

# Brightstar

November 2011



Brightstar is the newsletter of Seaton Road Methodist Church  
Felixstowe, IP11 9BT

Contact our minister, Rev David Kemble on 01394 282023  
or email through our website at [www.seatonroad.org.uk](http://www.seatonroad.org.uk)

## *Services for November:*

- November 6<sup>th</sup>  
9.45 a.m.                      Mrs Janet Foster  
*Coffee will be served following this service*
- November 13<sup>th</sup>  
9.45 a.m.                      Mr Grahame Lindsay  
*Remembrance Sunday – a short Act of  
Remembrance will follow the service at 10.55*
- November 20<sup>th</sup>  
Breakfast from 9.15 a.m.      Café Worship!
- November 27<sup>th</sup>  
9.45 a.m.                      Rev David Kemble  
*Advent Sunday*



## **Remembering Service**

The Mission Area's annual Remembering Service will be held at Trinity on 6<sup>th</sup> November at 6pm. This service gives people an opportunity to remember loved ones, who are no longer with us and everyone is invited to this service.

*Dear Friends,*

I am still in touch with former colleagues of mine at Wesley College, where I trained for the ministry and occasional we send each other emails (and Facebook) to catch up on our news and even share thoughts and resources we've discovered which may be helpful to each other. In one recent email I received the following devotional thought which I thought I would pass on to you:

### **List of Reflection Questions for the End of Your Day**

Where did my eyes linger today?  
Where was I blind?  
What did I learn today?  
What did I read?  
What differences did I notice in those closest to me?  
Whom did I neglect?  
Where did I neglect myself?  
What did I begin today that might last?  
How were my conversations?  
What did I do today for those less fortunate than myself?  
Where could I have offered something more?  
With whom today did I feel most myself?  
What reached me today? How deep did it imprint?  
Who saw me today?  
What did I avoid today?  
From the evidence – why was I given this day?



In this month of giving our thanks for those we remember, we might add a few more questions to our list:

Who are you most thankful for today?

How did you express your thankfulness to God for their presence in your life?

And what blessings did you share with others as a result?

I encourage you to consider these questions at the end of the coming days. You may have some ideas to add to the list for your personal reflection. Feel free to create your own list. Whether you use these questions or some others, let this month be a time of reflection on how we bear witness to the world that we are a thankful people – thankful for the faithfulness of God, thankful for the love of Jesus, thankful for the love of others and thankful for each new day to share our love with those we meet. May we be mindful of the gift of each new day and the many opportunities it brings for us to live and learn as faithful and fruitful disciples of Jesus Christ.

Blessings

*David*

### **Trimley**

Our friends at Trimley Methodist Church are holding an open afternoon for tea and chat on Saturday November 12<sup>th</sup> from 2.30pm onwards, and would be pleased to welcome anyone from Seaton Road if they would like to pop in.

## *From the Vestry Stewards.....*

### Russian Dolls or Layered Candles??

As I sit at my desk composing this, the shelf above me contains a variety of objects to interest the wandering mind. This was once Catriona's bedroom so there are her objects : a yellow plastic Piggy bank, a couple of panda ornaments, and a mug with kittens on. As it is now my study there are also several crosses of various sorts from around the world, an African nativity picture and a couple of ornate candle holders. There is also a set of Russian dolls we bought in Turkey and a candle made from layers of recycled candlewax inset with a new wick.

It is these last two objects that got me thinking! Am I a Russian doll or a multi-layered candle? Which would I rather be? For both of these seem to be possible models for human lifestyle today.

Russian dolls are distinctive as sets of little dolls that are identical except for their size and which stack inside each other. If you take them out separately you have six complete and distinct little figures. If you pack them away you can only see the one outside figure. The others are stacked one inside the other hidden away, yet each complete in its self.

