



ST ANDREW'S UNITED REFORMED CHURCH  
WALTON AND WEYBRIDGE



THE GRAPEVINE



JULY/AUGUST 2025

Volume 4 No 6



Vatersay - Isle of Barra, Outer Hebrides

"Now then, Pooh," said Christopher Robin, "where's your boat?"  
"I ought to say," explained Pooh as they walked down to the shore of the island, "that it isn't just an ordinary sort of boat. Sometimes it's a Boat, and sometimes it's more of an Accident.

It all depends."

"Depends on what?"

"On whether I'm on the top of it or underneath it. "

A A Milne



Dear friends

*From The Manse*

*July/August 2025*

I think you all know that I am an avid watcher of "The Repair Shop". I know that many of you are as well. However, another programme I love watching is Stacey Solomon's "Sort Your Life Out". In case you have not seen it, Stacey and her team help families transform their homes with a major declutter as well as some upcycle and some recycling, too. Some changes are made to the family home whilst it's empty and when the family comes home it's all lovely and wonderful. It begins with the house being emptied and with everything then being taken to a large warehouse where it is all laid out so that people can see just how much stuff they have, where the duplicates are and have the opportunity (and encouragement!) to address the issues that are thus highlighted.

Jesus famously said, "You don't need two shirts on your back". Actually he didn't! It's a paraphrase of a passage in Luke 3:11 that highlights the principle of sharing possessions with those in need. At the moment, however, I am going to go with the paraphrase because my entire house shows I am not very good at living by that rule. William Morris said "Have nothing in your houses that you do not know to be useful or believe to be beautiful". In response, all I can say is, "Mr Morris, aren't there a lot of beautiful and useful things about?!".

Minimalism emphasizes living with less to reduce stress, simplify life and create more space and time for what truly brings joy. I know that I missed out on the minimalist gene. I have a feeling that I wasn't even in the same building when it was being given out. My dilemma is simple. At the end of the year I shall be downsizing. I could do with disposing of about 50% of my possessions and I am trying to make earnest strides in that direction. Last year I began to make a start and, to be fair, I did think that I was doing quite well. But then Mum died and two things happened. Firstly, time to continue sorting things departed and, secondly, things started coming to my house from her house, just to add to those in mine. Mum wasn't good at minimalism either! (Neither was Dad.) So, I face this problem summed up in the old hymn which warns "Nearer and nearer draws the time- the time that shall surely be". This time next year I shall no longer be living in a large manse and I do not wish to go into the future appearing to be someone with a hoarding disorder!

So, the paraphrase of Jesus' words goes through my mind time and time again. "You don't need two shirts on your back." That has to be my watchword as I go through things. This is crunch time. I cannot be Naomi – I have to be Ruthless. (Sorry, I couldn't resist it!) I have to be realistic – but it's not easy to someone (a) as sentimental as me and (b) without an ounce of minimalism in my body.

I have never had the money to go out and buy new furniture and I have normally served in churches where finance has been extremely tight. My churches have tended not to have "two pennies to rub together" and so I have held on to lots of things on a "just in case" basis. Jem will tell you that my expenses don't expose a profligate streak! Now it's time to get rid of those "just in case" things – and those "it'll come in useful some day" items as well – but it doesn't half require a major change of mind-set. How I envy those who can turn things out without sentiment and without getting distracted!

So, in the coming months, say to me, "You don't need two shirts on your back". I won't take offence nor see it as being a comment on my sartorial elegance. And if any of you have Stacey Solomon's telephone number do give it to me. I could do with her help as I prepare for the future. Oh, and I could certainly do with Dilly, the organising expert, showing me how to fold and store clothes in the most space-saving ways imaginable.

With all good wishes

*Julian*


## SERVICES AND OTHER KEY DATES JULY 2025

*On the third Sunday of the month services will also be on Zoom*

"One summer morning at sunrise a long time ago, I met a little girl with a book under her arm.  
I asked her why she was out so early and she answered that there were too many books  
and far too little time. And there she was absolutely right."

*Tove Jansson*

*WISHING YOU ALL A VERY HAPPY SUMMER!*

Tuesday 1 July	7.30 pm	Elders' Meeting Hersham Room
<b>Sunday 6 July</b>	<b>10.30 am</b>	<b>Morning Worship with Holy Communion</b>
<b>Sunday 13 July</b>	<b>10.30 am</b>	<b>Morning Worship</b>
Friday 11 July	12.30 - 2.30 pm	People Who Lunch - Church Hall ( <i>see page 5</i> )
Saturday 19 July	7.30 pm	Treble Clef Choir - Songs from Stage & Screen Cobham Free School, Senior Department, Portsmouth Road, Cobham KT11 1TF (opposite The Fairmile) ( <i>see page 5</i> )
<b>Sunday 20 July (Zoom)</b>	<b>10.30 am</b>	<b>Morning Worship</b>
	3.00 pm	 Messy Church
<b>Sunday 27 July</b>	<b>10.30 am</b>	<b>Morning Worship</b>

## AUGUST 2025

*There is no Elders' meeting and no Messy Church in August*

<b>Sunday 3 August</b>	<b>10.30 am</b>	<b>Morning Worship with Holy Communion</b>
<b>Sunday 10 August</b>	<b>10.30 am</b>	<b>Morning Worship</b>
Saturday 9 and Sunday 10	2.30 - 5.30 pm	Flower Festival in the church ( <i>see page 7</i> )
<b>Sunday 17 August (Zoom)</b>	<b>10.30 am</b>	<b>Morning Worship</b>

***COPY DATE FOR JULY/AUGUST ISSUE : WEDNESDAY 20 AUGUST***

*All items. (provided they do not contravene copyright regulations) to the Editor or Associate Editor  
(please see back page for contact details)*

<b>Sunday 24 August</b>	<b>10.30 am</b>	<b>Morning Worship</b>
<b>Sunday 31 August</b>	<b>10.30 am</b>	<b>Morning Worship</b>



# News of the Church Family

## In Memoriam

We were much saddened to learn of the death of the Reverend Roy Bones on 16 June. We send our condolences, love and thoughts to Roy's daughter, Angela, her husband Mike and their family, as well as to Roy's wider family and friends. Roy's funeral service will take place on 21 July at 2 pm at Tolworth URC. An appreciation of Roy's life will be in the September issue of The Grapevine.

## Prayers

Please remember these friends in your prayers – Kate Ashfield, Jennifer Bush, Val Cave, Margaret Drennan, Alex Henham, Moira de Kok, John Langdon, Lilian Smith, Michael Stevens, Angela Woods and family and Nancy Pauls. (Nancy is a Canadian friend – a member of our extended church family – who has recently re-connected with Weybridge friends through her discovery of The Grapevine online and recalls the happy years she and her family shared with them. We think of her as she undergoes further surgery this month and wish her well.) Remember, too, all those who are unwell at home or in hospital, those living in care homes, those who feel lonely and those for whom daily life is proving difficult.

*If you know of anyone who would like to be included in this prayer list, or if you wish to be included yourself, please let the Editors know.*



*L-R Paula, Michael, Alan, Anna and Jean*

Last year, when David Hueston became an Elder, he was presented with his Ordination Certificate by Alan Crawford. Forty-nine years earlier, in 1975, Alan had stood next to David's father, James, at his own ordination. This year, Alan completed 50 years as an Elder, thereby earning a Long Service certificate. It seemed fitting, therefore, that David Hueston, as son of the man who had stood next to Alan 50 years previously, should present Alan with his Long Service certificate, to honour that link.

## ORDINATION OF ELDERS

At our service on 1 June, we were delighted to see Jean Rigden ordained as a new Elder. Paula Walsh and Anne Fitzgerald (*in absentia*) were also inducted for further terms of service. Also, Alan Crawford was recognised for 50 years' continuous service on the Eldership.



*David Hueston presents Alan Crawford with his Long Service certificate*



## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT A GLANCE



### PEOPLE WHO LUNCH

**Friday 11 July**  
**12.30 - 2.30 pm -**  
**Church Hall**

If you are someone who enjoys having lunch with a group of friends then People Who Lunch is definitely the place for you. Everyone is welcome at this monthly get-together held on the second Friday of the month in the Church Hall. For just £5 you can have soup, a roll, dessert, cheese and biscuits and coffee/tea. Puddings a speciality!



