



The Pauline

October 2023

Minister Revd Martin Knight

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A warm welcome to everyone reading The Pauline. After a bit of a break for Summer - we are back! As I compile everything (well I hope I've included everything) for the Pauline I have been reflecting on what we have been up to - wow we are a busy church, reaching out to our local community, enjoying ourselves and spreading the Good News. It was great to welcome new members in June. Junior Church created a



wonderful Welcome Banner. Our Summer Fair was well attended - with the usual fantastic cakes and stalls - thank you everyone for your support - brilliant day. The plant stall was well stocked with donated plants. The

bric a brac stall was overflowing the treasure, face painting was as so busy with queues at all times - even with three facepainters for the entire fair. Tombola and refreshments were great too. The ice cream stand struggled on one of the hottest days of the year but everyone enjoyed an ice cream or sorbet in a great range of flavours. The 7/12th Scouts built a Monkey Bridge which was very great fun and something we havent tried before. The Soul Symphony Choir entertained us in the Sanctuary. Organ music and a photographic display also kept us entertained. Fun for all ages as you can see.



Tuesday Guild Coffee mornings continued throughout the summer - including a special arrival.



The gardening crew have been working well



with several work parties - the raised beds are in and planting has begun - heroic effort to get the raised beds in level and looking professional. Our Bronze ECO Church Plaque is on the centre raised bed. Our Summer BBQ was very popular it was on a very warm day and we all enjoyed the BBQ in the church garden - Warm Space guests were warmly welcomed to this event. Harvest along with

Christmas are my favourite time of year - although at the moment it is



unusually warm - I love the crisp dry days these seasons often bring. Our Harvest flowers were beautiful as ever and grateful thanks go to all who contributed so generously to the collection for these.



Food is taken very seriously at St Paul's and the Bring and Share lunch was no exception - what a fantastic array at the Harvest table. We also remembered others with our ongoing collection for the Purley Food Hub. Which brings us to the Wine Tasting - Off the Beaten Track -



and there certainly were some unusual wines from around the globe. Very detailed tasting notes given out by Dennis - and excellent evening. Our wonderful Junior Church and Creche continue each week - it all appears to just happen but a small but dedicated group work away planning and creating to provide a wonderfully fun and informative space for our young folk, rounded off beautifully at the end of the session with reading supervision which is very popular with young and not so young! (I might get into trouble for that remark!). I really hope I haven't forgotten anything? If I have - please let me know and I can include it in the next edition, it would be great to hear your views. Also please do let us know if you would like to get involved with supporting our Groups or would like to know more about ways you could assist. So much coming up to look forward to. We will be preparing sandwiches for Nightwatch to distribute in the New year - more on that soon. Our Charity Card and Gift Sale on 11 November is our next event - offers of help would be greatly appreciated; on the Friday evening to put out tables and on the day in all manner of ways.

I look forward to hearing from you with any comments for articles you have. Pat Granville-Overton - patgo123@aol.com Editor



Dear friends,

Along with members of St Paul's, South Croydon United Church, other Croydon churches and faith communities, I attended a memorial service in Queen's park, for Elianne Andam.

She was fatally stabbed in central Croydon on 27th September. Bradley Hutchins was killed on North Walk on 12th September. Since January 2018 there have been 3,217 reported incidents of knife crime in Croydon alone.



These are all God's children and as such, they are our family. As Paul writes to the Corinthians, they are all members of the body, and, 'if one part of the body suffers, all parts suffer with it' (vs.26).

I feel that suffering.

Paul's letter is relevant on many levels:

In our own bodies, we know that the pain of one part can affect every other part.

In our church communities, everyone has value and brings worth to the whole.

The same with our local communities, nations, and human family.

Even on the global scale we need all members, creatures and natural systems of creation working together, in harmony.

It was an honour to stand as part of our community and human family, alongside the relatives and friends of Elianne, to cry for God's peace and justice. So many questions remain and I pray that we will not shy-away from them, but remain open to the Spirit's guidance towards God's kingdom.

