



# St Andrews Church Taunton

Reaching lives for change and hope

*[Reg. charity no: 1196804]*

# Inspire

May 2022

Cover price: 60 pence

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***St Andrews Church is open during  
Parish Office hours:  
Tuesdays to Fridays, from 8.30 to 11.30 am.***

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## MINISTRY TEAM

<b>Vicar</b>	Rev'd Robin Lodge - 01823 352471 Email: <a href="mailto:robin.lodge1@tinternet.com">robin.lodge1@tinternet.com</a>
<b>Readers</b>	Ruth Cook – 01823 973787 Jeremy Harvey – 01823 276421
<b>Churchwardens</b>	David Budd – 07485 091694 Tony Blackshaw – 07775 439237
<b>Director of Music</b>	Alan Cook - 01823 973787
<b>Children's &amp; Youth Work Leader</b>	Sue Lodge 01823 352471
<b>Lay Pastoral Assistants</b>	Joy Abnett, Lesley Arberry, Carol Bull, Steve Bull, Darren Chalmers, Sue Lodge, Beryl Oaten.

**The Parish Office is now open. The Administrator would prefer visitors to wear face masks in the office.**

Greenway Avenue, Taunton, TA2 6HU

Tel: 01823 332531 / E-mail: [standrewstaunton@gmail.com](mailto:standrewstaunton@gmail.com)

**Sunday Services:** 10am - Holy Eucharist.

*All welcome! Also live-streamed on St Andrews Facebook page, (search for St Andrews Church Taunton) or watch it there later.*

**Midweek Eucharist:** Wednesdays at 10am, in Church  
*all welcome.*

**Morning Prayer:** Tuesdays at 9am, *via Zoom*, check website (below) for details.

**Baptisms, Weddings and Banns**

Please contact the Vicar.

***All times subject to change at short notice;  
please check our website for current details:***

**[www.standrewstaunton.org.uk](http://www.standrewstaunton.org.uk)**

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As you read this the time will be approaching for the local elections. Nothing dramatic there, you might think, although this time we are electing councillors ahead of the formation of the new Somerset unitary authority on 1 April 2023. It will be the biggest change to the local government landscape in our area since the creation of the old Taunton Deane in 1974. Opinions differ as to the wisdom of the decision. I guess we can only assess the value of a local political structure according to its responsiveness to local needs. That is, of course, the reason why we have local councils in the first place.

I hope you value your vote. I do, mindful of those who campaigned hard so that everyone could have one, rich or poor, powerful or lowly, male or female. We owe it to them to use it and use it well. It might be good to look at all the options and ask, how would your local candidates seek to serve, and what do they stand for? In a healthy democracy, people make choices about life in their community, and, just as importantly, learn to handle disagreement well. Our prayers are with those who manage the election process, the candidates, and those elected to serve: prayers of thanksgiving as well as intercession.

Meanwhile, the people of Ukraine have a restricted choice: flee to another land or sit and endure a violent war. As I write, the people of Mariupol have even less choice, being trapped in the ruins of their own city. All need our prayers, not forgetting the beset peoples of Syria, Afghanistan, Yemen, South Sudan and so on. A reminder that our prime prayer is for peace in God's world and reconciliation among peoples broken by hatred and violence.

Here at home, we are at the beginning of an economic squeeze as energy prices rise, setting off a round of inflation that will harm most those who have the least resources to meet it. Our prayers are with those who are forced to make difficult decisions. In a place like the UK it is hard to think of those having to decide whether to heat or eat. Pray too for those who supply and run

our Foodbanks. They're needed more than ever. One day even you might need it. You never know. Pray too for those who make decisions for us all, that the long term good of the most vulnerable in our land will be a priority.

Which brings us back to our politicians again! No wonder they need our prayers. Who among us would find it easy to make decisions if we were in their shoes?

It is good to pray. It's just that sometimes we can't help wondering if it really works. There is so much to pray about, and so little we can do practically to make a difference.