**Advance booking recommended and necessary if you are coming in a group!**

To book your place please contact Elizabeth Scharinger by email:  
[administrator@standrewsurc.org](mailto:administrator@standrewsurc.org)

treble clef choir  
WEYBRIDGE

### Songs from Stage & Screen

Saturday  
19th July 7.30 pm

at  
Cobham Free School  
Senior Department  
Portsmouth Road  
Cobham  
(opposite The Fairmile)

## IT'S SHOWTIME!

Musical director:  
Emily Leather

Accompanist:  
Anna-Maria Raffa

Soloists:  
Ed Michael White  
& Jess Pratley

Tickets £15  
Available on the door or online at:  
[www.ticketsource.co.uk/trebleclef](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/trebleclef)

Bar available

Retiring collection for Baby Basics



### MESSY CHURCH

**Sunday 20 July**

**Do come for lots of Messy Fun!**

**3.00 pm - Church Hall**

"Sometimes you will never know the value of a moment, until it becomes a memory." *Dr Seuss*

### ADVANCE NOTICE!

### WESSEX SYNOD'S BIG DAY OUT

6 September - 10 am - 4 pm  
High Cross Church, Camberley

**Something for Everyone!**

Bookings via : [URCWESSEX.ORG.UK](http://URCWESSEX.ORG.UK)

WESSEX SYNOD'S

# BDI

BIG DAY IN

6TH SEPTEMBER 2025 10AM - 4PM  
HIGH CROSS CHURCH - CAMBERLEY

EXPLORE INSPIRE EXPERIENCE  
INVIGORATE ENERGISE  
*Resourcing churches*

**KEYNOTE:**  
**YVONNE MORRIS**  
DISCIPLESHIP ENABLER  
(CHILDREN, YOUTH, & FAMILIES)  
DIOCESE OF OXFORD

**GOSPEL CHOIR**  
CONTRIBUTIONS TO  
WORSHIP AND WORKSHOPS

REFRESHMENTS AND A COOKED LUNCH IS INCLUDED.

Discover our range of topics and speakers.  
Something for everyone, every church, and for you.

**Workshops:** 'MyTime' Young Carers Awareness | Truth be Told Story Telling | Godly Play Introduction | Grant Funding Support | Time for God | LYCIG | School Pastors | Intergenerational Preaching | Dementia Friendly Church | Revisioning User Journey's | Evangelism through Mission | LGBTQ+ ministry | **Stands:** 'MyTime' Young Carers Award | Truth be Told Story Telling | Schools Pastors | Time for God | Children's Ministry Essentials | URC Bookshop | Stepwise | Scripture Union | Wessex Synod support

**BOOKINGS VIA - [URCWESSEX.ORG.UK](http://URCWESSEX.ORG.UK)**



We celebrated Pentecost at the June Messy Church.

We decorated the cakes with flame shaped red, orange and yellow hundreds and thousands but most were eaten before we could see the decoration. The children cut out flame shapes to decorate crowns. They tried to make flame prints blowing blobs of paint through straws, with some very attractive results.

*Blowing paint blobs (we have to remember not to take a breath in by mistake ...)!*

We cut out doves and strung some together to make the word Peace and made spinning tops illustrating the Pentecost story. The science activity to illustrate air resistance involved dropping different sized cone shape from a height( the top of the ladder) and seeing which size took longest to fall. The children enjoyed this and could give plausible explanations of why the largest one was slowest.



*Michael is hungrily awaiting the finished article!*



*These doves are so cool!*

For our eco activity we planted wild flowers in a corner of the garden. We watched a video which used LEGO characters to tell the story and enjoyed a meal together.

*Anne Fitzgerald*

*It's very important to read the instructions!*



## St Andrew's URC Walton and Weybridge in association with Walton & Weybridge Flower Club



Dear Friend

The Flower Club, again in conjunction with St Andrew's URC Walton and Weybridge, is holding a Flower Festival at the church on 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> August 2025, this year's interpretation being 'From the bookshelf...?'

We would like to invite everyone from your church / club to take part or visit our Flower Festival.

The title is wide open, using your imagination to interpret a book title in flowers. It is not a competition but a chance to be creative and have fun with flowers.

Staging will be on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> August between 2.30 and 5.30pm. Arrangements may be brought ready done.

I attach an application form with details. Please return this form (it can also be obtained via our email address below):

### For the attention of

**Anna Crawford  
St Andrew's URC Walton and Weybridge  
Hersham Road  
Walton-on Thames KT12 1LG**

### Email

[waltonweybridgeflowerclub@gmail.com](mailto:waltonweybridgeflowerclub@gmail.com)

We all look forward to welcoming you to this exciting event.

*Anna Crawford  
President. Walton & Weybridge Flower Club*



July 2025

# Eco Church

## Stay up to date with our Eco Church Journey

Issue  
#6

### Bring Science to Politics – for Climate, Nature and Our Survival

On 13<sup>th</sup> May, Teresa and I joined over 150 other scientists in Parliament Square to 'Bring Science to Politics'. At the same time, Parliament was debating whether to remove some of the environmental protections from the Climate & Nature Bill. Our message was simple: MPs and policymakers must listen to the scientific consensus on the severity, urgency and consequences of climate and ecological breakdown, and ensure science informs political decisions.

Meeting at Grosvenor Hall in Westminster, we donned our white coats (the best way to show we are scientists!) and made our way to Parliament Square. Ordinarily, our white coats would have kept us warm on a cool Spring day in mid-May, but as the temperature was 10°C higher than average it was quite sweltering! But it really hit home the message that we wanted to share. Life on earth is in desperate peril.

Walking alongside us was TV broadcaster and naturalist, Chris Packham, who later gave a speech at the rally in Parliament Square. Here, Chris was joined by Mike Berners-Lee, an expert on climate science, sustainability and carbon footprinting, Robin Ince, the presenter of a popular radio science show, Dr Lynn Bjerke, a children's cancer researcher and climate activist, and Sir David King, former Chief Scientific Advisor to the UK Government. All gave impassioned speeches urging politicians to listen to the scientific experts. After the speeches, many of the scientists headed to the House of Commons to engage directly with their MPs on the need to prioritise policies that support the climate and nature.

We found it an uplifting experience to participate in this event. It was well-attended, good-natured and went off with no issues. It was especially encouraging to see so many young scientists participating and making their voices heard. We met people from all corners of the UK and made some new friends and hope to see them again, because we will need to come back again, and again...



### Act Now, Change Forever

On Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> July, we will be joining the Climate Coalition (which brings together over 130 organisations, including Christian Aid, the National Trust, Women's Institute, Oxfam and RSPB) at a 'Mass Lobby' in Westminster, with thousands of people from all over the UK coming to tell our MPs that it is time to protect what matters most – our health, our nature, our communities, our climate and our future. Attending protests that raise awareness of environmental issues can be a positive contribution to the Eco Church Report, helping churches towards a higher level of award. Interested? You can sign up on the website ([www.theclimatecoalition.org](http://www.theclimatecoalition.org)) and of course do let us know if you are coming or want further details. We'd love to see you there.

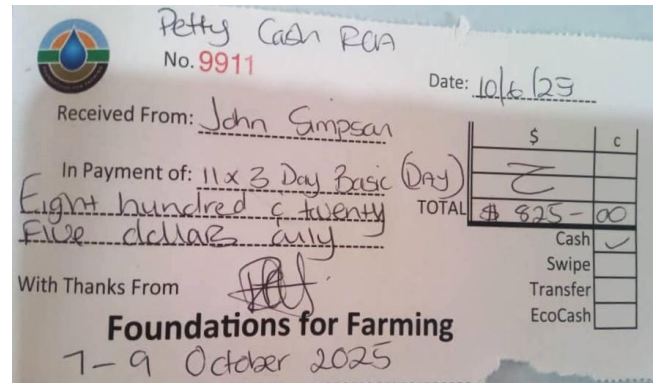
*Paula Walsh*

<b>Job 12:10</b> The life of every living thing is in His hand, as well as the breath of all mankind	<b>John 1:3</b> All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made God grants humans 'stewardship' of the earth	<b>Psalms 24:1</b> The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it, the world, and those who live in it



**A NEW CHAPTER OPENS:** The congregation will doubtless be following our ECO team's progress with interest. 7000 miles away in Zimbabwe, climate change is biting hard, forcing a big change in attitudes. Marlow URC's attendance like St Andrew's, has dropped alarmingly over the years so given this uncertain outlook,

we must encourage ArtPeace to become more self-reliant through sustainable farming as future funding is not a given. After their recent taster one day course, they have been registered for a three day course with Foundations for Farming (FfF), a Christian based registered non- profit organisation, from the 7<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> October.



