



Fairland News

No. 507

October 2011



Fairland United Reformed Church
Wymondham

**Fairland United Reformed Church
Wymondham**

Named Person 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
The Service includes **Holy Communion** on the first Sunday of
the month

This month's Minister's Letter is written by Elizabeth Kam, Church Related Community Development Worker with the United Reformed Church Norwich:

'We have noticed this last few weeks that people have started to sleep at the entrance to Trinity URC. There have been, to our knowledge, no rough sleepers over the summer and preceding months following a push from the council to find beds for those who had been sleeping there regularly. We don't know the reason for this return, we haven't asked, but we do know that the church porch is considered a safe place by some rough sleepers. Could it be that as the dark, cold nights of Autumn and winter set in people are seeking reassurance, a safe place?

We all experience this hibernation instinct at this time of year. The harvest is completed, our food is stored for the winter (well the supermarkets have that covered!), warm fires and cosy evenings beckon to us, winter duvets come out and preparations for 'who is going where' at Christmas get under way.

But what about those for whom such things are luxury - the children who play out in the parks in the city whilst waiting for their parents to come home, make them some tea, or simply let them in; rough sleepers, bed hoppers and homeless families living in bedsits; destitute asylum seekers; lonely and isolated older people on incomes so low that heating is used sparingly; those caring for loved ones whose personalities and characters have been lost to the ravages of dementia.

We as churches provide excellent services to all of these people in our community activities with many volunteers putting in hours of work in service and this is something to give thanks for. But how often do we give thought to why there is such suffering, and whether we can challenge the forces that make it happen. Think of Isaiah's beautiful image of Justice flowing like a river. Jesus constantly challenged the social order, healing on the Sabbath, healing questionable people such as the bleeding untouchable women before the child of an important temple official, giving disreputable characters like Zacheus a chance, calling constantly for us to turn our lives around, to sin no more – what does that really mean for us?

Do we bear any responsibility for those who suffer in our communities and the reasons behind this suffering? What does it mean to truly repent and turn our lives around? I heard a sermon preached recently in which the preacher said that church is not an end in itself, but a means to an end, that of Building the Kingdom of God, a place of justice and liberation. So our question then to consider on these long Autumn nights is what does this really mean for us and those in our communities?

* * * * *

October Communion Collection



The charity chosen to receive the collections in September and October is ‘Medecins Sans Frontieres’ and the following information about one part of their work was taken from their website www.msf.org.uk

Libya: updates on MSF's work in Tripoli

Médecins Sans Frontières MSF (Doctors Without Borders) has started working in medical facilities in the capital, and continues to work in other regions, donating lifesaving medications and supplies, and transferring patients in need of urgent medical assistance

Supplies of medicine and medical materials are getting replenished, but MSF teams that have visited and evaluated hospitals have seen that there are still shortages in specific medical supplies like external fixators, as well as medicine for the treatment of chronic diseases.

MSF is currently carrying out medical consultations and distributing clean water in two different locations where approximately 1200 migrants are gathered. Since the 27th of August, around 350 consultations have taken place with a focus on women’s health and mental health support.

The following letters have been received from two recipients of recent Communion Collections:

On behalf of everyone at Families' House, I would like to thank the members and friends of Fairland United Reformed Church for the very kind donation of £75 towards our work.



Our vital services can only be maintained and developed through the generous donations made by individuals and organisations, your support and generosity really makes a difference.

Yours sincerely

Suzanne Bryant
Director

Star Throwers

Making a difference, one star at a time.



We would like to thank you for your generous donation of £150 raised by members and friends of Fairland United Reformed Church.

Star Throwers are extremely grateful for your kindness and promise to spend the money solely for the wellbeing of all those who cross our path.

We are sure that in years to come you will be able to look back in pride that you helped the Star Throwers establish a charity that will undoubtedly help many cancer sufferers and their families.

As a voluntary organisation we are only able to continue this work through the kind generosity of people like you who give their support. We are very proud that this is a “True Charity” in that no one is paid and all the money donated goes entirely to the wellbeing of the patients.

We have now been open for more than two years offering our continuing support to cancer patients and their families through advice, counselling and varied complementary relaxing therapies and classes. If you would ever like to visit us it would be our pleasure to show you round Star Throwers.

Yours sincerely

Dr H Mannings

We will be holding a
Macmillan Coffee Morning

with a Bring and Buy Stall
Thursday 29th September
10 am to 12 noon
Fairland Church Centre

Please come along - and bring your friends - to enjoy a cup of coffee with us and help raise some money for Macmillan Cancer Support

The event started in 1990, when a local fundraising committee decided to hold a coffee morning where people came along to meet and mingle - as they might ordinarily do - but donate the cost of their coffee to Macmillan in the process.

The first National World's Biggest Coffee Morning was in 1991, when 2,600 people registered to hold coffee mornings across the country. Since then it has raised over £60 million in total for Macmillan Cancer Support

£40 will help a Cancer Support Group hold their first meeting.

£157 will cover the average cost, through the Macmillan grants team, of travelling to hospital for regular treatment.

£278 will keep a typical Macmillan Information and Support Centre stocked for a month.

£450 will pay for one more Macmillan professional to attend an advanced course in pain and symptom control to help those in care.

£904 will fund a Macmillan social worker or family support worker for a working week.

Community Hub helps make growing old an art

Retired teacher, Libby Creber, dedicated her MA in counselling dissertation to her late mother's desire to make growing old an art. From this has come a unique social life-line for carers and those they care for at Wymondham's Cup of Caring.

Libby knows the heartache and hard-won understanding that comes while caring for two elderly family members. One suffered from senility and a lack of mobility and the other from a loss of coherent language, caused by a stroke. Her empathy and understanding of others was also enlarged during her six case-studies of carers for the elderly during her recent **UEA** degree. "God first led me to do counselling 12 years ago and I felt it always had to have a purpose," says Libby, who now shares her knowledge and professional qualification at the monthly sessions with a 12-strong volunteer team from **Hope Community Church**. Through the Hub Community Project, they bring a new and enlivening dimension to carers, and those they care for, who sometimes battle fatigue and isolation. The sessions with music, singing and refreshments also feature past and present themed events including holidays and a Royal Wedding celebration meal in April. **Cup of Caring** opened last September and it attracts those from near and far with diverse needs, including lack of mobility, senile dementia and Parkinson's Disease but all are welcome, explains Libby. "We provide an accepting, informal meeting place where visitors don't need to feel at all embarrassed and where carers can communicate with one another and share insights," said Libby, whose volunteer team have all cared for close family members. "I have learned that it is important to be quiet and listen, respond to body language and promote a sense of purpose and dignity for all who attend," says Libby, whose sessions currently attract the over 50s, but carers in other age groups are welcome. Her mother-in-law died recently, having suffered from aphasia (loss of language) for over five years. Libby also saw the effects of dementia when her mother, a committed Christian, lived in a residential home for 30 months. "During one visit I found some of her notes that read: 'Growing old is an art - it depends on mind, heart, emotion and security. By themselves these are powerless, unless surrounded by love'," recalls Libby, who sees them as helping to define her purpose. **Cup of Caring** meets on the last Thursday in the month (10.30-12noon) at The Hub Community Project, 27 Fairland Street, Wymondham.

(article from Network Norwich website www.networknorwich.co.uk)

**Flower Rota
October / November**

2 October	Horace Wilkinson
9 October	Sheila Eaglen
16 October	Daphne Prior
23 October	Netta Darkins
30 October	Carole Shildrake

6 November	Jennifer Shakesby
-------------------	--------------------------

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

Angela, Daniel and Kimberley Holman; Pat and Brian Moore; Pat Newman; Ruth Dunning; Linda Griffin; Ann and Martin Scott; Sheila and Ken Eaglen; Revd Alison Davis; Sue and Rob Skegg; Cath Liversidge; Ceri Jones and William McAlpine.

Kenny would like to thank Netta Darkins and Jill Buckenham for the lovely flowers he received when he celebrated his 70th birthday recently and also thanks everyone for the cards sent to him.

Congratulations !

to Carole and Alan Shildrake who recently celebrated their Ruby Wedding Anniversary, which included the renewal of their vows at a service in our church

Operation Christmas Child



Thanks to everyone who supported the recent Coffee Morning in Hethersett when a total of £174.90 was raised. It was lovely to see Shirley and John there and to know that they are really happy in their new home in Holt.

