

# Imagine!



June  
2015

**I**magine life on board ship, crammed in with masses of other human beings, passing through the wildest seas, with just a bucket for your toilet and only sea water to wash with. During a recent visit with the U3A to the Dunbrody Famine Ship at New Ross in Ireland, we were asked to imagine life on board one of these so called 'coffin ships'. For the Irish victims of the nineteenth century potato blight the faint prospect of a new life in America was a better fate than starving on your small-holding in County Wexford. Many of the emigrants went on to live very successful lives in their new country; but many more perished from diseases like cholera on the way. It isn't so hard to imagine such a situation in our own time, when more and more refugees are drawn to our attention by the media. There they are, these modern coffin ship passengers, risking drowning, starvation and disease as they try and make their way to a safe haven.

As nations deliberate on how to best ignore the people beached up on their shores, we might be reminded of the man lying bleeding on the Jericho road (Luke chapter 10). Those very religious people, Priest and Levite, justifying themselves maybe with important business to get on with and concerned not to defile their bodies by touching a wounded man, famously walked on the other side. Only the reviled Samaritan took pity on the man and continued to provide for his needs after he had been rescued. "Who was the neighbour?" still challenges us just as it did the experts in the law and we might want to consider the implications for us and our society of Jesus' next words "Go and do likewise".

Who are acting like Priests and Levites in the face of our modern Jericho road (or sea) and who are still acting with pity in a Samaritan-like way?

*Alan Wheeler*



# Care Time



We remember all those who are unwell and those of our congregation who are no longer able to attend church. We think of Tom and Ann, following the death of Marion Johnson, and others who have lost loved ones.

We pray for Valerie, Peter, Arthur and the other Pilots Leaders following the closure our Stansted Pilots group. We pray for those who visit The Place on The Hill and give thanks for the opportunity we had to tell them the Easter Story at our Easter Event.

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## Shalom

8 pm Monday 8th Jun 7 Blythwood Gardens

Come and share memories of Stansted Churches' twinning with the church in **Chevetogne**. Our 'At Home' is 8 pm on Monday 22nd June at 13 Blackbushe, Bishop's Stortford. All are welcome - please join us.

Marion

The next edition of **Imagine** will be available on Sunday 28th June. Please submit articles by Friday 19th June to: [news@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk](mailto:news@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk). Alternatively, please pass to one of the editors, or send to: 23A Bentfield Road, Stansted CM24 8HP.

Editors: Alan Wheeler and Mike & Marion Dyer

**Copies of this and previous editions of Imagine can be found on our website [www.stanstedfreechurch.org.uk](http://www.stanstedfreechurch.org.uk)**

## WHAT'S ON IN JUNE

### Worship at Stansted Free Church

7th 10.30 am Nicola Grieves - New Directions  
14th 10.30 am Rev'd Roy Fowler  
21st 10.30 am Rev'd Jenny Martin  
28th 10.30 am Rev'd David Mullins - Communion

### Other Church Activities

Mon 1st 8.00 pm LPWT Meeting at B Stortford Methodist  
Thu 4th 9.30 am Church Oversight Group - 7 Blythwood Gdns  
Mon 8th 8.00 pm Shalom Chevetogne Memories 7 Blythwood Gdns  
Sun 14th 11.30 am Fairtrade goods on sale after service  
Mon 22nd 8.00 pm Shalom At Home - 13 Blackbushe, B Stortford  
Wed 24th 7.30 pm WEBS Bible Study at Newport URC



### WEBS Bible Studies led by Roy

#### Passionate Prophets

Wednesday 7.30 - 9 pm (coffee at start)

Newport United Reformed Church

24<sup>th</sup> June **Micah** A passion for true worship

Come and see what the Bible says to us ~ All welcome



### FOODBANK REQUESTS

The following are required for the foodbank:

Small jars of coffee

Tinned peas, sweetcorn, carrots and potatoes

Tinned fruit

Tinned rice pudding

Please place items in the large plastic boxes which are in the red cupboard in the minister's vestry, or pass to myself or Fran Richards. Thank you.

Catherine Dean



## THE PLACE ON THE



# HILL EASTER EVENT





## STANSTED PILOTS FINAL SESSION



Many former Pilot members and helpers came to a very enjoyable evening in March, which was the final session of the Stansted Pilots. The Church would like to express their very grateful thanks for all the hard work put in by the leaders and helpers, particularly Valerie and Peter Trundle who have been at the helm for 40 years.





# STANSTED METHODIST CHAPEL

## Artefacts being held by Mary & Ralph Phillips

(These are freely available to anybody who wishes to peruse)

1. Methodist Hymn Book. "Presented to The Methodist Church Stansted Essex. For pulpit use 29<sup>th</sup> September 1940"
2. New Testament. 1881. G. Jarvis-Smith May 1926. Rebound March 1<sup>st</sup> 1937. Many hand written margin notes, poems and a Class ticket H Priestman, June 1944
3. Two, British and Foreign Bible Society, wooden, book shaped collecting boxes
4. Small Methodist Hymn Book 1933 edition. Inscribed, "To Mother with Easter Greetings, from G & E"
5. Sunday school Absentee Telegrams. Notes on A Corps of Special Messengers, when to be sent, type of arm bands to be worn by messengers and League badge to be worn Etc
6. Envelope of Walker's Dialogues and Reciters for Social Events and School Anniversaries
7. Revival Hymns, Presented Free 'The Christian Herald'
8. Assorted pamphlets, Transfers (when moving to a new church), Sunday School and Youth Clubs Requisites
9. How to Run a Training Class, MYD. Joining the Church, manual for membership
10. Five copies of, "The Greatest Adventure of All", and many more such booklets
11. Everyday Prayers, inscribed, "To Maudie with love from Hilda & Elsie 1946
12. Common Prayer Hymns A&M. Appears to be 1547 edition with supplements between 1861 and 1915. Membership ticket, Maud Coalson June 1969
13. Group Register. Two names, David Boyd and the late Julia Boyd
14. Shorna's Day. The story of a Bengali child told by herself. Undated but apparently Empire times
15. Marquetry and Veneers
16. Eight Bible Readers for use in preparing for Church Membership
17. Maps of Wicksteed Park Kettering
18. Photographs of Sunday School 25<sup>th</sup> December 1969 and 25<sup>th</sup> December 1970

**Stansted Free Church**  
**Methodist / URC**  
**[www.stanstedfreechurch.org.uk](http://www.stanstedfreechurch.org.uk)**

**Contacts**

(All telephone numbers are 01279)

**Minister**

Revd Roy Fowler

Email: [minister@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk](mailto:minister@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk)

**Church Secretary**

Betty Francis

Email: [info@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk](mailto:info@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk)

**Church Notices**

Marion Pretty

**Lettings**

Mike & Marion Dyer

Email: [lettings@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk](mailto:lettings@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk)

**Newsletter Editors**

Alan Wheeler Mike & Marion Dyer

Email: [news@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk](mailto:news@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk)

**Treasurers**

Alan Wheeler Marion Dyer

Email: [treasurer@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk](mailto:treasurer@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk)

**Fairtrade**

Brenda Veitch

Email: [fairtrade@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk](mailto:fairtrade@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk)

**Sunday Service**

10.30 am Morning Worship.

1st Sunday of each month - New Directions (Informal)

**The Place on the Hill Drop-In (Everyone Welcome)**

Every Wednesday and Friday 9.30 am - 12.30 pm

Email: [theplace@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk](mailto:theplace@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk)