

Autumn 2025

ST BARNABAS CHURCH

St Barnabas Road, Sutton, SM1 4NP

www.stbarnabassutton.uk

www.achurchnearyou.com/sutton-st-barnabas

BAPTISM, WEDDING, FUNERAL AND OTHER ENQUIRIES

Please contact one of the Churchwardens

WHO's WHO?

PRIEST:-

The Revd Kayode Oyeboode
(with effect from 28th August 2025)

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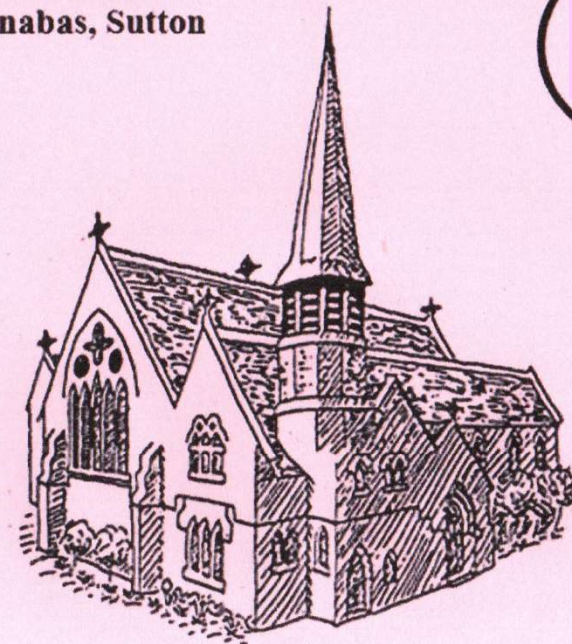
Mrs Janice Clarke 020 8661 1016
email:- stbarnabasmagazine@outlook.com

Paper copies of the Magazine are available to purchase in Church, price £1.00. Digital versions can be emailed (cost 50p each; £2.00 per annum) - please contact the Editor.

St. Barnabas news

The Magazine of
The Parish of
St Barnabas, Sutton

DIGITAL
VERSION



SUNDAY SERVICES IN CHURCH

10.30am Parish Communion (Common Worship) with a Bible Story for Children in the Halls

Children, accompanied by their parents or carers, are read a Bible Story in the Halls during the 10.30am Communion Sunday Service. Everyone goes into church at the time of the Communion

(except on 5th October [Harvest Thanksgiving] & on 9th November [Remembrance Sunday] when there will be special services.

“WEDNESDAY WALK-IN”

The Church is open on the 2nd & 4th Wednesdays of each month from 10.00am to 12 Noon. It is for everyone and is a community initiative which aims to open the church building which is a warm, welcoming space. It is a lovely sociable, friendly and enjoyable event; refreshments are available. **EVERYBODY WELCOME**

OPEN SATURDAYS IN CHURCH

The Church is open on the 1st & 3rd Saturdays of each month from 9.30am to 12 Noon; Morning Prayer is said at 10.00am.

MOTHERS' UNION BIBLE STUDY

Members of Mothers' Union meet for Bible Study at 10.15am each month on the Friday after the 2nd Wednesday of the Month in the lower vestry in the church. **EVERYBODY IS WELCOME whether a Mothers' Union member or not.** Each session is a stand-alone and so attendance is not necessary every month if that is not convenient. NB: On 12th September the Bible Study will be at Shirley Tillman's House at 31 Browning Avenue. See also Page 31.

ST BARNABAS ACTIVITIES & ORGANISATIONS

The St Barnabas Mothers' Union meets regularly throughout the year
Contact: Janice Clarke (020 8661 1016);

For details of **Scouts, Cubs & Beavers** linked to St Barnabas:

www.scouts.org.uk/groups/10011871?loc=SM1%204RY&slug=5th-Sutton-%28St.-Barnabas%29

For details of **Guides, Brownies & Rainbows** linked to St Barnabas:

Contact:- Zöe Crimmings 07740 704068

Additional notices can also be found at www.churchinsutton.net/news.htm

The following announcement was read out in church at the end of the morning service on Sunday 13th July:-

APPOINTMENT OF ASSOCIATE PRIEST (HOUSE FOR DUTY) OF ST BARNABAS, SUTTON BY THE BISHOP OF SOUTHWARK

The Diocese of Southwark is pleased to announce today, Sunday 13th July 2025 that The Reverend Olukayode Oyeode, presently interim cover at St Hilda with St Cyprian, Crofton Park and St Augustine, Lee, also in the Diocese of Southwark, has been appointed Associate Priest (House for Duty) of St Barnabas, Sutton, subject to completion of the necessary procedures. Further details, including the date of the Licensing Service will follow in due course. [See also Page 3]



THE REVD KAYODE OYEBODE WRITES

Dear People of St Barnabas,

Grace and peace to you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

My name is Olukayode Oyeode — though please feel free to call me Kayode — and I am deeply honoured to be joining you as your new Associate Priest.

I come with a heart full of gratitude, prayer, and expectation, trusting in the God who is already at work among us — even in these uncertain times. Like many churches today, St Barnabas is walking through a challenging season. Numbers may be fewer, energy stretched, and the future not always clear. Often in these very moments God brings new life, renews His Church, and leads us into deeper trust. He is faithful, as a new chapter is unfolding — by God, the Author and Finisher of our faith [Hebrews 12:2].

What drew me to this community is your heart: a church rooted in prayer, welcome, and mission. God is already stirring fresh hope, worship, and witness in Sutton, let us journey together as we listen for His voice.

My background spans both the secular and sacred with a lengthy career in Human Resources and Leadership. I was ordained in 2012 in the Diocese of Lagos, Nigeria. Since 2019, I have served across the Diocese of Southwark in various priestly roles — offering liturgical support, interregnum cover, and pastoral care in diverse communities. I began at St John Chrysostom, Peckham (Sep 2019 - Sep 2020), St Mary Magdalene, Peckham, covering during the Vicar's illness (Nov 2020 - Sep 2022). I was then licensed as Assistant Priest at St Laurence Church, Catford (Oct 2022 - Jan 2025), whilst supporting churches through interregna including:

- St Hilda's Church, Crofton Park (Sep 2024 - Present)
- St Andrew's, Catford (Feb 2023 - Jul 2024)
- St Swithin's, Hither Green (Aug 2023 - Nov 2024)
- St Clement with St Peter, Dulwich (Aug 2023 - Aug 2024)
- Holy Innocents Church (Sep 2023 - Jan 2025) & St Mark's, South Norwood (Sep 2023 - Jan 2025)
- St Margaret's, Blackheath (June 2024)

I also supported Holy Trinity, Tottenham, through her interregnum, ongoing liturgical ministry, Remembrance Day services (2023 & 2024), a funeral (May 2025), Sunday worship, outreach, and mentoring. Prior to my appointment to St Barnabas, I also covered interregna at St Hilda's and St Augustine's, Grove Park (Feb 2025). Each of these seasons has deepened my conviction that the Church flourishes not by strategy alone, but through Spirit-led community — people who choose to pray, serve, and walk forward in faith. I am passionate about building intergenerational worship, nurturing those who feel lonely or uncertain, and helping all God's people discover

and share their gifts.

My loving wife, Aderonke, has been a faithful companion in ministry, and our children, their spouses, and our grandchildren — both in and beyond London in UK — continue to remind me daily of God's grace and the joy of family and faith.

I do not come with all the answers, but I come ready to listen, serve, and walk with you in hope. Please keep me in your prayers as I prepare to join you — and know that I am already praying for St Barnabas: for healing where there has been hurt, for renewed hope, and for the Spirit's fresh fire to fall upon us.

With joy and every blessing,

The Rev'd Olukayode (Kayode) Oyeboode

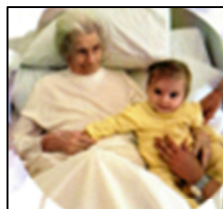
LICENSING SERVICE

**The Rev'd Olukayode (Kayode) Oyeboode will be
licensed as Associate Priest of St Barnabas, Sutton
on Thursday, 28th August, 2025 at 7.30pm
in St Barnabas Church, St Barnabas Road, Sutton
by the Revd Nick Peacock,
Assistant Area Dean, Sutton Deanery.**

**EVERYONE IS INVITED TO ATTEND.
DO COME ALONG TO MEET OUR NEW PRIEST
AND GIVE HIM A VERY WARM WELCOME.**

PHYLLIS SANDERS (26TH AUGUST 1928 – 1ST MAY 2025)

Phyllis Sanders was a long term member of our congregation and Mothers' Union. Her funeral was held on Thursday 29th May at North East Surrey Crematorium. Most of her large family, which



included her daughter, four grandchildren, nine great grandchildren and one great-great grandchild who had visited her at the hospice, were at the service. Both Phyllis' mother and sister had died when Phyllis was in her early teens and she ran away from home when she was 16 and lived in digs in Croydon.

She was on the bread line and nearly died of pneumonia at that time. This made her a very independent lady, very forthright and quite opinionated but everyone knew that that was just Phyllis. She did office work and worked at an accountancy firm even though she had no accountancy qualifications. Here is her description of the VE Day celebrations in London in 1945: *"I was 16 and working for the Foreign Office in Prince's Street, Westminster. I went to Trafalgar Square with a work colleague. Sailors, were letting off fireworks from Lyon's Corner House."* Phyllis was only 5ft tall and 7 stone and she was carried along by the crowd down The Mall. She saw the Royal Family on the Balcony but she was very frightened being in such a big rowdy crowd. She ended up back in Lyon's Corner House at 2.00am waiting for the first train out of Charring Cross to her digs in Blackheath.

Phyllis enjoyed cooking, gardening, nice clothes, dancing especially at the Lyceum Ballroom at Tooting. She was a stickler for correct grammar! She was famous for her lemon drizzle cake, and when she was in her 90's used to make a lemon drizzle cake each week for the St Barnabas Bunnies.

The funeral service ended with her favourite hymn "Dear Lord and Father of Mankind".



BERYL & RICHARD THIRTLE'S DIAMOND WEDDING AND PEARL ESSEX'S 90TH BIRTHDAY

On Friday 30th May the Mothers' Union held a family Agape Tea (devised by the Diocese of Southwark) as a celebration of Beryl & Richard Thirtle's Diamond Wedding and Pearl Essex's 90th Birthday. The early Christians had a practice of meeting for meals together. Agape is one of the Greek words for love. These were times of fellowship and sharing which strengthened the bond between them.

At the beginning of the afternoon Kaushalya from St Nicholas Mothers' Union brought two lovely bouquets and formally presented them to Beryl and Pearl. Sue Davis made two beautiful cakes, a fruit one for Pearl and an Orange cake for Beryl and Richard. This was Richard's favourite cake. He could not come as he was ill in hospital so Sue made another orange cake just for him so he could enjoy it from his hospital bed. [See also *Parish Pump*, Page xx]

26 people came in response to the Invitation. The table was laid out with a cross, a candle and a Bible in the middle,

In line with the Diocese's instructions, the afternoon began with the washing of hands to remind us of our baptism, then the lighting of a candle, followed by Graces, which had been selected by the past Mothers' Union Worldwide President, Sheran Harper.

Everyone had brought donations of food and a sumptuous feast was laid out with sandwiches, nibbles and a scrumptious strawberry and chocolate dessert.

After everyone had enjoyed their meal, Humphrey Clarke read the Bible passage about the Wedding Banquet [Luke 14, vs 15-24], after which we all sang the song "The Wedding Banquet" by Brian Westhead (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z461aepU8us>). At the end of the song everyone sang a special verse (see overleaf). After that the Agape ended with the Grace, then the cakes were cut and everyone toasted Beryl and Pearl. A truly memorable afternoon!

