



Issue 14:1

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April 2010

LAST MONTH'S
FIGURES

MAJOR'S MUSINGS

Dear Friends,

I'd had it in my mind to write about the blessings of Spring and the sunshine after the darkness and cold of what has been officially the hardest winter for many years. But I write having just heard on TV that over the next 36 hours we can expect storms and in some areas of the country, even snow! It's disappointing because the seasonal changes that we look forward to at this time of the year would normally serve as an appropriate reminder of the new life, light, warmth and joy that Jesus achieved for us through the events of His life that we remember and celebrate at Easter time.

But then, of course, Easter and springtime don't always go together. In the southern hemisphere, Easter falls in the Autumn, at the beginning of winter. And yet our Christian brothers and sisters there will join in the celebrations just the same - proving that our rejoicing in the resurrection; our belief and trust in all that Jesus has achieved, our acceptance of the new life that He has made possible, is not dependent on the weather, or upon any other outward circumstances. Nothing can alter the facts; that at Easter time Jesus died for the sins of the whole world: that He rose to life again and is alive for ever: that on the first Good Friday and Easter Sunday He won the war against darkness and death once and for all.

Despite the weather, the spring flowers are beginning to show through and the sunshine and warmth will follow. When spring arrives in all its splendour we will hopefully feel that it was worth the wait. But we don't have to wait for the spiritual blessings of Easter, because they are ours for the taking at any time of the year and whatever the weather.

Here's a poem: "Easter reflections" by Helen Steiner Rice.

With OUR EYES we will in time see
The beauty of Easter
as the earth awakens once more...
With OUR EARS we will hear
The birds sing sweetly
to tell us Spring again is here...
With OUR HANDS we will pick
the golden daffodils
and the fragrant hyacinths...



But with OUR HEARTS—right now
we can feel the MIRACLE of GOD'S LOVE which
redeems all men...
And with OUR SOULS—even today
we can make our 'pilgrimage to God'
and inherit His Easter Gift
of ETERNAL LIFE.



Whether or not the sun is shining at the weekend, let us pray for one another, that we will experience all the blessings of heart and soul that God has in store for us this Easter time.

God bless and love

Carol

SUNDAY ATTENDANCE

Week 1	47
Week 2	48
Week 3	44
Week 4	48
AVERAGE	47

OFFERINGS

Envelope giving	£ 1449.80
Collections	£ 117.03
TOTAL	£ 1598.08

INCOME & OUTGOING

Income	£ 3005.37
Expenditure	£ 4465.86
DEFICIT	£ 1460.49

This includes a number of end of financial year expenses

SELF DENIAL

MISSIONARY APPEAL

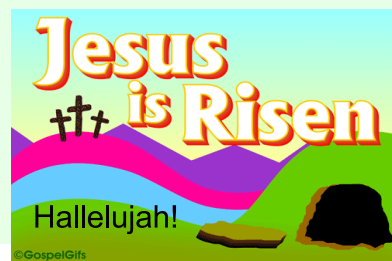
Thank you to Miriam for leading us through the profiles of our partner countries and in praying for our colleagues who are at work for the Lord in these poorer areas of the world.

Thank you to all who gave in our Altar Service which raised a record amount of

£1020.13

"May the God who gives hope fill you with great joy. May you have perfect peace as you trust in him."

Romans 15:13



SUNDAY REFRESHMENTS

APRIL

- 4 Christina, Gael, Jackie
11 Colleen, Betty G, Betty H
18 Sally, Helen, Sheila S
25 Shirley, Sheila A; Paul, Lisa

MAY

- 2 Karen, Adrian, Peter
9 Christina, Gael, Jackie
16 Colleen, Betty G, Betty H
23 Sally, Helen, Sheila S
30 Shirley, Sheila A; Paul, Lisa



PRAYERS for Saffron Walden

1. For Kathyne & Matthew and family as they are still waiting for permission to make funeral plans for brother Stuart;
2. For Patrick as he continues his search for employment;
3. Praising God that baby Sidney (who we prayed for last month and who is now 9 weeks old) is now home from hospital, with even further tests showing positive results. Praise the Lord!
4. For social events such as Coffee morning, Ceilidh and Fun Day; for the fellowship we can share together, but also for the opportunity to invite people along; to make visitors welcome and to share with them something of God's love;

UNITED CHURCH PRAYERS

For the month of **APRIL**
We are invited to pray for
ST MARY'S CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

We pray for Rev David Tomlinson, for the other members of the clergy team and congregation

COFFEE MORNING

Saturday 10th April
9.30—12pm

The time just to sit and chat on Sundays is all too short. These occasions offer a good opportunity to come together informally and have time to catch up - as well as an opportunity to offer a welcome to others who may drop in for a coffee.

Patrick's first contact with us was at our last coffee morning and what a joy that he is now so very much one of the family. I wonder who God will be sending to us this time!

Hope to see you there!

[Offers of cakes and helpers would be appreciated]



CHRISTIAN AID COLLECTION

The door to door collection for this year takes place during the week 9th-15th May. Sara has kindly agreed to organise our part of the appeal again.

Says Sara: ***"I would very much value some support, little and lots, loads of experience or none!"***

Sara will put a 'volunteer' list at the Hall, so please add your names and availability to that and speak with Sara in person if you have any queries.

Once again our friends
Kevin and Sandy Davis
are willing to lead us in an
evening of

CEILIDH

**[Country dancing suitable
for all ages]**

Tickets are now available and will soon be on sale through Tourist Information too, so please purchase yours early. Whether or not you are able to join in the dancing this is a great opportunity to come together in fellowship and perhaps to invite other friends along too.

Saturday 8th May. 7.30pm.
£6 Adults/ £5 concessions
Includes a sandwich buffet.

ADDITIONAL DATE



Sunday 6th June
Ashley to be
enrolled as a
Senior Soldier.

DATES FOR THE DIARY

APRIL

Please note

THE WELL
will close for the
Easter break on 1st,
6th and 8th of April.



This will offer a well-deserved rest for the teams—to whom we offer our thanks for their hard work & invaluable ministry throughout the year.

EASTER WEEKEND

Friday 2: Morning 10.30am

Good Friday: United Walk of witness starting at the Baptist Church

Friday 2: Evening: 6pm in our hall: Reflections around the cross.

Sunday 4: Morning worship
Weekend led by our special guests
Lieut Colonels David & Myra Lambert-Gorwyn

[No Jam Club today]

Wednesday 7 Jam Club Plan mtg

Sat 10 Coffee morning. 9.30-12pm

Monday 12 Building team meeting.

7.30pm at the hall (*Sub group to corps council. Adrian, Frank, Ray, Peter*)

Tuesday 13 Cameo: Major Irene Draycott from DHQ

Friday 16 Singing Group

Thursday 22 Churches Together 11am

Sunday 25 Focus on VBS during meeting (inc. retiring offering)

Week commencing 26 April—New series of Study Groups start: 7 weeks. (*Details to follow*)

Tuesday 27 Cameo: "Spring"

Friday 30 Singing Group

MAY

Saturday 8 Ceilidh—7.30pm in Abbey Lane URC hall.

Sunday 9 Christian Aid service. Castle Street Methodist Church 4pm

9th—15th Christian Aid week. (*See centre column for details*)

Tuesday 11 Cameo

6.15pm Custerson Court service

Friday 14 Singing Group

Sat 22 Fun Day in Abbey Lane

Sunday 23 Early evening—Churches Together Pentecost Praise service (Baptist Church)

Friday 28 Singing Group