



# roundabout



The Parish Magazine of St. Augustine's Church, Southborough Lane with St. Luke's Church, Bromley Common

Issue 536 October 2022

## *The Queen*

The past few weeks have been momentous in the history of this nation as we mourned the death of Queen Elizabeth II. She has been the constant in our lives for these past 70 years and for many of us the only monarch we have known. Some in our community you will have special memories of the Queen, either a personal moment when they were able to meet her and maybe spend time with her, or on those occasions when she addressed us through the Christmas day message, or a time of national emergency.



The national display of mourning has, I believe, recognised the love and affection that she was held in by so many people, not just from this nation, but by so many around the world. Politicians of all persuasions home and abroad have been of one voice in describing the Queen's ability to be the one person they could talk to openly and honestly about their worries, their struggles. Often, she has been described as the ultimate diplomat by the very virtue of drawing people and nations together, even those in conflict. The Commonwealth we recognise today is only due to the Queen's intervention at key stages over the years.

To underline the national outpouring of love and affection for the Queen, her 'Lying-in-State' at both St Giles' Cathedral in Edinburgh and at Westminster Hall in London, saw many thousands of people queue for hours to pay their final respects to the Queen. From a personal point of view, as we filed past, I found it extremely moving; there was no rush, no hurrying by those in charge, just silence and respect.

The Queen's Christian faith is well known and documented. She, I believe, modelled her leadership role on the qualities of Jesus Christ by being a 'servant leader' and whenever she could, either by word or action, extolled the virtues of Christian life. She will be sorely missed by the many peoples of this nation, the Commonwealth and the world. **May she rest in peace, and rise in glory, Amen.**

And finally we pray for the Royal family in their time of grief and uphold our new King, Charles III, that he may be a force for good, continuing to uphold the teachings and values of Jesus Christ in the challenges and struggles we face today.

*Revd Steve Spencer*

Revd Steve Spencer - Vicar

**As members of St. Augustine's with St. Luke's, we seek to follow Jesus' command  
— to share God's love with our community.**



## Mothers' Union

At this sad time, the passing of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II, I write to you on the occasion of the death of our royal patron. The Mothers' Union was blessed to have the late queen as our patron. Her late majesty was an example of faithful service to our nation, and the Commonwealth and more importantly, her devotion to Our Lord and Saviour.

For us she was an exemplar of Christian Life. Her witness and gracious service following her faith, continues to show us the way. We will all find ourselves at a loss at her death. We must take time to mourn and to pray.

We pray for the repose of the soul of Queen Elizabeth, that she will rest in the glory of Our Lord. May God bless us and comfort us. God save the King.

(An extract from the letter sent to Mothers' Union branches in Rochester Diocese from Mary Margaret Yates, Diocesan President)



## Commemorative Scroll Appeal 2022/2023

The purpose of the annual Commemorative Scroll Appeal is to raise funds for the provision of fresh flower arrangements in St Augustine's Church throughout the year, but especially for the festivals of Harvest, Christmas, and Easter in memory of loved ones.

A framed list of the names of friends or relatives for whom you have donated is then displayed on the wall of the Memorial chapel.

Alternatively, loved ones' names may also be added to the Scroll without a donation to the Flower Fund by just completing the last section of the enclosed form.

All members of the Flower Guild consider it a privilege to arrange your flowers, knowing that each bloom represents cherished memories.

There are three ways you can donate to the appeal fund as indicated on the form.

Please complete the form and return it in an envelope clearly marked '**Commemorative Scroll**' to the church office. Thanking you for your support.

God bless,

**Cathy Fyfield**

On Friday morning, 9 September, I caught a train to London. The previous evening at 6.30, ITV's Mary Nightingale read out a bulletin she had just been handed and everything changed. In next morning's paper, Queen Elizabeth's photo was full front page and page 2 listed the steps and procedures which would happen immediately. I got off the train at London Bridge with no plan in mind. The first thing I heard was the muffled bell of Southwark Cathedral tolling.



Walking towards Millenium Bridge, the few people I came across seemed dazed. As I went over the bridge up to St Paul's I saw a short queue at the City of London Tourist office and I had read that 2,000 tickets were being issued to the public for a special service at 6 pm. I never thought I would get one. The lady on the desk fixed a wristband on me and said 'Back here no earlier than 3 pm or later than 3.45'. I looked at my jeans and trainers and immediately set off for home!

More appropriately dressed and back at the appointed time, we queued in slowly snaking lines. There were security people, sniffer dogs and bag searches. With my yellow coded band I entered the cathedral. The lady usher pointed me down the main aisle. Next, a man pointed me further down the main aisle, and the third usher directed me to the front row in the north transept of the Dome section. And so it was, that one of the most memorable events of my life began.

Before the Service of Reflection on the Death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, there were four pieces for organ, including the wonderful 'Farewell to Stromness'. At 6 pm we and the whole nation listened to the first words from our new King, Charles III. Then the mighty organ thundered, a long procession of clergy, including both Archbishops, moved into their stalls and we sang the first hymn 'All my hope on God is founded'. After the Bidding Prayers the choir sang the first of their four anthems, as clear as a bell, the sound soaring into the dome above us. The Readings were Isaiah 61 v 1-3 and Romans 14 v 7-12, read respectively by the Canon in Residence and the Prime Minister. The Bishop of London gave the Address and there were two more hymns: 'O Thou, who camest from above' and 'The Lord's my shepherd' sung to Crimond. The Act of Commendation 'The souls of the righteous are in the hand of God' was conducted by the Dean-Designate. After which there was silence. As we stood, from the West Door came the sound of a lone piper playing a Lament, its insistent drone getting louder as he processed up the aisle, past the lecterns and altar, through the choir and away into the distance. Then came familiar words: 'Rest eternal grant unto her, O Lord and let light perpetual shine upon her. May she rest in peace and rise in glory'. The farewell to our Queen had ended. The Archbishop of Canterbury gave the Blessing and for the first time at an official event in this Carolinian age, we sang 'God Save the King'.

As I left the cathedral the great bells tolled a mourning peal. I walked past a bank of international broadcasters conducting their interviews, back over the river and home. An unforgettable day.

**Mary Plummer**



## Bits and Pieces

My grandmother loved to crochet. She used to crochet squares and make them into blankets, hot water bottle covers and many other items. I still have a purple shoulder bag that she made for me in the 60s when I was into purple. It is a skill that I have not inherited from her, but one I have always wanted to try. I can knit but have never mastered how to crochet.

To my delight, 'Bits and Pieces', Helen's craft sessions once a month on Wednesday evenings, offered me the chance to learn. Helen gave us all an easy-grip crochet hook and we could choose our wool. I have to say it is not a skill that comes naturally to me, but Helen has endless patience. After unpicking it a few times, an easy task unlike knitting as there is only one stitch, I managed three rows of perfect crochet by the end of the evening. So proud!

I have since, with the help of a friend, managed to crochet around the edge of a small blanket. My technique would probably make my grandmother turn in her grave, but the end result is fine.



So, keep an eye out for 'Bits and Pieces'. It is a very relaxing and enjoyable way to spend an evening and learn new skills. At the last session we were introduced to 'String Art'. Here are our designs. The October meeting will be an introduction to 'Brush Calligraphy'. Anyone interested?

Thanks to Helen for providing this opportunity and for her wonderful creative talent, help and encouragement.

**Sue Goodger**

## *Bromley Brighter Beginnings*

This local charity was set up 10 years ago, originally to provide a Moses basket full of essentials for a newborn baby, for pregnant women or a new Mum who might need support with the stresses a new baby can bring. As government and local funding to the social sector has been stretched since those early days, BBB has adapted its brief to meet today's needs.

The work with new Mums continues, but concern for children in early years or still at school has added a new dimension. For many households, the cost of school uniforms, good quality toys or bedding is a very real issue. As the list of BBB friends has grown, when a particular set of needs is identified, they use Facebook to match them up with followers who could help with specific donations. As I write this, today's request is for items to help two teenage girls currently residing in a hotel with their Mum. They need one navy and one black rucksack, a weeks' worth of school tights and other clothing.

Soon they will start making up Christmas parcels and details will be in next month's Roundabout.

[www.bromleybrighterbeginnings](http://www.bromleybrighterbeginnings) or BromleyBrighterBeginnings on Facebook



**Mary Plummer**

## David Harrington

David finally left Bromley for the delights of Wareham, Dorset on 22 September.

I say 'finally' because it was when David was invited to lunch by mutual friends in Orpington, a family member also there, suggested that he might consider moving nearer to them, living in a pleasant housing development for the elderly. David had told me that he was lonely living on his own. After much consideration, he decided that such a move might help solve the problem.

