

# ***NEWS & VIEWS***

## ***The Free Church Hampstead Garden Suburb***



***APRIL-MAY 2022***

**PLEASE TAKE ONE**

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# HAMPSTEAD GARDEN SUBURB FREE CHURCH

(United Reformed and Baptist)  
Central Square, London, NW11 7AG  
[www.hgsfreechurch.org.uk](http://www.hgsfreechurch.org.uk)

<b>Sunday Services:</b>	<i>11 a.m. (and 6.30 p.m. when announced) Holy Communion is celebrated at Morning Worship on the first Sunday of every month. The Junior Church meets at 11am every Sunday</i>
<b>Minister:</b>	Vacancy <a href="mailto:Minister@hgsfreechurch.org.uk">Minister@hgsfreechurch.org.uk</a> (which will be re-directed to the secretariat)
<b>Pastoral Emergencies Contact</b>	Derek Lindfield 07803 953483 or Penny Trafford 030 8959 3405
<b>Correspondence Secretary</b>	Penny Trafford 020 8959 3405 <a href="mailto:ptrafford07@gmail.com">ptrafford07@gmail.com</a>
<b>Pulpit Secretary</b>	Carole Lindfield <a href="mailto:derekandcarole.lindfield@earlblue.com">derekandcarole.lindfield@earlblue.com</a>
<b>Treasurer</b>	Joe Fryer 07814 532049
<b>Lettings &amp; Finance Officer</b>	Claudia Millhoff <a href="mailto:finance@hgsfreechurch.org.uk">finance@hgsfreechurch.org.uk</a> 030 8455 9677
<b>Director of Music</b>	Vacancy

## **Safeguarding Statement**

Hampstead Garden Suburb Free Church believes that safeguarding is the responsibility of everyone and is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all those who are vulnerable (children, young people and vulnerable adults). We expect all of our leaders, volunteers and those who use our premises to share this commitment and value the support of those who worship here in achieving this.

***The Elders (Trustees), Hampstead Garden Suburb Free Church  
January 2016***

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# NEWS & VIEWS

HAMPSTEAD GARDEN SUBURB  
FREE CHURCH  
Central Square,  
London NW11 7AG



NO 777

APRIL-MAY 2022

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## Dear Friends,

It's all very strange. Our minister, Ian Tutton, has retired and moved away. On March 13<sup>th</sup>, after his final service with us, there was an opportunity for us all to say 'thank you' to him after almost seventeen years of selfless, dedicated service. We all have appreciated and benefitted from his preaching and conduct of worship. Many of us are more than grateful to him for support and care through times of great personal difficulty.

There comes a time in the ministry of all ministers of the Gospel when it is right to stand down, retire and move on. For Ian that time is now. Our wish for him is for a long and happy retirement.

And now we are in a sort of limbo state. We don't have a minister. Our Sunday services will be led by many people who are strangers to us. We are planning to recruit a new minister. When he or she will come we do not know. But our life as a community of God's people will go on.

Your elders have prepared well for the situation we now find ourselves in. The attendance at recent church meetings has been gratifying and plans have been discussed at them. A summary of the arrangements put in place for the vacancy – *Ministry and Church Life during the Vacancy* - was published in the March edition of 'News and Views'. It demonstrates how we envisage our life together will go on.

And our life together will go on! But it depends on each of us. It does so because each one of us is part of the church. Together we are the church. It is true that we have a magnificent Grade One listed Lutyens building. Of more importance are the people who make up Hampstead Garden Suburb Free Church. Each of us has a responsibility to continue to be diligent in prayer, public worship, and Christian service.

I take heart from the fact that we are not alone.

God is with us and will support and guide us.

This year we celebrate the seventieth anniversary of Queen Elizabeth's reign. In 1939 when the situation facing the people of this country looked very bleak indeed, the then Princess Elizabeth who was but 13 years old, shared some words of a poem by Minnie Louise Haskins, with her father. According to one biographer, the then Princess told her father that she 'thought it might be helpful'. The biographer claimed that 'It was the lines from that poem that stirred and strengthened the hearts of millions at that terrible time.' These are the words shared by Princess Elizabeth with her father, King George VI:

*'I said to the man who stood at the Gate of the Year, "Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown." And he replied, "Go out into the darkness, and put your hand into the hand of God. That shall be to you better than light, and safer than a known way."'*

Let us put our hands into the hand of God and go into the period ahead of us with joy, and may the abundant blessings of God, Source, Saviour and Spirit be ours always. Amen

With every good wish

***Derek Lindfield***

### ***News of Family***

Thank you to all who came to Ian's last service and made it such a special occasion for him. It was wonderful to have the church so full. Also, thank you to those who contributed to the day by making delicious food and cakes, arranging the flowers, making the church card and helping with all the preparing and clearing up on the day. We wish Ian and the family well in his retirement as they move to Cardiff.

The advert for the Ministerial Vacancy at the Free Church will be on-line after Easter, and the Elders will be managing the recruitment process. Please pray about this.



## THE MINISTER'S FAREWELL

At the end of his ministry, Ian Tutton made it clear that in order to say goodbye properly he needed not one but two valedictory services: the first of these, on March 6th, being for us as a congregation which he had served with unstinting devotion for over 16 years; the second one, on March 13th, to include the community.

In the first of his valedictory services, he acknowledged that his devotion to ministry over the years had probably impacted on his roles as both husband and father. Therefore the opportunity was taken to thank son Noah for always attending Sunday services before the pandemic, helping with the children's group and directing the last nativity play before the Covid shutdowns. And to wife Georgia for her famous Sunday hospitality and her Christian meditation groups which, hopefully, are to be continued online. Daughter Lydia will also be missed.

In his address, Ian said that the Apostle Paul always had a particular fondness for the Christian congregation at Ephesus and had visited it many times. But he stopped himself from going there again because it was vital that he should continue his journey so as to reach his destination Jerusalem before Pentecost.

It may be for this reason that Ian chose to deliver the reading (from Acts 20, verses 23-25). Here is part of the passage:

*And now, you see, I am on my way to Jerusalem [...]. Of what will befall me there I know nothing [...] For myself I set no store by life: I only want to finish the race and complete the task which the Lord Jesus assigned to me, of bearing my testimony to the gospel of God's grace.*

He went on to make the point that integrity was always essential to his ministry preferring to keep a professional distance from the congregation, signing himself always with both Christian name and surname so as to avoid appearing on closer terms with some than with others. He also stressed that for him ministry had to be unstinting; it was "24/7" and that perhaps in this way he differed from some ministers who might require time to be set aside for family life.

