

CONTACT

April 2018



Volume 59 - Issue 4
Sawston Free Church – Little Abington URC – Castle Camps URC

Sawston FC Regular Church Activities but please check diary below for full details or contact the relevant group.

Sunday	Every Sunday 1 st Sunday of month 2 nd Sunday of month 3 rd Sunday of month 4 th Sunday of month 5 th Sunday of month	10.30 am 3.00 pm 10.30 am 6.00 pm 6.00 pm 6.30 pm	Morning Worship Messy Church No evening service Holy Communion as part of Morning Worship Quiet Time with God Evening Communion Go4th Praise Service (No evening service
Monday	Alternate - see diary	10.00 am	Craft Group
Tuesday	Term time only	6.15 – 9.00 pm	Boys' and Girls' Brigades
Wednesday	Fortnightly see diary	2.00 pm	Wednesday Fellowship
Thursday	Term time only	10.30 – noon	Time for Tots
Saturday	Last Saturday of month	10.30 am	Monthly Prayer Meeting
For further details of these activities, please contact one of the Elders (see back page). Four housegroups meet regularly. For information contact the Minister or Church Secretaries.			

Three Churches Services and Dates for Your Diary

Date	Sawston	Lt Abington	Castle Camps
Sun 1 April	6am: Dawn Service on Spicers Field 10.30am: Easter Sunday & Communion - Faith Paulding	10.15am: Morning Worship - Rev Lyn Greenal	10.30am: Blossoming Of the Cross - Rev Bruce Waldron
Sun 8 April	10.30am: Morning Worship & Communion - Rev Mike Wilson 6.00pm: Quiet Time	10.15am: Morning Worship - Mrs Maureen Kendall	10.30am: Morning Worship - Rev Charles Martin
Mon 9 April	10am: Craft Group (page 17)		
Wed 11 April	2pm: Wednesday Fellowship (page 17)		
Sun 15 April	10.30am: Morning Worship - Rev Bruce Waldron 6.00pm: Communion - Rev Bruce Waldron	2.30pm: Communion - Rev Bruce Waldron	10.30am: Family Service - John Luke
Sun 22 April	10.30am: Morning Worship - Rev Bruce Waldron 6.30pm: Go4th – Bruce and Mike	10.15am: Morning Worship - Mrs Wendy Roe	10.30am: Morning Worship Rev E Caswell
Mon 23 April	10am: Craft Group (page 17)		
Wed 25 April	2pm: Wednesday Fellowship (page 17)		
Sun 29 April	10.30am: Morning Worship - Rev Bruce Waldron No Evening Worship	10.15am: Morning Worship - Mr Richard Lewney	10am: United Service at All Saints Church, Castle Camps

This diary appears on the website. If you know of anything else you would like on the web diary, email: contact@sawston.com

Rotas

	Car	Flowers		Car	Flowers
April 1	John Conway 833953		April 15	John Newton 562873	Mary Simuyandi
April 8	Gordon Heald 833983	Beryl Penny	April 22	Tony Moss 834220	Dawn Houghton
			April 29	Gordon Heald 833983	Malcolm Mackintosh

The closing date for **May Contact** is **Monday 16th April.**

**David Nunn is the editor, so please email your items
to contact@sawston.com or anne.nunn@btinternet.com**

Contact

The monthly magazine of
**Sawston Free Church, Little Abington & Castle Camps URC's
United Reformed – Methodist**

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From the Minister's Desk

I've often heard David Lloyd and Matthew Jones speak about Sir John Sulston with huge respect. So it was that when I received this email forwarded from Maggie Jones to me, I knew something of the significance of the email. Written by Mike Sutton, Director of the Sanger Institute, it read thus:



Dear All

It is with the greatest sadness that I am writing to inform you that John Sulston passed away on Tuesday. John was founding Director of the Sanger Institute (then Sanger Centre). He proposed and led from the front the UK contributions to the human and worm reference genomes and established the Sanger Centre and Genome Campus in order to achieve these goals. He had a burning and unrelenting commitment to making genome data open to all without restriction and his leadership in this regard is in large part responsible for the free access enjoyed today.

John won the Nobel Prize for deciphering the *Caenorhabditis elegans* developmental lineage, work that directly led to his thinking about genomes. He leaves his wife, Daphne, and two grown children and grandchildren. Our thoughts are with John's family and I have passed on our condolences. We all feel the loss today of a great scientific visionary and leader who made historic, milestone contributions to scientific knowledge, founded our Institute and Campus, and established a mission and agenda that defines 21st century science.

Many thanks,

Mike

Matthew Jones has added his tribute to Sir John with these words:

I first met John Sulston in February 1993.

There was snow on the ground and I had to park on the Addenbrookes' site and make my way to one of the buildings that made up the LMB (Laboratory of Molecular Biology now located in a brand new building on the much larger Biomedical campus) for an interview with John, Jane Rogers and Alan Coulson. The interview was for a DNA Sequencing Team Leader. I described a method that I was using at the time to generate nested deletions for DNA sequencing in blue green algae. It was a method that John was not aware of at the time and he got me to draw a schematic of the way in which it worked on a white board in his office.

I didn't get the Team Leader job, but I was offered (and took) a job making DNA sequencing libraries for the C. Elegans (nematode worm) and human genome projects. The last time I saw Sir John would be just about 25 years after that first meeting: he was cycling down Hillside (as he did most Saturday mornings) on his way to Mary's greengrocers.

Sir John died on Tuesday 6th March – it is an indication of how influential he was that (before we knew of his death) David Lloyd and I were talking about Sir John and his fellow Nobel Laureates with the Company Section Boys on the evening of his death. He is rarely out of my thoughts.

OWL Cafe

At the time of writing this we are in the situation of knowing that Papworth Trust are not going to renew their lease on the building that has been the OWL Cafe for the last 15 years.

The OWL Cafe opened as a partnership between Opportunities Without Limits [OWL], established by Kevin and Angela McMullen and Sawston Free Church, with a joint vision to provide a place for people with learning difficulties and be a vibrant part of the community. This partnership jointly fund raised and as a result a 15 year lease was drawn up giving OWL use of the cafe for "a peppercorn rent".

Papworth Trust inherited this lease in 2010. The lease expires in July this year and in February they informed the Church that they considered the cafe no longer viable for them to run and will close on 25th May.

Sawston Free Church is very sad that the cafe is closing and would like to thank everyone for the wonderful messages of support and encouragement we have received. We are endeavouring to devise a usage of the space that will reflect the cares and interests of the original vision the church had for this place when the OWL Cafe was begun. It will take us some time to invent the best use for this building, but please know we are working hard on it because we know how much good this Cafe has given to our community. Please keep us all in your prayers and continue to offer us your invaluable support.

Bruce

Duncan's Article For Sawston Scene

When news of the OWL cafe's imminent closure broke several people approached me, being someone who is both connected with the church and has a background in social enterprise and food, as a potential person to look at what happens next with the cafe. I was more than happy to join the task group which was hastily assembled to assess the situation and options for the future.

The OWL cafe is clearly much loved by lots of people in Sawston; the post on Sawston's Facebook page generated so many supportive comments, several of which called for some kind of rescue package. Sadly, a rescue package is not an option; when the cafe closes its doors on the 25th of May that will be the end of the OWL as we know it. However, sad as this is, it should also be looked upon as an opportunity for a fresh start; a chance to revamp the space and to re-open an exciting new facility.

We've got a good team of people, and some great ideas, but we'd love to hear yours as well: we welcome any feedback and invite readers to participate in an online survey, which can be accessed via the Sawston Facebook page or linked to from the Sawston Scene website. We are also looking for potential volunteers. Our message is 'Don't Despair', there is clearly a desire for the space to continue to serve the community as a cafe and our team is seriously looking into this.

Duncan Catchpole

For the last few years, Min Huey of OWL (Papworth Trust) has been attending to all of our rooms bookings. This was arranged when we could see that the connection with the cafe could be useful to both us and OWL, as often people booking the rooms would be asking for catering and arrangements were mutually beneficial.

With Papworth Trust deciding to discontinue the OWL Cafe, it is necessary for us to take back responsibility for bookings.

Terry and Beryl Penny have very generously offered their services for this purpose so all booking should now be directed through them. You can still use the email address:

bookings@sawstonfreechurch.org.uk, and the Pennys have taken over the bookings telephone.

We offer to Min our heartfelt thanks for doing a truly terrific job for the last few years. ***Thank you Min for your efficiency and wonderful customer relationship skills.***

Bruce

Editors Apology – Contact Volume Number on the Cover

Last year the Volume number was 58. In December I enter volume 59 in error! I then continued in 2018 with Volume 60.

I have now reverted back to the correct Volume number for 2018 – 59 not 60 as shown in January to March. No one spotted the mistake!

Message From Castle Camps



April has arrived with the lighter nights and we are looking forward to the Spring weather.

Our Holy Communion service, this month, will be on 8th and will be taken by Rev. Charles Martin.

We held a Lent course for six weeks in March and this was well attended.

We are enjoying using our new sound system, which Bruce and a friend kindly installed for us. We should like to thank them for their hard work.

On Easter Sunday morning, we held our “Blossoming of the Cross” service for the first time and we hope that everyone enjoyed it; particularly the children with the Easter egg hunt!

It is very nice to have Jill Barker joining us again at our morning services.

We are sorry to hear that Sharn Waldron’s mother, Jean, is very ill and Sharn is going back to Australia to be with her. They are both in our thoughts and prayers.

Our thoughts are with Gerrie and family at the sad passing of her sister.

On the afternoon of the 25th March, there was a Blessing at the chapel taken by Rev. Bruce Waldron to celebrate 20 years marriage for Denise & Ed Blundell.

There is a joint service, this month, on 29th April at All Saints’ Church, Castle Camps at the earlier time of 10am

Finally, we should like to thank Maureen for making the posies that we gave to our mothers on Mothering Sunday.

We send our love and best wishes to you all and look forward to seeing you at our services.

Mary and Friends.