**Pfumvudza**, a Shona word with ancient traditional heritage meaning 'new season', is a product initiated by Berin Stock, a retired Zimbabwean commercial farmer, who asked himself a key question. 'How much land is required to feed a family'? Using all the FfF principles, assuming a family would require a bucket of maize per week to provide their staple diet, the following model was developed. To fill a bucket with shelled maize one would require 56 cobs weighing 300 grams each. If each maize plant produced at least one of these one would require 56 plants. The FfF spacing of planting stations within a row is 60cm and each station would have 2 plants, thus requiring a row of only 16m to produce a bucket of maize. If one is to produce a bucket for each week of the year this would mean one would need 52 of these rows. At a row spacing of 75cm this would mean the block would be 39m long. 16m by 39m is only  $\frac{1}{16}$  of a Hectare.



After initial reluctance from some artists (old habits die hard), I encouraged them to undergo this training. They will be taught due diligence on following farming procedures in land preparation and crop maintenance. Seed sowing normally commences in November and funding will be required to buy starter packs (55\$ each) containing 4 or 5 other small sacks of various fertilisers, chemicals and seed. This expense will be hugely less than past funds used to buy various compound fertilisers, seed and chemicals.

**Johnston Simpson**





## Christian Aid Week 2025

### Abounding hope

Thank you all for supporting Christian Aid Week – in total, we raised £1,037.50 (including Gift Aid). What a wonderful result!

During Christian Aid Week, we learned about Aurelia, an inspirational farmer and community leader in Guatemala, who is also a grandmother wanting to take care of her family. Aurelia is a change-maker; she is determined to encourage other women and show them what they can achieve together.

Cacao is a native plant in Guatemala and although it is drought-resistant, it is becoming more difficult to grow because of the rising temperature and changes in rainfall patterns. Indigenous communities like Aurelia's have done the least to cause the climate crisis, yet they are experiencing the worst effects. With the help of Congcoop, Christian Aid's partner in Guatemala, Aurelia and her neighbours have been given equipment to help them make chocolate from their cacao harvest. This gives Aurelia a source of regular income that she can spend on daily essentials like soap. It also helps her to keep her grandchildren in school. Congcoop has also encouraged Aurelia and other indigenous farmers to stand up for their rights as pressures increase on them to give up their land.

By continuing to support Christian Aid, we are helping people on the brink of survival to find the strength and opportunity to push back against poverty and to fulfil their hopes and ambitions.



Jesus, give us tender hearts,  
make us encouragers.

Fill us with compassion for  
our global neighbours.

May we be inspired by  
passionate changemakers.

Spur us on to do your work of love.  
**Amen**

*Teresa Bacon*  
*Christian Aid Representative*



## Eco Church Award

On Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> May we were pleased to receive our Bronze “Eco Church Award”. This marks a significant stage on our “eco journey” and we are already working towards our Silver Award. Many thanks to our “Green Team” for picking this work up and thanks to you all for what you have done to get us to this stage, particularly completing the questionnaire, which proved not to be as simple as expected! You may also have seen some bird boxes and a bug hotel in the grounds. A number of members also enjoyed their recent visit to the Walton Eco Hub and Community Fridge.

Possibly sensing a new eco home, the Elders were amused when a friendly and inquisitive fox tried to join their June meeting. We had to explain that since he wasn't an ordained Elder he couldn't come in, after which the “certain foxy gentleman” toddled off to find his friend Jemima Puddle-Duck.

(Fans of Beatrix Potter will understand that last bit!)

*Michael Hodgson*

## Hall Floor – Advance Notice

The church hall will be completely closed from 18<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> August to allow for cleaning, repair and re-polishing of the floor. Please note that there will be no access to other rooms through the hall during that week – we don't want foot prints across the polish whilst it's wet – so please use the back door to access the church, the office and the Hersham Room and the main entrance to access the Garden Room and the Bill Topping Room.

*Michael Hodgson*

## Alterations to the Platform Area of the Church

Following the decision of Church Meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> June we are hopeful that work to make the necessary alterations to the platform area of the church can begin soon. This has been quite a difficult and slow project to progress but, when completed, it should make a significant difference, providing handrails where needed and removing some awkward drops. Perhaps one of the good things about the scheme which has emerged is that, although some major changes are being made, when complete it may well not look massively different from what it looks now and that, in a short period, it may look as if it has always been like it!