So what is the power of prayer? When we pray we open our hearts and minds to God's good purposes. We express a longing for his will to be done, and for his kingdom to come, as we say in the Lord's Prayer. In a way, because God calls us to work with him, that frees God to act. It is the Holy Spirit who changes the world, not us, but by our prayers we lend a hand. The more people pray, the more hearts and minds are attuned to God, and the more freedom we give God to act.

That is not to say that we should not take practical action too if we see an opportunity to make a difference, but it is action that arises from prayer is always the most powerful, and why in the end prayer is practical action too. Of course, evil always resists. But the cross and empty tomb of Eastertide reminds us that, in the final, analysis good is stronger than evil.

It is that Easter message that brings hope to the burdened and the oppressed. It means that even though we cannot always evade the consequences of sin, it is hope that is the greatest gift we can give to a hurting world.

*Robin*



### **Ukraine Coffee Morning**

Many thanks to all those who worked so hard to bring our Coffee Morning for Ukraine into being on 9 April, and to all who took part. The excellent financial result was just on £2,000 - a classic example of prayer in action that, with the efforts of others alongside us, will make a difference.

### **Holy Week and Easter Services**

Thanks too to all who helped with our Holy Week and Easter services: fellow ministers, servers, musicians, and welcome teams and all who took part.

### **Wednesday Coffee**

The opportunity for a coffee and a chat after the Wednesday Eucharist will return from Wednesday in Easter Week, 20 April

### **Easter Cracked**

This year's presentation was due to take place at the end of the last week of April. Another seven local primary schools heard something of the Easter message through a series of dramatic cameos and craft activities, with an opportunity to reflect. Thanks to all who helped or took part in any way.

### **Annual Parochial Church Meeting**

This will take place on Sunday 15 May in Church, starting at approximately 11.45am, following the Parish Eucharist (as last year). Coffee will be served before the meeting. Papers for the meeting will be made available (print or online) by Sue Goodman, our PCC Secretary, in advance of the meeting. To keep the meeting as brief as possible we will assume that all have read the reports before attending and will come with any questions ready. This is also the meeting where we elect our Churchwardens and PCC, along with Deanery Synod representatives, and appoint our Sidespeople. As usual, there are vacancies for PCC members for up to a three year term. Please see Sue for a nomination form if you'd like to serve.

## **Belated Welcome to the Deanery!**

During the various periods of lockdown, new clergy were licensed virtually at an on-line service. For legal reasons that meant that they could only be licensed as "priest in charge." For full incumbent status they had to wait until an in-person service was possible. This has now been made the case for the Revd Paul Irving, who formally becomes Rector of Staplegrove and Norton Fitzwarren, having been licensed initially in 2021. The service is on Thursday 19 May at 7.00pm at Staplegrove parish church. Paul has already made his mark, bringing his benefice to be part of MINT, but we welcome him and his family anew to the Deanery of Taunton!

## **Ascension Day**

This year's service will be on Thursday 24 May, with the Parish Eucharist being held at 7.30pm.

## **Prayers for the Sick**

We have had a number of comments lately about the length of the list of the sick that we use in our Prayers of Intercession. Traditionally, the list is intended mostly for those who are very ill, or who are experiencing another sort of deep crisis. If you ask for prayer for someone (and have asked their permission!) do keep me in touch with how that person is doing so they are only on the list for as long as needed. The aim will be to review each name with the one requesting it every three months if we don't hear from you. Of course, definitions of "very ill" and "deep crisis" will vary so I don't want anyone to be under any kind of pressure. If you need prayer in this way, you shall have it. It is the most basic ministry we can offer each other.

## **Choir Robes**

One of the consequences of the pandemic has been the opportunity to review all aspects of church life, in some cases accelerating changes that might well have happened in due course anyway. During the time of social distancing the Choir worshipped without robes as access to the Choir Vestry was

fraught under these conditions. This led to a conversation about the future in which some expressed a preference not to robe, concerned that it could be a barrier to the younger generation. The opposite view was also expressed, while some members of the Choir were unconcerned either way. There being no particular reason in Tradition for robed singers in church, a compromise position was adopted in which the Choir would robe and process only on festival occasions and other key holy days as a mark of the solemnity of those days.

### **Church Heating Update**

Work continues to research different options for a new heating system for church. So far, we have had a survey from a firm of consultants called Green Journey, as required by the Diocese, whose report we await to help us consider the environmental angle in the project. We have already gleaned that a ground or air heat source pump would not be appropriate for our building as it is insufficiently insulated. We have also applied to receive the services of the Diocesan Advisory Committee's Heating Adviser, to work on further options. It is highly unlikely that the project will be complete before next winter, so the Church Hall has been reserved on Sunday mornings from November to March, although Remembrance Sunday and key Christmas services will still take place in church.

### **New St Andrew's Update**

At its meeting on 29 March, the PCC voted to make an application to the Diocesan Advisory Committee to remove the pews in the South Aisle, and the redundant choir stalls in front of the North East Door. This is to allow more flexibility for church and community events, and also allow the NE Door to be freed and so become a fire exit - this would increase the capacity of the building for fire safety purposes. The PCC also appointed David Budd as Project Manager for New St Andrew's – his term as churchwarden being completed this year – now that Alan Cook has retired from this role.

## **FETE ON THE GREEN** **SATURDAY 11<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2.00 – 4.00 pm**

We are working hard to make this year's Fete a really enjoyable afternoon for all the family, and a profitable one for the church's funds. Please give the event your support by:

- ☺ Donating **items to sell** –*good quality* bric-a-brac, books and toys
- ☺ Donating **Bottles** for the tombola stall (or **money** to purchase bottles)
- ☺ Making **Cakes** for the cake stall (bring on the day)
- ☺ Donating Prizes for the **raffle**
- ☺ Offering **Help** to set up and clear away on the day
- ☺ Offering to run/help a stall
- ☺ Suggesting ideas for new games stalls

### ***But mainly we need :***

- ☺ As many people as possible to come along to give it their support and make the day one to remember!

Donations can be dropped into church from the beginning of May. Contact the Parish Office if you want items collected or to offer your help. We'd love to hear from you!



## Mystery prizes wanted!

We are especially in need of Items for the 'Mystery Prize' tombola: 'smellies', stationery, small gifts, craft items, jewellery, sweets, chocs etc.

Please drop them into the Parish Office, or to church, in a bag marked 'Mystery Gift'.



And don't forget - The **Grand Draw for the cash prizes** of £100, £50 and £25 will this year take place at the Fete and there are therefore tickets to be sold! Those who attend church services will find they are offered an envelope containing tickets to sell, or you can request them from the Parish Office

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(Does anyone reading this have access to a **Public Address system**? Speakers, microphone, CD facility, that we can use at the Fete? There is a possibility that our usual source will not be available this year.)



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Thank you.  
The Fundraising Team  
*'Putting the Fun into Fundraising'*

## **LIGHT UP THE SPIRE**

*The illumination of the church spire has been sponsored  
for May:*

To welcome Gods gift of a miracle baby for Tasha  
the answer to many prayers

\*\*\*\*\*

We pray for all areas of conflict, that the leaders of the world  
may be given the wisdom that leads to peace.

\*\*\*\*\*

**May the lighted spire be a beacon of hope for all.**



*[Photo: Bill Perry]*

*Would you like to commemorate a  
loved one?*

*Do you have a special occasion to  
celebrate?*

*If you would like to sponsor the  
illumination of the church spire for one  
month this year, and support St  
Andrew's Church, please ring 01823  
278571 for more information.*

*From the Bishop*

**Life in abundance**

A message from Brian Castle, Honorary Assistant Bishop for Bath and Wells

It all happened so quickly. I went to A&E with severe back-pain which affected my mobility. The NHS was outstanding. Within a dizzying few hours, I heard I would need an immediate MRI scan and possibly rods to support my spine - I dreaded the thought. As I was being wheeled along the corridor, Lauren, my Godson's 10-year-old daughter, came into my mind.