As part of our 2 year LICC journey, we are being reminded that we are church 24/7, and as such, we are church in every part of our lives – not least as we stand with our neighbours, put our feet in their shoes, ask difficult questions and speak our faith into the dark places of our streets.

By the time you read this wonderful edition of The Pauline, we will have gained a further 4 new members into our church family: William, Antz, Karen and James. We will be changed by their presence amongst us, and I look forward to seeing who we become as we are blessed by their gifts and skills.

Not that you would believe it from current temperatures, but we are heading through Autumn and towards Winter. Christmas is very much on the horizon, with lots of events and services to help us engage with the Birth of Jesus and what that means for St Paul's this year.

But before we get there, we will observe All Souls as we remember and give thanks for those we have loved and who have died, and we will mark Remembrance Sunday and pray for Peace. Much needed peace!

There has been so much activity since our last edition and I want to say a huge 'thank you' to our Elders, Teams and so many of you who continue to give your time, money and gifts to this community of God's people. This continues to be a hard and challenging year for so many of us, yet I also know how blessed many have been by the care and welcome of St Paul's Christ-like people.



In just over a week, on 20th October, I begin my journey back to Iona for our Associates week. This year I am involved in the development and leadership of the retreat and am so looking forward

to returning to my spiritual home, where I am fully expectant that this 'thin

place' will renew and strengthen me again. We are

planning a Church family trip to Iona Abbey next year and I

would encourage you to journey with us, if you can *(support available if costs are prohibitive*

- please reach out to me in confidence!)

Can I encourage you to go on praying for St Paul's, as we seek to engage in our wider community, seeking its peace and wholeness, through the love of God in Christ.

With every blessing,

Martin

Martin's 1st October sermon on knife crime and our community is on the website. Ed

God and your Country needs you.

I am writing this on Father's Day, something I never really experienced, as my father died, when I was just 8, after a routine operation went wrong.

Tomorrow Parliament votes on the Privileges Partygate report, and I can assure you, I personally hand delivered a letter to my MP, about this. Many wonder what is happening to Great Britain, once revered, but now seems a joke. Change can only happen, if people stand up, for or against policies. Remember Kennedy, who said 'Not what your country can do for you, but what you can do for your country'.

Likewise, are we letting God down? Though on Sunday, numbers seem to be up, but it is reaching out to all in our community, that shows the spirit of practical help, on their own lives, wherever that may be. A vision of a better world.

David White

(submitted in June but we've not had a Pauline since April - Ed)

Save your stamps for RNIB

Collect stamps for RNIB and make a difference to blind and partially sighted people.



Cathy Heath

The RNIB appeal for used postage stamps is ongoing. There is now a collecting box on the table by the car park entrance.

How stamps make a difference - by collecting stamps you're helping to break down the barriers that stop people with sight loss living life to the full. We accept all stamps: new or used, first or second class, foreign, first day covers, presentation packs or albums. Stamps are sold by weight and we raise £20 per kilogramme of stamps, so it's a brilliant way to raise money.

"Manners Maketh Man"

Paul Johnson finds a 400year old Guide to Civilized Behaviour surprisingly contemporary.

Can you imagine your teenage son or daughter copying out 110 rules about good manners, by hand and of his or her own choice? Yet the young George Washington did just that. Towards the middle of the 18th century the set o maxims he chose to improve himself was *The Rules of Civility*, first compiled in 1595 by French Jesuits. By all accounts Washington seems to have followed its advice to the letter; he is always described as a model of good manners and Presidential dignity.

So are these rules still of any use today? Yes - though much of the advice offers belong to a coarser age as regards to killing lice in public for instance - people still do a lot of things which the Rules of Civility forbid; Bedew no man's face with your spittle by approaching too near him when you speak, " this is still good advice, as come not near the books or writings of another so as to read them unasked."

The rules insist that on all points one should notice what is due to others and give to them. Let other people speak first. Give up your seat. "Show not your selfglad at misfortune or another though he were your enemy" The book warns never to "Teach your equal" in their own profession and if you must tick somebody off "do it all with sweetness and mildness". "You yourself should take all admonitions thankfully".

