



in

Touch

The MAgazine

March 2016

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

Methodist Matters in the Felixstowe Mission Area

Dear Friends

In Easter, the season of new creation, we learn to find hope and joy, not by forgetting the sufferings of the world, or our own personal pain, but by recognising that Christ is with us in those very sufferings. Death no longer has the last word. “We are dying”, St. Paul said, “and behold we live” (2 Corinthians 6.9). Outside of so called “Ordinary time”, Easter is the longest season in the liturgical year. During Easter we are reminded that Christ’s Resurrection is ours as well, that a new age has dawned, and that the joy of this season renews the whole world. No other season brims with such life and promise.

In worship and in many other different ways during this season we are sharing the Good News with others; through craft fairs, Messy Church, School visits coffee mornings and other outreach groups.

On Easter Sunday morning at Seaton Road Church the Baptism of Logan Jai Belton will take place. As we celebrate and welcome Logan and all his family, we remember that Baptisms traditionally take place on Easter Sunday; the water is symbolic of new life, forgiveness, re-birth and of course death and resurrection. Jesus passed through the deep water of death for our sake, and in Baptism we are symbolically ‘buried’ with him and raised to life (Romans 6.4).

A very happy Easter to you all!

Love

Diane.

If you would like to help with any of the following please contact either Dawn Bone or Diane .

Colnies School visit Trinity for “The Easter Experience”. Helpers needed from 9 am until 11.45 on Friday 11th March.

Messy Easter Saturday 19th March from 11am – 1pm.

If you have any items for the April edition of “InTouch” please send them to magazine@seatonroad.org.uk or give them to one of your Church Stewards by Sunday 20th March.

Services at our Churches.....

Sunday 6th March – Mothering Sunday

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

Seaton Road - 9.45 a.m. – Mrs Heather Bentley

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

Trinity – 11.00 a.m. – Mrs Alicia Holmes

6.00 p.m. – Mr Stephen Wyatt

Sunday 13th March

Kirton – 9.45 a.m. – Prof David Welbourn

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

Trimley – 11.00 a.m. – Rev Jane Cassidy

Trinity – 11.00 a.m. – Rev Diane Smith

6.00 p.m. – Rev Mike Cassidy

Sunday 20th March – Palm Sunday

Kirton – 9.45 a.m. – Rev Diane Smith - a united service with Kirton and Falkenham Anglican. Anyone from the Mission Area is welcome to join this, starting at Kirton St. Mary's, thence walking to the Chapel for the rest of the service.

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

Trimley – joining Kirton at 9.45 a.m.

Trinity – 11.00 a.m. – Café Worship

6.00 p.m. – Rev Diane Smith

Sunday 27th March – Easter Day

Kirton – 9.45 a.m. – Mr Colin Westren

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

Trimley – 11.00 a.m. – Mrs Janet Foster

Trinity – 11.00 a.m. – Rev Diane Smith (All age Communion)

6.00 p.m. – Mr Michael Peck

Advance notice.....

Seaton Road will be holding their annual Plant Sale on Saturday 30th April. There will be the usual variety of plants – supplied by Katie's Garden Centre and others. Please put the date in your diary.

Trinity Players

Trinity Players will be performing 'The Telescope', a play by R C Sherriff at Trinity Methodist Church from Thursday 21 April to Saturday 23 April at 7.30 pm. This thought provoking play is set in London's East End in the 1950's. The idealistic new vicar is hoping to improve the lot of the underprivileged boys in the parish of Canbury. But the Church, the Police and the local people all see morality from different perspectives and viewpoints. For tickets (£8 each) contact Anne and Ian Clarke 01394 285305. Profits to Tall Ships Youth Trust.



Holy Week Meditations 2016

REVELATIONS – REFLECTIONS

Tuesday 22nd March - Kirton - *'The Stone that the builders rejected'*

Wednesday 23rd March - Trimley - *'The house was filled with
fragrance'*

Thursday 24th March - Seaton Road - *'And his hand is on the table'*

Friday 25th March – Trinity - *'One on his right, and one on his left'*

Each service begins at 7 p.m. and includes music, prayer and reflections.

The focus of meditation will be the carving of a stone by sculptor and stone mason, Brian Ansell, who will reveal more, each evening, of what lies within it.

Seaton Road Easter arrangements...