The Green Thing

In the queue at the store, the cashier told an older woman that she should bring her own grocery bags, because plastic bags weren't good for the environment.

The woman apologised to him and explained, "We didn't have the 'green thing' back in my day".

The cashier responded, "That's the problem today. Your generation did not care enough to save our environment".

He was right – our generation did not have the 'green thing' in its day.

Back then, we returned milk bottles, lemonade bottles and beer bottles to the shop. The shop sent them back to the plant to be washed and sterilised and refilled, so it could re use the same bottles over and over. So they really were recycled; but we didn't have the 'green thing' in our day.

We walked up stairs because we didn't have an escalator in every store and office building. We walked to the grocery store and didn't have a 300 horse power machine every time we had to go a few streets. But we didn't have the 'green thing'.

We washed the baby's nappies because we never had the throwaway kind. We dried clothes on a line, not in an energy gobbling machine, burning up many kilowatts – the wind and solar power really did dry clothes. Children got hand-me-down clothes from their brothers or sisters, not always brand-new clothing. But we didn't have the 'green thing'.

Back then, we had one TV or radio in the house, not a TV in several rooms. And the TV had a small screen the size of a handkerchief, not a screen the size of the wall.

In the kitchen, we blended and stirred by hand because we didn't have electric machines to do everything for us. When we packaged a fragile item, we used wadded up old newspapers to cushion it, not plastic bubble wrap. We didn't fire up an engine and burn petrol just to cut the lawn. We used a push mower that ran on human power. We exercised by working, so we didn't need to go to a health club to run on treadmills that operate on electricity.

We drank from a fountain or tap when we were thirsty, instead of using a plastic bottle to drink water. We refilled pens with ink instead of buying a new one and we replaced the blades in a razor instead of throwing away the whole razor, but we didn't have the 'green thing'.

Back then, people took the bus and kids rode their bikes to school or walked instead of turning their mums and dads into a 24 hour taxi service. We had one electrical outlet in a room, not a bank to power a dozen appliances. And we didn't need a computerised gadget to receive a signal beamed from satellites 2,000 miles in space, in order to find the nearest MacDonalds.

Remember, don't make old people mad!!

Val Spencer

Rudyard Kipling, 'The Glory of the Garden'



As always with Kipling, his treatment of religious themes is ambiguous. In this particular poem, he is particularly interested in the view in Genesis that the first human community was a garden, and the first man a gardener. It's hardly possible for a literary tradition to be more firmly established than that, and it is this ancient mythical nature of the Biblical story that Kipling is most drawn to. There is sometimes a vagueness about the language, here and elsewhere in Kipling's poetry, but it is possible that in this particular case Kipling is using a tone of religiosity for his own purposes. The poem itself is far from being an expression of religious faith. Possibly quite the opposite.

Our England is a garden that is full of stately views,
Of borders, beds and shrubberies and lawns and avenues,
With statues on the terraces and peacocks strutting by;
But the Glory of the Garden lies in more than meets the eye.

For where the old thick laurels grow, along the thin red wall,
You'll find the tool- and potting-sheds which are the heart of all
The cold-frames and the hot-houses, the dung-pits and the tanks,
The rollers, carts, and drain-pipes, with the barrows and the
planks.

And there you'll see the gardeners, the men and 'prentice boys
Told off to do as they are bid and do it without noise ;
For, except when seeds are planted and we shout to scare the
birds,
The Glory of the Garden it abideth not in words.

And some can pot begonias and some can bud a rose,
And some are hardly fit to trust with anything that grows ;
But they can roll and trim the lawns and sift the sand and loam,
For the Glory of the Garden occupieth all who come.

Our England is a garden, and such gardens are not made
By singing:-" Oh, how beautiful," and sitting in the shade
While better men than we go out and start their working lives
At grubbing weeds from gravel-paths with broken dinner-knives.

There's not a pair of legs so thin, there's not a head so thick,
There's not a hand so weak and white, nor yet a heart so sick
But it can find some needful job that's crying to be done,
For the Glory of the Garden glorifieth every one.

Then seek your job with thankfulness and work till further orders,
If it's only netting strawberries or killing slugs on borders;
And when your back stops aching and your hands begin to
harden,
You will find yourself a partner In the Glory of the Garden.

Oh, Adam was a gardener, and God who made him sees
That half a proper gardener's work is done upon his knees,
So when your work is finished, you can wash your hands and pray
For the Glory of the Garden that it may not pass away!
And the Glory of the Garden it shall never pass away!

For Easter Sunday Morning

Sunrise. As the rays of the sun move across the tree tops to the ragged cliff edge, three women make their way to the tomb, eyes blinded by the tears, for they bring the oils and the ointments for one last loving act for one they have lost. And Mary remembers the last time she anointed those loved feet with oil and wiped them with her hair.

But life is not what we expect it to be and this morning is not as it was expected. For the stone is rolled away from the entry to an empty tomb.

They race to the opening, minds whirling with confusion as they enter the tomb, and find nothing save the grave clothes lying alone.

Thieves? The soldiers? Some strange satanic ritual. Has Joseph changed his mind? What has happened?

