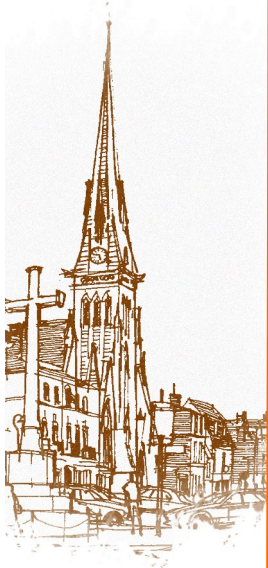


September 2017

Inspire



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

View from the Manse



We just had a wonderful family wedding of our son Chris and his beautiful bride, Evelina.

Weddings are such a privilege to conduct. It is an honour to be a part of a new family forming and to celebrate the life-long commitment that a couple make to each other, before God, their family and friends. The marriage vows – ancient, special words reflect God's love for us – steadfast and faithful through thick and thin. One of my favourite verses of the Scriptures is: 'The steadfast love of the Lord never ends, it is new every morning. Great is his faithfulness!' Lamentations 3.22,23.

It is good to remember that God's love endures and may it encourage us all to be patient, loving and forbearing in our relationships.



Inside September Inspire

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Deadline date for October issue
is
17th September 2017

Inspire Editorial Team

September Editor
Val Bush ☎469189

Christine Curtis ☎350787
Keith Cakebread ☎462726
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Copy preferably by email please to
office@stivesfreechurch.org



After the leisurely break of summer holidays, we return to usual routine of worship and witness as church activities resume in September.

Worship continues, week by week, at 11 am and monthly evenings jointly with Fenstanton URC the second Sunday of the month at 6 pm. Daily prayer in our porch chapel continues at 10 am.

Our coffee shop and Fair trade shop continue to be open daily. Many of our different groups start up again: the bowls' club, choral society, walking group, poetry group, ecology group, Tots and Carers and more! Through Churches Together in St Ives, the Foodbank serves people Tues and Fridays and the 'Church in the market place' sets up on the second Monday of the month in the market square. If you are interested in trying something different, and would like to participate in any of the above, do come along. See details in this magazine or feel free to contact the church office or me about your interests.

We are excited to have a new ministerial intern with us this academic year named Josh Thomas. Josh is in his fourth year of study at Westminster College. He is married with a baby. We are hoping to set up a discussion group on issues relating to faith in our contemporary society: peace, environment. Watch this space!

Every blessing,
Love in Christ
Catherine

OUR UNIQUE FELLOWSHIP

CARVAN AND CAMPERS CHRISTIAN
FELLOWSHIP (CCCf)



This group is made up of a "family" of Christians who enjoy being in the great outdoors, love caravanning and camping - who want to meet fellow believers to enjoy fellowship whilst holidaying together and to share in their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. As a member you can choose from nearly seventy rallies each year held in regions throughout the United Kingdom. They last from a few days to a few weeks.

The weekend rallies usually run from Friday to Sunday but are often extended to four or five days especially over the Bank Holiday weekend. Programmes are varied and members are free to join in as they choose. CCCf weekend rallies normally include time to meet together for praise and worship on Sunday mornings which may include a time of Communion. Every rally is as different as the people who volunteer to organise them and it's especially encouraged for children to join in.

The annual ten day National Rally in the main feature of the rallying year and is held in a central location and always has a packed programme for all ages. The Spring Bank Holiday rally is held in May, has a family orientated atmosphere with meetings and activities to suit everyone. CCCf rallies offer rest, relaxation and time to explore Britain's beautiful countryside.

To request an Enquiry Pack, please contact the Membership Secretary, Paul Wells, in one of the following ways:

Wwww.cccf.org.uk - info@cccf.org.uk - 0845 456 1637 or write to CCCF, Pear Tree Croft, Hollins Lane, Forton, Preston, PR3 0AB



SOSS
Save Our Spire!

Table Top Sale
At The Corn Exchange, St Ives

Saturday 14th October

From 10.00am to 2.00pm
Set up from 9.00am

*Tables cost £6 each
Refreshments available*

For bookings - Contact:
Mavis Williams 01480 463117

Save Our Spire!

**WE ARE
MACMILLAN.
CANCER SUPPORT**



**COFFEE MORNING
AT
FENSTANTON UNITED REFORMED
CHURCH**

FRIDAY 29TH SEPTEMBER

10AM - 12 NOON

**RAFFLE, BRING & BUY CAKES
AND LOTS MORE**

SAINTS CRAFTERS

ART & CRAFT FAIR

Saturday 2nd September
Free Church Hall, Market Hill, St Ives

9.30am – 4.00pm

**Buy original & handmade direct from
the maker...**

*Textiles, hand painted china,
greeting cards, paintings & prints,
natural soap, soy wax candles,
jewellery, fused glass, bead work,
bound books and much more...*

*Tombola in aid of Hunts Society for
the Blind*

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION at Fenstanton

I regret to inform everyone that the August meditation was the last one until 2018. This is mainly because John has to enter hospital and has now had major surgery and will be convalescing for the next few months.

Watch for notices early in 2018.

My heartfelt thanks go to Barbara Duffett for “stepping into the breach” on several occasions over the past few years.

**John Williams,
<jlec.williams44@yahoo.co.uk> or
'phone 01480 463 117.**

OUR NEW INTERN

All about me Josh Thomas

Hello, I'm Josh and as you may or may not know by now, I will be spending the next 9 months on placement here at St Ives Free Church and Fenstanton URC.



I am really looking forward to the opportunity of getting back out into the real world and also learning from Catherine and each and every single one of you during our time together, having spent the past three years with my head in the books at Westminster College. Before heading to Westminster, I was a youth worker for a church down in West Sussex. I hugely enjoyed this time, but kept feeling God prompting me to think more broadly and serve the whole of his church not just the young people.

I am originally from Portsmouth and my family still live in this part of the world. It has made Cambridgeshire a bit of a culture shock and I have never lived so far away from the sea and miss it enormously. I am married to Hannah and we have a daughter Isla - she is 7 months old and you may have already encountered her and her loud voice when we visited a Sunday morning service a few months ago. She is certainly spirited and will make her presence known! I enjoy watching football and am a Chelsea fan for my sins, I also love cooking and being by the beach, as well as a good pub quiz!

I am looking forward to getting to know both congregations over the next few months and I can't wait to see what God has to teach us all during my time on placement here.

Every blessing,
Josh.

SPACE@6:30**DARK REFLECTIONS - POETRY
- ENVIRONMENT - LAMENT****17 September 2017 6:30pm**

It is a great delight to welcome three distinguished local poets to Ely Cathedral as part of our Space@6:30 worship.

Fenland Poet Laureate, Kate Arthur, will be joined by a former Fenland Poet Laureate, Mary Livingstone and one of the UK's top selling Christian poets, Malcolm Guite.

In an evening co-hosted with Fen Speak Poetry and the Diocese of Ely Environment Coordinator, the theme '*Dark Reflections - poetry - environment - lament*' will be explored by each guest poet.

Using much of their own material, each will give those attending a chance to think more widely about the environment and how it's affected by 21st century living.

There is no admission charge and light refreshments will be served.

**An exhibition of quilts and other textiles
made by**

CROMWELL QUILTERS

at the

Free Church**22/23/24 SEPTEMBER 2017**

Open Daily - 10am - 5pm

**Admission: £2.50 under 16s FREE
Disabled Access**Cushion raffle - Sales table
Demonstrations - Activity Corner

Proceeds to:
Alzheimer's Research UK & Arthur Rank
Hospice
www.facebook.com/cromwellquilters

**St Ives Free Church - Save Our
Spire**

Welcomes you to a concert with

CORONA BRASS

The Programme includes
Gershwin, Arnold, Sousa and Bach

on

Friday 8th September 2017

at

7.30pm

Refreshments and Raffle

**Tickets available at Just Sharing or on
the door**

Adults £10 Under 17s £7

Information:- Val Bush 01480 469189

Biblical Day Conference 6th September 2017

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

Theme: The Bible and our Care of Creation

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 9.30 a.m. and finishes at 5.00 p.m. and includes lunch.

The charge for this event is £20.00 inclusive and you may use em and lay preachers allowance.

download: [biblical day conference booking form](#) and return to [sue drane](#)



THE YOUNG ONES!

Some lovely young people have been helping with our Save Our Spire campaign.

And the tummies of the public will be well catered for from the produce stall that you see in the picture. Fruit, vegetables and the wonderful marmalade from Charlotte Jordan went down a storm!!

