

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



and also for Steeple Parish

**The Church of  
St Lawrence & All Saints**

Southminster Primary School  
Poppies for Remembrance Sunday



**DECEMBER 2021**

**With God, all things are possible.**

Matthew 19 :26

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***NOTE FROM THE EDITOR:***

*Articles for the January magazine  
should be with  
Kath Dunstan by, at the latest,  
Sunday December 19th  
New contributors are welcome.*

We have needed to plan for an increase in price for this magazine in 2022 because of increased printing costs.

We are aware that most of our readers felt that the present price was too low, so we hope that you will all accept the new one:

**80p per issue  
£9 per year paid in advance**

## Vicar's Reflection

One of the magazines that I buy near to Christmas (no advertising here) contains all the programmes that can be found on TV and radio over the Christmas period. I like to look to see if there are films that are shown that we can record to watch at a later date. I am not sure what your particular genre is, but I like some of the action films (sometimes these are too tense for others in the Vicarage!). One of the entertaining action series was Mission Impossible of which there have been six films, so far. These have evolved from a TV series where an agent is given a task that seems impossible, and the agent needs to find a solution and 'action' the mission. How these writers think up the various scenarios is amazing, and the way that they find an answer to the impossible task is ingenious.

During our recent Quiz night we had a 'marathon' round (a round that lasts all through the evening) that was all about Robots. What were the names of the robots from various films or series? Those who love sci fi found this round fairly easy. Whether you like action, drama, sci-fi or other genre of film, they are mostly very good entertaining stuff on a winter evening, wrapped up in a blanket on the sofa!

When I look for the word 'impossible' in the Bible it comes back with 14 results, 3 in the Old testament and 11 in the New testament (using the New Revised Standard Version). In the majority of cases, the word 'impossible' is predicated with the word "seems" and the Bible continues by saying that **with God** situations become possible. Matthew 19 is a prime example as Jesus speaks to His disciples. He says "For truly I tell you, if you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you will

say to this mountain, “Move from here to there”, and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you.’

Equally, when Jesus was speaking to the rich man and uses the example of a camel going through the eye of a needle, He said “What is impossible for mortals is possible for God”.

I have therefore concluded that God has never been confronted with impossibilities; that, as Jesus says, “all *is* possible with God”.

When I think on the Christmas story, I realise how God came to dwell among us and live as one of us. He comes with an authority over everything. The universe recognises and is marked by His coming. The wise men seek to see the wonder of God. The angels - knowing that the answer to the world’s questions and problems has arrived to make things possible - sing praises. The shepherds come to stare in wonder at the answer to impossibilities.

As we read of the life of Jesus and His ministry, of how He met the needs of ‘all that were brought to Him’, we see the perspective of God who meets our needs and brings hope (possibilities) to our hearts and minds.

Joy to the world, the Lord has come! Mission Impossible? NO.... Not for God.

May you have a Peace-filled, blessed Christmas and New Year – enjoy those films!

*Peter*

## Steve Pillinger's recent newsletter shows how the impossible can become possible!

*(Complete newsletter is displayed at the back of church.)*

**Wyc/iffe  
Bib/e  
Trans/ators**

What is Vision 2025 about? Conceived in 2000 by our international leaders, it is the vision to see a Bible translation project started in every language that needs one by the year 2025. That's only four years away!

### Steve's work

I'm delighted to have completed the Nyiha New Testament, the last of my three recent typesetting projects for our Tanzania branch. (The other two were the Pimbwe and Bende Gospels of Luke.) The Nyiha NT was thoroughly checked both by the Tanzania branch and by the publication team at our US headquarters in Dallas, Texas; and it has now been sent to the Korean Bible Society in Seoul for printing. Truly an international effort!

Thank you for your continuing support in prayer and funds.

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**Another person** who achieved the impossible thanks to her closeness to God during her life was Fione Teece.

Fi and her husband Norman were members of St Leonard's Church in the 1980s. They joined the charity 'World Horizons' with other 'local' friends Dave & Liz Smith and then later founded their own charity in Cambodia - "Care for Cambodia".

