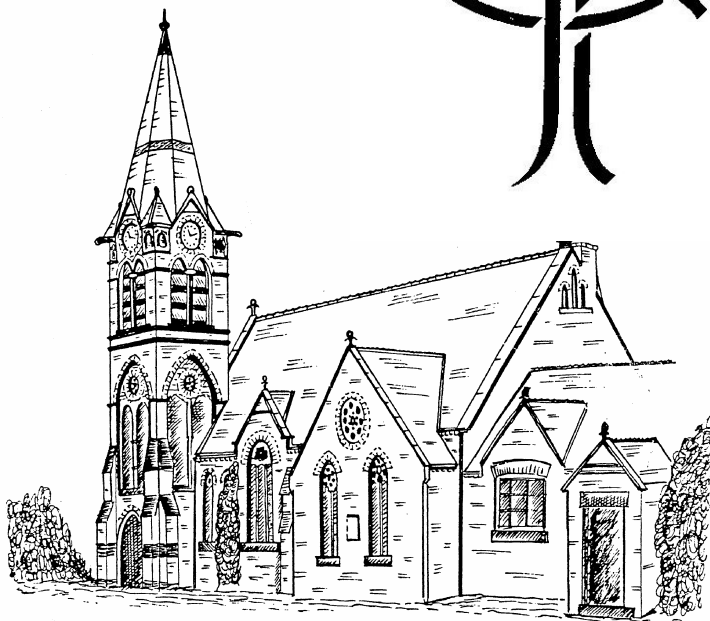
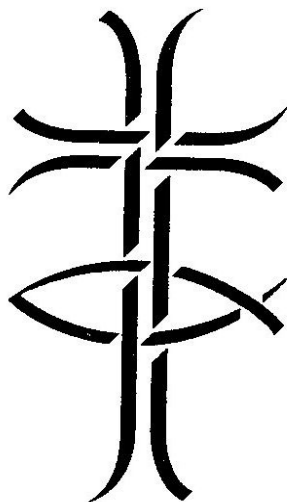


# Hornsea United Reformed Church



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**April 2016**

# The Week at a Glance

## From Church Records, Birthdays

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SUNDAY **10.30** Morning Worship with Junior Church  
for children of all ages, and crèche.  
Coffee etc. served at close of Worship.  
2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday: Communion at 10.30 a.m.  
**6.30 p.m.** 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday: Communion  
Other evenings: Prayer and Praise.

Tuesday: 9.15 to 11.30 'Open House' (in term-time)  
7 p.m. Faith and Fellowship

Wednesday 2 p.m. Friendship Hour (6<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>)

Thursday: 10 a.m. to noon Coffee Morning

Friday 6.30 & 8 p.m. Pilots (in term-time)  
The Church is fitted with a Loop System  
for the benefit of the hard of hearing

### BAPTISMS

13<sup>th</sup> March: Eleanor Annie, daughter of Edward and Jennifer Ineson

20<sup>th</sup> March: Florence Eliza, daughter of Bob and Toni Stephenson

### BIRTHDAYS

#### KEZIAH OKYO-PHELAN

Keziah's fifth birthday is on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> April so it will soon be here, and we wish her Many Happy Returns of the Day.

#### HARRY SHRUBB

Harry has a special birthday on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> April, when he becomes a teenager. That's great, Harry. Have a very Happy Birthday.

#### CATHERINE SEAL

Hi! I am Catherine and I am going to be fifteen on 29<sup>th</sup> April! I can't wait for my birthday and I'm very excited. For my birthday I would like some money so I can go shopping with my friends – but I don't mind a surprise.

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## News from the FRSC

### June Barton

February's Winter Lunch raised £162.32 for our funds and as usual the homemade hot soup was worth venturing out for. To all soup and dessert makers - thank you very much.

The Games Afternoon on Saturday 12 March featured Ludo and a Beetle Drive which was very much enjoyed by those attending, in fact so much so that at one table the players were so engrossed with a game of Beetle that laying their table for supper proved rather difficult. Nevertheless supper of steak pie and peas was devoured with relish followed by chocolate and vanilla blancmange with cream. After expenses we managed to put £84.30 into our funds. Thank you to our supporters and a special thank you to the kitchen staff.

We are approaching the time of year when the weather is (hopefully) improving and so if anyone would like to suggest or organise an outdoor event, please speak to any of the fundraising team. Your ideas would be more than welcome.