THE WEDDING FEAST (Verses 1 - 4 by Brian Westhead)

A certain man held a feast
On his fine estate in town.
He laid a festive table,
And wore a wedding gown,
He sent invitations
To his neighbours far and wide,
But when the meal was ready
Each of them replied:

*I cannot come,
I cannot come to the banquet,
Don't bother me now,
I have married a wife,
I have bought me a cow,
I have fields and commitments,
That cost a pretty sum,
Pray hold me excused
I cannot come.*

The master rose up in anger
Called his servants by name, said
Go into the town,
Fetch the blind and the lame
Fetch the peasant and the pauper
For this I have willed:
My banquet must be crowded,
My table must be filled.

I cannot come.....

When all the poor had assembled
There was still room to spare,
So, the master demanded:
Go search everywhere.
To the highways and the byways,
And force them to come in
My table must be filled
Before the banquet can begin.

I cannot come.....

Now God has written a lesson
For the rest of mankind:
If we're slow in responding
He may leave us behind.
He's preparing a banquet
For that great and glorious day,
When the Lord and Master calls us
be certain not to say:

I cannot come.....

**The Mothers' Union held a party
For Beryl & Richard and Pearl
They laid a festive table
And wore some pretty clothes
They sent invitations
To the members far and wide,
And when the meal was ready
Everyone replied:**

***I can come,
I can come to the party,
It's no trouble at all,
I'll delighted to be there,
And celebrate with joy.
I have changed my commitments,
That I usually have
I am really delighted
That I can come, I can come!***





THE 'THY KINGDOM COME' PRAYER WALK

As the Lord ascended, he promised the gift of the Holy Spirit to enable his disciples to be his witnesses. 'Thy Kingdom Come', the 11 days between Ascension Day and Pentecost is a time to ask that those without faith encounter God's love and experience his blessings.

On Saturday 31st May, 13 people came on a prayer walk with 11 prayer stations, starting at the church, around Benhill Recreation Ground and, then, back to the church, using the prayers in the Mothers' Union Prayer Diary.

At the first station we wrote down names of those we wanted to pray for and then said The Lord's Prayer. At the second station inside Benhill Recreation Ground, we did a 'Thy Kingdom Come' craft, making a 'Thy Kingdom Come' keyring. At most of the prayer stations there was a park bench for people to sit on and some of the stops there was topics for us to think about. Evelyn, who was on the walk, told us that, last year, she prayed for two people to come to Christ and one had actually become a Christian.



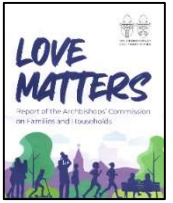
During the walk the children had been looking at the play park but they patiently waited to the end of the prayer walk to go and play on the swings, while



everyone else went back to the church for tea, coffee and biscuits. A little later the families came in for their squash and biscuits and a play in the children's corner.

LOVE MATTERS

This is the third in our series on the Report of the Archbishops' Commission on Families and Households.



3.THINK SINGLENES

Increasing numbers of people live in a single-person household yet single people can be easily over-looked. We should not regard singleness as a deficit model, as lesser than living in a family unit with children. Singleness can be a deliberate choice, sometimes the right partner has not been found, and sometimes separation, divorce or death results in the loss of a partner. Most single people are members of a family and need to love and be loved. While in order to flourish, each person must have their basic needs met, true flourishing requires a sense of belonging, being part of a social group with friendship, intimacy and affection, communicating well, and dealing with conflict constructively.

WHAT THE CHURCH CAN DO

- Reaffirm the value and dignity of every human being whatever their circumstances.
- Celebrate and honour singleness, including chosen celibacy.
- Ensure all churches and church families are single-friendly.

BIBLE PASSAGES FOR REFLECTION

Read 1 Corinthians 7. 6-9; 17-20; 27-35

John the Baptist and Jesus remained single for their whole lives. Anna was long widowed [Luke 2. 36-38] - what did this enable them to achieve?

QUESTION FOR DISCUSSION

What steps can be taken to ensure that single people feel truly welcome, valued for who they are, and supported in church communities?

NEXT TIME – THINK CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE

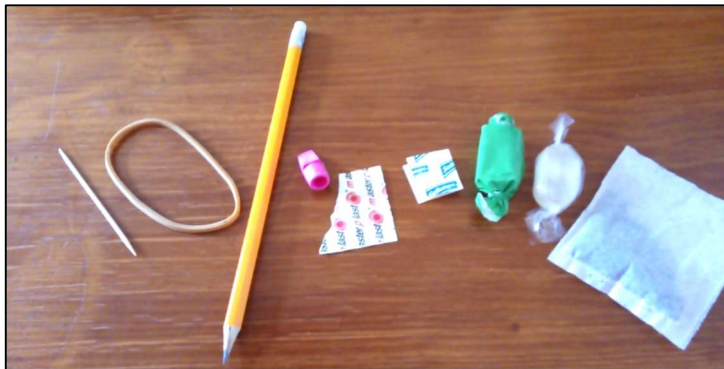
CELEBRATIONS FOR ST BARNABAS DAY

On Sunday, 8th June (Pentecost), the nearest Sunday to St Barnabas Day, the service was taken by the Revd John Burnistan and included the St Barnabas Hymn, written by Douglas Drakeley, Churchwarden at St Barnabas 1974 – 1978.

On Wednesday, 11th June (St Barnabas Day) there was an evening Mothers' Union meeting held in Janice Clarke's house. The speaker was Liz Pullen, a past Mothers' Union Southwark Diocesan President. It began with prayers, a reading and collect about St Barnabas. Then Shirley Tillman's daughter, Samantha England was enrolled in the Mothers' Union. There was then a reflection about a Christian's Survival Kit which is useful to all Christians. We were all given a number of articles:



A toothpick to remind you to pick out the GOOD qualities in everyone whom you meet. [Matthew 7:1]



An elastic band to remind you to be flexible. Things might not go as you plan, but everything WILL work out. [Romans 8:28]

A pencil to remind you to list your blessings every day. [Ephesians 1:3]

A rubber to remind you that everyone makes mistakes, but they can be erased (i.e. forgiven). [Genesis 50:15-21]

A plaster to remind you to heal hurt feelings, yours or someone else's, as soon as they occur. [Colossians 3:12-14]

A sticky fixer to remind you to stick with it and that if you do, you can accomplish anything. [Philippians 4 :1-3]

A mint to remind you that you are worth a mint to your Heavenly Father. [John 3:16]

A tea bag to remind you to relax daily and go over that list of God's blessings. [1 Thessalonians 5:18]

At the end of the reflection, we all sang "Bind Us Together Lord" and said Mary Sumner's prayer:

All this day, O Lord, let me touch as many lives as possible for thee; and every life I touch, do thou by thy spirit quicken, whether through the words I speak, the prayer I breathe, or the life I live. **Amen**
[Mary Sumner, MU Founder, 1876]

All very encouraging, just like Barnabas.

