



Fairland News

No. 496

September 2010



Fairland United Reformed Church
Wymondham

**Fairland United Reformed Church
Wymondham**

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Bookings for Mrs Jill Brown
Fairland Hall and
Fairland Church Centre

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

Hello!



What a wonderful day it was on August 7! I was so blessed to be joined by so many of you, along with so many of my friends and family, at my ordination and induction service at Trinity URC. My thanks go to everyone who helped make it such a memorable day – from those who took part in the service to those who stewarded, made sandwiches, baked cakes, co-ordinated invites, produced orders of service, sang in the choir and played the organ (among many other things – I apologise if I've missed you out!). You all played a vital role in the smooth running of the day. Thank you too to all those who have sent me cards. It has been very much appreciated.

Since that Saturday, I've been re-reading the Bible text we heard from Jeremiah 1, where God declares:

"Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart; I appointed you as a prophet to the nations."

It's a text that doesn't just apply to prophets or ministers. It's a text, I believe, that is for all of us. Before we were born: God chose us; God loved us extravagantly; God had every second of our lives planned out; and God appointed us to be his witnesses. Just as back in February 2004, I was challenged to pray and seek God's will for my life, so I pray that you will do the same. You may not be called to be a minister, but you are definitely called: called to love God, and to make that love known; called to give God glory in all that you do; called to put on the clothing of Christ every day.

I look forward to ministering with you in the coming months and years. If you need to contact me, my contact details are below.

Every blessing,

Matt

Tel: 01603 781623 email: matt.stone@cantab.net



Coffee Morning



Many thanks to all who supported and helped on this day, when over £175 was raised through donations and the Bring and Buy stall, on which there was a wonderful variety of home-made cakes and other items.

Visitors remarked how beautiful our church building was and how there was such a relaxed, friendly atmosphere at the coffee morning.

The profits will be divided between Church funds and the Deaf Association Minibus Appeal.

Thank you again

Jill Buckenham

Summer Event

On July 11th three of us from Church went to the picnic at Mattishall. It was a glorious, hot day and we were able to sit outside the Church, giving us shade from the very strong sun. It's always good to meet people from the other six churches, and in the peaceful setting we enjoyed chatting to each other.

Some went for a walk around the village, over fields, enjoying the countryside. Others walked to the Methodist Church. We sat in the pews and heard quite a bit of its history, from a local Methodist. We sang a hymn and had a short prayer, before returning to a cuppa and wonderful cakes, provided by Mattishall Friends.

Then we all went into the church for a very lively service, led by Robert Ogden. There were about seventy of us and wonderful singing.

At the request of the Mattishall people, a retiring collection was taken for Marie Curie and £125 was raised.

Ruth

Operation Christmas Child



We will be sending gift-filled shoe-boxes to Serbia and Romania again this year to needy children who have never had a present.

Many people I know would like to make up a box but are unable to shop, so I am making up some full boxes this year and suggesting a donation of around £10 - cards will be available for a personal message.

If you are interested, let me know and I can bring some boxes for you to choose.

Many thanks to all who collect throughout the year. This is such a worthwhile cause and we know, from visiting volunteers, how much joy they bring to the children. Please phone me on 01603 810323 if you need to know more.

It will be good to see you at our **Annual Coffee Morning** on **Thursday 2nd September** 10 - 12 at Marion Roberts Court, Mill Road, Hethersett, to express my thanks.

Shirley Adams

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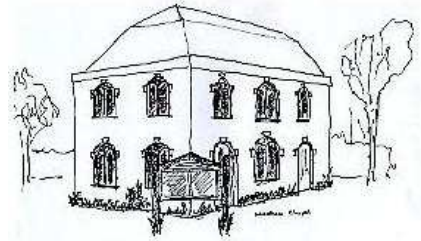
In a poor Roma community on the outskirts of Sarajevo, Bosnia, shoeboxes are speaking words of love and hope into the lives of hundreds of children this Christmas.

Our partners in Bosnia explain the amazing difference these shoeboxes are making in the lives of the children: "About 70% of the children we give shoeboxes to don't go to school. But arriving with shoeboxes packed full of gifts, we are able to convey a message of God's love and acceptance into a community that experiences rejection. The smiles and warm greetings from the Roma people as they voice their thankfulness shows us how powerful these simple gifts really are."

(article from website www.operationchristmaschild.org.uk)

Area Partnership Visit to Wrentham

On Sunday afternoon Aug. 15th some of us went to Wrentham for the Area Partnership get-together. This was a relaxed occasion which was led by Ian Fosten and there were a number of activities to be involved in.



Some people went on a walk looking for signs of Wrentham's past history and Ian used their observations as part of the worship later in the afternoon. Few of the buildings are now used for their original purpose and that provided us with thoughts about our modern way of life. There was a Prayer labyrinth for us to walk, which Ian had cut into the grass.

