



Inspire

The Newsletter of The Free Church (United Reformed) St Ives and Fenstanton URC

Thoughts for the month ahead.

View from the Manse...

Summer greetings to you all! June is one of the loveliest months of the year.



The weather is usually warm and pleasant, and the leaves of the trees are fresh and green and the summer roses and perennials are coming out in a blaze of colour.

This year it is a special month as we have an extended bank holiday commemorating the Platinum Jubilee of our Queen.

It is a remarkable achievement for her, and she has held the respect of people around the world by her faithfulness to duty, her dignity, and her gracious professionalism over whole of her 70 years reign – through difficult as well as happy times. I know just how much I rely on my faith to guide me through the good times and the bad.

Each day is a new beginning. I know that the only way to live my life is to try to do what is right, to take the long view, to give of my best in all that the day brings, and to put my trust in God... I draw strength from the message of hope in the Christian gospel. Queen Elizabeth, 2002 (p.6 in *The Servant Queen*, by Mark Greene & Catherine Butcher).

I would echo her words and attempt to live in a similar way. As a Christian the Queen has upheld her Christian values and has not been afraid to speak of her faith each year in her televised Christmas address. We will celebrate her Jubilee as part of our worship service on Sunday 5th June.

We could all learn from the Queen's dependability as we live out our Christian discipleship. Eugene Peterson, an American theologian wrote a book on Christian discipleship entitled, *A Long Obedience in the Same Direction*.



Services this month:

THE FREE CHURCH, ST IVES	
5th June	Reverend Dr Catherine Ball - Holy Communion
12th June	Reverend Peter Ball
19th June	Reverend Dr Catherine Ball
26th June	Reverend Dr Catherine Ball

FENSTANTON URC	
5th June	Keith Cakebread
12th June	Reverend Dr Catherine Ball - Holy Communion
19th June	Reverend Dr Catherine Ball
26th June	Keith Cakebread

We are to keep persevering in the faith throughout all the seasons of life for God is faithful toward us, watching over us, sustaining us in tricky times, strengthening us when we are weak and guiding us when we are feeling lost or uncertain.

This is a good time to give thanks to all those who have been faithful in their Christian service through the ministries of our church.

With grateful hearts we remember all who have served the life of our church and renew our own commitment to continue our life together.

Every blessing, Catherine



Just Sharing
 The Fair Trade Shop
 Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday
 10am - 3pm
 Saturday
 10am - 3.30pm



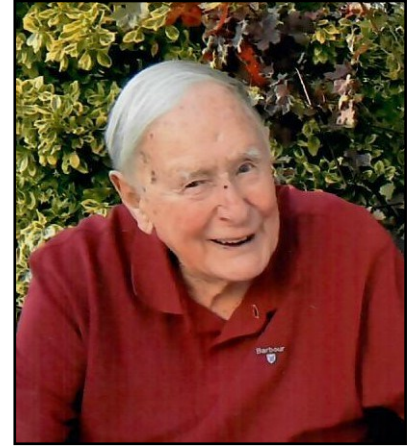
Read online at: www.stivesfreechurch.org or visit our **Facebook** page

The Free Church, Market Hill, St Ives, Cambs PE27 5AL

Contact us at: office@stivesfreechurch.org

Remembering Henry (Hadge) Yeandle.....

The Free Church was packed for the service to remember and celebrate the long life of Hadge Yeandle who died in January at the age of 95. His son, George, gave the main tribute and daughter, Jenny, spoke on behalf of the children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Both tributes were fulsome and amusing, painting the picture of a man who had led a full and fulfilling life. I paraphrase from both these tributes and any direct quotes are in italics.



Henry was born at the local maternity hospital in 1926, the son of the local Borough surveyor. Apart from National Service and subsequent deployment to peacekeeping in Palestine, he lived his whole life in St Ives. He was a man of many parts and that was reflected in the large congregation and beautifully illustrated by the words from George and Jenny (Jenny speaking on behalf of herself and sister Kate who unfortunately was unwell on the day).

