

# CONTACT

## February 2018



Volume 60 - Issue 2  
Sawston Free Church – Little Abington URC – Castle Camps URC

**Sawston FC Regular Church Activities** but please check diary below for full details or contact the relevant group.

<b>Sunday</b>	Every Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of month  2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of month  3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of month 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of month 5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of month	10.30 am 3.00 pm  10.30 am 6.00 pm 6.00 pm 6.30 pm	Morning Worship Messy Church <b>No evening service</b> Holy Communion as part of Morning Worship Quiet Time with God Evening Communion Go4th Praise Service ( <b>No evening service</b>
Monday	Alternate - see diary	10.00 am	Craft Group
Tuesday	Term time only	6.15 – 9.00 pm	Boys' and Girls' Brigades
Wednesday	Fortnightly see diary	2.00 pm	Wednesday Fellowship
Thursday	Term time only	10.30 – noon	Time for Tots
Saturday	Last Saturday of month	10.30 am	Monthly Prayer Meeting
For further details of these activities, please contact one of the Elders (see back page). Four housegroups meet regularly. For information contact the Minister or Church Secretaries.			

### Three Churches Services and Dates for Your Diary

Date	Sawston	Lt Abington	Castle Camps
<b>Sun 4 Feb</b>	10.30am: Morning Worship - Andy Nightingale 3pm: Messy Church	10.15am: Morning Worship - Mr Peter Sammons	10.30am: Communion - Rev Bruce Waldron
Mon 5 Feb	10am: Craft Group (page 14)		
<b>Sun 11 Feb</b>	10.30am: Communion - Rev Bruce Waldron 6.00pm: Quiet Time Dawn Houghton	10.15am: Morning Worship - Mr Bryan Ellicott	10.30am: Morning Worship - Mr Mark Hayes
Wed 14 Feb	2pm: Wednesday Fellowship (page 14)		
<b>Sun 18 Feb</b>	10.30am: Lent 1 - Rev Bruce Waldron 6.00pm: Communion - Rev Bruce Waldron	2.30pm: Communion - Rev Bruce Waldron	10.30am: Family Service - Mrs Penny Flynn
Mon 19 Feb	10am: Craft Group (page 14)		
<b>Sun 25 Feb</b>	10.30am: Lent 2 - Rev Bruce Waldron 6.30pm: Go4th – Bruce and Mike	10.15am: Morning Worship - Rev Elizabeth Caswell	10.30am: Morning Worship Dr Janet Bottoms
Wed 28 Feb	2pm: Wednesday Fellowship (page 14)		

This diary appears on the website. If you know of anything else you would like on the web diary, email: [contact@sawston.com](mailto:contact@sawston.com)

#### Rotas

	Car	Flowers		Car	Flowers
February 4	John Conway 833953	Anne Nunn	February 18	John Newton 562873	
February 11	Gordon Heald 833983	Rosemary Livings	February 25	Tony Moss 834220	Anne Nunn

The closing date for **March Contact** is **Monday 12<sup>th</sup> February**.

**David Nunn is the editor , so please email your items  
to [contact@sawston.com](mailto:contact@sawston.com) or [anne.nunn@btinternet.com](mailto:anne.nunn@btinternet.com)**

# Contact

The monthly magazine of  
**Sawston Free Church, Little Abington & Castle Camps URC's  
United Reformed – Methodist**

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## From the Minister's Desk

### ***I found this year's Covenant Service very demanding.***

For one thing, I am starting to contemplate what I will do when I leave Sawston, officially of retirement age, at the end of next year? I have to confess, most of my thinking has been about what my children might expect, what my wife might expect, and perhaps, dreaming of once again owning a small sailing boat and enjoying the great outdoors Australia offers like no other. I've been wondering whether I should again take up a ministry in a church or perhaps do something entirely different, a career change; as if it was entirely my decision.



The Covenant Service brought me up short.

“Put me to what you will, rank me with whom you will, let be employed for you or laid aside for you.”

Jesus gave up everything for me. How can I follow him, if I am also not willing to offer everything to Him, and trust Him with it. I don't expect cherry-picking bits of Christ is exactly what it means to be a Christian. So, as usual, it's all - or something not Jesus like at all.

I also trust that the God who I see in Jesus, loves me to bits, so I really shouldn't be worried about this. I should know, like Jesus said, if you love your child and he asks you for some bread, you wouldn't give him a stone, so how much more God will do? In other words, God is not going to want for me something that isn't good. I should be able to trust that, and in that trust, not look for what pleases me, or anyone else, but what God would have me do and be, and know that this is in my best interests too, so it should be good, for me, my wife, my children, all the people who “God has given me to love and care for” , because, to pick up our wider theme, these are also resources God has given me to be a steward of.

If I want to go on accepting this Christian identity, if I like what I see in Jesus and want to follow Him, I can only do it if I'm willing to be like Him. And He gave it all for me, and you, and you, and you. The level of love that sits behind this gives me some confidence I can hand it all over to Him, and be safe. So God, not only “What do you want from me, here, in this church where you've put me?” but also, “What do you want of me in just under two years time?”