In the afternoon of Sunday 15th June, the Social Committee arranged a strawberry tea to celebrate St Barnabas Day. It was held in the church hall as the church

roof repairs were in progress. About 40 people came, including 8 children. There was a lovely spread of scones made by Dorothy Hannam with strawberry jam and cream and strawberry cakes and strawberry cheese cake



made by Sue Davis. There was a low table for children with teapot shaped biscuits for the children to ice and decorate; plus a raffle, the prizes for which were won by Dorothy Hannah, Graham Reed, Pearl Essex and Ellen Martin. The afternoon raised £392.63 for the "Raise the Roof" Fund. A big thanks to Sally Bramdaw, Jennie Reed, Dorothy Hannam and Sue Davis for all their hard work.

FAREWELL TO THE VENERABLE MOIRA ASTIN, ARCHDEACON OF REIGATE

On Wednesday 18th June, Sally Reed and Sally Bramdaw went to the Archdeacon's Visitation service at St Patrick's Church Wallington to be sworn in as Churchwardens of St Barnabas for 2025 along with all the churchwardens in the Archdeaconry of Reigate. They were supported by 7 members of St Barnabas Church. This was Archdeacon Moira's final service in the Diocese of Southwark before she was consecrated Bishop at a service at St Paul's Cathedral on 3rd July presided over by our own Dame Sarah Mullally, Bishop of London. Moira would then become Bishop of Crediton, the same position as Sarah Mullally became after being in charge of Sutton Team Ministry and Canon Treasurer of Salisbury Cathedral.

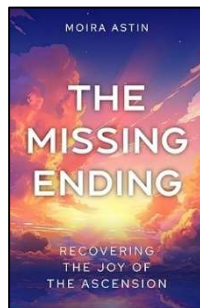


Moira's sermon was about the Trinity mentioning her book, "The Missing Ending" about the Ascension, previewed at https://www.google.co.uk/books/edition/The_Missing_Ending/MY00EQAQAQBAJ?hl=en&gbpv=1&pg=PA16&printsec=frontcover.



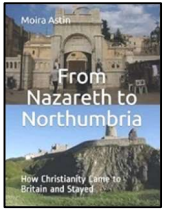
where you can read the first 25 pages (£16.99 from Amazon; also available from other booksellers.) She also mentioned, much to Peter Brown's delight, about the recent F A Cup Final when Crystal Palace beat Manchester City!!

At the end of the service there were speeches about Moira's life; how good she had been as Archdeacon of Reigate for the last 9 years, including 5 years for the Sutton Deanery; her interest in children's work, love of geology and the History of the Christian Church. Then she cut an enormous



cake for everyone to enjoy with Prosecco.

However, this was not the last time we heard Moira speak as, on the next day, 5 members of St Barnabas were invited to The Church of the Good Shepherd Tadworth to hear her talk about how Christianity came to Britain. Her research showed that the Good News of Jesus came from St John the Evangelist, via Lyon in Gaul (France) long before St Augustine. You can read all about it in her book "Nazareth to Northumberland" available only from Amazon at https://www.amazon.co.uk/s?k=from+nazareth+to+northumbria&ref=nb_sb_noss where, as with her other book, you can read its first 15 pages.



MUSIC FOR A SUMMER EVENING AT TRINITY CHURCH

On a sweltering summer evening on Sunday 29th June Stephen Haylett from Trinity Church Sutton put on a Summer Concert to help raise money for St Raphael's Hospice. It was an evening of mixed music including choral singing from the Festival Choir of which Cathy Brown is a member. The church was full up with audience.

Apart from the usual choral music including Vivaldi's Gloria, Handel's Hallelujah Chorus and excerpts from Haydn's Creation, there was a Concerto for two Clarinets brilliantly played by the twins Rinnah and Micah Zere and a Serenade for wind instruments in which they were joined by Eleanor Gravenor on bassoon. The twins were playing at the Fairfield Halls the next day with the London Mozart Players. There was an Eric Coates Organ solo. There was also a solo on the saxophone by Adie Starbuck. He was joined by Karl Beitleberger on guitar, Jonathan Hamilton Double Bass and Stephen Haylett on the piano for a Jazz Ensemble improvising 4 summer tunes.

A very enjoyable varied evening. £1,300 was raised for the Hospice.

MOTHERS' UNION DIOCESAN FESTIVAL SERVICE

On Saturday 21st June, Southwark Mothers' Union (MU) celebrated its festival service at Southwark Cathedral with the Rt Revd Dr Rosemarie Mallett, Bishop of Croydon and the Rt Revd Alastair Cutting, Bishop of Woolwich.

Attended by more than 170 people, it included the commissioning of the new MU Southwark Diocesan President, Penny Lohead and the new Trustees of the Southwark MU Diocesan Board, one of whom is Cathy Brown (3rd right in the photo)



FAWLTY TOWERS – THE PLAY



On Tuesday 5th August, Peter and I with my brother, Michael Underdown went to see the stage play "Fawlty Towers" at the



Apollo Theatre in London. It is a comedy play based on the TV series, "Fawlty Towers" shown back in the 70s. The play depicts the life in a terrible hotel back in those days. John Cleese wrote and designed the play to provide the humour that was so popular at that time. The atmosphere and the views in the Apollo Theatre was magnificent and we had a great evening.

