Museum Street Landseer Road Chantry Methodist Church

Connections



Church Members

Landseer Road

Community

Museum

Chantry

Street

Pedie

For God so loved the world that He sent His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.

John 3:16

June 2021 3

MINISTER'S MESSAGE

Dear Friends in Christ,

How wonderful May has been as we reopened our three churches for in-person worship. It was lovely to see so many of your masked-but-smiling faces on Sunday mornings. Just over half of you have returned at this point, and we are looking forward to seeing the rest of you soon. Sadly, we realize that we do have a few of you who have some new health challenges causing you to be homebound – you are missed.

I am very thankful for the vaccine and that most of you have now had two doses. Our church leaders at all three churches have done a wonderful job of ensuring that our churches are as safe as possible. We are following the governments rules and using a one-way system in our well-ventilated buildings, signing in, sitting socially distanced, wearing masks, and not singing. In addition, the NHS is now offering at-home COVID tests, so I am testing myself regularly to ensure that I do not asymptomatically spread the virus, and I have encouraged our leaders to do so too. The tests are free and are easy to self-administer. All the Suffolk Libraries have the kits as do many pharmacies. Type your postcode in here to find out where you can get your free kits: maps.test-and-trace.nhs.uk.



The Circuit has some exciting news. Neil and Elizabeth Hepplethwaite are launching Bite Size Church this month. Every Wednesday, starting on 2nd June, a short video will be released. It can be watched at any time. Make yourself a drink and spend ten minutes each week with a song, a

prayer, a reading and a short message. This is intended to reach a younger audience, so we need your help to tell and invite others to watch it. You can also 'Like' the Facebook page: @BiteSizedChurch and share the posts to help get the word out.

Bite Sized Church also has its own website: methodistic.org.uk/ bitesizedchurch and the videos will also be posted to the Circuit website.

MINISTER'S MESSAGE

Dear Friends in Christ,

We have a joint special event coming up on Saturday 17th July at 5 p.m. when we will have a **joint BBQ** for our three churches in the garden at the rear of Landseer Road Methodist Church. This will be a great opportunity to meet up socially and to see people that you have only met on Zoom. We hope by that date to be well into Stage 4 of the Government re-opening when there should be no limits on outdoor numbers. We will be serving meat & vegetarian burgers & sausages, salad and dessert; and the Felixstowe Worship Band will lead us in some (outside) singing. Tickets are available for a suggested donation of £5 each with any profit going to FIND. Please obtain a ticket so we know the catering numbers!

At each of the churches during May, I gave out *Methodist Way of Life* cards together with a brief guide to using the cards. As we travel together on our discipleship journey, the *Methodist Way of Life* provides a set of commitments and practices that encourage and equip us to grow in our Christian faith. God has entrusted us with the disciples of tomorrow, so we need to grow as the disciples of today. Museum Street is hosting a five-week study on the *Methodist Way of Life* on Thursdays from Noon to 1.30 p.m. at Museum Street Methodist Church beginning Thursday 22nd July. Bring a packed lunch to eat as we do this study together and make our *Way of Life* commitments. Chantry and Landseer Road members are invited to join in too. Find out more about a *Methodist Way of Life* at methodistic.org.uk/wayoflife.

In Christ,
--Pastor Joan

CHURCH ANNIVERSARY













160 YEARS

Museum Street Church Anniversary

What a difference a few months make! At our Council meeting in February, members agreed to defer our anniversary celebrations from the usual March date until later in the year. Hopefully that would enable us to mark the anniversary in person, rather than virtually by zoom. In February, we were still very close to the peak of the second surge, but early success of the vaccination programme gave us optimism and we decided that Pentecost would be an ideal date to celebrate, provided that the government timetable for cautiously removing restrictions held up. This year, Pentecost and Wesley Day coincide, making the 23rd May all the more poignant bringing together reminders of the birth of the original church, the birth of methodism as a movement, and our own celebration of 160 years since the foundation stone was laid to begin the long story of Methodist witness from our own church.

Council agreed that in place of our regular anniversary date in March, we would hold a frugal lunch to raise money for the food bank, whilst hoping to be able to meet together to mark the anniversary more fully at Pentecost. As we approached the 23rd May, the weather forecast was looking ominous, but we held faith, planning to combine our worship celebrations, our birthday Gift Day and (hopefully) the first opportunity to share a meal together in person, in the shape of a picnic in the church carpark. After the wettest May in memory, we were indeed fortunate to enjoy a dry spell as we shared lunch together. The novelty alone adding a little more glamour and our shared fellowship adding warmth despite the breeze. In our worship together, Joan admitted to Pentecost being her favourite service occasion. Our time of worship truly lived up to that promise with a memorable service weaving together her message of celebration of the Spirit with an appropriate anniversary message giving thanks for the past whilst looking forward to the unfolding of our future work, emphasising renewal of our discipleship responsibility fit for changing times. We look forward to continuing new challenges as we explore more of what the future holds for us.

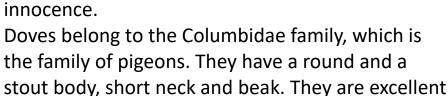
To date, our Gift Day has raised just over £1900 – with thanks to all those who gave generously to help rebuild some of the reserves we've had to draw on so heavily over the last year or more. We also donated £150 towards the food bank, from the money collected at our frugal lunch in March.

David Welbourn—Treasurer

THE DOVE

The first thought that comes to mind upon seeing a dove is Peace.

It is believed that Ancient Egyptians were the first people to domesticate doves. Pure, white, and humble as they are known to be, doves make for a beautiful sight. White doves lend a sense of freedom; they are the universal symbol of peace, humanity, and love. These white beauties have struck a chord with the human race with their innocence.







navigators, which also makes them capable of delivering messages. Apart from these traits, they are extremely popular, and are often associated with strong emotions.

Doves are considered birds who mate for life, and are extremely loyal. They raise their young ones with great care and dedication. They build their nests in areas near human settlements. In a way, this may have given people the opportunity to witness the immense love, care, and loyalty displayed by white doves. They are harmless birds and feed on fruits, plants, and seeds. People quickly associated doves with peace, love, and dedication.

In Greek mythology, white doves are associated with love and romance. The Greek Goddess Aphrodite is depicted with doves flying around her or resting on her hand. She is born in a chariot drawn by dove birds. Her daughters who are the 'seven sisters in the night sky', are also known as 'a flock of doves'. These birds were so symbolic in medieval times that many potions that were made for love, included the heart of a dove.

In ancient Aztec culture, the Goddess of Love, Xochiquetzal, is considered the mother of humanity, after the Great Flood. It is believed that she descended on Earth in the form of a dove, and gave the world the gift of speech and language. In Hindu mythology, Kamadeva-the God of love-is known to ride a dove bird. This may also be the reason why doves are associated with love.

Christianity and the Bible describe the dove as the symbol of peace and love. It is the symbol of the 'Holy Spirit', during the Baptism of Jesus Christ.

Doves are referred to the symbol that define the presence of God. The Biblical story of Noah's Ark truly defines the symbolism of white doves with peace. As per the story, after the Great Flood, Noah sent out a white dove to see if there was any land. The dove returned with olive twig its beak, which meant that it had found dry land somewhere. This brought relief to Noah, who had spent almost a year on the ark. Since then, white dove with an olive twig in its beak, is considered symbol of peace.



Another story from Central Asia also portrays doves as the symbol of peace. As per the story, two kings head for war. One of the kings asks for his armour, upon which he is told that a dove has made a nest in his helmet. His mother asks him to leave the nest and the bird undisturbed, as it is the symbol of purity and love. The king agrees and heads for the war, without his helmet.

Upon seeing the king without his armour, the second king asks for a reason. Both the kings call for negotiation, and meet to talk. When the second king comes to know about the love and compassion the other king had showed for the dove bird, he was moved. He felt that he had misjudged a man with such a compassionate heart. After this, both the kings settle down with an agreement of peace. This is how the white dove started to be known as the bird of peace.

Many artists have depicted the white dove as a symbol of peace. The lithograph by Picasso-La Colombe-showing a dove with an olive branch in its beak, was chosen as the emblem of peace in 1949, for the World Peace Congress in Paris. After this, the dove became very popular as a symbol of peace for the modern world.