* * * * *

This year's Shoebox campaign is in full swing now and one of Shirley's friends, Wendy Richter, has become the main local contact for the shoebox collections, with Bartrams as a collection point.

We hope that those who have filled shoeboxes over the past few years will continue to do so and we would welcome with open arms anyone who hasn't participated before! If you would like more information, please have a word with Ann Scott, who will tell you how you can help.

However many shoeboxes are sent abroad, there are never **too** many and inevitably there are some children who miss out.

In 2010 Operation Christmas Child involved over 400,000 children and adults from across the UK. Together, they wrapped, packed and sent over **1.1 million** shoeboxes bursting with joy to disadvantaged children in 14 countries around the world.

If you are not able to fill a shoebox, we would be pleased to receive individual items such as hats, gloves, scarves, small toys, stationery items, skipping ropes, balls, toothbrushes, small toy cars, small cuddly toys etc so we can make up boxes ourselves.

Thank you

* * * * *

September Lunches

First Friday Lunch

Thanks to everyone who helped prepare and serve this lunch, which was enjoyed by approximately 29 people. A profit of £64.20 was made.

Community Lunch

It was good to have Kenny cooking the meal again and thanks also to his team. Result was: Tickets (after expenses) - £112.03; Raffle - £45; Bring and Buy - £26.90 making a total profit of £183.93.

Cruise to the Norwegian Fjords

On Monday 5th September we were collected by Titan driver Jill in a people carrier for our journey to Southampton arriving early afternoon. A Titan rep secured a wheelchair for Spencer with an attendant, a waiter from the “Balmoral”, who pushed him to the ship, by-passing the queues.

Although our holiday confirmation form said we would have early dinner at 6.15pm, the form in our cabin said we were down for second sitting at 8.30pm so we went to the restaurant to see if anything could be done. Despite a large sign saying that first sitting was fully booked we waited to see the maitre d'chefs who was very understanding and gave us two seats on a large table in the centre of a restaurant with a beautiful flower arrangement. It later dawned on us that we were on the Captains table . However, the Captain did not grace us with his presence as he ate at second sitting.

As we crossed the North Sea it became rough with huge waves and “white horses” everywhere and we were forbidden to go outside on deck. We should have arrived at Bergen on Wednesday morning but due to the weather we did not get there until late afternoon, too late for any passengers to go on tours.

We overslept the next morning and were awakened by the announcement that we had docked at Olden, received clearance and passengers could now disembark. We hastily dressed and breakfasted and I went for a walk in the sunshine to the village amid snow-capped mountains whilst Spencer enjoyed the views from the Marquee deck.

The sea was calm all the time we were in the fjords and at Alesund we boarded the sight-seeing “train” in sunshine for a drive round the town. All the wooden houses in the town had burned to the ground in a huge fire similar to the Fire of London. We were then taken up to Mount Aksia Fjelstua for fine views from the vantage point.

Our next stop was at Flam and on a fine sunny morning we boarded the coach for a three hour tour to Osterbo. Because of Spencer’s lack of mobility we were given seats at the front of the coach so we had excellent views of breathtaking lakes and mountains. At Osterbo we were taken to a café for waffles, delicious strawberry jam, sour cream and coffee.

At Stavanger we remained on board relaxing, reading and chatting to other passengers before going to the Interdenominational Church service which was very well attended, with a retiring collect for the RNLI.

Entering the lift, which already had several folk in it, Spencer and I got in but Spencer's stick did not quite make it. We pressed the button for the door to open to no effect as the door was programmed to close but could not because of Spencer's stick. Whilst we were searching for the emergency button, brute force prevailed and Spencer wrenched his stick free, the door closed and we went down to our deck. There were relieved looks on the passengers' faces as we vacated the lift!

Before the last formal dinner we attended the Captain's farewell party - our fourth cocktail party of the cruise. Goodness knows what it is doing to Spencer's blood sugar level! When we reached our table for dinner we were informed that two officers would be joining us and Spencer was asked if he would sit next to one. To our surprise it was a female officer, Jo, the cruise director, a young, very attractive blond. Spencer was in his element! The meal was special as we were served with red and white wine throughout followed by liqueurs and delicious chocolates.