Here you will see the happy faces of Rowan and Ashwin Jordan and Roxie Roach in the front garden of "Waverley" in Oakington. The SoS team thank them for all the hard work they did in raising £100 in aid of our spire. Well done and a heartfelt thanks!



FROM SAMARITAN'S PURSE

I am contacting all the churches who take part in Operation Christmas Child to inform you of an event fairly close to you that may interest you or someone you know in your congregation. It is being organised by the UK Disaster Relief ministry that I have the privilege of leading, which partners Samaritans Purse with the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association.

The seminar is "Sharing Hope in Crisis" and is on Saturday 23rd September 2017 from 0930 – 1700 with registration from 0900. The event is free to attend and will be held at Cambridge Community Church, C3 Centre, Brooks Road, Cambridge CB1 3HR

The one-day Sharing Hope in Crisis seminar is for anyone and everyone in the church, as all of us know a friend, neighbour, or colleague who is struggling with a life crisis. The course will help you know what to say and what not to say when people endure challenging times and appropriately share the love and hope of Jesus Christ. This training is also useful for counsellors, first responders and church leaders who face suffering people on a more regular basis.

The seminar covers the following topics:

- Mission to Respond**
- Look at Suffering and Trauma**
- A Message to Share**
- Communication to a diverse community**
- Communication Process**
- Ministry of Hope**
- Words of Help, Not Harm**
- The UK Disaster Relief Ministry And Diverse Community**

You can register attendance on our website by either clicking the link below or pasting it into your browser search bar:

www.billygraham.org.uk/rapid-response-team/training [1] or by replying to this email with your address details and giving any dietary or access requirements.

If you would like an A4 poster to display, please ask for one in your reply and if you have any questions just ask me.

Every blessing ... Ian

IAN MACLEOD HEAD OF UK DISASTER RELIEF SAMARITAN'S PURSE
MOBILE: 07843 256474

EMAIL: ian.macleod@samaritans-purse.org.uk
WEB: www.samaritans-purse.org.uk [2]

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN ST IVES



BRIDGE CHAPEL

In order to keep a Christian presence in the Bridge Chapel there will be an ecumenical prayer meeting on Monday 11th September at 7pm. This is a pilot project to assess how many parishioners from Churches Together would support this initiative and plans for regular meetings (maybe starting in the Spring of 2018) could be made.

GROUP SERVICE AT BROADLEAS

Would you like to form part of a small group to attend a service at Broadleas?

It is to be held on the second Thursday of each month.

It's not a long service but a great opportunity to get to know the residents and share special time with them.



Church in the Market Place

Despite the wind, the rain or whatever weather is thrown at us, there is always a warm welcome at the Churches Together in the Market Place marquee - to be a Christian presence on a market day. It is situated almost opposite the Free Church on Market Hill.

Held on the second Monday in each month. Come and have a chat, pray or find out about services.

JUST IN CASE.....

You didn't know, Churches Together in St Ives (CTSI) has just had a very big birthday.

We are 50 years old and marked the occasion with a float at the St Ives Carnival this year.

For further information, go to www.stives.churchestogether.org



FROM THE CHURCH SECRETARY

Each year in September we commence the election of our elders. The Ordination Service for Elders contains the following: "Elders share with the minister in the pastoral oversight and leadership of the local church.



They are responsible for making provision for Christian worship and education and for promoting witness and service to the community. It is their duty to arrange for the proper maintenance of church buildings, and to ensure the oversight of "church finances".

As the church is now a charity in its own right, Elders will also have responsibilities as trustees of the charity. The nomination slips will be available from the first Sunday in September.

Please take time to carefully read the instructions in the covering letter and to consider your nominations, to allow the new elders to start in December 2017.

Thanks to Christine Curtis, Alan Curtis, Andy Fleming and Keith Cakebread who have completed two terms of office (six years), and contributed greatly to the life and work of this church.

The Free Church is taking part in the Heritage weekend during the weekend of 8th to 10th September and Christine Curtis has further details. We will be checking the contact details that we hold on our church members and adherents soon, to ensure that they are up to date. We continue to seek more volunteers for Tookeys during the autumn term.

I trust that everyone has had some enjoyable leisure time this summer

Christine Macleod, Church Secretary

DON'T FORGET

Yes, you've guessed it - time to look out for shoeboxes for the next event with Samaritan's Purse.

Further details and flyers will follow and in the meantime have boxes ready for collection for the beginning of November.