**Sunday 3 April** will see the start of our popular **Smartie Challenge** when children young and old can receive a free tube of Smarties, enjoy the sweets and return the tube brimming with 20 pence pieces, or any other denomination of coin that will fit, by **Sunday 1 May**.

**Saturday 23 April** is our first **Table Top Sale from 10.00am to 3.00pm** and you will be pleased to know that table hire remains at £6.00 so book early to avoid disappointment. Refreshments and light lunches will be served and admission is free.

**Advance Notice** – Sat 14 May – URC's Got Talent; Friday 27 Piano Recital by an Italian Music Student at 7.00pm; followed by the Gardeners' Fair on Saturday 28 May 10.00am – 3.00pm.

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Willing hands needed for Gardening at Church</b> <b>Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> April 5 p.m.</b></p>
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## The Minister writes...

Dear Friends,

This month sees the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the death of William Shakespeare. As 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2016 approaches, I'm sure we will see and hear plenty of tributes to his 'legacy', as England's greatest dramatist.

I confess that I am not as well-versed in Shakespeare's plays as perhaps I ought to be. Like many school children across the years I have learned by rote sections of plays (I could probably stumble through 'The quality of mercy is not strained...', and 'Tomorrow and tomorrow and tomorrow creeps in this petty pace...' – but please don't test me on them!). I wonder which Shakespeare quotes you could recite from your school days?

At the time, they seemed like a bit of ancient culture that has to be endured, with language that has to be struggled with, in forms that don't seem to bear much resemblance to every-day language. It is only as time has gone on that I have really begun to appreciate his plays for what they are – literature that still speaks to us. Most performances of Shakespeare I have seen (and again, they are not that many), whilst the text is left more or less alone, are set with some kind of modern twist, with the producers trying to connect this old story-telling to today's world.

A link is often made between Shakespeare and the bible – especially the Authorized (King James) version. Both are rightly regarded as treasures of English language, which have shaped our language in many ways, and not just through the treasury of quotes they give us.

The real test of any literature is not how much of it we remember, but the way in which it is able to speak to new situations and different cultures. (Of course the two are connected – because the things we remember are the things that continue to make sense to us.)

Whilst we have much to celebrate in the enduring legacy of Shakespeare's plays, his work is as nothing compared with the way in which the bible continues to speak to us, and shape our lives. The bible is not just another collection of literature; it is much more than that; it is a 'living word'. But it is an immense treasury of literature, nonetheless.

Having told his version of the Easter story, John finishes his Gospel like this:

Now, there are many other things that Jesus did. If they were all written down one by one, I suppose that the whole world could not hold the books that would be written.

John 21:25

We are still adding to that great library as we continue our discipleship in the light of our Easter faith in a living saviour.

Yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jamie Kruach". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial 'J'.

We held our Annual General Meeting on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> March, where we reflected on our continuing outreach into the community through Living Well lunches, the Telephone Support Network and the iPad courses. We acknowledged the huge amount of work done by the property Committee, aided and abetted by many members of the congregation in the cleaning (and what a lot of cleaning there was), redecorating and re-carpeting of the Church. There is a Picture Gallery on the Church Website entitled ‘ the redecoration begins’.

As we look forward to new challenges in 2016 we are delighted to welcome Steve Seal as a new member of our Eldership team. Thank you to all the Elders for their commitment to our witness in Hornsea.

**Prayer Network – Prayers for Concern in April**

Hornsea Museum as it prepares for a new season

Hornsea’s Local Market, which reopens on Saturday 23rd

Fairtrade Football

Friendship Hour

April’s programme begins with a talk entitled ‘Reaching the Most Desperate People in the World’ by the Regional Organiser of Christian Aid, Stephanie Cooper at **2 p.m.** on **Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup>**. This will be followed by ‘**The Swallow Project**’ at **3.30 p.m.** More details below. We are fortunate Stephanie is able to be in Hornsea at a time when the churches’ work for Christian Aid is being revised, and new ideas are being tried.

You can read below of new and different fund-raising events we hope you will be able share in.

Our second April meeting will be led by Steven Knapton. As I write I do not have a title of his talk to give you, so come along and see!

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## Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> April: John 20.19-31 - Thomas wonders if it is true

- Despite Mary Magdalene's testimony, the disciples are still in hiding, 'for fear of the Jews' (v.19). This phrase, used frequently in John's Gospel, has led to accusations of anti-Semitism. But it is important to understand the context in which the Gospel was written. In the decades following the destruction of the Temple in AD 70, Jesus' followers underwent a painful separation from wider Jewish society and were often excluded from synagogues (John 9.22).
- The risen Jesus brings the disciples the gift of peace. He breathes on them as God breathed life into Adam (Genesis 2.7). So the resurrection brings about a new creation, by the Holy Spirit. Empowered by the Spirit, Jesus sends his disciples out into the world on a mission of forgiveness and reconciliation.
- In the Acts reading, Peter and John are hauled before the high priest's Council, accused of teaching in the name of Jesus. But they refuse to submit to any human authority, and in the power of Spirit, they continue to proclaim the resurrection.

Doubt and faith are explored in Thomas' story. When he is able to touch and see for himself that the crucified Jesus is the risen Christ, his declaration of faith, 'My Lord and my God!' is the perfect summary of who Jesus is. This gives us encouragement that we can know Jesus' blessing of peace as we live out our belief, even though we 'have not seen'.

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## Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> April: John 21.1-19 - Peter recognises Jesus

- Some scholars think that John's Gospel finishes at the end of chapter 20, as it has such an air of finality, and chapter 21 is an appendix, written after the evangelist's death. However, it is a typically dramatic Johannine story, with layers of meaning.
- Despite the gift of the Holy Spirit, the disciples are not yet transformed into bold apostles. Before they can forgive others, they must first know that they are forgiven. Having returned to their former lives as fishermen, they fail to catch anything on a night-time expedition, until they turn to Jesus and discover the life-giving food on the other side of the boat. The mysterious detail of the 153 fish refers to the prophecy of 'very many fish' (Ezekiel 47.9), and suggests Jesus' risen presence brings God's abundance.
- As if trying to outdo the others, Simon Peter jumps into the water first, fully clothed, his nakedness a reminder of Adam's shame in the garden of Eden. But the charcoal fire hints at his previous three-fold denial of Jesus. Jesus' questions extract from him a humble admission of love and bestow a three-fold forgiveness (vv.15-18). Simon is transformed into Peter the rock. Like Saul, transformed after his encounter with the risen Christ (Acts 9.5), he is now ready to feed Jesus' sheep and follow him to the end.

Without reproach, Jesus offers hospitality: 'Come and have breakfast' (v.12). Even before their sins are forgiven, this eucharistic hospitality is extended to everyone, as all are welcome at the Lord's table.



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## Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> April: John 10.22-30 - Jesus the Shepherd

- After several encounters with the risen Christ, this week's Gospel reading takes us back to much earlier in Jesus' life. Jesus has made a pilgrimage to Jerusalem for the festival of the Dedication, better known as Hanukkah (celebrating the Temple's rededication by Judas Maccabeus in 164 BC). The Temple was central to Jewish identity, but writing after its destruction in AD 70, and after many years of collective reflection on Jesus' life, death and resurrection, John understands Jesus' body as the new Temple.
- This passage is part of a discourse in which Jesus presents himself as the good shepherd, which results in rejection and a threat to stone him. The whole passage has an air of menace about it; 'It was winter' (v.22) suggests there is a spiritual chill in the air. The Pharisees confront him to question his ministry (v. 24) and Jesus' response echoes John's prologue, which says 'his own people did not accept him' (1.10-11).
- John's Gospel is full of 'signs' of Jesus' divinity and here he reminds his hearers of the testimony of his works. The reading from Acts also makes a link between the healing of Dorcas, the only female disciple mentioned in the New Testament, and Jesus' divine power, summoned by Peter through prayer.

Jesus underlines the intimacy of his relationship with his sheep, who follow him because he knows them, not the other way round! That nobody can 'snatch' his followers from him emphasises how strongly he holds onto them.

## Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> April: John 13:31-35 - The new commandment

- 'Glory' is a huge theme in John's Gospel, but it can be difficult to understand, as we rarely think about it except in a sporting or military context. Here it has a very different meaning, because it is something that comes from God, not from human admiration, and it comes through suffering. Judas has just left to betray Jesus (v.30) and it is at this moment – the climax of his ministry when Jesus is faced with his death – that the 'Son of Man' is glorified (v.31).
- Jesus calls his disciples 'little children' (v.33), suggesting that their discipleship is immature, but destined to grow in the future, as God's glory is revealed through their suffering and sacrifice.
- Jesus gives his followers a 'new commandment' to love one another, as he has loved them. This mutual love is hardly a new idea, as love of neighbour rings through the ten commandments. However, it is the way that Jesus loves that is new: through service, symbolised in the washing of the disciples' feet (John 13.4-5), and loving people whom we might not choose to love, such as the woman caught in adultery (John 8.1-11).

