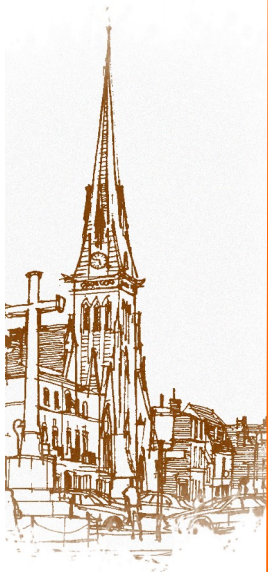


# September 2016

# Inspire



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

## View from the Manse



I hope you have had a wonderful summer – it has been great with lots of warmth and sunshine; Andy Murray winning Wimbledon, Chris Froome the Tour de France, and all the Olympians who won a record number of medals for a country away from home after hosting them, at the Rio Olympics. For some, summer has been a time of hard work after years of training and self discipline. The work obviously paid off and they rightly were then able to celebrate. But for many of us it has been a time of relaxation as we have enjoyed a break away.

I hope you are all rested and relaxed from your holidays and ready to get back into routine. As autumn begins we return to regular routine with meetings, groups and activities starting up again. September looks like it will be a busy month for the St Ives Group of Churches. At the Free Church we have a funeral on the 1<sup>st</sup>. Tots and Carers starts back on Wednesday the 7<sup>th</sup>. Ruth Wilson is inducted to Upton by Chester on the 10<sup>th</sup>. Church meeting will be held after Sunday morning worship on the 18<sup>th</sup>. The week of the 18<sup>th</sup> to the 24<sup>th</sup> of September is World Week for Peace in Palestine which we will acknowledge in our worship. Harvest is to be held on the Sunday 25<sup>th</sup>, which will be a café style service.

At Fenstanton URC we have Hobbies Day on Sat 17<sup>th</sup> September and a MacMillan coffee morning Fri 30<sup>th</sup>. We are hosting a Harvest Supper at 6 pm on the 30<sup>th</sup> September; Harvest Worship

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Copy preferably by email please to  
[office@stivesfreechurch.org](mailto:office@stivesfreechurch.org)

Service in the morning on 2<sup>nd</sup> October and a Songs of Praise service at 3 pm. We are once again collecting tools for Work Aid Harvest is a time when we celebrate both God's provision for us and also human skills and abilities in farming, transporting, selling and food for all people. God provides the sun, air and water to enable fruits and grains to grow and flourish; we do the planting and harvesting when food is ripe and ready to eat. Harvest is a good example of how we are to work together with God to bring health and wholeness for our world. God has taken the initiative in nature's provision, but we as those created in his image, are to share with him in creating and sustaining our beautiful world for all who are a part of it.

As we look forward to enjoying blessings of the Harvest, may we also show our thankfulness in our generosity and giving to others.  
Love in Christ,

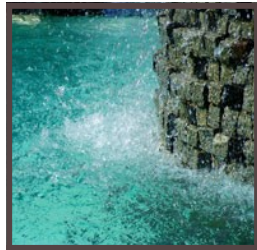
**Catherine**

### Clare Priory Retreat 16th-17th September 2016

#### **Theme: WITH MY GOD I CAN LEAP OVER A WALL -**

This retreat will be led by Revd Birgit Ewald.

Clare Priory, Ashen Road, Clare, Suffolk, CO10 8NX (**with the option to stay over night from Friday 16th**)



This retreat day offers the opportunity to slow down and find rest through guided study and reflection, individual quiet time. Clare Priory has been a place of prayer for many centuries. The monastery, new church and beautiful grounds offer peaceful surroundings,

inviting us into the presence of God.

The programme will cater for those who are new to retreats and those who have experience of them. A simple but satisfying lunch will be provided. **The cost for the day's retreat per person is £20.00.**

Further Information from [Birgit Ewald](#)

This e-mail address is being protected from spambots. You need JavaScript enabled to view it. or [Sue Drane](#) This e-mail address is being protected from spambots. You need JavaScript enabled to view it. - Synod

Office 01223 830770

Website: Clare Priory

IT'S SHOEBOX TIME AGAIN!!



