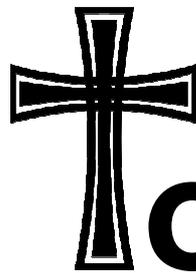




He is
RISEN

in



touch

The **MAgazine**

April 2015

Contact our Minister, Rev Diane Smith, on 01394 282023
or email minister@seatonroad.org.uk

Methodist Matters in the Felixstowe Mission Area

Dear Friends,

Happy Easter to you All!

Deepest, deepest joy, the Resurrection happened! Jesus rose from the dead and is risen! Other kinds of resurrections can happen today, too, in the world and in our own lives.

In our ecumenical Lent Course this year we witnessed the process of change in many of the characters in the film *Chocolat*. Each week the sessions were aided by Bible Study Prayer and much thought provoking comments from those who came together.

Sometimes we think we cannot cope with change and loss. Perhaps we don't think that we'll ever be able to cope with illness or hardship without one special person. There seems to be no hope and we would rather stay among the dead than seek the living or the living God, but God can draw goodness out of the bleakest situation. The Resurrection is proof of that.

Archbishop William Temple (1881-1944) summed up the importance of resurrection: "The method of all non-Christian systems is to see an escape from the evils and misery of life. Christianity seeks no escape, but accepts these at their worst, and makes them the material of its triumphant joy. That is the special significance in the connection of the Cross and Resurrection of Jesus Christ."

John Crum (*Singing the Faith* 306) takes this connection and applies it with greatest clarity to our own lives:

"When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain,
Then your touch can call us back to life again,
Fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been.
Love is come again, like wheat that springs up green."

And so we are doubly blessed this Eastertide; we believe in the Resurrection of Jesus and we believe that resurrection is possible in our own lives and in the world at large.

Love Diane.

Services at our Churches.....

Easter Sunday, 5th April

Kirton - 9.45 a.m. – Rev Diane Smith (Holy Communion)

Seaton Road - 9.45 a.m. - Rev Jo Jacobs (Family Communion)

Trimley – 11.00 a.m. – Rev Diane Smith (Holy Communion)

Trinity – 11.00 a.m. – Rev Stephen Yelland (Holy Communion)
6.00 p.m. – Local Arrangement

Sunday 12th April

Kirton – 9.45 a.m. – Mr Roger Fern

Seaton Road – 9.45 a.m. – Rev Diane Smith

Trimley – 11.00 a.m. – Mr Peter Crick

Trinity – 11.00 a.m. – Rev Diane Smith
6.00 p.m. – Local Arrangement

Sunday 19th April

Kirton – 9.45 a.m. – Rev Diane Smith

Seaton Road – 9.45 a.m. – Café Worship!

Trimley – 11.00 a.m. – Rev Diane Smith

Trinity – 11.00 a.m. – Café Worship
6.00 p.m. – Rev Diane Smith

Sunday 26th April

Kirton – 9.45 a.m. – Mrs Jenny Archer

Seaton Road – 9.45 a.m. – Rev Diane Smith (Holy Communion)

Trimley – 11.00 a.m. – Mr Raymond Wilson

Trinity – 11.00 a.m. – Rev Diane Smith (Holy Communion)
6.00 p.m. – LA

Open 4 U at Trinity

Open 4 U is the drop-in group for babies, toddlers and their carers. Our sessions run from 9.15am until 11.15am, to fit in with school and nursery time as much as possible. We open during term time and provide a safe, fun place for children to play and their grown-ups to have a well-earned sit down & chat. Each week there is a “make” to take home – sometimes they are messy activities which are unlikely to appeal to parents and carers at home e.g. table painting! We use the whole of the premises at Trinity which means that we are able to provide spaces for “quiet” play, a safe baby area, a boisterous play area and the “makes” space. Each week we have a singing session and have great fun with action songs. The group is well supported, regularly having upwards of 50 children as well as the adults that bring them. Our record attendance is 96 children, a record we are not keen to see repeated or passed!!!! The range of skills and expertise in our volunteers means that, if necessary, we can support the children and grown-ups through challenging situations. We rely on lots of people to help and are grateful to the many volunteers who make our sessions possible.