Pablo Picasso Dove 1949 at the Tate

The dove is truly a bird that has touched the human mind and heart. It has inspired mankind with its innocence and purity. It reminds people of the very basic traits to live a fruitful life-love and peace!

Source Unknown

ROGER EDWIN FERN

Dad, Grandad, Roger, Mr Fern, Fred!

Roger Fern was born to Audrey and Percy on 19th May 1943 in Dunstable. Catherine came along three years later and they moved to Wednesbury. The family moved to Ipswich in 1957 and Roger attended Northgate School, while Pat attended Ipswich High School. Pat and Roger would cross paths on their walk home. A romance blossomed and Roger was never at home from this point. He was either doing homework in his room or up the road at Pats house.

From school, Roger went to Westminster College, Oxford, and entered the teaching profession in 1965, following in the footsteps of many relatives, which he described as a teaching dynasty. At



College he was known as Fred! This was a name that was given to him early on in the house in which Roger and his friend David, both found themselves, and which stuck. Indeed, some of their friends still think of him as 'Fred' today! It was a name given in friendship. He played Hockey with great skill, Cricket with considerable enthusiasm, and Basketball (despite his comparatively short stature) with alarming ferocity! The only game he would never embrace fully was rugby!

Roger was born into a Methodist family and his mother had a strong influence on his early thinking and beliefs. At the age of 18 years, Roger became a Methodist local preacher and when he arrived at College he went onto the list. Always willing to go out on Sunday Services to the small village chapels which existed in Oxfordshire at the time. He once accompanied the College Rugby club as their preacher on a tour of Cornwall. Whilst there he preached at a couple of Cornish chapels.

All the time that he was at college his heart remained in Ipswich. He and Pat were, by then, engaged and it was clear that this was a relationship that would endure and Roger took every opportunity of getting back to Ipswich (and Pat) at half terms and holidays.

After qualifying as a teacher in 1965 Roger joined Kesgrave school as a student teacher and convinced the head to offer him a job! He taught at Kesgrave High School before becoming headteacher of Witnesham Primary.

He then became head of Sprites Junior, St Helen's Primary and Sidegate Primary in Ipswich before becoming an adviser and inspector to Suffolk County Council. His professional life was devoted to education and he led the transformation of further education in the Ipswich area.

He had a wonderful way with caring for children; talking with them, not at them. His adage was that 'Children only pass through a school once, so it is important that we give them our very best when they do'. Fellow councilors recall campaigning with Roger as always, a pleasure and quite funny too. He frequently met ex-pupils on the doorstep, who immediately called him Mr Fern. He would ask them how they were getting on, say 'Well done', and then obviously ask them if they would be voting Labour! They couldn't really say no! Roger didn't always remember every ex-pupil but he always took the time to chat, express genuine interest in what they were doing now, and it was clear it was appreciated.

He was elected to Ipswich Borough Council in 2002 after retiring from full-time teaching, but retained an interest in education throughout his life. He became a governor of several schools and was chair of the corporation of Suffolk New College for nearly eight years from 2013 to the start of this year. He had been deputy chair for four years before then and was one of the driving forces of its creation and construction of its modern building in the early 2000s.

Becoming Mayor of Ipswich was a great honour for Roger.

He embraced the role from the start, using his time as mayor to learn more about Ipswich and the communities within it. He would say what a great opportunity it was for a naturally nosey parker to see parts of the town you wouldn't otherwise see. His headmaster skills helped to nail any nervousness when delivering important speeches or controlling an unruly crowd such as council meetings or WI conferences! Roger always looked the part, wearing the Robe and hat. He once told the Town Sergeant the outfit 'made him feel a lot taller, as he was a little vertically challenged!' it also complimented the legendary red socks!

For Roger holding a crowd came naturally. Being asked to talk about being Mayor at school assemblies enabled him to show off the robes and regalia, always accompanied by a mace and sword, which often upstaged him, with gasps of excitement from the students on seeing a 4ft sword. He had been an Ofsted Inspector in the past, which struck fear into most schools on any visit from Roger.

In his mayoral year he smashed his challenge to attend every school in the borough!

As a Dad and Grandad, Roger always beamed with pride. He often said he would be a great 'Great Grandad', for which he will be, in our hearts, watching over us always. He was an absolute rock to all his family. He would ask for 'any news, any gossip,' on every visit! Roger was there with words of wisdom, ready to listen to us all. His absolute favourite week of every year was our 'Timeshare' at Centre Parcs, Ash 85. Each visit had its own tale to tell, a new memory made or new experience to share! Every trip ended with a team photo and plenty of tears!

He was also a dedicated campaigner against homelessness and worked hard to make life easier for those caught up in the spiral of street-drinking and drugs. He was a trustee of IHAG's Chapman Centre which provided support for homeless people.

Over recent years he was a keen campaigner to help those with dementia - a personal crusade after his wife Pat was diagnosed with Alzheimers in 2010. During his second mayoral term in 2016, he was supported by granddaughter Ellie, who was his consort because Pat was too unwell.

A love of football ran in his blood. Roger had a passion for Ipswich Town and was a long-time season ticket holder at Portman Road. There was many a discussion about the fortunes of Ipswich Town! He was very happy to introduce his daughters and grandchildren to the highs and lows of supporting the town. Roger was a kind, considerate man with a strong family ethos and influenced so many people. He was active, determined, loyal, friendly, involved, committed to Methodism, hard-working and quite noisy and bouncy at times! He had a huge impact on life in Ipswich over four decades.

Roger always had a way with words. He was always ready to talk and even argue – a classic recent phrase is 'I'm not arguing I'm just explaining why I'm right'. He was outspoken but always in a thoughtful way.

A fellow councillor said of Roger that when he came into a room you were always pleased to see him. He always had a smile on his face. Of course, when he talked it was different, he was serious and determined to state his views, and it was always good to hear those. He was so clearly a good person, determined to do what was right and honourable'.

Roger has so many close friends who will all miss him terribly, as of course will his family. We all have so many wonderful memories, not least the word 'Splendid' which is now engrained in all our memories, especially with a glass of red wine. Not forgetting 'Are we having a good time?'

To use one of his favourite sayings, 'he was a good egg'. A very good one indeed, a Faberge no less.

Extracted from the eulogy written by Roger's Daughters, Sue and Izzie.

ON PENTECOST

The crackling flames of holy love, kindle hearts and focus minds where once – dust and ashes lay glowing embers mark the day.

The fears of followers now take flight as the holy dove sheds her light.

A church on mute finds her voice disparate pilgrims, in unison, rejoice.

Babbling brood of scattered diaspora holy muttering of God's good deeds, what miracle of language now takes place as apostles rise to state their case?

From darkened room to public square a church renewed through fervent prayer she rises from the ashes of death alive again through the spirit's breath.

This brewed infusion of joy-filled life long promised by prophets and priests alike sends us spinning into the light,
spilling goodness – with God's delight.

Now we grasp our God-given task, to share the love that makes us one, to north and south, east, and west, we labor on till journey's rest.





Julian M. Pursehouse - May 2021

A METHODIST WAY OF LIFE

A Brief Guide.....

I received this little booklet from Joan at our Pentecost Service and I thought I should share some of the contents. I felt it could well easily have been called "A Brief Guide to a Christian Way of Life", because the material pertains to everything to which all Christians should aspire. It provides a set of commitments and practices that encourage and equip people to better live a Christian life.

A BRIEF
GUIDE TO A
METHODIST
WAY OF LIFE

The Methodist Church

It focuses on the four principles of Worship, Learning and Caring, Service and Evangelism that are emphasised on the card given each year to all our church members.

I propose to use this little book during the next 3 months to encourage readers to explore each of these four headings in greater depth.

This month we shall consider Worship.

We are committed to pray daily; worship with others regularly; and look and listen for God in scripture and in the world.

We are asked to consider:

- the pattern of our prayer life
- how easy or how difficult we find it to pray
- things which have spoken to us in worship or in the Bible
- when we have felt close to God or distant from him.

Two examples are given of how individuals explored this theme of worship. Rachel joined a discussion group and found it to be "one of the most stimulating and helpful conversations about prayer I has ever had".

At one session the members explored what prayer meant to them; how they prayed; what they believed they were doing when they prayed and what prayer isn't. Miriam confided that she prayed to God when sad things happened in the world, in the church and in her family, she stressed the importance of saying thank you in her prayers and to listening to what God was saying to her. Finally, in the "Breathe Out" section of the booklet there are suggestions on further things to do which we may feel able to explore.

- 1. Consider what you believe in and are doing when you pray.
- 2. Write down when you have recently felt God close to you.
- 3. Take a photo of a place that helps you better recognise that God is with you.

The Editor asks.....Why not give it a go? If you have not received one and would like one please email me at parker.mj@btinternet.com

7 WONDERS OF THE WORLD

A group of students were asked to list what they thought were the present 'Seven Wonders of the World'. Though there were some disagreements, the following received the most votes:

- 1. Egypt's Great Pyramids
- 2. Taj Mahal
- 3. Grand Canyon
- 4. Panama Canal
- 5. Empire State Building
- 6. St. Peter's Basilica
- 7. China's Great Wall



While gathering the votes, the teacher noted that one student had not finished her paper yet. So, she asked the girl if she was having trouble with her list.

The girl replied, "Yes, a little. I couldn't quite make up my mind because there were so many."

The teacher said, "Well, tell us what you have, and maybe we can help."

The girl hesitated, then read, "I think the 'Seven Wonders of the World are:

- 1. To See...
- 2. To Hear...
- 3. To Touch...
- 4. To Taste...
- 5. To Feel...
- 6. To Laugh...
- 7. To Love...



The room was so quiet you could have heard a pin drop. The things we overlook as simple and ordinary and that we take for granted are truly wondrous!

A gentle reminder - that the most precious things in life cannot be built by hand or bought by man.

LITTLE LAMBS TODDLER GROUP

Based at Landseer Road Methodist Church



The Little Lambs Toddler Group meets in the church on Thursday mornings at 9.15 a.m.

The group is led by our lay worker Elizabeth Hepplethwaite.



PRAYERS

Please remember in your prayers those who have suffered bereavement.

Comfort the families and friends who grieve.

We particularly think of those who are ill and especially those known to us.



We ask that they will soon be restored to full health.

We particularly think of those who have worries and anxieties.

Give them peace and comfort in the knowledge that you are close to them.

May they know of your nearness to them.



Get-Together



Saturday 17th July at 5 p.m

In the garden of Landseer Road Methodist Church

Serving meat & vegetarian burgers & sausages, salad and dessert.

Felixstowe Worship Band will lead us in some (outside) singing.

Tickets are available for a suggested donation of £5 each with any profit going to FIND.

Please obtain a ticket so we know the catering numbers!

IPSWICH STATUES

Works of art around the streets of Ipswich.

Public art commissions are becoming an increasingly common part of the development process. Suffolk sculptor Paul Richardson's work has been exhibited in Ipswich in the past but not on a permanent public basis.

His most famous and talked about local work is **The Major**, which is made in steel and sits on the public toilets at Majors Corner in Ipswich. The Major is swatting flies!

The Borough Council felt that a building that provides such es-



sential public facilities, but by its function is quite plain in design, should be enlivened by public art.





Anyone on a visit to the Heath Road Hospital must have seen what I call The Dancers but the official name is "A Quick Step to Recovery". It is made of steel and consists of two

dancing couples placed in the courtyard just off entrance 2. It took about four and a half months to build and weighs about one ton.

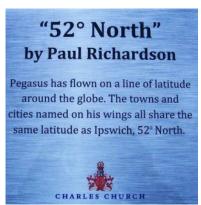
When the housing estate on the old Turner and Rola-Celestion site in Foxhall Road was built, Barratt Homes and Ipswich Borough Council commissioned the decorative entrance gates to it. Both sides of the entrance road are bedecked with painted steel screens depicting the **Foxgrove Marching Band**.

This was erected in 2007.



