



# Fairland News

No. 490

February 2010



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,

“Perpetual change is here to stay” some words I came across last year and used I know in meetings. We all laughed, maybe for some a hollow one but how true those words are.

We have just seen the year change. We are now in a new decade, and there is lots happening. We are still absorbing news of Kenneth’s moving after Easter, and now we have a candidate preaching with a view. Matthew Stone will be with us on the 13/14<sup>th</sup> February and full details of the events over that weekend will be elsewhere in the newsletter.

The future is full of change and challenge. I know there is a lot of concern about how things will work out after Kenneth moves, whatever happens next month. Yet this is surely an opportunity for us all to develop and grow. We can experiment with new ways of working across the churches, developing stronger relationships as we share resources of people and skills among us all.

Some may only see the future as bleak and negative, because of all the changes and challenges yet others, and I include myself here, find that prospect exciting.

Why do I say that? Because I believe that in all the challenges and changes we face we are not alone. We have each other and we have God, a firm foundation for our lives as individuals and as a congregation. God who is the same yesterday, today and tomorrow and is with us in all situations.

So let us look to the coming months. Sad yes that Kenneth’s moving will deprive us of a warm colleague and perceptive leader of worship and preacher, glad that for him and Rosemary their life will be enhanced without all the travelling, and for us sustained by God’s spirit, a time of challenge and change with exciting possibilities for growth and continuing to build God’s kingdom.

*Alison*

## **Santa's Grotto**

This proved to be a happy occasion once again and that is due to all those who gave generously of their time and donated goods for sale. We had fewer children this year but Father Christmas didn't have any breaks during the three hours and about 70 children visited him. Those who came stayed on and seemed to really appreciate the activities provided. Thank you to everyone who helped in any way. The event raised £350 of which £200 was given to Hope and Homes for Children.

## **Charity Table Top Sale**

The Charity Table Top Sale held at the Fairland Church Centre on the 11<sup>th</sup> December proved to be very popular with charities and public alike. Twelve local charities (the maximum possible) had stands and from information received so far it appears that a total of between £700 and £800 was raised.

Many thanks to all participants and to church members who helped set up and steward the event.

## **Community Lunch Christmas Meal**

This was a truly festive occasion and thanks to Elizabeth for cooking an excellent meal and to all those who helped. Result was: tickets (after expenses) - £112.38; Bring and Buy - £32.70; Raffle - £63 - making a profit of £208.08.

## **Christmas Card**

Instead of sending individual cards to each other, many of our members added their Christmas messages to a large card and donated the money they would have spent to the chosen charity - Hope and Homes for Children - and a total of £68.61 was raised.

## Communion Collections 2009

Last September and October our communion collections were in aid of The Vidiyal Trust - a charity supported by Rev Eileen Ritchie, who spoke about its work when she came to lead one of our services.

The following letter of thanks has been received by our Assistant Treasurer, on behalf of Revd Canon Pat Atkinson MBE:

\* \* \* \* \*

26 November 2009

Dear Jill

Thank you very much for your cheque from Fairland URC for £180, your support and encouragement is valued and appreciated by Pat and the rest of the team.

We would like to allocate this donation for our grannies that attend our centre in Mavelikara daily, having tea and snacks and a nourishing cooked lunch every day. We will do as much as possible to attend to their medical needs (cataracts, arthritis, anaemia, worm infestation and more). But above all we will offer them love.

Pat has just returned from her latest trip to India and Sri Lanka and I have enclosed her report and photos from this trip for your information. Pat's next trip will be in February when our newly built boys and girls homes will be officially opened and we will let you have the report and photos from this trip in due course.

Pat sends her love and best wishes.

Yours sincerely

Suzy Doherty (Mrs)

*\* The report and photos mentioned in this letter are now displayed on our notice board.*

## Communion Collections 2009

In **November and December** the **Teenage Cancer Trust** charity received our collections and the following letter has been received:

17 December 2009

Dear Mrs Brown

On behalf of Teenage Cancer Trust East Anglia Appeal I am writing to thank you and all the congregation at Fairland United Reformed Church most sincerely for your kind donation of £86. We are really grateful for your support as every £1 raised takes us a little nearer to our £1 million target.

