

**Histon  
Methodist  
Church**

# NEWSLETTER

## April 2024



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## Minister's Message

### Christ is Risen! Happy Easter!

I hope and pray you had a blessed time during our preparations, and continue to enjoy the Easter celebrations—which last as long as Lent: I remember reading Bishop Tom Wright arguing that during the 40 days of Easter, Christians should celebrate with a champagne breakfast every morning! Now, as a good Methodist, I don't even know what champagne is, but appreciate the sentiment that Easter is to be celebrated for its whole season.

Paul and I have some family news to share with you which will mean some changes for us as a couple and consequently have an impact on our churches. Many of you will know Paul has taken a break from aviation and flying for the past two years: the decision was a mixture of burnout after flying all the PPE out of China into Europe during the pandemic and wanting to try a career in academia. Since moving to Cambridge, Paul has been lecturing with Anglia Ruskin University, but has made the decision to go back to flying. In March, he accepted a job as a Captain on the A320 for WizzAir, based out of Luton. Paul will spend the next few months in the simulator learning how to fly an Airbus (he's been on a Boeing for the past 25 years and—trust me—they are very different!) based at Gatwick and Luton airport. Assuming he passes all the exams and tests on the A320, he will begin Line Training sometime in the summer before being allowed out

on his own. There's a lot of things which can happen to mean that he doesn't end up flying, but we are cautiously confident this is going to work out and feel now is the right time to share this news with you.

I hope you will understand that with Paul flying again, our pattern of family life will be taking a change as we work out how to spend time together—ultimately we need to work out how to see each other when Paul is in the country and I'm not working a 10 hour day! I hope this makes sense, and you will be supportive of us as we navigate this change.

Thank you for your support and prayers

***Rev Jenny (and Captain Curtis!)***

### Section Service and Quilt & Flower festival

Don't forget, the Section Service on 5th May is at **Castle Street** and not at Histon. Most of the plans were altered to reflect this but if you have an old one, make sure you mark the change!

Histon will be full of incredible quilts and flowers so we will be worshipping with our friends at Castle Street and welcoming Izzy Solomon, one of our students, into membership. Please pray for her as she prepares for this special day.

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## Histon Regular Activities

<b>Sunday</b>	Morning Worship	11am
<b>Monday</b>	Craft Club (now weekly)	2–4pm
<b>Wednesday</b>	Community Coffee Shop	9:30am–12pm
<b>Wednesday</b>	Besom Prayer Meeting (1st Wednesday of the month)	2:30pm

## Histon Diary for April

<b>Wed 3 Apr</b>	Besom Prayer Meeting	2:30pm
<b>Sun 7 Apr</b>	Preacher: Mr J Boocock	11am
<b>Wed 10 Apr</b>	Games Afternoon (see notice)	2:30pm–4:30pm
<b>Thu 11 Apr</b>	Bible in a Year meeting	7:30pm
<b>Sat 13 Apr</b>	Coffee Morning	10am–12pm
<b>Sun 14 Apr</b>	Section Service at Castle St	10am
<b>Mon 15 Apr</b>	Thanksgiving Service for Janet Houghton (no craft club)	12pm
<b>Sun 21 Apr</b>	Preacher: Rev R Westwood (Holy Communion)	11am
<b>Fri 26 Apr</b>	Country Dancing (see notice)	8-10pm
<b>Sun 28 Apr</b>	Preacher: Miss E Salmon	11am

## Future Dates for your diary

<b>4–6 May</b>	Quilt and Flower Festival	
<b>Fri 21 Jun</b>	Behind the red-brick facade: a tour of Robinson College's gardens, followed by cream tea (details to follow)	2pm

## Histon Prayer Walk: Thy Kingdom Come

There will be a Churches Together Prayer Walk as part of Thy Kingdom Come taking place around the village on Wednesday 15th May. We will start at 7:30pm at Histon Methodist Church and return to the Methodist church at 8:30pm. Do put this in your diary and support the village and Churches Together through prayer.

## Histon Coffee Shop

February was a shorter month, and numbers attending the coffee shop were lower; however, we still received £784 in income. We are missing Rodney and family and wish him a speedy recovery. We look forward to seeing him return when he feels able.