One of Paul's most stunning sculpture is not seen by many passers-by as it is hidden on the Ravenswood Estate on Dunwich Close. It is well worth a special visit. It is the life size flying horse "Pegasus". It is in the middle of the green surrounded by houses. It stands there with its wings furled but on its wings are the names of worldwide cities and towns at 52° North - the same latitude as Ipswich.





On one wing are familiar cities names: - Pinsk, Warsaw, Berlin, Amsterdam, Ipswich and Waterford.

However, on the other wing are less familiar large cities: - Saskatoon, Irkutsk, Pavlodar, Lipetsk, Orel, and Homyel.

What surprised me was that I had never heard of them yet all of them have populations greater than Ipswich.

If you haven't already seen Pegasus, it is well worth wandering around the Ravenswood area to view the other many interesting works of art in the area.

- On the wall of the Ipswich Building Society Office in the shopping area near to Lidl is a very large mural of "Ipswich Airport".
- In front of the Doctors Surgery is the **Flight Post**.
- At the entrance to the estate are the six flying nudes.
- Near to Ravenswood school is the massive man made of Compton Steel doing a handstand.
- Around the school frontage is "Making Our Mark"; lots of little stainless steel hands climbing walls and in the pavement!
- "The Green Wind" which is visible from the A14 Orwell Bridge is on the Tump in Ravenswood. It consists of twelve stainless steel columns 7 10 metres high, topped by wind activated rotating wings which change colour in the sunshine. The green at Ravenswood has as its centre a huge three bladed propeller. Whilst there look at the fencing surmounted with little propellers.
- Across the road before making your way to John Lewis have a look at the beautiful sculptured swans in front of the Toyota garage.
- If you drive to Europark via Crane Boulevard note the weird posts either side of the road.

Extracted from Dave Howlett's "Twenty-One Missives"

A PUZZLE

There are 15 surnames of people who are usually in the news. They are hidden in the grid where they can be found in any direction including diagonals.

Just to help you a little bit.

- 6 politicians (3 British, 2 American and 1 French)
- 1 scientist
- 1 political advisor
- The world's richest businessman (US)
- 1 US pop star
- 1 comedian who is also a surprisingly good dancer
- 1 climate change campaigner (young)
- 2 sportsmen (1 a world champion, 1 a campaigning footballer)



FIND OUT——WHATS GOING ON



Landseer Road

Landseer Road, Ipswich IP3 9LX https://landseer.methodistic.org.uk facebook.com/landseerroadmethodistchurch



Current activity can be located on the website at https://landseer.methodistic.org.uk/



Gainsborough Community Choir



Museum Street

Black Horse Lane, Ipswich IP1 2EF https:// museumstreet.org.uk facebook.com/museumstreetmethodist



More details can be seen on the website at https://museumstreet.org.uk



Chantry

Kingfisher Avenue, Ipswich, IP2 0QN https://chantry.methodistic.org.uk facebook.com/chantrymethodist



More details can be seen on the website at https://chantry.methodistic.org.uk/

- Tuesday Ipswich Methodist Messy Craft and Chat at 4 p.m. at Chantry Library (now online)
- Friday Youth Group currently meeting on Zoom at 7 p.m.

Roger Fern's funeral service was recorded.

Contact your church steward for details of how to watch it.

SUNDAY SERVICE'S IN JUNE

Chantry <u>MS</u> LR Video *Rev Joan Pell 6th June Mr Chris Finbow Prof David Welbourn Dr Liz Cope 13th June Rev Joan Pell *Rev Joan Pell Mr Colin Westren Rev Derek Grimshaw Video *Rev Joan Pell **Rev Richard Teal** 20th June Mrs Maggie Finbow Mrs Diana Sawyer Prof David Welbourn 27th June Mr Luke Rokobuli Rev M or J Cassidy 4th July Mr Chris Finbow Prof David Welbourn Video Rev J or M Cassidy



13th June Methodist Homes Sunday

14th - 20th June Refugee Week20th June Sanctuary Sunday

24th - 25th June Methodist Conference - Presbyteral Session
 26th - 1st July Methodist Conference - Representative Session

27th June Conference Sunday

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