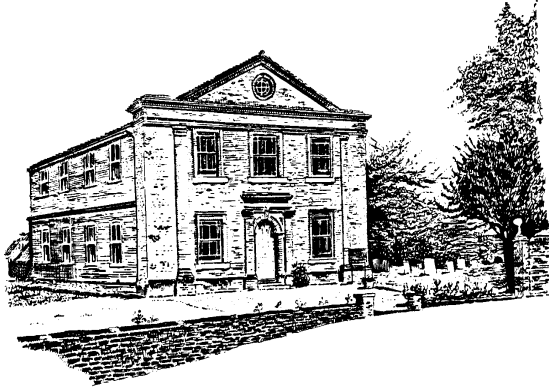




Fairland News

No. 488

November 2009



Fairland United Reformed Church
Wymondham

**Fairland United Reformed Church
Wymondham**

Primary Minister Revd Alison Davis
The Manse
28 Norwich Road
Wymondham NR18 0NS
Tel (01953) 609971

Church Secretary Mrs Jennifer Shakesby
'The Pedlars'
38 Bentley Road
Tacolneston NR16 1DL
Tel (01953) 788983

Treasurer Mr John Butcher
176 The Avenues
Norwich NR4 7DR
Tel (01603) 457861

Asst Treasurer Mrs Jill Brown
78 Norwich Road
Wymondham NR18 0SZ
Tel (01953) 603979

Bookings for Mrs Jill Brown
Fairland Hall and
Fairland Church Centre

Services are held every Sunday at 10.30 am
On the first Sunday of the month, the Service includes **Holy Communion**

Fairland Searchers Youth Club meets at the Fairland Hall every Monday at 6.30 pm

Dear Friends,

Another month has passed another newsletter is being prepared. The deadlines seem to come round quicker each time, raising the question for me on occasions what is the newsletter for, why do we continue to produce a monthly publication?

Our newsletter is an important tool for communication within our fellowship and beyond. It reminds us all of events that are happening in our church and in the wider community, it enables us to share news of our church family. It tells all who receive it what we are doing, how we are seeking to be the people of God in Wymondham.

Ann is to be congratulated on her wonderful work each month as are those who contribute items/articles for it.

However, as in other areas of our life together, we need to ask that question why do we do it? Once again, the elders are planning an away day for Spring 2010, another opportunity to ask the awkward questions why and how. We need to review and check out that what we do is still fulfilling its purpose, meeting the need that was identified. If the answers are yes, then we celebrate and continue working and serving. If the answers are no, then we stop, think, look around, listen and see where and how we are now being called to serve.

Let's celebrate our newsletter and give thanks for all the work that goes into its production and the news and concerns that are shared within its pages and let us look at other ways of communicating our love of God and our faith with each other and our community.

Alison

THE EARTH IS THE LORD'S...

I must admit that I have not so far taken much interest in the debate about climate change. I recycle as much as possible and try not to waste gas and electricity. But on Saturday 17th October I went to an event in Norwich entitled "Greening your Church and School". Organized by the Norfolk Churches Environmental Group, it really brought home the need for us all to take responsibility for what is happening to the earth.

The main speaker was a Baptist minister, Steve Hughes, who is the Chief Executive of A Rocha UK. A Rocha (which means the rock) started in Portugal in 1983, and is now active in 18 countries. It is founded on the belief that caring for creation is an important part of biblical Christian faith. In partnership with other organizations, A Rocha works for the conservation and restoration of the natural world. It also encourages individuals to make changes to their lifestyle, so that by living more simply and economically one's impact on the climate will be gradually reduced.

We ate our packed lunches and drank the Fairtrade tea and coffee provided. Then there were workshops. Rev Briant Smith spoke on Eco-theology and Natural Spirituality. He gave examples of biblical references to the creation and suggested that we should think more deeply about our understanding of God as creator and about our own role in relation to God's kingdom.

There was more to it all than this, but what has stayed with me is the concern and enthusiasm shown by all those attending. There are many facets to this vast and vital topic. One thing is for sure. Climate change will have a serious impact on our present economic system. We cannot have indefinite growth. Now is the time to think about rebuilding our communities, so that people can work locally and shop locally, and thus cut down on traffic congestion and pollution.

If the churches take the lead in paying attention to the earth, perhaps the world will pay more attention to the Gospel.

Patricia Lithgow

* Please remember to keep collecting small change for Hope and Homes for Children *

Communion Offerings for November and December

At the last Church Meeting, the charity **Teenage Cancer Trust** was chosen as the next recipient of our collections on 8th November and 6th December. The following information is taken from their website www.teenagecancertrust.org:

‘Every day in the UK, up to 6 teenagers or young adults (between the ages of 13 and 24) will find out they have cancer - that is approximately 2,100 new cases a year. These young people, in the midst of their already difficult journey to adulthood, suddenly find themselves faced with a possible life-threatening illness and very often receiving treatment in inappropriate facilities with inadequate support options. Until the age of 16 a teenager is likely to be treated in a paediatric ward alongside toddlers. If the same teen was diagnosed after turning 16 then they are likely to end up in an adult ward with elderly patients. Many must put life on hold, just as it is starting to take off.