For our church decorations for Easter at Seaton Road we are once again asking people to bring a small bunch of daffodils (or other flowers) on the Sunday morning. To follow the theme of 'Transformation' these flowers will be put into awaiting vases on the window sills during the service. We will still have the usual cross at the front of the church into which everyone is invited to place a flower in memory of a loved one. Again this will be a part of the service so hold onto your flowers and do not place them in the cross before the service. After the service the flowers will go to some of our church family who are unable to get out so could pastoral friends please help out with this distribution.

Would you, or someone you know, prefer to receive InTouch via email? If so just drop us a note at magazine@seatonroad.org.uk.

MARY TUFFLEY - 1924 – 2016

Mary Elenor Ernestine Wheeler was born in Ipswich on 30th July 1924 to Godfrey Henry Wheeler and his wife Ethel Annie (who was known as Nancy). Mary was their second child and first daughter, a sister to John Godfrey Broughton Wheeler. Mary's third name was in honour of her Grandfather Henry Ernest Wheeler, who owned and ran a bakery in Great Coleman Street Ipswich. Mary's father, Godfrey, worked for his father as a bakery assistant, but turned to confectionery as his trade and opened his own shop and tea room in Felixstowe, called The Corner Café. It was where CarPhone Warehouse is now. Mary was two when she came to Felixstowe.

Mary attended the County School in Felixstowe where her teachers described her as 'willing, thoughtful and helpful, with a pleasant manner.' In every school report she gained an 'A' grade for Art, her favourite subject. She enjoyed sports and played tennis and badminton at County level. Mary belonged to the Trinity Tennis Club which met at the Town Grounds.

In 1954 Mary attended a week's residential course in cookery at the Constance Spry school of catering in Windsor, which honed the baking skills for which she was renowned. She baked scones which were so light people came for miles to buy them raising funds for the church. They are still remembered today.

One of Mary's favourite stories of her teenage years was of a visit to a local carnival with several of her friends when all the girls decided to visit the fortune teller for a laugh. During her session Mary was told that she would marry a widower with one son. She was quite amused by the prediction but dismissed it as being, in her words, 'all a bit of nonsense'.

Mary lived with her parents in Colneis Road, Felixstowe across the road from the Tuffley family. Guy, his first wife, also Mary, and their son Roger. Both the Wheelers and the Tuffleys were closely associated with Trinity Methodist Church and knew each other well.

When Guy's first wife sadly passed away Guy and Mary became close. Mary recalled to her daughter-in-law that Guy's courtship of her was persistent and while she was initially hesitant she said 'She was jolly glad he didn't give up' and that they had been wonderfully happy throughout their thirty years together. Guy and Mary were married on the 9th February 1957. In 1959 Guy and Mary added another son, Jonathan, to the family.

When my husband, Paul and I moved to Felixstowe in 1966 and joined the church, Guy and Mary were key figures in the life of the church. Guy was a steward and Mary supported him in many roles, organising the church flower rota and they were both in the choir. When Trinity celebrated 100 years, a booklet was produced of memories past and present. Mary is mentioned several times.

The first time is when the school room was being built behind the church in 1935 and the Sunday School children were each invited to lay a brick - 55 of them - Mary amongst them, she would have been 11 at that time. They all gathered on a platform erected over door height to solemnly inch along a plank and tap a brick into place. Health and Safety would have a fit these days.

There is also a record of Mary's involvement in the Welcome Canteen. This was held at Trinity during the war to give the soldiers, seamen and airmen somewhere friendly to go in the evenings rather than go on a pub crawl. Mary would have been about 13 to 16 when she and her parents helped serve refreshments. Mary and her friends became quite good at table-tennis, snooker and billiards, often beating the men, when they should have been making sandwiches. Mary's baking abilities were evident at an early age. The Welcome Canteen was much appreciated.

Another reference to Mary in the Centenary Booklet is an article by Amy Chilton and I quote:

"Ministry of Flowers. One of the most appreciated aspects of worship at Trinity is the weekly floral arrangements in the sanctuary. For more years than she will admit remembering Mary Tuffley has looked after a rota of flower donors, encouraging them, where necessary to undertake the arrangements. If courage fails them Mary steps into the breach, always to good effect. She also leads and inspires the decoration of the Church at Harvest Thanksgiving and at Easter when we are encouraged to make the Church beautiful with daffodils in memory of loved ones. Mary has also undertaken the prime moves in the many Flower Festivals that we have had at regular intervals". Mary represented Trinity at other Flower Festivals in churches in the town, making the most gorgeous displays, always correctly depicting the theme of that Festival. You could always tell a Mary creation, they were breathtakingly beautiful.