David had lived in the house in Balfour Road for 51 years... he was looking for long-term accommodation!

Canon John Barnard, of blessed memory, became aware that Mrs. Kathleen Milstead, a member of the church, was looking for a lodger and the rest, as they say, is history.

His mind is still acute; politics and the Church of England being of special interest! He had been part of St. Augustine's for many, many years, singing in the choir and taking part in Top of the Pew, to name but two.

He has a keen sense of humour, easily seeing the funny side. Indeed, he was reminding me only the other day, of the occasion when he, having been at an evening meal in the church on the Saturday, came into the Parish Office on the Monday to ask if anyone had handed in *a set of false* teeth which he had taken out to eat his meal – surely the meat couldn't have been that tough?! - and inadvertently left them on the table. But no one had, and refusing to be deterred, he then proceeded to delve through three plastic sacks of waste before success was achieved!

We wish him every happiness in his new home. If anyone would like to get into touch with him, I will gladly give them details.



Alan Skinner

THE PARISH OF  
ST AUGUSTINE'S WITH ST LUKE'S



# CAMEO

(Come And Meet Each Other)  
at our

## Friendship Tea

Every Thursday  
2.30pm-4.00pm in the  
Garden Room  
at  
St Augustine's Church  
~ we would love you to join us!

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Keep your news coming to me, either by seeing me in church on Sunday morning or alternatively, email it to me at [jackysskinner@gmail.com](mailto:jackysskinner@gmail.com). Thank you.



**John Scudder**

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## I Promise...

I wonder how many people reading this have been in the Scouts or Guides, in fact any of the Uniformed Organisations that meet on a regular basis in The Scout Hut attached to our church, or elsewhere.

Shortly after joining one of these organisations the young people are invited to become full members, to wear the uniform and make and keep The Promise. This month I am reminded that I made my Promise as a Brownie well over forty years ago. To be honest I don't remember much about it.

A Little Girl I Know made her first promise as a Rainbow aged just over five, simple words but important none the less. Only the other day when I received notification that following the death of the Queen, we are now to change the words of The Promise 'to serve the King'.

We laughed and cried almost in the same breath. We were sad as we had both promised 'to serve the Queen' - not with cups of tea, but starting at home, then reaching out further into our local communities and the wider world.

We laughed as we recalled our walks to her primary school, learning the words of the promise as we went.

Before long it was firmly implanted in her head, only for the words to change slightly by the time she started in Guides -and now another change. We are still active members so continue to make The Promise on a regular basis.

The other day she told me just how important those words have been to her in life so far and how they would continue to shape her life. At this time, we are minded to remember the words of a promise that The Queen made when she was just 21 years old. 'My life, be it long or short, will be given in the service of others'.

Powerful words that she, a former Girl Guide herself, upheld all through her life - truly inspirational.

There will be times as A Little Girl I Know continues to grow up that she will make other promises.

My prayer is that she, with the help of God, will be able to keep those as well as her Brownie and Guide Promise.


The new words of the Brownie/Guide Promise are:

*I promise that I will do my best: To be true to myself and develop my beliefs. To serve the King and my community. To help other people. And to keep the (Brownie) Guide Law.*



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Tea, coffee and cakes available (Payment by donation)  
Contact – Diana Pattison on 020 8464 1151 or  
dianaepattison@gmail.com

(Run by the members of The Bromley Common Group of Churches)





