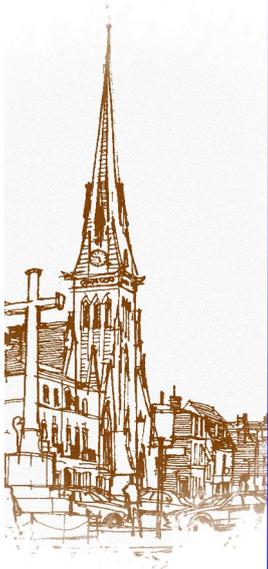


# October 2017

# inspire



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

## View from the Manse



Autumn has come early this year – with the weather cooler and wetter since the first of September! What happened to an Indian summer? Yet it is still a golden season of giving thanks for the bounty of God's provision as seen in the harvest of fruits, grains and vegetables. I don't know about you, but it has been a good year for us in our garden, with onions, garlic, beetroot, carrots, tomatoes, apples and pears! I have baked umpteen crumbles, and Peter has made dozens of pots of chutney.

In the Scriptures, we read in so many ways of the generous and faithful provision of God for people. One passage is Exodus 16 in which the Israelites, after being rescued from slavery in Egypt, are hungry in the wilderness. God feeds them with meat, by sending a flock of quails and manna – bread from heaven. They gather the meat in the evening and the bread in the morning and they always had sufficient, but could not hoard any to keep for the following day. It is a lesson in trust and dependence upon God.

We are reminded to trust God from birth throughout all of our lives. As I write this, I am waiting to hear of the birth of our second grandson. On Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> we celebrate the 30<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary of Irene and Geoffrey Carter who will be having a Blessing during our service.

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**Deadline for November  
Sunday 15th October**

### Inspire Editorial Team

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*Copy preferably by email please to  
office@stivesfreechurch.org*

As part of the wider United Reformed Church we have the opportunity to meet others from different churches in the Cambridge Area Partnership meeting at Emmanuel URC on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> October at 7.15 pm and also at the Eastern Synod meeting starting 10 am on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> October at Castle Hill, Ipswich. We also share in fellowship ecumenically with the Methodist church as we mark Remembrance Sunday.

One of the great blessings of the Church is that we are part of a world-wide community of faith. We can learn from each other how God has watched over us and sustained the Church over many generations. We are blessed to have each other so that we may encourage each other in our Christian faith.

As the days grow colder and evenings draw in, may we continue to share with each other enjoying the warmth of Christian hospitality and friendship.

With love in Christ,

**Catherine**



Harvest Gifts for the Foodbank

**SOS**  
*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!*

### **TABLE TOP SALE**

We would be grateful for any items suitable for the table top sale and tombola on the 14<sup>th</sup> October at the Corn Exchange.

Please leave any donations in the yellow box in the office upstairs.

### **Well done Gerry Mears!**

Gerry Mears is a regular Volunteer in Tookey's and we could not do without him to do our washing up three days a week and every Bank Holiday.

He is a regular runner and on 9th July he ran 10k in the "Fen Gallop" which took place in Willingham.

Through sponsorship, much of it gift aided, Gerry raised a fantastic £353 towards our spire appeal.

Many thanks to Gerry and all who sponsored him.