We were made very welcome at the chapel and it was really pleasant sitting outside until the time for worship. There were about 40 of us for the service, which Ian conducted in his own special way. We were reminded of all the churches in the Partnership and that made us aware of this wider URC community that we belong to. The chapel goes back to the 17th century and has box pews. There was a real sense of all those who had worshipped there over the last centuries. After the worship we shared a time of lively chatter over tea and biscuits.

Following the afternoon visit to the chapel a number of us then went on to Ian and Bridget's house, which is near to the sea at Pakefield. There is lots of space there both in the house and garden and we were delighted to have the company of Daniel and Samuel to keep us entertained. Two lovely little boys. Most of the party then enjoyed fish and chips but the rather "staid" group from Wymondham had taken their own sandwiches! We enjoyed them anyway, though I must say the fish and chips smelt good.

After chat and laughter most of us went on to The Seagull theatre where Bridget particularly is very involved. What a great production we saw of Fawlty Towers. The little theatre was full and the show was a great way to finish off our day out. Thank you specially to Ian and Bridget for all the work they had put in for this event. It was good to get to know friends who worship in the other churches of the Partnership and I would encourage you to attend these events if you can.

Jennifer

Communion Collections

In September and October our collections will be in aid of the 'Help for Heroes' charity.



The following information is taken from their website www.helpforheroes.org.uk

'Help for Heroes is the charity that does exactly what it says on the tin.

Help for Heroes strives towards 100% effectiveness – for every £1 donated, £1 will go directly to helping wounded Servicemen and women. So, we do exactly what we say on the tin – your donations go directly to supporting the wounded boys and girls.'

'We do of course have running costs but these are kept as low as possible, and the costs we do have? Well those are covered by the sale of our fantastic Help for Heroes merchandise. Every t-shirt, mug, wrist band and calendar sold ensures that the money you donate goes to the men and women who need it, not office bills!

In fact, thanks to the range of challenges we hold through the year and our H4H shop last year we actually made more than we needed to run the charity. So, of course, the rest goes to the wounded.'

Please help to support this charity through our collections on 5th September and 3rd October.

July Lunches

First Friday Lunch

There were 32 people present and a profit of £51.20 was made. Thanks to those who helped in any way.

Community Lunch

The meal was enjoyed by all and thanks go to Kenny and Sheila. Result was: Tickets (after expenses) - £114.82; Raffle - £50; Bring and Buy - £33.55; Total - £198.37.

Flower Rota
September / October

| | |
|--------------|----------------------|
| 5 September | Jill Buckenham |
| 12 September | Ann Sprules |
| 19 September | Daphne Prior |
| 26 September | Elizabeth Portsmouth |
| 3 October | Horace Wilkinson |

* * * * *

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

Linda and Ian Trice (home visit)
Olga Millward (home visit)
Jane Allison (home visit following intensive care)
Barbara Wilkinson (birthday)
Vicki Brown and Residents of Abbeyfield Sheltered Housing
Jill Buckenham (birthday)
Ted and Joy Gibson (65th Wedding Anniversary)

Thank you so much for the beautiful flowers that Netta delivered. They have lasted well and scent the whole room.

Linda Trice

* * * * *

Jane Allison (daughter of Ann Sprules) would like to thank church friends for the gift of flowers. This was much appreciated following my spell in hospital, and a pleasant surprise.

Men's Group Wymondham

The Men's Group meets at the Town Green Centre on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays at 10am. It is a non-denominational group and has been in existence for many years.

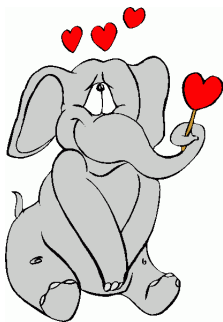
We have lost several long-serving members in recent years because of age and ill-health and we are trying to attract more members.

If anyone is interested to know more, or knows of anyone else who might be, would you please contact me on the number below.

Our meetings are very informal, sometimes with an invited speaker or just to talk among ourselves.

Willis Johnson
(01953) 608090

(Spencer Prior is one of the oldest and longest-serving members of this group)



PLEASE DON'T FORGET about the
CRAFT/TALENT EXHIBITION

at PRINCES STREET URC

Saturday 4th September (10am - 5pm)

Sunday 5th September (noon - 4pm)

SEE YOU THERE !



Continuing the report of the trip made last year by Executive Director Martin Humphries and Trustee Chris Tanton to Uganda to visit projects supported by TWAM

‘Wednesday: At 9.30am we had a meeting with the Ugandan Minister of State for Gender and Culture, the Honourable Rukia Nakadama. She had come across the TWAM website and considered that we might be able to help with some projects she was planning. The meeting was very useful as we were able to discuss matters such as import tax exemption, which we believe TWAM is entitled to in Uganda. We hope and pray this will prove to be the beginning of a mutually beneficial relationship.

We then returned to the office to meet with representatives of three projects, who needed rainwater tanks. We agreed to provide the expertise, transport and labour, and 50% of the cost of materials. All of these installations should take place within the next few months. Following this, we visited the nearby Sanyu Babies’ Home. The home takes in abandoned babies, usually newborn, that are found in places including doorsteps, rubbish tips and latrines. The babies are cared for until they are 3-4 years old, when they are either adopted or move on to an orphanage. About 60% of the adoptions are from overseas.

We had taken with us, from the UK, three suitcases of baby clothes, soft toys and feeding bottles. It was a delight to be able to leave these items at the home.

After lunch we travelled south to Kajansi, to the Mildmay Hospital. For the past four years, former Chief Executive of TWAM, Tim Elliot, has been the Deputy Country Director for Mildmay in Uganda. At the time of our visit Tim and Helen were leaving for the UK and we were invited to the farewell gathering at the hospital. It was apparent that they were held in very high regard by staff and patients and we going to be missed.

.... to be continued

(If anyone would like to know more about TWAM, please see Spencer Prior, who is the local coordinator)

Northumberland Tour

From our hotel in Washington, just south of Gateshead, we set out on our first trip to Barnard Castle, one of northern England's largest. The castle looked very dominant from its high position on a rugged crag overlooking the River Tees. Within its spacious grounds was a sensory garden and a lovely view of the river below.

With time to spend in Durham we walked to the top of a hill to visit the Cathedral. Its large interior was very gloomy in spite of the candles being lit by members of the public. The adjacent castle was closed on this occasion and, passing a bridal party as we walked back down the hill, we guessed it was being used for their wedding.

During the week we had the opportunity to visit Alnwick Castle, which was very impressive and grand in the picturesque setting of Bowburn Park. Walking through the park to the Alnwick Garden, we recalled a recent television programme filmed in the garden and on entering we recognised some of the special features, including the Grand Cascade and the garden of poisonous plants. Children were happily playing on small tractors as they pedalled their way through puddles left by the fountains. We had a great view of the Grand Cascade as we took refreshment on the terrace of the Pavilion Café.

As we travelled through the village of Bamburgh, on an overcast day, the castle from its high vantage point above the coast looked quite formidable against the backdrop of grey skies. We just managed to take a photo of the castle from the beach when a rumble of thunder cut our visit short as we ran for shelter in one of the village shops. To the shop's advantage I purchased a book of water colour paintings by a local artist - each picture accompanied by a fascinating account of the local history.

With the rain still pouring down we made our way further along the coast to Seahouses where the sun was shining and we had a very clear view of the Farne Islands. It was too late in the day to take a trip out but from the harbour we watched as a group of young people

were just returning and also a fishing boat as it off-loaded its catch of large crabs. There were lobster pots and fishing paraphernalia in abundance around this harbour.

With seats reserved at the Edinburgh Tattoo, we anticipated a long journey ahead from our hotel. Travelling along a very scenic and quiet route, where many sheep were grazing, we had time to appreciate the lovely countryside.

Arriving late afternoon, we walked along Princes Street but became quite overwhelmed by the crowds who were there to see something of the Fringe Festival and the Tattoo.

After a long, but easy, journey we arrived back at 2am, having enjoyed the pomp and splendour of the many military bands, Scottish dancing and a motor cycle display by young people, the youngest just five years old.

Escaping from the rain in the east, we headed west along the route of Hadrian's Wall to Carlisle where, thankfully, the sun was shining and we were able to enjoy the last day of our holiday.

Netta

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Norfolk Churches Trust Sponsored Cycle Ride
11th September

Once again we have been asked to open our church on this day to welcome cyclists who are taking part in this event, offer them refreshments and sign their forms. If you can spare an hour or two to help with this, please add your names to the rota at the back of our church. Thank you.

Mediterranean Cruise

What a start to a holiday! The alarm was set for 1.30am for us to set off to the Airport by 2 o'clock. Unfortunately the clock had different ideas! My daughter came knocking at my window, then the front door, the side window and even the back door - and it was already 2am! A quick scramble into my clothes and we managed to get off by 2.15 with a friend driving us to Heathrow. But even then we were taken several miles out of our way because of road-works.

At least we arrived at Heathrow in good time, and Jane and I felt we were on our way for our Mediterranean Cruise. We flew to Barcelona - a good flight, but only to find it was absolutely pouring with rain there and we had to literally paddle through puddles to get to the coach which was taking us to the ship.. Not a good start, but from there-on in it got much better with plenty of sunshine.

