

## Inside April/May Inspire

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### View from the Manse

This year Fenstanton United Reformed Church is hosting an ecumenical Lent course by Revd Dr Clifford Owen. It has been interesting and challenging to share Bible reading, discussion and prayer with people from six different churches. We found that we can learn from each other. Each church has different gifts in our different histories, traditions and styles of worship that we can share with each other.

I admit that one of my concerns when we started this course was that the focus was not on Jesus' life and ministry, leading toward Good Friday and Easter Sunday, but rather 'Baggage and Treasures' in churches, to encourage us to be open and understanding of each other.

Yet in John's gospel we read Jesus' prayer for his followers was that they would be ONE, as He, the Father and the Spirit are one. God so loved the world that he sent Jesus: to become our brother and friend, to breakdown all kinds of social class, political and religious barriers to reconcile us to God and to each other.

We learned that it doesn't matter so much about our different

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**APRIL/MAY ISSUE**

**PUBLICATION DATE  
IS ON  
31st MARCH 2019**

### Inspire Editorial Team

April/May Editor  
Val Bush ☎469189

Mary Anthony ☎469530  
Christine Curtis ☎350787

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



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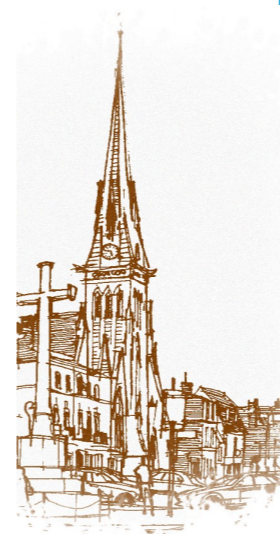
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**THE NEWSLETTER OF  
THE FREE CHURCH  
(UNITED REFORMED)  
SAINT IVES**



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traditions and practices, we are all seeking the one God as seen in Christ. But as we prepare to celebrate the joy of Easter, where do we look for the risen Christ?

***We look for Him (Jesus) in all the wrong places.  
We tend to look for Him in palaces when he's in a stable;  
we look for Him at the Lord Mayor's Banquet,  
when He's feasting with beggars;  
we look for Him on a throne when He's actually on a cross;  
we look for Him in a tomb when He's risen.***

Throughout Scripture we are shown again and again how people kept looking in all the wrong places for their Saviour, and so they missed out on some of the most dramatic moments in human history. The Israelites looked for their Saviour to deliver them from the Romans, but what they got was a man preaching peace and love to one's neighbours and enemies. Jesus' disciples expected to see a Rabbi they could follow and serve, but what they found was a man who emptied Himself by taking up the role of a servant by washing each of their feet. Jesus never did what people expected Him to do. Jesus never said what people expected Him to say. He was not the man they expected, nor was He the man they wanted, but He was the man they (and we) needed.

Where do we go looking for peace and wholeness today? Are we looking in the right places? Where can we find unity and peace amongst the differences and divisions in our world? Easter is a time when we celebrate the risen Lord Jesus and all that he accomplished in setting up the reign of God, a rule of justice and love where all would be included in God's rule, the rich - and the poor, the young - and the old, the religious - and the sinners. He urges us today as the church to follow his vocation to be one with him and one with each other and one with all people, so that all will know as risen Lord until that day when God will be all in all.

Wishing you a very Happy Easter!

Love in Christ  
Catherine

**SPRING CONCERT      FRIDAY 3<sup>RD</sup> MAY 2019 12pm-1pm      FREE CHURCH, ST IVES**

Dear Members and Friends of The Free Church in St Ives,

My name is Gila Margolin and it will give me great pleasure to sing and play for you, in the form of a *Concert for Peace and Reconciliation* in your lovely church on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of May.

I was brought up in a religious Jewish family in London, before moving to Glasgow at age 11, the city where my mother was born and where my grandfather had been appointed as the first Jewish magistrate. My mother allowed me to attend services occasionally in the Presbyterian church, where I received my first Christian influences.

Music was very important in our family; I first heard my father singing in the Synagogue when I was four years old, and later, after a turbulent youth at Glasgow University, I picked up the threads of my life and belief through having lessons in singing. I moved to Cambridge in 1982 to embark on a Music Foundation course at the then CCAT, now Anglia Ruskin University.