**Mavis**

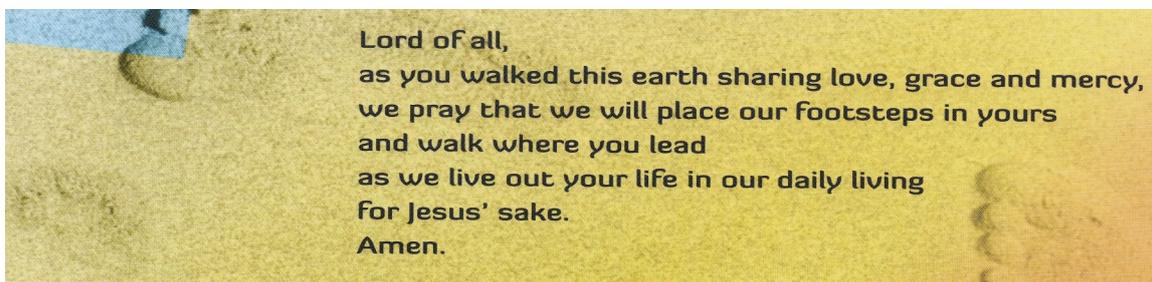
## ***From the Church Secretary***

A new approach within the United Reformed Church is just beginning. This is known as 'Walking the Way: Living the life of Jesus today' It's the umbrella term for the United Reformed Church's focus on lifelong Christian discipleship and mission. I introduced this in the notices at a recent Sunday morning church service. We are all invited to be part of a season of preparation and prayer from September to Advent. There are various materials being prepared that we will keep you informed about. A candle lighting liturgy for the four Sundays of Advent is downloadable from the URC website and, in early 2018, a ten-module resource based on Andrew Robert's book, looking at the ten holy habits of discipleship, will be available, as will Lent resources. The literal meaning for 'disciple' is 'one who learns as they follow'. There are introductory handouts and bookmarks on the landing.



A prayer has been written and is on the bookmarks.

### ***A prayer for Walking the Way***



This is encouraging as we all pull together in the 'ups and downs' of running the church centre in the autumn term through into winter. We have some changes and additional resources to turn to locally. Sindy Surtees has kindly agreed to be the link elder for Tookey's and catering alongside Mavis Williams. Alan Curtis has done an excellent job as our church treasurer and is preparing to hand over the role to Esmond Edwards and the finance team including David Duffett with Peter German's input. Barbara Duffett, Ann Pike and Helen Ackroyd become new Members of 'Just Sharing.' Thanks go to Brian Lodde and Cherie Gouldthorp who have been Members for 'Just Sharing' until now. Still with change in sight, please remember to return your nomination slips for the elders' election to the church office before 12.30pm on 8th October 2018.

Building on from the Heritage Weekend we have been asked to supply 'Explore Churches' with historical and current information about our church. Thanks to Christine Curtis who led on our initiative to have our church open during the Heritage weekend and to the Denhams for providing excellent written handouts which you can find on the church landing.

We hope that the work on our Spire will be completed by the end of October and the SoS team are still planning events to help us raise the funds to cover the costs of this landmark restoration. These are in the Inspire forward planner.

There is still plenty to progress, 'as we step out on this exciting, yet daunting, journey of discipleship'.

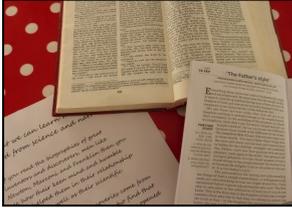
***Christine Macleod***

## Battle of Britain Sunday

As has become our tradition this service was conducted as always by Revd Roy Muttram and attended by ATC Squadron 2331. The Mayor was in attendance and the lessons were read by Sqn Ldr Alex Wedderburn Rtd and Cpl Jade Daniels.



Your thoughts  
would be much  
appreciated!



In our Media and Comms meetings we've been thinking about how we could add more content to our website about what we believe, what is important to us and what have we learned on our Christian journey so far.

We would very much like members of our congregation to contribute to this by writing a short reflection on a subject of their choice. This can be about life or love or loss. It can be about people you've met or places that are significant to you. It can be about science, nature, art or music. It can be about Christmas, Easter or Pentecost. It can be about passages from the Bible, books you've read, people that you've heard speak. It can be about childhood, parenthood or grandparenthood.

It can be about almost anything! ...What we are after are those thoughts which may be helpful and of interest to other Christians or to those thinking about Christianity.

We would love to have lots of different thoughts and perspectives – so please help us if you can. If you would like to know more then please talk to a member of the 'Media and Comms' group.

**Pete Davies**



## SAVE OUR SPIRE CONCERT WITH CORONA BRASS

About 50 people were in for a lovely evening of extraordinary music on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> September. This was provided by five excellent musicians in a variety of styles and composers. We were treated to a vast programme which consisted of composers such as Arnold, Bizet and Bach to Dixieland, Lennon and McCartney and Bernstein with a fair bit of ragtime included. This writer has never been to such an event and the audience and I were caught up in the amazing sound made by the group in the perfect setting of the Centrum, St Ives Free Church.

Everyone stayed upstairs to enjoy some refreshments at the interval and a raffle was provided to encourage everyone to add a little more to the coffers for the Save Our Spire renovation campaign.