**SPECIAL Dates for your diary  
OCTOBER 2022**



This programme runs alongside our regular services

Date	Event	Where	Time	More Details
Sunday 2nd October	<b>Harvest Café Church</b>	St Augustine's Church	10.00am	We share breakfast and the love of Jesus together
Wednesdays From 5th October	<b>The Ark Toddler Group (Term-time)</b>	St Augustine's Church	10.00am~11.30am	
Wednesdays 5th (and 12th) October		St Augustine's Church Halls	7.00pm meal, arrive from 6.30pm	Interested in sharing a meal and exploring the Christian Faith together?
Wednesday 5th October	<b>Hot Chocolate on the Green</b>	St Augustine's Church Green	3.00pm	Free hot chocolate to passers-by.
Thursdays From 6th October		St Augustine's Church, Garden Room	2.30pm ~ 4.00pm	Friendship Café ~ bring and meet new friends
Saturday 8th October	<b>Youth Connect Autumn Olympics</b>	St Augustine's Church	7.00pm ~ 9.00pm	Summer/Winter style Olympic challenges to find the ultimate champion (Years7+)
Wednesday 12th (& 26th) October	<b>Midweek Holy Communion</b>	St Augustine's Church, in the Chapel	12.00 Noon	
Monday 17th October	<b>Merry Pilgrim's Walk</b>	Beckenham Place Park	10.30am	Meet at Beckenham Hill Station, SE6 3AL
Tuesday 18th October	<b>Forget Me Not Café</b>	St Augustine's Church, Garden Room	1.30 ~ 3.30pm	
Wednesday 19th October	<b>Mother's Union (All welcome)</b>	St Augustine's Church, Garden Room	2.00pm ~ 4.00pm	Linda Spencer  speaks about 'life as a clergy wife'
Wednesday 19th October	<b>Bits and Pieces (Adult Crafts)</b>	St Augustine's Church Hall	7.30pm	Lettering Calligraphy with a brush pen (£5 per adult)
Saturday 29th October	<b>Youth Connect Glow in the Dark Party</b>	St Augustine's Church	6.30pm ~ 9.00pm	Fun and games: UV treasure hunt, glow in the dark bowling and lots more fun for Years 7+
Sunday 30th October	<b>Memorial Service</b>	St Augustine's Church	3.00pm	An opportunity to remember our loved ones in the presence of God and each other

*Southmore Court Autumn Fayre*



**Saturday 29 October at 10.30 am**

The residents of Southmore Court are pleased to announce the return of their Autumn Fayre.

**There will be games, stalls to explore and lots more!  
Entrance fee just £1.00 and you will get tea, coffee and biscuits.  
There is also a delicious lunch available.**

**ROUNABOUT October issue: Editor Ann Hanrahan, Layout Adrian King.**

The November 2022 issue will be printed and published on the St. Augustine's and St Luke's website.

Editor: Sue Goodger - [sue\\_goodger@ntlworld.com](mailto:sue_goodger@ntlworld.com) Layout: Karen Palmer - [kajpal@live.com](mailto:kajpal@live.com)

**Please send all articles in plain unformatted text and all photos separate from the text by October 23**

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Parish Office: Mon-Fri 9.30 am - 1.30 pm	Linda Spencer Victoria Bouwer	020 8295 1550 <a href="mailto:office@st-augustines.org.uk">office@st-augustines.org.uk</a>

You are welcome to worship with us, our regular Sunday Services for October are:

<b>Sunday 2 October</b>	10.00am	St Augustine's Church ~ <b>Harvest Café-Style Church</b>
<b>Sunday 9 October</b>	10.00am	St Augustine's Church ~ <b>Holy Communion</b>
<b>Wed. 12 October</b>	<b>12.00 Noon</b>	St Augustine's Chapel ~ <b>Midweek Holy Communion</b>
<b>Sunday 16 October</b>	10.00am	St Augustine's Church ~ <b>Morning Worship</b>
<b>Sunday 16 October</b>	<b>5.30pm</b>	St Luke's Church ~ <b>Holy Communion</b>
<b>Sunday 23 October</b>	10.00am	St Augustine's Church ~ <b>Holy Communion</b>
<b>Wed. 26 October</b>	<b>12.00 Noon</b>	St Augustine's Chapel ~ <b>Midweek Holy Communion</b>
<b>Sunday 30 October</b>	10.00am	St Augustine's Church ~ <b>Morning Worship</b>
<b>Sunday 30 October</b>	<b>3.00pm</b>	St Augustine's Church ~ <b>Memorial Service</b>

The 10.00 am service will also be live streamed on our You Tube channel, [www.st-augustine's.org.uk](http://www.st-augustine's.org.uk)  
 To book a room at St. Augustine's, contact Liz Carter on 020 8467 8155.  
 To book St. Luke's Hall, contact the Church Office on 020 8295 1550.  
 Contact details for all church and uniformed groups are on our website [www.st-augustine's.org.uk](http://www.st-augustine's.org.uk)  
 Our vicar Steve Spencer can also be contacted at [revsteve.spencer@btinternet.com](mailto:revsteve.spencer@btinternet.com)

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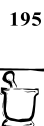
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