The idea seems to have been to look fairly serious, you must not "roll your eyes" or "lift ones eyebrows higher than the other - do not laugh too loud or too much" and when you make a joke "abstain from laughing there at yourself".

Let your countenance be pleasant but in serious matters somewhat grave.

"In the presence of others sing not to yourself with humming noise or drum with your fingers or feet" The rules advise modest dress and undue attention to appearance was deplored". "Play not the peacock" Even better advice is "Eat not in the street" and at meal, don't talk with your mouth full, " let not your morsels be too big for the jaws"

Some of the rules I have not heard since a child, but these Jesuits knew what they were talking about, and Washington was shrewd to sport a good guide and follow it. We tend to think, today that manners and morals are separate issues but in truth they are closely linked - bad manners and high crime rates are all part of the same disease. The last rule of all George Washington's book is worth pondering; " Labour to keep alive in your breast that little spark of celestial fire called conscience".

Condensed from *The Spectator* 1997 Jean Gundlach

The URC Waldensian Fellowship invites you to 'An Evening with Peter Ciaccio', on Wednesday, October 25th 7.30pm.

For many years, Peter Ciaccio, a Methodist Church pastor currently serving in Trieste, Italy, has been interested in the relationship between Films and religious faith. He has written several books, including "The Gospel According to Harry Potter" (2011), "The Gospel According to Star Wars" (with his colleague Andreas Köhn, 2015) and "Bible and Cinema" (2018).



He also served on the Cannes Film Festival 'Ecumenical Jury' in 2021, and the Venice 'Interfilm Jury' in 2022, a jury he'll co-ordinate in 2024.

Peter will speak to us about how he became interested in the subject of film and religious faith, and about how he believes these two apparently different 'worlds' interact with each other.

This on-line 'zoom' meeting will be take place on **Oct 25th 7.30pm**

[The link is here](#) Meeting ID: 84476125567 Passcode: 326951

For more details please contact bremner.johns@gmail.com

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Timberrrr!!

The large fir tree by the bus stop was taken down expertly in early October opening up the area for planting, making the bus stop feel safer, making space for our noticeboard and letting light into the flats next door. Well done Shane and the team !



WELCOME TO *Warm Space*

at St Paul's United Reformed Church

We welcome everyone seeking to get out of the house for any reason, for refreshments, company, chat, games, laughter and listening, help with forms, tech and managing stuff generally - most of all just to feel welcome and safe amongst friends. We open from 3.30-6.30pm on the third Thursday of each month and offer a home cooked supper. Please let us know ahead if you'd like more details or plan to join us as a volunteer or a guest
07971 068887 or secretary@stpaulsurc.org.uk



Report from In and Out

The In and Out team met this month to plan events and activities for 2024. Each year we try to create a programme that is varied, all age and that engages with our Church and wider community. Due to popular demand you will see the return of the Beetle Drive and Barn Dance! We will be kicking 2024 off with a New Year Quiz on the 6th January so plenty of time to assemble your teams and hopefully a fun way to come together to greet the new year! We hope to plan some outings and meals out - If you have any ideas or would like to organise something please let us know. We are always grateful when people volunteer! If you would like to get involved in any of the planned events that would be great, please chat to any member of the team (Pat GO, Dawn, Jean, Cathy H or Helen).

Still to come this year are the Christmas charity card sale, Christmas lunch, Christmas Party and Mirror Festival so please pop the dates in your diary and invite your friends and family. Everyone is welcome at all events. Please note that we will be decorating the Sanctuary on Saturday 2nd December which is always good fun so please come along - details soon.

A huge thank you to everyone who helped organise, support, donate or attend any of the events this year. The Fete in particular was a complete team effort and so enjoyed by all who came. Each event has been such fun and so successful due to all your support, thank you everyone!

**Helen Dean on behalf of
the In and Out Team**

07730560878

All Souls service at St Paul's
Thursday 2nd November 6.30
A special service to remember
those who have died.
Everyone very welcome.