Alison Davies



Suffolk Historic Churches Trust Annual Bike Ride

Advance notice of this popular event:
The Bike Ride will take place on Saturday
12th September. All keen cyclists and
walkers please put the date in your diary
and get in training!!

Felixstowe Town Pastors

On 10th April five years ago the Town Pastors went out onto the streets of Felixstowe for the very first time. Since then, most Saturday evenings have seen a team of Pastors serving the community in the town from 10pm until 4am. The team comprises of 4 Pastors (2 male and 2 female) on the streets, 3 base pray-ers (based at Trinity Methodist Church) keeping in touch with the Pastors, providing them with drinks and toast during their breaks and praying for the various situations as they arise, and between 4 and 8 home pray-ers who will also be holding the Pastors and situations up in prayer in their own homes.



Statistics have been kept over the five years and, although I haven't got the exact figures, within the first few weeks the crime rate had dropped dramatically on the evenings the pastors were on duty. The police, paramedics, bar staff and CCTV operators all appreciate the work of the Town Pastors and will call them up if they have a problem needing Town Pastor help. Only a couple of weeks ago when the police called the Pastors for assistance the paramedics thanked them for making their job so much easier on a Saturday night as when the Pastors are on duty they no longer get called out to so many minor incidents.

Please remember this work in your prayers. The Town Pastor team is always in need of more volunteers and if you feel you would like to serve God in the community in this way, or it is something you would be interested in finding out more about (whether it be as a pastor, base pray-er or home pray-er), please have a word with Diane Smith, Val Jinks, Anne Clarke or Robin or Mary Pattinson.

Mary Pattinson

From Daryl Read..... "I should like to say what a great name you decided on for the new Mission Area Magazine. I thought it incorporated so much both in its name and in the layout. Thank you to the inspired people who thought it up.

Christian Aid Week



The annual Christian Aid Week takes place between 10th and 16th May. As usual there will be the house-to-house collection and we will be asking for volunteers to help cover the roads for which the churches within the Mission Area are responsible. We appreciate that helping with the collection is not everyone's "cup of tea" – however, please remember that the money raised goes to help those in greatest need in our world and a small sacrifice of just an hour or so during that week could make all the difference. Please think carefully about helping during that week and watch out for further details in the notices.

Some dates from Kirton.....

Thursday 9th April - Easter Kids' Fun morning at Kirton from 10 a.m. to 12 noon, run by Diane and Dawn.

Plus the regular Coffee morning on Saturday 25th April from 10 a.m. to 11.30 a.m.

Volunteers needed – might you be able to help with the editing of future editions of "In Touch"? If you feel you might be able to assist then please email us at magazine@seatonroad.org.uk or speak to one of your church stewards.

Trimley are holding a **Table Top Sale** at the Memorial Hall, High Road, Trimley St Martin on Saturday 11th April at 2 p.m. Tables are bookable by an advance payment of £5 per table by telephoning Christine on 01394 273290

Circuit Arts and Crafts Festival

The Circuit Arts and Crafts Festival was held at Museum Street Methodist Church, Ipswich on Saturday 14th March. Eight churches from across the Circuit took part this year, three of which were from the Felixstowe Mission Area so we were well represented. Once again all sorts of talents were displayed in the 600+ entries entered into the 28 different classes which ranged from the usual flower arranging, cookery, knitting and art classes to the slightly more unusual sawdust and seed characters and cork models, to name just a few. It is always amazing how one theme can be interpreted so differently by individuals thus providing an incredible range of exhibits in each class. If you were unable to make it to Ipswich hopefully you managed to see Seaton Road's entries in our church hall the following day.



We at Seaton Road again worked hard for this event, providing nearly 200 of the entries. We were rewarded for our efforts by winning 121 certificates – 48 x 1st class, 39 x 2nd class and 34 x 3rd class. Points are awarded for each certificate and totalled to get each church's overall position. Seaton Road were announced as the overall winners for the 2015 festival with an impressive 247 points and Diane was presented with the Arts and Crafts shield – a brand new shield as the one which was first awarded in the 1950s has finally fallen apart! Landseer Road were runners up with 99 points, Alan Road gained 58 points, Holbrook 33 points and Museum Street 31 points.

As well as the shield for the winning church there is a cup which is presented to the individual who gains most points. Seaton Road took first, second and third position for this and we congratulate Ayla Cross who won the cup this year by gaining 39 points. Sophie Lucking was a very close second with 37 points and Charlotte Lucking third with 32 points.