**Val Bush**

## New Appointment at Westminster College

The Revd Peter Ball has been appointed Director of Church Resource Development at Westminster College. He comments: 'As Mission and Training Officer of Eastern Synod for the past nine years, it was great to have the chance to work with so many ministers, elders and churches to explore the mission opportunities and challenges of being a Christian witness in changing times. It has also been exciting and rewarding to see fresh expressions and pioneering ministries being a part of this work. I am delighted to be entering a newly-created role at Westminster College and becoming part of a team helping the college to be a place of resourcing for the whole people of God and looking to develop new ways of achieving this that can engage with today's society.'



## ***Derek and Hazel Newton celebrate their Diamond Wedding***

### ***They write:***

To celebrate our Diamond Wedding Anniversary on September 7th, 57 members of our immediate family gathered at the Dolphin Hotel for a celebratory lunch. A wonderful opportunity for the clan Newton and the clan Giles to get together.



On Sunday 10th, during morning worship our dear friend Roy Muttrum included a prayer of blessing and a reminder of our marriage vows taken so long ago.

Our Anniversary was enriched by the love and affection, cards, cakes and flowers from the family of the church at St. Ives and Fenstanton.

Our thanks to all who helped made this a weekend to remember.

### ***Hazel and Derek***

### **Note from John & Mavis**

Many grateful thanks to all those church members and other friends who sent cards, good wishes and emails, visited us and said prayers for us following John's serious operation in August.

He hopes to be fully recovered by the beginning of November.

Love and best wishes from  
Mavis and John Williams.

### **HELP—Jam Jars!**

#### **Request for 200g Jam Jars with Tops**

*Thank you to all who have returned these valuable pots—but I still need more!*

*The Hellmann's Mayonnaise jar is the perfect size.*

*Please leave them at the back of church.*



*Yours hopefully,  
Charlotte*

## ***News from the church eco-group***

An article from **Triodos Bank**

### **Everyday banking with values.**

### **Cheap food may be costing us the earth**

Every apple, pear or lemon we buy comes with a backstory, a cost that isn't factored into the price at the checkout. A new report, welcomed by HRH Prince Charles, scrutinises food supply chains, uncovering the true cost of our everyday shopping habits. The results are surprising: organic food is less expensive than you may think, while regular products are far too cheap.



When we buy an orange or pineapple in the supermarket, we imagine that the price shown reflects the costs involved in producing it. This logic leads us to believe that intensively farmed and low-welfare food items are cheaper to put on the shelf. However, new research from organic trading company Eosta and financial consultants EY, co-sponsored by Triodos Bank, reveals that the social and environmental implications of production make the 'true cost' of food much higher than you may think.

The study, titled 'True Cost Accounting in Farming and Finance' and released in June 2017, considered the impact on health and society, as well as the detriments and negative impacts on our climate, biodiversity, water use and soils. By considering these six elements, the researchers were able to build a broader picture of how food systems operate in the wider context of production.

"Providing a measure of what these costs are and their social and environmental consequences would equip consumers with enough information to make informed decisions that reflect their values"

For example, while organic and non-organic apples were found to be broadly similar on many facets, the difference in impact on health was dramatic. This difference is attributed to the heavy use of pesticides, particularly at a late stage of growing, having negative health consequences for pickers during harvest. From these stats, Eosta were able to calculate that buying organic apples would save 27 sick days, per hectare per year, meaning a 17p (19 euro cents) per kilo advantage for organic apples. They also identified some other surprising impacts in their research, including:

***Buy one organic pineapple and save 125 litres of greenhouse gases***

***Buy organic pears and save 6m3 of fertile soil (per 1000sqm and year)***

***Buy organic grapes and save 14.708 litres of water (per 100sqm and year)***

Long-term organic advocate HRH Prince Charles welcomed the study, highlighting that a concentration on the financial bottom line would only derail efforts to maintain and improve our agricultural land to provide sustainability and food security. As Eosta CEO Volkert Engelsman pointed out, "The report makes clear that organic food is not too expensive, but rather conventional food is too cheap."

Providing a measure of what these costs are and their social and environmental consequences would equip consumers with enough information to make informed decisions that reflect their values. This is a major step in empowering the consumer by providing transparency and reflects our own commitments to providing full transparency around where our customers' savings and investments are lent.

When it comes to food and farming, Triodos Bank recognises the impact that certain food systems can have on our planet and the people who are part of the production cycle. For this reason, we only invest in organic, sustainable farming as we believe it recognises the relationship between our environment, our health and the food we eat. Organic farming avoids the use of pesticides and chemical fertilisers and maintains the highest standards of animal welfare which, ultimately, means less strain on the ecology of our planet.

In the future, the true cost of products should be on clear display. As consumers we vote on the world we want to see through the daily purchases we make. By making hidden costs transparent and informing the customer, we can allow people to make an informed decision and spend or save their money in a way that reflects their values.

## The Free Church Spire Repairs

The 150-foot Free Church Spire, a prominent landmark in St Ives market place, is currently undergoing renovation work with the help of money from many people and organisations in the town and surrounding villages. The spire urgently needs stone replacement, repointing and weed removal.



Rodells, specialist church conservation steeplejacks, and Helen Axworthy senior conservation architect with RH Partnership, inspected the site on 2<sup>nd</sup> July. By end of July, scaffolding was erected and renovation work started in earnest. The Spire Appeal for £55,000 stood at about £28,000 by mid-September. The appeal team has been overwhelmed by local support.

In early September, Corona Brass Quintet, a local and highly gifted brass ensemble, performed a fundraising concert in the Free Church, raising over £600. The concert was organised by Val Bush and James Stygall of Corona Brass. See Val's article on Page 5.

A grant of £2,000 was received recently from the Huntingdonshire District Council Community Chest, also supported by St Ives Town Council. It has given the Free Church and its many user groups a huge boost.

Thank you very much for your continued and ongoing support to save our spire.

### ***Fundraising momentum continues with a range of events shown on the calendar.***

14 <sup>th</sup> October	Table Top Sale by kind provision of the Corn Exchange with tables at £6 each.
6 <sup>th</sup> November	Cake Stall
3 <sup>rd</sup> December	Hemingford Ladies Choir Afternoon Concert, donations for the SOS Appeal
4 <sup>th</sup> December	Cake Stall

### ***Additional fundraising initiatives are:***

Sale of marmalade	Jars of tasty homemade marmalade on sale in the centrum
Smarties tubes	Fill an empty tube of Smarties with 20ps, thank you
Family Tree-histories	Genealogy research reports of your family tree, with all donations to the Spire Appeal.
LOAF Recipe Book	A unique booklet of environmentally friendly recipes for cakes and pastries. Each recipe includes at least one LOAF (Local, Organic, Animal-Friendly or Fairtrade ingredient). We aim to publish in time for Christmas sale.

For more details please contact the Church Office [office@freechurchstives.org](mailto:office@freechurchstives.org) or [nevrnham@btinternet.com](mailto:nevrnham@btinternet.com) .





## Plaudits for the United Reformed Church at Greenbelt Festival!

The United Reformed Church made itself 'More than Welcome' at sun-kissed Greenbelt during the August Bank Holiday Weekend; attracting many a compliment for its thoughtful, thought-provoking presence and wide-ranging activities.

The URC's 'More than Welcome' theme for 2017 proved to be fertile ground for conversation and action during the festival of arts, faith and justice. From a knitted food treasure hunt through to intentional conversations, cake and debate, poetry, storytelling, a panel discussion and much more, the URC based its programme on the question posed in Luke 14:15-24: 'Who's missing from the banquet?' This led to further questions: 'Who's missing from our conversations, our communities, our churches?' The challenge was then thrown down: 'Jesus invites everyone. Do you? What will you do to fully include others – and allow them to replenish and change you?'

Hundreds of adults and children responded to the challenge in various ways. One of the most popular of activities was the knitted food treasure hunt, all made possible by 80 churches from Fraserburgh to Southampton and including Fenstanton. Knitting and crochet fans contributed a staggering 2,800 items for the event.

### ***Did you know?*** (courtesy of Stewart)

The Free Church building was opened in 1864 and cost £6000 (£700,000 in today's money). Essentially a brick "gothic style" building clad in stone apart from the spire above the clock face which is all stone. Height to the top of the spire is 150ft.

At the opening, the building was described as providing accommodation for over 700 people, when it had a much larger rear gallery.