They set up an orphanage and actually adopted some of the local children. Fi's long life story of service came to an end this year. Several of us went to her funeral in Colchester on 15th November where we were able to catch up with Norman and their two sons (and families) Matthew and Daniel. Norman now lives in Harwich and we may be able to keep in touch. Nothing is impossible with God!



# Joyeux Noel

## (Happy Christmas)

Do you, like me, think the French language is a beautiful language and very expressive. It has been described as sounding like music, with a melodic rhythm known as a language of love and romance. I studied French at school to O level standard and it was my favourite subject I must admit. I can understand more if written rather than spoken and then preferably spoken very slowly!!!

French, I believe, is the 2<sup>nd</sup> most widely learned language after English. English being a universal language because at one time the British Empire had great influence over the world and the language spread throughout many continents.

I was thinking about the Christmas Carol “The First Noel”. If Joyeux means Happy what about Noel? I discovered that the word Noel comes from the Latin verb Nasci meaning “to be born.” Nasci developed in Latin into



Nativitas meaning birth, from there came the word Nativity. Fascinating stuff!! Noel can also mean ‘Good News’, so Christ’s Mass or Christmas is a happy celebration of the Good News of Jesus coming to earth to be our Lord and Saviour!

Why do we have so many different languages? Genesis chapter 11 begins by saying “Now the whole world had one language and a common speech” Then the people of Shinar (later to be called Babylon) wanted to build a tower reaching to heaven, trying to take the place of God and to pay tribute to

their own greatness. God came down to Babel and confused their language so they could not understand each other in plotting their schemes and forming a dangerous unity. From there He scattered them over all the earth.

Obviously, God can understand all of us on earth. Acts chapter 2 v 6-11 tells us of the promised Holy Spirit coming at Pentecost when the believers were all together. Having received the Holy Spirit into their lives they began speaking in other tongues which amazed those looking on as they heard their own language being spoken.

1 Cor 14 v 10 “There are, so many kinds of languages in the world and none of them is without significance (NKJ). In Revelation 7 v 9 John’s vision tells us that before the throne of God there were peoples from every tribe, nation and language all praising God. Whichever language we speak it is important to remember the following words from 1 Corinthians 13; “I may be able to speak the languages of human beings and even of angels but if I have no love my speech is no more than a noisy gong or a clanging bell (Good News Bible).

Around 1885 Christina Rossetti wrote a song called “Love came down at Christmas” which to me sums up what Christmas is all about. It is a time of showing the love of Jesus and practising acceptance and goodwill to all men whatever race, creed, colour or language.



A Joyeux Noel to you all and may the New Year (Nouvelle Année) bring you many blessings.

**Brenda Sheppard**

# Safeguarding People

What do we think when we hear the word Safeguarding?

For me it is a welcome word as Safeguarding is about protecting people in a safe environment.



Having taken on more responsibility in St. Leonard's I was asked to do the Safeguarding training which was all online and mostly Zoom. I have to say it was very well led and I was amazed at the technology used.

Safeguarding is multi-faceted. It is about identifying a person who may be at risk from abuse, be it physical, domestic, psychological, financial or even spiritual. It is about offering support whilst looking in to their situation. It is important to listen to both victim or perpetrator in any situation and to be non-judgemental.

We know from the past that situations of abuse in some churches have been dealt with very badly and some victims of abuse have had their lives ruined by people they thought they could and should have been able to trust.

Some of the guidelines we were given were: To listen and take what is shared seriously, although to be careful to not being naïve as sometimes allegations may not be true. Not to show shock but to offer reassurance that disclosing their concern is the right thing to do. Confidentiality is important when people are sharing but if it is a real emergency situation then other professionals will need to be involved. In all



situations our Safeguarding Officer needs to be involved and they will report to the relevant Diocesan officers.

It is important to log all conversations with either victim or perpetrator and sign and date them in case this information is needed at a later date. This information to be kept in a safe place so as not to breach confidentiality.