Very rough seas as we left Stavanger and again walking outside on deck was banned. When I carried a cup of tea to join Spencer in the library, I finished up with almost as much tea in the saucer as in the cup.

We had to put our cases outside the cabin after 10pm. Unfortunately, two ladies stepped outside their cabin in their nighties with their cases, only to have their cabin door slam shut. The crew member who came to their rescue was highly amused!

There were force 9 gales with bursts of force 10 all the way to Southampton - the remnant of the hurricane from Iceland. When we docked at Southampton, several hours late as we had missed our slot, Jo announced that no passengers or crew were to leave the ship as a passenger had gone missing. He had not been seen since Sunday evening and it was now Tuesday morning and police were now boarding the ship to investigate. So for one and a half hours we waited for clearance to disembark. Apparently he had left a suicide note and jumped overboard. A sobering finish to what had been a most enjoyable and relaxing cruise.

Daphne

All are invited to join in an
event for the 7 churches

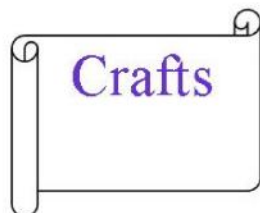
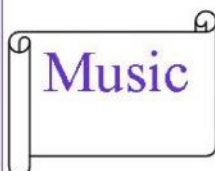


Psalm Pilgrimage

Sunday 2nd October

starting at 12 noon at **Trinity URC**
then moving to **Fairland URC Wymondham**
and finishing by 6 pm

Activities will be for all ages and will include:



* Please bring your own lunch *
Tea and cake will be provided in Wymondham.

The Garden of Life

Plant three rows of peas:

Peas of mind

Peas of heart

Peas and quiet

Plant five rows of lettuce:

Lettuce be kind

Lettuce be patient

Lettuce be faithful

Lettuce love one another

Lettuce pray

Plant four rows of squash:

Squash gossip

Squash indifference

Squash selfishness

Squash prejudice

Plant four rows of thyme:

Thyme for family

Thyme for friends

Thyme for each other

Thyme for ourselves

Plant three rows of turnips:

Turnip for meetings

Turnip for appointments

Turnip to help a friend in need

When sown with care, watered with
patience and cultivated with love
your garden of life will reap great
rewards.

(spotted in 'Garden Answers' magazine by Elizabeth and by Netta)

Items for inclusion in November newsletter (to be available on 30 October) should be given to Ann Scott by 23 October please.

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



**Local Painter and
 Decorator**
 Interior and Exterior
 also Building Maintenance
 Free Estimates and Advice
 Call Peter Jones
 01953 603605
 07765497354



Janie  Vee
Driving School
 Learn to Drive
 or
 just improve your skills
 Call Jane Vaknin
 07941613304
www.janielveedrivingschool.co.uk

Preaching Plan October / November

2 October	Miss Vicki Brown
9 October (inc communion)	Revd Robin Pagan
16 October	Revd Alison Davis
23 October	Worship Group
30 October (inc communion)	Revd Paul Whittle
6 November	Mrs Patricia Lithgow

Dates for your Diaries

Details of these events can be found within the newsletter

September

26 September (2.30pm)	Singing Group (Church Centre)
29 September (10-12)	Macmillan Coffee Morning

October

2 October	Psalm Pilgrimage (see p9)
3 October (7.30pm)	Meditation Group (Town Green Centre)
4 October	Area Partnership Meeting at Diss
5 October (10am)	Midweek Service (Church Lounge)
6 October (2-4pm)	'Musicalitea' (Fairland Hall)
7 October (12-1.30pm)	First Friday Lunch (Fairland Hall)
10 October (7-8.30pm)	'Sacred Space' (Church Centre)
14 October (10-12)	Pabulum Café (Church Centre)
17 October (7.30pm)	Meditation Group (Town Green Centre)
21 October (12.30pm)	Community Lunch (Fairland Hall)
28 October (10-12)	Pabulum Café (Church Centre)

*** Advance Notice ***

12 November	Autumn Fair (Fairland Hall)
18 November (7.30pm)	Induction of Revd Geoff Hewitt (Princes St)

**Sponsored and printed by R J Bartram & Son, Funeral
Directors
42 Fairland Street, Wymondham, Norfolk, NR18 0JS**