Our Teddy bear Service was very popular



'TEDDY' The Story of the Teddy Bear and Mr Ted

It was President Theodore Roosevelt, on a hunting trip in 1902, who failed to shoot a bear, so a Brooklyn shop owner gave him a bear, which became known as a 'Teddy Bear'. Margaret Steiff began to make them, and in Britain major manufacturers were JK Fennell, Chad Valley, Dean and Merrythought, with only the latter being the last big maker, set up in 1931 at Ironbridge in Shropshire. In the 1970's the chairman realised there was a market, not just as a toy, but for collectors, and very rare, or old, can be worth £000's, with some having gold nose and diamonds, or very limited numbers, like the Edmund Hillary of Everest fame.



I have just checked my collection, I do not have a Dean or a Chad Valley, but I do have a 2002 Centenary Anniversary Steiff bear, to celebrate this historical occasion, also a Mozart and another Millennium bear. Merry Thought is the only current maker of teddies

As for Mr Ted, I was given him, when very young, was kept in a toy cupboard, then for 13 years in a roll top desk, and now in the loft. In about 1990 he joined 18,666 teddies to create a world

record for the largest tea party, due to this he appeared in 3 Croydon papers - one photo with my mother in 2002, but in 1994 was repaired by Sue Pearson, followed in 1995 was photographed for the Teddy Bear Times on his way to the International Teddy Bear Fair at Fairfield Halls, where the Bath Teddy Bear hospital further repaired him, since then he has made a few rare appearances. I have 65 soft toys including a Millenium bear, a Harrods 2000 bear, a Titanic bear to commemorate the centenary of the 1912 disaster, a 2002 Steiff to mark the centenary of the original bear, and a Merrythought 'Veteran' bear, who looked similar to me in February, when I fell over, ending up with a black eye, bandaged up.

Originally, bears were made of straw or wood shavings, and now are made of mohair and filled with alpaca wool. I have seen a 3 foot bear, whom I named 'Big Ted' and gave to a friend - Toni, and she gave me a 5 inch bear, called 'Small Ted', though have see smaller than that. As for the growler, Mr Ted no longer growls, and though you should play and love them, collectors, 'Arctophiles', are always on the look our for something new or rare, you would be astonished how many there are, made by individuals. Look out for teddy bear fairs. Mr Ted may be 110 years old and enjoys seeing other teds.

David White.



My name is Brent bear and I came with my hooman Miriam, my grandhumum Barbara and her bear Belinda to the Teddy bear service at St Paul's. We really enjoyed the service and we thought it was an excellent idea to have a service for teddy bears. You can see a photo of me and Belinda at the service here. I was a gift when my hooman was born from my GreatGrandHuMum and I'm a treasured bear. I'm almost 32 years old and I'm one of a number of my hooman's collection but I'm definitely her favourite!

We found out about the service through the church my grandhumans are part of because the secretary there knows that my human collects bears like me and that we are part of a plushie community online on Instagram. I have my own Instagram account @brentbearandfriends where I have about 800 followers who are mostly other stuffed animals from around the world and their hoomans.

On the Instagram account, my hooman helps me post about my adventures like making cookies, opening my Christmas stocking and meeting up with my new online friends at plushie meet-ups. Recently I met up with a plushie friend locally and last Nov when a plushie friend from Atlanta was visiting we had a group plushie meet-up at the Victoria and Albert Museum...

I have included two photos from this meet-up here. There are also plushie events that take place online like plushie soccer aid for



Eurovision which I voted in this year!

I got my Instagram account during the pandemic when I discovered that the plushie community existed and it's been a nice hobby to have whilst my hooman has had a number of health problems that have at times prevented her from getting out as much as we'd like otherwise & whilst things were shut down during the pandemic. Plushies provide a lot of support and comfort to their

hoomans in tough times and this message has been reinforced through our experience with plushiegram so I think having a service that honours the contribution of us stuffed friends is marvellous!

Thank you St Paul's.