Mary's prowess with flower arranging extended to the Suffolk Show where she entered exhibits in the Flower Tent and won many awards. She had a wonderful eye for form and design.

Guy died in 1987. Mary looked after him throughout his illness. Of all the memories I have of Mary, the one that will stay with me is how tender, caring, kind and everlastingly patient she was with Guy. She always treated him with respect through some difficult times. I never heard her raise her voice or speak sharply to him. She had a lovely, loving nature.

When Guy died, Mary was even busier at Church and elsewhere. She shopped for housebound friends or took them shopping. She cooked for the Day Centre for many years, serving delicious meals to 40 or 50 people. She baked batches and batches of cakes and scones for coffee mornings, fetes and garden parties. She carried on with her flowers and she painted.

Mary was a very talented artist and belonged to the Felixstowe Art Group. She exhibited at the annual Art Show and sold many paintings, mostly of very lifelike flowers. There will be several homes with Mary's paintings on the wall. She also produced notelets with her flower paintings on them. People loved receiving notes with Mary's paintings, more appreciated than the notes.

I have asked several people what was their memory of Mary. Top of the list was scones, flower arrangements, the colourful Christmas Pedestal which brightened the church, and words such as talented, gentle, kind, happy, helpful have been used. Albert called her "an oasis of calm" and she was. On a Friday when she wasn't cooking she would be in the church arranging the flowers. People would escape the hustle and bustle, the frenetic activity of the Day Centre and share a chat, a laugh, regain sanity before diving back into the fray, feeling calmer. Mary would always share a moment.

Ian Davies's memory is of a small job he did for Mary and she asked him how much she owed him. When he told her she said "You're far too cheap, I won't ask you again".

For the past few years Mary has been housebound, but she operated an 'open door policy'. She welcomed all visitors with a smile and 'Come in, sit down and tell me all the news'

She was always interested in what was going on in Trinity and Felixstowe, seeming to know before anyone what was happening. I would ask her how she was and she would turn the question aside with "I'm alright dear, just these silly old legs. Now tell me, how's....." and off we would go again. She didn't like having to accept help after a lifetime of helping others but she had a wonderful friend and carer in Jane. It was such a relief that her last illness was a short one.

At Mary's request, and she left specific instructions for her funeral and wake, very efficient, there was tea and cake available after the service; remembering all the catering and baking she did for hundreds of others and her kindness and gentleness.

God Bless you Mary and Thank you.

Val Jinks

Message from Josh Hunt from Boost....

I wanted to invite the Meltdown group, and key members of your congregation, to an evening we are holding at the Academy on Thursday 21st April, 7pm-9pm.



It is titled '*An Evening with Boost*' and is an honest review of our chaplaincy partnership over the last 18 months between Boost and Felixstowe Academy. It will feature stories, theology, finance, and a time for Q&A. You will be aware of the excitement and media coverage we have received as a result of this unique partnership, yet we want to engage on a much deeper level with some of our key supporters and ministers within the town.

It will also be a time where we would love to share with you where we think God may be leading us on this chaplaincy journey as we look forward to the next few years and at all the opportunities and challenges.

If you'd like to be there, please would you register for free tickets using the following link:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/an-evening-with-boost-registration-20985359776>

Many thanks,

Josh

Contributed by Graham Thompson, Trinity.....

I had some sad news recently, that the daughter of my friends Roger and Olive Serjeant, Julie Rouse, died of cancer aged 55 in New Zealand.

Roger & Olive retired to New Zealand about twenty years ago, to be close to their daughter, her husband and two children. They used to live at the house in Queens Road, which they sold to Peter & Mary Crick. Julie was a physiotherapist and had her own practice in Auckland.

Roger & Olive sent me the order of service at Julie's funeral, at which Roger read the following poem. I don't know who wrote it but thought I'd share it with you.

I AM FREE

Don't grieve for me, for I am free.
I am following the path God laid for me.
I took his hand when I heard him call,
I turned my back and left it all.

I could not stay another day,
to laugh, to love, to work or play.
Tasks left undone must stay that way.
I found a place at the close of day.

If my parting has left a void,
then fill it with remembered joy.
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss,
oh yes these things I shall miss.

Be not burdened with times of sorrow,
I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow.
My life's been full; I've savored much,
good friends, good times, a loved one's touch.

Perhaps my time seemed all too brief,
don't lengthen it now with grief,
lift up your heart and share with me.
God wanted me now, he set me free

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY



18-25 January 2016

Every year Churches Together in Felixstowe celebrate Unity Week (which falls between the feasts of St Peter & St Paul 18-25 January). This year the theme was “Salt & Light” as set out in the CTBI booklet written by the Christians of Latvia.