On reflection I decide that naturally we tend to be like Russian dolls. We are from the outside a single completely private individual. What people see is the person we want them to see. They know us as a builder, a lawyer, a teacher or a solicitor. Yet each of these people is in fact a multiple person for, as well as their main role, they are sons or daughters, mothers or fathers, Ipswich town or Norwich supporters, musicians or artists etc. However, sadly many people they meet never see the other talents and experiences hidden inside the role for which the person is primarily known. Sadly this limited understanding of their potential, gifts and graces leads to frustration and unhappiness for some... even in churches!

The great thing about Jesus was that He loved, and wanted to use the whole person when He encountered them. For example: Jairus, the humble man was the father as well as the Jewish leader, Peter was the impetuous disciple and the brother, as well as the fisherman, Matthew the friend, was a party thrower as well as the taxman.

Jesus' view was holistic. He saw a human being made up of many layers that were mixed together not kept separate. You could even say He infused a person with a wick of faith that bound the layers together. That was important, but then He lit the wick and used the finished person (if they asked Him for transformation) as a candle to show His love and good news to others around them. That is our calling as His followers too.

So where do we see ourselves in this picture? And how do we see others? Do we see one image, or a complex mixture?

Are we a Russian doll who does their best to be all the people that people expect us to be, in our own strength and through sheer determination and organisation? Do we expect others to live this way too?

Or are we prepared to be the candles made from layers of experiences (good and bad), held together and remoulded by Jesus? In this case we live, not in our own strength, but in the love and power of Jesus' grace.

November 27<sup>th</sup> is Advent Sunday and the season of candles is upon us again.

How trim is your wick??

May God bless us all as we prepare for Advent and Christmas this year.

*Heather B*

# Money Matters

Those who have been following this occasional series of article on financial matters will know that the Methodist financial year finished at the end of August. That meant that I was able to give this report on the year's finances to the recent church council.



Firstly we should note that the Gift Aid refund was late this year. This is the tax reclaimed from the government which usually arrives in August. This year for some reason it was delayed to mid-September which is not a great help when you want to compare one year with another.

So for the purpose of this article I shall treat the refund, which was £1,759, as though it arrived in August. That would give us a surplus on the year in our General Fund of £1,738 compared to last year's deficit of £982 and the money in the fund at year-end would have grown from £5,673 to £7,411.

Why this improvement? Firstly our collections in 2010-11 amounted to £11,618, which is an increase of £845. Also up is the money from Church Groups – nearly all have upped their 'subs'. The biggest change, however, is the large fall in the money spent on property maintenance – down from £4,166 to £1,365. Unfortunately there is only a limited amount we can do to keep these costs down when it comes to essential repairs.

So as we go forward into the new financial year I would ask you all to keep up the good work on collections and be tolerant if we sometimes postpone non-essential repairs. One area where we could painlessly increase our income is through letting the hall. There are several sessions when the hall is unused so if anyone hears of an organisation looking for a meeting place then tell them about our hall.

