



# Newsletter

(11) Sunday 8 to Saturday 21 July 2018

Our aim is to *KNOW* God through Jesus,  
*GROW* in faith, and *SHOW* God's love in our community



## A NEW CHAPTER BEGINS

It is almost 16 years since Lisa became Rector of the parish. Not all of us will remember her Induction service here with Bishop Stephen, but we certainly remember bidding farewell to Lisa and John nine months ago. We are fortunate indeed that our interregnum has been so short. After Stephen Fletcher left we waited seventeen months for Lisa to arrive, so we are grateful that a swift appointment has enabled Lee to come so soon.

There has been a lot of excitement about Lee's arrival. There are expectations about him and the new ministry that is beginning, some more realistic than others. Some people will think a new Rector should double the congregation within a year and double the income within two - obviously unreasonable expectations! What is behind these and many other hopes is the mistaken understanding that the Rector alone is responsible for a parish. Ministry is too important to be left to one person. We are all called to minister and serve together in our local community. Statistically most parishioners become involved in and committed to a church because of other lay people. I see the role of the Rector as equipping and motivating us, the laity, to enable us to do our ministry and to reach out to others. Together with Lee we can accomplish God's work in the parish.

How can we help to welcome Lee and make him feel part of St Paul's and St Andrew's? I'm sure you have your own ideas, but I'd like to make two suggestions: Just as the parish is starting a new chapter, so is Lee. He is returning to parish ministry, so new work, new home, new friends and lots more new things. So **please pray for Lee** and for his family - Sally and Abbie - as he will be praying for us. Secondly, **please tell him your name!** We all know his name but he has to get to know all the names of the adults and children in our

two congregations, and many more besides. On Sundays and Wednesdays, to help him, we will each wear a sticky label with our name on it.

Finally, Lee is technically the **incumbent** of the parish, a title which means little to most people. It makes sense to me to refer to him as **Rector**, as we have done with Lisa and Stephen.

**David Martin**

## REGULAR SERVICES

Sundays: St Paul's 10am (HC 8 & 22 July) St Andrew's 11am (HC 15 & 29 July)

Christian Meditation: 7.30-8.30pm (details 792-1098)

Morning Prayers: Mon; Tues (9am); Weds (9.15am)

Night Prayers Tues: 8.45pm (details from 798 6917)

Wednesdays: St Paul's 10am Holy Communion St Andrew's 2pm Prayers

## Bible Readings

**8 Jul** 2 Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10. Mark 6:1-13. (Psalm 48)

**11 Jul** Hosea 10: 1-3,7-8, 12. Matthew 10: 1-7.

**15 Jul** St Andrew: 2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12b-19 Mark 6:14-29; St Paul: tba

**18 Jul** Psalm 94: 5-11 Matthew 11:25-27.

**22 Jul** 2 Samuel 7: 1-14a. Mark 6: 30-34, 53 to end. (Psalm 89: 20-37)

## DIARY DATES

**Sun. 8 Jul** 10.00 am Revd Lee Longden's first service in the parish: Holy Communion at St Paul's. Revd Hilary Shedlock will make her Declaration of Assent at the start of the service.

**Sun 8 July** 11.00 am Revd Hilary Shedlock's first service as deacon at St. Andrew's, where she will repeat her Declaration of Assent.

**Sun 15 July** 10.00 am at St Paul's: **Presentation Sunday** with 'breakfast church' and young people's celebration.

**Mon 16 July** 7.30pm SHOW Group meeting in the Harrison Room.

**Thur 18 July** 2pm St. Paul's School End of Year Service in church- all welcome.

**Sun 22 July** 11.00 am Revd Lee's first service of Holy Communion at St Andrew's  
11.30 am-2 pm Young people's groups  
**Summer Barbecue** and farewell to Linda Lichter at St Paul's

## FUTURE DATES AND NOTICES

**Mon 23 July** 7.30pm PCC meeting in the Harrison Room- to welcome Revd Lee as Chair of the PCC

**Mon 30 July** 7.30 pm KNOW Group meeting in the Parish Office. (Please note: these 2 meetings have 'swapped' dates)

**Monday 30 July and Tuesday 31 July HOLIDAY AT HOME** - St Paul's Church. Lifts arranged for 10am start with coffee and biscuits.  
Activities morning: Zumba, crafts, flower arranging, pampering and more.  
12.30 Hot lunch.

### CONTACT INFORMATION

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Afternoon: talks, singing and an epilogue.  
Afternoon tea and finish at 3pm. Cost £5 per day.

## SPECIAL MESSAGES

### Lisa's final farewell message

Dear St Paul's and St Andrew's:  
John and I greet you warmly on the eve of new ministries that God is calling into being; Hilary and Andy being ordained, and the induction of your new rector. John and I will be smiling on 1st July, and on 6th I will probably be distracted from the General Synod debates by praying for you.  
You are a very special parish and you have a job to do, and by the grace of God Lee is next-in-line to assist you with that task. I pray that each of you will 'finish the course and the ministry you have received from the Lord Jesus - to testify to the good news of God's grace' (Acts 20:24), and that you will grow in depth and numbers, grace, hospitality and wisdom in this new phase. John and I, Julian, Miles, Kenton and Miriam thank God for each precious one of you, and for the legacy of your love in our lives. Such love is crucial for ministry, so I pray that Lee and his family will soon feel the same support that you have given us.

May God bless you

**Lisa Battye**

A BIG thank you for all your prayers, good wishes, cards and gifts on my ordination as a Deacon. May God bless you. **Rev'd Hilary**

Please note this is the last Newsletter until Sunday 2 September. I hope you all have a good holiday, take great of yourselves and I hope to be back with you in September.

**God Bless Norma**

The Summer magazine is due out on Sunday 22 July. If anyone has anything they would like to include in it, please contact Anthea at [awdarlington@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:awdarlington@hotmail.co.uk)

**Hall Bookings:** St Paul's and St. Andrew's 792 3877;

**Emergency prayer chain:** ring Maureen 792 4873 or email [rober382@sky.com](mailto:rober382@sky.com)

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