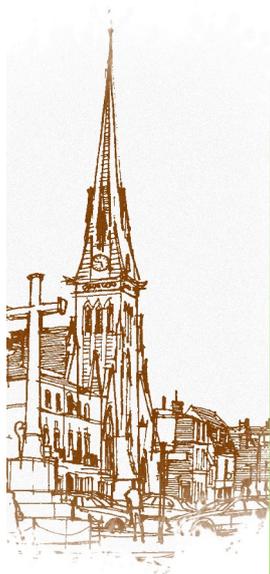


April 2018

Inspire



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

View from the Manse



Easter Greetings to all! We begin this month with Easter Sunday – the story of Jesus’ resurrection, the core story of our faith. Paul in 1 Corinthians 15.17 says, ‘If Christ has not been raised your faith is futile and you are still in your sins...But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died. For as all die in Adam, so all will be made alive in Christ.’ We may have fullness of life in our relationship with God on Earth and life eternal in his Presence!!! Hallelujah! What a wonderful message filling us with hope and joy!

Early spring in April is the month for bulbs to rise and fruit tree blossoms to bloom. We may still have some rain, but the weather is finally warming, and the gardens are being watered for summer productivity and greenness. We may celebrate the newness of life in spring, the refreshment of our environment and the cheering of our spirits and the building up of our faith.



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***May Inspire
Deadline—15th April
Publication -
29th April***

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office@stivesfreechurch.org*

View from the Manse cont'd

There are many church events of Tea Parties, Church in the Market Place, on Monday April 9th, Café style worship on the 22nd April and a baptism on 29th April. Signs of fellowship with one another and new life. Spring is a good time to think of taking up something new and different, of further learning and growing in our faith.

As part of the Walking the Way: living the life of Jesus Today, the United Reformed Church's focus on discipleship and mission, we are invited to consider taking a new resource offering numerous opportunities of learning to enrich your faith and prepare you for discipleship in our changing society.

We have much to be thankful for and much for which to look forward. Let us be Easter people – people of resurrection and new life!

Love in Christ,

Catherine



**Quiz for
Christian Aid**



You're invited!

What: A Quiz Night to raise funds for the fantastic work of Christian Aid around the world with speaker Pam Richardson from Christian Aid.

When: Saturday 12th May 2018

Where: St. Ives Free Church (URC) - upstairs

Time: 7pm

Cost: £10 per team or £2 per person (Maximum of six per team)

All welcome, come as a team, bring a friend or come on your own and we will find a team for you to be on.

LOAF style refreshments will be provided and there will be prizes to be won.

To book your place please contact Josh Thomas – jht1903@gmail.com or buy tickets from the church office or Just Sharing shop.

From the Church Secretary

April brings a shower of thoughts for things to do in spring. Here are three activities that are on our horizon for our church in the coming few months.

At the March meeting of the East of England Synod, we considered the United Reformed Church theme of Holy Habits. This comes under the banner of 'Walking the Way: Living the life of Jesus today' the new focus of the URC of missional discipleship. Booklets have been published on ten holy habits from the book by Andrew Roberts. They can be used as study guides for groups and congregations. They are excellent practical resources for use locally. These include:



- Biblical teaching
- Fellowship
- Breaking bread
- Prayer
- Sharing resources
- Serving
- Eating together
- Gladness and generosity
- Worship
- Making more disciples.

We have copies which Catherine is planning to use in the church over the coming year.

Secondly, the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) come into effect in May 2018 and the church has a privacy notice. This will be available from the church office, and discusses how we handle any personal information of people connected with the church, in line with GDPR standards. It contains information about which data is gathered, how the data is stored, why the organisation needs the data, what we will do with it and how long we will keep it. We only hold information where there is a legitimate need for its use. In this we promise never to pass your details on to another organisation without your consent. We will store your personal data securely and use this information to deliver what you have asked us to do in the church and to communicate with you in the ways you have chosen. Consent for holding personal information can be withdrawn at any time by writing to churchsecretary@stivesfreechurch.org.

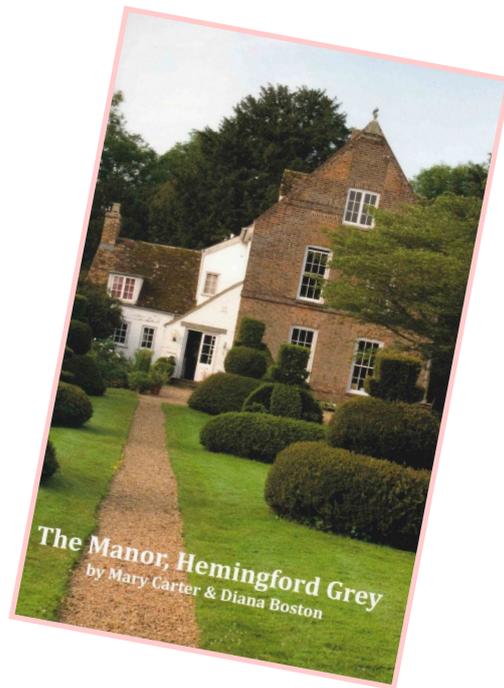
At Synod we learned about the launch of Stepwise. This is a new intergenerational United Reformed Church discipleship programme. It is for people of all ages and backgrounds. The launch will be in September 2018. Stepwise is open to anyone who is keen to reflect on and develop their Christian faith. News of Stepwise can be found on www.urc.org.uk/stepwise. Leaflets are now available.

Christine Macleod

THE MANOR HOUSE

- a new history and guide

What an unexpected but very pleasant surprise this month to discover a newly published book about The Manor House, Hemingford Grey, part of which is written by a dear friend and former member of our Free Church — the late Dr Mary Carter. The book is a collaborative project by Mary Carter and Diana Boston, the owner and resident of The Manor House.



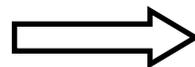
In the foreword to the book, Diana Boston writes:

'Dr Mary Carter lived locally and taught at St Peter's School, Huntingdon. She was an active church member and was asked to write a history of the St Ives United Reformed Church (The Free Church). While doing this she discovered a passion for local history and went on to write and edit several books including 'Hemingford Grey is Famous for its Enormous Gooseberries', which is a history of Hemingford Grey through its street names. While carrying out the research for this book, alongside Stewart Denham and Bob Burn-Murdoch, she became fascinated by the history of The Manor. I handed to Mary the folder of cuttings and historical information that Lucy Boston had gathered over the years and she started her work on this history.'

'As with everything to which Mary set her hand, her research into this history was extremely thorough. She completed writing it in 1997 but, alas, died in 2012 before I got round to writing my guide to The Manor. I am delighted at last, to be able to complete my guide so that the two can now be published together, helped by an award from the Goodliffe Trust.'

In the book, The Manor House is described as one of the oldest inhabited houses in Britain and a rare example of a two storey, moated Norman house built in the first half of the 12th Century. Mary Carter has thoroughly researched the history of the Manor from the first written record of it in 1041 to the present day. It is a fascinating and colourful story.

We discover that Lucy Boston bought the house and the three and a half acres that remained of the manorial estate in 1939. She had the house restored, and in the process took away as many of the of the later changes as possible thereby bringing the house back, as near as was realistic, to its Norman original. She then recreated it as the house of Green Knowe in her series of six Green Knowe books. Her daughter-in-law Diana Boston lives there now and leads visitors round the house on guided tours.



This is a fascinating and beautifully illustrated book by Diana Boston and Mary Carter, and is especially welcomed by Mary's many friends at The Free Church who remember her with pride and great affection. **SMD**

The book £5 is available from the Hemingford Village Store and from The Manor House.

Alan Carter writes:

I was especially pleased and proud when Diana Boston called recently to give me a complimentary copy of the newly published book on The Manor at Hemingford Grey, co-authored by herself and my late wife Mary Carter. Mary wrote her piece several years before she died and it is so pleasing that it is now being published. Mary was so proud to have been a member of the Free Church and would have been pleased to know that her friends and fellow members are interested in reading about this historical and interesting House and the contribution she made towards its publication



Kingdom Prayer

Holy God,

In your Kingdom

The strong need the weak,

The rich are transformed by the poor, the fortunate are welcomed by the homeless.

Your kingdom is built by those who expect their God to come.

Amen

This year Christian Aid Week starts on 10th May and this is part of the message to us from Archbishop Justin Welby:

Kingdom builders like you from all walks of life and Christian traditions come together during Christian Aid Week. Whether you do house-to-house-collections, sponsored walks or church collections, or if you bring everyone together for Big Brekkies, bake sales or quiz nights, you're stepping out in God's mission for the world's poorest people. Together, we raise funds to help our poorest brothers and sisters around the globe to thrive abundantly, because we believe in life before death. This work brings the kingdom closer.

Each day, your reflections, prayers and responses could focus our calling to proclaim the Good News. Please would you **#pledge2pray** at **thykingdomcome.global**

Introducing Peter Welham.....

Hello everyone,

My name is Peter Welham and I am your new caretaker and hope to carry on the good work of Alan your previous caretaker.



Firstly I would like to thank all those that have been volunteering to keep the church running since Alan left in September. Various people have been involved in fire alarm & water checks, setting up chairs and tables for different functions within the church and have agreed to carry on until the end of the month so that I can settle in and find my feet..

My background is engineering: when I left school a few years back now I was a motor mechanic then a maintenance engineer. I left that and went into the film industry for a couple of years doing sound effects for some major & minor films, notably I made some sound effects for Star Wars and watched that being made at EMI studios Borehamwood, where I met a few minor stars like Marty Feldman, Charlie Drake, Una Stubbs, and Richard Burton. Some of you younger people may need to google these names!

I then went into telecommunications and started work for BT as an engineer and stayed in the telecom arena for the next 30+ years. Through training and study I moved through the ranks from an engineer to engineering manager on to senior project manager, working with budgets of over £20m. I've worked for most of the big telecom companies all over Europe. Whilst working for BT I met Barbara Windsor, Tom Cruise, Nicole Kidman, John Le Mesurier: they all lived in Stanmore at the time, they were just like you and me, ordinary people.

Back around 2000 I wanted to take a completely different direction and worked for a charity in Ramsey for 6 months working on projects with school kids, the unemployed and those that do great work in the community including various volunteering groups, I then moved on to become a site officer in a community centre, then a caretaker at a primary school.

Now I think I have found my perfect role as caretaker at The Free Church in St Ives. Everyone that I have met so far has given me an enthusiastic welcome and has gone out of their way to make me feel welcome. I hope to work for the church for many years to come.

If anyone has anything that needs attending to, there is a book in the office (hanging on the notice board) that anyone can write in, so if there's a light bulb out, or a table or chair that needs repairing, just put it in the book giving as much detail as needed.

Outside work, I play golf with a great bunch of pensioners at Ramsey GC, on a Wednesday. I've been a member at Ramsey for 25 years with a handicap of 15. I have been as low as 11 but I'm not as young as I used to be and can't hit it as far these days. I've also worked on the golf committee on and off for over 9 years.

I play the guitar badly, mainly open string chords, for over 30 years. I've recently bought a Ukulele and I am teaching myself to play that, I've attempted to play the saxophone, clarinet, bass guitar, so I guess I am a tad musical. I do enjoy my music having a vinyl collection of over 500 LPs, and a collection of well over 200 CDs. My music taste is rock music I guess, but I have in my collections anything from classical to country & western, from Frank Sinatra to Van Morrison, from Bob Dylan to Jimi Hendrix and everything in between.

I am honestly going to give this role 110%, so please if you want anything doing or just want to have a chat feel free, you'll see me wandering round doing odd jobs, maintenance and so on and I look forward to working with you all.

Pete

Church Activities

Mondays	19:00	Bowls Club
Wednes- days	10:00 - 11:30	Tots & Carers Term time only
Fri 27th Apr	13:00 - 14:00	SOS lunchtime concert - clarinet and piano with Bev & Jayne

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
Thu 5th Apr	19:30	WI
Sat 7th Apr	09:30 - 16:00	Saints Crafters Fair
Mon 9th Apr	13:30	U3A French
Fri 13th Apr	10:00	COPE
Tue 17th Apr	10:00	Alzheimer's Support Drop-In Café
Wed 18th Apr	11:00	U3A Current Affairs
Wed 18th Apr	19:30	St Ives Gardening Club
Fri 20th Apr	10:00	U3A Local History
Sat 21st Apr	19:30	Harmonia Music Concert with Cambridge Chord Company
Mon 23rd Apr	13:30	U3A French
Wed 25th Apr	19:30	RSPB
Sat 28th Apr	19:30	St Ives Rotary Club Concert— "Accorde"
Sun 29th Apr	15:00	Macmillan Charity Concert
Wed 2nd May	11:00	U3A Current Affairs
	19:30	WI
Sat 5th May	09:30 - 16:00	Saints Crafters Fair

Easter

*Nature throbs with life,
New and vibrant,
Expectant and exciting.*

*Trees and flowers, birds and animals
All bursting with energy.*

*The dawn chorus
Heralds the light,
Its sweet enchanting music
Greets each new day,
Days immaculate with promise,
Open to reckless enjoyment.*

*The silken spider's web
Bejewelled with sparkling dewdrops
Hangs above the soft turf
Where lambs cavort and play.
Earth caressed by balmy breezes,
Refreshed by April showers
Is invigorated.*

*Across the meadow
In the clear bright morning air
The church bells ring.*

*It's Easter!
Christ is risen!
Joy to the world!*



Mervyn Curtis

Contacts

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David Duffett 395308

Resident Musician

Brian Lodde 354647

Flower Convenor

Margaret Cakebread 462726

Eco Group Convenor

Mary Cox 300103

Chapel Prayer Coordinator

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Tookey's Manager

Pat Clarke 468886

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

Porch Chapel Prayers

Daily Monday—Saturday

10am

Sun 1st Apr	11:00	Revd Dr Catherine Ball - Holy Communion - Easter Sunday
Sun 8th Apr	11:00	Faith Sharp
	18:00	Keith Cakebread Joint Service at Fenstanton
Sun 15th Apr	11:00	Revd Dr Catherine Ball
Sun 22nd Apr	11:00	Revd Dr Catherine Ball Cafe Style Service
Sun 29th Apr	11:00	Revd Dr Catherine Ball - Baptism
Sun 6th May	11:00	Revd Dr Catherine Ball - Holy Communion
	18:30	Houghton Chapel. Holy Communion with the Anglicans

Fenstanton Worship

Sun 1st Apr	09:30	Revd Dr Catherine Ball - Holy Communion
Sun 8th Apr	09:30	Pauline Zahner
	18:00	Keith Cakebread Joint Service at Fenstanton
Sun 15th Apr	09:30	Revd Dr Catherine Ball
Sun 22nd Apr	09:30	Keith Cakebread
Sun 29th Apr	09:30	Josh Thomas
Sun 6th May	09:30	Revd Derek Newton - Holy Communion