Shoebox Packing in aid of Eastern Europe Saturday 21st October 2023 10am



We're packing shoeboxes to send to Eastern Europe under the Link to Hope charity. Donations welcome of small items for all ages - toys, tools, toothpaste toothbrushes, facecloths, candles and holders, scarves, gloves, hats, cutlery, sweets. We are particularly short of toothpaste, candles and boiled sweets,



mint, humbug type sweets. Please come along on Saturday 21st if you are able and help us pack as many shoeboxes as possible.

Having looked at an assortment of newspaper cuttings during the service this morning I was reminded of the following

The Daily Mirror is read by people who think they run the country. The Guardian is read by people who think they ought to run the country. The Times is read by people who actually do run the country. The Daily Mail is read by the wives of the people who run the country. The Financial Times is read by people who own the country. The Morning Star is read by people who think the country should be run by another country. The Daily Telegraph is read by people who think it is.

I have not included Sun readers and will leave that to everyone's imagination!

Chris Dean

Tuesday Guild Outing to Watts Gallery – Artists' Village

Thirteen of us set off on Tuesday 2nd May at 9:45am towards Guildford in the minibus. Many thanks to Sue who collected the CAT minibus from Union Road and drove us to the Artist's Village in Compton. It took just over an hour to get there but half an hour longer to return because of the roadworks near Wisley and the school traffic.

We arrived at the village at 11am and began with tea or coffee and biscuits, which was very welcome as lunch was not due until 1:15pm.

We then walked to Limnerslease, which is the name of the house that the celebrated Victorian-era painter and sculptor George Frederic Watts (1817-1904) and his wife Mary had built in 1890. It was so-named because Limner means Artists in old English and lease (not because they first leased it from their friend Andrew) stands for 'glean', which means to extract love from everywhere they went.

Mary Watts was the second wife of G.F. Watts and she was over 30 years younger than him. She married him not only because she loved him but because she wanted to carry on displaying his work after his death. She thought George was a genius and she was a skilful artist herself, particularly modelling with clay. In the house we could admire the squares in the ceiling and the carpets she designed. She also designed the Watts Chapel which was built with the help from the local community.

On our way through the gardens to the house, Sue, our tour guide, pointed to the cross on the bridge which was built over the Pilgrims' Way which goes from Winchester to Canterbury.

After the house, we visited the studios where G.F. and Mary Watts worked and saw some of his paintings. Sue pointed to the texture in his paintings, which was inspired by studying the texture in sculpture, and his powerful use of symbolism. We discovered unfinished works, painters' tools and

precious artefacts in the converted galleries. Some of the studios are still used by the local community.

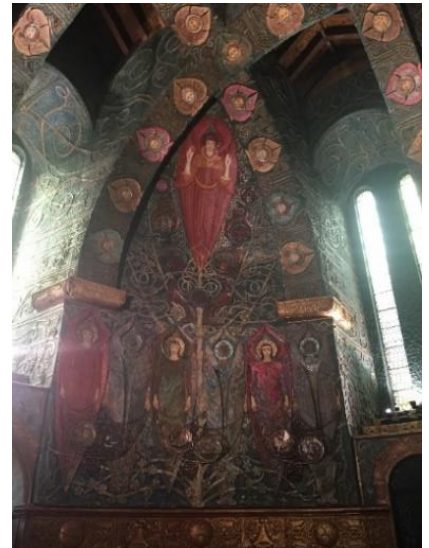
After our guided tour, we returned to the visitors' centre and together enjoyed a tasty lunch of sandwiches and fruits. Afterwards we divided up to explore the other parts of the village, notably the Chapel and the Gallery.

The Watts Chapel (below) is a unique work of art in its own right, with



extraordinary decoration inside.

The Watts Gallery was built to display G.F. Watts's masterpieces. He was one of the most original artists of the nineteenth century. A painter, sculptor, draughtsman and creator of vast murals, he became



known as 'England's Michelangelo'. Born in London in 1817, Watts was an ambitious young man. After attending the Royal Academy Schools, he spent several years in Italy studying the artists of the Renaissance. For the rest of his long career, Watts aimed to rival the



magnificent forms of Classical Antiquity and the sumptuous colours of the Italian masters. Some of us had ice-cream or coffee before leaving at



3:30pm just as the sun came out! Thanks to Christine and Robert for organising the outing and to Sue for driving; we thoroughly enjoyed our day out. The next

Guild outing is on 17 October 2023. Caroline Corfield

"Then they came for me!"