Cathy Brown

THE ORDINATION & CONSECRATION OF THE VENERABLE MOIRA ASTIN AS BISHOP OF CREDITON

Michelle Reed writes:- I had been to a said Eucharist at St Paul's Cathedral once before, in 2023 at the beginning of my progress around London's churches; I thought I would begin at the top, the big one so to speak. But when I heard that the Ordination & Consecration of our dear friend, Moira Astin from Reigate to be Bishop of Crediton in Devon with a full Sung Eucharist, I simply had to be there.

On arrival at the Cathedral, I was shown by one of the superb stewards to the seats which were in a semi-circle beneath the Dome. I was asked for my ticket but I explained that I didn't have one; I'd paid on the door! I was shown to the back rows of the semi-circle and I sat on the end with a great view of the proceedings.

Suddenly, the Choir emerged, along with the Interim Chaplain, Archdeacons and Chapters of Southwark and Exeter Cathedral, the Chaplain to the Archbishop of Canterbury and the College of Canons processed to their places under the dome. Then, from the West End of the Cathedral the main procession began to move up the Nave while we sang the processional hymn "*How shall I sing that Majesty, which Angels to admire?*"

The main procession was-

A Verger, the Crucifix and Acolytes; The Ostiarus [*Editor's note: the Cathedral Door-Keeper*]; The Proculator of the lower house of the Convocation of Canterbury; Moira, the Bishop Designate along with those presenting her; Visiting Bishops, including Rosemarie, Bishop of Croydon, the bishops of the Northern and Southern English Provinces; various retired bishops, the Dean's Verger; the Chapter of St Paul's and a Verger: the Bishops of Salisbury and Winchester wearing their white mitres, the deacons and, then, Dame Sarah, Bishop of London, resplendent

in her Gold Mitre and golden Crook followed by her Chaplain. They made their way to their seats under the dome. By now I had definitely sensed the grandeur of the occasion but also a sense of peace and the presence of God.

And so, the service began. With the Greeting "Blessed be God, Father Son and Holy Spirit — Blessed be his Kingdom, now and forever". Bishop Sarah asked us to affirm our faith in God, as we said the Creed. Then followed the section of the service called the Liturgy of Ordination. We joined in with responses at various moments so playing our part in the Ordination of Moira as Bishop. She was then presented with a Bible by Bishop Sarah who also anointed Moira as Bishop.

Then the rest of the Eucharist was conducted by Bishop Sarah. So lovely to be there for that.

And then it was time to go, A Deacon sang "Go in the Peace of Christ", the choir sang and we responded "Thanks be to God".

The clergy then processed out back down the Nave and out of the West Door and, I imagine, for photographs. Once they had departed, the congregation left through a side door as directed by the stewards. I was hoping to take a few photos and, if possible, have a word with Bishop Moira.



By the time I got out and round to the front of the Cathedral most of the senior Clergy had gone back inside but Bishop Moira was still there chatting to a small group of Clergy. Eventually at what seemed an appropriate moment, I and a chap I had got into conversation with slowly mounted the steps and approached Bishop Moira. She recognised me and we greeted each other. I said greeting and God's blessings from St Barnabas in Sutton. I'd seen a couple of others do it and so I asked if I could take a selfie. "Of course," she said.

When that was over, I went down the steps and spotted Graham and Jennie Reed who were looking for



a cafe for some refreshments. We found somewhere suitable round the back of the Cathedral and had a cup of tea and a sandwich. They mentioned that they had seen Cathy Brown and the Revd Charles Cotton too who has been taking some services at St Barnabas during our current interregnum.



I had had an absolutely wonderful and spiritual morning, in that truly inspiring building and among the many leading figures of the Church of England, especially Dame Sarah, Bishop of London, one time Team Rector of Sutton Team Ministry of which St Barnabas was once part and our dear friend Moira from Reigate, the new Bishop of Crediton.

Finally, just to let you know, the hymns we sang were:

"How shall I sing that Majesty, which Angels to admire"

"O Thou who camest from above, the pure celestial fire to impart"

"Come, Holy Ghost, our souls inspire"

"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation"

"Lord, enthroned in heavenly splendour"

"Go forth and tell! O Church of God, awake God's saving news to all the nations take"

Amen and peace be with you.

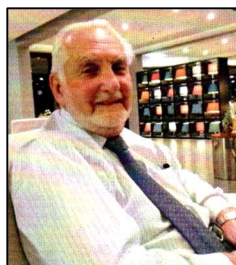
Michelle Reed

PARISH PUMP

Congratulations to Jordan Brookman and his baby half-brother, Aidan Brookman who were both baptised on Sunday 25th May by the Revd Anne Doerr during that morning's Communion Service.



RIP: Richard Thirtle (1937 – 2025), Beryl's husband, Richard, sadly died on 16th June, just 2½ months after their Diamond Wedding Anniversary (see Page 5]. Eleven members of St Barnabas Church (other than family members) attended his funeral on 14th July at North East Surrey Crematorium. His two grandsons, Daniel (aged 12) and Adam (aged 10) read two poems beautifully, "God saw you getting tired" and "He is Gone". Beryl said that Richard would have been so proud of them. We heard a family tribute about his life; how he and Beryl had lived in the same house for all 60 years of their married life; his great love of his family; how he had managed Singer Sewing Machine shops, eventually buying his own shop in Sutton which he and Beryl ran for 20 years as their own business; his great loves of classic cars; holidaying in their caravan by the coast and his love of DIY. In fact, Richard helped to clear the path along the south side of St Barnabas Church in 2011 so everyone, including Pre-School children could safely get to the Church Halls without encountering cars in the Church drive. Rest in Peace, Richard.



RIP: Jenny Abery. Jenny Abery sadly died on 15th July. She was 81. She had been ill for a while and her family were with her when she died. She had been a very active member of St Barnabas for many years until she and her husband, Geoffrey, a St Barnabas Lay Reader (now aged 90), moved to Somerset in 1998. Jenny was always helping out on all the rotas, running the Mums & Babes Group, helping with CHEWS (Children's Holiday Event Weeks) and she was also a Mothers' Union member. These photos were taken at the Mothers' Union's Evening Group's Farewell Party for her in 1998.