There is so much more to Safeguarding and we at St. Leonard's have a Safeguarding Officer and a team of other trained people to help make the Church a safe sanctuary for all seeking to worship God and for His healing. Members of the church engaged in various activities are periodically DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) checked which is another safeguarding requisite.

I found the Safeguarding training invaluable, very well led, and would certainly recommend it and I am a lot happier now I have stopped tearing my hair out trying to get Zoom to work!!!!



**Brenda Sheppard**

Our Safeguarding officer at present is Rev'd Peter with a new officer taking over the role shortly.

### **DENGIE HUNDRED LADIES GROUP**

will meet at 7.30 pm on December 21st

Party with music from Tony Haywood.

Competition Home-made Paper decoration.

For further details contact Paula Neall 01621 773243

## **A notice about our offerings to God.**

Many of us use the facility of the offering plate to give our gifts to God. As the church is closed for the moment it may be a good time to think about a standing order to the church so that we are still bringing our gift. Many of us are doing this already – Thank you, but those who may be wondering how they can continue their giving through Standing Order the details of the church bank are here:

**St. Leonard's church:** Barclays Bank Sort code: **20.54.30**  
A/c No. **80825107** Made payable to: Southminster  
Parochial Church Council.

**St. Lawrence & All Saints church:** Barclays Bank  
Sort code: **20.54.30** A/c No. **60842494**  
Made payable to Steeple Parochial Church Council.

**May God bless our gifts to Him.**

## **CORONAVIRUS 2021**

We are pleased that restrictions have been lifted but we still need to be sensible and follow the guidelines during our Christmas celebrations.

To keep aware of what is happening, and to participate on line with services, log into the website <https://www.stleonardsouthminster.org.uk/> and <https://www.facebook.com/groups/stleonardstogetherapart/>

Also, we have a WhatsApp group entitled "Together Apart Our Church". Lots of people are involved in that.

These links have been greatly appreciated by regular Church family members and also by people who have not, to date, attended our church services. In difficult times, like this, we need to 'allow' God to point us in possible new directions and then to respond. **God has a plan .... with hope for future.**

If you would like specific prayer, please contact the vicar. preferably by email but otherwise on 01621 772300

**POSSIBLE ROTA DETAILS: YOUR AVAILABILITY FOR 2 MONTHS**

We can worship regularly in church again, but with appropriate safety limitations, so we need to be well-prepared. Please let Paul Lucas know if you are willing to be part of his volunteer team but cannot be available on any of the following dates.

February 2022	6	13	20	27
March 2022	6	13	20	27

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

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**Saturday 11th December**  
**14.00 - 16.00 CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL**  
**with Santa's Grotto**

*More details on posters.*

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<b>Saturday 25th December</b>	<b>Christmas Day</b>
<b>09.00 Holy Communion</b>	<b>Rev'd Peter</b>
Isaiah 52: 7 - 10	Celebrant
John 1: 1 - 14	Celebrant
Sidesperson	t.b.a.

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<b>10.00 Family Celebration</b>	<b>Rev'd Peter</b>
Readings as above	
People to read, intercede etc.	t.b.a.

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<b>Sunday 26th December</b>	<b>First Sunday of Christmas</b>
<b>09.30 Holy Communion (BCP)</b>	<b>Rev'd Peter</b>
Colossians 3 : 12 - 17	Celebrant
Luke 2 : 41 - end	Celebrant
Sidesperson	t.b.a.

***We hope to have enough volunteers in advance to cover all the new year services. Do contact Paul Lucas if you can help.***

# DECEMBER WORSHIP

## Wednesday 1st December

**19.00 Light up a Life service** Rev'd Peter & Jenny

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### Sunday 5th December

### 2nd Sunday of Advent

#### 08.00 Holy Communion BCP

Leader/President/Preacher

Rev'd Peter

Philippians 1 : 3 - 11

Paul Lucas

Luke 3 : 1 - 6

Celebrant

Sidesman/Communion Assistant

Paul Lucas

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#### 10.45 am Family Holy Communion & TOY SERVICE

Leader/President/Preacher

Rev'd Peter

Readings as above

Christine Morgan

Intercessions

Brenda Sheppard

Audio-visuals

Sylvia Adams

Sidesperson & Refreshments

t.b.a.

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### Sunday 12th December

### 3rd Sunday of Advent

#### 08.00 Holy Communion BCP

Leader/President/Preacher

Rev'd Ken Dunstan

Philippians 4 : 4 - 7

Paul Lucas

Luke 3 : 7 - 18

Celebrant

Sidesman/Communion Assistant

Paul Lucas

#### 10.45 am Family Celebration

Leader/ preacher

Jenny Pratt & Karen Flack

Audio-visuals

Christine Morgan

Refreshments

Sally Culff & Maureen Smith

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## Wednesday 15th December

**11.00 Little Lions Christmas Party** Details from Karen

**Sunday 19th December**  
**8 am Holy Communion BCP**

Leader/President/Preacher  
Hebrews 10 : 5 - 10  
Luke 1 : 39 - 55  
Sidesman/Communion Assistant

**4th Sunday of Advent**

Rev'd Peter  
Rev'd Peter  
Celebrant  
Pete Adams

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**10.45am Morning Worship**

Leader/ preacher  
Readings as above  
Intercessions  
Audio-visuals  
Sidesperson & Refreshments

Rev'd Ken  
Linda Payne  
Jenny Pratt  
Christine Morgan  
t.b.a.

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**15.30 'Messy' Christingle Service**

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**19.00 Community Service of Lessons & Carols**

Leader/ preacher  
Audio-visuals  
Sidespersons  
Refreshments

Rev'd Peter  
Christine Morgan  
Paul Lucas + others  
Social Committee

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**Friday 24th December**

**Christmas Eve**

**16.00**

**Crib Service**

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**23.30 Midnight Holy Communion**

Leader-President/Preacher  
Isaiah 9 : 2 - 7  
Luke 2: 1 - 20  
Intercessions  
Sidespersons

Rev'd Peter/ Rev'd Jacqui  
Kath Dunstan  
Kath Dunstan  
Celebrant  
Paul Lucas + others

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**Saturday 25th December**

**Christmas Day**

*Service details are on page 11*

# **Steeple Church News**

Steeple Church has services every Sunday morning at 9.15am unless otherwise advertised on the church door. We have Morning Prayer on the first and third Sundays each month and Holy Communion on the second and fourth. An on-line service for those preferring to worship from home is available each week on [www.stleonardsouthminster.org.uk](http://www.stleonardsouthminster.org.uk)



## **John Partridge, 1934 to 2021**

John Partridge died on 11<sup>th</sup> November, having lived in Steeple for all his 87 years. For the first quarter of his life, he lived with his parents in what was then the Stansgate Road farmhouse for Gate Farm. For the rest of his life he lived at Grange Farm, formerly occupied by his uncle. Just two homes in all those years, both in Steeple and less than a mile apart. During the 1950's, a lot happened in John's life. John was only 17 when his father died. His uncle died not long after, leaving John to take over running the family business when he was just 23 years old. When he married Barbara, daughter of another Steeple farmer, they had the choice of two farmhouses and decided to make their married life at Grange Farm where Anne, Jean and George, were born. The house at Gate Farm was sold off but the land and a range of substantial farm buildings retained. Some years later, one of the buildings was converted into the present farmhouse where George, Jo and family live.

John played a leading role in Steeple Parish Council until a couple of years ago, having been its Chairman for many years. When younger, he mowed the Playing Field, churchyards and greens free of charge which helped minimise

Steeple's Council Tax. His historical knowledge of the parish and intimate familiarity with every part of it were greatly appreciated by other councillors on many occasions.

John joined Burnham-on-Crouch and Dengie Hundred Rotary Club 24 years ago and was its President in 2006-07. Up until the Covid lockdown, he attended most of the lunches. As a leading member of the local farming community he was also a member of many other organisations and supported Barbara in her memberships of Burnham Inner Wheel, the British Heart Foundation and particularly in her roles as a Churchwarden or Treasurer for Steeple Church.

After Barbara died in 2019, John was determined to continue living in the home they shared for so many years. He resolved to stay as active as possible despite his impaired mobility and eyesight. Winter and summer, whenever the weather allowed, John was out and about on his electric scooter, always accompanied by his little dog, Rosie. Latterly, both of them were almost blind so it's miraculous that they regularly crossed the main road without incident. Within recent weeks, John was still trundling down Stansgate Road or Canney Road on the scooter. One day during the summer he even scaled St Lawrence Hill to visit his in-laws.

A lot changed in Steeple during John's 87 years. Back in 1934, the farms depended on horses, not tractors, and everything was labour intensive. There were no large trucks and anything heavier than five tons was hauled by steam traction engine and often shipped on sailing barges from Pigeon Dock on Mayland Creek. Steeple now has more and better housing and an excellent Village Hall but the school and all the shops have gone.

John's funeral will be at 11am on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> December.

## **STEEPLE CHURCH ROTAS FOR DECEMBER**

### **Sunday Prayer Rota for 9.15am services (and others)**

<b>5th</b>	Family Service	Teresa Julien
<b>12th</b>	Christingle & Carols	at 4 pm
<b>19th</b>	Morning Worship	Fiona Begley
<b>24th</b>	Christmas Eve	Holy Communion at 5pm
<b>25th</b>	No service	<i>Everyone is welcome at</i>
<b>26th</b>	No service	<i>Southminster services.</i>

### **Flower arranging and cleaning in church ready for each Sunday**

<b>5th</b>	Mrs F Begley
<b>12th</b>	Mrs M DeAth
<b>19th</b>	Mrs F Ashworth
<b>24th</b>	Mrs R Leech

**Christmas at Steeple Church**  
**Christingle & Carols**  
**Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> December at 4pm**  
**Communion with carols**  
**Christmas Eve at 5 pm**

As usual,

**To arrange a**

**Wedding, Blessing, Baptism or Funeral**  
**please contact Rev'd Canon Peter Begley**

**01621 772 300**

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

**The Vicarage, Burnham Road, Southminster, CM0 7ES**



*Rupert Killick has shared with us this letter about the 2021 Christian Aid week donations.*



Hi Rupert,

It feels so good to share with you the amazing news that Christian Aid Week donations have peaked at over 5 million pounds! We never fail to be surprised, delighted and grateful for the partnership of churches, volunteers and communities across the UK and Ireland. Thank you.

As we come closer to the end of another year, we also begin to plan for the stories and offering for Christian Aid Week 2022.

Next year's appeal will focus on Zimbabwe. We will be exploring the lives and livelihoods of women in rural communities through the lens of climate justice.

Sophie Brightwell *Christian Aid Week Manager*

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## **SOUTHMINSTER MEMORIAL HALL**

**LUNCH CLUB** continues on Mondays (but not 1st of month). Please call by the previous Friday to book your place. £5.00 for 2 courses plus tea/coffee. Ring Kath Savage 07434 915467

### **CHATTERBOX**

meets on Thursday mornings 10am-12 noon. Everybody is welcome – come along for a chat, activities if you would like to join them and a cuppa and a biscuit for £1.00. No entry charge

The **BEREAVEMENT GROUP** meets in a quiet corner on 1st and 3rd Thursdays as part of Chatterbox.

There are other groups too. If you have any spare time and would like to volunteer to help us in running this valuable community organisation, please call or text Kath Savage. It's a way to enjoy village life and make new friends!

# **Christmas Truce 1914**

## **Kathy Pegg**

I was thinking about the Christmas Truce of 1914 and those young men on both sides, bewildered and terrified by the death and destruction of war - a brutality that none of them could have imagined. A type of war such as never seen before. It came to me that the basic human love and kindness that God created in us came to the surface, in that terrible place. The common, shared belief in the joyous birth of Christ was more powerful than the lies and deceits of man and the manipulation of the enemy of mankind. And so the two armies came together, singing carols to praise Christ's birth, sharing food, drink and cigarettes and swapping details of their personal lives. New friends united by their humanity and faith, no longer enemies. How easy it would have been for that truce to have continued and spread, the Holy Spirit breathing peace and comfort into each and all. But... orders were given by the generals and the slaughter began again.

The following years at Christmastime, on both sides the directives came that any fraternisation on Christmas Day would be treated as treason... and they would be shot. A Christmas Truce never happened again and for all the utter horror of the ensuing years nothing was gained - only millions of lives lost.

The message of Christmas is simple - God given peace and love - we should try to hold on to that, no matter what happens around us. It is His gift to us and our choice to accept it.

## **Kathy Pegg adds further thoughts:**

During prayer time this morning I had a picture of a star and then a cross and these words came into my mind.

**WE HAVE THE STAR AS A SYMBOL  
OF CHRISTMAS . . .**

**WE HAVE THE CROSS AS A SYMBOL  
OF EASTER . . .**

**THE CHRISTMAS STAR WAS GOD'S PROMISE  
THAT WAS FULFILLED IN  
THE BIRTH OF JESUS . . .**

**THE CROSS IS A SYMBOL OF OUR HOPE  
THAT GOD SEALED  
THROUGH THE DEATH AND  
RESURRECTION OF JESUS . . .**

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### **Some thoughts from Jeanne McLeay**

I read with interest Ken Dunstan's thoughts on COP26 in Glasgow. It would be great if people would consider their surrounding area, and recognise there are few trees here in Southminster. When we moved here 24 years ago we were surrounded by concrete - even the back yard, euphemistically described as a courtyard garden.

However, we have tried to green up the back bit with a raised bed. We have seasonal plants and shrubs which will attract pollinators. Even now there are a few hover-flies and a bumble bee, in this mid-November!

Like many residents, our car is in the front. When you look out there are very few trees in the High Street or other turnings. It seems sad, when one hears people move here and want their grass to the front removed and then paving put down. Just one pot at the front is a step towards reducing carbon dioxide. Obviously people of all ages can have "busy" lives, but it would be good if every one could consider the future for all.

## **MY HERO OF 2021**

### **Chris Martin**

If you watch as much daytime TV as I do, especially the channels showing old films and therefore advertisements geared towards people “of a certain age”, you will be aware of the amount of publicity for charities dealing with the enormous and never-ending needs of people of our present era – or maybe it’s not just this era because as Jesus said “The poor will always be with us” and it does seem that this is still true.

It gets to the point where we can easily become oblivious to the hourly showing of footage of starving children, flooded homes, acres of makeshift camps on unwelcoming borders and countless other horrors. How much we react to seeing what happens is relative to how well we are listening and far our imagination is captured by what we see, and whether we stop to take it in. Wasn’t it Don McClean who sang something about “...have another piece of apple pie”? I sometimes think of that as I’m still managing to eat a hearty breakfast while half-watching footage of a baby who would be lucky to survive the day when being filmed. Perhaps it’s overkill.

The BBC too has always been a champion of needy people and its Children in Need appeal has been going on for decades. There again, I’ve reached the point that days and days of appeals and information being screened every year, including sad information about the eternal need and good news about what has so far been achieved, had brought me to the point of simply thinking this year “Pudsey again”??? and waiting for the next item in the news.

Then along came my hero – Owain Wyn Evans. He’s a comparative newcomer to the BBC and I’d already become a fan and had been enjoying his work as a “Weatherman”. He has a unique way of presenting the forecasts, dressed in pastel coloured suits, and he has a very pleasing personality.

One day it was announced that he can also play the drums and was going to do a “Drumathon” for Children In Need. I’m so glad

there's a new word for something that perhaps hasn't been done before. He played the drums for 24 hours in order to raise funds. I'm not quite sure what captured my attention about it. Perhaps at first it was simply surprise that he had such a skill that seemed incongruous with his job. But then he started to speak about why he wanted to do it – and he's very easy to listen to, speaking with his beautiful lilting Welsh accent. And we followed him through the preparation and I was soon drawn into the ambition of it and began to realise that this wasn't just somebody wanting to give to a charity, but he was prepared to work and, as happened in the event, to actually suffer to achieve what he was determined to do. He started drumming one morning and we saw how he was getting on every now and again until next morning there I was glued to the TV to see him drum his last beat, totally exhausted. But he was exhilarated at the same time and still spoke of the aim of his fundraising, the generosity of the people watching and his thanks to people donating.

Only afterwards did we see the pain he had suffered and the speedy and painful physiotherapy he put up with during his hourly 5-minute breaks. You know how the whole body takes a beating with energetic drumming, not just the drums. And still he spoke about people's generosity and the necessity of helping this particular cause.

Well of course, call me a softy, but out came the credit card and I came to wondering "Why this year when this appeal has been an annual event for decades"?

I've come to the conclusion that whenever I've reacted to a charity appeal there has always been ONE person who has brought me to the point of wanting to donate. Normally it's been a person needing funding for whatever the appeal is for that has prompted me to want to help. But this time, it wasn't the footage of children needing but the attitude and selflessness of the person wanting to help that made me want to give too. It's interesting how one voice can sometimes be louder than the cries of millions and is easier to hear.

So WELL DONE OWAIN - MY HERO! So far, he's raised over £3,000,000.

## The St. Leonard's Together Apart Facebook Group

began on 20<sup>th</sup> March 2020, just a few days before we went into lockdown. The group was created as a way to keep in touch, encourage and support each other during this difficult time. Since then we have shared songs, daily devotions, prayers, church services, Bible studies, Alpha courses

At the present time each weekday looks like this;

**6am Daily Devotion** including a worship song  
**11.30am Family Time** (Tuesday and Thursday)  
including

Little Lions' singing time, Veggie Tales movies,  
virtual Sunday School etc.

**3pm Bible Study / Reflection**

**8pm Prayer**

Saturday is a quiet day and on Sunday we post the church service and weekly bulletin.

We welcome others to share encouraging posts on the page too.

**Karen Flack**

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*If you are part of the Facebook group, you will have regular updates from the Diocesan Group "Greening the Church". Taking on board that information is helpful in these times where our environmental concerns are growing because of global warming etc. Your responses for this magazine will be very welcome.*

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### PRAY FOR SOUTHMINSTER:

w/b	5 December	South-West
w/b	12 December	Central - West
w/b	19 December	North - East
w/b	26 December	Central - North-West



## WHO ARE WE?

### 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)

If you wish to contact the Church regarding a Safeguarding issue  
please contact the Church Office at 772300  
or [safeguarding@stleonardsouthminster.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@stleonardsouthminster.org.uk)

NORMAL PUBLIC WORSHIP IS STILL A BIT DIFFERENT BECAUSE  
ALTHOUGH LEGAL REQUIREMENTS HAVE BEEN REDUCED WE STILL  
RECOMMEND THAT APPROPRIATE CAUTIONS ARE TAKEN.

**See pages 10-13 for details during this season.**

**Weekly notices, covering any changes, will be available to  
read on the outside church notice-board.**

### SUNDAY SERVICES

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

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

**Steeple Services** similarly continue at **9.15am**

**Children and Young people** are always welcomed  
especially for the **Family Celebration Services.**

### WEEKDAY SERVICES:

**Monday. Wednesday & Friday at 8 am Morning Prayer**

**Tuesday at 8.30 am Just Prayers**

**'LITTLE LIONS'** usually meet on Wednesday mornings in  
the Memorial Hall during term-time only.  
It is for babies/toddlers & their carers.



**Home Groups** are still not gathering but plans are in progress  
for future gatherings/courses.