

# *Brightstar*



## *November 2014*

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

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

*Services for November:*

November 2<sup>nd</sup> Rev Diane Smith  
9.45 a.m. This service includes Holy Communion  
Coffee will be served after this service

6.00 p.m. Mission Area Remembering Service  
at Trinity Methodist Church

November 9<sup>th</sup> Rev Jo Jacobs  
9.45 a.m. Remembrance Sunday – this service will be  
followed by a short Act of Remembrance starting  
at 10.55 a.m.

November 16<sup>th</sup> Café Worship! – Rev Diane Smith  
Breakfast from 9.15 a.m.  
Worship at 9.45 a.m.

November 23<sup>rd</sup> Mr Roger & Mrs Gloria Theobald  
9.45 a.m.

November 30<sup>th</sup> Mrs Jane Paterson



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*They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old:  
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.  
At the going down of the sun and in the morning  
We will remember them.*

From Laurence Binyon's poem For the Fallen, written in September 1914

Contributions for the December/January edition of Brightstar should  
be with Robin & Mary by 30<sup>th</sup> November please (email  
robin.pattinson@btinternet.com).

Dear Friends

This year Sunday the 30<sup>th</sup> of November will be the first in Advent. In the Christian year both Advent and Lent are times of preparation. If you are looking for something to help you in your preparations, may I make one suggestion - Janet Morley's book "Haphazard by Starlight". In this delightful book Janet provides a poem a day throughout Advent with a relatively short but very thought provoking reflection.

Rowan Williams - former Archbishop of Canterbury contributes a poem called "ADVENT CALENDER." It is printed below and has also been set to music by Sir Peter Davis.

*He will come like last leaf's fall.  
One night when the November wind  
Has flayed the trees to the bone, and earth  
wakes choking on the mould,  
The soft shroud's folding.*

*He will come like frost.  
One morning when the shrinking earth  
Opens on mist, to find itself  
arrested in the net  
Of alien, sword-set beauty.*

*He will come like dark.  
One evening when the bursting red  
December sun draws up the sheet.  
And penny-masks its eye to yield  
the star-snowed fields of sky.*

*He will come, will come,  
will come like crying in the night,  
Like blood, like breaking,  
As the earth writhes to toss him free.  
He will come like child.*

*Rowan Williams.*

Do let me know if you would like a copy of this book in time for Advent.

God Bless you.

*Diane.*

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## VISION MEETING

As Seaton Road enters a new chapter with our new Minister, Rev. Diane Smith, now is a good time for reflection, to look back at what we've achieved, where we are now and where we want to be as a church. How does a small church sustain all its initiatives without becoming tired and feeling overburdened? How do busy people get fed (spiritually) and be sustained in their Christian life?

With this in mind we have arranged a "Vision Meeting" for **Monday 17<sup>th</sup> November 7.30 - 9.00pm** (in the church) to which we encourage all to come along, have their say, to suggest (and be open to suggestions) how Seaton Road moves forward as a church to accommodate everyone's needs.

At this meeting we shall consider:-

**STRENGTHS:** What do you like about SRMC? What do we do well?

**WEAKNESSES:** What don't you like about SRMC? What could we do better?

### OPPORTUNITIES

We value the opinions of everyone. Please consider coming to this meeting to share your thoughts.

There is also a questionnaire included in this Brightstar which you can fill in and return to us via the box at the back of the church.

## Kids' Club

The Mission Area Kids' Club meets on the first Tuesday of the month at Seaton Road from 6 – 7.15pm for any Primary School aged children. This term we are looking at the *life of Joseph* through games, songs, stories and crafts.



The dates this term are:

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> November

Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December.

We do have a small team of helpers who are responsible for organising and running Kids' Club on a regular basis, however there are times when we find ourselves short of adult help if one or two of these people cannot make a session. We would like to have a list of people who we could call on occasionally when we are short of help. If you would be willing to add your name to this list and lend a hand now and again, when necessary, please speak to Robin or Mary Pattinson or Heather Carpenter.

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## **Follow up from Bible Sunday, 26<sup>th</sup> October.**

More information about the Bible Society's Big Mission (to provide 20 million children with access to a Bible by 2020) can be found at [www.biblesociety.org.uk](http://www.biblesociety.org.uk)

### Daily Bible Reading Notes for 2015

We will soon be renewing our annual order for Bible Reading Notes for next year. If you would like us to order notes for you, or if you already receive them and wish to change your arrangements please let Howard Fotherby (01394 286089) or Heather Bentley (01394 279998) know by Sun Nov 30<sup>th</sup>. Thank you.



# Seaton Road Christmas Bazaar

Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2-4pm

Christmas is coming and preparations for the Bazaar are in full swing. Please keep items coming in for the **Chocolate Tombola** - it was a great success last year.



There is a box for chocolate tombola items and a separate box for toiletries and other saleable items at the back of the church. We are on the lookout for **CDs, DVDs, toys and jigsaws**. We shall need **bric-a-brac** – 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** so consider baking and freezing to avoid a rush at the time.

There will be a planning meeting on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> November at 7.30pm at Daryl's to finalise plans for the Bazaar. We will also meet one evening in the week before the Bazaar to sort books and price items – keep your eye on the notices for details.

If you can't make either of those preparation sessions we shall need help from 7.00pm on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December to set up and again immediately after the bazaar to clear up - also help is needed the week before to leaflet the surrounding streets. Look out for details in the notices over the coming weeks.

Christmas  
Bazaar

The text 'Christmas Bazaar' is written in a decorative, hand-drawn style. The 'C' in 'Christmas' contains a candle. The 'i' contains a star. The 's' contains a Christmas tree. The 'B' in 'Bazaar' contains a holly leaf. There are various small Christmas ornaments and stars scattered around the letters.

## CHRISTMAS CARDS

This year there are going to be two options for sending Christmas Cards to friends at Seaton Road.

1. The usual system of posting cards via the post box to be delivered to friends, with a small donation to JMA.
2. Or the option to send a single card to everyone at Seaton Road which can be displayed on a noticeboard at the back of the church for everyone to read, with a small donation to JMA.



**JMA (Junior Mission for All)** was created so that children would not be excluded from supporting and learning about the mission of the Methodist Church. It is also about sharing the insights of God's people all over the world with children in our churches

### ***The JMA Promise is to:***

*Learn, pray and serve with the world-wide Church of Jesus Christ*  
JMA raised **£89,000 in 2012/13**. One-fifth of money collected is donated to **Mission in Britain**.

As we no longer have children collecting for JMA we feel this is a way in which Seaton Road can still make a small contribution to this work.

For those who do not know, and a reminder for others, the usual system as referred to in (1) above is a Christmas card "sorting & delivery service" for members of our church sending cards to those who actually attend Seaton Road. 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). This year the postbox will be available on 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> December.

To celebrate the East Anglia District Year of Prayer  
2014

# **A FEAST OF PRAYER FOR ADVENT**

## **A Circuit Service**

**at Bramford Road Methodist  
Church**

**Sunday 7th December at 4.00pm**

The service will be led by the staff team and will include the recognition of 40 years as a Local Preacher of Colin Westren.

The service will be followed by a bring-and-share tea.

**Musicians and Singers wanted to take part in this service.**

Rehearsals (both at BRMC)

**Sunday 23rd November 3.30pm and**

**Sunday 7th December 2.30pm.**

Musicians please email Liz Cope beforehand if you are coming to ensure music copies are available at

**[liz.cope16@btinternet.com](mailto:liz.cope16@btinternet.com)**

Singers just turn up.

**EVERYONE WELCOME**

## Circuit Arts and Crafts Festival 2015

Next year's Circuit Arts and Crafts Festival will take place at Museum Street Methodist Church Ipswich on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> March.

Please book the date now. Schedules will be out in a couple of month's time.

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### Word Puzzle

S	K	O
R	R	F
I	W	E

No plurals please

4 letters or more (adults)

3 letters or more (children)

### Result of the October word puzzle.....

The nine-letter word in the September puzzle was "ALL SAINTS"

Send your list to Robin or Mary by Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> November

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## Christmas Cracker Funday

The next Mission Area children's event has been arranged for Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> November at Kirton Methodist Church. It is called 'Christmas Cracker' and will give children the opportunity to hear the real meaning of Christmas and advent before Advent begins.

It will take the form of a 'mini holiday club' session with crafts, games, singing and stories and each child attending will be given a

free advent calendar telling the real Christmas Story to count down the days to Christmas at home.

There will be two sessions containing the same material so children can choose to attend either the morning session 10am to 12 noon or the afternoon session from 1pm to 3pm. Christmas Cracker is open to all Primary school aged children having completed their Reception year ( 5 – 11) and costs just £2-00 per child.

Help is needed from throughout the Mission Area to help with this event, especially as several of the team who often help at children's events are away that weekend. Please let Dawn Bone or Rev. Diane Smith know if you are able to help at either (or of course both!) session/s. If you are unable to help please remember this important outreach work in your prayers.

## **Carol Singing**

There will be an opportunity to get into the Christmas spirit by joining the Kirton Methodist Church Carol Singing group on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> December meeting 4pm at Kirton Church and Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December meeting 6.30pm at Kirton Church.

This is a Mission Area event and support from anyone who can come will be very much appreciated.



Joe and Jo Rusby  
on the occasion of  
their recent  
wedding at  
Hengrave Hall



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Felixstowe & District Christian Aid Group  
A concert of contemporary Christian music performed by  
**Fiona Simpson and Brian Adams**  
Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> November at 7.30 p.m.  
at Trinity Methodist Church  
Tickets costing £5 are available from Michael Peck  
(01394 279187)

All proceeds will go to Christian Aid:  
'Empowering Afghan Women'