*Anne Wyborn*

## Histon Quilt and Flower Festival With paintings by a local artist

The dates and times for this year's quilt and flower festival are as follows:

- Saturday 4th May 2024 10am–4:30pm
- Sunday 5th May 2024 2pm–5pm
- Monday 6th May 2024 10am–4:30pm

All donations for Histon Methodist and Cambridge Cancer Research Hospital.

Quilts and Paintings will be for sale; refreshments available.

## Histon Games Afternoon

Come and join us for yet more fun and games on Wednesday 10th April at 2:30pm.

*Kathryn*

## Castle Street Regular Activities

<b>Sunday</b>	Morning Worship	10am
<b>Sunday</b>	United Church at Castle (Second Sunday of the Month)	6:30pm
<b>Wednesday</b>	Community Coffee Morning	10:30am–12pm
<b>Wednesday</b>	Strength and Balance Exercise Class	12–1pm
<b>Wednesday</b>	Table Talk (Student Ministry, University term-time)	7–9pm
<b>Thursday</b>	First Friends (not during school holidays)	10am–12pm

## Castle Street Diary for April

<b>Sun 7 Apr</b>	Church @ Castle Holy Communion at St Lukes	10:30am
<b>Sat 13 Apr</b>	6 Years: Antarctica Talk (see notice)	7:30pm
<b>Sun 14 Apr</b>	Section Service led by Revd J Pathmarajah	10am
<b>Sun 14 Apr</b>	Church @ Castle led by Mrs M Cooper; Holy Communion led by Rev J Pathmarajah	6:30pm
<b>Sun 21 Apr</b>	Preacher: Local appointment (TBD)	10am
<b>Sun 28 Apr</b>	Preacher: Mrs Judy Wynn	10am

## 6 Years: Antarctica Talk

### Saturday 13 April, 7:30pm, Castle Street

Come and hear tales from the South Pole as we hear Jacob Wyborn— a Castle Street member who works for the British Antarctic Survey—share with us his time living at the bottom of the world. All monies raised at the evening will go towards Histon's redevelopment project so come along, be amazed, and support this great project!

## Sasha

Have you seen our wonderful Sasha?! Cambridge has been taken over by lots of beautiful giraffes and Sasha has been let loose! Go and find Sasha, take a selfie and share it with Rev Jenny, or tag us on social media @castlestreetmethodist. For more information, check out the website: <https://www.break-charity.org/cambridge-standing-tall/>

## Museum on a Bike

Last month, Castle Street Methodist Church welcomed the Museum of Cambridge at Welcome Wednesday with their **Museum on a Bike** community initiative. The bike is a brilliant way for the Museum to come together with people around

Cambridge, bringing local history, objects, stories, and activities into the local community.

Visitors of all ages found themselves immersed in the captivating array of artefacts and objects on display. Each item sparked curiosity and wonder, prompting lively discussions and spirited guesses about their origins and functions. Many found themselves transported back in time, recalling fond memories of grandparents and other relatives who once used similar items in their own homes.

As the hall resonated with laughter and shared anecdotes, it became evident that these artefacts were not mere objects but vessels of history, carrying with them the stories and traditions of Cambridge and its local area.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all who joined us, enriching our experience with their enthusiasm and appreciation and we look forward to welcoming the museum at another time for more interesting artefacts stories, and objects telling the interesting story of Cambridge in the local area.

## Big Philosophical Issues

March's Big Philosophical Issues with Dr Dave Ellis on **AI and Religion** was well attended, and I think everyone agreed it was a fun and fascinating presentation and discussion with Dr Ellis giving us much to contemplate as to whether an AI could become a priest, or write a prayer or hymn. AI is coming, so let's make sure we are ready for it!

So far BPI has managed to raise £250 towards the Histon toilet project and hopefully more will be raised in the future.

However—due to my upcoming employment with WizzAir, BPI will unfortunately have to be suspended for the foreseeable future, and then may have to be on a 'when possible' basis. Certainly, I won't be able to facilitate until after my training is complete—which will hopefully be by July—and I have settled into a predictable roster pattern. Of course, if anyone else would like to take on the responsibility of organising the evening's discussion, they would be very welcome!

Yours philosophically;

**Paul Curtis**

## Histon Family News

We are pleased that Wesley and Helen Graham are now home, having been in Northern Ireland since before Christmas. Wesley's care and treatment has been transferred back to his local GP and Addenbrookes Hospital. We hope they are now feeling settled having been away for a long time; we are pleased to have Helen back in the choir and at Craft Club.

We were sorry to hear Rev Jenny fell off her bike which resulted in a badly bruised face. She carried on taking the service at Castle St the following day and paying Histon a visit afterwards, but then

needed to take a few days off to rest a very swollen knee. We are pleased she is now much better and her usual busy self.

Congratulations to Nicholas Warrington who passed his recent exam with Distinction!

We were sorry to hear of the death of Janet Houghton on 15th March. We send our love and condolences to Chris and Judy and all their family. Janet had a short spell in hospital and then, at her wish, was taken back home to Cottenham Court where she received excellent palliative care. Janet was a loyal church member who always showed an interest in what was going on, even when unable to attend. A full appreciation of Janet's life will be in next month's newsletter, and please see the other notice regarding a thanksgiving service.

Our love and condolences also to Phyllis Coles and family on the recent death of her husband David, who passed away in Hinchingbrooke Hospital on 20th March. David was always a cheerful and interesting person to visit. Funeral arrangements will follow later.

Our best wishes to Rodney Rolph who has been very poorly. He recently had two operations, and is now recovering at home. We have missed him and his family in church and coffee shop, and continue to pray for them. At the time of writing, he intends to come back to church very soon, so we may well see him before you read this!

We are sorry to hear Pete Davis is still poorly and in hospital again. We are aware of others going through difficult times, and assure them of our ongoing prayers.

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**The deadline for the May newsletter is Sunday 21st April**



Please email contributions to [newsletter@histonmethodist.org](mailto:newsletter@histonmethodist.org)  
or hand them to Chris Whitworth

13TH APRIL 2024  
7:30 PM, CASTLE STREET METHODIST CHURCH


# 6 Years

CLIMATE CHANGE, EXPLORING ANTARCTICA  
AND MY EXPERIENCES AT **HALLEY VI**

BY JACOB WYBORN





British Antarctic Survey  
NATURAL ENVIRONMENT RESEARCH COUNCIL




UKRI

Natural Environment Research Council



CASTLE STREET  
METHODIST CHURCH

# LOST




## SASHA WINDOWS

Have you seen this giraffe?  
Intelligence suggests they may be at large  
near the Lion Yard shopping mall

Cambridge's Standing Tall 2024

www.castlestreet.org.uk






### East Anglia Methodist Heritage Centre

**Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> April 11.45 am**

A short service led by Rev Jacqui Horton to mark the official re-opening 2024

Join us as we embark on the second year of this exciting venture.

Refreshments available from 11 am.  
All welcome.

**OPTIONAL PILGRIMAGE**

Walk a 2 ½ mile pilgrimage along lanes from Walsingham to Wighton.

10 am Start: Old Mill Pay and Display Car park, Walsingham (NR22 6BP)

Free time at the Heritage Centre or to explore Wighton  
Return to Walsingham from Wighton Halt on the Light Railway at 2 pm

To book please contact [sarah.friswell@btinternet.com](mailto:sarah.friswell@btinternet.com)







### East Anglia Methodist Heritage Centre 2024

Wighton Methodist Church NR23 1PG

A growing collection of Methodist historic objects, books and information on display

Opening this year on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> March, Easter Monday, then every Tuesday and Friday from 11am to 3pm

Coffee, tea and biscuits available £1

Free entry – Donations very welcome

Accessible entrance



## Janet Houghton

Judy and Chris Houghton thank everyone for their cards and kind messages following the death of Janet on March 15th. There will be a Thanksgiving Service for her in our Church on Monday 15th April at 12 noon. The service will be preceded by a short cremation service which the family will attend at 10:30am. Everyone is invited to join us for refreshments in the hall after the service.

## Histon Country Dancing

Our next evening of dancing will be on Friday 26th April at 8pm, when we shall be accompanied by our excellent musicians and caller. All abilities catered for, so why not come and give it a try? See you there.

*Kathryn*

## Eco Tips

The Creation Care scheme aims to encourage households to make changes to care for God's earth. Wherever households are on their creation care journey, we want to provide ideas for their next steps and recognise progress that has been made.