The words of Martin Neimoller (1892-1984) a German theologian and Lutheran Pastor, who spoke out against the brutal, savage, inhuman policies and actions of the Hitler Nazi Regime in the 1930/40s and spent the last seven years of Nazi rule in concentration camps.

The son of a Lutheran Pastor, he became a cadet in the German navy.

During the 1914/18 war he commanded a U boat.

In 1920 Martin began training for the Lutheran ministry. He worked in the Lutheran Home Mission overseeing the social welfare programmes.

In 1933 he became junior Pastor of St Anne's Church, Berlin.

Neimollers' sermons reflected his nationalism fearing the rise of communism, believing Germany needed a strong leader to promote national unity and honour and make Germany strong again.

Neimoller supported Hitler, as did the Lutheran Church in his promises to promote the importance of Christianity to German nationality, and Christianity's role in a renewal of national morality and ethics. This led Neimoller to enthusiastically welcome the Third Reich.

In 1934 Neimoller met Hitler with two Protestant Bishops to discuss state pressures on churches. It became clear that Neimoller's phone had been tapped by the Gestapo and the Church was under close State surveillance.

Neimoller now realised the Nazi state was an evil dictatorship which he must oppose

Neimoller with others founded the Confessing Lutheran Church deriving inspiration directly from God, separate from the State.(see URC statement of faith! Penultimate paragraph)

Despite warnings from the police he continued to preach against the State's attempts to interfere with church governance, he was repeatedly arrested between 1934 and 1937.

After more than 7 years of imprisonment in various concentration camps Neimoller was liberated in 1945 by US troops.

After WW11 Neimoller travelled in Germany and Europe on a lecture tour publicly confessing his own inaction and indifference to the fate of many of the Nazis' victims. Lamenting that individual Germans failed to accept responsibility for Nazi atrocities in occupied countries and the Holocaust.

I went to hear him speak in Southwark Cathedral.

At end of his sermon he moved us all with his personal confession.
"First they came for the Socialists I did not speak out- because I was not a Socialist.
Then they came for the Trade Unionists, and I did not speak out- because I was not a Trade Unionist.
Then they came for the Jews, and I did not speak out- because I was not a Jew.
Then they came for Me- and there was no one left to speak out for Me."
These powerful words about guilt and responsibility still resonate today.
Our world has an increasing number of dictatorial regimes which persecute and brutalize its citizens. I hope and pray we will continue to support the brave people of the Ukraine as they continue to resist President Putin's Russian forces invasion of their homeland, killing thousands of civilians and destroying their cities.

Charles Meachin: June 2023, (Sources = United States Holocaust Museum, Various biographies)
Article on Martin Neimoller prepared for the June Pathway

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'All are welcome'

Tuesday Guild

Meets 10.15 small hall, speaker from 10.30 - 11.30

October 2023

- 17th Guild Outing - Location tbc
- 24th Craft and Natter
- 31st Sudan, its Joys and Sorrows with Jan King

November 2023

- 7th Orpheus with Anne Love
- 14th Silk Painting with Elitta Feel (may be a small charge)
- 21st ? Croydon Vision with Odette Battarel
- 28th Craft and Natter

December 2023

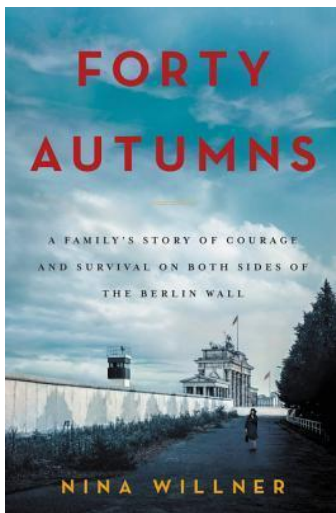
- 5th The gospel according to Shakespeare - Peter Graystone
- 12th Christmas Miscellany
- Break for Christmas, starts again on 9 January

St Paul's Book Group

The Book Group currently has around a dozen members and meets on the second Thursday of each month, alternating between lunchtime at a café and evenings in the Jubilee Room at St Paul's. We are happy to welcome anyone with an interest in reading and chatting about books (and other things!)