Update on the Revd Dave Billin: Dave Billin says he is doing fine. He has been getting involved at St Michael's, South Beddington and also covering St Nicholas, often midweek, and Carshalton, All Saints occasionally. He recently got a new budgie; his other one, with a genetic feather problem, is glad to have a playmate.



Mothers' Union Outing: On a very soggy Saturday on 19th July, 12 Mothers' Union members and their families joined a very interesting "Blue Badge" Guided Tour of Hampton Court Palace. In the afternoon the rain relented and they were able to enjoy a Tudor Joust and a falconry display.

Lesley Caple is now making a gradual recovery from her knee operation following an early set back. Please continue to pray for her. We all look forward to seeing her back at St Barnabas once she has fully recovered. She would welcome a chat over the phone so when you have a moment, please give her a call.

MOTHERS' UNION NEWS

SUTTON WOMEN'S REFUGE



As a result of a request from the Sutton Women's Refuge, a magnificent number of items were collected including BBQ sets, a wall mirror, a vacuum cleaner, a TV aerial, shower curtains, a blender, chopping boards, bedside lamps, clothes and baby items, toiletries and £5 Sainsbury's tokens. Thank you everyone for your generosity.

SUMMER OF HOPE CREAM TEA

On Saturday 9th August (Mary Sumner Day - the founder of the Mothers' Union) a cream tea was held in the Church Halls in aid of the Mothers' Union "Summer of Hope" Appeal for the women in the war torn Democratic Republic of Congo. Women are forever having to flee their homes with nothing but their children and a handful of seeds. The Mothers' Union Literacy and Development Scheme helps them survive, grow food, learn to read and be numerate, build businesses and raise families in faith.

About 40 people, including members from St John's, Belmont, St Oswald's, Cheam and St Nicholas, Sutton Mothers' Union branches joined us for the cream tea.

The afternoon began with an account of how Mary Sumner started the Mothers' Union and what it does today, plus details of its work in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

The cream tea was laid out on tables with scones, clotted cream, tea, milk and a variety of 4 different homemade jams. There was colouring and sewing, MU seeds to plant and balloons for the children, and the afternoon ended with a free picture bingo game. £378.60 was raised for the "Summer of Hope" Appeal.



Surrey Churches
Preservation Trust



THE ANNUAL RIDE & STRIDE

Saturday 13th September is the Annual "Ride & Stride" in aid of Surrey Churches Preservation Trust who made a grant of £2,500 towards our roof repairs. Volunteers are needed to meet and greet riders & striders as they stop for a rest at our church. But, alternatively, why not instead join in the Ride & Stride, obtain sponsors and visit as many local churches as you can that day. It's great fun. There are 35 in the London Borough of Sutton, many close by to one another. 50% of your sponsorship will come to St Barnabas Church. A list of churches and sponsorship forms can be obtained from <https://www.surreychurchespreservationtrust.org/ride-stride/> Forms C1 & C2).

If you cannot access them, please speak to Humphrey Clarke.



FESTIVAL FEVER AT HEYSWOOD A SUMMER CAMP TO REMEMBER FOR 3RD SUTTON (ST BARNABAS) GUIDES



Despite the British weather doing its best to dampen our spirits; a good time was had by all at our Guestival (festival-themed) summer camp at Heyswood County Campsite in June. The weekend was made up of festival facepainting (which the Leaders loved), crafts, cooking sausages for lunch on BBQs, wellie wanging, also known as welly throwing, where participants throw a Wellington boot as far as possible, zip wire, culminating, on the final morning with a Battle of the Bands, a musical contest where bands compete against each other to be declared the best.

The weather had been quite kind to us for pitching camp as well as the Saturday day. However, it was just as we were about to fire up the pizza oven that the heavens absolutely opened. One moment we were discussing toppings and wood-fired techniques, the next we were watching torrential rain. Out went our artisanal pizza plans, and it was the local Domino's, Cobham to the rescue! While it might not have been the authentic festival food experience we'd planned, there was something wonderfully British about huddling together indoors, sharing pizza boxes while the rain hammered on the windows outside. I suppose it gave the Guides an idea of a true festival experience.....Glastonbury had nothing on us! Despite being soaking wet and some lovely puddles in the tents, after the initial moans and groans, the Guides did embrace the situation and the hastily amended programme.

As we packed up our soggy tents and belongings on the Sunday morning, the unanimous verdict was clear: rain or shine, this was a festival experience they'll remember forever....for all the good reasons! Special thanks to Sarah Costerton, one of the

Guide mum's who, during the camp, texted me to say that she would take our



tents home to dry out and bring back to us! Superstar!



Sometimes the most memorable camps are the ones where everything doesn't go according to plan – and this festival weekend at Heyswood will certainly go down in our unit's history and proof that, with the right attitude, even the wettest British summer can't wash away the fun!

Zöe Crimmings,
3rd (St Barnabas) Sutton Guide Leader



3RD SUTTON (ST BARNABAS) BROWNIES' NEWS



This term the Brownies have been working on their Archaeology and Local History badges. They have walked around the area, learning why some things are called what they are, and how and when things were built or created. Do you know who Thomas Wall was, and do you know why the Nightingale pub is so called? They have heard some local stories – have you heard the one about the cannibal captain who lived on Myrtle Road? They have even met a local author, Alan Durant who came to tell us about his life and how he began writing books. He was a Cub Scout and his sister was a Brownie in Carshalton Beeches.

The Brownies have looked at what kind of things survive over time, and what might survive for future archaeologists to find, and they have created “maps” of their lives and hidden them to find later in life!

The Brownies also celebrated the 80th anniversary of VE Day, hearing memories from Jean Chappell's childhood in Cheam during the war. And they made their termly visit to Tennyson Grange Care Home, where they made pop up cards with the residents to celebrate May Day.



In June they visited the Bluebell Railway, who had arranged special days for Girlguiding and Scouting as part of the 200th anniversary of the birth of the modern railway.