All money raised will be used for the new Teenage Cancer Trust East Anglia Unit to be built at Addenbrooke's Hospital in Cambridge. This unit will serve teenagers and young people with cancer from all over East Anglia and will provide the best environment for them to be treated. It is our aim to provide every teenager throughout the UK, diagnosed with cancer, a place within a TCT unit and with the support of people like you this possibility will become a reality.

Thank you once again,

Yours sincerely

Pat Dalrymple

Fundraising Team (East Anglia)

\* \* \* \* \*

**January and February's** communion collections are in aid of the charity **Guide Dogs for the Blind**

This charity provides mobility and freedom to blind and partially sighted people. It also campaigns for the rights of people with visual impairment, educates the public about eye care and funds eye disease research.

## **Tools With A Mission (TWAM)**

Having been associated with the URC at Castle Hill Ipswich in the past, I was interested to read of ‘the enormously helpful mailing team, of that church, who prepare over 4,000 copies of each issue of Tools With A Mission’s newsletter for posting’.

As the local collector I would welcome items such as woodwork and metal-work tools, typewriters, sewing machines, needlework and knitting materials which you may have and do not need.

Spencer Prior  
Tel. 01953 607145

\*\*\*\*\*

### **Arrangements for the weekend 13/14<sup>th</sup> February 2010**

The two social times on Saturday are for anyone from the 7 congregations. There is no need to “book” - just turn up

There will be soup and rolls at Wymondham and tea and cake in Wroxham.

#### **Saturday 13th February**

11.00am            TMG meeting - Wymondham

12 - 1.30 lunch - Wymondham - open to everyone from across the 7 congregations.

Afternoon free

4pm - 6pm            Afternoon Tea - Wroxham - 15 Waveney Drive - open to everyone from the 7 congregations

Evening free

#### **Sunday 14th February**

10.45am            Worship - Jessopp Road followed by question and answer session

6.15pm              Worship - Ipswich Road followed by question and answer session

#### **Wednesday 17th February**

7.30pm              Trinity - 7 congregation church meeting

**Flower Rota**  
February / March

7 February	Kathleen Crossman
14 February	Carol Shildrake
21 February	Jill Buckenham
28 February	Sheila Eaglen
7 March	Netta Darkins

\* \* \* \* \*

Gifts of flowers from the Communion Table have been given to the following friends:

Alison Chalcraft and Trevor Brown; Daphne and Spencer Prior; Jennifer Shakesby; Philip and Juliet Harwood; Edith Childerhouse; Barbara Wilkinson; Margaret Coldham; Mark and Lorraine Wilkinson; Betty McKechnie; Netta Darkins and Iris Elliott.

*The following messages and letters of thanks have been received over the past two months:*

From Daphne Prior:

5th December

‘Please pass on our warmest thanks for the beautiful flowers Netta brought last weekend. They are still brightening up the room. Please thank all our friends for their good wishes, cards and prayers; they have helped to keep up our spirits.’

\* \* \* \* \*

An expression of thanks has been received from Philip Harwood for flowers given by the Church.

Margaret Coldham would like to thank everyone for the flowers brought to her in January by Ruth. They brightened her day - and so did Ruth's visit!

\* \* \* \* \*

Madeleine received a plant as a 'thank you' for playing the organ for us every month. She really appreciated this gesture and says that the plant is beautiful and is giving her much pleasure.

\* \* \* \* \*

'I would like you to pass on a sincere "Thank You" to Fairland Church for the Jarrolds Gift Token given to me at Christmas for "Services Rendered" so to speak.

I have spent it on a hand book about bird watching sites in Norfolk. One place of interest to me is Snettisham on the wash, where thousands of geese and waders take off after roosting overnight and take to the air at dawn. We have been there before but were fooled by the weather when the wind was so strong that the birds that could take off were turned upside down! Better luck next time, and must remember to set my alarm clock!