Ian said that we should have every confidence in one another and grab new opportunities with both hands. Finally, he added that he had always been treated kindly by our congregation and that he would continue to hold us in his affection.

Ian's commitment to the wider community of the Suburb was shown at the last service on March 13th by a congregation of some 200 people - some

three times the number who normally attend on a weekly basis. It meant that on this last occasion, at least, we sang hymns with the volume of sound that he generally had castigated us for not producing on Sundays past.

Towards the beginning of the service, Ian introduced the theme of reconciliation by recalling an experience early in his ministry among us. He had been asked to conduct the funeral of a reclusive German resident. It turned out that this German citizen had served his country with distinction in World War II and wished to have his country's flag draped over his coffin and the hymn 'Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken' sung. Ian had made sure that these instructions were respected in a spirit of reconciliation..

Noah then read a passage from 2 Corinthians (chapter 5, vv. 11-21) which elaborated on the theme of reconciliation:

*All this is from God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: that God was reconciling the world to Himself in Christ, not counting men's sins against them. And He has committed to us the message of reconciliation.*

In this respect, it was imperative for the presidents of both Ukraine and the Russian Federation to be reconciled and this applied also to the conflicts in Yemen and parts of Africa. The symbol of the crucified Christ should be nailed to our church door.

Finally, Ian spoke of the dangers of adulation, of, so to speak, "believing one's own publicity." Even on this his last service as a minister, it was not he who occupied the centre of the proceedings: we all had gifts and we needed creative energy to counter the forces intent on the destruction of our Christian values and our societies.

Despite his determination to resist adulation, there was no possible way of evading the enthusiastic, appreciative applause that followed the service. Tributes were paid to Ian and he received presents from the congregation and Suburb residents as well as Church members living out of the district. As he himself remarked: "It's also my birthday!" These included a framed version of the Dove on a patchwork background which decorates our pulpit.

It may have come as a surprise to some of us for Ian to say after receiving our gifts that there hadn't been a day during the last 16 years when he and his family had not missed Wales. So we return him now to his native land armed - not with a bus pass - but with a season ticket for two to Cardiff City football ground!

*Verity Smith*

*A framed version  
of the Dove which  
has hung from the  
pulpit during Ian's  
ministry*



*The Birthday  
cake.  
With just two  
candles!*

*The retirement  
shirt - 'this is as  
dressed up as I'm  
going to get'.*



**Pictures by kind  
permission of  
Michael  
Eleftheriades**



## From the Archive

### The Search for a New Minister

*It seems highly appropriate that exactly 100 years ago the hunt for a new minister for the Free Church was in full swing. In April the process of selection seems to have had its ups and downs and disappointments. However, in May, with a complete consensus (a situation "which some of us had never dared to hope for"), it was agreed to invite Rev W Major Scott to be the new minister. He had preached on 2<sup>nd</sup> April to great acclaim.*

From Work and Worship April 1922

The New Minister

WHEN IS HE COMING? ARE WE READY FOR HIM?

For many months now we have been looking, hoping, praying for a God-sent man to minister to us in our church life and all that such life involves. Some are growing despondent and are inclined to resent the delay, others would have settled on one or another long ago - but though more than once we have been on the point of settlement, the clear and unmistakable guidance of the Great Head of the Church has not been made plain. This has been and still is a severe testing time to all - officers of the Church, the Ministerial Committee and the rank and file of the Church. Further, in spite of disappointments, it has been a time of helpfulness and blessing - the grace of God has been at work in all our hearts. In George Herbert's quaint way of expressing himself - God himself has taken a text and is preaching "Patience." We believe very fully and sincerely that He is leading and guiding and that His choice for us is very near at hand. Members of the church and congregation are very earnestly asked to be in attendance, if possible, specially during the next few weeks at all the Services - missing none if it can be helped. We want a unanimous choice, so unmistakably uttered by a united church, that all doubts will be removed that God has revealed him to us, and that we are ready for him.

The apostle St Thomas was absent once on a memorable occasion from the Upper Room and missed a great experience - let us learn from him, and so far as in our power lies miss no opportunity of gathering when the church is assembled.

The pulpit supplies during the month of March have been in no way

inferior to any of the preceding months. For a long time now the type of preacher occupying our pulpit has been very encouraging and heartening. The sequel has been seen in increasing congregations - a quickened sense of church life and in generous and liberal contributions. On several occasions recently - the evening of Mr Hocking's much appreciated visit and again when Mrs Coltman so ably occupied the pulpit - the building was well nigh filled and the acoustic properties of the building gave no sense of trouble.

The names and reputations of those whom we are privileged to welcome for April are so well-known that we confidently anticipate this good record will be maintained, and that those who minister to us may indeed be endued with power from on high.

### **From Work and Worship May 1922**

#### **OUR VACANT PASTORATE**

#### **The Church Meeting of the 18<sup>th</sup> April 1922**

The members of the Church gathered together in unprecedented numbers to hear the recommendation from our Ministerial Committee. The Secretary, in reading, need not have been apologetic for any of the delay in obtaining a minister. An initial mistake tied our hands at a time when it might have been better if they had been free, but after all, the interregnum without a pastor has not been without its influences for good and the "vices" of the Committee, its size, its dissimilarities in personality, its differences in outlook, were really a guarantee that if they could agree on a man, the Church could safely follow their advice.

.... Mr Straker, in moving the resolution to "call" the Rev W Major Scott, was just his happy, serious self; anxious regarding the future of the Church of which he is proud to be a member, but happy in his consciousness that by every test which could be applied he was justified in moving the resolution.

Our Church Secretary, Mr Gudridge, seconded the motion. The meeting was entirely sympathetic and gave him that full, psychological support which all who speak in public know is so helpful.

It appeared as though the chairman did not intend to provide an opportunity for questions and remarks, but after a few moments of silent prayer, these were invited and the question was raised as to whether Mr Scott was a total abstainer. Strangely enough, his personality had so thoroughly impressed upon those who had met him that, whilst they were all sure he must be, nobody had obtained a definite answer to the question. Afterwards the Rev George Mannington spoke in the highest terms of Mr



Scott's ministry in the various churches that he had served and we were then ready to vote on the resolution which was carried with absolute unanimity; there being no abstentions.

It was a memorable occasion; one which some of us had never dared to hope for and whether we receive a favourable response from Mr Scott, or not, we thank God that at last we were found, as a United Church, in one heart and mind.

Other resolutions as to the offer of the stipend and payment of removal expenses were unanimously agreed to and the meeting was closed by the singing of the Doxology and the Blessing by the Chairman, the Rev Thomas Nightingale.

All through the meeting the Chairman was delightfully happy, clear in his guidance from the chair, refreshing in his allusions to Methodist practice (after all, Methodism has a lot that can be learned with advantage by the older Nonconformist bodies) and particularly helpful in his appreciation of the Evening Service conducted by Mr Scott, which he counted himself fortunate in having been able to attend.

So now the lot is cast into the lap but the disposing is in the hands of the Lord, and there we must leave it, knowing that the Divine Leadership never fails those who trust in it.

## 1942

*April and May see the Rev Frank Ballard continuing his correspondence with church members all over the country and all over the world, some on active service in World War Two. Services were to be held in the church for the summer.*

*John Hawkes' name appears on the WW2 display and memorial. Joy Walenn had two brothers serving - one returned, the other; Gilbert, was a POW for almost all of the war.*

### **From HGS Free Church Newsletter April 1942**

I have received quite an unusual number of letters lately from men in the Forces. Some of them are from camps at home, but others come from India, Irak, Ireland and various parts of Africa and yet others leave us guessing. Donald Gabriel not only sends me a welcome photograph: he also sends word pictures of India and helps us see the kind of life he is leading. J L Boxall has been marching through Biblical Lands that make Old Testament stories live for him. Edward Kauffmann is so isolated that the books sent at Christmas are particularly welcome. Gordon Down, somewhere with the MEF is also glad to have literature of the kind we sent, for "hours of boredom are not infrequent." Douglas McCallum has been in hospital with sand-fly fever and other troubles, but was back with

his unit when writing. One letter I particularly prize is written by Ralph Challoner just before leaving this country. I hurried off a reply and hope he received our greetings before he actually sailed. Several of the lads in home camps have also written and told me of their doings. We have been cheered to see some on Sundays when they have been home on leave, including Michael Martin safely home from another voyage on the high seas.

**From HGS Free Church Newsletter May 1942**

My Dear People, There was a time when people like myself looked forward to as little leisure when winter activities were over. But now that everything has been turned upside down it is in the winter that one gets a little quiet: when the long, light days come the engagements multiply and one is faced with the old problem of how to live on twenty four hours a day. I am very conscious of the problem as I set myself to write this News Letter for there are many matters demanding inclusion and I must study the art of brevity if they are all to get the share they deserve.

Now I must pass to more domestic matters. At the moment of writing the sun is shining brilliantly but there is a cutting wind from the East, making it dangerous to shed warm garments. It reminds me that last year we returned to the Church for the first Sunday in May and repented at leisure. The experience of those shivering Sundays made us tardy this year in announcing a date, but I hope we shall be back in our spacious sanctuary by the third Sunday in the month if not before. Some of us will be glad to return, much as we have appreciated the smaller building for the winter months. We want to hear the organ again. And we want to encourage as much as possible a sense of normality. Our steadily increasing numbers should enable us to return with confidence.

... I should like also to say how deeply we feel for Mrs Hawkes, whose husband was killed in the recent tragic accident on Salisbury Plain. They were married in the Free Church last June.

There is little to report from men and women in the Forces this month, but I understand that Joy Walenn has joined the WAAF's and will be leaving home shortly, if indeed she is not already gone; that Donald Heather expects to go overseas for further training, and that Douglas McCallum, who seems to have toured India, is now once more in the Middle East.

These words that I write here in my study travel far and are read in many countries. Wherever they go I hope they will bring thoughts of home and an assurance of fellowship and be a reminder that we are all dependent on one another's faith and prayers. Frank Ballard *Anne Lowe*

## Prayer by Jenny and Brian Stonhold

It was wonderful to join so many people for Ian Tutton's final service in the Free Church and to mark his retirement from full time ministry. We had great pleasure meeting families who had moved away with young children who we nurtured in Junior Church and returned now as teenagers. Thank you to Lorna Page and Suang Eng with their many helpers who provided enough food for us all. The following Monday on a gloriously sunny day we drove from London across Exmoor to Lynton in North Devon. We stayed at Lee Abbey, a Christian conference centre, for a four day conference on '7 Ways to Pray' by Amy Boucher Pye. We had already read Amy's book but it was good to be encouraged to practise different ways of praying. We can recommend Amy's book which explores ancient Christian prayer practices and makes them relevant to us today. It was in 1984 that we took members of the Youth Group to stay in the Beach Chalet at Lee Abbey. Many of them remember it as a special place where God is very near.

In 1 Thessalonians 5 v17-18 we are encouraged to "pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you." St Teresa of Avila said that God is in the 'pots and pans'. We can bring before God the ordinary things of life, for example, cooking a meal, the commute to work, the area we live in and the people we meet. When we pray continually, it is because we are able to perceive God in all aspects of our life. When I worked as a teacher in a London inner city secondary school I often sent up 'arrow prayers' before teaching a challenging class or sorting out a dispute between students. Now that I am retired and have time in the morning to be still and talk to God I sometimes breathe in and out to words. For example I may inhale and say the words 'God is' and exhale saying the word 'love'.

During the Covid restrictions the Prayer Ministry Group at our Church in Penarth, which usually prays with people after the morning service, has kept in contact by email and prayed at home for people who are facing difficulties and would like us to pray for them. While we can pray ourselves, sometimes it is good to have the prayers and support of others. We may not see answers to prayer immediately, or see the effect our prayers are having on people's lives but we can be assured that '*God works together with those who love him to bring about what is good*' (Romans 8v28). Our prayers will be making a difference. The news can be so awful that we can feel overwhelmed. We can lament before God



## Christian Aid

*Christian Aid Week is May 15<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> 2022.*

*The usual envelopes will be available.*

*The proceeds from the Friday Lunchtime Concert on April 29<sup>th</sup> will all be donated to Christian Aid.*



and talk about our concerns and anguish. In our home Bible Study group we are following a Lent course called 'Days to Lament'. Although it was a challenging course written by Embrace, a charity working in the Middle East, we found it helped to talk of our grief and lament for Ukraine, the Covid losses and the changing world around us.