The term ended with our annual weekend

away at our County Campsite, Heyswood. We refused to let rain stop play, and enjoyed games in the rain, cooking and decorating biscuits, sand art, a campfire, pond dipping and of course the water slide!



Nicki Richards, Snowy Owl, 3rd (St Barnabas) Sutton Brownies

Thomas Wall (Wall's Sausages, Pies & Ice Cream) lived in Sutton.
The Nightingale pub is named after Jenny Lind, a popular singer who was known as the 'Swedish Nightingale'. In the mid 1800's she is said to have sung from a balcony when visiting friends nearby. The pub was originally called the Jenny Lind.
Thomas Dudley, the 'cannibal captain' lived in Myrtle Road.



5TH SUTTON (ST BARNABAS) BEAVERS' NEWS



On 11th July Alfred Walsh was awarded the Chief Scout's Bronze Award which is the highest award a Beaver can earn. To earn it, he needed to complete all of the six challenge awards, World Badge, Personal Achievement Badge, Teamwork Badge, Outdoor Badge, Skills Badge and Adventure Badge plus any four activity badges. He actually achieved 12 activity badges.



Luciana Bueno writes: My son, Arie joined the 5th Sutton (St Barnabas) Beavers earlier this year. As a naturally shy boy, he sometimes finds it tricky to jump into new activities. But since he started Beavers, it's been adventure after adventure, each one helping him grow his confidence and independence bit by bit.

As a family, we've also been roped into the fun! This year we took part in the Spring Fayre and even braved the family camp. It was Arie's and my very first time camping—and we both absolutely loved it! Who knew sleeping in a tent, helping out when needed, and getting slightly lost on the way to the campfire could be so much fun? I highly recommend it to all my friends with children!

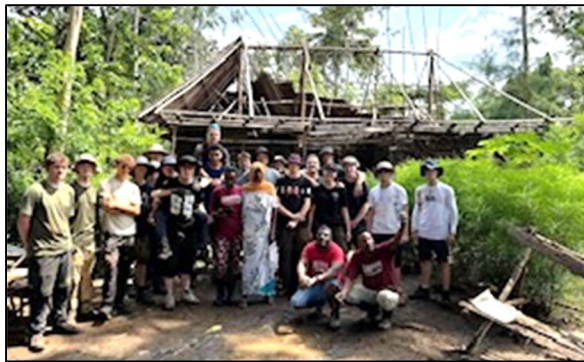


CAMP KENYA



Patricia Butler's son, Arthur (on the right) and his friend William Brown went to Kenya in July this year as part of Camps International, a social enterprise which runs educational and impactful four week expeditions for school groups. Each expedition has four elements: community, environmental, wildlife conservation projects and adventure. Some of the congregation gave them jobs to do to help raise £4,700 each to pay for the trip. Here is Arthur's report.

On the trip to Kenya, I helped with community and nature projects. At Camp Muhaka, we helped Mama Eddie, a local woman without a house, by building part of her house using mud building



methods. Then, at Dive Camp Firefly, I learned to scuba dive and did four dives in the Indian Ocean, going as deep as 18 meters. We saw lion fish, clown fish, scorpion fish and much more.



Our group then went to Diani Beach Camp, where we cleaned up the beach, picking up rubbish. We also made art by repurposing old flip-flops into animal figures. We learned about different kinds of turtles and how pollution, like light, noise, and plastic, endangers them.

At Camp Tsavo, we met with the Tamaini women's group, learning their traditional dances and how they make money with crafts like jewellery. They also showed us how to make paper from elephant dung. We also built fences to keep elephants away, protecting both villages and elephants. We also helped fix up a classroom at a local school, giving teachers a place to work. This included painting and making bricks for further construction, which future groups will continue. We also met the students there and played football and volleyball with them and helped teach English and Maths.



We went on a safari where we saw many animals, including elephants, giraffes, zebras, and many different types of antelope and birds. We were also lucky enough to see lions, a cheetah, and a hippopotamus.

Lastly, at our final camp, we helped build a shelter for local farmers to protect their goats from lions at night. We also finished fences to protect young trees, helping the forest grow back to support the reintroduction of black rhinos, which eat from low tree branches.



I am incredibly thankful for the opportunity to have gone on such a trip and meet all the wonderful people, whilst learning about their way of life. I am also very thankful for all the people that supported me to go on this amazing trip.



Arthur Butler

AN UPDATE ON THE ST BARNABAS MAJOR REPAIR WORKS



Work on the major repairs to the church, including the South Valley roof, got underway on 28th May when scaffolding to gain access to the roof was installed. Under the programme of the works, only external work was planned to



take place during the first few weeks but very little of that was able to be observed from ground level as it concentrated on the roof. Inside the church however, the work being undertaken left its mark with large amounts of dust continually settling on the pews and tables inside. Every Saturday, members of the congregation gathered to clean up ready for Sunday's service but such was the amount of work involved that the decision was taken early on to cordon off the back half of the pews in the Nave so as to concentrate on making those in the front half as dust free as possible. A benefit of this was that it meant that everyone was able to worship together in a smaller group instead of being spread all over the whole church. The organ had already been fully covered in dust sheets but it was decided also to cover the Memorial Chapel sanctuary in dust sheets as well. The torrential rain over the weekend of 19/20 July managed to make its mark as well.



Robert Caple has been keeping an eye on the progress of the works for the St Barnabas PCC and has been meeting regularly with the architect and the works' foreman.

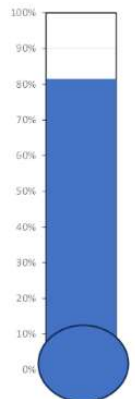
On the finance side, once works began, I was able to start requesting those bodies who had awarded grants to pay over the funds they had awarded so that the early invoices of the contractor and the architect would be able to be paid as and when presented.

In early June, I received the good news that another grant awarding body, the Congregational & General Trust, had awarded the PCC a grant of £15,000. This was especially excellent news as this body mainly supports United Reformed Churches but other churches, including Anglican ones, are eligible to apply for grants so I made an application last year.