Once again Thank You,

Kind Regards,

Mike Liversidge

\* \* \* \* \*

## **January Community Lunch**

Kenny and his team cooked the lunch this month. Result was: Tickets (after expenses) - £99.11; Bring & Buy - £34.41; Raffle - £51.  
Overall profit was £184.52.

## **THE PABULUM CAFE**

I have now been attending the Wymondham Pabulum Cafe for several months as my husband has dementia and it is so helpful to have meaningful contact and conversations with other people in similar positions. The opportunity to socialise gave me the chance to explore how other people were coping and what other sources of help might be available. The contact with other carers and the chance to talk and offload my worries whilst my husband is supported by the volunteers is such a vital element of the cafe.

What was most encouraging was the way people with dementia were welcomed and made to feel they mattered with particular attention being given to what their interests might be and how they could be stimulated by conversation, games or reminiscence activity. I have noticed how my husband and others with dementia have blossomed and seem to enjoy the relaxed atmosphere within the cafe and establish warm contact with the volunteers and the co-ordinator.

(A contribution from one who has found the Pabulum Cafe a lifeline)



### **Lent Course 2010**

This year we will be using the York Course material entitled “When I survey ... Christ’s cross and ours”.

Details of the venues and times of the sessions are on display on our church noticeboard and there is also a pull-out sheet at the centre of this newsletter.

Booklets are £3 and will be available at these sessions.

## Lent Lunches

Lent lunches will also be held in different venues on the following dates. They will all begin at 12.30pm.

February 25th	Catholic church
March 4th	Abbey
March 11th	Fairland/City Church
March 18th	Methodist Church
March 25th	Hope( at the Methodist Church )

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## WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

On Friday 5th March over 3 million people world wide will be praying and worshipping together during an annual day of prayer, using a service prepared by Christian women in Cameroon.

Emma Wilcock, president of the National Committee of the Women's World Day of Prayer Movement, said:

**'This is always an exciting day as a great wave of prayer sweeps the world, beginning when the first service is held in the Queen Salote Girls' School in Tonga and continuing around the world until the final service takes place, some 35 hours later, in neighbouring Western Samoa. By then the day will have been celebrated in over 170 countries and over 5,000 services will have been held in England, Wales and Northern Ireland.'**

Our service in Wymondham will be on March 5<sup>th</sup> at the Roman Catholic church at 2.00 pm. Please come and join us in this service, which is usually so interesting, and this year will be no exception. All are welcome, men and women, young and not so young. It is a unique opportunity to be part of a truly world wide experience of sharing in the same worship on the same day. If you have not been before, what about giving it a try this year?

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

## **Touch**

To me touch seems to be the least evocative of the five senses. If one has lost one's sight, I understand that the senses of hearing and touch become more acute.

I think touch is mainly to do with loving. The young (sometimes not-so-young!) couples holding hands and embracing - I hope they feel, as we did, that no one has ever felt like they do. Later, the touch of a young baby's fingers grasping one's little finger as it begins to explore the strange world it has been born into. Later still, walking with a small hand clutching yours tightly - your child or grandchild, perhaps, on the way to school, thinking that they are beginning to grow up, but still needing the touch of your hand to give them confidence and security.

Recently I sat for a long while holding my mother's hand, and stroking it, as she lay dying. I hope it was telling her that I still loved her and hope it gave her confidence on her journey into the unknown.

John Adams

*\* Thank you very much John for contributing these articles.*



### **'Small Change' Collection for Hope and Homes for Children**

Several people have been collecting small change over the past few months for this charity and, so far, **£120.25** has been raised in this way. If you still have money to hand in, Shirley or John Adams would be very pleased to receive it and pass it on to the charity.

# **ALAN GREEN**

## **Handyman Service**

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**01953 600758**



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All of the advertisers  
on this page have  
been recommended  
by different members  
of our church.

Kenny Eaglen would like to  
say how impressed he was  
with Mr Westlake's work on  
his garden this month and  
recommends him to others.