We also entered a 'singing group' into the performance class, having to learn a set piece as well as a piece of our own choice. We had great fun learning the songs and are indebted to Heather Farthing for patiently putting us through our paces. Unfortunately our friends from Holbrook were unable to sing this year so we were unable to join them in singing the set piece in the concert at the end of the day.

This year we did not have as many adult entries but our youngsters, including our Little Fishes, Kids' Club and FUNKY, had been extremely busy. Looking at the results it was obvious that the imagination of both young and not so young had been working hard and that great fun had been had by all in their sticking, painting, creating and performing. Thanks to the all the judges but particularly those from our Mission Area.

A big thank you goes to everyone from Seaton Road who entered anything, or who helped others with entries. It really is a joint effort, and one which we are renowned for throughout the circuit, so well done everyone. Although there is a lot of hard work involved in putting on an event like this it is very rewarding to see the many and varied talents we have at Seaton Road and in the circuit. It is also good to meet up with the many friends from the various churches across the Circuit.

Rosemary Cross and Mary Pattinson.

Thank You.....

A big 'thank you' to Kathy Fullick who once again worked so hard in decorating Seaton Road for our Mothering Sunday Café Worship. The church looked very inviting with the flowers, cards and sweets on the window sills and I'm sure all the ladies appreciated receiving their greetings' card and beautifully presented gifts of sweets.

It was good to have two of our Kids' Club families joining us and the girls were able to receive their Arts and Crafts certificates when the rest of our church family certificates were presented. It was also good to see one of the Brownies and one of the Rainbow Leaders too.

An acrostic poem entered into the Arts & Crafts Festival by Olivia Wallace (aged 6), from Seaton Road, for which she was awarded a 1st class certificate:

Eating Easter eggs
After finding them in Disney World
Sunday lunch altogether
Tasty barbeque in Florida
Exciting family holiday
Really can't wait for the Easter holidays

'A Chip in the Sugar' (by Alan Bennett) and other delicacies.

I was fortunate enough to attend the latest production by the Trinity Players on Saturday 21st February. As always, I never fail to be amazed at the talent of this small group of people!



The opening act featured 'In Tandem' a folk band consisting of Anne Clarke with her very melodious voice, Ian Clarke who gave a rendition of his own composition 'Shin to the Button,' the true story of young Alfred Hickman, who at the age of fifteen fell to his death, whilst trying to shin the Naval mast at Shotley. Making up the trio is the very talented David Tempest playing violin, causing many a foot to tap to the Irish jig 'Drowsy Maggie.'

The second act of the evening was a monologue 'Cinderella's Sister' performed by an exuberant Gussie Stafford, who provided us with a very unfamiliar slant on a very familiar children's tale!

'Nostalgia' was performed by Anne Clarke, Stephen Medway, John Adams, Ian Clarke and Gussie Stafford. On the face of it, it appeared to be a New Year's Eve celebration shared by spouses and close friends, but with the introduction of a board game called 'Nostalgia' and questions based on the 1960's, suppressed feelings and opinions surface. Highly entertaining with a few choice words, (the like of which had probably never been heard in the church hall before), it was good to see the cast sustained on a diet of red wine and Maltesers!

After a short interval for refreshments (supplied by Maddi and Emma), it was time for the second half.

Gussie, a local singer songwriter accompanied herself on guitar singing, 'Can't help falling in love with you.'

It's always a pleasure to listen to Rev Barry Middleton, as he treated us to four pieces of poetry titled 'The Naming of Parts' (Herbert Read), 'Felixstowe or the Last of her Order' (John Betjeman), 'The Great War' and 'Blackthorn in Epping Forest.'

And finally Stephen Wyatt gave us 'A Chip in the Sugar,' one of Alan Bennett's 12 Talking Heads monologues. (The mild, middle-aged Graham Whittaker finds life becoming complicated as his mother, with whom he still lives, reunites with an old flame). I have it on good authority that this monologue is 32 minutes in length and Stephen took us on a rollercoaster of emotions as he portrayed the three characters. Pure brilliance, you had to be there to appreciate it.

