

JUNE 2016

Inspire



THE NEWSLETTER OF
THE FREE CHURCH
(UNITED REFORMED)
SAINT IVES

*Happy Birthday
Ma'am!*



*We wish Her Majesty
many congratulations
on reaching her official
90th birthday.*



*A View from the Manse
will return next month.*

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Inspire**

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**July Deadline
Sunday 19th June**

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Copy preferably by email please to
office@stivesfreechurch.org

From the Associate Church Secretary

Dear Friends

Yet another person offering the "Secretary's" column this month I am involved with putting together some of the rotas that help us all through the routine of Church Life. This seems to me to be an opportunity to say a huge "Thank You" to all those Church Members and friends who look after us so well. There are the Stewards who welcome everyone on a Sunday morning; and then that very welcome cup of tea or coffee after a service has to be made by somebody; offerings are taken; offerings are counted; Holy Communion is prepared and served; the "children's corner" is set up; microphone knobs are twiddled (apologies for that recent ear splitting wail which was due to the fickle fumbling fingers of Fleming!); hymns are displayed on the screen and all of the above is just on a Sunday!



Throughout the rest of the week there are daily prayers in the Chapel; Just Sharing trades; Tookeys offers hospitality to lots of visitors; Tots and Carers Group fills the Hall with small people; and the Office fields enquiries which can sometimes strain credibility.

So thank you for everything you do to help the Free Church in such a wide variety of ways – including those that I have managed to miss off my list. Our Church building remains open and a place of welcome because of all that is done by the people who are the Church.

And of course if you feel like helping out in any way at all you would be very, very welcome.

Andy Fleming

Peterborough Opera
present a
semi-staged performance of Edward German's

**Merrie
England**

on Saturday 25th June at 7.30 pm
at The Free Church,
St. Ives

Tickets £10, £9 concessions
from 'Just Sharing' 9.30 am-4.30 pm
tel. 01480 496570
or 01832- 272738

A message from your editors!

*We would love to have articles from
our congregation and visitors!*

*Please don't wait to be asked—just
get writing!*

*Suggestions for new "series" of
articles would also be welcome.*

*What would YOU like to see in
YOUR magazine?*

Speak up—we are ready to listen!

St Ives Choral Society Edward Elgar's "The Apostles"



From the choir side.....

We started rehearsing this work back in September 2015, and at first a good number of us were not exactly enthusiastic! Trawling through friends and acquaintances the only person who had heard of it and sung in it was Brian Lodde, back in a previous existence! With our Director Julian's insistence that this was a GREAT work, we pressed on. When has he ever been wrong?

Come Saturday 7th May, afternoon rehearsal in Ely Cathedral: all traces of surround sound disappearing upwards (into Lantern), soloists voices a distant echo.....catastrophe! The evening performance could only improve, and much to our and I'm sure Julian's relief it did!

Most of our St Ives friends past and present seemed to be in a satisfyingly large audience! We were also delighted to have the support of our town Mayor and Mayoress, Ian and Gilly Jackson. They all loved it, and for some it was a truly spiritual experience. So thanks again go to Julian for leading us so surefootedly to a work of great depth and complexity, a very memorable evening for us all.



Liz....

From the audience side....

Not singing this time, but having sung in Ely with the choir twice before, I could imagine the nervous excitement and anticipation amongst choir, orchestra and soloists! What a work! I have to confess that I had hardly heard of it, let alone listened to it. I had been warned that there were no "sing-a-long" tunes but I hadn't anticipated the intricacies of the whole work as Elgar weaves all the elements together to make a harmonious whole. I was glad that we had the words before us as the interplay of choir and soloists did sometimes make it difficult to follow the "storyline" exactly. How Julian manages to control the three elements of instruments, choral singing and solos/duets is a mystery akin to three dimensional weaving! A couple of the soloists will I'm sure make successful solo careers and I will look out for them in the future!