Thank you, Val Bush

ECO NEWS

FROM A ROCHA UK

It's been another record-breaking summer. We've had the highest ever night-time temperatures in some parts of the UK, and the longest stretch of days over 30 degrees C since 1973.



SILVER LINING

There's no doubt climate change is changing Britain's species and landscape. Most of that change isn't at all welcome. The demise of Ash trees—with a disease known as Ash dieback—is caused by a fungus that loves the warmer and wetter conditions across northern England and Scotland. The disease is spreading far faster than it would've done without the weather shift. Warmer conditions also favour many exotic—and invasive—species such as Spanish bluebell, which is overtaking our native bluebell in many areas.

But there is a silver lining. A number of butterfly and dragonfly/damselfly species are responding well to the warmth, with comma butterfly and willow emerald damselfly spreading north and west as climate zones move. Little egret, great white egret, cattle egret and black winged stilt are four recent colonists that have opted for Costa del Sussex. And this year

the colourful bee-eater has made its home at a cement works in Nottinghamshire!

What of the future?

The future is certainly bright for some species. We're very likely to see another six to eight dragonfly species, perhaps another ten bird species and five to ten new bee/wasp species arriving in the next decade.

REAL TROUBLE

But the real trouble lies in the Scottish mountains where some Alpine plants, insect and bird species are just hanging on. As the weather has warmed, so species have retreated upwards. The problem comes when these cool-loving species run out of mountain. So the reality is we're likely to lose many vulnerable upland species as lowland species advance. The next decade will be marked by ongoing rapid changes.

What can we do? Across the conservation community we'll need to redouble our efforts to ensure new species are given a home and declining species are supported for as long as possible. And most important, let's keep tackling climate change! *(Pictured is the dainty bluet, a species of damselfly that could occur in the UK over the next ten years. Photo: Wikimedia/Frederik)*

ECO CONFERENCE

Arriving in October is the inaugural Eco Church conference – being held at venues in both London (Saturday October 7) and Sheffield (Saturday October 21). Hosted by A Rocha UK in partnership with Shrinking the Footprint, the conference is an opportunity for representatives from churches of all denominations to come together to share and learn about protecting nature and caring for God's earth through the Eco Church award scheme. We'll have

the opportunity to put our questions about the practicalities of being an Eco Church to our experts in a series of surgeries focussed on the five areas covered by the online Eco Church survey. Admission is free, and lunch and refreshments will be provided (donations welcome on the day).

Thank You to everyone who contributed in whatever way to making the eco-church tea and service at Fenstanton on 13th August such a lovely occasion. ➡

⇒ Watch Out For

.... Al Gore's new film

**“An Inconvenient Sequel: Truth to Power” (PG) was released on
Friday 18th August 2017**

This is a film which weaves together heart-breaking stories of climate change-induced disasters alongside news of sustainable innovations and environmental progress.

Ten years ago we watched his original film “An Inconvenient Truth” at the home of Stephen and Drina Hampson. Today Al Gore remains deeply committed to publicising the oncoming perils of climate change and, as this movie demonstrates, doing something practical about it. This film follows Gore as he travels the globe tutoring eco-activists as well as demonstrating to his global warming-denying critics that his original, dour predictions are already proving correct – Miami Beach's regular floods, Hurricane Sandy putting Manhattan's Ground Zero underwater. Footage of Barack Obama and Donald Trump's efforts conversely to address and refute the fact of climate change are equally chilling, which is ironic considering that the fifteen hottest years on record have occurred since 2001.

This new release is a summary of today's most pressing problem and will leave you concerned, yet optimistic, shocked, yet determined. With climate change acting as the forgotten factor in many of the world's conflicts (including [the war in Syria](#)) and causing increasingly worse disasters, we need to act now.

I hope when the film comes out on DVD the eco-group will be able to arrange a viewing. As they say – watch this space!

Mary Cox

Church Activities

Mondays	19:00	Bowls Club
Wednes- days	10:00 - 11:30	Tots & Carers Term time only
Wed 27th Sep	19:45	Poetry Group

Community Activities

Mondays	10:00	CRUSE
Tuesdays	19:30	St Ives Photographic Club
Wednesdays	14:00	Senior Citizens Club
Thursdays	09:45	Sunny Steps
Sat 2nd Sep	09:30 - 16:00	Saints Crafters Fair
Wed 6th Sep	11:00	U3A Current Affairs
Thu 7th Sep	19:00	WI
Fri 8th Sep	10:00	COPE
Fri 8th Sep	10:00 - 16:00	Heritage Weekend
Fri 8th Sep	19:30	Corona Brass Concert
Sat 9th Sep	10:00 - 16:00	Heritage Weekend
Sun 10th Sep	13:00 - 16:00	Heritage Weekend
Fri 15th Sep	10:15 - 12:00	U3A Local History
Sat 16th Sep	19:30	RAFA Concert
Tue 19th Sep	10:00	Alzheimer's Support Drop-In Cafe
Wed 20th Sep	11:00	U3A Current Affairs
Wed 20th Sep	19:30	St Ives Gardening Club
Fri 22nd Sep	10:00 - 17:00	Cromwell Quilters Exhibition
Sat 23rd Sep	10:00 - 17:00	Cromwell Quilters Exhibition
Sun 24th Sep	13:00 - 17:00	Cromwell Quilters Exhibition
Wed 27th Sep	19:00 - 21:30	RSPB
Wed 4th Oct	11:00	U3A Current Affairs
Thu 5th Oct	19:30	WI
Sat 7th Oct	09:30 - 16:00	Saints Crafters Fair
Sat 7th Oct	19:30	Concert For Save Our Spire

Fenstanton United Reformed Church**HOBBIES, CRAFTS AND COLLECTABLES
ON****SATURDAY 16TH SEPTEMBER 10AM - 4PM****VINTAGE/CLASSIC CARS/TRACTORS
ON SHOW OUTSIDE**IN THE CHURCH WILL BE
KNITTING, SEWINGHAVE A HAND MASSAGE
(small charge)**HANDMADE JEWELLERY**

HOMEMADE JAMS

ANTIQUE DOLLS AND PRAMS
CARDS AND PAPER CRAFT
ANTIQUE BOTTLES
& LOTS MORE

REFRESHMENTS ON SALE

ENTRANCE FEE is just £1.00

Children FREE

**NOTICE**FASHION SHOW
for
SAVE OUR SPIRE

THURSDAY 28TH SEPTEMBER 2017

THIS EVENT IS NOW CANCELLED

Contacts

Minister

Revd Dr. Catherine Ball 352058
Mobile: 07714 081930

Church Secretary

Christine Macleod 465921
churchsecretary@stivesfreechurch.org

Associate Church Secretary

Andy Fleming 468055

Communications & Media Convenor

Peter Davies 395835

Webmaster

alan@stivesfreechurch.org

Finance & Property Convenor

Peter German 352401

Freewill Offering Treasurer

David Duffett 395308

Resident Musician

Brian Lodde 354647

Tookey's Manager

Pat Clarke 468886

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 is committed to the
safeguarding of children and
vulnerable adults

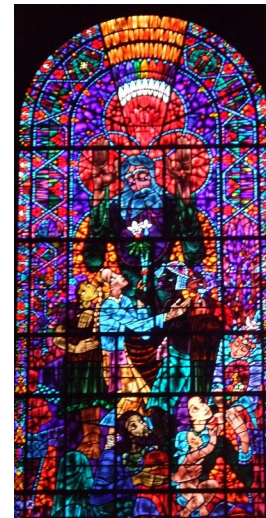
Free Church Worship

Chapel Prayers

At 10am

Monday to Saturday

Sun 3rd Sep	11:00	Revd Dr Catherine Ball - Holy Communion
Sun 10th Sep	11:00	Revd Roy Muttram
Sun 17th Sep	11:00	Revd Dr Catherine Ball
	18.00	Joint Service at Fenstanton Chris Curtis
Sun 24th Sep	11:00	Revd Dr Catherine Ball Cromwell Quilters
Sun 1 st Oct	11:00	Revd Dr Catherine Ball - St Ives Harvest Festival



Fenstanton Worship

Sun 3 rd Sep	9:30	Revd Derek Newton
Sun 10 th Sep	9:30	Revd Dr Catherine Ball – Holy Communion
Sun 10 th Sep	18:00	Christine Curtis
Sun 17 th Sep	9:30	Revd Dr Catherine Ball
	18.00	Joint Service - Chris Curtis
Sun 24 th Sep	9:30	Keith Cakebread
Sun 1st Oct	9:30	Revd Derek Newton