Lauren is a talented girl, mad about football. Just over a year ago, it was discovered that she had a growth at the base of the spine needing radical treatment to prevent spinal curvature. She would also require rods in her back, to be regularly extended by surgery as she grew into adulthood. Lauren is lovingly supported by her wonderful family and magnificently treated by NHS professionals, but while it can be shared, the load is ultimately hers to carry. Parents bear the agony of powerlessness. In the middle of this painful dilemma, young Lauren is instinctively grabbing the God-given gift of abundant life which is for all, and which lies at the heart of the Gospel. As we get older, less passionate and more cynical we can lose faith in this gift.

As I was being taken to the radiology department, I realised that I was being strengthened and inspired by this young girl, facing far greater challenges than me. My own fears were being transformed by Jesus Christ's gift of life mediated through Lauren's courage. Life may turn out differently from what we expect, but that does not restrict its abundance. The young are an inspiration. It is the role of the older generation to ensure they can grow into the special people God has created them to be so that they can release the gifts they have for us all. Thanks, Lauren.

*+Brian*

~ **From the Archives** ~

*Transcriptions from St Andrews archival material  
edited by **Tricia Anderson**.*

**Threescore Years and Ten: Part 2**

CHAPTER XII: The Scouts (*concluded*) / The Guides (*continued*)

By April, 1918, at any rate, the Troop was active again, as it was then given leave by the Local Association to present Thanks Badges to Mr. Hudson and Mr. Young, though the reasons for the thanks are not recorded. When the Church Council was formed in the same month, Gillham [the Scoutmaster] was elected to the new Council as the representative of the Scouts. At their first meeting in that month the Church Council agreed to his proposal that the Council should provide materials for painting the outside of the Pavilion if the Scouts themselves would provide the labour.

In July, a ten days' camp at Blue Anchor was proposed for the following month. The collection and sale of waste paper assisted the funds. and by that stage of the War ration books were now required for camp.

By September, 1918, there were 45 boys in the Troop, which was then the largest in the district and had won the Swimming Shield for the year. A year later, on September 27th, 1919, the Troop was presented with the Gribble Turner Shield for the District Sports by Mr. Goodliffe, the Commissioner. In October, 1919, the Troop represented Taunton in the County Swimming Sports at Weston, but were beaten by a strong team from Bath.

In December, 1918, it was reported that Gillham was about to leave the district, and his place as Scout representative on the Church Council was taken by Beverley Robinson, who had become an A.S.M. in May, 1917. Mr. Cadman then became Acting Scoutmaster until he left St. Andrew's in January, 1920, when the Revd. J. L. Nosworthy took over the Troop. In 1920 the Troop

again won the Gribble Turner Shield, and they were also the only entrants for the Swimming Shield in that year. Then once again, as in 1917, the Troop entered into a period of depression, but this time more seriously, and for the five years from 1921 to 1926, the Troop was dormant. In February, 1926, it was revived. The Revd. M. B. Bazell was appointed S.M., and on February 3rd, the re-registration of the Troop was approved by the Local Association. Mr. Bazell remained as S.M. until 1929, when he handed over to Mr. J.A. Hutchings.

The Girl Guides at St. Andrew's grew out of the flourishing Girls' Club which had been started by the Misses Joan and Lucy Hook in about 1906. This Club used to meet in the Hall and numbered about 70 members, from whom Miss Goodland drew the nucleus of the 1st Taunton Girl Guide Company. This Company was started in 1912, and was reckoned to be the first Girl Guide Company in the West of England, except for a company at Wellington which closed soon after it was opened. The Guides used to meet in the school, and at first there was the risk of a depletion in numbers if the original Girls' Club offered a more attractive rival programme on any particular evening. The Y.W.C.A. Company was started by Miss Enid Arnold a year later, and so St. Andrew's can claim the credit for both the first two companies in Taunton.