Dear choir, you needn't have worried! As always you sounded wonderful and produced a truly spiritual performance! It was well worth the hard work!

.....and Chris

Footnote: the next weekend found us in Winchester and perchance the local choral societies were performing *The Dream of Gerontious!* Having sung that at Ely and feeling that all the sound was disappearing into The Lantern, I was very aware of how much easier it must be to sing in Winchester with no void between choir and audience. They sang well – but not as well as us of course! C.

Lower photo courtesy of Mark Bunting photography.

Sponsored Walk in Aid of St Ives Food Bank 1st May 2016

It was a perfect day for a walk along the river to Houghton.

After morning worship Helen and Martha, Gerry and Mary set off on their 4 mile walk, alongside a large group of other sponsored walkers who were covering 4, 8 or 12 miles.

Our little group was the slowest as we stopped along the way to make the most of the afternoon. Wild flowers had to be identified, views enjoyed and refreshment taken. However we were back in time for afternoon tea at the Parish Church.



We were very grateful for the all the generous support of Free Church members and friends, and raised over £200. This money will go towards funding the extra essentials that the Food Bank provides in addition to the basic food boxes.

Again, many thanks to all our sponsors.

Mary Cox

St Ives Free Church Poetry Group

“Faith, Hope and Poetry”

The theme for our June meeting on Wednesday 29th June will be “Journeys”.

We meet at 7.45 for 8pm, starting with a cup of coffee. Please feel free to come along just to find out what we do. Everyone will be made most welcome.

Mary Cox and Lin Fleming

Thank you just doesn't seem enough!

But it's all I can say to you all for your generosity on my retirement. I had so many lovely gifts, flowers and cards. The cards have been full of best wishes, good luck and mostly love and kind words.

As I have said, probably many times, I have loved working and being a part of The Free Church. I have made many friends and feel part of an extended family.



I would like to thank all the wonderful volunteers for their support and dedication to Tookeys and Monday snack bar. The Free Church is lucky to have such a loyal group of people. I would like to thank everyone who has supported me during some testing times in my personal life. Having your support helped me cope.

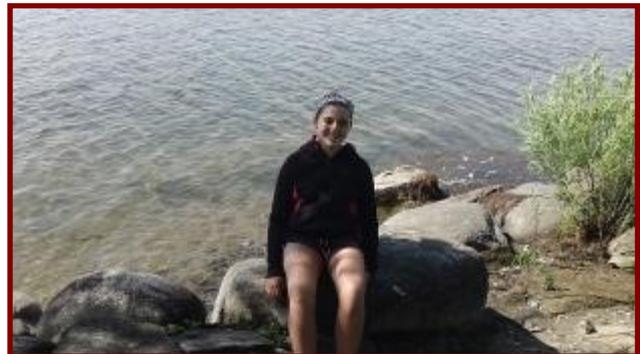
I know our path will continue to cross and look forward to meeting up on these occasions.

I wish The Free Church & Tookeys continued success

Love from Pat x

News from overseas.....

Some of you will remember Richard and Julia Briggs who worshipped with us in the early 2000s when Richard was posted to the UK. Their daughter Georgia Marie was baptised by Bill whilst they were here. She turned 13 in May. They have sent this lovely photo of her! They and brother Julian send their good wishes to all who remember them from their home in Columbia USA.



It was a great joy to worship alongside two others from overseas at Café Style on Sunday 22nd May. Firstly Catherine's triplet sister Fiona over from Alabama for James' and Liz's wedding. Definitely a family likeness there. We hope you will all have had a joyful celebration in Liverpool by the time this is published!

Also on our table was the Rev. Greg Ross from Bunbury Uniting Church in Western Australia, He was visiting friends in Ramsey after attending an international "Messy Church" conference.

His church website is well worth a visit at www.staugustineuc.au.com/index.htm

FELLOWSHIP WALKS

Following on from the walk in May there are walks arranged for some of the months ahead.

On Thursday, 30th June an evening walk around Fenstanton (featuring an interest in Capability Brown) has been arranged by Jackie and Martin Ballard. We will meet in the car park in front of the Parish Church at 6:30pm. Further details from them on 01480 494 319.



On the morning of Saturday, July 23rd, Hilary and Lawrence will take us round the outskirts of Somersham.

The August walk is yet to be arranged – see the next edition of Inspire.

Barbara and David Duffett will be leading us on Saturday 10th September around part of Fenstanton and Fen Drayton Lakes.

Anyone else who feels that they could arrange a walk are most welcome to do so. Areas could include, for example, Godmanchester or Earith or Woodhurst.



Many thanks to all those who have been involved so far. More details will become available closer to the dates.

Hilary & Lawrence Mottram; John & Mavis Williams 01480 463117.

Church Activities

Wed 1st June	19:45	Elders Meeting
Wed 8th June	10:00— 11:30	Tots and Carers
Tues 14th June	14:30	Meditation at Fenstanton URC with John Williams
Wed 15th June	10:00— 11:30	Tots and Carers
Wed 22nd June	10:00— 11:30	Tots and Carers
Wed 29th June	10:00— 11:30	Tots and Carers
Wed 29th June	19:45	Poetry Group—theme “Journeys”
Wed 6th July	10:00— 11:30	Tots and Carers

Community Activities

Every Monday	10:00	CRUSE
Every Thursday in term time	9:45—10:45	Sunny Steps
Wed 1st June	11:00	U3A Current Affairs
Thurs 2nd June	19:30	WI
Sat 4th June	9:30—16:00	Saints Crafters Fair
Fri 10th June	11:00	COPE
Mon 13th June	13:00	U3A French Class
Wed 15th June	11:00	U3A Current Affairs
Thurs 16th June	10:00	U3A Italian Class
Sat 18th June	10:00—16:00	Climate Change Conference
Tues 21st June	10:00	Alzheimers Drop-in Café
Thurs 23rd June	10:00	U3A Italian Class
Fri 24th June	10:00	Local History
Sat 25th June	19:30	Merrie England Opera—see advert
Mon 27th June	13:00	U3A French Class
Thurs 30th June	10:00	U3A Italian Class
Fri 1st July	19:30	Recital
Sat 2nd July	9:30—16:00	Saints Crafters Fair
Sat 2nd July	19:30	COSI Concert
Wed 6th July	11:00	U3A Current Affairs
Wed 6th July	14:00	Senior Citizens Club
Thurs 7th July	10:00	U3A Italian Class
Thurs 7th July	19:30	WI

**PICNIC
IN THE
PARK**

**Sunday
19th June
1pm—7pm**

**Six Hours of
Fabulous Music**

Food Stalls

Beer Tent with Real Ales

**Free supervised sport and play
sessions for
5 – 11 year olds**



Please No Barbecues

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Open 9am. - 1pm. Monday to Friday

Room Bookings should be made through the Church Office

Worship

At the Free Church



Chapel prayers daily Mon—Sat at 10am

Sun 5th June	11:00	Revd Dr Catherine Ball Holy Communion
Sun 12th June	11:00	Revd Peter Ball
Sun 17th June	11:00	Revd Dr Catherine Ball
Sun 26th June	11:00	Revd Dr Catherine Ball Café Style
Sun 26th June	18:30	Joint Service with Houghton at Houghton Chapel
Sun 3rd July	11:00	Revd Dr Catherine Ball Holy Communion

At Fenstanton URC Chapel

Sun 5th June	9:30	Revd Derek Newton
Sun 12th June	9:30	Revd Dr Catherine Ball Holy Communion
Sun 19th June	9:30	Revd Dr Catherine Ball
Sun 26th June	9:30	Keith Cakebread
Sun 3rd July	9:30	Revd Derek Newton

