



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

Thoughts for the month ahead.

View from the Manse...



I hope you have had a good summer - we certainly did with a trip to Canada visiting my brother and his family in Calgary Alberta and journeying through the Rocky Mountains on the Rocky Mountaineer glass topped train. Now autumn is upon us - yet the weather is still warm and although some trees have lost their leaves because of the dry hot weather of July and August, it still feels summery to me.

One reason for that is that I have two weddings this month: one at Fenstanton URC on Sat 3rd Sept and one at the Free Church, Fran Peake and Scott Lovell on Tues 6th Sept. If you are able to come along and support them, that would be lovely. I wouldn't mind at all if summer was extended this year, if we had an Indian summer. Although, I know that the gardens and lawns could do with a good rainfall.

Yet we are not back to work, children are returning to school and some of our routine activities are returning: practicing English with migrants on Thursday afternoons and hopefully, if we have sufficient volunteers, Tots and Carers on Wednesday mornings. And September holds Ride and Stride on Saturday 10th Sept where people are welcome to come as part of the cycle ride to stop into our building for a coffee break and on Saturday 17th Sept is Heritage Day in which people come to visit heritage sites and learn about the history of our church building.

As usual this month includes a Harvest celebration, this year on Sunday 25th of Sept.



Services this month:

THE FREE CHURCH, ST IVES	
4th Sept	Revd Dr Catherine Ball - HC
11th Sept	Revd Roy Muttram
18th Sept	Revd Dr Catherine Ball
25th Sept	Revd Dr Catherine Ball

FENSTANTON URC	
4th Sept	Revd Christine Davies
11th Sept	Revd Dr Catherine Ball - HC
18th Sept	Revd Dr Catherine Ball
25th Sept	Derek Newton

'As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night, shall not cease.'

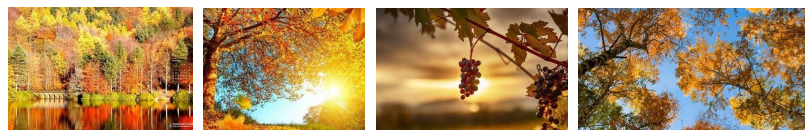
May we all enjoy the autumn season in its glory of colour and industry and mellowness.

With love in Christ,

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

Irene Calling.....

TURN THE TABLES

Fires rage in London

In minutes homes were lost,

Possessions burnt a lifetime

To broken hearted cost.

All around our country

Temperatures soared,

Breaking records everywhere

This cannot be ignored!

Flooding - storms in Winter

Heating bills so high,

Figures that eye water,

Drougths make Farmers cry.

Politics and Media

Stirring up the News,

Prime Minister is changing

There's fighting in the Blues.

Innovations coming,

Working hard to turn

The tables on the climate,

Must be our first concern.

Worrying is useless

Just messes up your head,

So live a life that's greener

Make a difference instead!

C.c. **IRENE CARTER**

AWAY DAY AT LITTLE GIDDING

There will be an Away Day (Quiet Day) at Little Gidding on Saturday, 15th October, similar to the days when we used to go there before COVID stopped us going.

The maximum number of people is restricted to 18, the cost being a maximum of £35 for the day. This is to cover all the facilities of Ferrar House with coffee on arrival, two-course lunch and tea in the afternoon and room hire. The whole house has been refurbished recently.

You will be free to do anything on the day. There will be some activities to join in if you wish. The church (St John's, Anglican) next to Ferrar House (Independent) will be open for visiting.

There is a fascinating history of the place. It has associations with the poet T.S.Eliot and the 17th century spiritual leader Nicholas Ferrar. This lovely peaceful place has a unique "feel" to it and some of our congregation have visited and stayed here. A list for signing if you wish to go will be placed on the landing table during September. Please indicate if you have any dietary requirements and whether you would require transport.

For any questions you might have please contact Jo Dyke or John Williams.

From Roy Muttram.....

Sunday 11th September marks the 42nd Anniversary of the Battle of Britain. For a number of our congregation who have served or had close association with the Royal Air Force this is a significant date in our corporate history.

On that day we shall be joined by staff and cadets of 2331 Squadron RAF air cadets and the service will include special hymns and prayers.

I invite all who are entitled to do so, to wear medals, orders and decorations on this special day.



Café Worship for All Ages

The Free Church, St Ives

Sunday 25th September 2022

11.00 am

Minister: Reverend Dr Catherine Ball



HARVEST FESTIVAL

Donations of food to St Ives Foodbank

ECO CHURCH
AN A Rocha UK PROJECT



CHRISTIAN MEDITATION at

Fenstanton:

The meditation session for September will be on

TUESDAY 13th September at 2.30 pm, 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 street opposite Ron's greengrocer's shop.)

Highlighting our heritage.....

September is the month when we celebrate our Heritage in this country, especially with our beautiful and interesting buildings.

On **Saturday 10th of September**, there is the 'Ride and Stride' day when people walk or cycle around, visiting historic churches. Many of them are sponsored to raise money for Historic Churches and for their own local charity.

Visitors may visit the Free Church in order to 'tick us off their list'. Both Just Sharing and Tookeys will be open to welcome them.

The following weekend are the Heritage Open Days. This is from Friday, through to Sunday and again when we expect people to visit our lovely and historic building, alongside others places of interest in town.

On Saturday 17th we plan to have the building open with an exhibition set up by St Ives EcoAction Group. We are going to need volunteers to be available to welcome and show people around from 10am to 4pm. We will need two to three people for two hour periods on that day. There will be a sheet on the landing table for signatures.

Helen Ackroyd

Meet our User Groups..... COSI

The formation of the Chamber Orchestra of St Ives (COSI) in 2004 was encouraged by former Free Church minister, Bill Mahood, who supported the concept of a town orchestra and the use of the beautiful Free Church for rehearsals. Membership was drawn from local musicians and their wider contacts, many of who still play with COSI, and brought together under the baton of Chris Hiscock, another St Ives resident who until this summer worked locally as a music advisor to education.

COSI's first performance was at the St Ives music and arts festival held in the first week of September, 2004. The audience at 'Words and Music for a Summer Evening' experienced a selection of classical music interspersed with poetry written and delivered by local poets. Over the years the group has aspired to put on two to three concerts per year and covered a wide range of repertoire, but on January 14th 2023 will re-visit Haydn's London Symphony 104 which featured in the inaugural programme.

Notes that accompany COSI's 'objects of society' include the word 'fun' and 'enjoyment' and this commitment to well-being is core to the COSI ethos. Notable moments include when we have been able to give local musicians the opportunity to perform the solo part for a concerto. Playing a solo in front of an audience is no mean feat but the practice and discipline builds self-confidence, self-development and a real sense of achievement.

COSI is a non-profit society so any profit is donated to the Free Church or associated charities. COSI is most grateful to the Free Church for ongoing support in fostering well-being through music. It has been tricky navigating the road out of the pandemic but from this has arisen a schedule of lunchtime concerts taking place at 1pm on the last Friday of a month, to get people used to live music again in bite-sized chunks. ***Gillian Atherton***



Forthcoming Concerts

Friday 26th August—1pm—Rutland Oboe Quartet—Mozart Oboe Quartet

Friday 30th September—1pm—Violin recital—Franck and Handel sonatas

Friday 28th October—1pm—COSI strings and friends—relaxed programme for half term

Friday 25th November—1pm—Ermine Street Winds—a French programme

Friday 30th December—1pm—COSI strings and friends—a seasonal programme

An excerpt from The Cost of Living Crisis A briefing from the Joint Public Issues Team of the Baptist Union of Great Britain, the Methodist Church and the United Reformed Church

First published 24 May 2022, updated 7 June 2022

Valuing people who are experiencing poverty *The Methodist 'Church at the Margins'* programme has at its centre the belief that God is already at work in communities at the economic margins, that people battling poverty are wonderfully created in God's image, and that without hearing that voice our vision of God would be diminished and incomplete. People at the economic margins are experts at understanding their poverty and should be listened to, not out of charitable instincts, but because that expertise is vital in understanding how we can best end the injustice of poverty.

Perhaps the most important and profoundly counter-cultural thing that churches can do in response to the cost of living crisis is to demonstrate day by day that people experiencing poverty have value. If people experiencing poverty were genuinely valued, then it would lead to some very different priorities and policy choices. It is hard to leave someone you value out when making decisions that affect their life. You wouldn't leave someone you value without enough money to keep warm, or eat, or live in dignity.

Convincing our churches, communities and decision makers that people battling poverty are valuable and made in God's image has the power to create change that will last well beyond the cost of living crisis.

"Whoever oppresses the poor shows contempt for their Maker, but whoever is kind to the needy honours God." Proverbs 14:31

For the full briefing go to www.jointpublicissues.org.uk the cost of living crisis.

FENSTANTON UNITED REFORMED CHURCH - CHEQUER STREET HARVEST FESTIVAL SONGS OF PRAISE



SUNDAY 25TH SEPTEMBER

3pm - All Welcome

Tools with a Mission (TWAM) is an organisation sending un-used or un-needed tools from this country to ones where they are needed. Fenstanton URC are collecting these on Saturday 24th Sept from 10– 1. Please bring to the URC chapel on the day. If you are in St Ives and can't get there then ring Alan on 350787 and he will pick them up for you. See the list on the left for those things needed. Get tidying that shed! or workshop! Please don't send other things!

Yes please

Agricultural tools: Fork, spade, hoe, garden rake, hand fork and trowel, opper, secateurs and hand shears

Builders' tools: Spade, shovel, 3ft spirit level, axe, crowbar, fork, sledgehammer, bow saw, bolsters, chisels, all types of hammers and trowels, pin and lines, tape measures, hacksaws and Stanley and hacksaw blades

Carpenters' tools: Bevel, braces, clamps, hand drills and bits, all types of files and hammers, Stanley knife, all types of planes and saws, pliers, rules, all types of saws and screwdrivers, squares plus screws, nails and bolts

Electricians' tools: Allen keys, hand drills and bits, all types of pliers and hacksaws, screwdrivers, spanners, soldering iron, voltmeter

Motor mechanics' tools: Allen keys, cold chisels, breast drill and bits, all types of hammers and pliers, punches, metric socket sets, spanners, adjustable spanners, cantilever toolboxes, tyre pressure gauge

Plumbers' tools: Basin or tap wrench, wire brush, breast drill and bits, various grips and saws, screwdriver, oil can etc

Garage workshop: Hydraulic jack, axle stands, battery charger, ramps and large engineers vice

Power tools: Hand and bench drills, sander, planer, jigsaw, circular, band and chop saws, lathe, cultivator, rotavator, welding machine and generator

Sewing machines: manual, electric, treadle and industrial

Knitting machines: machine and hand wool, needles and patterns

Haberdashery: needles, cottons, large material pieces/rolls, buttons, zips, tapes

Fully working IT equipment: Desktop computers and laptops running a minimum of Microsoft Windows 7, tablets, networking switch routers and cables

Bibles: in modern English

No thank you

It's not about what we want, it's about what people can use. What may be useful to us, may not be useful to recipients in our partner countries. If we say we can't take something, we're not being ungrateful, we're just being honest.

All broken tools - we can sharpen and remove surface rust, but can't repair or take tools with woodworm.

Ladders and step ladders

Lawn rakes/long-handled shears

Electric and hand lawnmowers

Printers, scanners, typewriters

Disability aids: walking frames, wheelchairs, medicines and glasses

Clothes and shoes

Bikes: men's, women's and children's

Books

Embroidery materials, curtains and weaving materials

Cooking pots, pans and kitchen utensils, crockery and cutlery, household appliances and musical instruments

This isn't an exhaustive list, just the main things we're offered by well-meaning supporters on a regular basis

Please note:

Sometimes people donate tools that are not suitable to send to Africa, either due to their age or because they would not be used. We also have some tools donated in such quantities that we cannot use all of them. On these occasions, we will attempt to sell the items to raise vital funds for our work

INVITATION

From the St Ives Eco-action Faiths Group

For a Pilgrimage-walk

To celebrate our beautiful countryside!

On Sunday 18th September

Walking from

St Ives to the Well at Holywell

And back (approx. 1 hour each way)

Starting at St Ives Free Church at 2.30pm

All are welcome! Bring a picnic

Please bring: any poem or reading you would like to share

RSVP TO: Mary Cox mary@jmcox.co.uk

Or Revd. Barry Pate revdbarrypate@gmail.com

Fenstanton United Reformed Church

Hobbies, Crafts and Collections

Saturday 17th September

10-00am—4-00pm

VINTAGE/CLASSIS CARS/TRACTORS

on show outside

In the church will be

SEWING/KNITTING/HANDMADE CRAFTS

MANDMADE JEWELLERY/ANTIQUE DOLLS AND
PRAMS/ CARDS AND PAPER CRAFT/BOOKS AND JIG-
SAWS/OLD PHOTOS OF FENSTANTON

Refreshments on sale

ENTRANCE £1—children free

September thoughts from Char.....

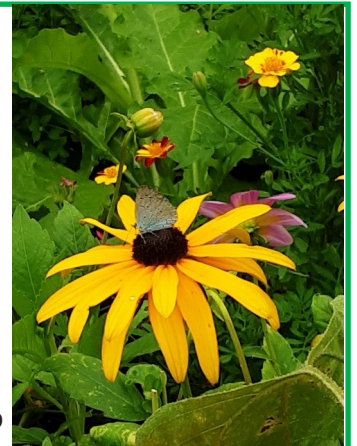
Two very different September Flowers.

The Common Blue is feeding on a robust Rudbeckia plant I luckily found on "Fenstanton Jean's" table last spring. Easy to grow and so rewarding, thanks Jean.



Fenstanton is where Mother's dear friend Joy Dunn lived for many years before she moved to St Ives, Joy's sister was the model for The Harebell Fairy, another early autumn flower but so delicate. Cicely Mary Barker's sister was a head teacher and off they went each morning, two maiden ladies, one to teach, the other to paint the children.

This month's Harvest Moon is on the 10th. Called The Harvest because of the moonlight that occurs early in the evening, giving the farmers more time to gather their crops.



Fun in the river .

When I was a child in the 50's/60's everyone swam in the dear old river, (my family still do) then it was filthy, nowadays it's reasonable cleanbut now almost no one swims!

All the Best, Char



Swimming was still popular at the "Sand Banks" near the western end of the Meadow in the early 1960s. A. Galloway

What's on in

SEPTEMBER

Mon - Sat	10:00	Chapel Prayers
Mon - Sat (not Thu)	10:00 - 15:00	Just Sharing shop
Mon - Sat (not Thu)	09:45 - 14:00	Tookeys Café
Mondays	09:30 - 13:30	Tookeys Snack Bar
Mondays	19:00	Indoor Bowls Club
Wednesdays	10:00 - 11:30	Tots & Carers baby group
Sundays	11:00	Worship
Thu 1st	12:00-14:00	Keep Fit FaME (Falls Management Exercise)
	19:30	W.I.
Sat 3rd	09:30-15:30	Saints Crafters
	09:30-12:30	Diabetes Prevention Group
Mon 5th	10:30-12:00	Bereavement and Friendship Group (CRUSE)
Tue 6th	12:00-14:00	Diabetes Prevention Group
	19:00-21:00	St Ives Photographic Club
Wed 7th	10:00-11:30	Hemingford Ladies' Choir
	11:00-13:00	U3A Current Affairs
	14:00-16:00	Senior Citizens Club
Thu 8th	09:15-14:00	Shirley's Coffee Shop in Tookeys
	09:45-10:45	Sunny Steps
	12:00-14:00	Keep Fit FaME (Falls Management Exercise)
Fri 9th	18:00	Rotary Club's 69th Charter Celebration: <i>Pride and Prejudice</i> by This is My Theatre Company
Mon 12th	10:30-12:00	Bereavement and Friendship Group (CRUSE)
	19:30	RSPB

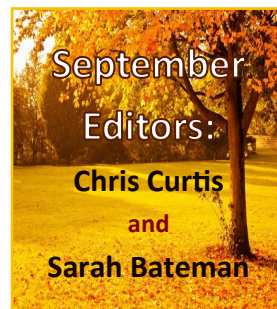
Tue 13th	19:00-21:00	St Ives Photographic Club
Wed 14th	10:00-11:30	Hemingford Ladies' Choir
	14:00-16:00	Senior Citizens Club
Thu 15th	09:45-10:45	Sunny Steps
	12:00-14:00	Keep Fit FaME (Falls Management Exercise)
Fri 16th	10:00-12:00	U3A Local History
	13:00-17:00	Karen England afternoon concert
Sat 17th	10:00-16:00	Heritage Open Day
	10:30-12:00	Climate Café: St Ives Eco Action
	19:30	Huntingdon Concert Band presents: <i>An Evening of Patriotic & Popular Music</i>
Mon 19th	10:30-12:00	Bereavement and Friendship Group (CRUSE)
Tue 20th	10:00-12:00	Dementia Cafe
	19:00-21:00	St Ives Photographic Club
Wed 21st	10:00-11:30	Hemingford Ladies' Choir
	11:00-13:00	U3A Current Affairs
	14:00-16:00	Senior Citizens Club
	19:30	Gardening Club
Thu 22nd	09:45-10:45	Sunny Steps
Mon 26th	10:30-12:00	Bereavement and Friendship Group (CRUSE)
Tue 27th	19:00-21:00	St Ives Photographic Club
Wed 28th	10:00-11:30	Hemingford Ladies' Choir
	14:00-16:00	Senior Citizens Club
	19:00	RSPB
Thu 29th	09:45-10:45	Sunny Steps
	14:30	St Ives Free Church Poetry Group
Fri 30th	13:00	COSI Concert: <i>Violin recital Franck and Handel sonatas</i>

October edition of Inspire

If there's anything you would like us to include in October's *Inspire*, please email it to:

office@stivesfreechurch.org

Deadline to receive content is 23/09



NEXT CHURCH MEETING:
Sunday 18th September

Faith in Action means what it says!
'Love God, Love your Neighbour'

September 17th 2022
A very special free workshop day at Ipswich Rd URC in Norwich
Key-note Address from Synod Moderator Revd Lythan Nevard

Workshops:

- Isolation/Mental Health/Well-being
- Environmental Matters
- Migration/Refugee Crisis
- Poverty and Money-matters

booking form from Robert at robert@stives.org



HUNTINGDONSHIRE CONCERT BAND PRESENTS

An Evening of Patriotic & Popular Music

In aid of the RAF Association's "Wings Appeal"

Musical Director: David McClintock

ROYAL AIR FORCES Association

7:30PM SAT 17TH SEPTEMBER
ST IVES FREE CHURCH

TICKETS: £10 AVAILABLE FROM 8TH OF AUGUST FROM 'JUST SHARING', FREE CHURCH ST IVES
PHONE 01480 496570 - DOORS OPEN AT 6:30PM
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT 07772 968847

Our INDOOR BOWLS CLUB

restarts:

Monday 12th September.

New members welcome.

Contact **Gill German**

Contacts

Minister

Revd Dr Catherine Ball
01480 352058

Church Office

Gail Wase 468535

office@stivesfreechurch.org

Open 9am—1pm Mon/Wed/Fri

Room bookings should be made

through the Church Office

Church Secretary

David Duffett 395308

Associate Church Secretary

Alan Curtis 350787

Fenstanton Ch Sec

Geoffrey Hawkins 462001

Media and Comms Convener

Peter Davies 495835

Webmaster

Alan Curtis

alan@stivesfreechurch.org

Finance and Property Convener

Peter German 352401

Freewill Offering Treasurer

Babs Moore 352627

Safeguarding Lead

Christine Curtis 350787

Resident Musician

Brian Lodde 354647

Flower Convener

Valerie Temple 466204

Chapel Prayer Coordinator

Joey Dyke 07787 370201

Tookeys's Manager

Helen Yates 07921 462640

Just Sharing Manager

Sue Billings 496570

Assistant Manager

Rosemarie Smith

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