There are many different types of prayer, such as silent personal prayers, call-and-response prayers, classic blessing and benedictions prayed by saints throughout history, and many other forms of prayer. I find it helpful to add my name to what Jesus said in the Gospel stories. For example based on John 14 v27; Jenny, 'do not let your heart be troubled and do not be afraid.' If I wake in the night with anxiety I often say the Celtic circle prayer;

*'Circle me Lord,  
Keep hope within,  
Keep fear without.  
Keep peace near,  
Keep conflict far.'*

A survey by Tearfund in 2018 showed that about half the population still prays more or less regularly, among them 20% of those who describe themselves as having no religion. Prayer clearly helps many people. Prayer is about turning our hearts towards God and having a conversation with Him. It may involve talking, listening, stillness or action. There are no special words to say and we can pray anywhere. Anybody can pray, anytime, anywhere. God is always listening. Jesus encourages us to come like children to a father. God loves us and prayer is about being deeply loved.

*Jenny and Brian Stonhold*

## TWO POEMS ABOUT UKRAINE

*The author of these two poems Robin Spratt is, like myself, a British member of CamRuss (The Cambridge Russian Society) which is opposed to the Russian invasion of the Ukraine. The term DOMOI (as close as I can get to the original without a Cyrillic keyboard) isn't an order so much as how you would say in Russian or Ukrainian that you are on your way home. The two languages are very closely related: think German and Dutch or Spanish and Portuguese and a most painful irony is that the two presidents share a Christian name. One is Vladimir and the other Bolodimir and this brings out their first cousinage, a painful relationship historically, which is a bit like our own relationship with what is now the Irish Republic.*

*Verity Smith*

### **“Our Wheatfields will ripen”**

You have darkened our skies,  
Like a solar eclipse.  
But the sun does not hide  
Forever.  
Our wheatfields will ripen  
For us.  
But never for you!

Our dreams will clash with  
Tanks.  
We will shoot down your vanity,  
Sabotage your lies,  
Your fantasies have kindled shooting  
stars  
Which will not protect you.  
You are creating heroes  
But they do not fight for you.

### **“We will shout DOMOI”**

We have no mountains to stop you  
But we can shout DOMOI!  
If you invade from Russia  
We will shout DOMOI!  
If you invade from Belarus  
We will shout DOMOI!

When you come with boys in tanks  
We will shout DOMOI!  
When our houses are rubble  
We will shout DOMOI!  
When we have no more bullets  
We will shout DOMOI!

*Robin Spratt*





SCHOOL OF MUSIC AND ART



# TEACHERS' CHARITY CONCERT

Our beautiful concert venue is in trouble – the HGS Free Church's roof is in critical condition. Please join us for an evening of musicianship, and listen to the teachers of CSOMAA perform for their pupils and residents of Hampstead.

Olesea Rusu (piano)  
Matt Telfer (Saxophone)  
Alice Joanne (voice)  
Nelson Sinclair-Strong (clarinet)  
Dr Donat Bayer (piano)

HGS Free Church, North Square, NW11 7AA  
10<sup>th</sup> of April at 5pm

Entry is free – but please bring cash to donate and get charitable refreshments, cakes, teas.

We hope this contribution will help to ensure that our pupils can continue to enjoy this beautiful recital space in London for many more concerts to come.



P.S. this concert and the choice of charity have been discussed and put in place before the war in the Ukraine has begun. We stand with the Ukraine and our thoughts are with the Ukrainian families and children. Our piano pupil Daichi Yamaguchi has set up the link to donate and help. Please support if you can and spread the word. We are attaching the donation link to this concert invitation and will distribute it on the concert day too.

## **North London Festival of Music, Speech and Drama, 2022**

The Festival committee is delighted to announce that the North London Festival of Music, Speech and Drama is back live at the Free Church in Hampstead Garden Suburb during March, April, and May. Following the difficulties of the 2020 lockdown, our 2021 online Festival was a great success with many outstanding performances. We are building on this success in 2022 with our return to mostly live competitions, which will give opportunities for musicians of all ages to perform in front of a live audience of friends, fellow competitors and members of the general public. We would like residents of Hampstead Garden Suburb to come and listen to the performances. Entry is free, but we would welcome donations to help cover the running costs. The age range of participants is wide, with the standard of performance ranging from beginners to young people on the verge of a professional career in music. Pianist Asagi Nakata, who has performed in the Free Church in recent years, is an example of a musician who was first heard at the festival as a very young child. Pianist Benjamin Grosvenor, and violinist Valeriy Sokolov are both fully fledged international artists who have won Festival prizes in the past. We are inviting you to hear the next generation of star players before they become famous.

After a break for Easter, competitions for pianists, singers and woodwind players resume on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> April and continue until Friday 13<sup>th</sup> May. A full timetable is available on the Festival's website – [northlondonfestival.org.uk](http://northlondonfestival.org.uk) but highlights are the end-of-festival concert at 6 pm on **Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> May** and the following conservatoire-level competitions:

**Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> April**, starting at 11:00, the Appelbe Piano Prize Competition.

**Monday 25<sup>th</sup> April**, starting at 10:30, the Edith Polson Singing Recital Prize Competition for both singers and accompanists.

If you would have a little time to spare, we would welcome **volunteers** to help with running the Festival, being on the door to welcome participants and audience or being back-stage to help competitors prepare for their performances. Contact [enquiriesnlf@outlook.com](mailto:enquiriesnlf@outlook.com) or 07966 934186

***Janice Twistleton***

## NEWS OF PEOPLE

Peter Hopkins, our organist, has decided to move on from the Free Church at the end of March.

We are very grateful for all the time he has given to us over the past 3-4 years both in choir practices and playing of the organ.

He has also been travelling far to be with us. We wish him well in the future, in teaching and music.

David Trafford will play the piano for Sunday services until May 29th, when Mark Underwood will be able to re-join us.

Mark will play the organ for us on the 1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays of the month (he plays elsewhere on the other Sundays) and David will play the piano on alternate Sundays.



## TWO THOUGHTS FOR TWO MONTHS

### God has plans for you too

God changes caterpillars into butterflies,  
Sand into pearls,  
And coal into diamonds using time and pressure  
And He's working on you too.

What happens outwardly in your life,  
Is not as important as what happens inside you.  
Your circumstances are temporary  
But your character will last for ever.

