

Brightstar



April 2010

Dear Friends,

Well - Spring flowers and blossom have finally arrived after being delayed due to the cold weather no doubt! It is a much welcomed sight, the brightness and beauty to cheer our days and to remind us of the joy of 'new life' brought about by the resurrection of Jesus on that first Easter Day and which we are looking



forward to celebrating once more in a few days time. Prior to that celebration, however, we are to recall the event of Good Friday when our Lord gave up his life for our sakes and the following day when his followers awoke remembering the pain of seeing Jesus die on the cross. The story of Easter helps us to know that the cycle of 'new life' doesn't end with death! I was reminded of this when a few weeks ago Elizabeth and I were recommended a visit to Falkenham to view the carpets of snowdrops which covered the ground around the Parish church and especially those that surrounded the grave stones. I wonder if you went there yourself or indeed to other similar places. If you did then perhaps like me you were struck by the fact that when a life comes to an end a new life is born elsewhere.

Perhaps in recent times you have been

saddened by the death of a loved one who brought richness to your life and you are left trying to make sense of your loss. It may take time but hopefully one day you will be able to appreciate as with the appearance of the snowdrop that many good things will be born and live on



as a result of their endeavours. I have been privileged already in the few months I have spent in this area to hear some of these stories which have had a profound effect on my ministry. Thank you for sharing them with me.

May God's presence and promise this season, like snowdrops and the memories of good friends never leave us as we await new life to begin.

May His love be with you and your family this Easter season and beyond!

David



Now that I am retired I thought that I would have more time to myself, but like most of my friends I now say “I don’t know how I had the time to go out to work”. Sometimes it does us good to stop for a while and appreciate the beauty around us, especially at this time of year when all the spring flowers are in bloom after a very cold and wet winter. I expect you all will have seen the advert on TV about Centre Parcs I love the words of the poem so I will remind you. It is called “Leisure” by W.H. Davies

What is life if full of care

We have no time to stand and stare.

No time to stand beneath the boughs and stare as long as sheep or cows.

No time to see when woods we pass , where squirrels hide their nuts in grass.

No time to see the broad daylight.

Streams full of stars like skies at night.

No time to turn at beauty's glance and watch her feet how they can dance.

No time to wait until her mouth can enrich that smile her eyes began.

A poor life this is if full of care.

We have no time to stand and stare.

I hope you enjoy the beauty of the spring flowers and have a Happy Easter whose message brings hope to us all. (Kathy)

A Poem for Easter

The Cross –

For me he hanged, for me he wore the crown

Beneath the darkened sky black lay the town;

For me he drooped, was pierced, was taken down.

His body women tended gentle Bride

The head thorn red-scarred and lance-pierced the side

Washed for the garden-sepulchre to bide.

For the three days within the tomb he lay

Till rose the sun and danced with joyful ray

O'er mountains and the hills and far away,

On Crucifying Sunday, Easter Day.

O Cross of Christ thou art my mighty shield,

Beneath thy shade my sins and wounds are healed.

The door to life is from the tomb unsealed.

Parish Nursing

Many of you will know that I have recently commenced my job as Parish Nurse. I am employed by Maidstone Road Baptist Church for a six month period while Jane Pears is on secondment. I worked for Jane for two years as a Parish Nurse Support Worker. This has been valuable experience for me. I knew from the first time I met Jane that Parish Nursing was for me.

Parish Nursing is about wholeness. In order to be whole we recognise that everyone has a physical, emotional and spiritual need and if these needs are not met then it impacts on health. I feel very passionate about Parish Nursing because it follows the model given to us by Jesus Christ. He responded to the needs of the broken and hurting people in society. He went out into communities and healed the sick. There are many people in our community who are needy. The Parish Nurse has the opportunity to take Jesus to the point of need. To share the love of Christ with anyone whether they have a faith or none. It gives the message that they are valuable and special. The crucial difference between Parish Nursing and Secular Nursing is that the Parish Nurse is allowed to pray with someone if that person so wishes. We can also give someone the precious gift of time. Parish Nursing is not a one person ministry. I have support workers who are given training to care for people's legs and feet. This project is called Solemates. It is a service provided for people who cannot look after their own legs and feet. Referrals are made from the Felixstowe leg clinic at The General Hospital, District Nurses, Doctors or self. I would then assess the client and decide what creams should be prescribed. I would then delegate to a support worker. The relationships already established are so precious. The act of washing someone's feet is very symbolic. Jesus did it as an act of loving service. Another project is a chair based exercise class held on a Wednesday morning at Collimer Court. This is run by Linda, one of the Parish Nurse Support workers. It enables people to maintain mobility. Both these projects are very successful but we need more volunteers. We need more support workers for Solemates and Linda needs someone to help her with the chair based exercise class. If you have an hour or more to spare per week and would like to volunteer then please ring me on 07969901001. You can reach me on this number on Tues, Wed and Thurs between 09.30 and 14.30. I am interested in developing new areas of ministry. My particular areas of interest are Families and young people, so watch this space. Lots of love Nick

Archie throws in the trowel.

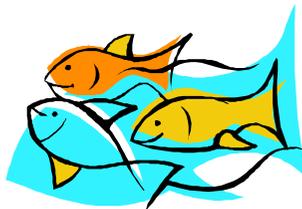
Most of Seaton Road will be aware that Archie has been tending the church grounds for a fair while – roughly since the flood waters subsided and the Ark came to rest on the slopes of Mount Arafat. Not surprisingly Archie has decided that it is now time to give up on the grass cutting and let someone else push the mower.

We have asked around the church but have been unable to find anyone to step into Archie's wellingtons. So we have engaged the 'Garden Groomer' to mow the grass on a regular basis. No doubt Archie will be keeping a close eye on things to ensure that high standards are maintained but if you see something around the grounds that needs attention please let one of the Property Committee know.

Thanks, Archie, for all the work you have done around the grounds over the years.



*Jesus said '
Whoever Welcomes One Such Child in My Name
Welcomes Me'
(Matt 18 v5)*



Can you help our 'Little Fishes'
thrive ???

Our toddler and baby group 'Little Fishes' meets on a Friday afternoon from 1.30pm -3.00pm and is growing in numbers!

It would be lovely to have an extra pair of hands or two each week to make a cup of tea, chat with mums etc.

(No heavy lifting required.)

If you could spare a little time on a Friday afternoon (occasionally or regularly) to join Elizabeth and Kathy ,they would be really grateful to hear from you.

Please : Contact Elizabeth on 07580510737 or sign a slot on the rota in the church vestibule.

CIRCUS



Roll up Roll Up !!

***The Circus is coming to Seaton Road !
...on 26th - 30th July and Aug 1st***

What ?.....

This year , as our major community outreach project we are planning to run a morning holiday club for Junior School aged children (7-11 year olds).

When?....

Sessions will take place from 10.00 -12.30 Mon to Fri and there will be a special Celebration Service on Sunday 1st August at 9.45am.

Who is needed?

We need loads of helpers -not only to work with children but to do preparation, clearing up and publicity etc. Even if you are away for the week itself , we can still use your help if you would like to be involved. (Junior leaders -teenagers needed too!)

Please put the dates in your diary now and have a word with Elizabeth 07580510737 or Heather (Fx 279998)if you would like to know more.

Preachers for April

April 4th 9.45a.m
(Easter Sunday)
Communion

Rev. David Kemble
All Age Worship and

Coffee will be served in the
hall after the service.

April 11th 9.45a.m

Mr. Peter Crick

April 18th 9.45a.m
Breakfast from 9.15a.m

Café Worship
Rev. David kemble

April 25th 9.45a.m

Mr. David Welbourn

May 2nd 9.45 a.m.
of

Rev David Kemble
Service to include Sacrament
Holy Communion.

Thank you

A big 'thank you' to Valerie Braden and Lesley, Ellie and Grace Brown who once again worked so hard in providing gifts, refreshments and decorating the church for our Mothering Sunday service. The church looked beautiful with the flowers and plants on the window sills and I'm sure all the ladies appreciated their gifts of cakes, sweets and Mothering Sunday bookmarks

James (Jim) Edward Batey 24.4.1922 – 2.03.2010

The following is the eulogy given by Rev David Kemble at the service of thanksgiving for the life of Jim held at Seaton Road on 11th March.

I know it's very difficult, not to say, an almost impossible task to summarise someone's life in one word but as I have listened and spoken with Jim and some of his family and friends at his church the word that springs to my mind is 'practical'. Not only did he live up to his nickname certainly among his family of 'Jim'll fix it!' in repairing almost anything placed in front of him but he also possessed a practical faith in the way he modelled his Christian life. He was a humble, likeable and loving man who will be dearly missed by us all but we are also thankful to God this day for having known and loved him.

Born in Burnley in 1922, Jim was the only child of loving Christian parents. He attended St Peters Parish Church where he was an altar boy and received his early education at the church supported school.

His working life began in engineering for the Gas Company, a career interrupted by the war years during which time he served in the RAF as an aircraft mechanic. Jim spent two of those years in India where he was responsible for the repair of aircraft damaged in battle. His task was to return them to service as soon as possible with very few tools or materials. He certainly lived up to a growing reputation as 'Jim'll fix it' for his team rose to the challenge. Jim when asked over the years since about his work on aircraft often said they were fixed on a wing and a prayer being tied together with nothing more than 'laggy' bands and string.

On being demobbed in 1946 he returned to Burnley where a month later he met Freda at a forces club concert. Jim and a mate sat behind Freda and her friend and the rest as they say is history... They were married in February 1948 and continued to live in

Burnley. Jim after briefly returning to the gas company then branched out to become a draughtsman with Lucas the aircraft manufacturing company. However, working at a desk wasn't Jim's ideal job and so he returned to hands-on work.

During this time they were delighted to begin a family which eventually grew to three children Derek, Glennis and Kathryn all of whom Jim was immensely proud of in the way they have grown in personality and the choices they have made in life. And his grandchildren were also a source of great pride and joy from the day they were born.

In 1968 Jim, supported by Freda made a big decision to move from Burnley to Ipswich where Jim, seeking promotion, had been interviewed successfully for a position as a lecturer. He was eager to share his knowledge and experiences of engineering with students which he continued to do until well after retirement age. Freda was delayed for a few months in joining him as Glennis was completing her A level exams at the time but Freda always wanted to live by the sea and so they came to live in Felixstowe. They decided to try out various churches in the area but didn't get any further than their first visit - such was the welcome they received at Seaton Road.

Jim relaxed by turning his hand to repairing clocks, a skill that some members of the church found useful for Jim it is said only had to look at a clock and it would be working in next to no time which isn't meant to be a pun! He was forever found up ladders cleaning fascia boards, gutters and re-pointing chimneys. Glennis recalled the day he yelled for her to fetch Mum because he was stuck on the roof and couldn't get down unless someone held the ladder. He then slid down the roof catching hold of the ladder to stop himself falling to the ground. He certainly wasn't frightened of heights from an early age for he was often spotted as a teenage climbing up gasometers with sandwiches for his Father who worked as a steeplejack.

He loved his role as president of the Jubilee club organising trips and holidays where he would tell stories to entertain folk who attended.

Jim found great fulfilment in life especially when helping others in practical ways and this church and circuit are very grateful for Jim's vitality and skills in many and varied ways. He was an accredited local preacher for 56 years being active for over 40 of those beginning in Burnley when a preacher spotted his talent in sharing the gospel. He was immensely proud to receive his 40 years recognition certificate at Museum St. He served as a Church and inevitably property steward. He was ever present when working parties got together to repair items or decorate the church although Freda was not impressed with his application of health and safety regulations. Especially on the day she came to make the coffee and found Jim balancing on a chair which in turn was on top of a table which in turn was at the top of a scaffolding tower – all stacked so he might reach the 20 foot high ceiling. He was ever present at the church's weekend away events bringing his own brand of humour and laughter to this and other occasions in making people smile and feeling they belonged. And he was right at home in Café worship especially the week hand drills were brought in! He had a lovely reading voice which was often commented on as a preacher and also as a narrator in many productions and especially Easter meditations. He was a showman, not overbearing, Jim preferred to do things quietly but nevertheless he has left his mark.

I suspect it was difficult for Jim to slow down following his quadruple heart by-pass operation but he still managed to wallpaper a bedroom recently and had the paper in hand for decorating the kitchen when the central heating boiler had been changed. Alas he never saw that day but I'm sure he will be smiling today knowing that his daughters finished the papering for him! His spirit is already living on!

Jim I'm sure would like us to know that his actions in life were motivated from his desire to live out his faith in the best way he could in following his Lord's example of loving God through practical service to His people. Thank you Jim you have certainly left us a lasting legacy.

Thankyou

Freda and family wish to express heartfelt thanks for the many, many cards of sympathy and comforting messages, poems, beautiful flowers ,and especially your prayers during their sad bereavement.

Our thanks to David for an uplifting service, to our church family for your caring support and the much appreciated buffet provided by our friends, we feel truly blessed.

Circuit Arts and Crafts Festival.

Once again all sorts of talents were displayed, in the numerous entries, at the festival which was this year held at Museum Street Methodist Church in Ipswich on 27th March.

Seaton Road provided 147 of the entries and were awarded 84 certificates – 42 x 1st class, 26 x 2nd class and 16 x 3rd class. We also entered a 'singing group' in the performance classes and were once again pleased to be able to join with our friends from Holbrook in the singing of the set piece in the concert at the end of the day. Although having learnt it with slightly different arrangements, it is the highlight of the day for both churches when we can join together in praising God through music.

At the end of the day when all the results had been processed Seaton Road were again declared the winning church and awarded the shield for the church gaining the most points (192 points). Landseer Road were the runners up with 118 points and Alan Road came third with 60 points.

As well as the shield for the winning church there is a cup which is presented to the individual who gains most points. We congratulate Ayla Cross who gained 39 points and was presented with her cup during the morning service at Seaton Road on the Sunday following the festival. Samantha Betts from Landseer Road and Phoebe Woolf (Seaton Road) were in joint second place with 25 points and joint third positions, with 21 points, went to Jessica McLean-Wright from Holbrook and Grace Brown (Seaton Road).

Thank you to everyone from Seaton Road who entered – it really is a joint effort.

Rosemary Cross and Mary Pattinson.

'It's not much fun....'

The poetry class at the Arts and Crafts festival this year was entitled 'It's not much fun' Several of our church folk used their literacy skills and penned poems on this theme and some of these will be printed in the next few issues of Brightstar so their talents can be shared. This month we have Angus Fotherby's entry which came first in his age group.

It's not much fun...

***Oh! It's not much fun on your own,
It's not much fun all alone,
It's not much fun with no one at all,
It's enough to drive you up the wall!***

***Oh! It's not much fun in the rain,
It's not much fun when it's foggy again,
It's not much fun with ice on the floor,
It's enough to stop you going out the door!***

***Oh! It's not much fun if you're feeling ill,
It's not much fun taking a pill,
It's not much fun if you're stuck in bed,
It's enough to make you seething red!***

***With God's love I'm not alone,
With God's help I will not moan,
About the snow, fog and the rain,
Or if I get the nasty flu again.***

Plant Sale



Saturday 1st May



10 a.m. - 12 noon
Plants supplied by
Katie's Garden Centre



Less than a month now until our plant sale.

Katie's Garden Centre will be supplying us with a variety of plants, including perennials, small shrubs and bedding plants. Those of you who came last year will remember what good quality and good value they were, so please come again this year and tell your friends and neighbours about it. There will also be a book stall and a cake stall and we shall be serving refreshments.

As usual, we shall be needing a lot of help on the day so please speak to Daryl or Malcolm if you are free on May 1st and/or the previous day at around 5 p.m. to carry in plants and get the hall ready. We also need help to do a leaflet drop in the area beforehand.

This event is to raise money for the Church and for the East Anglian Children's Hospices.

Please give your support

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN FELIXSTOWE and the GENERAL ELECTION

Meet the Candidates

Come and hear the candidates of the three main parties and ask them questions. *Churches Together in Felixstowe* is organizing an open hustings meeting at St John's Church, Orwell Road, Felixstowe. It will be on the Sunday evening which is a week and a half before the coming General Election. It looks likely that this will be on Thursday 6 May, in which case the hustings meeting will be on the evening of Sunday 25 April. It will be chaired by the Revd Robert Hinsley of St John's Church. The candidates of the Labour, Conservative and Liberal Democrat parties will be there to speak and answer questions put by members of local churches.

With the retirement of our long-standing MP, Mr John Gummer, we are certain to have a new MP representing us in Suffolk Coastal. This is your chance to make up your mind before voting, in a completely objective atmosphere. If you would like to know more, or if you have any questions you would like to put to the candidates, please contact Margaret Condick on 01394 448576 or email: margaret.condick@bopenworld.com

CTiF Hustings for the General Election

Come and Meet the Candidates

Sunday 25th April, 7.30pm

(to be confirmed once General Election Date is confirmed)

St Johns Church,
Orwell Road

Circuit Recipe Book

I have received the following from Dorothy Taylor and have also spoken to her about this project. If anyone from Seaton Road would like to provide a recipe, or recipes, for this publication please let me have them as soon as possible and I will forward them.

“Letter to all the churches of the Ipswich Circuit

Dorothy Taylor, circuit superintendent’s wife, is organising a circuit recipe book. This is in order to raise funds to pay for a Polish pastor and his family to visit England.

Alan and Dorothy met Josef Bartoz and his family when they were in Krakow last Easter, and invited them to visit.

Unfortunately a minister’s salary in Poland will not stretch to foreign travel so we came up with the idea of fund raising to help with the fare.

Can you please send me some recipes from your congregation and we will take it from there? Will you please say who has supplied the recipe so that names can be included in the book?

Thank you in anticipation

Dorothy”

I’m sure everyone has something they could submit so please don’t leave it to someone else. I know Dorothy would rather have too many recipes than none at all.

Mary Pattinson

Boost Bus Work Days - DIY Help Needed

The Boost Bus is in need of some work, there are roles for everyone, from making the tea and cleaning to woodwork and painting.

Young & Old, Skilled & Un-Skilled please join us for a day or or just a few hours.

We can't pay but we can provide you with lots of tea & coffee!

They will take place on the following dates @ Christ Church Felixstowe (CCF) Car park

Thursday April 8th from 9am - 5pm

Saturday April 10th from 9am – 2pm

Thursday April 15th from 9am – 5pm

Please email or call Adrian for more info and to let him know if you can make it.

adrian@thewoltons.co.uk

07811197627

Felixstowe Town Pastors

The Felixstowe Town Pastors were commissioned at a service at the River of Life Church on 28th March and will be going out onto the streets of Felixstowe for the first time on the evening of the 10th April. Each Saturday night, between 10pm and 4 am, the team will consist of 4 Pastors on the streets, 3 base prayers (based at Trinity Methodist Church) keeping in touch with the pastors, providing them with drinks and toast during their breaks and praying for the various situations as they arise, and between 4 and 8 home prayers who will also be holding the pastors and situations up in prayer in their own homes.

Please remember this venture in your own prayers and if you would like to know more about it ask David Kemble or Mary Pattinson.

Mission Area Sponsored Walk

As you will see from the details advertised later the Mission Area Sponsored Walk is fast approaching. You do not have to be sponsored and you can walk as little or far as YOU like or are able. If you would rather not walk please don't think you can't join in as non-walkers are welcome to stay at Trinity. This is a chance for all four churches to get together and following the walk, the Ipswich Circuit Leadership Team will meet with everyone at 12 noon to talk about Felixstowe's mission as part of the Circuit vision. It is hoped that as many people as possible will be able to stay for this. If you cannot attend the morning event you would still be very welcome to join us at midday.

SPONSORED WALK

(ALONG THE PROMENADE)

WHEN: SATURDAY 17TH APRIL

WHO: Adults, Accompanied
Children, Teenagers, Dog
Walkers, Prams/Pushchairs
Distance & pace to suit you

FROM: Trinity at 10.15am
Refreshments on Return

**WHY: COME AND RAISE
FUNDS FOR YOUR
CHURCH**

*(IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO TAKE
PART, PLEASE SPONSOR ONE
OF THE WALKERS)*

**SPONSORSHIP FORMS FROM: Mary Pattinson Tel: 01394
274140**