Hadge was educated at Slepe Hall School and then at Kimbolton where his love of sport was ignited.

After completing his National Service he followed an accelerated route to become a Chartered Accountant, a calling he followed for his whole career founding the accountancy partnership in Ramsey of Benten and Yeandle with Lesley Benten.

He met and “courted” a certain Betty Robb and he and Betty were married at this same church in 1952—a *union of two great local families*.

After a factual introduction, George added the colour that made Hadge! He was a man who worked hard but also played hard! He was devoted to his clients but loved his garden (especially his walnut trees where it was squirrels v. Hadge!) He played cricket, tennis, golf, soccer, indoor bowls, snooker and he fished and surfed. He was passionate about his rugby though he never played, but he and Betty never missed the Varsity match.

He also loved shooting and co-owned Warboys Woods—a gift of pheasants (not plucked) was legendary. He loved to play the genial host with Betty doing most of the work in the background!

Winning mattered to Hadge and he had high expectations of his grandchildren who were called to account for their achievements each Christmas.

He was a generous man, giving time to the church, the golf club, the local Guides and he founded the Ramsey Rotary Club over 50 years ago. A little free parking at West Darwood was an honour bestowed on friends, relations and church officers. And then there was the use of his precious tennis court...

He featured as “the main man” on the Ramsey Rotary Christmas float for many years.

George concluded— *How would he sum it up himself? “A pretty good innings but beggar I didn't make three figures!”*

Jenny painted an equally colourful portrait of G-dad on behalf of the nine grandchildren. He expected much from them but always with a twinkle in his eye and some unique vocabulary. Having eschewed technology for most of life he adapted during lockdown learning to use What's App to follow their “escapades” and Zoom for Rotary meetings! At Christmas he sent his own equivalent of a Queen's speech *saying how much he would miss seeing them but that he knew he could rely on them to play the game and obey the lockdown rules. Love as ever to you all as ever G-dad.*

A remarkable man who led a wonderful life—they don't make characters like that any more.

RIP Hadge! **Chris C**

Meet the staff..... This month Mick Lovell, Caretaker

Mick was born in Bromley in the early 1950s and has 3 siblings. As a young teenager he joined the 13th Bromley Boys Brigade and the troop won the Daily Telegraph Cup for marching at the Albert Hall. Mick was involved with the local church in Bromley and was presented with the Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award by Prince Phillip, a very proud moment for him and his Mum who joined him at the award ceremony.



Mick has worked on a number of interesting buildings including properties for celebrities.

Mick first came to the church when he quoted to replace doors when the building was broken in to. Gail Wase who is Mick's neighbour suggested Mick apply for the job of Caretaker when it became

available and he started work in April 2020 just as the pandemic started. Mick is very much a hands-on person and clearly loves his job here at the Free Church. His role includes setting up for groups, general maintenance, overseeing major projects such as replacement window in the Worship Area, health & safety and security.

Mick can be found most days working away in the building and considers his job more of a social event for him than working. He enjoys meeting all the groups and finds all the staff very friendly and helpful. His interests include gardening, walking and is a member of the National Trust and enjoys visiting some of their properties. He is also a member of the church bowls club when time permits.

Mary Anthony

Celebrating 71 Years of RAF Service

Reverend Roy Muttram took the service at Fenstanton URC on Sunday 24th April. He was surprised that the congregation knew that he was celebrating 71 years of RAF service, having joined at the age of 18.

Jenny Stimpson had baked a lovely cake for him, complete with the RAF roundel, and decorated with a small model of an RAF aircraft.

Geoff

Church Secretary

Fenstanton URC



Bank Holiday Snack Bar May 2nd

We had a minimum number of staff on the day. Fortunately some volunteers stayed all day. Huge thanks for all who helped out. We took a total of over £465 which is excellent considering there were 3 food stalls on the market with seating provided outside the Free Church on the loading bay!

The next Snack Bar will be in August. Please keep this date in mind.

Thanks again

Mavis



Irene comes calling...