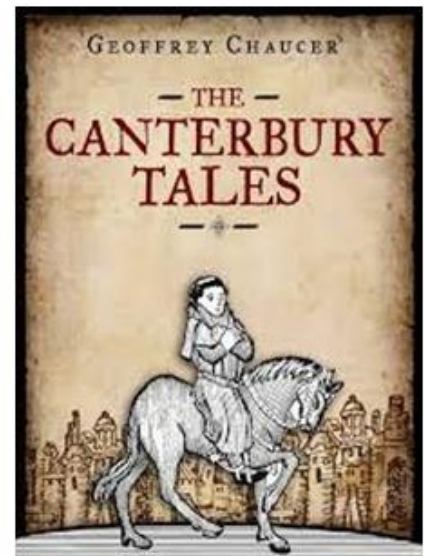
*Two thoughtful quotes by Rick Warren – (American Southern Baptist Christian pastor and author) Sourced by Rosemary Birch*





## JOHN BIRCH'S DIARY FOR APRIL/MAY

Chaucer's "The Canterbury Tales" - as relevant now to everyday life as when they were written over 700 years ago - starts with "When that April with its sweet showers..." and then goes on to give flesh to the characters of this lively story. Chaucer lived at a time which was still emerging from the upheavals that followed the "take-over" by William the Conqueror (I wonder if it is still, as it was in my school days, the one historical date that everyone remembers - 1066?) Religion - more so than is generally the situation today - was a uniting experience, with pilgrimages



to Canterbury and other places of religious significance. To anyone with a strong belief the place and circumstances do not matter, although the complexities of 21st Century life can make prioritizing the experiences and joys of faith more difficult and for that reason - if achieved - even more rewarding. My Grandma used to speak of the "nitty gritty" as the "rocks and foundations of life." In her time, she did not have the diversions and choices which we have today (not in itself a bad thing) but our choices and diversions have to be controlled through understanding, thought and choice. In an age when more people than ever before have opportunities for enhancement and for helping others, the "the inhumanity of man" is still alive in Saudi Arabia, Ukraine and many other locations, where for different reasons, it is embedded as a "way of life". Having a point of view and being able to express it is a fundamental requirement of freedom. Having a point of view and enforcing it on others is part of human psychology - "man's inhumanity to man." Acceptance of differences is sometimes difficult: on the other hand, differences are a vital part of the wide pattern of life. We learn from each other, bringing about changes in our understanding and attitudes. "No man is an island" wrote John Donne, some 500 years ago. Even more to the point now, communications, connections and concerns are much wider than in Donne's time when "neighbour" meant someone living close by: now anyone in the world can be our neighbour and - effectively - our concern. The situation in the Ukraine engages more locally in this country than



similar outrages elsewhere, partly I think because of the European cultural connections and partly because of the incursion into the independence of a country which has existed long term, both politically and “democratically.” Russia’s take-over is as imperialistic as our worldwide annexations in past centuries. Within days of the invasion, the seaside walk in Borth was decorated with a symbol of support for the Ukraine (a large heart painted in dark blue and yellow) - and we have just been told of a get-together which everyone can be part of, taking place in the High Street around the local coffee shop with the aim of giving community and financial support. Some form of peaceful and ongoing understanding must be reached: similar situations will arise whether in Europe or more distant locations. “Man’s inhumanity to man” will be ongoing...unless, at last, John Donne’s maxim becomes and stays a reality.

**BSL (British Sign Language)** is still something which many of us aren’t familiar with: however, one of our sons, working in the Care sector, does use it (for some this is their only means of communication.) A 16 year-old, Tyrese Dibbs, himself a user (being deaf and partially-sighted), has created a series of videos which have now been watched by 80,000 people. “Deaf people shouldn’t be excluded: you should be able to chat with anyone, regardless of disability.”

**The White-Clawed Crayfish**, categorised as one of the UK’s most endangered species, has now been given a dedicated refuge in Northumberland in an old adapted cattle drinking-hole - called, prophetically, The Ark Site, where they can breed and re-establish their numbers!

**A rat called Magawa** has died peacefully at the great age of eight, having sniffed out over 100 landmines and explosives left from conflicts in Cambodia, clearing an area the size of 20 football pitches. He was the first rodent to receive the Dickens Medal, the George Cross for animals!



**Spring is really here** and the nesting season has started. When we lived in St. John’s Wood and I travelled in by bus I looked forward to seeing the herons in Regents Park. Herons are



among the earliest nesters, starting in February by building large untidy structures, well up in the trees.

***It's exciting to know that there are new animals*** to be discovered, including the exotic - which certainly covers the Rose-Veiled Fairy Wrasse. Discovered off the Maldives, it is the first new fish to be found by the local Maritime Research Team!

***An island is somewhere*** - but until recently, Henderson Island in the South Pacific was "on the map" some distance from its actual location. Modern navigational aids mean that the error of 85 years ago has now been corrected.



***A pink-toed tarantula spider*** was an unexpected passenger in a box on a London bound commuter train. Probably an abandoned pet, it was collected by an RSPCA officer and taken to the South Essex Wildlife Hospital.

Great that the person who discovered it did not panic!

***A Full Moon*** can be a fantastic and - to some - a worrying sight! The Full Moon, at the time of writing, is known as the Worm Moon - it having been noted centuries ago that the Spring warming of the earth's surface made worms wriggle into action at that time. (At the beginning of the year, the first full moon is known as the Wolf Moon, getting the name from the native North Americans as the beasts howl more in winter whilst seeking food. This is followed by the Ice Moon and in February by the Snow Moon.)

***And finally, something which did work like clockwork.*** In Grimsby, the Minster clock had been stuck at 12.02 for 12 years. Experts made an assessment and said the repair would cost £50,000. Much work required!! Enter two local guys with hope and a can of WD-40 (cost £3). Bingo. Clock repaired. I couldn't have written a better headline



myself so here goes: "OIL'S WELL THAT MENDS BELL." (Thank you, Sun Newspaper - which we get because it's thick and has lots of pages we can use in the animals' cages - thought I should explain!) ***John Birch***

## **Those green shoots may still be under the soil but they are moving!**

Have you ever thought about the underground root system and how far it stretches? We have thousands of majestic large trees around the countryside. One does not have to go into designated parks - or even on the edges of pavements - to see wonderful examples, and even when they lose their leaves there is still a natural beauty of shape; in fact one or two seem so symmetrical perfect that it's hard to imagine they haven't been pruned by hand - indeed it would need a giant's steps and shears! But however wide their leaf span above ground, underneath the root span is two (or even three) times the canopy radius, reaching six to nine metres. A typical tree possesses thousands of leaves (don't we know that fact in autumn!), with many hundreds of kilometres of roots and hundreds of thousands of root tips underground!

With the above knowledge applied to our own lives it seems impossible that our individual 'threads of life' do not mingle; in fact it's said that if seven complete strangers met, at least two would have some person, or event, linking them - John Donne's quote "No man is an island" comes to mind.

What follows is a true series of events, which actually link with the Free Church, and are similar in a sense to what is going on in Eastern Europe at the moment.

A few of you will remember my mother who came and stayed with us a few weeks before her death over 20 years ago. Although limited in movement she had a strong need to get out in the fresh air every day and her electric wheelchair was an essential tool in achieving this. Even on the coldest of days, with her book and a hot water-bottle on her lap she would 'sail forth' for a couple of hours. Many's the time when a complete stranger would knock on our door and ask us to go and rescue (ie.push) mum back, as she'd 'run out of charge.' When she died the wheelchair had a good few years' use still in it and I knew that someone else had a definite need.

The next link in the chain is taken from a book by Ann Penrose 'Road to Romania'. Couple Alan and Ann founded the charity "Support for Romania" in the aftermath of the fall of Ceausescu's regime in 1990. Ceausescu and his wife had built a palace for themselves. In it "there were 1800 rooms with 1,200 chandeliers (one weighing four tons). For five years 24,000 workers in 3 shifts did 24 hours a day; one of the hallways



was longer than any London underground station; 15 districts were demolished to make room for the building which covered 1,000,000 square feet and was 280 feet high". Eventually, Ceausescu's people rose up against him, and finally after a short trial, he and his wife were shot. Almost immediately the Romanian Missionary Society received many phone calls from Christian contacts in Romania asking for help. Thus the idea of the charity 'Support for Romania' came into being with large trucks taking out desperately needed aid. Ann described her first impressions of Romania: "It took us three days to get to the border.....The road was not much more than a dirt track...The guards at the border had grubby uniforms on....everything just seemed a shambles ...There were gypsies and many other people, one who looked extremely poor, either just standing or sitting on the side of the road.. I could not believe this was supposed to be the actual crossing into Romania. Finally, as we entered Romania it was as if I was entering a different world. I was astonished at how dirty everything was and how terribly drab....apartment blocks looking as if they were about to collapse....." .

Then Ann covered the story of Mihaela who was: "put into an orphanage at the age of six.....She was not strictly an orphan. Her father had been an alcoholic and her mother had been too poor to look after her.....She had spina bifida and her mother couldn't look after her, living in a couple of rooms with no running water. However, at a coffee morning talk by Alan, a young man, on hearing her story, offered to buy an apartment in Bucharest for Mihaela and her mum and that would work as long as Mihaela could get mobility!....." Then one day Alan took a phone call in his office from a lady who offered an electric wheelchair which had belonged to her mother who had recently died! She had heard of the need from her married daughter (our daughter Sally) who, with her husband, had been working with the Leprosy Mission and had to return to this country because she was ill. Having nowhere to live they were scouring the country for temporary accommodation in an empty church which had no minister and at Grangetown had seen one of Alan's needs list - end of story - wheelchair travelled out to a delighted Mihaela! Actually not the end of story, as John and I spent the next few years making numerous journeys down to Cardiff to deliver needed items: medical aids, walkers, discarded medicines, incontinence pads, clothes, shoes, etc. (North London Hospice was tremendous in their giving). Sometimes we hired a transit van - more often our big car, and on unpacking in Cardiff the team could never work out how we could pack so much stuff. (We always made sure the goods were very secure as we had



visions of making an emergency stop and being knocked out by a large solid pack of incontinence pads!) We could never convince the officers at the Welsh toll bridge that perhaps they could waive the charges as it was a charity run! We were constantly amazed at all the goods that were given. From Cardiff all the goods were taken out in a convoy of trucks; normally there were two drivers per truck as it is hard concentrated driving. Crossing borders was never easy and required a lot of patience and tenacity. When Ian first came to the church he noticed one of our 'needs lists' and, as he himself had been one of those stalwart truck-drivers to Romania, John and I hoped that might have made him feel a little more welcomed; that this was something to which he could link when coming to a very different environment!

As I read back over what I've written I am again amazed at God's prompting fingers in the world. We had no idea that a phone call would be the answer to a 'need', and that we would then become so involved in a charity. I suppose we became like actors in a play, part of something much bigger than we could imagine. Ian mentioned at his last Free Church address that there is nobody who doesn't have a talent of some sort whether we know where it will be used or for what purpose. That led me on to re-read my UCB (United Christian Broadcasters 10.2.22) notes about: "the supporting cast at Oscar ceremonies.... where there would be no place for big stars and the best movies without the supporting cast and contributions of technical and artistic crews". So many things are done by those who do little things that make all the difference. The notes continued: "the Bible is filled with behind-the-scenes people, like the unnamed man carrying a pitcher of water, who led Peter and John to the upper room".

In the same way we shall never know where our actions, where our mingled threads weave a pattern with others.

So similarly to us, Ian has now started another chapter of his life. It's difficult as our Free Church friends were like a family and we miss you all. However strange it feels, we still have a rock, a solid foundation which does not change. We may see things from a different angle but we serve the same Almighty and in this beautiful place, with incredible sunrises and sunsets, God the Creator feels very near.

I may not understand why so much hardship and misery is playing out at the moment, but I'll hold onto the example of the Penroses who answered the desperate need from a country adjoining Ukraine, and from where today refugees are being kindly welcomed - strange threads indeed!

*Rosemary Birch*

## ECUADOR AND THE GALAPAGOS ISLANDS

*We had planned to visit Ecuador and the Galapagos Islands in November 2006, when, sadly, my husband Michael died in April of that year. Nevertheless I felt able to go, and so the trip was very much in his memory - and a memorable trip it was, covering mountainous areas, fascinating cities, the Pacific Ocean and beautiful islands, not forgetting the rainforests. So, in three weeks, I visited some of the most amazing places on earth, marvelling at the mountains, the calm seas, the wonderful and varied wildlife, both ashore and in the deep. So many experiences, so many new species: I wonder how I can convey in a short piece the wonders of this amazing country?*

We flew to the capital Quito. As well as being a lovely city Quito's claim to fame is that it straddles the Equator, and you can stand on the famous line with one foot in the Northern and the other foot in the Southern hemisphere. Truly you are in the middle of the world. You must not over-exert yourself in so doing, however: remember that Quito is situated at a little over 9,300 feet above sea level. But, because of this, the city's mean temperature is 55 degrees even at the Equator, and thus similar to London.



Quito was first settled in the fifteenth century by the Incas, who boasted the largest empire in the Americas, centred in Peru. The reign of the Incas in Ecuador was soon over, however, because the Spanish Conquistadors arrived within 50 years and took over the city of Quito and the country itself. Ecuador is a Spanish country, speaking the Spanish language, whose population is overwhelmingly Roman Catholic.

Ecuador is divided into three parts - the flat, well-populated western area lining the ocean, the eastern part low lying and sparsely developed, and the central mountainous belt rising to the heights of Mt. Chimbarazo at over 20,000 feet, and Mt. Cotopaxi at nearly that height. Quito is in the north of the country, and is unusual in being a capital city at high altitude. One of the attractions of the country, among many, is that the place names with their Spanish origin are generally mellifluous and easy to pronounce!

After taking in the sights and delights of Quito we ventured to the nearby Amazon rainforest, staying at Sacha Lodge to see the local wildlife at close quarters. We were in dense woodland, with wellworn paths and glades, some



raised boardwalks over the waterways, and we stayed in comfy cabins. But the jungle surrounded us and we knew that anaconda snakes, caimans, electric eels and piranhas abounded - but most are nocturnal and too interested in foraging their own living to think of us as dinner! The forest abounded in monkeys of many varieties, screeching and shrieking as they went about their business above us, but they were keeping a wary eye on us nevertheless. There were, of course, huge numbers and varieties of birds and mammals in this biodiverse area, so the days we spent there were devoted to seeing, identifying and, where possible, photographing them, as well as walking amongst the trees and marvelling at their variety and the sheer wonder of it all.

We came out of the rainforest after three days and continued our exploration of this amazing country. We journeyed along an "avenue of volcanoes" at one point, which is a range of mountains, now mostly extinct, we were glad to learn. We also learnt that Chimbarozo is the highest mountain in Ecuador, but its greatest claim to fame is that it is situated at the farthest point from the centre of the Earth (further away from the centre than Mt. Everest or K2!)



*The summit of Chimbarozo is the point furthest away from the centre of the Earth*

We were heading for a town with my favourite name, Riobamba (beat that!), where the local people wear highly colourful, mostly knitted clothing - well worth a photo or a purchase - and sell wall hangings crafted from the coats of alpacas and llamas.

Our next thrill was a train journey, described in the guidebooks as the most exhilarating in South America - the Devil's Nose switchback, a railroad hewn in the solid rockface, which we descended at great speed into the valley below.

We now journeyed south, still in high country, to the town of Cuenca, which vies with Quito for the beauty of its streets and buildings. Quito is more grand, but Cuenca is a beautiful city, often called "the jewel of the south". Cobblestone streets, whitewashed red tiled buildings, handsome plazas, domed churches: all set on the grassy banks of the River Tomebamba. This is a city of contrasts, where women still dry their



washing in the sun not far away from a more modern scene of internet cafes, art galleries and restaurants, again set in beautiful architecture.

But then came the highlight of our tour: the Galapagos Islands. We flew from Guayaquil (pronounced Gwyakil), from where the islands are 600 miles (1,000km) to the west. Perhaps the most well-known, and certainly one of the first, enthusiasts for the Galapagos was Charles Darwin, who went there in 1835 aboard the "Beagle" and explored the islands for 5 weeks. He collected many plants and animal species with which he amazed his fellow scientists and are forever associated with his "Origin of Species." The Galapagos archipelago, which comprises 12 main islands and 12 smaller ones, became a National Park in 1959.

Our home in the Galapagos was the M/V Santa Cruz, a comfortable expedition passenger ship with 46 cabins. We were a party of 17 who, by now, knew each other pretty well. So, we set off on a seven-day cruise to see what we could see - on the land, in the air and in the sea. The number and variety of wildlife we experienced was enormous and far beyond the limits of this piece to describe.

The islands' guidebook lists 18 resident sea birds, 11 shore birds, 9 migrant birds and 29 land birds - and these are just the birds! In addition our lists contained two land marine mammals (sea lions), 16 types of dolphins and whales, 77 species of fish, and of course the giant tortoise, the marine iguana and lava lizards among the resident reptiles. Enough to make any zookeeper or species spotter very happy! Needless to say, we saw only a few of this amazing list, but each sighting was a thrill and a delight, because nearly all the animals and fish we saw were new to us.

So we embarked on a happy hunting ground for a week, sailing between the islands to see which species abounded on each island, to walk among the penguins, to get close to the nesting albatrosses, to swim with the parrotfish, to admire the redfooted and the bluefooted boobies, to watch in amazement as the courting frigatebirds inflated the skin under their bills to reveal an enormous bright red balloon with which to attract the females, to commune with the giant tortoises at close quarters, to make sure the sea lions kept their distance, to spot the killer whales (orca) when we were at sea and to admire the gymnastic dolphins.

For me the trip was some sort of paradise - living on the boat, walking on the beaches and among the trees, swimming and snorkelling surrounded by colourful fish and suspicious creatures hiding in the rocks, listening to the expedition leaders as they told us about the creatures' habits and lifestyles. It was a heaven on earth for all us happy travellers, and the photos of our trip show us all with wide, excited smiles. On board we relaxed, ate well, exchanged stories of the creatures we'd seen - and knew we'd never forget such wonderful experiences.

*Joan Holton*

# JOHN BIRCH'S COMPETITION

## *Competition No. 43: Wales and its Attractions*

*It is now six months since we relocated. We are beginning to realize how many places worth visiting exist in Wales! This competition links in locations and their attractions. Bringing them together might spur getting more information (perhaps leading to visits, if you can.)*

*Can you put the place and association together?*

### PLACES

Llandudno	Llangollen	Betws-y-Coed	Rhayder
Hay on Wye	Langherne.	St.Davids	Welshpool
	Caernarfon		

### ASSOCIATIONS

Brecon Beacons	Great Orme	Elan Valley	Swallow Falls
Dylan Thomas	Bookshops	Castle Cathedral	Eisteddford



## *Answers to Competition No 42: Places and their Associations*

York/Minster  
 Wroxeter/Roman Town  
 Woolwich/Ferry  
 Woodstock/Blenheim Palace  
 Woburn/Zoo  
 Windsor/Castle  
 Wimbledon/Tennis  
 Wigan/Pier  
 Whitstable/Oysters  
 Whitby/Captain Cod  
 Whipsnade/Zoo  
 Weston-super-Mare/Resort