Many congratulations to the cast and all those involved in the production. Trinity Players are directed by the very gifted Julia Middleton, who chooses the plays, casts and organises the rehearsals. A total of £1000 was raised, with £200 going to Trinity Church and the remaining £800 to Macmillan Cancer Support. The performances were in memory of a dear friend and fellow thespian, Mary Dixon who died in June 2014 and is greatly missed.

The Trinity Players is an amateur Christian drama group based at Trinity Methodist Church.

Trinity Players welcome new people to act, help with lights, sound, stage building, refreshments, costumes, etc. Please contact Anne or Ian Clarke on 01394 285305 if you are interested in joining them.

Heather Carpenter

Trinity Website

www.trinity-methodist-church-felixstowe.co.uk

Just a reminder that most events at Trinity and many from the Mission Area are on the Trinity website. Ian Clarke endeavours to update this on a weekly basis. The information is always there if you are unable to collect a copy of weekly notices.

Why not take a peak; you might be surprised how much is going on!!

"In Touch" can be downloaded from both the Trinity and Seaton Road (www.seatonroad.org.uk) websites.

Live at the Ferry 16 May

If you would like to hear more of “In Tandem” they are playing on 16th May to help raise funds for Felixstowe Coastwatch.

An evening of live music will start at 7.45pm with Cats in the Kitchen, a Chelmsford based soft rock band. Since 2010 they have released two CDs and will be playing covers and a selection of their own songs.

After the interval “In Tandem” will take to the stage. A three piece Felixstowe based folk band, which includes Coastwatch watchkeeper Ian Clarke on guitar. They will be playing traditional and contemporary folk songs along with some of their own material. They regularly play at open mic nights around Suffolk.

Tickets are priced at £5 per person and there will be a bar available. All the profits will go to Felixstowe Coastwatch. Tickets can be obtained from either Alan Peck (tel. 01473 251171) or Ian Clarke (tel. 01394 285305).

Coastwatch continuously needs to raise money to operate and maintain its lookout station on top of the Martello tower at the Manor End of the seafront but there are also aims to build a substation that would overlook the entrance to the River Deben. The approaches to Felixstowe Ferry are notoriously dangerous with shallow waters and very rapid currents. This second lookout station is currently at the design and approval stage, with many hurdles to overcome before it can be built.

Providing all the hurdles can be jumped then this live music night will spearhead a major fundraising campaign. This project will be the most costly exercise Felixstowe Coastwatch has ever undertaken but if a new sub-station saves just one life it would be worthwhile. The aim is to watch over the many boats and pleasure craft operating in this area and to liaise with the Coastguard and RNLI in the event of an incident. A simple engine failure can rapidly lead to serious trouble in this area.

Ian & Anne Clarke

If you have any items for the May edition of “In Touch” then please send them to magazine@seatonroad.org.uk or give them to one of your Church Stewards by Sunday 19th April.

Trinity Cafe Worship

Results of the survey which was requested by Trinity Church Council, one year after starting a monthly Cafe Worship service. Between 40-50 people attend and 21 papers were completed and returned.

77% were in favour of Cafe Worship
9% disliked Cafe Worship
14% accepted that Cafe Worship had its place but it was not their preference.

At Trinity there are two teams who put together the service which means each team has 2 months to prepare the service and each team feels free to involve people with different gifts on a one off basis. As our service is at 11.00 a.m. we normally provide coffee/tea and cake/biscuits from 10.30 a.m. and people use this time to catch up with each other and to get to know new people.

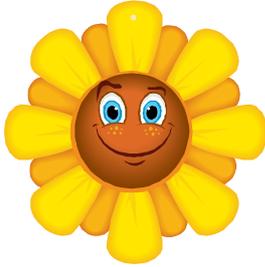
Question 1 asked which aspects of Cafe Worship did people appreciate or found helpful:

76% the music
71% time for reflection
52% the opportunity for active participation
52% the Art/craft activity
50% the discussion in groups
43% the dance
43% the drama

There were some requests for a quiet space within the service and this has now been included, and the people who did not like the cafe style of worship, did acknowledge that it was clearly a good experience for some and that it provided opportunities to explore new avenues of worship, while giving different individuals the chance to become involved and to share their gifts and talents. Generally people enjoyed the fellowship that cafe worship offers; they liked sitting informally, meeting, exploring their faith together and getting involved.