Blossoming The Cross



This morning is like any other morning, the birds sing outside the rough hewn tomb, the wind rustles in the trees and the sun's warmth bathes the frost hardened hills, but for the women all there is lies here before them. An empty tomb.

The women run in bewilderment and confusion, to Peter and John. And then back, with Peter and John, back to the tomb - and find it as the women have told them. Empty, the grave clothes left lying, folded on the barren rock.

Anger, rage, frustration, bewilderment grip them as they turn back to the city. No one to go to, no person to help, and the birdsong is unheard through the clamour of their grief and desolation.

Mary stays alone, for at this moment there is nowhere to go, there is no place of consolation. Perhaps Joseph changed his mind. Maybe he decided the body of a criminal did not belong in his rich man's tomb.

And through the glistening prisms of her tears a vision, two angels; "Woman, why are you weeping?" The words almost wrench out of her. "Because they have taken away my Lord and I don't know where they have put him"

And then, another voice, very human, behind her; "Woman, why are you weeping?" She turns, barely able to focus, anguish and pleading in her voice. "Sir, if you have taken him away, tell me where you have put him. I will take him and look after him."

Then the voice, familiar and clear, filled with love and gentleness. "Mary!" And Mary, recognizing now the voice and the form, utters one word. "RABBONI!"

I hope you can come at Sunrise on Easter Sunday morning, to greet the dawn on the day that Jesus rose from death to life. Spicer's Field. 6.30am. (Sorry, no dogs allowed by Council by-laws.) Some people are bringing hot-cross buns and coffee. Come and share our brief but memorable greeting of the Resurrection Dawn.

Bruce

An Easter Reflection:

Let us not hold onto you, risen Christ,
so that we feel good
and keep this good news for ourselves.
But let us dare to take your life into the world.

We will proclaim, in word and deed,
in the places where hatred destroys,
the good news that love can flourish,
in the places where hope has been stamped out,
the good news that death will not have the last word,

in the places where peace is scarce,
the good news that life will not be destroyed.

Let us not hold onto you, risen Christ,
so that we feel good
and keep this good news for ourselves.
But let us dare to take your life into our world,

to live as people filled with your life,
to share with our sisters and brothers
the joy you have shared with us,
to take the hand of those who look for hope,
that they will see your face.

In the name of Jesus Christ,
who leads us beyond all to which we cling,
Alleluia!

Anne Sardeson

Doris Phillips

On Sunday 18th March, we welcomed Doris into membership of Sawston Free Church. Doris has been faithful in worship for the last ten years, and in her testimony on Sunday she gave the church one of the most beautiful gifts I can imagine: these words.

I was born 91 years ago in Little Shelford into a lovely Christian home. I was christened at All Saints church in the village. I attended the services there with my parents all my childhood days, and at 13 years I was confirmed. With my church and home life, I understood and learned about having faith in our Lord Jesus Christ.

But unfortunately I lost my mother very early in my teens, and Dad and I both had a problem holding onto our faith. But with kind friends and prayers, slowly, we felt the hand of God reaching out to us.

At 19 I married, and with 3 children, happiness surrounded us again. God was good. But in an 8 year period I lost my dear Dad, my sister, my daughter, my husband, and a 10 year old grandson. I was alone and I had lost my family. I could not believe God would allow these things to happen to me. I moved to Sawston for a fresh start. Great friends Beryl and Terry were here, and brought me to this lovely church, and I saw kindness as I had not known for long while. I witnessed God's works working in Beryl and Terry. They were and still are my rock and salvation. My faith was restored by love, and kindness, and prayers. Beryl and Terry brought me to this church, filled by love and life by example.

Thank you all. God bless you. Amen.



Prayer Diary for April

"Each section is offered for use as a daily focus in prayer throughout the week."

Easter Week 1: 1st - 7th

- Romsey Mill: Ollie Omeakin who has been running the Thursday night youth group in our church has moved to Exeter. We hold Ollie and his wife in our prayer and pray for the new leader of the Thursday night group. Craig Geange
- Romsey Mill are applying for Grants next month to further their work with young people with Autism Spectrum Conditions (ACS). They currently run 11 groups. Please pray for them and for Ruth Watts who co-ordinates the programme and for her colleague Heather Rogers, who together take all of these groups.
- Pray for Ben Wilkes, the Young Parent's Programme worker and the current ten week course, "Eat well on a budget", training young parents to make cheap, nutritious and tasty meals. Many people have a lack of confidence in providing food from fresh products.
- Google www.romseymill.org to find out the amazing spread of services being provided on our doorstep by this wonderful charity.