The ship we boarded was enormous, MSC Fantasia, being 16 decks high. We were soon shown to our cabin (on deck 8) - thank goodness there were several lifts! The décor throughout the whole ship was really luxurious with every bar/lounge different.

There were quite a number of different nationalities aboard - we noticed this particularly when we went to the various shows. The announcer introduced it each night in seven languages. We were entertained to some really good acts, including singers and particularly good acrobatic teams. And it was lovely to see a whole crowd of little children coming in each evening, all neatly walking one in front of the other and went to the front seats. The theatre itself was huge and we estimated it seated 2,500 people.

Our first stop was in France and we decided to go ashore into Marseille. To say it was windy is an understatement - in fact it was galeforce and I daren't even walk, so back on board again!

The next day we docked in Genoa. After going ashore, we then travelled by aquabus to the city centre, a huge square with small shops dotted about, but the main ones were closed because it was Sunday. Back on board, everyone had to go to Lifeboat Drill (wearing life-jackets). I was certainly hoping it would never be necessary to wear them!

The next stop was Naples - the very place that had attracted me to the holiday in the first place because my Dad was stationed there and had told me how he'd climbed Mount Vesuvius to look in the crater. We did a tour

of the place on an open-deck bus - some lovely scenery.

We only took a short walk the next day - into Palermo (Sicily) - just to say we'd been there. Then we enjoyed a rest on sunbeds on Deck 15.

Tunisia was next and we went on an official tour, with our guide Ali taking us (walking) in to the Medina (the old city) and into some of the Souks where we were shown how all the beautiful rugs and carpets are made, and we were given some mint tea. There are literally 1,000's of souvenir shops in the markets and I'm glad we were with a guide, otherwise we might have got lost!

Palma, the capital of Mallorca, was our next stop, but we didn't dock till the afternoon as we'd been sailing for a full 24 hours, and it was very choppy with a very strong wind. We still felt we were swaying. We had a long walk into the city but it was worth it. Although it was very windy, it was also very hot.

Along our various travels we saw some lovely scenery, amongst which were some beautiful road-side trees in blossom - marvellous colours too, ranging from deep mulberry to bright purple. We also met some really interesting people on board - two young couples at our table plus another mother and daughter. One man was telling us about his younger life, 9 of them living in a shed in his Uncle's garden. Can you imagine it? And three of the people all had birthdays while we were there, so celebrations all round. Jane and I even had an invitation to visit the ladies - they live in Florida. Who knows?

Everywhere on board was so clean too, the workers washing, polishing, dusting and sweeping the decks all the time, and the loos all flushed themselves so you didn't have to touch anywhere - even the water came out automatically to wash your hands.

It was a long journey home the next day (we'd hired a car so Jane had to do all the driving), but what a lovely holiday to look back on.

Madeleine

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| Items for inclusion in October newsletter (to be available on 3 October) should be given to Ann Scott by 28 September please. |
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 07941613304
 www.janielveedrivingschool.
 co.uk

Preaching Plan September / October

| | |
|------------------------|---------------------|
| 5 September | Revd Matt Stone |
| 12 September | Mrs Jean Lerner |
| 19 September | Revd David Shakesby |
| 26 September (Harvest) | Revd Alison Davis |
| 3 October | Revd Alison Davis |

Dates for your Diaries

Details of these events can be found within the newsletter

September

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|------------------------|--|
| 1 September (10am) | Midweek Service (Church Lounge) |
| 2 September (10-12) | OCC Coffee Morning (Hethersett) |
| 3 September(12-1.30) | First Friday Lunch (Fairland Hall) |
| 4/5 September | Craft/Talent Exhibition (Princes St URC) |
| 6 September (2.30pm) | Singing Group (Church Centre) |
| 6 September (7.30pm) | Meditation Group (Town Green Centre) |
| 10 September (10-2) | Pabulum Café (Church Centre) |
| 11 September | Norfolk Churches Sponsored Cycle Ride |
| 16 September (7pm) | Church Meeting (Church Lounge) |
| 17 September (12.30pm) | Community Lunch (Fairland Hall) |
| 18 September (10-4) | 'Be a Better Listener' (Church Centre) |
| 20 September (2.30pm) | Singing Group (Church Centre) |
| 24 September (10-2) | Pabulum Café (Church Centre) |

*** Advance Notice***

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| 1 October | Quiz and Chips (Ipswich Road URC) |
| 6 November | Fairland's Autumn Event (Fairland Hall) |
| 27 November (10am) | Ipswich Road URC's Christmas Fair |

**Sponsored and printed by R J Bartram & Son, Funeral
Directors**

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