THE 70th PLATIMUM JUBILEE

Days on calendar ticked on by,
Excitement growing and tension high,
Celebration plans were made,
Fireworks, parties, a big parade.

Cakes were baked and champagne
bought,
Costumed celebrities time was sought,
Singers and dancers some famous, some
not,
Local and global, all wanted a spot.

The rich they planned their banquets
With fine food and caviar,
While Picnics, Park and Fun Days
Would draw people near and far.

Neighbours helped make a Street Party,
Gave good food, simple but hearty,
Chairs and tables all lined in a row,
For giggling kiddies with parents in tow.

People who were quiet or housebound
Could watch history making on screen,
News of events and wonderful shows
Entertainment and life of our Queen.

Pomp and Pageantry there of course,
Military Guardsmen high on horse,
Respect of the highest accolade
For seventy years of hard work made.

Loyal and faithful, kind and true,
Dear Queen, this day is to honour you,
Seven Decades, seventy years,
Church and Country say: "Thank you,
Cheers!"

Cc. IRENE CARTER

Never too late to start No Mow May in July

Here's a photo of my garden
last year and some of the
interesting things that
appeared, doesn't look too
untidy does it and every little
effort does help.



In dry weather as I'm sure you all
know the longer, damper grass
shelters amphibians and it's a very
bad idea to slice in there with
strimmers.

However, as summer reaches its peak the tough
commercial grasses flower visibly, and this is a good
time to dig out clumps you don't want, because
wildflowers flourish best where grass plants are low
growing native ones.

If there's enough space to mow a pathway,
botanists encourage several different
heights of plant life for the sake of the
various creatures further up the food chain.
It's useful to keep a strip of short turf and
some gravelly areas.



An old, but revived practice nowadays
uses variable-height 'Forest gardens',
choosing fruit trees, shrubs and ground-
hugging herbs in your vegetable garden.
Perennial plants are mostly preferred.
However, the old fashioned "Peter Rabbit"
style of intensively cultivated, weeded and
manured topsoil is no longer recommended, because it's
known to damage soil structure and demands too much
watering. Instead, compost is liberally spread
overground, followed by mulch made from shredded
woody prunings. The earthworms do the rest.

As ever

Char x

Please Join The Big Plastic Count

I've just signed up to the Big Plastic Count—the UK's biggest investigation into household plastic waste.

We're going to uncover the truth about how much plastic passes through our homes and what happens to it, and we'll gather new game-changing evidence that will push the government to tackle the plastic crisis. I'm horrified how much waste I still create. Will you join too?

<https://thebigplasticcount.com/share/email>

Find out more here: <https://thebigplasticcount.com>

Char



Photo credited to: Jacob King/PA Wire/PA Images

Congratulations to
Her Majesty The Queen
On her Platinum Jubilee



Sweet memories.....

Like many people we had a few "Covid Clearances" of books and things over the last couple of years, trying to "declutter" a bit. But there are always a few things you stop and look at carefully and put back on the shelf. In these days of coffee table books, library books, hardbacks, paperbacks, audio books and Kindle it is easy to forget how few books were present in most homes in the early 1950s and many were read and reread many times.

I had one such book called "The Story of Princess Elizabeth". It had been my mother's, given to her at Christmas when she was 4. It was published in 1930 and described the first few years of this young princess's life..... a life that seemed charmed and magically different from my gentle and unassuming life in a Gloucestershire village.



My mother, who was a similar age to the young princess had been very fond of the book too, carefully colouring in all the black and white pictures in it- much to the displeasure of her mother!

Looking at it now, it seems to be from a different era (well, I suppose it was!) and the end of the book is interesting. It finishes with the birth of Margaret. And here are the last few paragraphs from the book..... Little did the writer know what was to come

"A sister arrived at Glamis Castle. Had a son been born to the Duke and Duchess of York he would have been the third in succession to the throne; but as it is Princess Elizabeth remains in that position, after the Prince of Wales and the Duke, her father.