It began on the Monday with Town Prayers held at Trinity, where good discussions were had and prayers said for all the Christian ministries that happen in our town. This group, led by Pam Hewitt faithfully meet on the 3rd Monday of each month and it was decided to send a reminder each month to church contacts but also to ask for prayer concerns to send to the group.

On Tuesday 25th we met for Reflections at URC led by Rev. Ivor Smith.

Thursday afternoon we were invited by the Women’s Fellowship at Maidstone Road Baptist Church to hear the current work at Walton Parish Nursing and in particular to celebrate the good news that a community psychiatric nurse was about to start work in February to address mental health issues which we are finding on the increase. This is thanks to a legacy from a Walton resident.

Friday was Mass at St Felix followed by a hunger lunch where a good ecumenical mix led to many conversations over homemade soup.

Throughout the week the Sisters at the Convent were joined for Vespers by other denominations and they enjoyed meeting new Christians and the opportunity for fellowship.

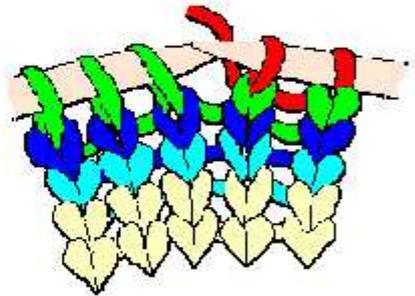
On Saturday, for the first time, we experimented with a “Pilgrimage” (as suggested in the booklet) ably organised by Barbara Lamberton who practised the walk several times to check it was feasible. It began at St Mary’s, Walton and ended at St John’s with 10 churches visited in total where a greeting and a short prayer were said outside each. Some left part-way through the route and others joined along the way.

Holiday Clubs 2016

It’s time to start thinking and planning for the next Holiday Clubs at Seaton Road and Trinity in the summer..... there will be a meeting of anyone interested in being involved on Monday 14th April, 2 p.m. at Seaton Road. Please come along!

Seaton Road Methodist Church

Knit & Natter



March 21st 2—4

April 18th. 2—4

Please feel free to
join us and have a
cup of tea or coffee.

All welcome.

Details of Churches Together in Felixstowe Easter Services are as follows:

Good Friday 25th March

at the Triangle, Felixstowe
10.45am: Setting the Scene
11.15am: Good Friday Service
Speaker: Rev Caroline Allen

Easter Sunday 27th March

Seafront outside Town Hall
6.30am Sunrise Service

Singing the Faith Day
Saturday 18th June 2016;
Trinity Methodist Church Felixstowe.
2pm -7pm

You are warmly invited to a day exploring the fantastic new music in 'Singing the Faith'. The session will be led by professional organist and choral director Robin Walker. It will be a day full of music and offers something for people at every musical level.

So, whether you want to enjoy a good sing, encouragement to try the new music in 'Singing the Faith' or practical tips on how to keep your worship music fresh and interesting, there will be something for you. Why not come for the day take in Fish and Chips along the seafront and join us at 2pm?

Comfort breaks and light refreshments provided.

The day concludes with a time of Worship and we close and depart at 7pm.

There is no set fee but a suggested donation of £5 to cover costs.

We hope you can come and join what promises to be a wonderful day of music and fellowship.





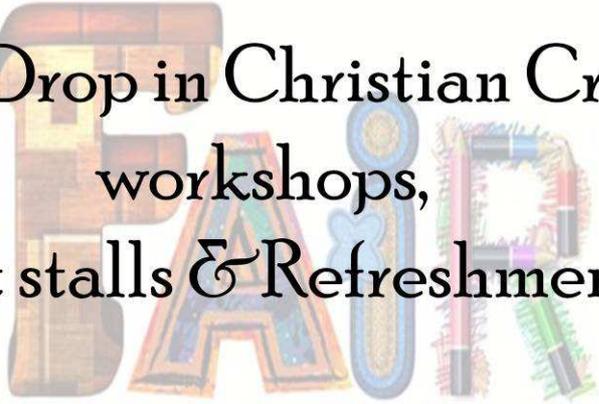
Spring Fair

At Seaton Road Methodist Church



Saturday 12th March

10am-1pm



Free Drop in Christian Craft
workshops,
Craft stalls & Refreshments.

Stall Holders- £10 per 6ft Pitch, Please Bring
your Own Table.

To Book a Pitch Please Contact Dawn
On 07580510737