Jill Tempest

Plant Sale



**Saturday 2nd May
10 a.m. - 12 noon
at Seaton Road
Plants supplied by
Katie's Garden Centre**



Our annual plant sale at Seaton Road is on Saturday, 2nd May.

Katie's Garden Centre will be supplying us with a variety of plants, including perennials, bedding plants and maybe some tomato and cucumber plants. Those of you who came last year will remember what good quality and good value they were, so please come again this year and tell your friends and neighbours about it.

There will also be a book stall and a cake stall and we shall be serving refreshments.

As usual, help is urgently needed on the day so please speak to Daryl or Malcolm if you are free on May 2nd. Help is also needed on the previous day at around 5 p.m. to carry in plants and get the hall ready. If you can make a cake for the cake stall please let Daryl or Shirl know. We shall be doing a leaflet drop in the area during the week beforehand. So, lots of help is needed.

Please think about how YOU can help.

This event is to raise money for the Church and for Macmillan Cancer Support.

Please give your support

ON THE DAY OF PASSOVER JESUS WAS ARRESTED
PILATE FOUND NO CHARGE AGAINST HIM
BUT THE SOLDIERS BECAME ANGRY
AND SAID HE CLAIMED TO BE A KING

PILATE WAS STRUCK WITH FEAR
HE SAID "TAKE HIM, DO AS YOU WILL"
THE SOLDIERS SENTENCED JESUS TO DEATH
TO BE CRUCIFIED HIGH UP ON THE HILL

THEY MADE A CROWN OF THORNS
TAUNTED JESUS AND PLACED IT ON HIS HEAD
THEY PUT A PURPLE ROBE AROUND HIM
THEN TORTURED HIM UNTIL HE BLED

IN CHAINS HE DRAGGED THE WOODEN CROSS
SOLDIERS TORE HIS CLOTHES AND DIVIDED
HIS FEET AND HANDS WERE NAILED
"WHERE IS YOUR GOD NOW" THEY CHIDED

HOURS PASSED AS JESUS LIFE EBBED AWAY
HIS MOTHER MARY KNELT TO PRAY
JESUS FAINTLY CALLED FOR DRINK
A WET SPONGE WAS PASSED ON A STICK
JESUS DROPPED HIS HEAD AND QUIETLY SAID
"IT IS FINISHED"

Maureen Brown TRIMLEY CHURCH

Circuit Meeting 12th March 2015 at Trinity

This must have been one of shortest Circuit meetings on record. Most of the reports had been circulated beforehand and business was completed shortly after 8.30pm.

Rev Kathy Flynn led the devotions, which were followed by a time of remembrance for Janice Hart and Wyn Davies.

The minutes of the September meeting were passed with only one amendment that the circuit was 'on track' not 'on the rack'.

Superintendent's report : Rev Derek Grimshaw explained that the Circuit team were still taking stock of how best to support the churches in the circuit. The emphasis throughout the Connexion was on future sustainability at all levels. The way forward was likely to be very influenced by the need to balance the requirements of the

ministry with the decreasing numbers of presbyters available for posting. It was likely that in the future the load of responsibility would involve more lay input. Another new factor was the increasing numbers of supernumerary ministers in our churches who, although they are retired, may feel called to specific roles or projects.

The Superintendent pointed out that we had six chaplaincies in our circuit and five big lay ministry projects. HE felt that these, as much as the regular conducting of worship and pastoral oversight of churches, should be seen as the ministry of the Circuit in future.

Assessments were difficult for many churches but these were largely determined by the requirements of the District whose financial needs in turn were closely linked to those of the whole Methodist Connexion. Thus, although sympathetic to the difficulties some churches were facing, the Circuit Stewards had very little leeway in what they could ask for.

Circuit Stewards' report: Brian Loader, in his report as Circuit Steward, reiterated this viewpoint. He explained that the Landmark project which Deacon Georgina is engaged in, was going well and they hoped to employ another part-time layworker to be trained up to take it forward in the future.

In the meantime, thanks to the fact that Georgina had been able to live in the Arundel Road manse, some monies had been saved which could be used to help fund ongoing lay projects in the Ipswich Rural Area and Felixstowe Mission Area.