Easter Week 2: 8th – 14th

- We pray for the Rev'd Iain McColl who will be inducted to the Granta Vale group of churches on Thursday 12th April. This will incorporate our ecumenical partners in Great and Little Abington.
- The combined congregations of Gt and Lt. Abington churches will be seeking a House-for-duty church and we remember them in this quest
- We pray for our other church partners in the three churches, Sawston Free Church, Lt. Abington URC and Castle Camps URC
- For all of the churches in the villages in which, together, we seek to serve Christ, we offer our prayers



Easter Week 3: 15th – 21st

- In this week leading up to the Queen's Birthday, we thank God for a stable government in this country, and pray for our parliamentarians, our Queen, our Prime Minister in the incredibly complex tasks they have to deal with.
- We pray for a just society that cares for its poor and homeless, and the stranger amongst us, who are most commonly displaced people.
- We pray for those who serve our local community, our Councillors at local and County levels.
- We give thanks for those who service our communities, and pray for our police, our firemen, our ambulance drivers, nurses and doctors, our teachers, our clergy.

Easter Week 4: 22nd -29th

- Please pray this week for the people who serve us in our churches.
 - For elders, who accept the responsibility of caring for people's spiritual need and the good order and discipline of our church and all its aspects
 - For people who work with young people: our junior church, brigades, Time4Tots, all age worship planners, Messy church plotters, crèche minders and mums, dads, grandads and nanas, uncles and aunties and godparents, childminders and teachers and childcare workers.
 - For people who prepare our worship, who prepare our church for worship, who count the offerings and play our music and read our scriptures and welcome people to our buildings

- and make the tea and coffee and prepare cake and biscuits and hand out hymnbooks and prepare notices.
 - For people who mend and clean and arrange and put out the rubbish and prepare our posters and hymn boards and seats, and repair and repaint and look after our bank accounts and records.
 - For people who look after our craft groups and support our older people's groups, and make up our study groups and take on our task groups.
-

Thanks to Helen Sharpe for sending this, following the service on the 18th February thinking about being "Stewards of God's resources – Money."

From "Prayer Over a Five-Pound Note," by Michael Quoist:

Lord, see this note, it frightens me.
 You know its secrets, you know its history.
 How heavy it is!
 It scares me, for it cannot speak.
 It will never tell all it hides in its creases....

Through how many hands has it passed, Lord?

It has offered white roses to the radiant fiancée.
 It has paid for the baptismal party, and fed the growing baby.
 It has provided bread for the family table.
 Because of it there was laughter among the young, and joy among the adults.

It has paid for the saving visit of the doctor,
 It has bought the book that taught the youngster,
 It has clothed the young girl.
 But it has sent the letter breaking the engagement.

It has paid for the death of a child in its mother's womb.
 It has bought the liquor that made the drunkard.
 It has produced the film unfit for children.
 And has recorded the indecent song.

It has broken the morals of the adolescent and made of the adult a thief.
 It has bought for a few hours the body of a woman.
 It has paid for the weapons of the crime and for the wood of the coffin.
 O Lord, I offer you this note with its joyous mysteries, and its sorrowful mysteries.

I thank you for all the life and joy it has given.
 I ask your forgiveness for the harm it has done.

But above all, Lord, I offer it to you as a symbol of all of the labours of men, indestructible money, which tomorrow will be changed into your eternal life.

Hymn: God challenge and awaken us who live in west and east

Each week I prepare the large print hymn folders for the Sunday morning service which I love doing. Some I take from my well stocked files in the vestry, and others I pick up from the internet. This means that I get a chance to see them and have a little hum along when I am preparing the files. Then of course I get another chance to sing them at the Sunday morning service. Sometimes a new hymn appears and the words to the following hymn really spoke to me and I thought that I would share them with you.

*God challenge and awaken us who live in west and east
to celebrate the life of Christ,
our Saviour, Lord and Priest;
who came the light of love to shed on greatest and on least,*

*O lighten our darkness with your love, with your love,
O lighten our darkness with your love*

*Where terrorists still use the power of fear of bomb and gun,
where children play in ruined streets
or think that fighting's fun;
where war and famine kill a child, when life has just begun,*

*O lighten our darkness with your love, with your love,
O lighten our darkness with your love*

*Where people doss in doorways, or the mortgage can't be paid;
where being made redundant
leaves folk aimless and afraid
where children bear the consequences of evils we have made,*

*O lighten our darkness with your love, with your love,
O lighten our darkness with your love*

*Where we are still indiff'rent to the cry of human pain;
where profit's all important
and we only think of gain;
then Saviour Christ, each Christmas in our hearts be born again,*

*O lighten our darkness with your love, with your love,
O lighten our darkness with your love*

(CCL Licence 180039)

Not long ago I woke up in bed feeling so cold. I nipped out of bed, refilled my hot water bottle from our bedroom kettle and dived back into bed. I gradually started to feel warmer. My husband Terry is not an enthusiastic foot warmer, but he does make a jolly good draught excluder!

Whilst I was thinking what subject I could pursue to get me back to sleep, the third verse of this hymn came into my mind. I thought about the time when my rented house was going to be sold and I could not find any where else to go. I told one of my colleagues and she said that she would mention my plight to her fellow dog walkers. Soon after, someone told her of a soon to be vacated flat in Ely opposite to the cathedral, and I ultimately moved in. I also thought about when Terry and I started our mortgage, and the interest rate was in double figures! Life was certainly hard then, but between us we were able to talk it through and also seek advice from others.