Over the next 7 years a series of mystical experiences led me into the Catholic Church. I received a profound call to *Peace and Reconciliation*, working to bring together Jews and Christians, Jews and Arabs and Catholics, the Orthodox and Protestants through Music, Friendship and Encounter. Since embarking on a series of journeys to Toronto over the last 14 years, there has been an outreach to the First Nations (Native Canadians)

The vehicle for all this is a *Foundation*, established in 1999, called *The Little Sisters of Joy*. I sing Scottish, French and Jewish music and Songs of the 60's with my guitar. Look forward to seeing you on 3<sup>rd</sup> May!



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## ECO PAGE

### Insect Armageddon

Back in the 1970's and early 80's it was not at all unusual in the spring and summer months to find the front of people's cars plastered with thousands of insects; from butterflies to bees and wasps. But those days have gone now and across the whole of Europe and North America it is the same story of rapid insect decline.

So why is it is happening and what can be done? Our farming methods went through a significant intensification process in the 1950's and 60's. Insecticides and pesticides rapidly wiped out not only pest species but also non-target organisms. Our gardens too – tidy squares of grass with a few foreign plants and giant concrete patios – have become inhospitable environments for insects.

If we are to rescue the UK's insects, we are going to have to act incredibly quickly. Whilst a large focus is on our farmers and helping them to protect insects; we also need to act at home.

Easy steps include:

- Leave an area of grass uncut from March to the end of September. Long grass supports a greater variety of insect species.
- Leave a few patches of nettles, thistles and blackberry bushes; they may not be pretty and have spikes and stings, but they provide great habitat for insects.
- Leave a source of water available all year round; either a small pond or even an upturned bin-lid. Insects need a regular supply of water to feed and breed.
- Don't use insecticides unless absolutely essential. When you use them, target the pest species and leave everything else alone.
- Create a compost heap, with clippings, flower heads, non-citrus fruit peels etc. Composts can be great for insect life.

Let's see if we can make 2019 a year in which the UK fights back to save our remaining insects.

### BIG SHIFT BANKS - LOCAL CAMPAIGN to get the Big Shift noticed.

Climate change is already harming our brothers and sisters around the world. We know that we need to stop burning fossil fuels fast if we are going to limit the worst impacts. HSBC, one of the biggest and most powerful banks in the world, is still funding coal – the most damaging fossil fuel – and pouring more money into other fossil fuels too.

This undermines the hard work of people like Randy Zosa in the Philippines. He experienced the worst of what climate change can do in the form of Typhoon Haiyan, which devastated his community back in 2013. Now he is helping his community embrace solar energy to power their future.

By training as a solar scholar, Randy helps his community power their homes and shared spaces, and be better prepared in the face of disaster.

Christian Aid's aim is for every branch of HSBC to receive a visit during Lent, meaning that we'll be part of a country-wide movement

Our church eco group is planning to visit HSBC in St Ives and would be glad of your support. There will be a large card for you to sign that we shall take with us when we deliver a letter to the Bank Manager. Our letter will ask HSBC to

**STOP** financing coal-mining and coal-fired power stations everywhere. Remove the exception that allows continued funding in Indonesia, Vietnam and Bangladesh.

**STOP** financing coal companies that make more than 30% of their money from coal mining or coal power.

**PUBLISH** a transitional plan for phasing out finance to fossil fuels altogether and increasing financing for renewable energy generation, with clear measurable and time bound targets.

And if you would like to join us please get in touch with Mary Cox on tel. 300103

From the church eco-group

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## FROM THE CHURCH SECRETARY

The next few months herald changes as explained in our March Church meeting. With building developments along Bull Lane, we must consider the impact of the sale of property close to our church. We also have some disruption as the new downstairs central heating gets installed and we apologise to all those who have booked our hall for the disruption that this has caused. The Organisation and Operations Group continues to meet and is busy collating the responses about our mission for the next five years as we anticipate a Local Ministry and Mission Review and the letter announcing our Quinquennial (once in every five years) visit has just arrived.



As I thought about change, I was influenced by the publication called – ‘*Appreciating Church. A Practical Appreciative Inquiry Resource for Church Communities*’. The authors explain that it runs along the lines of ‘*count your blessings*’. The term comes from a 19<sup>th</sup> Century hymn by Methodist Minister, Johnson Oatman. Two lines of the refrain are:

*‘Count your blessings name them one by one  
Count your blessings see what the Lord hath done’*

Relevant to the 21<sup>st</sup> Century the authors list some themes, indicating the ways that appreciative inquiry can help congregational life flourish:

- Reminding us of what people do well in their churches and faith communities, no matter how small the congregation;
- Discovering what works in the Church – the small and large things;
- Recognising the importance of peoples’ skills and experiences, and finding ways of building on them;
- Reminding us that we all make a difference – no matter how small;
- Becoming aware of the latent creativity within the people of the church to move things forward. Working together to clarify a common purpose and bring about fuller engagement;
- Recognising the importance of story, dialogue and hearing all the voices from an inclusive standpoint.

I learned that since *Appreciating Church* began in early 2014, the ecumenical partnership has grown organically into a major initiative. At the end of April 2017 there were over 250 people trained across the Church, and a myriad of church projects being delivered. I have a copy of the Manual from the General Assembly stalls and if some others would like to go through this with me to explore the approach, I am happy to share this.

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*Appreciating People and the United Reformed Church*. Written and edited by Tim Slack, *Appreciating People* and Fiona Thomas, United Reformed Church. First published in February 2017 by: Wordscapes Ltd.

*Christine Macleod*

### A Prayer

**Father we thank You for the evidence of new life around us. We praise You for the death and resurrection of Jesus which brings us a sense of Your presence here and hope of eternal life.**

**May we rejoice in Your gift.**

**Amen**

**Faith Sharp**

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**FUNDS FOR LESBOS!!**

Dear friends, on May 18th I am going with two friends to Lesbos, a Greek island in the Aegean Sea, for a bird watching holiday and to visit Pikpa Refugee Camp. Many Syrian and Afghan refugees with extra special needs are being cared for there. We will buy supplies in the town of Mitilini. This is good for the Greek economy and we will deliver them to Pikpa. If you enjoy baking or organising fund raising events and wish to help, please go ahead! I will have a home produce table in my front garden at the beginning of May and so will need lots of lovely things to sell.

All funds raised will go towards a wonderful Pikpa Camp shopping expedition. With love and thank you, Charlotte. [Www.lesvossolidarity.org](http://www.lesvossolidarity.org).

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**Cambridge Area Partnership Meeting**

**SYNOD ROADSHOW**  
To support, equip and refresh elders

With: Revd Paul Whittle, Moderator

Nicola Grieves, Children and Youth Development officer

Lindsey Brown, Mission and Training Officer

Wednesday 8 May 2019

7.15 pm for 7.45pm

Pastoral Advocates: Richard Lewney,

Revd Deborah McVey

Revd Dr Catherine Ball

M & M Advocate: Mrs Alison Jiggins



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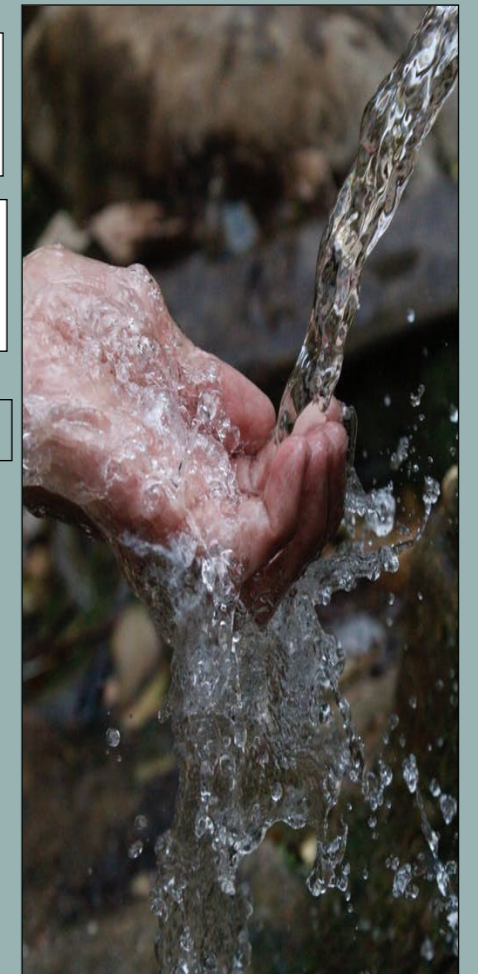
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**Community Activities**

Mondays	10:00	CRUSE
Tuesdays	20:00	St Ives Photographic Club
Wednesdays	14:00	Senior Citizens Club
Thursdays	09:45	Sunny Steps
Wed 3rd Apr	11:00	U3A Current Affairs
Thu 4th Apr	19:30	WI
Sat 6th Apr	09:30 - 15:30	Saints Crafters Fair
Tue 16th Apr	10:00	Alzheimer's Support Drop-In Cafe
Wed 17th Apr	11:00	U3A Current Affairs
Wed 17th Apr	19:00	St Ives Gardening Club
Wed 24th Apr	19:30	RSPB
Fri 26th Apr	10:00	U3A Local History
Wed 1st May	11:00	U3A Current Affairs
Thu 2nd May	19:00	WI
Fri 3rd May	13:00 - 14:00	Concert for Peace and Reconciliation- The Little Sisters of Joy. Gila Margolin sings with her guitar
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**Church Activities**

Mondays	19:00	Bowls Club
Wednesdays	10:00 - 11:30	Tots & Carers Term time only
Wed 24th Apr	19:45	Poetry Group in Tookeys
Wed 29th May	19:45	Poetry Group in Tookeys

**Bank Holiday Snack Bars**

Last year our 4 Bank Holiday snack bars made a total of between £1500 and £2000 profit.

In addition to boosting Church finances they also serve our local community and bring in many visitors. None of this could be achieved without volunteers.

**Please give serious thought to helping out, even if only for an hour.**

You can choose from cooking bacon and eggs, making sandwiches, (both with some help if you wish) buttering bread, serving tea, coffee and cakes, taking out food orders from the kitchen to the hall, clearing tables or drying dishes. No handling of money is involved - payments are made at the till.

**Our first snack bar is on Easter Monday Bank Holiday, 22<sup>nd</sup> April, led by Anne Strong.**

Look out for the volunteer list on the landing table nearer the time.

If you are not available on this date then maybe you can help on

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May  
Monday 27<sup>th</sup> May  
Monday, 26<sup>th</sup> August.

**I look forward to hearing from you.  
Thank you,  
Mavis.**

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Mavis.**



**Fenstanton Worship**

Sun 7th Apr	09:30	Revd Derek Newton
Sun 14th Apr	09:30	Revd Dr Catherine Ball - Holy Communion - Palm Sunday
Fri 19th Apr	09:30	Revd Derek Newton
<b>Sun 21st Apr</b>	<b>09:30</b>	<b>Revd Dr Catherine Ball - Holy Communion - Easter Sunday</b>
Sun 28th Apr	09:30	Keith Cakebread
Sun 5th May	09:30	Revd Derek Newton
Sun 12th May	09:30	Revd Dr Catherine Ball - Holy Communion followed by Church Meeting
Sun 19th May	09:30	Revd Dr Catherine Ball
Sun 26th May	09:30	Chris Baker
Sun 2nd Jun	09:30	Revd Derek Newton

**CARE ROOMS**

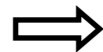
CareRooms are a community focused organisation who support people who have been either stuck in hospital, or those who require short terms respite and are looking for a homely, safe place to recover.

We are always looking for people in the local community who might wish to become a CareRooms Host, all people need is a spare room with access to a private bathroom and a warm, hospitable attitude. We'll help with everything else.

There's also always a place for you if you have had elective surgery or a short stay in hospital. For your comfort and safety, Hosts are fully vetted, trained and supported to ensure they provide a great stay for their Guests.

Communities are central to what CareRooms does and one of our goals is to reduce social isolation. To do this, we encourage Hosts, and Guests, to get together regularly and build friendships that last beyond the stay in a CareRoom.

If you'd like to learn more about us you can visit us at [www.carerooms.com](http://www.carerooms.com) or give us a call on 0333 121 2227



**Free Church Worship**

**Chapel Prayers Monday to Saturday At 10am**

Sun 7th Apr	11:00	Revd Dr Catherine Ball - Holy Communion
Sun 14th Apr	11:00	Revd Roy Muttram - Palm Sunday
Thu 18th Apr	19:30	Maundy Thursday with the Methodists at the Free Church
<b>Fri 19th Apr</b>	<b>11:00</b>	<b>Good Friday Witness Walk - Market Hill Service. Leave Crossway at 11am</b>
<b>Fri 19th Apr</b>	<b>12:00</b>	<b>Good Friday service in Market Square</b>
<b>Sun 21st Apr</b>	<b>11:00</b>	<b>Revd Dr Catherine Ball - Holy Communion - Easter Sunday</b>
Sun 28th Apr	11:00	tba
Sun 5th May	11:00	Revd Dr Catherine Ball - Holy Communion
Sun 12th May	11:00	Peter Davies
Sun 19th May	11:00	Revd Dr Catherine Ball followed by Church Meeting
Sun 26th May	11:00	Revd Dr Catherine Ball
Thu 30th May	10:00	Ascension Day - Revd Dr Catherine Ball - Holy Communion at St Ives Porch Chapel
Sun 2nd Jun	11:00	Revd Dr Catherine Ball - Holy Communion



**Fenstanton Worship**

Sun 7th Apr	09:30	Revd Derek Newton
Sun 14th Apr	09:30	Revd Dr Catherine Ball - Holy Communion - Palm Sunday
Fri 19th Apr	09:30	Revd Derek Newton
<b>Sun 21st Apr</b>	<b>09:30</b>	<b>Revd Dr Catherine Ball - Holy Communion - Easter Sunday</b>
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**Eulogy****Olive Masterson**

Olive was born on February 12<sup>th</sup> 1923 in Coventry, Warwickshire to Ellen and Arthur Easterlow. He was a sailor. She had an older sister Winifred. It became a very large family of 14 children born from 1920 to 1935 – three of whom died in early childhood. She went to school with her siblings while she and Win looked after the younger ones. It was a tough early childhood where they struggled to make ends meet. Then tragedy struck when her mother died after a major operation and a few weeks later he father, too died. His brother, their uncle Ben helped sort out the family by finding different relatives and families to look after the children, but sadly it meant the children being separated from each other. Olive went to live with a childless couple where she had two aunties and an uncle who made dolls for London Slips. She did not find it easy there.

Like her older sister Win, when Olive left school she went to hospital in Coventry where she trained to be a nurse and lived on site. This began her life-long career in nursing and caring for others. James Henry Masterson known as Jim, was from St Ives Cambs. But he served with the Royal Navy during the second world war and was transferred to Coventry. Olive was a nurse and he was in the Navy and they fell in love. When he was de-mobbed he came back to Coventry and their relationship was rekindled and they were married in Coventry.

They moved to St Ives where he returned to work at the Post Office. Olive worked at Old Huntingdon Hospital as a nurse and then they had a daughter, Jean born on 1<sup>st</sup> May 1950. Olive became a stay-at-home Mum until Jean was 10 years old. Olive and Jim became members of the Free Church in St Ives and Jean was taken to Sunday school there when Mr Ballard was minister. As Jean got older, for a while Olive went to work as a dental nurse with Hedly Grabasky and met his wife Jean, who also were members here at the Free Church and had a daughter named Jane of similar age to Jean. They remained friends for the rest of Olive's life, continuing to visit her well after retirement and Jean after her husband, known as Grab, died.

Olive was a very good seamstress and would make dresses for Jean.

Olive became Matron at Rheola Nursing Home when nursing sisters provided full nursing care. She always said she saw it as a vocation, and she loved her work. She received cards from patients for her kindness and competence. She loved her work with older people – in a way they became the parents that she had lost. She retired early after contracting lung cancer in 1983 at age 60. She recovered, but then her eye sight diminished due to Macular Degenerative Disease.

It was during the 80s that her sister, Win's daughter did research into the family and together they found many of their siblings and were able to have several happy reunions.....

Her daughter Jean grew up and moved to the Solomon Islands for ten years where she had a daughter Rebecca and from there Jean and family moved to Australia. Olive and Jim went to visit them in 1990 a trip of a life-time. They enjoyed a special time with them, then being able to picture where they worked and lived. Olive was very proud of her grand-daughter Rebecca who became an Olympic rower for Australia, racing in 1999 and 2004.

Sadly, her beloved Jim became ill and died in 2005 and she had a service at the Free Church led by Bill Mahood, the then minister. With her eyesight poorly and her health not too good she became fearful of going out and soon was housebound. However, she loved classical music and would listen to CDs and continued to enjoy poetry which she had memorized from her youth. She stopped attending church but faithfully watched Songs of Praise every Sunday evening. Her daughter moved back from Australia to live with her and became her carer whilst also working. Several of us from the church, including those who will share some of their memories today, visited her, including George Mwaura, our intern minister a few years ago, and at times I would go with them to give her Holy Communion at home. Olive was always very appreciative of our visits and enjoyed keeping up with news about the church through our monthly church magazine. She was interested in others and

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would tell us about her daughter and granddaughter and great grandchildren with pride. She was a delight to visit, always gracious and mentally alert and able to chat about what was going on in the world. Olive was always gentle and kind, never moaning or complaining, even when she was unwell. Olive was a lovely and remarkable woman: she could have become bitter or hardened from her harsh childhood, but she was always positive and friendly. She believed that her faith helped her through all the difficult times, knowing that God was with her and would lead her through. She certainly lived a full and rich life, full of love and service toward others. She will be dearly missed by her family and friends.

In our New Testament Reading today we read that the Lord has many dwelling places and will take us home to be with him, where he will be our God and we his people. Olive knew that despite anything that happened that nothing could separate her from God's love and that one day she would be in his presence, where peace and justice would be restored, and loved ones reconciled to one another for ever. May we learn from her life and faith and find the peace and joy she knew. AMEN.

## MEMORIES OF OLIVE

### Sindy

I have known Olive for approximately 17 years before she became frail and unable to come to church. Over the last 5 years or so Margaret Cakebread and I visited her at her home where we spent a couple of hours putting the world to right and having a laugh and joke about everything and anything. Olive always had an opinion on current affairs and was quite happy to elaborate on her thoughts and feelings.

Margaret and I always left Olive's home with a smile on our faces as she kept us amused with anecdotes of her life. She recalled the days of her youth growing up in Coventry with her siblings, having lost her beloved parents at a very young age - she certainly didn't have an easy young life growing up. She also talked about her years as a nurse and as Matron of Rheola Nursing Home where she took care of all the residents, not only physically, but mentally too, getting involved in their personal care and problems.

Olive was full of cheer and never once complained about her various illnesses, having suffered several health problems over the years, but she seemed happy to be alive and content with her lot.

She was a devoted Christian lady and always looked forward to visits from both Margaret and I and especially from Catherine when all four of us took communion together. Occasionally Keith would join us which she enjoyed with a glint in her eye. She prayed every day and said she found comfort from praying and that the Lord had been with her along the way.

She often talked about her family, her late husband, Jim, and how happy they were together and the many travels they took and the places they visited - obviously the long-haul of Australia back in the 1980's when she visited Jean's extended family. Jean took care of the lovely garden at their home and Olive told us that Jean thoroughly enjoyed their garden - and it showed.

During the last few months that I visited Olive, she

told me she had enjoyed poetry at school, so I asked her if she would like me to bring along my poetry books on my next visit, which I did. On my last visit, just 2 weeks before she died, I sat and read poetry to her, which she listened to and commented on. She said some of the poems reminded her of her schooldays and she envisaged what the poet was thinking as he/she wrote the words. One of the poems I read was by Samuel Taylor Coleridge, which made Olive laugh:

*'Swans sing before they die, 'twere no bad thing should certain persons die before they sing'.*

I remember Olive as a person who had many excellent qualities, especially her knowledge. The poem which will always remind me of Olive is by William Blake entitled "The Divine Image".

### Margaret

'I entirely echo Sindy sentiments of Olive, she was and is a candle burning brightly forever in the darkness, a divine light one of God's people, indeed.'

Reading the Poem Sindy chose for Olive

*To Mercy, Pity, Peace and Love, all pray in their distress;*

*And to these virtues of delight, return their thankfulness.*

*For Mercy, Pity, Peace and Love, is God our father dear,*

*And Mercy, Pity, Peace and Love, is Man, his child and care.*

*For Mercy has a human heart, Pity a human face,*

*And Love, the human form divine, and Peace the human dress.*

*Then every man of every place, that prays in his distress,*

*Prays to the human form divine, Love, Mercy, Pity, Peace.*

*And all must love the human form, in heathen, Turk or Jew;*

*Where Mercy, Love and Pity dwell, there God is dwelling too.*

Sindy - God Bless you Olive, our dear friend.

February 2019

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Sindy - God Bless you Olive, our dear friend.

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## View from the Pew

### Friendship with a purpose

Nev and I try to attend church whenever possible and this continuity has helped consolidate friendships. Camaraderie led by a good worship team and musicians is reason enough to look forward to the services, but sometimes, we are charged with putting these strong bonds to good use. Each 'team' within the church (Tots, Tookeys, Just Sharing, Scones, flowers, concerts etc) achieves something really good for people in our community.

There are always new projects afoot, too, such as Charlotte Jordan's visit to the 'refugee-haven' Greek island of Lesbos. Charlotte is asking us to help fundraise for this work by providing home-made cakes and preserves to sell on the stall at her home. Mary Cox instigated fundraising during Lent for some former suppliers to Traidcraft. This short-term funding will help them make the transition to new outlets. Some team 'tasks' require more of our time, such as Nev's close, and often troubleshooting, liaison with others within Finance & Property group. Sometimes, exciting ideas are afoot, and Sally, is co-opted for a short period to help look at members' ideas for the future of the church (Sally is a serving elder and has a background in project development).

Even when work and family commitments often took precedence, we always felt welcomed when we managed to attend worship services, sometimes intermittently. The church has always looked very attractive. We admire its 'interior designer' team who make ongoing improvements, for example, the wonderful new chapel doors, altered by a highly skilled artisan, under Stewart Denhams's oversight.

Earlier work on the spire appeal has given us confidence that, although some tasks look really daunting at first, together we can achieve something effective. We look forward to helping with ongoing social events that will also provide useful funds.

We're proud to be in teams that underpin the future of this building and its community in town centre. Local people value this resource and we, along with them, look forward to a well-supported future.

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### 10<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF SAINTS CRAFTERS FAIRS

2019 sees the coming of the anniversary of the real craft fairs that have been held in the hall of the St Ives Free Church. It will be our tenth anniversary and grows stronger every year. We offer variety of crafts from gifted people between St Neots and St Ives and many towns and villages in between over these years is testimony to their success.

The next fair will be on Saturday 6th April 2019 and we open from 09.30am to 3.30pm and entrance, as always, is FREE.

The Saints Crafters thank everyone who has visited us over the years and look forward to welcoming regular friends and new making ones to view the arts and crafts for our next year of handmade, real crafts once again.



### CHRISTIAN MEDITATION at Fenstanton

PLEASE NOTE: The next meditations will be on Tuesday, 9<sup>th</sup> April and Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2:30pm at Fenstanton URC\*

All are welcome to these sessions, even if you have not been before\*, give it a try! We will be using meditations and prayers from Christian authors in all our sessions as well as short bible readings.

**John Williams,**  
<jlec.williams44@yahoo.co.uk > or 'phone 01480 463 117.  
(\*The URC church is on the green in Chequer's Lane opposite Ron's shop.)



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**ECO PART TWO**

**Plastic waste is to be used to pave British roads in the future thanks to a new factory opening in Scotland which aims to tackle ocean pollution.**

MacRebur opened its new plant in Lockerbie, Dumfries and Galloway, creating 12 jobs. The process the firm uses sees rubbish granulated, mixed with an activator developed by the company and then distributed to asphalt producers. It is hoped the idea could be replicated elsewhere and could help tackle ocean pollution worldwide. Toby McCartney, CEO, said: "The opening of our first-ever factory is an important milestone in our mission to tackle two issues - plastic waste and potholed roads.

"Our technology means that we can not only help solve the problem of plastic waste, but also produce roads that cope better with changes in the weather, reducing cracks and potholes.

"That's because our roads are more flexible thanks to the properties of the plastic used in them, so although a MacRebur road looks the same as any other, it has improved strength and

**A Big Thank You**


At the start of a new tax year, it seemed a good time to say thank you to everyone who has given so generously to the church in the last 12 months.

We will shortly be making our annual Gift Aid, based on donations received in the last tax year and this helps significantly with Church finances. Whether gifts are made regularly through envelopes ( weekly or monthly), through bankers orders, directly into the church collection or on a more infrequent basis, all are welcome and appreciated.

We also must not forget the legacies we receive from those no longer with us or money given by families in remembrance of loved ones. Gifts are gratefully received from those who are church members, those who are not but perhaps worship at our church and from those who connection with the church is for other reasons, or on a very occasional basis.

If you would like to make a donation or to start, or to change, how you currently give, or if you would like to considered leaving something in your will for the church or in



 memory of a loved one and not sure what to do then please do get in contact with me.

People's circumstances change It does not matter whether gifts are regular or irregular or a mixture of both, or even, for example, different amounts in envelopes each week, the church is grateful for all the money so kindly given. Thank you to all



One simple choice that has a number of positive effects, is to switch from using liquid soap to bar soap. Here are some of the benefits:

- Bar soap packaging is more environmentally friendly – liquid soap can use 20 times more packaging.
- Bar soaps don't contain as much water as liquid soaps; they tend to last a lot longer and are more cost effective.
- In terms of ingredients that minimize harm to fragile aquatic ecosystems, there are more options for environmentally friendly bar soaps than liquid soaps.

Whether you use liquid or bar soap, do choose products formulated without palm oil to avoid harm to terrestrial ecosystems.

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**A Big Thank You**


At the start of a new tax year, it seemed a good time to say thank you to everyone who has given so generously to the church in the last 12 months.

We will shortly be making our annual Gift Aid, based on donations received in the last tax year and this helps significantly with Church finances. Whether gifts are made regularly through envelopes ( weekly or monthly), through bankers orders, directly into the church collection or on a more infrequent basis, all are welcome and appreciated.

We also must not forget the legacies we receive from those no longer with us or money given by families in remembrance of loved ones. Gifts are gratefully received from those who are church members, those who are not but perhaps worship at our church and from those who connection with the church is for other reasons, or on a very occasional basis.

If you would like to make a donation or to start, or to change, how you currently give, or if you would like to considered leaving something in your will for the church or in



 memory of a loved one and not sure what to do then please do get in contact with me.

People's circumstances change It does not matter whether gifts are regular or irregular or a mixture of both, or even, for example, different amounts in envelopes each week, the church is grateful for all the money so kindly given. Thank you to all



One simple choice that has a number of positive effects, is to switch from using liquid soap to bar soap. Here are some of the benefits:

- Bar soap packaging is more environmentally friendly – liquid soap can use 20 times more packaging.
- Bar soaps don't contain as much water as liquid soaps; they tend to last a lot longer and are more cost effective.
- In terms of ingredients that minimize harm to fragile aquatic ecosystems, there are more options for environmentally friendly bar soaps than liquid soaps.

Whether you use liquid or bar soap, do choose products formulated without palm oil to avoid harm to terrestrial ecosystems.



## Contacts

### Minister

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### Church Secretary

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### 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.*

## From the Eco Group

We all know that unwanted clothing can be taken to charity shops **but** did you know that they will also take worn clothing, including washed underwear and any fabrics such as towels, tea towels, pillow cases, duvet covers, woollies and socks. All this goes into their rag bag for which they get money according to weight.

If any of this is put into your grey bin it ends up in landfill where it remains for many, many years,

thus polluting our planet.

A recent TV programme revealed that during excavation a child's dress was unearthed in perfect condition. It had been there for 30 years!



## The Church of the Ascension, Cadenabbia, Lake Como, Italy

Considering a trip to Italy? What better place to visit is the Church of the Ascension at Cadenabbia on Lake Como. It's open daily and the English Sunday service us at 10.30am.

The church was built by residents and holidaymakers in the 1890s and is an important landmark of Cadenabbia and if you walk the Greenways walk it is mentioned as a place to visit.



[www.churchonlakecomo.com](http://www.churchonlakecomo.com) or contact  
Rev Roger Williams, Chaplain

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