It was agreed to commit £2000 a year over 5 years to the Walton Parish Nursing project to be part of further funding by District that had been applied for.

As Brian finishes as circuit steward this year we were asked to pray for a new person to be found to join the team.

Other reports :

Most other reports were taken as read but one or two extra points were made.

- **Finance** - The sale of the Norwich Road manse had brought circuit reserves back to a realistic level. With the Government repayment of War Gilts, Mike informed us that it was decided that the Fund for Hire of Horses for Local preachers preaching at Bawdsey had been assimilated into Circuit funds and was, therefore, no longer available!

- **Property** - Maggie Finbow appealed for the remaining 7 schedules to be done as soon as possible. She detailed which churches and manses faced quinquennial inspections this year. None were in our Mission Area.
- **Local preachers** - it was great to welcome Elizabeth Pederson and Ruth who were starting the worship leaders course and Paul Walker from Capel who had been given a note to preach.
- **Mission in Britain** - Raymond Sawyer asked for suggestions for local groups who might become the focus of Mission in Britain in the future.
- **Safeguarding** - our attention was drawn to three amendments to the Circuit Policy.
- **Ecumenical** - it was agreed to ask Martin Ellis to fill the post of Circuit Ecumenical officer as he had expressed an interest in Ecumenical work.
- **Methodist Homes** - appreciation was expressed at the good work being done by Alicia Holmes and her team of Volunteers at Norwood.
- **Ipswich Urban Mission Area** - Bev Barclay is leading a group looking at the way in which the Ipswich Urban Area churches could work more closely together in future. In the Autumn, Bev hopes to hold training for Bereavement Visitors. Open to the whole circuit.
- **Walton Parish Nursing** - Sue Hockenhill and Heather Bentley gave a brief update on the continuing growth of the Parish Nursing project. There are now 19 volunteers supporting our two health professionals.
- **Suffolk Healing Trust** - Rev. Martin Dawes explained that the Healing Fellowship that had originated in Pin Mill was now to become known as the Suffolk Healing Trust of which he was now chair. Healing services and sessions were taking place in different parts of the circuit on a regular basis. Anyone interested should contact him.
- **Ipswich Hospital chaplain** - Rev. Tony Brookes updated us on the work of the chaplaincy, and the building of an interfaith team within it. He was looking to build on the work of Deacon Georgina and other lay volunteers, so if anyone was interested in becoming a lay visitor could they please contact him.

- **Chaplaincy Group** - The six circuit chaplains had begun to meet together for fellowship and support and were grateful to Tony for co-ordinating that meeting too.
- **Journey into Faith** - The focus of this five year initiative in 2015 would be 'Radical Hospitality' and each church was asked to consider how they might plan such an event for their community.
- **Circuit Invitations Committee** - Rev. Bev Barclay and Deacon Georgina Brooks were considering their futures after completing five years. The Invitation Committee was therefore appointed and Heather Bentley was elected representative for the Felixstowe Mission Area.
- **District Representatives to Synod** - Robin and Mary Pattinson, Colin Westren and Raymond Sawyer were elected as representatives.
- **Other appointments required** - We are in urgent need of :

Secretary to Circuit Meeting as Grahame Lindsay is stepping down. Thanks were given to him for all he has done. Any ideas of a replacement to Derek Grimshaw.

Circuit archivist

Mission In Britain Secretary (as Ray Sawyer has been asking to step down for a while)

District Lay Stationing Rep This vacancy also needs to be filled quickly as Betty Lindsay is giving up.

Final remarks :

The superintendent thanked Brian Loader for all his work as this was his last meeting as Circuit Steward.

He announced that Rev. Bev Barclay would be on sabbatical from April to June.

Next Meeting at Bramford Road 17th September 2015 7pm



**TRINITY METHODIST CHURCH
ORWELL ROAD
FELIXSTOWE**

**‘SPRING FAYRE’
SATURDAY 11TH APRIL**

10.00am – 3.30pm

**BRIC A BRAC, BYGONES, JEWELLERY, BOOKS
TOYS, CD’s/DVD’s, GAMES, JIGSAWS, CAKES
GOOD QUALITY CLOTHES
AND MUCH MORE**

TEAS, COFFEES AND LUNCHES

EVERYONE WELCOME

FREE ADMISSION