

Imagine!



Sept
2014

Imagine the number of names there are, when told it takes three months to read out all those who are commemorated at Tyne Cot Cemetery. Tyne Cot is one of four memorials in Belgian Flanders to those missing in the Great War. Four of us on a U3A trip stopped there on our way to Brussels in August, where we walked along the lines of white gravestones interspersed with flowers, reading the names of some and finding that so many young men were never identified, thus 'Known only to God'. The huge



white 'Cross of Sacrifice' which watches over them all, was placed on top of an original German pillbox and brings an air of peace. It is hard to imagine the conflict, the terror, the noise and gunfire of those far-off years when looking at the surrounding countryside now. Imagine all those young men, some already

with young families, some who would never know the happiness of children of their own, but who left behind them sorrowing parents and siblings and the gratitude of the future generations. We do remember them and especially this year.

The next day we went to see the Flower Carpet in Brussels, which this year commemorates the 50th anniversary of Turkish Immigration in Belgium. The flower carpet is composed entirely of cut begonias and takes 2 years to plan. It was an amazing sight from the balcony of the City Hall. I heard someone in our party say

"What a pity to cut all those flower heads for such a short time!" I couldn't help comparing the thousands of young men who were cut down, leaving such sorrow, to the thousands of flower heads which bring such joy. There are nearly 35,000 names on the Tyne Cot memorial; nearly 12,000 are buried there, over 8,000 of these unidentified – imagine that.

Judy Colliver

FACELIFT WORK AT THE CHURCH IN SEPTEMBER

Work on the church and hall is continuing during early September. During this time, church activities will continue as usual. The car park can be used but sections may be cordoned off at times for the builders' vehicles. *Queries call Mike Dyer.*

News from David and Fran Keeble

Hello Everyone

We wish to say a huge thank you to everyone at SFC. Our final service and lunch afterwards was lovely to be involved in. Thank you so much for your very generous and thoughtful gifts; the cheques from Churches Together in Stansted and yourselves have been put into the "Greenhouse Fund." We haven't purchased a greenhouse yet as we need to make some changes in the garden, but hope to buy it ready for use just after Christmas and we will send photos next year. It has been a joy to serve God at SFC and we wish all of you a wonderful and blessed future as you journey together with Roy and Christine. With our love David and Fran.



Induction of our new URC Minister Rev'd Roy Fowler

The Induction of Roy to the West Essex and Bishop's Stortford Pastorate (WEBS) is at 4.30 pm on Saturday 18th October at Abbey Lane URC, Saffron Walden preceded by refreshments at 3 pm. Please let Betty know if you need transport.

Fundraising for Wasdale Mountain Rescue Team

In recognition of the team who rescued James from his accident on Great Gable in the Lake District in 2005, Michelle King has produced a CD called 'If I Fall' priced at £3, available from Valerie on 813433.

WHAT'S ON IN SEPTEMBER

Worship at Stansted Free Church

- 7th 10.30 am The Worship Team - New Directions
14th 10.30 am Rev'd David Mullins - Communion
21st 10.30 am Rev'd Stuart Veitch
28th 10.30 am Mike Render - Harvest (see below)

Other Activities

- Mon 1st 9.30 am Church Oversight Group - 7 Blythwood Gardens
Thu 11th 8.00 pm LPWT Meeting at Braughing Methodist Church
Mon 15th 6.00 pm Pilots in the Hall
Sun 21st 11.30 am Fairtrade goods on sale after service
Mon 22nd 8.00 pm Shalom at Home - 7 Blythwood Gardens
8.00 pm Circuit Meeting in the Hall

28th September Harvest Festival Collection

We invite you to bring any of the following for our food bank:
breakfast cereal; pasta sauce; long life milk and long life juice;
tinned: soup, tuna or other fish, ham or other meat, tomatoes,
baked beans, sweetcorn, potatoes, carrots, fruit in juice.

Many thanks to those who responded to our last appeal.



Quiz Night for Shoe Boxes

7.30 pm Fri 26th Sept St Theresa's Church Hall

Tickets £10 (incl Ploughman's) from
Catherine, Helen or Eileen

Bring your own drink and glass ~ All Welcome

Raising funds to cover transportation costs for the shoeboxes



Village Harvest Supper

6 - 8.30 pm Sun 19th Oct St John's Church Hall

Fish / Chicken / Veggie & Chips followed by entertainment from the churches

Tickets: Adults £6 Schoolchildren £5 - advance booking essential
from Marion or Catherine ~ Bring your own drink & glass Welcome

Stansted Free Church

Methodist / URC

www.stanstedfreechurch.org.uk

Contacts

Minister

Rev Roy Fowler (from 19th October). Contact details are not yet available. For church enquiries please contact the secretary.

Church Secretary

Betty Francis

Email: info@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk

Church Notices

Marion Pretty

Lettings

Mike & Marion Dyer

Email: lettings@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk

Newsletter Editors

Alan Wheeler, Mike & Marion Dyer

Email: news@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk

Treasurers

Alan Wheeler Marion Dyer

Email: treasurer@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk

Fairtrade

Brenda Veitch

Email: fairtrade@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk

Sunday Service

10.30 am Morning Worship. 1st Sunday - New Directions (Informal)

Pilots Children's Work

Monday (monthly - term time) 6 pm Pilots for children aged 5 - 18
Valerie Trundle Tel 813433 Email: pilots@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk

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

Every Wednesday and Friday 9.30 am - 12.30 pm

Email: theplace@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk