

**PARISH OF SOUTHMINSTER  
MAGAZINE OF THE  
CHURCH OF ST LEONARD**



**AUGUST 2016**

**Let us rejoice and be glad  
and give him glory!**

Revelation 19: 7

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*Articles for the September magazine by **Sunday**  
14 August, please, to Kath Dunstan.  
New contributors will be welcome.*

Your magazine costs 30p.  
Please pay in church.  
**Or pay in advance if your  
magazine is delivered to you.**  
Details from  
Brenda Sheppard  
(See inside back cover.)

## Reflections

Let us rejoice and be glad and give him glory!

I was able a couple of weeks ago, to catch the early morning train into London on my way to Christchurch Spitalfields. It was a training event that I was to attend which had the theme of *Developing Church Buildings: Principles and Practice*.

The theme was intriguing and I thought that there would be practical examples of how church buildings could be developed and modernised to accommodate the needs within churches today. The principal speakers were architects who showed to us some of the projects that they have worked on in the past few years where the brief was to extend the space available on smaller churches i.e. build extensions for toilet facilities and kitchens. All the projects that we were shown were very tastefully done and fulfilled the criteria of giving extra space for the church, without compromising the history of the building.

We were then shown around Christchurch Spitalfields which had just finished a major refurbishment, not extended but adjusted in order to make best use of the building. Like St. Leonard's, Christchurch is a large building (with a crypt) and they have made good use of every space available. The refurbishment took nearly ten years in total, although this was completed in stages as they sought to renovate the church first, then raise some funds for phase 2 etc. etc. and now the building stands completely restored, and in some ways better equipped for years to come. With the use of modern materials, they have managed to develop a church that will last, is ecologically friendly and can be used well into the future. The organ was also fully restored and will be in service for many years to come.

There were three things that struck me about the church in Spitalfields. Firstly they had adapted it for today's purposes, putting in some modern technology that is discreet and will

enhance the worship of the gathered people whenever they meet. Secondly, this church had been around since the eighteenth century and many people had come to worship there, prayed there and placed their trust in God. In many ways their prayers then have been answered today in this beautiful building that still stands in 2016. Thirdly, the present congregation had wanted to leave a legacy that will see the church continue, for many years to come, being a centre of hope, light and love for future generations.

The reason I mention all of these things in reflection this month is that it reminds me so much of St. Leonard's and what we are building here in Southminster. We are custodians of a church building for a little while and we have the responsibility to see that it is fit for purpose into the next generation.

We have now received the agreement from the diocese that we can move ahead with the Audio Visual programme that has been on the agenda since before I arrived, and now we are in a position to have the A.V. installed. We have permission to carry out work on the trees in the churchyard and over the coming months these works will be started. On a series of work days the flower beds have been cleared and planted making the north side of the church an attractive entrance for everyone.

There will be a new kitchen installed in the coming months which will help us in our hospitality to our community, and be a benefit to us as a fresh working environment. And it is thanks to all of you who have prayed, given and worked towards making St. Leonard's an attractive place. Lots of new things happening, renewing, refreshing and updating. Yet it is all for one purpose, to give our thanks to, and glorify God for all that He has done for us.

***Peter***

***P.S.*** Robert visited St. Leonard's last week with his Zimbabwean carer Mazoo. Robert was part of the youth group at St Michael's, Westcliffe, when Fiona and I were there. Robert was born prematurely and suffered complications including Cerebral Palsy. His testimony, here, highlights God's love for all, no matter how distant from Him they seem to be.

## **My Testimony: Robert Warren**

If you'd have told me this time last year, that I would be a son of God with a heart blazing like a towering inferno, I would have told you in two very short words to go away! I was a very dark, self-absorbed shell of a person; hardly wanting to step out of my front door. All I seemed to speak in those times were curse words. I never felt any kind of love or sincerity at least not in the pure sense.

In November 2014, things started to change. I responded to an old acquaintance on Facebook. I'm delighted to say, that she is now one of my three very precious Godmothers. My Mama Jill! When she first visited my flat, it would have been very difficult to believe that anything miraculous would happen in my life. The week before Christmas I felt a nudge and something in the back of my mind made me want to go to church! I texted Jill to ask if there was an evening service on Christmas day. She replied "No, but there's a one-hour service on Christmas Eve." She had seen on Facebook that I had purchased the now compulsory Christmas jumper! She made me wear it! On Christmas Eve, Jill had saved me a space next to her, but I was seated behind a great big, wide pillar, in front of which, standing at the top of a beautiful wooden pulpit was a young man, speaking of the importance of Christmas; this was Tom; I couldn't see much, but what I could hear struck me right in the centre of my very heart; his words, I'm pleased to say still do. During the peace, floods of people seemed to be welcoming me back, including a lovely man called Bill Donovan, who used to drive me to church when I was a child. He has now been called to Glory and may God bless his beautiful soul. At the time for Communion I thought, "I've just walked in off the street, they won't give it to me." Who would bring the chalice to me, but Jill herself! At the end of the service, a larger than life figure, both in stature and in spirit, came and sat beside me; "Hello," she says, "you're Robert, aren't you?" "Yes, I am!" "I used to teach you in Sunday school, and I never forgot you! GIVE ME A HUG!!!!!" That was the most loving and sincere hug I'd ever had! Wendy hasn't left my side, online or offline, ever since!

Even after this, I was still somewhat in the wilderness for some months, until Palm Sunday. Again I felt the need to go to church; there, another miraculous thing happened; I was singing! When I was a child in church, I never used to sing! It seemed like God was beginning my transformation even then. After the service in the hall, a perfect circle of

people formed around me; I was losing track of who to talk to! I said to myself; I simply can't stay away any more. My then very slow walk with God had started. April Fool's Day was cold and wet. I was back in my grumpy and miserable state of mind, when suddenly a knock at the door – Jill had come to say Hello. She had brought with her something called the Father's Love Letter, which is now the foundation of my faith. After I read it, it seemed to open my heart. Jill said tentatively, "Can I pray with you?" I replied, "Definitely. Yes, please." A wide smile appeared on Jill's face! I then found one of my favourite Christian songs on YouTube: "My Jesus, My Saviour." I put the last line on Facebook. A friend asked; "Is that the Sinead O'Connor song?" "No, I replied, "It's from a Christian song that meant a lot to me in my childhood." Jill's Mission from God had been accomplished!

Jill came to see me when I was trying to find my framed picture of "Footprints." Jill said she would find one for me. After this, I had a fleeting vision of a friend of mine getting baptised a few years ago. Realising God was telling me something, I asked Jill if she thought renewing my Baptism vows would be a good idea. She replied gleefully, "Absolutely! Especially taking into account the time of year! You do realise there will be a big queue to be your Godmother!" Luckily these three ladies seemed just to appear! So two Sundays later, I asked Tom after the service if I could have a meeting with him; so I met him together with Wendy, Jill and Angie. We spoke for what seemed ages, referencing Bible verses and my journey up to that point. Then I asked, 'When can we do it?' Tom said, "We can do it next week if you like!" I said. "Just hold on one second; let me get my head round this first!" I then understood how excited Tom was; we seemed to really get on, as much as friends as congregation members. He is a blessing to our church and to the town.

Something else amazing happened. I was always scared to meet people, so joining the Alpha course was completely outside my comfort zone. I seemed to make good friends very easily, which was a surprise. I learned a lot on the course. Fittingly, the day before my baptism was the Holy Spirit day, and the first day I'd prayed over somebody; another reason I chose the date.

After this, Jill said "I need to introduce you to a friend of mine." About two days before the big event, I was sunbathing outside my flat when Jill appeared, followed by a glowing, beautiful soul of a lady. I was

very nervous to meet her at first, but now, I'm glad to say Wendy Thomas is an amazing friend and mentor to me. She explained how to look beyond the biblical description of God and look directly to His heart. Jill had brought round the Father's Love Letter to watch on DVD. This was written by Wendy's mentor, Barry Adams. As she was about to leave, Wendy called to Father God and they both gave me the biggest hug I had ever experienced! I asked Wendy if she could come to my baptism, but she was busy. I'm delighted to say, however, that our meetings haven't stopped there, as I have completed one course devised by her, and am currently working through another one, at which I am happy to say I've found a brother, Dan, who is just as on fire spiritually as I am.

The 7th of June was a special day for me for two reasons; one, I was born again into God's family; and two, it was my lovely Godmother Wendy Gould's birthday. Many friends past and present came to the service. My friend and carer, Chloe, sang for me at the service. The day was even more special knowing how excited Tom was to conduct it. I also thank my friend Paul Sisson, who gave me a starring role in his sermon! I must thank my sister Donna for filming the baptism itself for my friends who missed it. Her support in my Christian walk is quite astonishing, especially as she's not a believer. It seems that she loves the fellowship at St Michael's, which is all the more beautiful.

I was amazed how calm I stayed when the water was poured over my head; everybody else said they wouldn't have stayed as calm as me. I shared a lovely gathering with family and friends.

At a recent Christian event I caught up with Dee, who meant a lot to me when I was at school. At another, I had a very special spiritual experience. Although Dee and Jill had never previously met, they were both standing together talking to me and then asked to pray over me, which was amazing.

I thank my Heavenly Father for re-engineering my life, making me realise that people can love me just because I'm me. My confidence has just exploded in these last nine months, and I feel like the Andrex puppy dog! I am completely re-born and re-made.

To close, I am happier than ever and I've finally found a loving God who is the best Dad in the Universe and the best Dad I could wish for; speak to Him and ask how He feels about you and you will be amazed!

# **Bishop Stephen's 'Say Poems for Prayers'**

A talk given at The Bradwell Festival

The Bradwell Pilgrimage has long been something we have wanted to experience, but because July is always busy with end of term activities and several family birthdays, we have never managed to attend until this year! Rebranded as a Festival, it was in a new format this time, and we very much enjoyed the varied programme with its friendly, lively atmosphere.

Our favourite parts were the wonderfully entertaining Daisy Bowlers music group, a talk on the refugee crisis by Rev Melanie Smith, and Bishop Stephen's talk: Say Poems for Prayers.

Bishop Stephen announced his passion for both poetry and food; their connection became clearer during his talk. By way of an introduction, he asked us, "What were Jesus' first post-resurrection words?" A few people hazarded answers, but no-one was certain. Bishop Stephen explained that, although the Gospel accounts vary slightly, John's Gospel records Jesus asking Mary, "Why are you weeping?", followed by, "Who are you looking for?". Applying those two questions to our universal human condition, Bishop Stephen used them as a springboard for addressing God directly through the medium of poetry. He showed us how poetry can offer a hugely liberating way of expressing our pain, doubt and other deep emotions, uninhibited by the formality of liturgy, or of our everyday manner of talking to God.

Poetry is most powerful when it is performed aloud, rather than just read silently. The poems that the Bishop had chosen to read aloud to us were variously humorous, poignant, beautifully descriptive and thought-provoking. He performed them in a very absorbing manner. The first poem, which I am sure spoke strongly to many of the audience, explained to God in no uncertain terms the many reasons why the author was weeping!

As prayers, each one was in some way an attempt to provide an honest reply to one of Jesus' two questions. There is obviously a great wealth of poetry available that can be enjoyed and used as prayer. The Book of Psalms, as part of God's Word, must be the greatest example of this. As we know, many of the psalms embody very raw emotions and are not always polite!

Returning to his love of food, Bishop Stephen confessed that, if we could read his thoughts, we would be surprised to discover how much time he spends eagerly anticipating his next meal! One of the poems, *Ratatouille*, which uses a range of food metaphorically, and describes them in amusing detail, presents an eloquent argument for the futility of all conflict. This was a wonderful example of how effectively a humorous poem can make a serious point, with which the reader can identify, to communicate her/his concerns to God.

The final poem we heard was the only one of the poems that the Bishop had written himself, '*You held me*'. The session concluded with a challenge: the Bishop asked us if we would each go home and write our own poem as a prayer to God. That is something that I have done in the past, so I now feel encouraged to have another attempt!

Christine Lucas

## **You held me**

You offered me a broken piece of bread.  
I said I wanted jam and toast instead;  
I said that bread was useless, basic, poor.  
You offered me the bread and nothing more.

You stooped to wash the tiredness from my feet.  
I said I need a bath to be complete;  
And not from you so menial a chore.  
You stooped to wash my feet and nothing more.

You overthrew the tables in my heart.  
I said I like them as they are, apart;  
I said it politely, showing you the door.  
You overturned my heart and nothing more.

You held me like an etching in a press,  
You held me, held me, held me, nothing less.

Los Olivos Easter Week 2014



The Holiday Club  
takes the place of  
Messy Church in August

The next one is:

Monday 12<sup>th</sup> September  
Jesus said: "I am the Light  
of the World"

Starts 3.30 pm

Age range aimed especially for children at  
Primary School with Parent or Carer

It's a family afternoon of fun.

## ROTA REPLY SLIP    YOUR AVAILABILITY FOR 2 MONTHS

Please cross out the dates when you are **not** available and return this slip to **Paul Lucas** by 14th August

October            2        9        16        23        30

November        6        13        20        27

Name            .....

**PLEASE REMEMBER THAT IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO FULFIL YOUR DUTY YOU SHOULD CHANGE WITH SOMEONE AND INFORM THE WARDENS OF THE ARRANGEMENT.**

### SANCTUARY FLOWERS:

If you would like to be involved with the providing and/or arranging of flowers in church during the year - especially at the major festivals - please contact the churchwardens who will advise you. There is a rota which has been produced in conjunction with the Dengie Hundred Flower Club which will ensure that there are 'altar flowers' every week. Speak with Kathy Pegg if you need further information.



Your financial donations to the Flower Fund would be appreciated in order to maintain this regularly and/or to cover the flower costs for your specific personal occasion. Please speak with one of the churchwardens or the PCC treasurer to arrange this.

### PRAY FOR SOUTHMINSTER:

w/b	7 August	Central-North-West
w/b	14 August	Central - East
w/b	21 August	Central - South
w/b	28 August	South - South-West

## ROTA FOR AUGUST 2016

Date	<b>7 August</b>	<b>Eleventh Sunday after Trinity</b>
<b>08.00 Holy Communion(BCP)</b>		Col: Green
Leader/President/Preacher		Rev'd Peter
Hebrews 11 : 1 - 3, 8 - 16		Dick Dulude
Luke 12 : 32 - 40		Celebrant
Sidesman/ Communion Asst.		Paul Lucas

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<b>10.45 Holy Communion</b>		
Leader/Preacher		Rev'd Peter
Hebrews 11 : 1 - 3, 8 - 16		Sylvia Adams
Luke 12 : 32 - 40		Sylvia Adams
Intercessions		Kath Dunstan
Communion Assistants		Paul Lucas & Sylvia Adams
Prayer Ministry Team		Viv Perry & Fiona Begley
Projectionist		Christine Lucas
Sidesperson		Gwyneth Iffland
Refreshments		Tom Fogg & Sally Culff

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Date	<b>14 August</b>	<b>Twelfth Sunday after Trinity</b>
<b>08.00 Holy Communion (BCP)</b>		Col: Green
Leader/President/Preacher		Rev'd Peter
Hebrews 11 : 29 - 12 : 2		Sheila Wright
Luke 12 : 49 - 56		Celebrant
Sidesman/ Communion Asst.		Paul Lucas

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<b>10.45 Morning Worship with Baptism</b>		
Leader/preacher		Rev'd Peter
Hebrews 11 : 29 - 12 : 2		Jacky Griffiths
Luke 12 : 49 - 56		Jacky Griffiths
Intercessions		Fiona Begley
Prayer Ministry Team		Tom Fogg & Jacky Griffiths
Projectionist		Christine Morgan
Sidesperson		Sylvia Adams
Refreshments		Eira Hagger & Christine Lucas

## ROTA FOR AUGUST 2016

Date **21 August** **Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity**  
**08.00 Holy Communion(BCP)** Col: Green

Leader/President/Preacher	Rev'd Peter
Hebrews 12 : 18 - end	Sheila Nicholson
Luke 13 : 10 - 17	Celebrant
Sidesman/ Communion Asst.	Phil Richards

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### 10.45 Holy Communion

Leader/President/Preacher	Rev'd Peter
Hebrews 12 : 18 - end	Linda Payne
Luke 13 : 10 - 17	Linda Payne
Intercessions	Jacky Griffiths
Communion Assistants	Phil Richards & Tom Fogg
Prayer Ministry Team	Christine Lucas & Fiona Begley
Projectionist	Sylvia Adams
Sidesperson	Tom Fogg
Refreshments	Margaret Curtis & Linda Payne

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Date **28 August** **Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity**  
**08.00 Holy Communion** Col: Green

Leader/President/Preacher	Rev'd Peter
Hebrews 13 : 1 - 8, 15-16	Kathy Pegg
Luke 14 : 1, 7 - 14	Celebrant
Sidesman/ Communion Asst.	Phil Richards

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### 10.45 Morning Worship

Leader/Preacher	Rev'd Peter
Hebrews 13 : 1 - 8, 15-16	Paul Lucas
Luke 14 : 1, 7 - 14	Paul Lucas
Intercessions	Jenny Pratt
Prayer Ministry Team	Brenda Sheppard & Sylvia Adams
Projectionist	Christine Lucas
Sidesperson	Paul Lucas
Refreshments	Bob Perry & Viv Perry

## **AUGUST SERVICES AT STEEPLE**

Sunday	7 <sup>th</sup>	9.15 am	Family Service
Sunday	14 <sup>th</sup>	9.15 am	Holy Communion
Sunday	21 <sup>st</sup>	9.15 am	Morning Prayer
Sunday	28 <sup>th</sup>	9.15 am	Holy Communion

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### **LOOK OUT FOR THE POSTERS**

and **SUPPORT both** these events on

**21st August**

**STEEPLE VINTAGE VEHICLE GATHERING  
at Grange Farm**

**and**

**MAD HATTER'S TEA PARTY**

**at 3pm at Butler Cottage, North End  
in aid of Farleigh Hospice**

**Wear a hat or borrow one from us!!**

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### **SOUTHMINSTER RESIDENTIAL HOME FETE**

**Saturday 27 August at 2pm**

**J & C's Petting Zoo**

**Alpacas; Local Band**

Various stalls; Bar-B-Q; Ice Cream Van; Raffle;  
See the posters for more details and come along.

### **Steeple Horse Ride**

**29th August (Bank Holiday Monday)**

For Entry Forms phone 772313

## REGULAR MIDWEEK ACTIVITIES

**PCC meetings** and related committee meetings are usually on Monday evenings.

The **Music Group** meets in church on Fridays at 7.45 pm & occasional Wednesdays. See Hazel Richards for details.

**Bellringers** meet occasionally in the tower.

See Allan Pye for details, since this is not a regular activity.

**Henry Club** - Church Cleaning Team - meets twice a month at 9.30 am (normally on Fridays)

The August dates are Fridays 5th & 26th

**Flower arranging** is usually on Fridays or Saturdays. Please see churchwardens and booking list at back of church.

**Working Parties** happen on Saturdays, as required.

See Paul Lucas or Phil Richards for details.

## ★ CHURCH GROUNDS WORKING PARTY ★

**The next one will be arranged soon.**

As many helpers as possible will be welcomed.

Appropriate refreshments will be available.

**Midweek Morning Prayer services (Mon., Wed. and Fri.)**

**8:00 am** (about half an hour) in the chapel.

**Tuesdays 8:30 am** "Just Prayer"

## HOME GROUPS

Normally they are Mondays at 10 am and Thursdays at 7.45 pm for 8 pm

but they are taking a summer break during August

Young people and children are always welcome. especially at 10.45 services, and age-appropriate activities are available at the back of church if required.

Messy Church is once a month on Mondays. See page 10.

Next one September 12th



*Weekly bulletins and church notice boards list any other events in the Church.*

## What's On in the Local Area: August 2016

### Arrangements in St Nicholas, Tillingham

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Wednesday 3rd 9.15 am Morning Prayers (Laity)

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Sunday 7th 10.00 am Sunday Morning Worship (Laity)

### **EVERY SUNDAY 6.30 pm Evening Service at St Peter's Chapel**

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Wednesday 10th 9.15 am Morning Prayers (Laity)

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Sunday 14th 10.00 am Holy Communion (Canon John Brown)

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Wednesday 17th 9.15 am Morning Prayers (Laity)

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Sunday 21st 10.00 am Sunday Morning Worship (Laity)

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Wednesday 24th 9.15 am Morning Prayers (Laity)

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Sunday 28th 10.00 am Holy Communion (Canon John Brown)

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Wednesday 31st 9.15 am Morning Prayers (Laity)

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### **Services for St James, Dengie**

August 7th : Holy Communion : 8 am. Rev. Ken Dunstan

August 14th : Evensong : 3 pm. Laity

August 21st : No Service.

August 28th : Evensong : 3 pm Laity

*All are welcome at  
all these services.*

The whole of the Chelmsford Diocese will be praying for Southminster and Steeple at the beginning of August. See "The Month" Cycle of Prayer for full details.

# COMMUNITY EVENTS: Past and future

## Southminster W.I.

The August meeting was moved forward into late July - an Open Garden at 10 Kings Road for the Alzheimers' Society & Dengie Project Trust.

### THE COMMUNITY LUNCH CLUB

Mondays at 12.30 pm in  
THE MEMORIAL HALL  
but NOT AFTER 1ST AUGUST.  
See you in September!

The SOUTHMINSTER  
HARBOUR Group  
meets in the  
Memorial Hall  
(main hall, side entrance)  
on Thursday mornings from  
10 am until noon.  
Drop in; you are welcome.

## Olive Branch Opening Hours

Mon - Sat 10 am - 1 pm

ALSO Mon, Wed. & Thurs. 1 pm - 4 pm



The Bereavement Group meets monthly  
on 1st & 3rd Thursdays at 11am

See the café window for special events.

## MEMORIAL HALL FORTNIGHTLY BINGO CHECK DATES ON POSTERS DURING AUGUST in case of change

**Wednesdays 10th and 24th August at 8.00 pm**

**Bring your own drinks and nibbles.**

**Tea / coffee and scone will be available for £1.**

**Entry (+ 1 book) £3. Further books @ 50p each**

# **An experience of Bradwell Festival 2016**

**Christine Lucas**

A highlight of Saturday was the very challenging talk by Reverend Melanie Smith - a URC Minister and Social Justice Campaigner from Westcliff on Sea-about Migration and The Refugee Crisis. “How would you define a refugee, an asylum seeker and an immigrant?” was a searching question that provoked interesting discussion. Apparently all three have precise legal definitions in terms of their entitlement to aid and benefits, but there are obviously massive overlaps from a human perspective.

Melanie emphasised our Christian responsibility to welcome all ‘immigrants’, reminding us that the majority of British people have recent immigrants on their family trees. Using the most recent and reliable statistics available, she demonstrated the astonishingly huge gap between people’s perceptions and the reality of the situation with regard to the following: the scale of immigration, the proportion of immigrants in the population and the average length of time that immigrants remain in Britain.

Melanie then described the undeniably important contribution made to our economy by many immigrants. She argued passionately that Christians must stand together against the hatred that has been engendered by extremists in the EU during and after the Referendum. She expressed her sadness and deep concern about the negative change in the public mood since the referendum.

We were challenged to create a loud and united Christian voice to welcome asylum seekers warmly, including the wide practical implications of this stance. We should demonstrate our Christianity and humanity by treating humanely every ‘alien’ person and family, showing them compassion and respect.

Melanie leads a Westcliff- based organisation called CAST: Communities and Sanctuary Seekers Together, which aims to support sanctuary seeking families by providing them with basic provisions, clothing, housing and Christian love. If you are interested in finding out more, or would like to offer support, please search for <https://castsouthend.wordpress.com/> I found this to be an extremely moving and motivational talk; Melanie is a most engaging speaker!

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## **Southminster Flower Show Weekend: 16-17 July**

We were involved all Saturday in various ways and were pleased to note the success of this year's event. Our stall in the Community Tent received several visitors and some of them spent time with Jacky Griffiths who presented "The Jesus Deck". She said that the conversations she shared were enjoyable and encouraging. Several of our 'artistic' members exhibited art, craft and floral items; some gained awards. Congratulations to them. During the afternoon the church building was open so that visitors to Southminster could pop in and enjoy the cool and calm. We had some good conversations and some 'historical' discussions.

On Sunday at 4.30 pm we welcomed David Felstead and friends to provide "Music for a Summer Afternoon" in aid of the church organ refurbishment fund. The actual attendance was disappointing but all who came really enjoyed the music and the humour - and the refreshments afterwards. The total to date (contributions still welcomed) is £132. We are particularly grateful to David and friends for their support!

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## **A Very Important Visit**

Steve and Johanna Pillinger are hoping to be with us on Sunday 25 September. Do note it in your diaries as they would like to meet all of their supporters here in Southminster. We will be able to catch up on their latest news.



## END OF TERM



*As was reported last month, Mrs Harden has retired from being Head teacher at Southminster School. At a lovely early evening dinner where our gratitude was expressed along with our hopes and prayers for her to have a healthy and relaxing future, we were able to enjoy this summary in song, written and sung by Graham Martin.*

*Kären's Farewell*

*Graham 15-07-16*

Now is the hour, when we must say goodbye  
You can relax, now, do just as you please.  
No Ofsted, now, no SATS - from standards free  
No awkward parents or academy.

We value you for your integrity  
Your inspiration and the way you lead;  
You really care, encourage and support  
Patient, persistent, as you've learned and taught.

End of one phase, the next has just begun,  
We hope that you have lots of laughs and fun.  
We wish you well, whatever you may do,  
Please just remember this – that we love you!

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**The Southminster Primary School Leavers' Service**  
was held in church at 6pm on Monday 18th July.

The pupils shared lots of lovely memories about their time at Southminster School but they all managed to express a positive approach to their move to a new school. They received a Bible, a holding cross and a "Queen's 90th Birthday" book from Rev'd Peter and special certificates and a pen set from Mrs Rusby. It was lovely that Mrs Harden was able to be present too.

Events coming up in our wider local area

St Lawrence Newland Heritage Church

## **The Dengie Hundred in the Air**

*As things were and might have been*

**9 JULY - 11 SEPTEMBER**

SATURDAYS, SUNDAYS & BANK HOLIDAYS

2.30 pm - 4.30 pm

Entry free. Donations welcome. Light refreshments.

Enquiries: 01621 779319

## **St Mary's Church Maldon: Flower Festival**

**August 5th 6th & 7th - all day**

**Lunches & cakes available on the patio at the Octagon**

St Mary's Church, Burnham-on-Crouch

Summer Song Recital - 13 August 7.30 pm

Gounod to Gershwin

Natalie Montakhab, Soprano & Terry Saunders, piano

Admission £10 (concessions £8)

## **Althorne Church: TEA, CAKES & BOOKS**

**September 10th : 10 am - 6 pm**

**in aid of Friends of Essex Churches**

**(Cycle Ride Day)**

# Southminster Art and Craft Exhibition

Saturday 17th and Sunday 18th September 2016

St Leonard's Church, Southminster

9.30 am - 6.00 pm

**SUPPORT LOCAL ARTISTS**  
**for an 8th YEAR**  
**and ENJOY!!!!**

Refreshments  
will be available  
all weekend.  
Ploughman's Lunch  
on Saturday!

A catalogue  
of displayed  
items will  
be available.



**Admission to the whole weekend event is free  
but your donations will be gratefully received.**

Exhibition Coordinator, John Moore, 01621 772878,  
will issue entry forms for you to exhibit your own art/craft work.

Any general enquiries should be directed to the  
Venue manager, Kath Dunstan, 01621 772199

Proceeds from the exhibition, including 10% of the sale price of sold items, will  
go to Church funds. Maintaining an old building is a very expensive business!

## WHO'S WHO

Vicar	Rev'd Peter Begley	772300
	The Vicarage, Burnham Road	
Licensed Reader	Mr Norman Pratt	
Pastoral Assistant	Mrs Linda Payne	
Pastoral Assistant (& i/c Magazine distribution)	Mrs Brenda Sheppard	
Evangelism Enabler (Children's Work Co-ordinator and Child Protection Rep.)	Mrs Jacky Griffiths	
Young People's Work	Mrs Jenny Pratt	
Churchwarden	Mr Phil Richards	
Churchwarden (& Transport to services)	Mr Paul Lucas	
PCC Secretary	Mrs Sylvia Adams	
PCC Treasurer	Mr Michael Bikhazi	
Deputy Churchwarden	Mr Dick Dulude	
Deputy Churchwarden	Mr Pete Adams	
Music Co-ordinator	Mrs Hazel Richards	
'Henry' Club (& church bookings)	Mrs Jacky Griffiths	
Electoral Roll Officer	Mrs Gwyneth Iffland	
Lending Library	Mrs Christine Lucas	
Bookstall Payments (& Bible Reading notes)	Ms Sarah Prendergast	
Magazine Editor (& Community Liaison)	Mrs Kath Dunstan	
Bellringing: Tower Captain	Mr Allan Pye	

## WHAT'S WHAT

### Mission Statement

"To be a people offering praise and worship to God and serving him by being the Good News by our words and actions"

**Web Site** [www.stleonardsouthminster.org.uk](http://www.stleonardsouthminster.org.uk)

**Contact:** [vicar@stleonardsouthminster.org.uk](mailto:vicar@stleonardsouthminster.org.uk)

**Sunday Services** - normal pattern

**8:00 am** Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer 1662)

**10:45 am** Holy Communion or Morning Worship

(Prayer ministry for any needs is available during the communion service or after the Morning Worship.)

Light refreshments are served after the 10.45 services.

**Children and Young people** are always welcomed (*See page 15*)



**MESSY CHURCH** is held monthly on Mondays at 3.30 pm in church. The next one will be on

**Monday 12th September**

**Midweek Prayer times (Mon., Wed. and Fri.)**

**8:00 am** (about half an hour) in the chapel and **Tuesdays at 8.30 am** (Just Prayer)

**THIS MONTH at St Leonard's**

**Sunday services** follow our normal pattern. (*See pp 12-13*)

Any changes will be publicised in the weekly bulletins and on the notice boards.

**We shall be supporting local events in Southminster and Steeple - and also some in Althorne, Burnham & Maldon**  
**See pages 14 and 21 for details of some of these.**

**United Services for the Elderly** at 4pm - Thursday 18th August at **Southminster Residential Home** Contact Rupert Killick

and at **Squeaks House** (contact Norman Pratt or Jacky Griffiths) on Wednesday 10th August

Rev'd Peter visits the Residential Home and Squeaks House regularly for Holy Communion services. Details are in church.