Leaflets will be in the church office, on the upstairs table and in Tookeys Coffee Shop from the third weekend in September.

If you don't have a shoebox, there will be a couple in the Vestry for you to collect from the second week of September.

Pass the word around and give a child your love this Christmas.

## TOTS AND CARERS



NEW TERM STARTS  
ON  
WEDNESDAY 7TH SEPTEMBER  
AT  
10.00AM

## FENSTANTON UNITED REFORMED CHURCH HARVEST PRAISE



SUNDAY 2nd  
OCTOBER  
3-00PM  
YOU ARE WELCOME TO SHARE  
THIS SERVICE WITH US,  
HARVEST HYMNS AND POEMS.

### **Sponsoring a Child with Compassion UK**

After a visit by a representative of Compassion UK, our Minister, Rev Catherine Ball, suggested that some members of the congregation would like to join together to sponsor one of Compassion's children between them; a joint enterprise from the Free Church you might say. So far 11 individuals and couples have signed up. At present between the 11 we haven't quite reached £25.00 per month, the minimum monthly donation. We only need one or two more people at £1.00 per month and we shall have enough to go ahead. If you would like to be part of the group sponsoring a child please either sign the list on the landing, or get in touch with Mary Cox on tel. 300103 or e-mail [mary@imcox.co.uk](mailto:mary@imcox.co.uk).

I suggest we have a get-together once we have reached £25.00 to work out the logistics of a group sponsorship.

I know many in the congregation already sponsor a child and can perhaps advise the group on how to make a meaningful connection with the child we are allocated. With many thanks to those who have already signed up.

**Mary C**

### CIVIC SOCIETY OF ST IVES

Hosts an evening with

The Ouse Valley Jazz Band  
With Angela

On

Friday 9th September 2016

At

The St Ives Free Church

Time: 8pm

Tickets £8 includes interval refreshments

Available from Just Sharing shop at the  
Free Church

And Time for Health, Station Road or  
Dance Supplies, 20 Bridge Street St Ives

(charity Number 257286)

## ECO CORNER

### Prayer for Creation

Lord God, Father of Creation,  
You made all that exists from nothing:  
Spoke into existence each bird and tree,  
Designed the detail of each butterfly and  
flower,  
Made us from dust, one part of your world.

Lord God, Saviour of the World,  
You made your covenant with all living  
creatures:  
Watch when a sparrow falls to the ground,  
Sustain all creation by your word,  
Send your Son to bring healing to creation.

Lord God, Spirit of Life,  
You breathe your image into human  
beings;  
Inspire us with love for your world,  
Charge us to care for all you have made,  
Invite us to steward and care for your  
world.

Blessed God, Father, Son, Spirit.  
We praise you for all you have created.  
Forgive us for taking your works for  
granted.  
Equip us with vision and ability to fulfil our  
task:  
To act justly, live simply and walk humbly  
with you, our God,  
In the garden of your Creation,

Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### URC EASTERN REGION BIBLICAL DAY CONFERENCE 7TH SEPTEMBER 2016

Westminster College Cambridge, Madingly  
Road, Cambridge, CB3 0AA

#### Theme: **Poverty and Wealth**

Take the opportunity and space to have an in  
depth look at some passages of scripture  
based on our theme for the day as well as a  
chance to enjoy the surroundings  
of Westminster along with good food and  
fellowship.

The conference begins at 9.30am and finishes  
at 5.00pm and includes lunch.

Check Eastern Region website for further  
information.

### Calling all users of the church office

There is now a box for the  
recycling of paper in the  
church office.

All spare worship leaflets can  
go in there as well as all waste  
paper generated by the office.  
We are now well supplied with  
recycling bins in the church car  
park, so the box will be  
emptied regularly.

With many thanks for your  
co-operation.

