training session off the Coast of Mersea Island, part of his preparation for a non-stop wind-surf across the North Sea later this year in aid of RNLI and a Dyslexia charity, when he discussed speaking at the Summer Series. He is eager to raise funds for both of these charities – which mean so much to him – and keen also to explain how dyslexia can affect bright and able young students, undermining their confidence. Children with dyslexia need to be helped to ‘sail their own vessel’ – to realise that they are able to get on in life with the right help and encouragement. This isn’t just about sailing boats – it’s about recognising that life is full of possibilities if you can meet the challenges. Tom is meeting the challenge of standing up in front of the congregation to explain what he

means – giving us the opportunity to learn more about the condition - dyslexia – and the possibility of supporting him as he meets his challenge. What a bracing start to the Summer Series.

24th May - What really does go on in the Cathedral?

It was a conversation with a volunteer guide that made me think. Not only do they take groups around the Cathedral on guided tours – like the Ladies from Burnham Inner Wheel Club who provided a wheel chair for use in the Cathedral. But they also have school visits to deal with and go out to schools too. There’s an education team and of course the Choir has been known to visit local churches to sing services. But that only really touches on the fringes of the activities of the Cathedral – our Mother Church in the Diocese.

So, further conversations have led to a promise of a visit from one of the Cathedral Staff – possibly the Vice-Dean Ivor Moody – to come to Creeksea to tell us more about the history and work of Chelmsford Cathedral.

28th June - St Alban – England’s Saint and an English City.

There is nothing like hearing an enthusiast speaking about his home town – add to that the story of a very special English Saint and the June Evensong looks set to having a very English feel about it. Michael Elves, who is a member of the Verulamium Rotary Club and also sails on the Crouch, is visiting Creeksea to give us his own views on Saint and City.

The Organist’s Challenge

Thinking about the Summer Series, Organist Adrienne Smith pointed out an idea from another church. It is a Songs of Praise Service with a difference.

The congregation pick the hymns – well before hand and with an explanation of why they want the hymn and a little bit about its history [*so it can be included in the programme*].

And they also pick the sermon – by asking the Vicar about texts from the Bible.

This Priest-in-Charge faces the challenge with trepidation – because the Biblical texts in the original scheme were only presented at the service. I suppose the idea is that, without preparation, the answers would be very brief.

No date has been finalised for this service as we are waiting for replies from other speakers for two of the three remaining dates for the Summer Series – keep an eye on Facebook/Webpage and Pew Sheet.

Three Courses – with Wine

Getting to know you – a starter course with a difference.

*A glass of wine – cool white or warm red – or maybe tea or coffee! *A comfortable chair *Some friends around *And a chance to talk about Getting to know the Bible

This six week course – an hour-and-a-half a week – is designed as an opportunity to familiarise ourselves with the where, what, when, why, how and who of the Bible. Not too serious – it's a starter course. But it can lead to interesting discussions and Revd Vera can always be side-tracked.

Getting to know more – a main course.

Having got the starter under our belt it's time to tackle the main course – a look at how the Church grew up. In these six weeks the material explains among other things, how the Church got the Creed and why there are different denominations and what is the reason for the seasonal changes of colour in the church.

Again this is washed down with a glass of wine or a cup of tea or coffee with plenty of time to chat and debate.

So what's for pudding?

Back to the Bible for this one – and a look at some of the books in more detail. Scholars say that the New Testament is in the Old concealed, the Old Testament is in the New Revealed. This course is about the cross over between the two main parts of the Bible – for example the prophet Isaiah gives a manifesto for living – it underlines much of what Jesus said.

Wine, tea and coffee provided with mints

You don't need to enjoy every course – starter and sweet would be good together or starter or main. And for those who have already completed the Getting to know the Bible course before the main and sweet would be a great choice. Just come along and take the opportunity to be fed with the wonderful food of the Bible – it reaches the parts that other course just can't reach.

If you feel you'd like to know more about the Bible but have been reluctant to ask then contact Revd Vera or keep an eye open for the flyers that will be in church at Easter.

■ All courses last six weeks – with 90minute session each week. Afternoon and evening sessions possible depending on demand. They will take place at 8 Fernlea Road Burnham.

Film Club

During the winter the Film Club has been enjoying Matinee performances of favourite films. In April the Club will revert to 7.30pm and its the normal first Monday of the Month slot. But because of the Easter bank holiday it will be on the 2nd Monday 13th of April.

Belonging

Are you a regular worshipper at All Saints? Are you on the electoral roll? If you are a baptised member of the Church of England and a regular worshipper you are entitled to belong to the voting body of the church – signified by membership of the electoral roll. Those on the roll are entitled to vote in elections for the Parochial Church Council and Church Wardens. Every year the roll is updated before the Annual Parochial Church Meeting [APCM] – if you would like to know more contact Howard Watling on 782203 or ask in church for a membership form.

All Saint's APCM

Annual Parochial Church Meeting 12th April. Every year the Parochial Church Council prepares a Report and Accounts and presents them to the Annual Church Meeting. The Report and Accounts are available for inspection in the church before and after the meeting and give a clear indication of all the Council do to care for the church and support the officers and wardens as well as the Priest-in-Charge in the ordering of Church and worship. This year the APCM will be held after the 10.15am service on the 12th April.

...do you remember? SERIES FOR THE CHRONICLE

Memories

If you have a memoir of the past that you think would make an interesting read, please dot it down on paper or e-mail to us if you wish to share this memory.

Maybe how Creeksa has changed; thoughts of Burnham in years gone by. However small an item or maybe just a ditty that people would enjoy reading.

Facebook

“And when we both have some time, I’ll set up a Facebook Page for All Saints’ Church and show you how it works”, Frances Aylieff [formerly Harrington] said cheerfully. I’m not sure Frances realised the sense of trepidation that overcame Vera the Vicar at that moment. Isn’t it a fact that the older generation are sort of comfortable with e-mails and can just about manage to google on the web but that social media is a step too far.....

But one morning towards the end of last year the All Saints’ Church Creeksea Facebook page was born – with its hesitant twin – Vera Wadman’s Facebook page too.

And what a difference it has made to communications within our Church family.

Christmas services were advertised with

clipart and pictures; family photos of weddings and christenings have been uploaded to the page; questions have been received and answered.

We were able to show the Christmas Crib at the Festive Fayre on our cover photo – use the Christmas Card picture as our profile picture and then change them for a winter picture of the church and a summer one after Christmas.

Each week we can put on information about the services – and the post about Play & Praise in January reached 87 people. Post at Christmas time reached even more.

See how quickly aged vicars pick up the jargon.....

If this is the future then I can see it might be rather good fun and I’m looking forward to more lessons in how to keep our Facebook page full of interest and fun.

Letters - Can you Help?

Dear Chronicle Readers, Greetings from Australia! I’m writing to ask if anyone has any memories of Reverend Joseph Francis Haynes who was the Vicar of All Saints Church during the 1950’s and/or the early 1960’s. I am researching my family history and Revd Joseph is a distant relative. I am intrigued by the fact that up until at least the mid-1940’s, he was a grocer living in Belper, Derbyshire, like his father before him. Does anyone know what was behind Revd Joseph ‘switching careers’ in his middle age? Do you have any other memories of him that you’d like to share?

Services and Events in March 2015

Date	Time	Service
15th March/Mothering Sunday	8.30am	Holy Communion BCP
	10.15am	Mothering Sunday Special
18th March/Wednesday	9.30am	Holy Communion and Lent Reflection
22nd March/Lent 5	8.30am	Holy Communion BCP
	10.15am	Sunday Worship Holy Communion
29th March/Palm Sunday	8.30am	Holy Communion BCP
	10.15am	Play & Praise, Palm Sunday Procession
	6.00pm	Palm Sunday Choral Service
30th March/Monday of Holy Week	7.30pm	Film

Services and Events in April 2015

Date	Time	Service
1st April/Wednesday	9.30am	Holy Communion BCP and Lent reflection
2nd April/Maundy Thursday	7.30pm	Evening Service for Maundy Thursday followed by preparation for Good Friday and meditation on the Garden
3rd April/Good Friday	2.30pm	Good Friday Reflection
5th April/Easter Sunday	8.30am	Holy Communion BCP
	10.15am	Family Service for Easter Sunday, followed by Holy Communion
12th April/2nd Sunday of Easter	8.30am	Holy Communion BCP
	10.15am	Sunday Worship Family Service
19th April/3rd Sunday of Easter	8.30am	Mattins
	10.15am	Sunday Worship Morning Prayer
25th April/4th Sunday of Easter	8.30am	Holy Communion BCP
	10.15am	Play & Praise
	6.00pm	Choral Evensong

Burnham girl Jennifer reports from Bethlehem

Jennifer Hammond, who grew up in Burnham, recently left her graduate job at Nestlé to pursue her passion for charity work. She was chosen as a participant on the International Citizen Service scheme (ICS) and is now taking the opportunity to help some of the poorest people in the world as a volunteer. It's a programme that brings young people from different countries together to fight poverty. The belief is that it is the young who are the best placed to do this and change the world for the future.

Jennifer is currently living with a local family in Palestine and is involved in a local community work project with young volunteers from the region. She also hopes that her experiences in Palestine will broaden her understanding and experience of the world's problems. She also hopes to hone her skills in team-working, leadership, communication and decision-making.

We hope to have more reports from Jennifer in future and are looking forward to hearing more of her experiences at a service in Creeksea sometime later in the year.

The Grotto of the Nativity in Bethlehem, photographed by Jennifer Hammond who is currently volunteering in Palestine



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Palm Sunday Procession

March 29th, 10.15am

Palm Sunday Choral Service

March 29th, 6.00pm

Family Easter Sunday Service

With Holy Communion
April, 5th, 10.15am

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