

Keeping in Touch..... Number 54

Welcome to this week's KIT. Thank you so much if you sent something in this week. Please keep the articles coming. We need more responses please to Philip's quiz from last week.

The deadline for next week's KIT is noon on Wednesday. Please send anything to c.a.curtis@ntlworld.com. Or ring us on 01480 350787

Meet our new moderator

The Revd Lythan Nevard nominated as Eastern Synod Moderator

The Revd Lythan Nevard, a United Reformed Church minister (URC) currently serving at the Cornerstone ecumenical project in Cranbrook, Exeter, and previously a minister in Hartlepool, Romford, Brixham and Babbacombe, has been nominated to be the next Moderator of Eastern Synod.



The nomination follows the move by the Revd Paul Whittle to serve as Moderator of the URC National Synod of Scotland.

Lythan Nevard was a member of the URC's Ginger Group in the 1980s, a group of young people that visited churches around the country, leading a variety of church related projects, based at Yardley Hastings.

Lythan Nevard grew up in the United Reformed Church – her father is the Revd Ivor Rees, a URC minister who served at Clapham, Ewell, Swansea and Bamford.

Her husband, the Revd Phil Nevard, is a URC Minister currently serving Kingsteignton and the South Western Synod who has accepted a call to serve three churches in the Eastern Synod - Castle Camps, Whittlesford and Sawston. Lythan and Phil met while serving together on the URC's Ginger Group.

Lythan said: "The Holy Spirit has led me on many adventures, and I am both delighted and awed that the next one is as Moderator of Eastern Synod. I'm really looking forward to working with the churches and Ministers of the Synod and finding out how we can grow in discipleship and serve God's kingdom together."

Eastern Synod Clerk, Keir Hounsome, said: "We are delighted that Lythan has accepted the call to be our next Moderator. She impressed us all on the interview panel with her spirituality, integrity, vision and leadership qualities and we are looking forward with excitement to her joining us."



Christian Aid Week – 10th -16th May 2021

For many years, the Free Church has supported Christian Aid Week. Many church members and friends have helped by distributing and collecting envelopes. We have had retiring collections and envelopes available on Sunday mornings, and have acted as a channel for donations to Christian Aid.

None of this has been possible during the pandemic, at a time when vulnerable communities around the world need our support more than ever.

Last year, we encouraged people to support Christian Aid week directly. You can do so again this year by donating online direct to Christian Aid via <https://www.christianaid.org.uk/appeals/key-appeals/christian-aid-week>

As an alternative, should you wish to support Christian Aid through the Free Church as you would through a retiring collection in the building, we are providing a couple of alternatives:-

Make an online donation via our Lloyds bank account as follows:-

Account name: The Free Church (United Reformed) St Ives
Sort Code: 30-94-47
Account number: 01055946
Reference: CHRISTIAN AID

We will then pass all donations made with this reference onto Christian Aid.

Write a cheque to the "Free Church St Ives", attach a note to say that it's for Christian Aid, and send it to the Free Will Offering Secretary:-

Babs Moore
29 Sweetings Road
Godmanchester
PE28 9JS

Babs will pay these in and pass all such donations onto Christian Aid.

Also, Jean Ding's charity stall in Fenstanton will be raising money for Christian Aid from 3rd to 16th May. Jean will also have envelopes available.

There are various online events being organised during the week, including Quizian Aid, which was a great success last year. This year's event is at 7pm on Saturday 8th May. For more details of this and more, see <https://www.christianaid.org.uk/appeals/key-appeals/christian-aid-week/virtual-events>

David Duffett

Please retain this article to read alongside Catherine's article on Christian Aid next week.

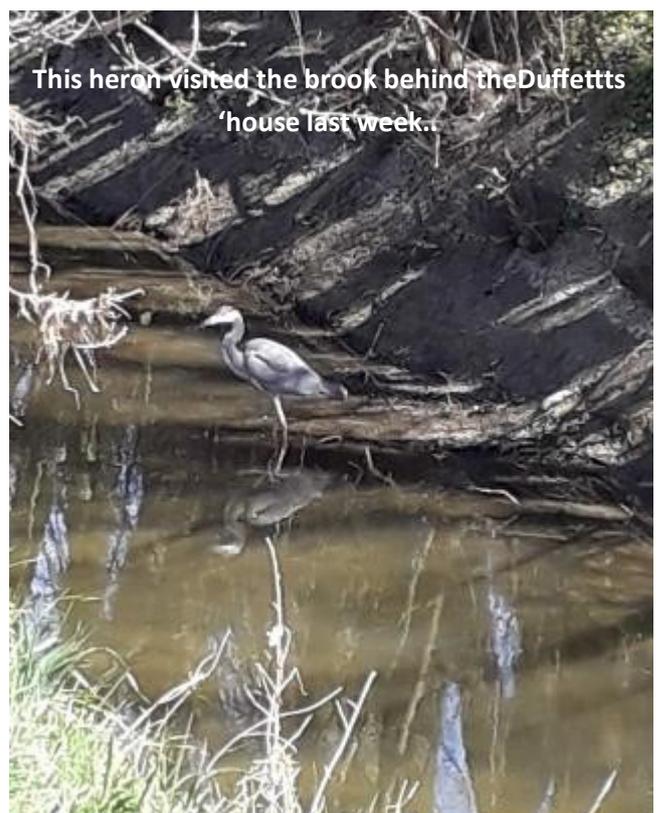
More from Bab's mother's autobiography.....