Mary Cox  
Church eco-group

### DON'T FORGET!

#### MEDITATION with John Williams

Second Tuesday of each month at  
2.30pm

Venue: Fenstanton URC Church

Join us for a cuppa afterwards as well!

### St Ives Free Church Poetry Group

#### "Faith, Hope and Poetry"

The theme for our September  
meeting on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> will  
be "New Beginnings", and then  
on October 26<sup>th</sup> we shall be  
looking at the life and work of  
Carol Ann Duffy, our Poet  
Laureate.

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

Mary Cox and Lin Fleming

## FELLOWSHIP WALK FOR SEPTEMBER

LED BY  
BARBARA AND DAVID DUFFETT  
SATURDAY 10TH SEPTEMBER  
AROUND  
FENSTANTON  
and  
FEN  
DRAYTON  
LAKES



Here are a few photos from the last couple of walks

Contact: Hilary/Lawrence - John/Mavis 463117

## CURRENT HISTORY LIVING HISTORY AND NOSTALGIA

A week at Summer Camp gave 29 cadets a last of life on an RAF Station, varied activities, visits to 617 (Dambusters) Squadron memorial, and the Battle of Britain Memorial flight.



It also gave an old man a nostalgic reminder of flying 60 years ago and a week in the company of some marvellous young people. My first task was to arrange for one of the tents to be set aside as a prayer room for two Moslem cadets. The rest of the week was spent following the cadets round to their various activities and generally just being there!

The nostalgia bit came at the Lincolnshire Heritage centre, watching a Mark 3 Lancaster taxi-ing (and carrying some passengers who had paid £300 each for the privilege) and talking my way on board to sit in the wireless operator's seat gazing at the transmitter and receiver and playing with the Morse key.



The experience was repeated the following day when I was allowed on board the memorial Flight, Lancaster Mark 1 - pictures here to prove it in both cases!

At the end of the week, as well as awards given for Best Cadet, Best Flight etc the cadets make their own "Paper Plates Awards" to mark some individual event or peculiarity. I have collected a number of these over the years - each one proving that you cannot hide anything from cadets. This year was the Sweet Talking Award complete with drawing of a Lancaster. The Padre talked himself into two places where no-one else was allowed and it was duly noted and celebrated.

I am sometimes asked, "What do you do at Camp?" The above gives a small glimpse of the answer for this year.

*Roy Muttram*



## ECO GROUP

### NEXT YEAR A CHURCH VISIT TO FOXEARTH?

- Mark (pictured) is working to care for A Rocha UK's 11-acre nature reserve and to further enhance this beauty spot that's already home to many wonders – including dragonflies and nightingales.
- Our Free Church Eco Group is planning a quiet day there next year. Keep an eye out for more details in Inspire.



### MAJOR SITE

On the Suffolk-Essex border, Foxearth is a vast meadow close to Constable's Barn that holds 20 of the known 45 species of dragonfly. This fact alone makes it a major conservation site. Interest has already been shown by local Christians – including Sudbury Methodist Church and the North Hinckford Benefice of Anglican churches. Mark is keen to recruit even more helpers.

'Many strands are developing at Foxearth,' said Mark, 'and it's great fun keeping the plates spinning!' Helpers have also been hard at work assisting Mark in developing some of the infrastructure. Associate James Carr helped establish some roadside hedges.

'The locals have responded enthusiastically to this feature,' said Mark, 'and it's engendered many a conversation. A farmer doubted we could do it all with loppers, bow saw and billhook – but had to concede we'd done a good job!'

Tours of the site are being planned with local history and conservation groups and schoolchildren. There are other proposals to develop Foxearth for visitors.

### **From Helen Ackroyd, Interim Church Secretary**

Dear Friends,

This month my time as Interim Church Secretary comes to an end and I will hand over to Christine Macleod. It has been an interesting few months and I am very grateful for the help I have received from Catherine and all the Elders, especially Andy Fleming, who has taken on several extra tasks.