In either case the young person is being treated alongside people they can't fully relate to, and is outside the specialty of their doctors, nurses and hospital staff. Cancer in teenagers and young adults has a distinctive pattern and is different from that of children and older adults. It is important for their physical health and psychological well-being, that they be treated in a specialist facility that is built to meet their needs, and it is critical for their emotional well-being that they are treated in a comfortable environment where they have the opportunity to meet other people their age who understand what they are going through.

TCT's top priority is **building units in NHS hospitals specifically for teenagers with cancer**. As well as superior medical facilities, these units are equipped with day rooms, kitchens and chill-out rooms where teenagers can relax and feel at home or have friends and family to visit in a comfortable environment. There are computers with internet access, pool tables, playstations, satellite TV, musical instruments, and other things teenagers might like to occupy their time with, or share with friends. Most importantly, the units provide an environment where teenagers can meet others in a similar situation and allow patients to build friendships and mechanisms to cope with their disease

A Teenage Cancer Trust unit is currently being built at Addenbrooke's Hospital in Cambridge. Costing around £2 million, the new unit will have 10 beds for treating young cancer patients from East Anglia and the surrounding area..’

Flower Rota
November / December

1 November	Shirley Adams
8 November	Jennifer Shakesby (Remembrance Sunday)
15 November	Daphne Prior
22 November	Ruth Dunning
29 November	Ann Sprules
6 December	Sheila Eaglen

* * * * *

Gifts of flowers from the Communion Table have been passed on to:

Rod Cross; Barbara Wilkinson; Jean Lerner; Alan and Carole Shildrake;
Dorothy Evans, Kathleen Crossman and Mrs David Ingham.

* * * * *

Please note that the Flower Rota for 2010 is now available on the notice board. Book that special date now!

Thank you for the lovely flowers, they were beautiful and lasted a very long time, brightening up our hall.

Jenny Jones

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Thanks for donation

A kind donation towards the cost of producing this newsletter has been received from Mrs Olive Blowers and we thank her for her support in this way.

Operation Christmas Child



It is coming up to our busy time as we expect hundreds of boxes from the schools after half-term. These have to be checked and taped and be ready to go by the end of November.

Thinking of children who are living in desolate situations and have never had a present before makes it all worthwhile.

If you have filled a box, thank you. If not, there is still time to send some 'love in a box' to a very needy child this Christmas.

Please pick up a leaflet or phone 01603 810323.

Thank you.

Shirley Adams

Autumn Church Lunch

On Sunday 27th September, after our Harvest Festival Service, twenty-seven of us from Fairland made our way to Glen Lodge at Bawburgh Golf Club for our Autumn Church Lunch.

We were shown to the conservatory where we were seated around three tables, which allowed for friendly conversation.

We enjoyed an excellent lunch in very nice surroundings, and with the sun shining all the time it felt just like the middle of summer, and on this occasion there were no unfortunate mishaps.

I am sure everyone who went would like me to thank Jennifer for once again organising such an enjoyable event, which we have come to look forward to.

Celia Banton

October Community Lunch

A very tasty meal cooked by Elizabeth and her team was enjoyed by 47 people. Result was: Tickets (after expenses) - £105; Bring and Buy - £33.90; Raffle - £42; Total - £180.90.

Continuing with John's series of articles on the five senses, this month's sense is:

Taste

To me, taste is a more transient sense. It does not last very long. Although I know that I like certain tastes, I find it impossible to remember what they are really like until they are actually "tickling my taste buds", as the saying goes. I love caramel and butterscotch and also blackberry.

There is only one taste that I can recall in my memory. I shall never get the chance to taste it again. The taste is my mother's crab apple jelly. In the 1940s we made all kinds of jams, but for some reason the taste of crab apple jelly will stay with me for ever.

Our house was adjacent to Little Heath Woods in Croydon. In these woods were three crab apple trees. Our walk to the local shops took us past these trees and we would collect the small, round, yellow apples each time we passed. When the season was over, all the apples that were still in good condition were used to make the jelly. I do not know if anything else was used with the apples, but the resultant clear, pinky-orange jelly looked, and tasted, "out of this world", and I was only six or seven!

John Adams

(Can you remember any tastes you loved/hated when you were growing up? John would love to hear about them)

Freewill Offertory Envelopes

Next year's envelopes will be available at the beginning of December. If you would like to join the envelope scheme it is not too late to ask for a set of envelopes to use next year. All that is required is a regular commitment to put your weekly collection in the special envelopes provided, whether you are able to attend church or not. You do not have to be a church member to take part in this. The scheme is completely confidential, only the donor knows the amount given each week. You will appreciate that it is of great help to the church to know that a regular sum of money can be relied upon as income each week.

MAKE UP YOUR MIND NOW TO JOIN THE ENVELOPE SCHEME !

Envelopes are available from Netta Darkins (Envelope Secretary).

ALAN GREEN

Handyman Service

**For all your DIY tasks
around the house,
assembling flat packs
and gardening**

★★★

***Hire me by the hour,
or day, or week
- reasonable rates,
estimates given.***

PHONE:

0788 1694188

01953 600758



Gardener

available

in Wymondham

Basic maintenance -

mowing, weeding,

pruning etc

reasonable hourly rate

Contact Mr Westlake

01953 423243

Mr Green has been recommended by members of our church. **Mr Westlake** is a member of City Church and has also attended services in our church.

Macmillan Coffee Morning

We held a very successful coffee morning this year, when we raised a grand total of £180. We were very grateful to receive the support of R J Bartram and Son (Funeral Directors), who supplied all the coffee, tea and biscuits, and our thanks go to all who helped on the day.

A letter of thanks has been received from Macmillan Cancer Support, from which the following is an extract:

‘There are currently two million people in this country living with cancer. When you’re living with cancer, the good days really matter. The day you got something sorted out. Made a step forward. The day you just had a chance to talk about what was on your mind. And felt better for it.

At Macmillan we’re here to help you have more of these good days.....’



Join the UK's biggest ever demonstration in support of action on climate change.

Dress in blue and join us as we flood the streets of London and encircle Parliament to press home the need for the Britain to do all it can to seal a just deal in Copenhagen.

A coach will be leaving UEA (opposite Sportspark) at 7.45 am and the Holiday Inn on Ipswich Road at 8.15 am.

The coach will return between 7 pm and 8 pm.

Tickets from Christian Aid

The Kings Centre, Kings Street, Norwich, NR1 1PH

01603 620051

ewilley@christian-aid.org

Students: £10

Adults: £20

Don't forget to wear something blue!

the-wave.org.uk

End of Year Service

It has been decided that for the last Sunday in December we will provide our own Worship. If you have anything you would like to contribute please let Ruth know. It could be poems, meditations, articles, music to listen to etc.

Please be thinking about this . We could prepare a very interesting time of worship if the material comes in to us. Thank you.

Jennifer

Traidcraft catalogues

There are lots of ideas for Christmas gifts in the current Traidcraft catalogue, together with Christmas cards, wrapping paper, decorations - and foodstuffs.

If you are interested in looking at a copy of the catalogue, please help yourself to one of the copies, which are available at the back of the church, and take it home to have a good look at all the items on offer.

If you would like to place an order, please see Ann Scott. Please note that you will not have to pay extra for postage. Thank you.

An Evening prayer

I used this prayer recently at the close of Elders meeting. It is taken from "Lit by the light of God", its source is unknown.

The elders suggested that the prayer needed a wider audience and so it is being reproduced in the newsletter.

Give me this night, O Father, the peace of mind which is truly rest.

Take from me

All envy of anyone else

All resentment for anything which has been withheld from me

All bitterness against anyone who has hurt or wronged me

All anger against the apparent injustices of life

All foolish worry about the future

And all futile regret about the past.

Help me to be

At peace with myself

At peace with my fellow human beings

At peace with you.

So indeed may I lay myself down to rest in peace, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

November / December

1 November	Mrs Josephine Lenton
8 November (includes communion)	Revd Alison Davis
15 November	Mr Peter Fitches
22 November	Mr Kevin Parfitt
29 November	Mrs Brenda Kelsey
6 December	Revd Alison Davis

Dates for your Diaries

Details of these events can be found within the newsletter

November

2 November (2.30-4pm)	Discussion Group (Church Lounge)
2 November (7.30pm)	Meditation Group (Town Green Centre)
4 November (10am)	Midweek Service (Church Lounge)
5 November (7.30pm)	Elders' Meeting (Church Lounge)
6 November (12-1.30pm)	First Friday Lunch (Fairland Hall)
9 November (2.30pm)	Singing Group (Church Centre)
11 November (10-11.30am)	Discussion Group (Church Lounge)
13 November (10am-2pm)	Pabulum Café (Church Centre)
17 November (7.30pm)	Church Meeting (Church Lounge)
20 November (12.30pm)	Community Lunch (Fairland Hall)
21 November (10am-2pm)	Trinity URC Christmas Market
23 November (2.30pm)	Singing Group (Church Centre)
27 November (10am-2pm)	Pabulum Café (Church Centre)
28 November (10am-2pm)	Ipswich Road URC Christmas Fair

December

4 December (12.30pm)	Christmas Community Lunch (Fairland Hall)
12 December (10am-1pm)	Santa's Grotto (Fairland Hall)
(9.30am-1pm)	Charity Table Top Sale (Church Centre)

Items for inclusion in **December /January** newsletter (to be available on 29 November) should be given to Ann Scott **by 22 November please.**