More details about when the work can start will, hopefully, be available soon but whilst it is in progress we shall be worshipping in the church hall for a few weeks. The builders will be aware that there is a Flower Festival taking place in August and we shall need the church for that. (It takes a braver man than I am, Gunga Din, to upset the flower arrangers!)

*Michael Hodgson*

## Songs of Praise 10 August

On the Sunday morning of our Flower Festival, “From the Bookshelf” (9-10 August), I thought it might be nice to have another “Songs of Praise” like we did last year. I know that you may have given your choice for last year but lots of people said it was so difficult choosing a favourite because they have so many. So, don't worry if this year you submit your second favourite! Why do you like it? Does it have a particular meaning to you? Why not tell us and share the story?

Please give me some suggestions for what you would like to sing in a Songs of Praise service. If you are willing to tell us why a hymn is important to you then that would be lovely – I am sure we would all be interested in the stories.

So remember – **10th August SONGS OF PRAISE** – and let's have a really good sing again.

*Michael Hodgson*

## FLOWER POWER

"The smallest flower is a thought, a life answering to some feature of the Great Whole,  
of whom they have a persistent intuition."

*Honoré de Balzac*

Here is a selection of the lovely floral tributes that we have enjoyed over the past month.  
The flower provision board is available in The Gateway.

***If you feel you can help with distribution, please speak to Claire, Irene or Moira.  
Your offer would be most welcome***



*1 June - Nancy Hampton*



*8 June*



*15 June*



*22 June*

## **! SITUATION VACANT !**

Norma has said that she would like to stand down as Editor of The Grapevine at the end of the year. Many of us know that Norma has been having problems with her eyes and she has recently been subject to an increasing number of migraines, so it is not surprising that she feels it would be wise to hang up her quill. She became Editor of the old St Andrew's 'Newsletter' in 2007 and says that, back then, it was run-off on a Roneo machine, on blue paper and then stapled together. I can't help thinking that things have progressed a bit since then! Today, Mollie is the Associate Editor but obviously she (and Alex) can't take on the full role and so we are looking for a "New Norma". (NN)

Every magazine editor brings their own ideas and so NN does not need to continue with exactly the same design and format. They are welcome to try out new ideas and layouts, just as Norma has done over the years. The Grapevine is a much appreciated publication, read by church members, via a mailing list of friends and previous members, via the website and now by people picking up copies from outside the building. It is, therefore, an important part of our communication and outreach.

Perhaps a group of people would like to work together on it?

Have a think – we have got a little time – but Norma is standing down at the end of the year and, in order to tie up the full year, the February issue will be her last.

We are, of course, all immensely grateful to Norma for her 18-year stint as Editor. I know that she has normally enjoyed putting each issue together as well (she says) as the opportunity to hone some creative skills she never knew she had! Norma, you will be a hard act to follow, but we are all so thankful to you for your work and for your care as our Editor.

*Michael Hodgson*

## **OPPORTUNITY**

Life has many doors.

Doors that open.  
Doors that close.  
Doors that remain ajar,  
Allowing us cautiously to  
Step into the Future, or  
Stubbornly to  
Cling to the Past.  
Doors that bid us  
Knock and enter,  
In the hope of finding answers.  
Locked doors,  
Full of promise,  
For which we fail to find the key.  
Strong doors  
Full of hope,  
Beyond which our wildest dreams are fulfilled.

While you live,  
Always  
Walk in hope and trust, and  
With courage,  
Through Life's open doors.

*NFR*



# ARTPEACE AND FRIENDS

**MEMORIES:** A recent visit by Lovemore James to Charles Fundisi, an artist with whom I had lost contact, jogged my memory. Around 16 years ago, several heavy crates of sculptures arrived on a container ship at Southampton, destined for Walton, Marlow and Kettering URC's. It was a rather tortuous exercise dealing with two Zimbabwean agents in differing parts of the country.



Hundreds of large and small pieces were well wrapped in bubble wrap, packed in wooden crates then nailed down with six inch nails. A lorry took the crates to Johannesburg, where they were transferred onto another vehicle for Durban and hence by ship (right) to Antwerp - then transferred onto another ship for Southampton. A truck delivered the crates to



the churches and my home! A few hiccups were encountered on route not least from one Zimbabwean agent who insisted on a higher fee or he would block discharge. However, he did not realise he was dealing with a Scot but that's another story! A photo of Marlow's congregation



lifting heavy sculptures from the back of the vehicle (right) into the church has stuck with me. Quote from their then Church secretary Martin Ashford (left): 'Getting involved with this project is proving very exhilarating and also humbling.



It's certainly turning for me into something that goes well beyond just putting on an exhibition'. This scene was replicated at the other URC's. Each piece was meticulously catalogued and



artistically displayed in their sanctuaries. (e.g. Marlow left). Hazel from Kettering URC said: 'We had so much fun although it was hard work'. It was a roaring success thanks to volunteers from each church showing the URC at its best and it's still a talking point. A considerable sum of money was raised. Mike Masedza said: 'We cherish those days which transformed our lives.' Returning to Charles Fundisi, Lovemore said: 'He is still recovering from a stroke trying to carve and make ends meet but it's so difficult for him although his hand and leg is improving but he still cannot speak. He was very happy to hear that you will try and help sell his Nativity pieces and managed a smile. His wife Ruth (in photo with Charles) also tearfully thanked me as it's difficult to find

money for his physiotherapy'. Marlow bought Charles's moving work 'The Last Supper' from their



2010 exhibition. It is located in the entrance of the church under an acrylic box for protection where visitors can view same marked with a brass plaque. I told the artists their work will live on



and be admired long after they have gone – how many of us can say that! Hundreds of homes now boast one or more sculptures - St. Andrew's display a stunning piece in their Gateway titled 'Christ Arising' in lemon opal stone carved by the late Andrew Mabanji – sadly his last creation.



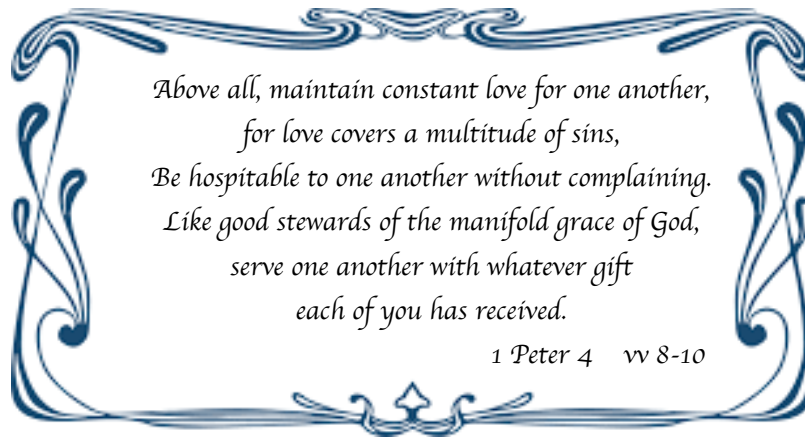
**POVERTY:** Artist Fortune Masiyiwa said: [The other day I saw Sipiwe \(left\) calling from house to house begging for food. She and her three children have gone four days without a meal](#). Despite his own abject poverty Fortune said he will share his maize with the family.

**THE RECENT SALE** has raised £840 to date so many thanks to St Andrew's for their support. The artists are delighted their

work is appreciated. Kuda Nyagweta (right), Godfrey's friend, is particularly happy as all three of his Mama pieces sold but fear not, more are due later this year! Readers should know that many other artists and hence their extended families will benefit from these sales.

**Johnston Simpson**





## **MINISTER**

The Reverend Michael Hodgson

Editor: [editor@standrewsurc.org](mailto:editor@standrewsurc.org)

Associate Editor: [associateeditor@standrewsurc.org](mailto:associateeditor@standrewsurc.org)

## **FOR ANY ENQUIRIES PLEASE CONTACT THE CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR**

Mrs Elizabeth Scharinger

Email: [administrator@standrewsurc.org](mailto:administrator@standrewsurc.org)

Website: [www.standrewsurc.org](http://www.standrewsurc.org) Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/standrewsurcww>

Instagram: Insta: [standrewsurcww](https://www.instagram.com/standrewsurcww)

Services start at 10.30 am.

Services are currently accessible on Zoom on the third Sunday of the month.

Anyone who wishes to take part in the Zoom service should contact the Church Administrator, who will be able to send them a link to enable easy participation.

You are all most welcome to join us!