As soon as invoices are now paid, I am submitting requests to the Department of Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) which controls the budget for refunds of VAT under the Listed Places of Worship Scheme. Following the drastic reduction of its 2025/26 budget by the UK Government earlier this year, I am endeavouring to ensure that, before the DCMS' budget runs out, as much of the VAT that the PCC pays can be reclaimed (now up to a maximum of only £25,000; the PCC is due to pay VAT of £45,000 on the whole project).

In the meantime, fundraising continues to ensure that the target figure of £286,570 is reached (total funds raised or available for the whole project so far are 82% of that figure) without the need of the PCC having to resort to borrowing money from other sources which would, of course, have to be repaid in the future. Individual donations can also still be made; there is a collecting box on the long table at the back of the church.

Humphrey Clarke



FUTURE MOTHERS' UNION EVENTS TO WHICH EVERYONE IS INVITED

Saturday 30th August
10.00 am

Wave of Prayer in St Barnabas Church

Friday 12th September
10.15 am

Last of the 14 Bible Studies on the Book of Revelation at Shirley Tillman's house, 31 Browning Avenue.

Wed 24th September
11.45 am to 12.15 pm

St Barnabas Branch will be leading Midday Prayers in the Harvard Chapel in Southwark Cathedral which will include tributes to two of its members, Marjorie Udall and Carole King who died earlier this year

Sat 27th September

Oxford Gathering for all members
In the Canterbury Province

Saturday 4th October
2.00 pm

Grandparent's Day Service in the Church

Saturday 18th October
From 2.00 pm

Visit to Guildford Cathedral.
Arrive from 2.00 pm for tea and a cake in the refectory and then view Jacqui Parkinson's embroidery exhibition "Threads through the Cross", followed by Evensong at 4.00 pm. (If anyone is able to take people by car to Guildford, please let Janice Clarke know.)

Friday 31st October
2.00 pm

An Illustrated Talk about the Exhibition "The Longest Yarn", a knitting exhibition of D Day.

Thursday 6th November
10.00 am

The Branch Planning Meeting for 2026 at Shirley Tillman's house, 31 Browning Avenue.



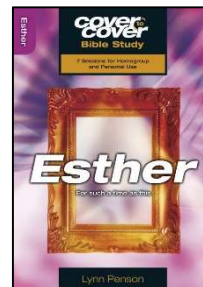
BIBLE SOCIETY IN UKRAINE

Cities across Ukraine have once again come under heavy shelling. "Bible a Month" was given enough funds to send Bibles to soldiers on the frontline when Ukraine was first invaded. Many gave their lives to the Lord as they defended their country. Many have died. The Ukraine Bible Society is running a scripture based programme called "Healing the Wounds of the Soul". They also run a Camp for Wives and Children of Fallen Soldiers to help them through their trauma with scripture based activities and art.

If you would like to join the Bible a Month Club at St Barnabas, just talk to our Church Warden, Sally Bramdaw who runs the scheme.

BIBLE STUDY

When the Young Mums' Bible Studies ended, the Mothers' Union agreed to continue once a month using Cover to Cover Bible Guides which have discussions about the world today as well as the Bible. So far, we have studied the Book of Esther and the Book of



Revelation. However, from 10th October we are going to start studying St Mark's Gospel on a Friday morning once a month in the Lower Vestry at 10.15am.

As it is a new topic, why not come and join us? We would love to see you.

Rosemary Walsh & Pam Green

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

- Thurs 28th August** **Licensing Service for the Revd Kayode Oyebo** at 7.30pm [See Page 3]
- Sat 6th September** **Quiz Night with Fish & Chip Supper** at 5.00pm in the Church Halls. (£15 pp)
- Sat 13th September** **Ride & Stride** in aid of Surrey Churches Preservation Trust who have made a grant of £2,500 towards our roof repairs
Volunteers needed to meet & greet riders & striders as they stop for a rest at the church.
- Sat 5th October** **Harvest Supper** at 5.00pm in the Church Halls. (£15 per adult, £7.50 under 16s, under 10s free.)
- Sun 6th October** **Harvest Festival Service** 10.30am
Harvest Gifts will again be donated to Sutton FoodBank. [see below]
- Sat 18th October** **Visit to Guildford Cathedral to view Jacqui Parkinson's embroidery exhibition "Threads through the Cross", followed by Evensong at 4.00pm.**
For more details see Page 30.
- Sun 2nd November** **All Souls Remembering Service and "Bring you Own Lunch" 12 Noon**
- Sun 10th November** **Remembrance Sunday Service** 10.30am

HARVEST GIFTS

Items needed most are Shower Gel, Deodorants, Cuppa Soups, Jam, Cereal, Biscuits, Small Jars of Coffee, Tinned Tomato Soup, Tinned Fruit, Sugar (500g bags), Tinned Baked Beans & Tinned Spaghetti Hoops. Donations need to be in date, unopened and not damaged.

FROM THE ST BARNABAS' REGISTERS

BAPTISMS

25 May 2025

Jordan Alan Brookman
Aidan Alan Brookman



IMPORTANT

It costs over £600 a week to run the church here at St Barnabas. All of this has to be found from those who worship or visit here.

Over 75% of the money comes from the members of the Planned Giving Scheme, with most of the rest from weekly offerings in the Offertory Plate and the bag collections at special services. St Barnabas struggles each year to break even, even though costs are kept the absolute minimum.

If you a regular worshipper and are not already a member of the Planned Giving Scheme but would like to join, please do speak to Humphrey Clarke or telephone him on 020 8661 1016. Alternatively, please do place what you are able to afford in the Offertory Plate as you come into church each week.

ORGANISATIONS MEETING AT ST BARNABAS CHURCH HALLS

St Barnabas Pre School

Contact:- Phone: 020 8661 8927 or email
stbarnabaspreschoolsutton@gmail.com

Kumon (Maths & English classes)

Contact:- Yumna Joubaily (07941 265988)

Pilates

Contact:- Lorraine Thurlow (07958 356035)

Model Railway Club

Contact:- Dave Smith (01342 712078)

The Bradley School of Chess

Contact:- Wendy Bradley w.bradley5@live.com