LDV or Home Guard

Local Defence Volunteers were formed in early 1940's and wore an armband with L.D.V. on. Later it was much better organised, called the Home Guard, issued with khaki army uniform and some rifles to each platoon. Rowley (Mum's brother and not called up because he was a farmer) joined Canon Pyon Unit. Every able-bodied man not in the Forces was expected to join the Home Guard. They had training most Sunday mornings. They were trained by an ex-Army man and had officers the same as the Army. Their job was to guard vulnerable points at night. Usually, they were on duty one night a week. At Broomwell, (Farm on top of a hill where the family farmed), there was a fowl house by a tree on the highest point of the farm. That was used for the men to stay in when they were not walking round. It was their job to see if any strangers were walking round or any lights showing from houses. If there were lights they went and told the householders to put the light out and get better blackout curtains.

I remember one Sunday morning in the summer about 7am - the dog was barking and Father looked out of the bedroom window and saw a man stood by the building in flying clothes. He called Rowley and they picked up the Home Guard rifle which was left at our place and went out and questioned the man while keeping him covered with a rifle. Every question Father asked him, the airman said "I am not allowed to say". Rowley went down to Westhope and rang the Police. It turned out they were Englishmen who had to bale out of their plane as the engine failed. The Police told us to look after him until they could collect him.

When Rowley came back we brought the man into breakfast. When the Police and his mates came to collect him, the other men said "How the hell did we get here?" They had become completely lost and had no idea whether they were over enemy territory or friendly. I expect the man was pleased at first



Irene calling.....remembering her grandfather

KICK THIS GAME TO TOUCH!

Albert Ernest Peacock

Yes, if he was here right now,
He'd give them all his piece of mind
Oh yes he would, and how!

Grandad was a Spurs fan
Tottenham Hotspurs through and through,
From little lad to very old
Each week their game he'd view.

Working class and proud of it
He didn't have much dough,
But every week he'd scrimp and save
Have just enough to go.

A family man, old fashioned
He ruled his roost as head,
Kind, but firm, you towed the line
You followed and he led.

Fair or foul the weather
Sunshine, rain or snow,
Saturdays were sacrosanct
To watch his team he'd go!

He with many others
Have loved our national game,
Though time's past, the feelings last
Greed for money, foreign shame!

I'm not a sporty person,
But for Grandad I speak out!
Don't change the rules for moneyed fools
Let's kick their goal right out!

cc. **IRENE CARTER**

'Just Sharing' is delighted to be able to open again to offer Fair Trade goods to the community.

Based in the Free Church, Market Hill, in the centre of St Ives, Just Sharing offers a wide range of ethically sourced goods from around the world including beautiful jewellery, gifts, and cards for all occasions.

Manager Sue Billings said, "We're thrilled to have reopened for all our customers and volunteer staff following the long lockdown."

Open from 10am - 3pm Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday.

The next Zoom Coffee morning will be on

Thursday 6th May

At 10:30

Everyone is very welcome!

If you've not joined before then contact

Barbara Duffett for a link

Barbara.duffett@ntlworld.com



From John Williams: As we were sitting having coffee in a garden centre, a Robin visited us at our table:-

ROBIN

*And here he comes, with orange waistcoat,
Bright black eyes as bold as grass,
Belying his size.
With quick tweezer-beaked dive he grabs the crumb
Held high for him in our finger grip.*

*And away he goes,
To return later on, flying in once again
To perch upon the back of a chair or the edge of a
table,
Or the top of a granite pillar, if he is able.
He is Robin, brave and bold,
Displaying his feistiness for all to see,
It is a joy for you and me,
While we sit here with our cake and tea.*



Garden Centre, Somersham, 11 / 4 / 2021



ART & CRAFT FAIR

Saturday 1st May 2021

Free Church Hall, Market Hill, St Ives

9.30am – 4.00pm

Buy original & handmade direct from the maker...

Free Admission

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

Contact: saintscrafters@gmail.com

Tombola in aid of Hunts Society for the Blind

Follow us on Facebook



Welcome back to chapel prayers

It's been well over a year now since we last met in the porch chapel for prayers at 10am. However, between lockdowns, whenever the church building has been open, folk have popped into the chapel to write in the prayer request book or just to sit quietly, showing how appreciated this small sanctuary for quiet reflection is.

From 17th May we will be able to meet indoors, 6 people at a time, making it an ideal time to recommence this important daily part of our church life once more. We have dedicated prayer leaders ready to go but probably not enough for the small service to happen every day currently. It would be wonderful if there is anyone who feels called to assist in this small, but essential ministry.

If you look at your current chapel prayers co-ordinator you will know that special theological qualifications are not essential for this role! Neither is there a 'proper' way to deliver the small service. There is a script, of a sorts, to keep a certain structure but you are free to extemporise, should you wish. There are as many different styles of delivery as there are prayer leaders and yours could be a welcome addition.

It's a privilege to pray for others so please consider this request and if you come to a helpful conclusion, please let me know. You can email me on jo.dyke@ntlworld.com.

Thanking you in anticipation, with love Jo

Note from Alan—please check next weeks newsletter (6th May) to confirm the restarting date after Elders have met.

We have some wonderful things in the garden..... From Char

8 There is a Pleasure

There is a pleasure in the pathless woods,
There is a rapture on the lonely shore,
There is society, where none intrudes,
By the deep Sea, and music in its roar:
I love not Man the less, but Nature more,
From these our interviews, in which I steal
From all I may be, or have been before,
To mingle with the Universe, and feel
What I can ne'er express, yet can not all conceal.

GEORGE BYRON 1788–1824 'Childe Harold's Pilgrimage'



Reminding me of the image of paradise from the opening pages of the Bible. What joy there has been out there in last week's sunshine! Our hope rests in man finding joy in Nature and we realise her destruction is utterly unbearable.

As ever, Char