We read a wide selection of books (see St Paul's Website [here](#) for a list!) our November and December reads are as follows:

Thursday 9th November 7:30pm – Jubilee Room, St Paul's

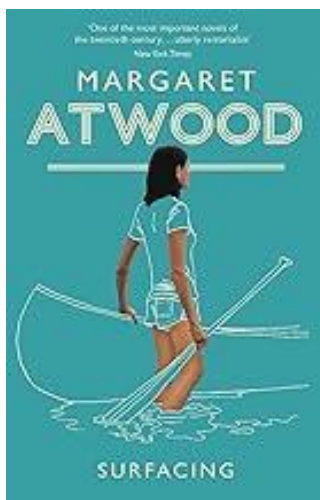


This moving story hides the real lives of five women – a family that has been divided by the Iron Curtain for more than forty years.

When Hanna was twenty years old, she fled from East Germany to Western, but the price of freedom was too high. She left her parents, eight siblings and her beloved home there.

Many years later, Hannah's daughter, Nina Willner, finds herself in East Germany, a place just a short distance from her German family ...a story about the courage, patience and love of five women, their unbreakable will that allowed them to fight for what matters most – the happiness of their own family. (Goodreads)

Thursday 14th December – Xmas meal - evening - time & place tbc



Part detective novel, part psychological thriller, *Surfacing* is the story of a talented woman artist who goes in search of her missing father on a remote island in northern Quebec. Setting out with her lover and another young couple, she soon finds herself captivated by the isolated setting.

Surfacing is a work permeated with an aura of suspense, complex with layered meanings, and written in brilliant, diamond-sharp prose. Here is a rich mine of ideas from an extraordinary writer about contemporary life and nature, families and marriage, and about women fragmented... and becoming whole.

We are an **ECO** **CHURCH**

AN A ROCHA UK PROJECT

Help us respond
faithfully to the
climate and
nature crises

Worship and Teaching



Embedding creation care
in worship, prayer and learning

Buildings



Finding energy efficient and innovative
ways to manage our places of worship

Land



Nurturing spaces
for people and nature

Community and Global Engagement



Transforming local and global
communities and ecosystems

Lifestyle



Living joyfully and sustainably as
followers of Christ

Join us in reaching the Silver Award –

get involved #ecochurch ecochurch.arocha.org



We are working towards our Silver Award if you would like to get involved
please let me know. Pat Granville-Overton 07742859552 patgo123@aol.com

Your handy calendar for the next few weeks

St Paul's calendar 2023-4

Standing meetings - Tuesday Guild 10.15-noon October-June.

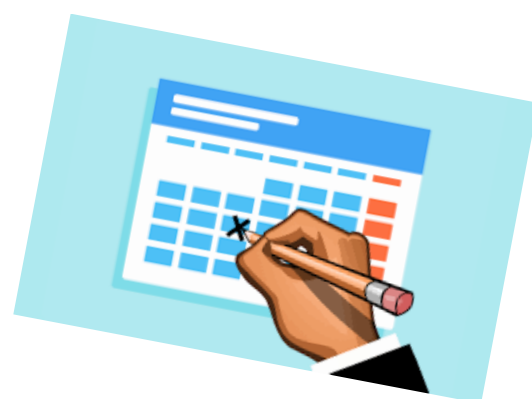
Elders 1st Weds 7.45pm M&R - 1st Tues bi monthly 8pm. I&O, S&W 6.30 before elders.