But we all hope it will be a very long time before any successor is called to the very high position so graciously and successfully filled by His Majesty King George the Fifth who has won the love and honour of the citizens of the Empire all the world over

And so in these pages we leave Princess Elizabeth, a sweet and lovable child of four and a half years, standing on the brink of a wonderful future."

Chris Curtis

Meet our regular User Groups.....

The Free Church W.I. Group

Meetings are held on the 1st Thursday of every month (not January) at 7.30 – 10.00pm

During Covid we were not able to meet, but we kept in contact with our members through telephone calls to make sure they were well and check if they needed any help. We held our Coffee Meetings over Zoom, and it was good see our friends face to face, and not just down the phone. During this period, we also held our committee meetings over Zoom.

We were pleased to return to our meetings in September 2021 with an afternoon tea for members. December, we held our Christmas Party with the local Ukulele band as entertainment. Each month we have a speaker or activity and, this year so far, we have had Ceramic Painting, Easter Box Making and Life of a Fireman (retired).

We also organise outings and this year a group went on the Guided Bus to Cambridge to visit the Botanical Gardens to view the wonderful display of Snowdrops. Other outings involved a visit to Johnsons Farm in Oldhurst, and a Guided Walk around St Ives hosted by the Norris Museum.

We collect for the local Food Bank, and this is always well supported. We have a popular Book Club organised by the St Ives Library. Our craft members have knitted blankets for the local W. I. Federation in Huntingdon, and we are currently knitting "Corgi" dogs as part of the Queens Jubilee Celebrations.

We have an exciting programme throughout the rest of the year. June will be our Platinum Jubilee Celebrations tea, July we have a talk on Gems (history of jewellery), and a river cruise on the Ladybird. August is our annual Garden Party, September we are having afternoon tea at the Carriages, October we have the local Refill Shop Ikigai giving a talk, November we will be making crackers and in December we complete the year with our Christmas Party.

We are always happy to welcome new members who could contact our local Federation in Huntingdon for details.

Muriel Spowell

FENSTANTON KNITTERS AND NATTERS



Every Tuesday at 10-00am -11-30am

**We are sending lots of items to
Arthur Rank Hospice for their shop**

**We are having a bring and share lunch on the
7th June to celebrate
the Queens Platinum Jubilee**

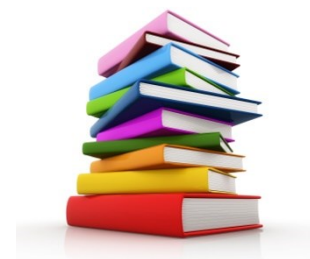
**New members welcome
Fenstanton United Reformed Church
Chequer Street**

Fenstanton

United Reformed Church

Chequer Street

BOOK SALE



Saturday 18th June

9.30am - 12 Noon

Also Jigsaws on sale

COP15: Roadmap for change or global hot air?

COP15, the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the UN Convention on Biological Diversity, has been postponed from spring to autumn. If it leads to a stronger result we should all be thankful.

COP15 is a two stage dialogue which will culminate in an event to be attended by over 200 nations in China. The primary aim is to address the ongoing decline in global biodiversity as part of the UN's Global Biodiversity Framework and to ensure that the decline of nature is arrested by 2030.



Nature is in trouble. According to the WWF Living Planet Report the abundance of all wildlife has declined by an average of 68% since 1970. Not only are we losing a multitude of species on a daily basis, but the actual number of each species is declining at a precipitous rate. Our entire planetary ecosystems risk collapse within our lifetimes. Against this horrific global picture, COP15 must attempt to do the seemingly impossible and create an action plan aimed at halting the decline in biodiversity by 2030. The plan must ensure that at least 30% of land is protected for future generations by the same year, in line with UN goals.

But only a globally astute, locally driven and truly target-centred approach will yield the results needed to ensure COP15 is more than just hot air. Faced with the extinction of many more species in the next 15-20 years, we cannot afford the luxury of more talk without really focussed action.