*We look forward to your answers - send them either by email to [jbirch1821@gmail.com](mailto:jbirch1821@gmail.com) or by post to J. Birch Pantgwyn, High Street, Borth, Ceredigion Wales SY24 5HY*

## WORDSEARCH: EARLY FLOWERING PLANTS

Y	R	E	L	L	T	R	O	W	H	C	T	I	T	S
P	S	E	L	B	M	A	R	B	G	D	O	R	E	C
S	U	E	D		E	N	I	M	S	A	J	N		U
		S	E	C			V		P	N	I	T		R
D	C		S	N	A	I		R		D	B	O	C	V
O		O		Y	O	M	I		A	E	L	O	I	Y
G	S		W	L	W	M	P	L		L	A	F	L	G
S		U	E	P	R	I	E	I		I	C	S	R	R
M		T	N	O	A	C	L	N	O	O	K	T	A	A
E			S	U	W	R		L	A	N	T	L	G	S
R		E		O	R		S		O	D	H	O	D	S
C	S		L		S	P	I	L	S	W	O	C	L	
U	L	L	E	B	E	U	L	B	E		R	O	I	
R	E	M	A	G	N	O	L	I	A	Y	N		W	
Y	S	I	A	D	N	O	M	M	O	C				

BRAMBLE BLACK-THORN BLUEBELL COLTSFOOT  
 COMMON-DAISY COW-PARSLEY COWSLIPS DANDELION  
 DOGS-MERCURY JASMINE MAGNOLIA PRIMROSES  
 PRUNUS PUSSY-WILLOW RED-CAMPION SCURVY-GRASS  
 STITCHWORT VIOLET WILD-GARLIC WOOD-ANENOME  
 YELLOW-CELANDINES

*When you have found all the words put the remaining 11 letters together to find which flower is called lover's flower.*

*Answer: Common gorse as the yellow flower that blossoms most of the year*

*Compiled by Rosemary Birch*



## JUNIOR WORDSEARCH - GOLF

G	O	L	F	C	L	U	B	S	X	I	J
O	R	S	T	I	U	Q	A	P	9	E	M
L	E	T	E	E	S	E	L	O	H	8	1
F	K	O	S	D	D	A	L	K	O	C	S
C	N	E	E	R	G	Y	S	E	L	A	E
O	U	W	J	A	E	S	W	H	E	L	L
U	B	Y	O	P	R	V	G	Z	S	M	O
R	M	H	X	E	P	U	I	E	C	I	P
S	W	I	T	S	O	X	V	R	A	N	G
E	C	T	N	R	A	J	A	R	D	G	A
A	U	Q	E	I	T	Z	O	O	M	W	L
P	F	L	O	G	Y	A	W	R	I	A	F

**GOLF CLUBS  
DRIVERS  
PUTTERS  
BALLS  
TEES**

**GOLF COURSE  
FAIRWAY  
BUNKER  
ROUGH  
GREEN**

**18 HOLES  
9 HOLES  
FLAGPOLES  
MINI GOLF  
CRAZY GOLF**



# DIARY

The church is open. The services will also continue to be live streamed on FACEBOOK and made available later via YOUTUBE and TWITTER.

We are choosing to maintain some social distancing. Face masks are optional.



**Monday** 10.30am to 11.30am to be resumed after Easter  
**Wednesdays** 10am to 12 noon Toddler and Parent/Carer group in Church  
**Saturday** 10.30am to 12.30pm West End Café open  
**Thursday** 8.00pm April 7<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>, May 12<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> Choir Practice in Church  
**Christian Meditation** - Meditators meet here. For further information, contact: Georgia at [gmrtutton@aol.com](mailto:gmrtutton@aol.com)

## APRIL

- |           |                 |  |
|-----------|-----------------|--|
| <b>3</b>  | <b>11.00 am</b> | <b>Family Communion Service, Revd John Steele</b>  |
| <b>10</b> | <b>11.00 am</b> | <b>Palm Sunday Family Service led by Revd Jon Dean</b>   |
| <b>12</b> | <b>7.30pm</b>   | <b>Trustees Court</b>  |
| <b>14</b> | <b>7.30 pm</b>  | <b>Maundy Thursday Service led by Revd Derek Lindfield</b>   |
| <b>15</b> | <b>11.00am</b>  | <b>Good Friday Preaching Service led by Revd Derek Lindfield</b>                                     |
| <b>17</b> | <b>11.00 am</b> | <b>Easter Sunday Family Service led by Revd Derek Linfield</b>                                       |
| <b>24</b> | <b>11.00am</b>  | <b>Family Service led by Revd Julian Templeton</b>   |
| <b>24</b> | <b>4.00pm</b>   | <b>Annual General Church Meeting followed by communion</b>   |
| <b>29</b> | <b>1.00pm</b>   | <b>Clarinet, Piano and Poetry Recital "We'll Meet Again" Wind and Words of The Second World War.</b> |
- Refreshments at 12.15pm. Concert in support of Christian Aid

## MAY

- 1     11.00am    **Family Communion Service, HGSFC Worship Group**  
3     7.30pm     Elders Court chaired by Revd Ewan King  
8     11.00am    **Family Service led by Mrs Sarah Beaumont**  
15    11.00am    **Family Service led by Revd Ewan King**  
15 – 21        Christian Aid Week  
17     7.30pm    Joint Elders & Deacons Court  
22    11.00am    **Family Service led by Revd Wilf Marttens**  
25     1.00pm     Violin Recital by Adrianna Christea  
                 Refreshments at 12.15pm in support of Christian Aid  
29    11.00am    **Family Service led by Revd Elizabeth Welch**

## JUNE

- 4     11.00am    **Family Communion Service & Gift Day led by Revd  
Derek Lindfield**



### NEWS AND VIEWS



PRODUCTION  
DISTRIBUTION  
EDITORIAL PANEL  
TYPESETTER  
EDITOR

John Ditchfield  
Jill Purdie and others  
Joan Holton and Marion Ditchfield  
John Ditchfield  
Marion Ditchfield

The June dition of News and Views will be published on Sunday 12th June 2022. Articles should therefore be delivered to the editor, Joan Holton or the typesetter, John Ditchfield, (john\_ditchfield@hotmail.com) by Sunday May 22nd.

*We welcome articles, as well as reviews of books, films, plays etc. from members and friends. These will not always represent the views of the editorial panel or of the Church. Publication is at the discretion of the Editors.*

***Remember - we are on line at [www.hgsfreechurch.org.uk](http://www.hgsfreechurch.org.uk) where you will find past issues of News and Views.***



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