It can be daunting to see the problems that others have and wonder what to do. I feel that opening our hearts to God in prayer with these problems can be a way forward, and a readiness to follow where he leads.

Beryl Penny

Happy 2018 from all of us at Canaan Project (how is it March already?!)

The last few months have been really busy with an awful lot to celebrate!

Firstly, we would love to announce that our Project Manager, Tessa, has given birth to a healthy and happy baby girl! The rest of us at Team Canaan are missing Tessa, but wish her and Baby Elbourne all the best! (*Tessa took over the role of Project Manager from Fiona Harriss*)

In the mean time, Annie Edwards is heading up the Project whilst Tessa is on maternity leave, and is working with two fantastic Young Woman's Workers - Tess, and Jess!

Jess started with us in October 2017 and has been instrumental in starting up provision in another school, which is going really well. We now have 80 new young women on our books which means we get to hang out with 80 new young women each week!

Tess is taking over the work at our first school, and started at Canaan Project in January 2018, and has already become a real asset to the team. Good work, ladies!

Annie, Tess and Jess made it through their first half term holiday filled to the brim with trips and lots of excitement! We went to the Science Museum with some girls from Years 7-9 who attend our lunch clubs, and we enjoyed a visit to the Wonderlab, an interactive exhibition where everything is hands on and good fun. We saw a rocket show and learned about different forces at the Science Museum's Show Space, and the girls had a great time.

This year, some young women who attend our after school club won a bid for some funding to go on a trip to an escape room. We took 20 young women from the after school club to Kidz Escape in Finchley during half term, where we worked in teams to breakout of the room and work out the clues (as well as dabbling in some Karaoke while we were there!) The team were ready for a well-earned rest as half term came to a close, but we hope the girls had the best time.

Canaan Project was invited to come into one of the schools and run a workshop about healthy friendships for the young women. Jess and Tess expertly planned the content and activities, which resulted in a huge display to be put up at school of different encouragements and positive words for other pupils to read as they walk past the board (like this in our newsletter!). We were so proud of the girls for putting thought into their encouragements, and at the end of the workshop, one young woman told us that she had learned "to be brave, and to love yourself". Well done Jess and Tess!



Until next time,

Annie

Linton Free Church

200th anniversary celebrations of the present church building



Sunday April 29th

10.30am : Morning worship led by Rev J Proctor,
National General Secretary, The United Reformed Church

2pm-5pm

Cream teas in the hall
Children's activities
Discover:
Our history and our
present activities.



Everyone is warmly invited.....

Do you have memories of the church – bring
along your memorabilia to show and share.

The present building of Linton Free Church dates back to 1818, but the site was home to dissenting families from the 1690's onwards.



After the Act of Toleration in 1689, the independents were able to register a barn as their place of worship and within a few years they had a large congregation. A Chapel was then built off Horn Lane in 1698, west of the river.

Original painting of 1698 Meeting House presented in 1914.

It was built in Thomas Huppup's orchard which was at the bottom of his long High Street plot on which all the properties in Horn Lane south backed.

Inside, a large pulpit faced a singer's gallery over the door, and two other galleries were built in 1703-04.

The congregation, including people from other parishes, numbered 83 adults in 1703 and had grown to 147 by 1728.

The building faced south (the opposite of today), over the meadows, and access was by way of a footbridge over the Grip stream.

About a century later, the plot in Horn Lane which was adjacent to the meeting house, was bequeathed to the church by Edmund Taylor, the tanner and miller, so that when the present Meeting House was built in 1818 (at a cost of £1000) it faced Horn Lane, and the plot became the forecourt, as it is today.

The congregation declined to 100 (with only 17 full members) by the 1790's when there was a sharp division over a new minister.



In 1797, the larger faction called a minister named Thomas Hopkins, whose energy revived the chapel.

In 1799, he started a Sunday School, which was a great success, with 150 pupils in 1833. The church grew under his leadership.

In 1817, the old meeting house was pulled down and the current building was finished in 1818. The organ was installed in 1827. By 1851, the attendance averaged 280-350, besides 50 Sunday school pupils. By 1850, the chapel owned a Manse by the Red Lion (which was once on the corner of the High Street and Horn Lane).

The hall on the side of the chapel was built in 1908 to house the Sunday school and was linked to the chapel building at a later date. Miss. Hailes of Linton made the whole project possible by donating £300 to the building fund.



The Opening of the Church Hall, 1908

In 1972, the chapel was affiliated to the United Reformed Church.

Linton Free Church remains a lively and vibrant community of worshipping people with a youth group, Junior church and other mid-week groups.

Minister: Rev. Chris Kemshell

Two news items caught my eye this weekend - the weekend *after* our editor had sent out a reminder that Friday was deadline day, I am sorry to report.

The first item was that according to the UN World Happiness Report, Finland was the happiest country in the world (1). The other top four were Norway, Denmark, Iceland and Switzerland. The UK and US came in at 19th and 18th places respectively. The least happy were South Sudan, the Central African Republic and Burundi.