By Andy Lester, A Rocha UK's Head of Conservation

ECO SYNOD



Eco Synod was developed in partnership with the URC church as a tool for Synods to encourage local churches to engage in wider creation care through Eco Church as well as to demonstrate this commitment at Synod level. We're delighted that all 12 United Reformed Church (URC) synods have now registered as part of this denominational award scheme. The award encourages Synod-level change and complements the local church-level engagement with Eco Church. We anticipate that registered Synods will follow suit of URC West Midlands Synod, the first to achieve a Bronze Eco Synod Award in 2021.

By Lissy Webb

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION

at Fenstanton

**The meditation session for June will be on
TUESDAY 14th June at 2:30 pm
at Fenstanton URC***

All are welcome to these sessions, even if you have not been before.*

They are held on the SECOND Tuesday of each month.

Guidance will be given on relaxing the body and mind and we will be using meditations and prayers from mostly Christian authors in all our sessions as well as short bible readings.

Meditation has been recommended by many doctors as positive to our health.

At the end of each session there will be the usual refreshments.

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

(*For those of you who have not been before, the URC church is on the green in Chequer's Lane opposite Ron's greengrocers shop.)



What's on in

JUNE



Mon - Sat	10:00	Chapel Prayers
Mon - Sat (not Thu)	10:00 - 15:00	Just Sharing shop
Mon - Sat (not Thu)	9:45 - 14:00	Tookeys Café
Mondays	9:30 - 13:30	Tookeys Snack Bar
Wednesdays	10:00 - 11:30	Tots & Carers (term time)
Sundays	11:00	Worship
Wed 1st	11:00	U3A Current Affairs
	14:00-16:00	Senior Citizens Club
Thu 2nd and Fri 3rd		BANK HOLIDAY - closed
Sat 4th	09:30-15:30	Saints Crafters art and craft fair
Mon 6th	10:30-12:00	Bereavement and Friendship Group (CRUSE)
Wed 8th	14:00-16:00	Senior Citizens Club
Thu 9th	12:00-14:00	Keep Fit FaME (Falls Management Exercise Programme)
	19:00	W.I
Mon 13th	10:30-12:00	Bereavement and Friendship Group (CRUSE)
Tue 14th	12:00-14:00	Diabetes Prevention Group
Wed 15th	11:00	U3A Current Affairs
	14:00-16:00	Senior Citizens Club
	19:30	HRAA Gardening Club
Thu 16th	09:45-10:45	Sunny Steps
	12:00-14:00	Keep Fit FaME (Falls Management Exercise Programme)
Fri 17th	10am-12pm	U3A Local History



JULY EDITION

If there's anything you'd like us to include in July's edition of Inspire, please email it to:

office@stivesfreechurch.org

Deadline to receive content is: 24/06



Sat 18th	10am-12pm	Eco Action Group Climate Café
Mon 20th	10:30-12:00	Bereavement and Friendship Group (CRUSE)
Tue 21st	10:00-12:00	Dementia Cafe
Wed 22nd	14:00-16:00	Senior Citizens Club
Thu 23rd	09:45-10:45	Sunny Steps
	12:00-14:00	Keep Fit FaME (Falls Management Exercise Programme)
Fri 24th	13:00-14:00	COSI Lunchtime Concert
Mon 27th	10:30-12:00	Bereavement and Friendship Group (CRUSE)
Wed 29th	14:00-16:00	Senior Citizens Club
Thu 30th	09:45-10:45	Sunny Steps
	12:00-14:00	Keep Fit FaME (Falls Management Exercise Programme)
	14:30	St Ives Free Church Poetry Group



JUBILEE CRAFT FAIR

Saturday 4th June 2022

Free Church Hall, Market Hill, St Ives
9.30am – 3.30pm

Buy original, handmade items direct from the makers...

Free Admission

Textiles, greeting cards, jewellery, bead & button work, fused glass and much more...

Tombola: Hunts Society for the Blind

Contact: saintscrafters@gmail.com

NEXT CHURCH MEETING:

Sunday 17th July

June Editors are:

Mary Anthony and Sarah Bateman

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Rosemarie Smith

The Free Church is committed to the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults.