

### REGULAR ACTIVITIES

SUNDAY	Services	10.30am and some evenings
MONDAY	Craft Club (alternate weeks, see Diary for dates)	2.00pm to 4.00pm
WEDNESDAY	Community coffee shop	9.00am to 5.00pm
THURSDAY	Thursday Group (1st Thursday in month)	2.45pm to 4.00pm
SATURDAY	Community coffee shop	10.30am to 11.30am

### MINISTER'S MESSAGE

Dear Friends,

Whilst in some ways, the whole of the Christian life seeks to make sense of the story of the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, this period immediately after Easter is a particularly good opportunity to consider the significance and outworking of all that went on. I find the poem (on page 3) by John Updike, a powerful challenge to not reduce the story of Jesus' resurrection to a nice story or an interesting philosophy or an inspiring metaphor for life, but to really consider the claims of scripture and of the Christian church that this was and is a real, life-altering, universe-changing historical event which continues to reverberate today. And, if that truly is the case, then how might it effect how we see God, ourselves and others...

*Simon.*

#### WHAT'S GOING ON IN COTTENHAM...?

For anyone who might be interested in some of the initiatives Simon is involved with at the Cottenham Community Centre Coffee Shop, here is some of what's happening in April

Sun Apr 3<sup>rd</sup> Community Cinema 2pm:  
The Good Dinosaur

7:30pm, *The Lady in the Van* ...there is a huge screen, incredible sound, and a bar.

Each screening includes a short introductory talk and the opportunity to stay on for a conversation about the film, life and faith at the end. (Tickets are £2 for the afternoon screening and £4 in advance for the evening film; for more info see [www.facebook.com/CottenhamCommunityCinema](http://www.facebook.com/CottenhamCommunityCinema)).

Sat Apr 9<sup>th</sup>: 10:30am, 'Dads Play': a chance for dads/male carers to hang out with their children, drink great coffee and eat bacon sandwiches!

Sun Apr 17<sup>th</sup>: 3-4:30pm, *The Roost*: a great, fun, family event exploring life and faith with arts, craft, videos, music and more...plus the Sunday papers, cake and more great coffee.

Sun 24<sup>th</sup> April: 7:30-9:30pm, Arts Night: a small group of musicians, singers, poets, photographers, artists and storytellers exploring life and faith through the arts...

If you want to know more about any of these things or fancy getting involved, please talk to Simon or get in touch via [simon.oliver@cantab.net](mailto:simon.oliver@cantab.net) or [www.revcoffee.net](http://www.revcoffee.net)

**DIARY DATES FOR APRIL**

Sun 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Preacher: Revd Simon Oliver	10.30am
Mon 4 <sup>th</sup>	Craft Group	2.00pm
Wed 6 <sup>th</sup>	Service at Bramley Court	2.45pm
Thu 7 <sup>th</sup>	Thursday Group. Revd Kathleen Richardson <i>On being a Baroness</i>	2.45pm
Fri 8 <sup>th</sup>	Quiz evening. Teams of up to eight people, cost is £8 per person	7.00pm
Sun 10 <sup>th</sup>	Preacher: Mr John Baker	10.30am
Sun 17 <sup>th</sup>	Preacher: Prof Judith Lieu Material for May <i>Newsletter</i> , please	10.30am
Mon 18 <sup>th</sup>	Craft Group	2.00pm
Wed 20 <sup>th</sup>	Service at Etheldred House	11.00am
Fri 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Country dancing	8.00pm
Sun 24 <sup>th</sup>	Holy Communion. Preacher: Revd Simon Oliver	10.30am
Sun 1 <sup>st</sup> May	General Church meeting with bring and share lunch, after morning service.	
Sat 7 <sup>th</sup>	Yard Sale (see notice)	9.30am

**Future dates for your diary:**

Sun 25<sup>th</sup> September, Harvest Festival. The Revd Simon Oliver will lead our morning service.

16<sup>th</sup> October, Church Anniversary. We are very privileged to have the Revd Steven Wild, current President of The Methodist conference to lead our service at 10.30am. Please make a note of the date in your diary.

3<sup>rd</sup> December, Christmas market

**PETER EDWIN CROWE 17.3.23 – 23.2.16**

Peter was a loyal and committed member of our church since he moved to our area some 10 years ago. He attended faithfully until the last couple of years when illness prevented this.

A proud Yorkshireman, he was a lifelong member of the Methodist Church and held many roles in the church, and was particularly interested and a great supporter of Youth Work, and was also a devoted Rotarian.

He loved to travel, latterly in his camper van, and many of us will remember him arriving in this to church, and accompanying us to Willersley for our church weekend away.

He was the proud father of triplet daughters, one of whom predeceased him, and a grandfather and great grandfather, and will be sadly missed by his family.

I conducted a family cremation service at March Crematorium on 11<sup>th</sup> March and a Thanksgiving Service is to be held here in Histon on April 28<sup>th</sup> at 11am. *Judy Wynn*

**YARD SALE**

We are holding a Yard sale on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> May at 9.30am. So it is time to clear out your cupboards and de-clutter!

Items to sell can be left in the church any time after morning service on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> May.

If help is needed to transport items, or if you are really unable to store items yourself until then, please have a word with one of the stewards and we will try to help.

We will be preparing on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> May from 5pm and on the day from 9am. If you are willing to help please add your name to the sheet which will be available in the church soon.

Coffee and delicious refreshments will also be available as usual.

All proceeds to our Development Fund.

### CHURCH PEWS

The pews in the church will be for sale later this summer. Please see Christine if you would like to reserve one. There will be a list of further items, including some tables, later.

### A MAN THAT LOOKS ON GLASS...

It was a joy to see the sun but, oh, how it showed up my dirty windows. My least favourite chore is cleaning windows, and my least successful. Water and leather or Windowlene, I always seem to leave smears, so it was in a grumpy mood that I began work. At last I came to the final window and suddenly remembered a verse from the hymn by George Herbert.

A man that looks on glass  
on it may stay his eye,  
or if he pleaseth, through it pass,  
and then the Heaven espy.

I had been looking at glass all morning, now I looked through it and there was an English garden waking up from its winter sleep, bursting with the joy of spring, full of promise.

Good old George – perhaps I'd better go and sweep the kitchen floor while I feel so uplifted.

*Margaret Brierley*

(Words of hymn reproduced from H&P 803)

### SEVEN STANZAS AT EASTER

Make no mistake: if he rose at all  
It was as His body;  
If the cell's dissolution did not reverse, the  
molecule reknit,  
The amino acids rekindle,  
The Church will fall.

It was not as the flowers,  
Each soft spring recurrent;  
It was not as His Spirit in the mouths and fuddled  
eyes of the  
Eleven apostles;  
It was as His flesh; ours.

The same hinged thumbs and toes  
The same valved heart  
That—pierced—died, withered, paused, and then  
regathered  
Out of enduring Might  
New strength to enclose.

Let us not mock God with metaphor,  
Analogy, sidestepping, transcendence,  
Making of the event a parable, a sign painted in  
the faded  
Credulity of earlier ages:  
Let us walk through the door.

The stone is rolled back, not papier-mache,  
Not a stone in a story,  
But the vast rock of materiality that in the slow  
grinding of  
Time will eclipse for each of us  
The wide light of day.

And if we have an angel at the tomb,  
Make it a real angel,  
Weighty with Max Planck's quanta, vivid with  
hair, opaque in  
The dawn light, robed in real linen  
Spun on a definite loom.

Let us not seek to make it less monstrous,  
For our own convenience, our own sense of  
beauty,  
Lest, awakened in one unthinkable hour, we are  
embarrassed  
By the miracle, and crushed by remonstrance.

*John Updike*

### **COUNTRY DANCING**

Jane and Kathryn look forward to seeing you on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> for country dancing. You do not need a partner as we all dance with each other. Soft shoes are recommended footwear.

See you there

### **THURSDAY GROUP**

Unfortunately we need to make some changes to the coming programme. Paul Allen is unable to come on 5<sup>th</sup> May, so will be bringing his pigeons on 7<sup>th</sup> July instead.

There will now be a members' afternoon in May, when we would like people to bring a favourite object and talk about it. The June meeting remains as planned, with tea in my garden.

*Jenny Phillipps*

### **DEVELOPMENT REPORT**

The survey has produced some very positive results in favour of our redevelopment and will be very helpful in going for grants. The winner of the voucher will be announced next month. Thank you to all who filled in a survey.

The quiz evening will take place on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> April. The yard sale will go ahead on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> May, and the Beetle drive will probably be in June.

### **GENERAL CHURCH MEETING AND GIFT EVENING**

The General Church Meeting and Gift Day will take place on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2016 after morning worship. The meeting will be followed by a bring-and-share lunch, a finger buffet. A list will be available in the church for you to sign if you can bring something.

Nominations for the stewards, who are appointed at this meeting, may be given to the minister by 17<sup>th</sup> April. You must make sure that the person is willing to stand, and get someone else to second your nomination.

We hope you will be able to come; this meeting is open to the whole church, and is a chance to give your views on what is going on in our premises.

### **PRAYER**

Let the door of our heart be always open to you, O Lord, that we may mark your entrance, embrace your presence, hear your voice, seek your strength and hold fast to you for ever. Amen

*Paul Heath (1599-1643)*