## Operation Christmas Child



Just before Christmas, Shirley and John Adams received a letter from Ian Macleod, Head of Operations and Logistics, thanking them, and the rest of the team, for all their work during the Operation Christmas Child Campaign in 2009.

Part of this letter says, ‘Your contribution will have a positive effect as 13,049\* shoe box gifts were processed at Norwich for Romania and Serbia. When they arrive the gifts are distributed on the basis of need by local organisations, charities and churches to children, many living in orphanages, street shelters, hospitals, displaced persons camps or whose families are facing hardship due to poverty.

The last lorry loads of shoeboxes from the UK are just heading off now and, while we are still tallying up the final numbers, we will be distributing over 1.1 million donated shoeboxes, a quite outstanding figure.’

*\* Congratulations to Shirley and John who were responsible for 2,324 of those boxes!*

\*\*\*\*\*

The following story is taken from the latest Operation Christmas Child newsletter:

‘How often do we laugh and say, “Wow, God really had a special purpose for that shoebox!” This story is no exception and yet in many ways it’s even more amusing as for many of us, this little box may not have passed inspection. The shoebox was the smallest the distributors had ever seen and to add to that it was plain and grey, no colourful Christmas design decorated it outside. The little grey shoebox arrived at an orphanage in Belarus and during the distribution was handed to a small boy on crutches. Concerned that he would be disappointed with his meagre gift, one distributor stayed nearby to watch.

Opening the little shoebox, the boy gasped and pulled out a soft, cuddly, grey mouse. Laughing, he hugged the mouse close to his cheek and began to look through the rest of the contents. Everything inside the shoebox was grey and yet the little boy's smile grew wider and wider. Intrigued, the distributor sat down on the boy's bed and asked him if he liked his shoebox. With a huge smile on his face the little boy explained, "Grey is my most favourite colour and I had dreamed about getting a cuddly grey mouse. I want him to sleep on my pillow at night. Everything in this shoebox is grey; I know it was especially made for me!"

\* \* \* \* \*

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### **Christian Aid prayer for emergencies**

O God, our refuge and strength,  
our help in times of trouble.

Have mercy on the lands where the earth has given way.

Have mercy on the lands where the weather has destroyed  
livelihoods.

Prosper those who rebuild houses,  
and strengthen those who rebuild hope  
so that entire communities  
may face the future without fear.

Amen

(from Christian Aid website [www.christianaid.org.uk](http://www.christianaid.org.uk))

## February / March

7 February	Mrs Sheila Drew
14 February (inc Communion)	Revd Alison Davis
21 February	Mr Steve Dawson
28 February	Revd Alison Davis
7 March (inc Communion)	Revd Ron Bocking

### Dates for your Diaries

*Details of these events can be found within the newsletter*

#### February

1 February (2.30pm)	Singing Group (Church Centre)
1 February (7.30pm)	Meditation Group (Town Green Centre)
3 February (10am)	Midweek Service (Church Lounge)
5 February (12-1.30pm)	First Friday Lunch (Fairland Hall)
11 February (7pm)	Elders' Meeting (Church Lounge)
12 February (10am-2pm)	Pabulum Café (Church Centre)
19 February (12.30pm)	Community Lunch (Fairland Hall)
22 February (2.30pm)	Lent Group (Church Lounge)
25 February (12.30pm)	Lent Lunch (Catholic Church)
26 February (10am-2pm)	Pabulum Café (Church Centre)

#### March

1 March (2.30pm)	Lent Group (Church Lounge)
1 March (7.30pm)	Meditation Group (Town Green Centre)
3 March (10am)	Midweek Service (Church Lounge)
4 March (12.30pm)	Lent Lunch (Abbey)
5 March (12-1.30pm)	First Friday Lunch (Fairland Hall)
5 March (2pm)	Women's World Day Prayer (Catholic Church)

Items for inclusion in **March** newsletter (to be available on 28 February) should be given to Ann Scott **by 21 February please.**