*Malcolm*

# **Churches Together in Felixstowe Autumn Forum Meeting**

**Tuesday November 8th  
7.30pm  
Trinity Methodist Church**

**Refreshments from 7.00pm onwards  
All welcome**

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## ***Christmas Post Box***

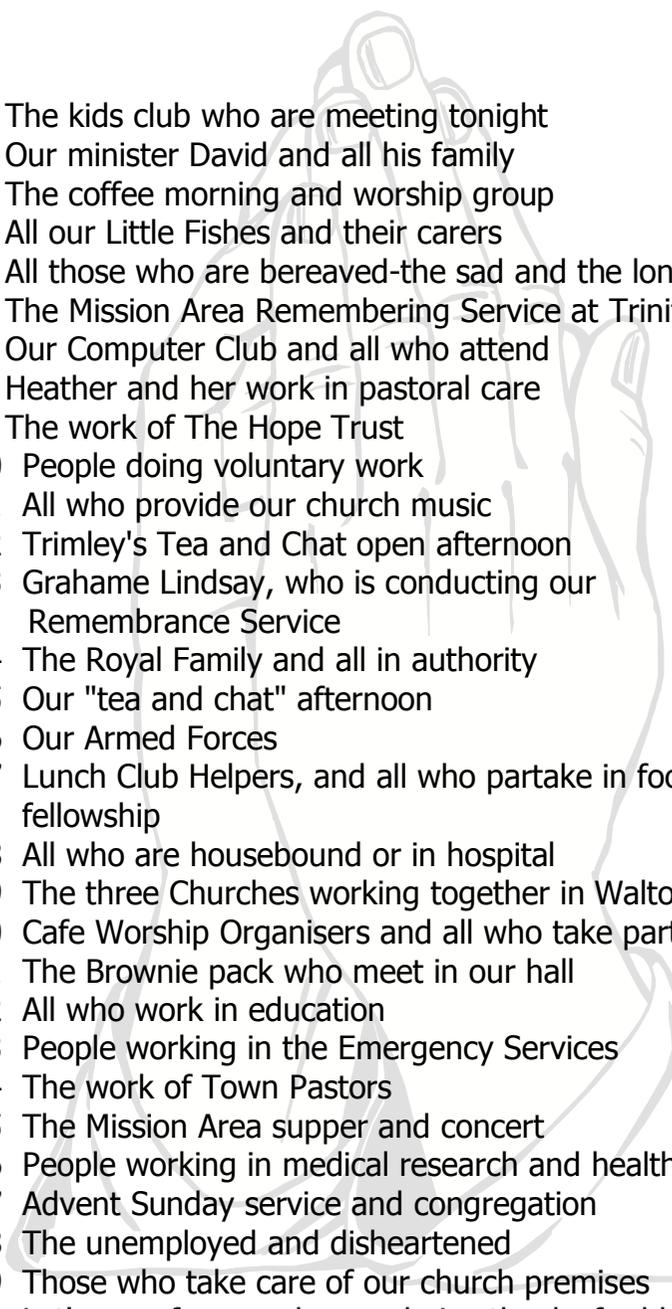
As in previous years we are again organising a Christmas card “sorting & delivery service” for members of Seaton Road this year. Just put your pile of cards in the post box provided – they will then be sorted and given to the right people (please include surnames to avoid any confusion and only ‘post’ cards for people who actually attend church). For this service we are simply asking for a donation to the work of JMA. The postbox will be available on 4<sup>th</sup> December and the last ‘collection’ will be on 18th December.

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## **Church Family Weekend 2013**

Yes we are talking about 2013 and it is not a misprint!! We have now booked Belsey Bridge, Ditchingham for our church family weekend away in 2013 from 12<sup>th</sup> to 14th July 2013 so please put the dates in your forward planner.

# November Prayer Diary

- 
- Tues 1 The kids club who are meeting tonight  
Wed 2 Our minister David and all his family  
Thurs 3 The coffee morning and worship group  
Fri 4 All our Little Fishes and their carers  
Sat 5 All those who are bereaved-the sad and the lonely  
Sun 6 The Mission Area Remembering Service at Trinity  
Mon 7 Our Computer Club and all who attend  
Tues 8 Heather and her work in pastoral care  
Wed 9 The work of The Hope Trust  
Thurs 10 People doing voluntary work  
Fri 11 All who provide our church music  
Sat 12 Trimley's Tea and Chat open afternoon  
Sun 13 Grahame Lindsay, who is conducting our  
Remembrance Service  
Mon 14 The Royal Family and all in authority  
Tues 15 Our "tea and chat" afternoon  
Wed 16 Our Armed Forces  
Thurs 17 Lunch Club Helpers, and all who partake in food and  
fellowship  
Fri 18 All who are housebound or in hospital  
Sat 19 The three Churches working together in Walton  
Sun 20 Cafe Worship Organisers and all who take part  
Mon 21 The Brownie pack who meet in our hall  
Tues 22 All who work in education  
Wed 23 People working in the Emergency Services  
Thurs 24 The work of Town Pastors  
Fri 25 The Mission Area supper and concert  
Sat 26 People working in medical research and health care  
Sun 27 Advent Sunday service and congregation  
Mon 28 The unemployed and disheartened  
Tue 29 Those who take care of our church premises  
Wed 30 Let's pray for ourselves and give thanks for blessings  
received

## **DATES**

Nov 6<sup>th</sup> - Methodist Homes Sunday

Nov 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday - Mission Area  
Remembering Service at Trinity, 6pm.

Nov 12<sup>th</sup> Saturday – Trimley’s Tea and Chat  
afternoon from 2.30pm

Nov 16<sup>th</sup> Wednesday – Christmas Bazaar planning meeting 7.30pm

Nov 25<sup>th</sup> Friday – Mission Area event. Hot dog supper (6.15pm)  
followed by a concert for which each church will be supplying 2 ‘acts’

Nov 26<sup>th</sup> Saturday – Walton Parish Nursing 4pm Maidstone Road  
Baptist Church

December 1st Thursday – Second Chance the musical singing session  
7.45pm

Dec 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday – Seaton Road’s Christmas Bazaar 2 – 4 pm.

Dec 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> – Trimley’s Crib Festival. 10 - 4 Sat. 12 – 4 Sunday

Dec 20<sup>th</sup> Tuesday – Carols by Candlelight service 7pm.

## 2012

February 8<sup>th</sup> Wednesday – Church Council 7.30pm

February 25<sup>th</sup> Saturday – Pudding taster evening 7pm

April 9<sup>th</sup> - July 8<sup>th</sup> – David’s Sabbatical.



## An email received through the Church web site....

Hello

My wife and I married at Seaton Road Methodist Church on 27th October 1973. My Nan was Elsie May Cross and she was born within walking distance of the church at 2 Margaret Street Cottages on the same day in 1898. Her father was Robert Cross who married Martha Baker on 17th June 1871 and they moved from Woolpit to Walton in the mid 1880's.

My Mum was Lilian Mosedale (nee Thorn) and she was an active member of the Young Wives at the church in the fifties and sixties. I went to Sunday school at the church and was a regular member of the Youth Club which met every Thursday night in the Church Hall. The youth club was run by Mr and Mrs Read who also lived in Margaret Street.

I remember my Mum saying that the Cross family were involved in the building of the church. I would be so grateful if anyone can confirm this and of any contact in Felixstowe that is part of the same Cross family or links in with the details above.

Kind Regards

Colin Mosedale (now living in Bedford)

*We know some of you will remember Lil Mosedale and the three Mosedale boys. If you have any information that you would like to pass back to Colin then please see Robin.*

## Seaton Road Christmas Bazaar

Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2-4pm

I hope everyone has the date of the Christmas Bazaar in their diaries by now. We shall need plenty of help on the day, also on the Friday evening to set up and after the event to put everything away.



There are two huge boxes in the vestibule at the back of the church. These are for tombola items – toiletries, groceries, etc. Please check sell by dates of anything perishable. This year we want to try a chocolate tombola – anything chocolate – sweets, biscuits, bars, etc., would be especially welcome.

We are also on the lookout for CDs, DVDs and jigsaws. We shall need bric-a-brac (but not electrical items) – so start looking stuff out now - but if you can please hold on to it until nearer the time.

There will be a cake stall for cakes, bread, savouries, preserves and pickles. Why not make some jam this month ?

The next planning meeting is on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> November at 7.30pm in the church hall. Everyone is welcome to share their ideas and help us raise money.

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Please note that all contributions for the December/January edition of Brightstar should be with Robin and Mary by Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> November. Thank you!  
email: [robin.pattinson@btinternet.com](mailto:robin.pattinson@btinternet.com)



# The Methodist Church

An excerpt from **The Buzz** - the Methodist Church Connexional newsletter. THE BUZZ is a resource that brings the whole Methodist Connexion together and allows us to share what's happening in our districts, circuits, churches and church groups

*LEARNING AND CARING - The Christmas Story  
From: Wesley Memorial Methodist Church in Epworth*

The Wesley Memorial Methodist Church in Epworth has held displays of nativity sets from around the world in order to tell the Christmas story. The displays have accompanied the life size nativity stable with real animals constructed in the church grounds for the three weeks leading up to Christmas. An open invitation is extended to anyone who wants to share in the display. For the past two years this nativity celebration has been extended to the local shops as the church is situated in the High Street.

The Revd David Leese said: "The butcher, the baker, the post office, photographer, the local newspaper office - all together 21 shops in the High Street display from one to three nativity sets in their window at Christmas. This generates interest and witness to the real meaning of Christmas in the community."



Contact: The Revd David Leese: [david.leese@tinyworld.co.uk](mailto:david.leese@tinyworld.co.uk)

Seaton Road, Trimley, Kirton and Trinity  
Methodist Churches

## 'MISSION AREA SUPPER AND CONCERT'

Venue: Trinity Methodist  
Church

Friday 25<sup>th</sup> November 2011

8.15pm

Come and enjoy an evening of fun and  
fellowship

**Everyone welcome**

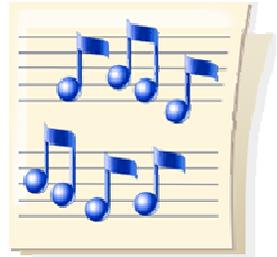
A list will shortly be displayed.  
(Please place your name on the list for catering  
purposes).

Heather Carpenter, tel: 01394 276239

The Mission Area Supper and Concert is on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> November at 6.15pm at Trinity. The supper will consist of hot dogs, mince pie and ice cream which will be served at 6.30pm. This will be followed by a concert made up of contributions from each church. There is no set charge for the evening but there will be a retiring collection for Whitechapel Mission. This should be a fun, social gathering of all four Methodist churches in the area so please come along if you are able. Numbers are needed for catering purposes so if you are hoping to come please add your names to the list on the church vestibule notice board.

## SECOND CHANCE – The Musical

There have been a number of singing evenings at Upper Room Fellowship. In the last couple we have looked at the songs from the musical “Second Chance” – a modern take on the story of the Prodigal Son. As a proper musical production is probably beyond us, there has been a proposal to have a joint effort between the four mission area churches.



Members of the Trinity Players are currently busy with a production, but are keen to join us in the New Year. In the meantime, two more singing evenings are planned, and friends from Trimley and Kirton have been invited along, and naturally it would be great to have as many people from Seaton Road as possible. The idea is to use these two evenings as taster sessions – come along and join in the singing, the music is very easy to learn, modern and catchy. You can see if you might be interested in being part of the production in 2012. If you decide it is not for you, then there is no obligation to continue, but there is always the possibility you might have such good fun that you want to be a part of this new venture.

The next date for these singing evenings is Thursday 1st December, at 7.45pm as a home fixture at Seaton Road.

If you would like any further info about Second Chance, then please just ask.

*Heather (F)*

# *A hymn for Remembrance Sunday*

*Words – Charles Henrywood*

*May be sung to the music – Finlandia by Jean Sibelius*

Grant peace, O Lord, across our strife-torn world,  
Where war divides and greed and dogma drive.  
Help us to learn the lessons from the past,  
That all are human and all pay the price.  
All life is dear and should be treated so;  
Joined, not divided, is the way to go.

Protect, dear Lord, all who, on our behalf,  
Now take the steps that place them in harm's way.  
May they find courage for each task they face  
By knowing they are in our thoughts always.  
Then, duty done and missions at an end,  
Return them safe to family and friends.

Grant rest, O Lord, to those no longer with us;  
Who died protecting us and this their land.  
Bring healing, Lord, to those who, through their service,  
Bear conflict's scars on body or in mind.  
With those who mourn support and comfort share.  
Give strength to those who for hurt loved-ones care.

And some there be who no memorial have;  
Who perished are as though they'd never been.  
For our tomorrows their today they gave,  
And simply asked that in our hearts they'd live.  
We heed their call and pledge ourselves again,  
At dusk and dawn - we will remember them!

## Thanks

A big Thank You to everyone who called in for coffee, cake and a chat on Friday 30th September in support of our Macmillan Coffee morning. One of the unseasonal very hot and sunny days saw a good number of generous folk passing through the office, and we will be able to send off a cheque for over £230.00.

May Dyke won the competition for the number of sweets in a jar. Guessing 214

when the contents was 213 must mean she missed her true vocation as a Quantity Surveyor.

Thanks also to Karen, Hollie and Lindsey who had all been busy baking to provide a good choice of cakes, their's all proving much more popular than the ones I had made!



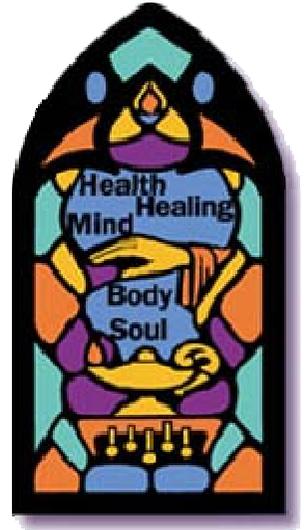
*Heather (F)*

## ***Walton Parish Nursing***

Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> October saw a visit to Felixstowe by the President of Conference, Rev. Leo Osborn, to hear about Walton Parish Nursing.

It was an honour to have the leader of The Methodist Church of Britain in our midst, and be able to raise the profile of this ministry.

In an informal gathering of the President, Rev. Graham Thompson (District Chair), Rev. David Kemble, myself & Andrew Marfleet (Maidstone Rd Baptist), we had the opportunity to explain the growing ministry of parish nursing UK and to “tell the story” of this ministry here in Felixstowe.



Rev. Leo was impressed by the journey we'd been on; from the community survey in 2004 identifying needs in Walton, to employing Jane as a Parish Nurse, to the work carried on by Nicky Wright & the gifts she gave to the project, to the milestone of a partnership between Baptists & Methodists and the appointment of a new Parish Nurse, Lorna, a member of St Mary's, Walton.

It's a story that has been God-led throughout, with a sense of calling and, above all, “showing God's love in a hurting world”.

The President was also keen to hear from David about the Mission Area churches, the Port Chaplaincy and the ministries supported by Churches Together.

Our thanks to David & Elizabeth for acting as hosts for “our archbishop” at short notice.

The President left with a greater understanding of what Parish Nurses do, what Christians do in Felixstowe and what Seaton Road Methodists do in their community.

***Sue Hockenhull***

**(see picture on the back page together with more news about Parish Nursing)**



Photograph from the recent visit to Felixstowe of the President of the Methodist Conference, Rev Leo Osborn. Left to right: Sue Hockenhill, Andrew Marfleet (Maidstone Road Baptist), Rev Graham Thompson (District Chair), Rev Leo Osborn, Rev David Kemble

### **More news on Parish Nursing.....**

We are delighted to announce the appointment of Lorna Bellamy as Parish Nurse for Walton Parish Nursing. She has just begun her work (at the beginning of November) and prayers would be appreciated for Lorna and the exciting new beginnings of our joint venture with Maidstone Road Baptist Church. We hope in the future to have two Parish Nurses working together providing holistic care for all ages.

Lorna's Commissioning Service is at 4 p.m. on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> November at Maidstone Road Baptist Church. Please go along and support your new Parish Nurse if you possibly can.