# Christmas Shop and Annual Sale

at

## *Just Sharing*

The Fair Trade Shop

St. Ives Free Church

Market Hill, St. Ives

01480 496570

email: [justsharing@stivesfreechurch.org](mailto:justsharing@stivesfreechurch.org)

on

**Friday 27th &  
Saturday 28th October  
9:30am-4:30pm**

**Make a purchase  
that makes a difference!**



**Church Activities**

Mondays	19:00	Bowls Club
Wednes- days	10:00 - 11:30	Tots & Carers Term time only
Sat 14th Oct	10:00— 14:00	Save Our Spire Table Top Sale at the Corn Exchange
Wed 25th Oct	19:45	Poetry Group
Fri 27th Oct	09:30 - 16:30	Just Sharing Christmas Shop and Annual Sale
Sat 28th Oct	09:30 - 16:30	Just Sharing Christmas Shop and Annual Sale

**Community Activities**

Mondays	10:00	CRUSE
Tuesdays	20:00	St Ives Photographic Club
Wednes- days	14:00	Senior Citizens Club
Thursdays	09:45	Sunny Steps
Wed 4th Oct	11:00	U3A Current Affairs
Thu 5th Oct	19:30	WI
Sat 7th Oct	09:30 - 16:30	Saints Crafters Fair
Mon 9th Oct	13:30	U3A French
Fri 13th Oct	10:00	COPE
Sat 14th Oct	19:00	Hemingford Ladies' Choir concert
Tue 17th Oct	10:00	Alzheimer's Support Drop-In Cafe
Wed 18th Oct	11:00	U3A Current Affairs
	19:30	St Ives Gardening Club
Fri 20th Oct	09:00	U3A Local History
Tue 24th Oct	13:30	U3A French
Wed 25th Oct	19:30	RSPB
Wed 1st Nov	11:00	U3A Current Affairs
	19:30	WI
Sat 4th Nov	09:30 - 16:30	Saints Crafters Fair

**Fenstanton URC*****Exhibition of Old Photos of  
Fenstanton***

1900—2017

Friday 6th October  
2—5Saturday 7th October  
10—5***Donations to Church Funds******Christmas  
Choir***

*Rehearsals for the choir will begin this year  
on Sunday 15th October and with the  
exception of Remembrance Sunday and  
Church meeting will continue through to  
the Service on the 17<sup>th</sup> December.*

*Please let Irene know if you are able to sing  
[sirenemcc@hotmail.com](mailto:sirenemcc@hotmail.com)*

*New singers most welcome.*

## Contacts

### Minister

Revd Dr. Catherine Ball 352058  
Mobile: 07714 081930

### Church Secretary

Christine Macleod 465921  
[churchsecretary@stivesfreechurch.org](mailto:churchsecretary@stivesfreechurch.org)

### Associate Church Secretary

Andy Fleming 468055

### Communications & Media Convenor

Peter Davies 495385

### Webmaster

[alan@stivesfreechurch.org](mailto:alan@stivesfreechurch.org)

### Finance & Property Convenor

Peter German 352401

### Freewill Offering Treasurer

David Duffett 395308

### Resident Musician

Brian Lodde 354647

### Flower Convenor

Margaret Cakebread 462726

### Eco Group Convenor

Mary Cox 300103

### Chapel Prayer Coordinator

Gerry Swain 468053

### Tookey's Manager

Pat Clarke 468886

### Just Sharing Manager

Sue Billings 496570

### Asst Manager

Rosemarie Smith  
[justsharing@stivesfreechurch.org](mailto:justsharing@stivesfreechurch.org)

### Church Office 468535

[office@stivesfreechurch.org](mailto: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—10am Mon—Sat



Sun 1st 11:00 Revd Dr Catherine Ball  
Oct Green Holy Communion

Sun 8th 11:00 Christine Macleod  
Oct

Sun 8th 18:00 Margaret Cakebread  
Oct Joint at Fenstanton

Sun 15th 11:00 Revd Dr Catherine Ball  
Oct

Sun 22nd 11:00 Revd Dr Catherine Ball -  
Oct cafe style

Sun 29th 11:00 Revd Roy Muttram  
Oct

Sun 5th 11:00 Revd Dr Catherine Ball  
Nov Holy Communion

## Fenstanton Worship

Sun 1<sup>st</sup> 9:30 Revd Derek Newton  
Oct

Sun 8<sup>th</sup> 9:30 Revd Dr Catherine Ball  
Oct Holy Communion

Sun 8<sup>th</sup> 18:00 Margaret Cakebread  
Oct

Sun 15<sup>th</sup> 9:30 Revd Dr Catherine Ball  
Oct

Sun 22<sup>nd</sup> 9:30 Elizabeth Caswell  
Oct

Sun 29<sup>th</sup> 9:30 Faith Sharp  
Oct

Sun 5<sup>th</sup> 9:30 Revd Derek Newton  
Nov