August is always a holiday month, with many people travelling around the country and beyond. On my travels up to Scotland, I visited Diane and Ken Woodham in the Lake District. They are both well and do love having visitors. On 14<sup>th</sup> August, a group of us visited Holt Island, a quiet nature reserve just beside the Parish Church. This was followed by a 'Loaf' tea and an Eco service based on the theme of Biodiversity.

September is the start of the new year in education. Children move up a year facing new challenges: new school and new teachers. For us, at the Free Church, this is the time to think about the Eldership, and electing people to serve as Elders for the next three years. All Church Members will receive a letter, a list of all Members and a nomination sheet. All Members are invited to nominate up to 12 people. It is interesting to note that over the last few years only about four out of ten members have actually returned the nomination paper. I am aware that some people may find our system of election unusual and if anyone would like to discuss our method, I would be very pleased to talk to them. Please think prayerfully about these nominations.

*Helen*

## Boost for Cocoa and Sugar Farmers as Ferrero Increases its Fairtrade Commitment

Italian confectionery company Ferrero will double the amount of cocoa it purchases from Fairtrade farmers – to 40,000 metric tonnes over the next three years.

"With the agricultural training offered by the cooperative I was able to almost double my cocoa production." Dembele Mamdou, cooperative Ecojad, Cote D'Ivoire.



Ferrero also announced a new collaboration with Fairtrade on cane sugar, with plans to source 20,000 metric tonnes of Fairtrade cane sugar between mid-2016 and 2019.

Sugar farmers in countries such as Costa Rica are going to benefit from secured sales and the additional Fairtrade Premium. In this picture: Elian Vargas Arias, cooperative COOPECANERA, Costa Rica.

"Ferrero's long-term commitment means cocoa farmers in Cote D'Ivoire and sugar farmers in countries such as Costa Rica are going to benefit from secured sales and the additional Fairtrade Premium." said Marina Vanin, Global Cocoa Director at Fairtrade International. "Research has shown that Fairtrade farmers benefit the most when they can sell a significant percentage of their crops on Fairtrade terms."

**Sustainable cocoa and sugar supply chains with Fairtrade**  
Ferrero's collaboration with Fairtrade began in 2014. "The Fairtrade cocoa program is a key component of reaching our objective of 100 percent certified sustainable cocoa by 2020", says Aldo Cristiano, who is responsible for Ferrero's sustainability programs. "We also pursue

the same objective for cane sugar, and our experience from the collaboration over the last few years shows that we have found a good partner in Fairtrade."

The **Fairtrade Sourcing Programs** enable cocoa, sugar and cotton farmers to sell more of their crops on Fairtrade terms, meaning more benefits for them and their communities. Through the Programs, farmers can sell their crops to the growing number of companies that are committed to sourcing a key commodity fairly and sustainably, to use across product ranges or even their whole business. Farmers benefit from all the same Fairtrade Standards.

"Long-term partnerships with companies such as Ferrero enable small-scale farmers to plan for their future. This kind of stability is an important factor in driving sustainable development," said Marina Vanin. "Farmers need access to market information and technical knowledge to ensure long-lasting, sustainable supply chains". Training and programmes tailored to local needs are a key part of Fairtrade's strategy to enable small-scale farmer organizations to grow and flourish.

### Enhanced training and support programmes for Ivorian cocoa farmers

Ferrero has sourced cocoa from Fairtrade cooperatives in Cote D'Ivoire since 2014, making it possible for them to sell a substantially higher proportion of their crops on Fairtrade terms. Training on good agricultural practices has helped the cooperative members to increase their productivity and the quality of their cocoa.

Dembele Mamdou, member of the Ivorian cooperative Ecojad, said: "With the agricultural training offered by the cooperative I was able to almost double my cocoa production. I am also working as a secretary in one of the cooperative's sections. In the future we want to invest our Premium in projects such as schools for our children and drinking water supply in the communities."



Fairtrade also provides cooperatives with inclusive training on gender equality and child rights. [Projects to prevent child labour](#) build on the capacity of children and youth to contribute to self-monitoring, managing and tackling child labour within their own lives and farming communities. The impact of Fairtrade, and of Ferrero's sourcing commitment on cocoa cooperatives is regularly monitored and evaluated, to ensure long-term impact.

#### **Fairtrade sugar farmers – investing in strong cooperatives**

More than 62,000 small-scale farmers across 19 countries produce Fairtrade certified sugar, in regions such as Central America, Southern Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific. [Sugar farmers received](#)

**10.2 million euros of Fairtrade Premium** globally in 2014, money which they can reinvest in organizational infrastructure, training, improvements in productivity or good agricultural practices.

Fairtrade supports networking and collaboration between small-scale sugar farmers within and across continents, recognizing that they often face the same challenges. Long-term commitments of confectionery brands such as Ferrero enable sugar farmers to strengthen their position in a highly volatile market, especially now as policy changes are severely impacting imports of sugar to Europe putting the livelihoods of hundreds of thousands of farmers in developing countries at risk.

## **Fenstanton United Reformed Church**

### **Hobbies, Crafts and Collections**

**On Saturday 17th September**

**10-00am-4-00pm**

**VINTAGE/CLASSIC CARS/TRACTORS  
ON SHOW OUTSIDE**

**IN THE CHURCH WILL BE  
KNITTING, SEWING  
HAVE A HAND MASSAGE (A SMALL CHARGE)**

**HANDMADE CRAFTS  
HANDMADE JEWELLERY,  
HOMEMADE JAMS,  
ANTIQUE DOLLS AND PRAMS**

**CARDS AND PAPER CRAFT**

**ANTIQU BOTTLES  
REFRESHMENTS ON SALE**

**AND LOTS MORE**

**ENTRANCE FEE IS JUST £1-00 CHILDREN FREE**



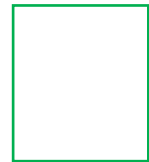
## FOOD FOR THOUGHT - HARVEST

While the earth remains, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night shall not cease. (Genesis 8:22)



We thank you then, O Father, for all things bright and good, the seed-time and the harvest, our life, our health our food. No gifts have we to offer for all your love imparts, but the which you most welcome, our humble, thankful hearts. (R&S 1991).

A harvest moon, so huge and golden you can almost touch it for the wonder it holds. Be amazed at its power that brings grains and goodness. Share the love and share the joy.



## Visit to Holt Island on Sunday August 14<sup>th</sup>

About 25 of us from the Councillor Ian Jackson at Parish Church for our chairman of the Friends last year's Mayor of St Ives and Gilly were Church and Gilly's was a stalwart of the Free and will be remembered congregation. (I don't have imagined such a



Jordan was with us, and Harrison's, owned and farmed the island for willow for basket making over three generations when the island was a thriving commercial osier bed, providing work for many residents of St Ives. So Holt Island felt very much part of the Free Church's heritage.

Free Church met up with the white bridge by the tour of Holt Island. Ian is of Holt Island, as well as Ives.

married at the Free mother, Norrie Nelson, Church for many years by many in the think Norrie could ever church outing.) Charlotte told us how her family, the

Ian was joined by Nigel, the Holt Island bird expert, and we were shown how the Friends of Holt Island have developed the island to be a wildlife reserve and a place of quiet enjoyment for St Ives and its visitors. School parties visit the island to have fun learning about the birds, butterflies and wildlife which live there.



Everyone enjoyed it so much, and for some it was a new experience. I felt we learnt a lot too. There will be some new visitors there in future I'm sure.

Then it was back to the Free Church for a L.O.A F.\* tea, with bread, cakes and scones produced by great cooks in the congregation. The afternoon concluded with a service led by our Minister, Catherine, celebrating biodiversity in nature.

Mary Cox - Convenor of the Free Church eco-group  
\*Local, Organic, Animal Friendly and Fairtrade

For more information about Holt Island visit [Huntingdonshire.gov.uk/leisure](http://Huntingdonshire.gov.uk/leisure)

**Church Activities**

Mon-days	19:00	Bowls Club
Wednes days (term time)	10:00 - 11:30	Tots & Carers
Tue 13th Sep	14:30	Meditation led by John Williams at Fenstanton
Sun 18th Sep	12:15	Church Meeting

**Community Activities**

Mondays	10:00	CRUSE
Tuesdays	19:30	St Ives Photographic Club
Wednesdays	14:00	Senior Citizens Club
Thursdays	09:30	Sunny Steps
Thursdays	10:00	U3A Italian Class
Thu 1st Sep	19:30	WI
Sat 3rd Sep	09:30 - 16:00	Saints Crafters Fair
Wed 7th Sep	11:00	U3A Current Affairs
Fri 9th Sep	10:00	COPE
Mon 12th Sep	13:00	U3A French Class
Tue 13th Sep	09:00	Alzheimer's Soc Support Group
Fri 16th Sep	10:00	U3A Local History
Fri 16th Sep	19:30	St Ives Civic Society
Sat 17th Sep	19:30	RAFA Concert
Tue 20th Sep	09:00	Alzheimer's Support Drop In Cafe
Wed 21st Sep	11:00	U3A Current Affairs
Wed 21st Sep	19:30	St Ives Gardening Club
Mon 26th Sep	10:00	CRUSE
Sat 1st Oct	09:30 - 16:00	Saints Crafters Fair

**CHURCHES TOGETHER  
IN HUNTINGDON****REPOSE**

Monthly worship night at Huntingdon Methodist Church - a space to stop and realign our busy lives with God; acknowledging that he is God, and we are not.

More details from Jonathan Bowers at [jonbowers1981@gmail.com](mailto:jonbowers1981@gmail.com)

(This editor has attended these evenings and thoroughly enjoyed them—lots of singing together especially)

**WORK AID**

If you are sorting out your shed or workshop and have any tools surplus to your requirements please donate them to WORK AID we are having a collection of these on

Saturday 1st October 2016

Please bring them along 10-00 - 1.00pm  
To Fenstanton United Reformed Church

## Contacts

### Minister

Revd Dr. Catherine Ball 352058  
Mobile: 07714 081930

### Interim Church Secretary

Helen Ackroyd 494005

### Associate Church Secretary

Andy Fleming 468055

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Peter Davies 395835

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alan@stivesfreechurch.org

### Finance Convenor

Peter German 352401

### Freewill Offering Treasurer

David Duffett 395308

### Tookey's Manager

Sam Cooper 07840 959090

### Resident Musician

Brian Lodde 354647

### Flower Convenor

Margaret Cakebread 462726

### Eco Group Convenor

Mary Cox 300103

### Chapel Prayer Coordinator

Gerry Swain 468053

### Just Sharing Manager

Sue Billings 496570

### Asst Manager

Rosemarie Smith  
justsharing@stivesfreechurch.org

### Church Office 468535

office@stivesfreechurch.org  
Open 9am. - 1pm. Monday to Friday

**Room Bookings should be made through the Church Office**

## THE FREE CHURCH WORSHIP

### Free Church Worship

Sun 4th Sep	11:00	Revd Dr Catherine Ball - Holy Communion
Sun 11th Sep	11:00	Revd Roy Muttram - Battle of Britain service
Sun 11th Sep	18:00	Joint service at Fenstanton - Jo Dyke
Sun 18th Sep	11:00	Revd Dr Catherine Ball
Sun 25th Sep	11:00	Revd Dr Catherine Ball - Harvest - Cafe Style
Sun 2nd Oct	11:00	Revd Dr Catherine Ball - Holy Communion



### Fenstanton Worship

Sun 4 <sup>th</sup> Sep	9:30	Revd Derek Newton
Sun 11 <sup>th</sup> Sep	9:30	Revd Dr Catherine Ball - Holy Communion
Sun 18 <sup>th</sup> Sep	9:30	Revd Dr Catherine Ball - Harvest
Sun 25 <sup>th</sup> Sep	9:30	Revd Elizabeth Caswell
Sun 2 <sup>nd</sup> Oct	9:30	Revd Derek Newton