October

- Fri 20 Shoebox setup 7pm lifting and carrying
- Sat 21 10-1pm Shoebox packing
- Sat 28 10-3.30 LICC all church meeting

November

- Fri 3 6.30pm All Souls Service
- Sun 5 Bible study 9am
- Thurs 9 Book club 7.30 Jubilee room
- Sat 11 Charity craft and card sale 10-1
- Sun 12 Remembrance - Parade at SCUC



December

- Sat 2 Decorating the church and tree up
- Sun 3 First week of Advent
- Sat 9 Decorating reflections windows
- Sun 10 Gifts. PFH Christmas lunch after worship
- Thurs 14 Book club meal out 7.30 tbc
- Sat 16 Christmas party for all 3-6.30pm
- Sun 17 Junior church service (Martin at SCUC)
- Sun 24 Joint worship at SCUC 10.30am No morning service at St Paul's
- Sun 24 Evening carol service 6.30pm
- Mon 25 Christmas day service joint with SCUC 10.00 St Paul's

January 2024

- Sat 6 New Year Quiz

Ministry teams. A quick guide to the three teams who support the elders to get things done at church. We're seeking more volunteers to offer support at the next church meeting - or let Sue know

In & Out

In & Out

Team members

Jean Gundlach

Cathy Heath

Dawn De Souza

Helen Dean – Serving Elder

Pat Granville-Overton

Inreach

- Seeking new ways to build up our own fellowship.
- Publicity (The Pauline, Website, online, printing)
- Weddings / Baptisms / Funerals (keeping contact)
- Events (inward and outreach, Church Lunches)
- Catering
- Rotas – coffee

Outreach

- Support local initiatives to help the vulnerable
- Support for 'The Guild'
- Support for Croquet and Tennis
- Links with Scouts and other youth organisations
- Links with charities (local and global)
- World Church (Christian Aid, Leprosy Mission etc)
- Responding to need (local or international/emergency)

Spirituality & Worship

Spirituality & Worship

Team members

Angela Bannerman

Bea Pollard

Fran Boto – Serving Elder

Linda Dean

Celia Blackburn

Revd Martin Knight (Convenor)

- Seek ways for St Paul's to grow in our spirituality.
- Communion offerings and organisation
- Services - annual planning
- Pulpit Supply
- Discussion Groups / Bible Study
- Prayer Life
- Music (incl: Organ and Choir) Church Flowers
- Liaison with local churches
- Support of those managing Rotas (reading, duty, sound etc)
- Developing people towards leading and contributing to worship

Maintenance & Resources

Maintenance & Resources

- Premises - Church and Manse
- Maintenance and certification / inspection regime
- Housekeeping (including roles of Ladies Committee)
- Long-term planning (Quinquennial review, etc)
- Lettings (incl: CoP and other users)
- Grants for premises projects
- Health and Safety & fire risk assessment and actions
- Fire policy and procedure
- First aid provision
- Contractor Oversight (Cleaner etc)
- IT and Technology (AV, PC, copier and printers)
- Listed building liaison

Standing Group Interest

Christopher Dean
Steve Catling (Convener)
Peter Sutcliffe
Christine Spurgeon – Serving Elder
Robert Spurgeon



ST PAUL'S



CHARITY CHRISTMAS CARD & GIFT FAIR

SATURDAY 11TH NOVEMBER

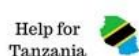
10AM - 1PM

ST PAUL'S URC, CROHAM PARK AVE, CR2 7HF

- ★ Charity cards
- ★ Refreshments
- ★ Cake stall



- ★ Craft Activities
- ★ Tombola
- ★ Gifts... & more!



WWW.STPAULSURC.ORG.UK





Christmas at St Paul's

Croham Park Avenue, South Croydon, CR2 7HF

Welcome to your Church!

Sunday 10th December 10:30am

Christmas Gift Service

Food donations will go to the Purley Food Hub

Saturday 16th December

All Age Christmas Party 3:30pm - 5:30pm

Mirror Festival 5:30pm - 7pm

Sunday 17th December 10:30am

Nativity Service

led by St Paul's Junior Church

Christmas Eve 6:30pm

Carols by Candlelight

Free festive refreshments after the service

Christmas Day 10am

Family Christmas Service

For more information please visit

www.stpaulsurc.org.uk