*And guess what? That's the question before every one of us who have said “Jesus, I want to follow you.” It makes no sense to be any other way.*

# STEWARDS OF GOD'S RESOURCES - Money

*Stewardship is about the relationship between Christian living and Christian giving.*

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*“Keep your lives free from the love of money,  
and be content with what you have” Hebrews 13:5  
God gives us all the resources and abilities to make money  
Our response is to use all of our money as responsible stewards.*

Over the past nine months we have been reflecting on the relationship between Christian living and Christian giving through the lenses of various concepts: worship, the gospel, people, creation, justice, peace, time, the body and property.

The final lens that we are using is that awkward one of money. Money creates more arguments and ill-feeling and controversy than virtually anything else. However, money is the universal language of the world and so we have no choice but to embrace it; and embrace it we should because it was important to Jesus too. The only thing that Jesus talked more about than money was love.

In the Bible there are:

- 3250 references to finance
- 1 in 10 verses (288) in the gospels focus directly on money
- 16 of Jesus' 38 parables are with respect to the handling of money and possessions.

Scriptures deal with money matters because money matters!

Our attitude to the gifting of money for both charitable and church purposes can be informed and guided both by scripture and by theological reflection. However, there seems to be an institutional embarrassment about talking about money. It is very often the 'elephant in the room' and honest conversation is not helped by the high levels of ministerial debt and associated depression that affects clergy within all denominations.

As a result, preaching and discussion around finance in churches is often left until a crisis arises. Inevitably the situation then becomes wrought with tension. This tension is compounded by common-held misconceptions.

- The faithful giver in the local situation often sees their offertory as being for the work of their own church and thinks that the responsibility for paying the minister rests 'on high' and is funded by 'other money'
- The myth about a 'pot of gold' in London that spews forth money still exists. The reality is that the contributions that local churches make accounts for around 90% of the United Reformed Church's central income. The liquidity of the Methodist Church is also reliant on the gifts that local churches make.
- Suspicion abounds that the church's gifts are frittered away and wasted on unnecessary administration. Yet in 2016 church gifts did not even fully cover the costs of ministry, education and learning.

The work of making the good news of Jesus Christ known rests within the ministry and mission of the Church. The Church exists within a world that is structured around money. Thus, like it or not, ministry and mission and money are intrinsically linked. To be active participants in the growth of the Kingdom we thus have no choice but to 'grasp the nettle' and talk about that which causes so much disharmony.

***Faith Paulding***



## Message From Castle Camps



As we write this, we have still not had much wintry weather, although we did have some snow after Boxing Day. Some of the Spring flowers are just starting to appear, so let us hope this is a precursor of better weather. At least the days are drawing out and there seem to be more birds feeding in the garden.

Prior to Christmas, we went carol singing around the village and it was well attended and appreciated.

We had a joint service at Sawston on Christmas Eve and many of our congregation came and enjoyed the fellowship.

On Christmas Day, we had our own service which was well attended and the offertory of £150 has gone to Arthur Rank Hospice. At this service, we had two special guests in the form of sheepdogs, who had walked across from the farm and they were very good.

Our Christmas Tree Festival went very well and the chapel looked lovely. We should like to thank everyone who took part, especially Maureen and Brenda for all of their hard work.

We have had a sad time in the village recently, with the passing away of George Barker, Dennis French and Chrissy Ager.

We have fond memories of George at our services and enjoyed his singing, as well as his warm welcome to everyone.

Dennis was a stalwart of the village and we shall miss him walking down the High Street.

Finally, Chrissy, another villager who passed away just before Christmas, after a long battle with illness.

Our thoughts go out to all of their families at this difficult time.

We send our best wishes to you all and hope the weather continues without the cold and snowy weather appearing.

God's blessing to you all.

***Mary and Friends.***

## Message From Lt Abington A Potted History of Little Abington Church



There has been a mission in Little Abington since 1886 when it was situated in a cottage not far from the present building. Originally it came under the care of Linton Free Church but, in 1887 Sawston Congregational Church took that responsibility. In 1919 responsibility for the mission seems to have transferred back to Linton, The congregation has never been large, being only in single figures when it was transferred.

In 1920 an ex-army hut was purchased for use as a worship space and the cottage was sold. It officially opened for worship on 14th April 1921.

In the 1930's many non-conformists came from the North East of England to the Land Settlement and numbers attending service rose.

In 1972 the Congregational Churches of England and Wales and the Presbyterian Church combined to form The United Reformed Church. Little Abington combined with Linton, Haverhill and Castle Camps to form The Haverhill Group of United Reformed Churches under the Ministry of the Rev Bill Clement. In 1996 it was agreed to split the group and in 1997 Rev Alex Jacob was appointed Minister for Linton and Little Abington. Another change occurred in January 2005 when Little Abington became linked with Sawston under the Ministry of the Rev's Peter and Catherine Ball.

*We would love to Welcome You to our Church and look forward to meeting some new first time visitors and members in 2018*

### **Humbled For A Season** *Philippians 2: 5-11 and Matthew 20: 25-28*

Presumably as the only Son he could have chosen  
Any gift, any means of persuasion,  
He could have had beauty, forcing attention;  
He could have been Mozart,  
David the musician,  
Singer of the psalms amid the tribal slaughter  
Turned the harp gut into water, to a singing stream.

He could have been a sculptor  
Carving the cedar  
God-coating the creature  
Achieved for the Temple, the temple splendour;  
Or a poet

To send words forth like fishing boats  
On the blue pages of the water.

But He chose none of these things. Leaving each gift for some other. And took for Himself healing, humanity;

Only God could be so proof against glamour.  
This act of Divine humility,  
Does it not make renunciation the true test  
Of the revolutionary?

**For I am Meek and Lowly in Heart' by Caroline Ackroyd**

## Grandparents

*"I know that there are many of us who are grandparents and enjoy spending time with the grandchildren. I am sure that we often spoil them but are glad to pass them back to 'mummy and daddy' at the end of the day"* **David**

The following statements are taken from papers written by a class of 8 year olds, which Valerie Spencer originally included in December 2008.

I am sure that some of you will remember them but I hope it will still amuse you.

**Grandparents** are a lady and a man who have no little children of their own. They like other people's. A grandfather is a man and a grandmother is a lady!

Grandparents don't have to do anything except be there when we come to see them. They are so old they shouldn't play hard or run. It is good if they drive us to the shops and give us money. When they take us for walks, they slow down past things like pretty leaves and caterpillars. They show us and talk to us about the colours of the flowers and also why we shouldn't step on 'cracks'.

They don't say 'Hurry Up'. Usually grandmothers are fat but not too fat to tie your shoes. They wear glasses and funny underwear. They can take their teeth and gums out.

Grandparents don't have to be smart. They have to answer questions like:

'Why isn't God married?'

'How come dogs chase cats?'

When they read to us, they don't skip bits. They don't mind if we ask for the same story over again.

Everybody should try to have a grandmother, especially if you don't have television because they are the only grownups who like to spend time with us. They know we should have snack time before bed time and they say prayers with us and kiss us even when we've acted bad.

A 6 year old was asked where his grandma lived. "Oh" he said, "she lives at the airport and when we want her we just go and get her. Then, when we're done having her visit, we take her back to the airport"

Grandpa is the smartest man on Earth! He teaches me good things but I don't get to see him enough to get as smart as him!

*"I have just returned from visiting 2 of our grandchildren at Southampton. Last year, they had lots of plastic model farm and jungle animals to show me and I was happy to teach them the names of the pigs, cows, horses, sheep etc. This year Edward presented me with 12 other models...." Do you know this granddad?" I replied " Dinosaur". **No granddad, that is a Diplodocus.** He then reeled off the names of all 12 dinosaurs. Granddads beware, you need to know your Tyrannosaurus (T-Rex), Spinosaurus, Velociraptor, Ankylosaurus, Triceratops, Allosaurus, Stegosaurus, Apatosaurus, Allosaurus and more!*

**David**



## Prayer Diary for February

*"Each section is offered for use as a daily focus in prayer throughout the week."*

### Week 1: From GenR8

Thank you for standing with us in prayer....please circulate/use below as appropriate: If you can particularly make known our need for new assembly team volunteers for this coming Easter, it would be very much appreciated.

### GenR8 Prayer Points – Spring Term 2018

- Give thanks for the life of Heather Dickerson a volunteer with GenR8 for the last 3 years (xcellr8 weekend and bookings co-ordinator). Sadly Heather passed away suddenly before Christmas and it has been a real shock to all those who know her. In particular do pray for her son Callum (19) also an xcellr8 and Its Your Move volunteer.
- Give thanks that Lucy Mann's (Church and schools development worker) first few months with GenR8 have gone well. Lucy attended all things GenR8 last term to get a feel for who we are and what we do. Do pray for planning for Lucy's role in 2018.
- Give thanks that our Christmas 'The Gift' tour to over 150 primary schools was received very well. Our theme explored the idea of Jesus as a gift from God to the whole world. So we were greatly encouraged when one girl (Ruby) in response to the head teacher's request about what they had learnt from the assembly replied: *"Jesus was God's Gift to the world at Christmas time"*
- We have an urgent need for a new bookings co-ordinator to take on the role for one of our assembly teams.
- Pray that we will be able to recruit new volunteers to join our assembly and Inspire Prayer Space teams for 2018.
- Pray for Helen Tobiss who is taking over the 'communications co-ordinator' vacancy (starting January) left by Debbie Jackman who along with her husband Andy will be moving to Norfolk to help run a Christian retreat house.
- Give thanks that the Rev Stephen Day will be joining GenR8 as a trustee in January
- Pray for GenR8 activities this term which include:
  - Big Picture** – A day for children's and youth workers to reflect and grow their vision
  - Xcellr8** – Our fully booked weekend for 8-11's on 9-11<sup>th</sup> February
  - Cool Choices** – A number of January and February sessions with year 6 students to help them make positive life choices
  - Easter assembly presentation tour -March**
  - Children's Worker Network** meeting – Mon 22<sup>nd</sup> January
  - Inspire Prayer Spaces** – At this stage a number of potential bookings for Inspire days working alongside local churches
  - Inspire permanent** – Our ongoing pilot scheme with three schools and local churches in providing a permanent prayer space in school

- ***Stewards of God's resources: Money. Prayer consideration: "Lord, do I see money as my own, or as yours? Do I allow greed to drive my decisions?"***



## **Week 2: From the Jubilee Centre**

PRAYER NEWS January/February 2018

**Projects** Give thanks for those who write the Cambridge Papers and research issues, examining the biblical material, and seeking God's wisdom and word for his people today. Staff of the Jubilee Centre are working on two new research projects, namely the ethics of remuneration and secondly helping Christians prepare for the coming revolution in robotics/artificial intelligence – initially focusing on the impact it will have on work and employment. The latter is being done in collaboration with CARE and the Evangelical Alliance. Please pray for wisdom for those involved in this research work.

**'Steering Wheel' Research Project** Please pray for the final stages of the Steering Wheel Research Project. This paper has involved several months of research and writing, and examines four major cultural ideologies: individualism, capitalism, consumerism and statism. Final edits need to be made and a strategy finalised regarding how to disseminate the research findings further so it can be as useful and helpful as possible.

**Reformation project** Our Reformation2017 initiative is continuing into 2018 as we prepare for Jubilee Centre's first major public art project, exploring the impact of the Reformers' teaching on society and culture, as well as on faith at the personal level. The 'Five Foundation' sculpture exhibition by Liviu Mocan is inspired by the five 'solas' of the Reformation and will be displayed from July-December 2018 in the centre of Cambridge. Please pray for Jonathan Tame as he seeks the remaining funding needed and drafts the accompanying brochure and for Liviu as he completes the sculptures in the next few months.

**Cambridge Papers Unplugged** Give thanks for the work of Christopher Townsend and the rest of the Cambridge Papers Editorial Group in producing the quarterly Cambridge Papers. Chris will be speaking at our Jubilee Lounge lunchtime event on his recent Cambridge Paper 'Gender: where next?' which was published in December 2016. This will be held on Thursday 8th February. Please pray for Chris as he prepares and that many will want to come and discuss the issues raised in his paper. Thank you for joining in prayer for our work at the Jubilee Centre. We are very grateful to you for your faithful support and partnership.

- **Stewards of God's resources: Money. Prayer consideration: "Lord, do I see money as my own, or as yours? Do I allow greed to drive my decisions?"**

## **Week 3:**

On the 14<sup>th</sup> February we enter into Lent. There will be Lent Study Groups operating across St. Mary's Sawston, Sawston Free Church, Castle Camps and Lt. Abington URC. Please pray that these study groups will bring us all closer to the image of Christ as we seek to walk the way of Christ and live the life of Jesus today. Please watch for details on noticeboards and in your weekly news-sheets.

- **Stewards of God's resources: Money. Prayer consideration: "Lord, is my attitude to money the same as yours? Does it need adjusting?"**

#### Week 4:

- In many countries this is the bushfire season. In many countries it is the coldest time of year. Our hearts go out to those exposed to the elements. Take note in the papers, sit for a while, think. What would it be like to be in this place, this context. Whether refugees freezing in tents or bits of cardboard and tin strung together, or people living in countries ravaged by fire. Pray for these people and pray for hearts of compassion.
- **Stewards of God's resources: Money. Prayer consideration: "Lord, am I a faithful steward of my money? Do I spend it on what would please you?"**

## Homelessness Sunday

Hi Bruce,

I don't know if you've heard about the big Cambridge Calais sleep out ....raising money for Wintercomfort in Cambridge and CamCrag ...well I've signed up to sleepout and I am trying to raise money.

I'm emailing everyone I know, but was also wondering whether you would like to link it in church with homelessness Sunday on 28 January.

I've been involved with the refugee charity CamCrag for a couple of years now. Well I've now decided to do a fundraising challenge and have signed up for A Tale of 2 Cities: The Big Cambridge Calais Sleepout. I'll be sleeping out on the night of 28th January, raising funds for refugees in Calais and homeless people in Cambridge, and I'm wondering whether you might support me with a donation.

If you do feel that you want to donate I have set up an online fundraising page:

<https://mydonate.bt.com/fundraisers/sarahmanton-roseblade1>

If you want to know more about the event the webpage is:

<https://camcrag.org.uk/sleepout/>

or do just get in touch,

Thank you for reading my email

With love

**Sarah Manton-Roseblade** <[mantonroseblade@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:mantonroseblade@yahoo.co.uk)>

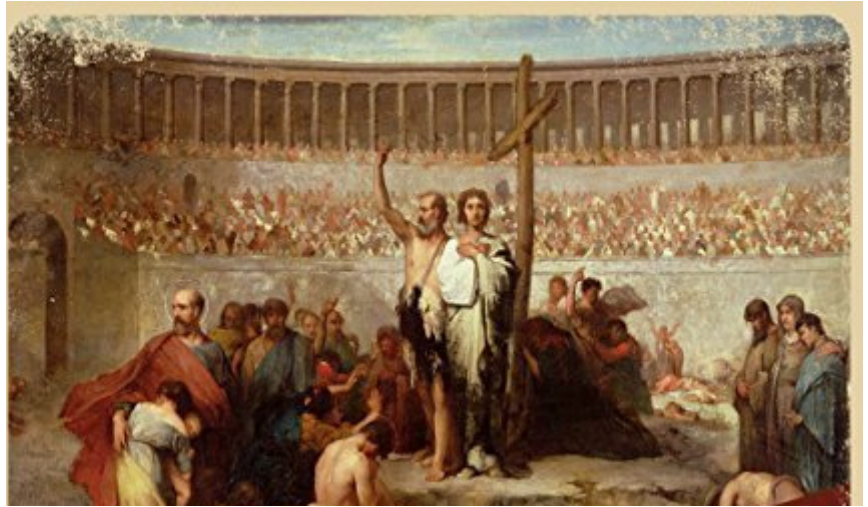


# As I see it ...

by Mike Wilson

## Zeal for your house will consume me

I have just finished reading John Foxe's Book of Martyrs. My stomach has not yet recovered. I thought it time I read a book which, along with the King James Authorised translation of the Bible, the Book of Common Prayer and Pilgrim's Progress probably did more to shape English (and I mean 'English') religious and national consciousness than any other books. (If we were talking about language rather than sensibility, then Shakespeare would, of course, join my list.)



Some of Foxe's words are so burnt into our consciousness that we know them without ever having read them. Foxe wasn't too scrupulous about the truthfulness of what he wrote. He was writing hagiography, not history. He was creating a mythology to bolster a nation's prejudices. The tale of how Thomas Cranmer, at his burning, thrust his hand into the fire, so that the hand that signed his earlier recantations should be the first part of him to suffer, is unforgettable. Whether it be true is another matter entirely.

Cranmer died in 1556. Foxe originally composed a far smaller work in Latin during the Protestant reign of Edward VI, to commemorate martyrs of an earlier era. Ridley, Latimer and Cranmer were all burned during the reign of Queen Mary. When Elizabeth succeeded in 1559 Foxe expanded his book to include the horrors of Mary's reign. It appeared in 1563, this time in English, to play its part in cementing the Protestant character of England for centuries.

Foxe describes the prosecutions and deaths of some sixty people, the vast majority men. What is noticeable, apart from the pitiless brutality of it and the repetitiveness, is how like a witch hunt it is. Once those in power (and leading what is, in effect, a legalised lynch mob) get the scent of blood, 'orthodoxy' becomes ever more strict, so that anyone who dares, for what ever reason, to be anything other than scrupulously the same as everyone else exposes themselves to the charge of heresy. The slightest hint of a word out of place brings the charge. And that charge, once raised, whether justly or unjustly, is almost impossible to refute.

I find myself musing that Christian theology is not well-equipped to resist the zealot. Once the blood-lust is up and the mob is roused, and with so much in our scriptures - our Old Testament scriptures in particular - seeming to justify the punishment of the sinner, what hope for the still calm voice of sanity? One thinks of Ezekiel's rendering of God's voice: 'I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that they turn from their ways and live' (Ez 33:11). One thinks of all that is said in the New Testament in the name of the love of God in Jesus Christ about compassion and mercy and reconciliation. And St Paul's warning that it is not for us to prosecute divine judgement: 'Judgment is mine, says the Lord. I shall repay' (Rom 12:19). Supremely, one thinks of how Jesus himself came to his most appalling death, engineered by partnership between the powerful and mob. When the mob is raised, and blood lust is in the air, all that is good, true and holy is thrown aside in 'righteous' vengeance.

As I write this, two deeply disturbing issues preoccupy the Sunday press. The first is whether the taxicab rapist John Worboys should be allowed out on parole. Politicians are clear, as they always are, that stiffer sentencing is guaranteed to bring them votes. The questions that matter most, it seems to me, are (i) 'Is it safe for him to be out?', (ii) 'Can we be confident that his victims will never come across him?' and (iii) 'If he comes out, will he be safe?' If the answer to all three is a confident 'Yes' then why should he not be on parole? We Christians take no pleasure in punishment.

The second concerns the actress Catherine Deneuve and the one hundred French women who wrote an open letter warning about a new "puritanism" sparked by recent sexual harassment scandals.<sup>(1)</sup> She is in no way condoning sexual assault, but rather she is warning about the dangers of witch hunts, the sort of public and media blood lust that led to the public humiliation of Cliff Richard and the defaming of Ted Heath and Field Marshal Lord Bramall without a shred of substantial evidence. Richard says his life is ruined. The joy has gone. He will never perform again. That may well be true of others now being gleefully named and defamed in shocked and disgusted tones in our media. Like John Foxe, reporters scenting a victim tend not to be too scrupulous about the truthfulness of what they write. Deneuve is now herself being denounced as a collaborator. The pack is on the scent and wants its prey.

Finally, this proudly wishy-washy Christian liberal thinks once again of Oliver Cromwell's letter to the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland: ' I beseech you, in the bowels of Christ, think it possible you may be mistaken.'

**(1) <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-europe-42630108>**

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## 2017 Shoe Box Appeal

Thank you to everyone who supported the Blythwood Care 2017 Shoe Box Appeal. The collective effort of people giving shoeboxes, donating money and volunteering time, meant that thousands of people had something to smile about at Christmas time.

This winter, Blythwood Care delivered 115,932 shoeboxes around the world. For some people, this was their only Christmas present and the gift of a shoebox lets them know that someone cares for them.

I have already been given some items for the 2018 appeal so please keep saving those shoeboxes.

Thank you again

Valerie Kerr



## Lent Studies 2018

Again, we are going to be sharing our Lent Studies in Sawston with St. Mary's and St. Peter's Babraham, and hopefully with Little Abington URC and Castle Camps URC. (We haven't as yet had church meetings in Lt. Abington or Castle Camps to make that decision, but I will be recommending the same book we are using in Sawston.)

Each year, the Rev Alan Partridge and I have taken turn about recommending Lent Studies that both Anglicans and Non-conformists can share. Sometimes we have written them ourselves, sometimes we have taken the Bishop's recommended book, and sometimes we have gone to other places for our resource.

In past years, Little Abington URC has followed with Sawston and last year our shared study was also used by Castle Camps URC.

This year, the study has been chosen by the Rev. Alan, and when he showed me what he was recommending I embraced his suggestion with enthusiasm. It is called **Living An Authentic Life** and it is published by USPG. It consists of a five-session study course exploring discipleship with the world church. On the face page of the study, we read:

- The aim of this study course is to explore what it means to be a disciple of Christ.
- We will be looking at the Bible and reading about the experiences of Christians around the world.
- We do not intend to offer definitive answers, but rather encourage you or your study group to investigate what discipleship means to you personally and collectively.
- We hope the result will be that we feel more able to live an authentic life, being true to ourselves, true to those we meet, and true to God.
- We have allocated a space as part of each study for you to note down something you have learned that you could incorporate into your practice of discipleship.

In all three of our churches, I am asking members to open their homes to others to join them in studies using this book, or to attend other groups that are happening in other churches.

- If you are forming a group to explore this together, please let me know as soon as possible so that I can include it in the publication which will tell everyone where they can go to share in the studies.
- It will be great for fellowship across the villages if we mix and match with others from different churches.
- I will be leading a group on Wednesday nights from 7.30 but I'm hoping there will be a wide take-up.
- Please email or phone me if you would like a booklet. Alan and I have ordered 50, but they can be downloaded directly from the USPG website. Just look on their webpage for Study courses, click on that box and you will see the course "**Living An Authentic Life**" is available. The download is free but donations are welcome; USPG is a Christian mission that relies on funding to continue its work.
- Lent is a wonderful opportunity to do something positive about deepening your discipleship. I recommend this study course to everyone in our churches, and to those who are interested in what being a Christian disciple means across the world, and here. Let's get organising.

**Bruce**



## My Year in Mission House

When I was 18 I packed up my most important belongings and shipped them and myself to Amsterdam. This was huge for me at the time, it would be my first time properly away from home, I'd be moving in to a house with close to complete strangers, and working in places that I didn't even know existed.

Mission House is a project that allows for 9 people to live together creating a community. They then visit over 20 different voluntary projects ranging from palliative care to centres for those who are homeless. You then select around five to work in for the remainder of the 10 months.

Two of the projects I selected, that were probably the most interesting and moving, were Seamen's Mission and Not For Sale.

**Seamen's Mission** (Pastoral Care to Seamen) was where I spent a day going on cargo ships and tankers to talk to the seafarers and give them some company. Along with that I sold them internet cards and phone cards at a not-for-profit price to give them the opportunity to call home and keep in contact with family and friends. This weekly time of meeting people from all around the world and hearing their stories and hardships of having a very time consuming and demanding job away from home, taught me about a world I never knew existed. The importance that this project has is commendable; the seafarers spend up to weeks on a ship with little ability to contact home, and with the same people. We gave them a new pair of ears, new company and the opportunity for prayer and reflection when asked.



**Not for Sale** Netherlands offers victims of human trafficking a new perspective on their future. Through its social enterprises it provides education and training to bridge the gap to the job market and society.

Women from a safe house come and learn skills such as working in a professional kitchen, which they can put on their CV. My work was to partly sell the food they made and prepared to the people working in the Red Light District, and partly working with some of the women's children. There is no form of childcare in the safehouse, so those who had children were unable to partake in this opportunity. However, because this charity had the extra volunteer, it meant they could. This was an incredible project. As when I went on to sell the food I met so many different types of people who work in an industry that many have never experienced. I heard some of their stories, their worries, and their enjoyments. During my work there the head of the Amsterdam project and her team spoke about plans of expanding, and opening a café to offer paid internships to these women. With great delight I found out they opened this project a year later. Hearing this development gave me great joy as I felt a part of their story.

During my year in Amsterdam, I met some wonderful people, all from completely different walks of life, walks of life that I thought I would never cross. ***The memories and relationships I made will forever hold a special place and I felt and feel blessed to have been able to be a part of Mission House.***

**Hannah Jones**

Mod-elect of the Youth Assembly

## The Boys Brigade Hut

The area we now know as Link Road was previously the site of Plum Farm owned by Mr Whiterod who farmed from Dernford Farm. He leased the land for a peppercorn rent and this became the site for the Boys Brigade hut.

The 1<sup>st</sup> Sawston BB was formed in 1928 by the late Mr V.E. Ashley and used the primary school – John Faulkner School – as its headquarters. In 1929/30 money was raised by public subscriptions and together with donations from Commander Eyre Huddleston, H G Spicer and BB Company funds, a hut was erected by parents and friends as the new BB headquarters.

The hut played a useful part in the War Years, as it was taken over by the men of the Highland Light Infantry who had escaped from France at the evacuation of Dunkirk. It was then used in succession by the Canadian Military Police, The Royal Air Force and finally by the Americans, who used it as a clubroom and cook house.

It was decided to use the front portion of the building as a shop, the idea being that rent would provide an income for the Company.

Behind the BB building stood messrs Mandeville and Livermore who housed their lorry there. After the 2<sup>nd</sup> War, Mr Elliot followed by Mr Len Gee sold electrical goods from within the BB hut.

Other huts slightly nearer the High Street were used as a green grocers (Mr Charlie Wisby) and a hairdressing salon.

Unfortunately the BB was never able to buy the land on which the HQ had stood. The South Cambs RDC acquired the land in 1962.

The demolition of the hut was another part of the Old Sawston making way for the new – with Link Road and the Health Centre. The South Cambs Council Maintenance Yard was sited by the Health Centre and this in turn was demolished in the 1970's to make way for the Chapelfield Way development.

This is a note from an American's record of the lecture hall and hut:

*The officer's office had been set up in the manse. There too was the Orderly Room, filled with the paraphernalia of the Administration section. In the more spacious Lecture Hall a Day Room had been fashioned with a library, a bar, space for games and corners for quiet relaxation when off-duty. Just down the street a large corrugated-iron building, once a Boys Brigade hut, had been converted into the Company mess-room. Everything had been repaired, painted, swept, dusted, washed, polished, fitted with black-out curtains and then subjected to the minute scrutiny of a finicky commanding officer.*

**David**

**(Research information from the History Society)**

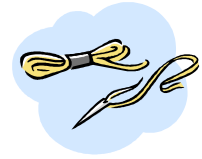
# Sawston Free Church

## Craft Group

We meet in the back hall of the Church on alternate Monday mornings between 10am and 12 noon. Everyone is very welcome, bring your own project of knitting, sewing or crochet or you can just drop in for a coffee and a chat.

**Dates for February:** 5<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>.

For more information please contact **Yvonne** (01223) 473937 or **Pam** 834220



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## Wednesday Fellowship

We meet alternate Wednesdays from 2 – 4 pm in Sawston Free Church.

The meeting always commences with a Bible reading and prayers, followed by any notices.

New members are always very welcome both young and old. Please come along and join us for a cup of tea and friendly chat.

### The program for February

- 14<sup>th</sup> February - Cambridge Christian Heritage talk with Stuart Anderson
- 28<sup>th</sup> February - Wheelchair Toddler talk with Ruth Everard

Please contact **Janet Parr** for more information: 832840

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## Time For Tots at Sawston Free Church

Showing and Sharing God's love

Time for Tots is a church run group for babies and preschool children and their carers. During our weekly session there is time to play, make things, chat, have a drink and snack, have a bible story and sing some songs.

We meet on Thursday mornings between 10.30 and 12noon during term time. For more information please contact **Rosemary**.

Email: [timefortots@sawstonfreechurch.org.uk](mailto:timefortots@sawstonfreechurch.org.uk)



Another baby and toddler group you could go along to is Refresh - 2.pm-4pm every Monday (except bank holidays) in St Mary's Church. This is a 'drop in' session with refreshments and CAKE!

For more information please contact **Becca**.

Email: [rebecca.r.herrick@gmail.com](mailto:rebecca.r.herrick@gmail.com)

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## Flower Rota

I should like to thank everyone who has generously donated towards our having flowers in church each Sunday and I am sure that they are enjoyed by everyone.

The new flower rota will be at the back of the church (on the bible bookshelf) for anyone wishing to donate flowers or have flowers arranged on their behalf.



**We hope lots of additional names can be added for 2018. Let's make sure that there are flowers every week.**

**Janet Parr**

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**Rural Ministries Regional Conferences 2018**  
**Mission as a dialogue: reaching your community**  
**Bury St Edmunds - 10th February 2018**



Our world has radically changed; it's a time of hurry and rush; a time when we seemingly know our neighbours less well, and yet conversely, we are more globally aware than ever before as media outlets flood us with news about what is happening on the other side of the world.

At this one day event in 2018, we will unpack this topic, and explore together how a deep listening to our rural communities will help us share the Gospel. The day will be interactive with four main workshops:

**Workshop 1:** Where is everybody? – Understanding the local context; how to ask the right questions. Demographic research; how to read local statistics. Finding the 'gathering point' of the community.

**Workshop 2:** Where is God? - What are the signs of 'good news'? Who else is here? Undertaking a walk of awareness – practical task & reflection.

**Workshop 3:** Where are we? - What are we already good at? Where are your church's community touch points? Practical mission audit – Review, when, how and why of your church mission.

**Workshop 4:** Where next? - Joining all the dots; beginning to form a strategy. We all have a part to play. Now, take a risk.

The event costs just £15 including handouts and a light lunch. Bookings must be made in advance and we are able to accept card or cheque payments. Full details of the event and booking information can be found on our website: [Rural Ministries](http://Rural Ministries)

Nick Jones Conference Secretary, Rural Ministries  
 Tel: 0845 600 6788 / 01763 878539 Mobile: 07732 110008



**CAMBRIDGE METHODIST CIRCUIT**  
**Events February 2018**

For more details contact the Circuit Secretary:

**Mrs Miriam Webb**

**Circuit Office: Wesley Methodist Church, Christ's Pieces,  
 Cambridge CB1 1LG Office: 01223 352115**

**Email: [office@wesleycam.org.uk](mailto:office@wesleycam.org.uk) or [secretary@cambridgemethodistcircuit.org.uk](mailto:secretary@cambridgemethodistcircuit.org.uk)  
[www.cambridgemethodistcircuit.org.uk](http://www.cambridgemethodistcircuit.org.uk)**

Thurs 8 <sup>th</sup>	7.00pm-9pm	Creating Safer Space Refresher Training Chesterton MC, Green End Rd
Mon 12 <sup>th</sup>	7.15pm for 7.45pm start - 9.30pm	Science Meets Faith - With Dr Amos Burke, Cancer Treatment: Questions of hope and faith – Wesley MC
Sun 25 <sup>th</sup>	6.30pm	Faith To Live By with Memory Ruzvido <b>"NURSING, RELIGIOUS BELIEF AND PERSON CENTRED CARE"</b> Memory is a lecturer at the University of Hertfordshire, teaching Pre-Registration nurses. She has a strong background in Primary Care. She trained as a nurse in the adult branch and became a Staff nurse at Addenbrooke's hospital. Since then she has had extensive experience including: as a Community Nurse, a Snr Practice Nurse, a Nurse Practitioner, a Diabetes Specialist Nurse, an Infection Control Lead Nurse. She became a Primary Care Clinical Skills Tutor, working for the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough CCG. She has also been involved in curriculum development in the University of Hertfordshire and Anglia Ruskin University. She will talk on the challenges to faith in a nursing profession and how to overcome them. Haslingfield MC - All Welcome.

## Church Directory

<b>Minister</b>		<b>Tel</b>
Rev. Bruce Waldron	The Manse, 3 High Street, Sawston Email: revbruce@sawstonfreechurch.org.uk	836786 07814 920187
<b>Secretaries:</b>		
Maggie Jones - Sawston	21 Hillside, Sawston	565637
Lynne Riecansky – Lt. Abington	7 Meadow Walk, Great Abington	893295
Val Spencer – Castle Camps	20 South Road, Abington	892214
<b>Elders: Sawston</b>		
Mary Simuyandi	28 New Road, Sawston	837433
Anne Nunn	10 London Road, Sawston	832913
Susan Nunn	55 Granta Road, Sawston	561956
Faith Paulding	Charlbury, 26 Moorfield Road, Duxford	574325
Mike Purdy	42 Granta Road, Sawston	830903
Sue Sisk	63 Babraham Road, Sawston	833508
Sue Lelliott	26 Park Road, Sawston	520383
Chris Sales	2 Edinburgh Avenue, Sawston	473829
<b>Joint Treasurers:</b>		
Lynne Hays	Baggot Hall, Station Road, Harston	871800
Terry Penny	April Lodge, 81 Brewery Road, Pampisford	833635
<b>Contact Editors</b>		
David & Anne Nunn	10 London Road, Sawston Email: anne.nunn@btinternet.com	832913
<b>Church Website:</b> <a href="http://www.sawstonfreechurch.org.uk/">www.sawstonfreechurch.org.uk/</a>		
<b>Facebook page:</b> <a href="https://www.facebook.com/SawstonFreeChurch">www.facebook.com/SawstonFreeChurch</a>		



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or contact Min Ong: [minhuey.ong @papworthtrust.org.uk](mailto:minhuey.ong@papworthtrust.org.uk)**

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For details contact the editor

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## Sharn Waldron

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