Jesus' commandment becomes reality in the powerful reading from Acts when Peter explains his love, even for Gentiles, based on his vision and encounter with Cornelius. He and his family accept the word of God and are baptised by the Holy Spirit. Whom might we be called to love?

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## Christian Aid in April

The Churches have organised a Bucket Collection for Christian for 12 hours on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> April. This will be from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. and as I write (mid-March) there are already enough volunteers to staff the whole event. So if you're at Tesco that day, be sure to encourage the collectors on behalf of us all.

Each Church will also organise events of its own for Christian Aid funds so on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> April the Parish Church will run a Coffee Morning from 10 a.m. to noon and we are all cordially invited to support it.

### .....The Swallow Project

Stephanie Cooper's Friendship Hour talk will be followed **at 3.30 p.m.** by a **'hands on' craft session** where you can create a piece of artwork in the form of a square to go into a patchwork quilt. These quilts will go on show at Bradford Refugee Week Art Show in June 2016 and then be sent to refugees in need.

Christian Aid's Swallow Project, is a simple craft activity - bring along a 6" square piece of fabric (something that represents you, if you do not have any fabric this will be provided for you on the day). You will paint, draw or colour a stencil of a swallow onto the fabric (paint and stencil etc provided). If you choose you can bring items to appliqué etc the swallow onto your fabric.

Each year, the swallow migrates, without preparation, from Western Europe to Africa. The swallow as a symbol stands for family love. Sailors used to have a tattoo of a swallow after completing 1000 nautical miles at sea, a dangerous and uncertain journey rather like the many desperate refugees that jumped into dinghies to escape. A swallow tattoo also denotes time spent in prison, which is perhaps apt when we think of some of the conditions refugees are escaping from or even existing in now. We would love you to join us and show your compassion for the refugees - any donations towards their plight will also be very welcome on the day.

**iPads Galore!**

The Living Well Project has given us the chance to introduce many people to the fun of iPads, and many, but not all, of these people have been living alone, and often finding the mysteries of modern computer technology too daunting to contemplate. But that has been conquered, as many will tell you, and we have an opportunity to offer the beginning of an insight into this strange world for more who are intrigued.

On Friday 22 April at 10.30 a.m. to 12 noon we are holding a very simple Taster Session so if you feel like finding out, come along, You don't need to have an iPad, or know anything about it. Starting at 12 noon we will resume the 'brush up' sessions where people who have been before but like to come along and be reminded of things they've forgotten, or share new things they've discovered, can meet up and find help and guidance.

Sylvia Innes will lead the Taster Session, which will be followed in May by a short Beginners' Course, and she and Jamie will be available all morning.

If you're thinking of coming along, please mention it to Sylvia, Jane or Jamie so we have an idea of numbers.

**Dates for Singing in the Residential Homes**

The Promenade: Monday 11<sup>th</sup> April at 2.30 p.m.

Stuart House Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> April at 3 p.m.

Summerville Hall: Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> April at 2 p.m.

**Hornsea Music Society****Spring Concert with Hornsea Choir****Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> April 7.30 p.m.**

*Live Music in Hornsea URC, the home of Hornsea Music Society*

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**Another Amazing Story how Traidcraft is transforming lives (with our help)****Margaret Knapton**

*Rozina Begum, a tea farmer in Bangladesh, tells the story of how Traidcraft and tea plants have helped her to make her dreams become a reality.*

“From my childhood I knew that poor people had only one dream which is to be able to eat three times a day. I dreamt the same. I thought I would get to eat if I married someone. I got married when I was thirteen. My mother-in-law had five sons including my husband. My father-in-law died when my youngest brother-in-law was just five. My in-laws were in terrible poverty; a kind of poverty which is not describable in words.

When the men of the house were seated for dinner, my heart kept on trembling and I was worried they would ask us to get one more spoonful of rice. I would have to disclose that there was no more rice in the pot. When my husband used to ask me if I had had my dinner or not, I reluctantly nodded my head so he would not know that my mother-in-law and I ate only once a day.

I had only one saree that I had to wash at night when everyone went to sleep. Sometimes I wore the wet saree while sleeping.

Even after working in people’s houses my mother-in-law and my husband could not manage to bring food back to our home. Our bamboo hut could not stop the winter’s cold breezes from coming inside. There were no beds and we kept freezing on the mud floor. Poor people cannot dream about having a place where cold breezes or rain are for rich people’s amusement. For us it is acute suffering.