It is not hard to work out why these are at the bottom of the pile. They are all riven with ethnic violence that amounts to genocide, poverty and virtual lawlessness. They are 'ruled' by corrupt leaders who garner immense personal wealth from their activities.

One of the most telling observations about Finland and the other countries at the top of the list is that not only are these the countries where the indigenous populations are happiest, they are also the countries where the immigrant populations are happiest. That prompts all manner of speculation, does it not? Are the immigrants happy because they feel safe, or feel wanted, or are free to thrive? Is it because crime amongst them is low, just as it is amongst the indigenous? Or is it that interracial friendship and marriage is not a problem? I really have no idea. What is noticeable, however, is that these five happiest countries are also countries where the distribution of wealth is relatively even. The gap between rich and poor is relatively small. Even the poor may thrive.

The second item that caught my eye concerned Heathrow airport (2). Its annual passenger numbers are soaring, as are its raw revenue, profits and dividends. Nevertheless Heathrow reported a convenient adjusted pre-tax loss of £293m, compared to a £552m profit the year before. The company's consolidated debt rose by 2.3pc. to £12bn. Most alarmingly for the employees, the pension fund dropped from a surplus of £104m to a deficit of £370m in just nine months. Here then is a company that doesn't pay taxes, has soaring debt, doesn't maintain its pension fund, but that pumps huge sums into its dividends.

I could not possibly fashion an argument that said that the biblical faith was unequivocally in favour of an even distribution of wealth. It just isn't there in our bibles. BUT, notoriously, there is more about money in the gospels than about anything else. The plight of the poor, the disadvantaged, the alien and the vulnerable is constantly remarked. Greed is condemned. Generosity and kindness are applauded. And at this point I become disturbed. Looking at the principal investors in Heathrow, the largest British investor is a pension fund. That tells me that Heathrow Airport, like so many of our companies, avoids paying taxes, but puts everything into dividends, thereby maintaining the life-style of current beneficiaries of company pensions (people like me) whilst mortgaging the future state and company pensions of its current workforce. That, it seems to me, does not bode for a happy future for our children and grandchildren.

(1) <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-43414145>

(2) <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/business/2016/10/20/heathrows-profits-plunge-and-pension-deficit-grows-as-it-awaits/>



Women's World day of Prayer. All God's Creation is Very Good

On Friday 2nd March at 2pm about 30 women, a few from each of our four churches, gathered together in SFC to take part in a service written by the women of Suriname, on the north coast of South America. In the service they urged us to cherish God's exquisite gift of Creation and to commit ourselves to caring for God's world responsibly, so that we may pass it on, unspoilt, to future generations.



In preparation, we were asked to put a table at the front covered with a green cloth to represent the rainforest and a colourful bunch of flowers to remind us of the ethnic diversity of Suriname's districts and population. During the service a Bible was placed on the table alongside a lighted candle. Pinned to the front of the green cloth was a copy of the flag of Suriname made up of green, red and white stripes with a yellow star. On the floor in front were four cardboard boxes labelled for recycling. On a side table an empty glass jug.

With music from Suriname playing, the service was started by Mary Simuyandi reading this prayer:

We thank God for the beautiful country of Suriname - a country with incredible flora and fauna, where people from different ethnicities and faiths live in peace with each other.

We then attempted to say 'All God's Creation is Very Good' in the Sranan tongue!!

Mary and Rosemary Livings graciously guided us through the service helped by readers from our four Sawston Churches. These seven ladies were all dressed in colourful scarves to represent women of indigenous Suriname, West Africa, China, European/African Creole, Netherlands, India and Indonesia. They each told the moving story of how their ancestors lived, worked and settled in Suriname. They then brought forward a gift which they unwrapped, throwing the wrapping on the floor and placing the gift on a table at the front. The service continued with readings and prayers highlighting our poor use of the world's resources and pollution of the planet. We sang well-known hymns, also some new songs led by Rosemary Heald on the piano.



Finally, the wrapping papers and plastic bags were placed in the recycling boxes and the service closed with this prayer:

We commit to start by changing one small thing in our daily lives which will make a positive difference to our world and protect the earth for future generations.'



If you missed this inspiring service do consider coming next year when the service will be prepared by the women of Slovenia:

'Come -Everything is Ready'.

All are welcome; young, old, men and women. It is always a very special feeling taking part in something which we know will be held in 170 countries around the world within a period of 36 hours.

Thanks to all who took part in or attended the service.

Rosemary Harriss

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK

The Car Boot Sale in aid of Christian Aid Week will be on Sunday 29 April at the Trumpington Park and Ride site. Please sort through your cupboards, lofts and garages for anything you no longer need, but that we can sell (no clothes please). You can give what you find to Pam and Tony, or to Mary.

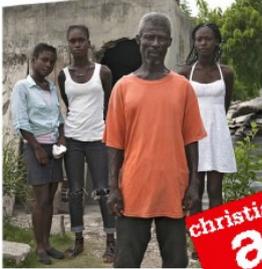
We will be collecting outside Budgens on Saturday 19 May between 9.00am and 1.00pm. There will be a list at the back of the church after Easter for volunteers to sign up for an hour - two people on each shift.

See below for details of the Tea Dance with Cream Teas on 12 May.

There will be envelopes for your donations in church each Sunday during May.

Please let us know if you would like to help with any of the events.

With Thanks, Pam, Tony and Mary



Saturday 12th May
2.00 - 5.00pm

St. Mary's Community Hall
Church Lane, Sawston

Entrance by ticket: £6 including cream tea
(10 years and under £3) from 11 High Street.
Tel: 01223 834220

For more information about Christian Aid Week
please visit caweek.org



CAMBRIDGE METHODIST CIRCUIT

Events for April 2018

For more details contact the Circuit Administrator: Mrs Miriam Webb
 Circuit Office: Wesley Methodist Church, Christ's Pieces, Cambridge CB1
 1LG Office: 01223 352115 Email: office@wesleycam.org.uk
www.cambridgemethodistcircuit.org.uk

APRIL			
Mon 9th	7.15pm for 7.45pm	Science Meets Faith: With Dr Elizabeth Stockdale, School of Agriculture, Food and Rural Development, Newcastle University, talking on 'Mud Matters: some revelations of a soil scientist'. All welcome. Free admission – retiring collection. Light refreshments from 7.15pm.	Wesley MC
Tues 17th	7-9pm	Creating safer Space : Refresher training – please book your place with the circuit office	Chesterton MC
Fri 20th	7.30pm	Ivor Jones Memorial Concert - Alison Nicholls, Harp and Geoff Batty, Organ	Wesley MC
Sat 21st	10am- 12.30pm	Creating Safer Space: Foundation Training – please book your place with the circuit office	Chesterton MC

For service details for Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday
 please see the Circuit Plan booklet for March – May.

Ivor Jones Memorial Concert



Alison Nicholls - Harp



Geoff Batty - Organ

Friday 20th April 2018 at Wesley Church, Christ's Pieces,
 Cambridge, CB1 1LG

Tickets: £12 (£6 concessions)

Available from:

Wesley House (01223 765832) / Wesley Church (01223 352115)

Online: <https://ivorjonesconcert.eventbrite.co.uk>

SEASIDE SPECTACULAR HOLIDAY CLUB

**30th July – 4th August 2018 9.30am-3.30pm
at Bellbird Primary School**



Holiday Club is on the horizon again and this year we're going to the seaside! For five days primary school children (from end of Reception up to Year 6) will be meeting up with Jesus and His friends on the beach to find out 'What does a disciple need in their bucket'!

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Together in
Sawston**

Would you like to be a part of the team delivering this ministry to children? We need help with:

- ♦ Group Leaders and Helpers – working with 6-10 children at a time
- ♦ Administration and publicity - in advance of Holiday Club
- ♦ Set design and building – helping to transform the space in to a themed and fun area
- ♦ Prayer support – setting up a prayer network
- ♦ Crafts – preparing craft materials prior to the start of Holiday Club
- ♦ Refreshments – preparing snacks, drinks and light refreshments
- ♦ Registration – welcoming and booking in children

Please complete the tear off slip below indicating the days you would be available to help and/or the activities you would like to be involved in and return it to Faith Paulding at Sawston Free Church or 26 Moorfield Road, Duxford CB22 4PS or e-mail details to faith.paulding@ntlworld.com

Whatever support you can give will be greatly appreciated and valued. Thank you.

Faith Paulding

From

Telephone No.

e-mail

Mobile No

Please tick below what areas/days you can offer help with.

I am able to help with:

Prayer support Administration Craft preparation Set building
Registration Group Leader Group Helper Refreshments Other (please specify)

I can help at Holiday Club on:

Monday 30th July Tuesday 1st August Wednesday 2nd August
Thursday 3rd August Friday 4th August

Church Directory

Minister		Tel
Rev. Bruce Waldron	The Manse, 3 High Street, Sawston Email: revbruce@sawstonfreechurch.org.uk	836786 07814 920187
Secretaries:		
Maggie Jones - Sawston	21 Hillside, Sawston	565637
Lynne Riecansky – Lt. Abington	7 Meadow Walk, Great Abington	893295
Val Spencer – Castle Camps	20 South Road, Abington	892214
Elders: Sawston		
Mary Simuyandi	28 New Road, Sawston	837433
Anne Nunn	10 London Road, Sawston	832913
Mike Purdy	42 Granta Road, Sawston	830903
Sue Sisk	63 Babraham Road, Sawston	833508
Sue Lelliott	26 Park Road, Sawston	520383
Chris Sales	2 Edinburgh Avenue, Sawston	473829
Joint Treasurers:		
Lynne Hays	Baggot Hall, Station Road, Harston	871800
Terry Penny	April Lodge, 81 Brewery Road, Pampisford	833635
Contact Editors		
David & Anne Nunn	10 London Road, Sawston Email: anne.nunn@btinternet.com	832913
Church Website:	www.sawstonfreechurch.org.uk/	
Facebook page:	www.facebook.com/SawstonFreeChurch	

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MWIB SPRING DISTRICT DAY

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GLORY
IN US**

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IPSWICH

APRIL 26th 2018

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