The scheme covers 7 areas of household life:

1. Worship and prayer
2. Home
3. Garden
4. Travel
5. Food
6. Possessions
7. Community and global engagement

You can enter the scheme by completing a questionnaire that covers each of these areas. This will tell you how well your household is doing at each of these aspects of caring for creation, and hopefully give you ideas of ways you can improve.

***Dr. Annabelle South***  
***Ecoscheme for Christians Creation Care***

## Circuit JDS Group

The Circuit is setting up a small group to support the implementation of the Justice, Dignity and Solidarity Strategy, which includes Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI). We are seeking to recruit those who feel called to this sacred work to this small group. The role of the group would be to:

1. Support the circuit in the implementation of the Strategy for Justice, Dignity and Solidarity, including keeping in touch with the District EDI group and EDI Officers' network for connexional information and guidance as appropriate
2. Assist the development of strategy and policymaking, and decision-making within their sphere of church life, particularly by listening to the people most affected by any bad practice.
3. Encouraging, sharing, and developing good practice and local innovation.
4. Agree who will 'sign off' any assessments carried out in relation to the work.
5. Be aware of, and familiar with, the processes, tools, and resources available for use in this strategy, and to share knowledge of them around the circuits.
6. Help to ensure that the mandatory EDI training is carried out by those in the appropriate roles, and to encourage a spirit of life-long learning about the diversity of human experience.

If you are interested in working alongside others in co-creating a church environment that honours the image of God in each person and enables all to participate fully in the life of the Church, please contact Revd Charity Nzegwu at [Charity.Nzegwu@methodist.org.uk](mailto:Charity.Nzegwu@methodist.org.uk).

## Methodist Studies Seminar at Wesley

Wesley House are hosting their next hybrid (in-person and online) event on Friday 3 May.

The Methodist Studies Seminars were established in 2012 by the Manchester Wesley Research Centre and Oxford Centre for Methodism and Church History, Oxford Brookes University

The seminars provide an opportunity for established and emerging scholars of Methodist Studies to present the findings of their research. We conceive of Methodist Studies broadly and aim to provide opportunities for students of history, theology, literature, art, material culture and other fields related to Methodism.

Please see <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/wesley-house/methodist-studies-seminar/ekdgrmx> for more information and free tickets

### 3Generate Volunteering Launch!

Volunteering for 3Generate 2024 is open! This year we need to grow the team by 25% and want to encourage everyone in churches to consider getting involved. 3Generate takes place 4th–6th October 2024.

There are 3 prime opportunities to care, help, and engage as part of the event, so the message is about finding a role that fits. Depending on a person's skills, experience, and gifts one of the following teams may be preferred:

- Care: Night stewards, youth support, village hosts, team lounge hospitality, additional needs/accessibility team
- Operations: Reception, registration and stewards
- Venues: range of venues across site that cater for a variety of passions and interests, including The Arts Centre, The Theatre, The Rec, The Health & Wellbeing Centre and many more.

There is a particular need for village hosts and the youth support team.

If you have previously volunteered we'd especially encourage you to sign up today! Whether it's for the same role or you fancy trying something new. Why not tell others in your church and circuit and encourage them to consider joining the team? Check <https://www.methodist.org.uk/3Genvols> for further information, and please see this video from Jude Levermore, Head of Mission, sharing why volunteering matters: <https://youtu.be/iWCUqrTfEBU>.

We're looking forward to all that 3Gen 2024 holds, especially for our children and young people. Let's keep tuning in and seeking God together day by day: tickets for 3Gen 2024 go on sale Tuesday 16th April, so make a note in your diary!

**Sarah Remy**  
**Events Assistant | The Connexional Team**

### Giraffe Drive

A huge thank you to all who came to the Giraffe Drive on 23 March!

As we rolled, coloured in, and even drew dozens of giraffes (or not, for some less lucky participants) we came together in good spirits and raised a further £125 for our ongoing Standing Tall fundraising.

Keep an eye out for Sasha Windows and the 90+ other giraffes around Cambridge until 2 June. Maps are available with a suggested donation of £1 and you can download the app to help locate and share your giraffe selfies with others.

**Kirk**