Miss Goodland's company consisted at first of 16 girls in four patrols, which soon increased to a full strength of 32. In later years, further patrols were added and at one time the numbers were as high as 56. Miss Goodland ran her Company on a strict basis of discipline, and had no hesitation in "stripping" a Leader of her stripes if such action became necessary. Miss Crocker was the Lieutenant until the early years of the War. The original Patrol Leaders were Daisy Jarvis (now Mrs. Bull) and Ethel Cox, who afterwards became Lieutenants. Annie Buckingham (now Mrs. Dawe), and Kate Jemmett. The Corporals (Seconds) were Eva Cozens, Dorothy Palmer, Ethel Passmore (now Mrs. Hunt) and May Gilling.

There were, of course, regular Church Parades, and the first winter was spent by the girls in making a large part of their uniforms under the direction of Ethel Cox. When the uniforms were complete, badge work was begun. Mrs. Ruck gave lectures on child nursing. There was a Cookery Course at North Town School and also a Housewifery Course in another year, both of which were attended by Miss Goodland, the Captain, as well as by the girls. There were picnics each year on Easter Monday at Cothelstone, which was by no means so accessible then as it is now. The journey involved the train to Bishop's Lydeard and then a walk back over Cothelstone and through Kingston. Miss Goodland recalls one occasion when the girls were so hungry by the time they reached Cothelstone that dinner was eaten at 10.30 a.m. There were no Brownies in the early days, but Guides would, as a matter of course, bring their young sisters along with them, and no strict age limits were enforced in either direction.

Mr. Rawlins trained the Guides in Drill, and Miss Goodland is still proud of the fact that at one time the 1st Taunton was the only Company in the town that could form "open order" and still remain in their ranks. The Guides were also taught to shoot on the miniature range in the Drill Hall, and on one occasion the captain scored 96.

About the year 1922, a number of the older girls became married, and the Company was somewhat reduced. In 1923 it became evident that the 1st Taunton could no longer claim to be really a Church Company as many of the girls were Nonconformists, and Ruck ordered Miss Goodland to close the company down.

Three seven-day camps were held in this period. The first was held in 1914 for about 20 girls at "Severn House" in Watchet. The camp began on the day war was declared., and the mothers waved a very anxious good-bye to their daughters at the station. The next camp was held at "Claremont" in Watchet in 1916. but many of the older girls were working at Newton's Electrical Works, where the Avimo Works now stand, and could only attend

for the week-end, so as to leave only the younger girls during the week.

It was considered improper at this time for girls to camp under canvas, so camps were held in empty houses used for the occasion. The third camp was at Crowcombe in 1918, and at this camp Miss Goodland and Daisy Jarvis slept in a tent, where a pony sniffed at them and the rain dripped on to their best clothes, and the girls slept in a barn. This camp was attended by eight small and pretty girls who looked like angels, but without corresponding behaviour. Once these girls flapped their skirts at the geese, who then pursued them up the village street.

In the early years of the War, the Hon. Mrs. Corfield presented all the Taunton Companies (which were not, at that time, very many) with Union Flags, which were dedicated at St. Mary's. The Flag given to the 1st Taunton Company is now in Mrs. Bull's possession.

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### **Ascension Day 26<sup>th</sup> May: 40 Days with the Risen Christ**

40 days after Easter comes Ascension Day. The Risen Christ appeared again and again to His disciples, following His death and resurrection - on the road to Emmaus, by the Sea of Galilee, in houses, etc. He strengthened and encouraged His disciples, and at last opened their eyes to all that the Scriptures had promised about the Messiah.

As Christmas began the story of Jesus' life on earth, so Ascension Day completes it, with His return to His Father in heaven. Jesus' last act on earth was to bless His disciples.

The disciples were surely the most favoured folk in history, the last few people on earth to be face to face with Jesus looking on them with love. No wonder then that Luke goes on: 'they worshipped Him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy.'

[from Parish Pump]

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## **Somerset Community Credit Union**

SCCU is pleased to announce that, with the encouragement of St Andrews church, a new Service Point has been established in the Church, with a representative available there every Wednesday morning between 8.45 and 10.30am. The Church sees this initiative as part of its 'reaching out to the local community' as we move into harsher economic times and some folk are looking for ethical and affordable credit.

**Katrina Cox**, the Credit Union's Admin Assistant says:

"We are grateful for the support from St Andrews Church. The financial difficulties that people have dealing with the everyday cost of living can be eased if consideration is given to talking to our Credit Union. In the credit Union we offer low-cost credit, plus the opportunity for anyone to have a safe way of saving for future expenditure as it arises. Our main office at the YMCA, Lisieux Way, Taunton TA1 2LB is open every weekday between 10am and noon."

Contact details: phone 01823 336425

Email: [taunton@somersetccu.uk](mailto:taunton@somersetccu.uk)

*SCCU was formed in 2017 when Bridgwater & District Credit Union and Taunton Deane & West Somerset Credit Union (both founded in 1998) joined forces. SCCU now covers the whole of Somerset and North Somerset.*

Do pop in on a Wednesday and say hello if you can, Katrina would love to see any St Andrews folk who may be passing!

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## **Zumba Gold**

**dance fitness for the active 50+ age range.**



**Nikki Mumby runs classes locally:**

*Re-starting in St Andrews hall 8<sup>th</sup> September, 2pm*

No membership required, £5 per session, pay as you go.

Women and men welcome!

Contact Nikki (licensed Zumba instructor) for further details of her Zumba Gold and Flexercise classes:

07833 503759 / [nmumby@outlook.com](mailto:nmumby@outlook.com)

## DIRECTORY

St Andrew's Church website: [www.standrewstaunton.org.uk](http://www.standrewstaunton.org.uk)

*For further details please contact the Parish Office,  
or check the website for e-mail links to these groups.*

<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Contact details</b>
Verger	Judy Blew
St Andrew's Choir St Andrew's Music group <i>- all instruments welcome</i>	Alan Cook, Director of Music 01823 973787
Bellringers	Henry Haslam – 01823 256954
St Andrew's Servers	Robert Nash – <i>c/o Parish Office</i>
St Andrew's Church Flowers	June Acreman
The Railway Children ACTIVITY CURRENTLY SUSPENDED	Sue Lodge – 01823 352471 Parish Office – 01823 332531
Church Mice	Joy Abnett 01823 332860
Safeguarding person	Alison Perry – 01823 278571

### **Local organisations:**

LMG – Local Ministry Group, a group of Anglican churches.  
Ours is St Andrews, St Peters, All Saints, Halcon and Holy Trinity.

**St Andrews Church Hall:** Contact Merv & Lesley Jones.

Tel: 07578 395159 / Email: [hallstandrews45@gmail.com](mailto:hallstandrews45@gmail.com)

<p><b>GIVE TO ST ANDREWS ONLINE !</b>  <b><i>General fund:</i> Taunton St Andrew PCC</b>  <b>Sort code: 60-80-06 - Account number: 70811377</b>  <b><i>Development fund (for NSA donations)</i></b>  <b>Sort code: 60-80-06 – Account number: 60027231</b></p>
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*Inspire is the monthly magazine of St Andrew's, Taunton. It appears 11 times a year, with a double issue for Dec/Jan. New subscribers: £6.00 per year. Please contact the Parish Office - details inside front cover of this issue - to set up an annual subscription.*



Facebook: search for St Andrews Church Taunton [no apostrophe!]



Instagram: search for standrewschurchtaunton

*The views expressed in **Inspire** are not necessarily those of either the editors or St Andrews.*

*Editor: Sue Goodman – Assistant Editor: Lesley Gold*

### **DEADLINE FOR JUNE ISSUE**

Material for the next Inspire should reach the Editor by

**Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> May**

Email to [standrewstaunton@gmail.com](mailto:standrewstaunton@gmail.com)

or drop in written information to the Parish Office.

St Andrews

### Pastoral Team



*Housebound?*



*In hospital?*



*Celebrating?*

If we can help in any way, please let us know.

Please contact Robin Lodge - 01823 352471

Email: [robin.lodge1@btinternet.com](mailto:robin.lodge1@btinternet.com)