Our dream was limited to eating something good like vegetables instead of rice and salt. Many years of festivals had passed. I did not have anything to wear outside so going to visit my mother’s place hardly ever happened. I continued to sew and fix the holes in my husband’s lungi and never dared to ask him for a new saree.

One of my brothers-in-law continued his studies therefore he had to eat more; I often kept my food for him. My youngest brother-in-law Faruk (10) had fallen ill. He used to be with me all the time. I had brought him up as my mother-in-law was always outside for work. We had no money for his treatment. He used to ask for better food, often saying, 'Bhabi (sister-in-law), I want to have a sweet.' I used to weep while sitting on the corner of his bed. I could not give him food or medicine. It still haunts me all the time. Without treatment Faruk died but poverty did not.

There was no house, nor ducks nor hens; we had no cows or any furniture. We were fighting against poverty with empty hands. After that I got pregnant with our eldest daughter. I often went to sleep after starving a whole day. My husband used to give me courage saying that one day our days would change. He said that one day we would see the rare face of happiness.

I left my daughter home with my mother-in-law and both my husband and I started working as labourers in tea gardens. Together we could earn 100–130 Taka a day (around £1.15). We got to know that there is profit in tea planting. I heard about Traidcraft. My husband and I decided to use our land for growing tea plants. Our soil is very good for tea planting. If we can dedicate 1-1.5 years of growing tea in the garden, it will give us leaves for 80-100 years. I received six training sessions from Traidcraft.

The wheel of our life then started turning. After 1.5 years we are now able to see the face of happiness. Now we have electricity. We built a house for 30 thousand Taka and we built a kitchen. I have hens and ducks and five cows. Everything has changed miraculously. The tea plant is a miracle in our life. Now we have beds to sleep in. My mother-in-law has a separate room and I made furniture for the house. I bought a tea pot and nicely decorated the room. Now I can buy a saree when I wish. We are providing all expenses for my two brothers-in-law. My daughter is going to school. I bought a new gold earring and my mother-in-law and I now eat meat most days. We used to earn 3000 Taka monthly; now we can earn ten times that. We now earn 30,000 Taka each month and sometimes more. We bought new land. I had never played with any toys in my life, but now during Eid I bought toys

for my children. Everything now seems like a sweet dream which is actually our reality. In my yard happiness now resides.

I have a lot of dreams for the future. We have to fulfil the educational needs of our children. We also have to finish my brother-in-law's education. We will construct a building. When money comes, dreams come as well. My husband says that I am a big dreamer. Yes, I like to dream. Dreaming is hope; hope for an incredible tomorrow. I want to buy a red refrigerator so I can give everyone cold water in the summer. I want to buy a television so they can watch cartoons which I never could watch in my childhood.

My self-esteem and willpower have multiplied many times now. I am confident about my success and inspire to do more. I am one of the elected women members of our small tea growers association. I not only dream about myself or my family, I also think about my locality for my community. I want more people to be self-sufficient so no one goes to sleep with an empty stomach. Now people look at me with respect. They say though I had neither education nor experience I become one of their heroes. That makes me very proud. And this makes me responsible for them too. I want to educate my children and believe one day they will come forward to change the hope of the hopeless.

My dream has come true, poverty has to be defeated.”

***If you can't remember a date and don't have your Newsletter to hand, consult our Events' Diary on the Church Website at [hornseaurc.org.uk](http://hornseaurc.org.uk)***

**May Newsletter.** If you are thinking of putting something in the next Newsletter, please speak to Sarah or Jane **NOW** so space can be reserved. After the deadline is too late to save space. Last date **Friday 8<sup>th</sup> APRIL.** [jane.martin303@btinternet.com](mailto:jane.martin303@btinternet.com) or [sarah.darlington538@gmail.com](mailto:sarah.darlington538@gmail.com)

Support Hornsea Local Market, Cinema Street  
2016 season 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of the Month from 23rd April

**Worship in April**

<b>SUNDAYS</b>	<b>3</b>	10.30 a.m. Rev. Jamie Kissack 6.30 p.m. Rev. Jamie Kissack: Communion
	<b>10</b>	10.30 a.m. Rev. Jamie Kissack: Communion
	<b>17</b>	10.30 a.m. Rev. Jamie Kissack
	<b>24</b>	10.30 a.m. Elders' Service
		Other Sundays at <b>6.30 p.m.</b> Prayer and Praise

<b>And May</b>	<b>1</b>	10.30 a.m. Rev. Jamie Kissack 6.30 p.m. Rev. Jamie Kissack: Communion
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**Events in April**

Friday	1 to Saturday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	The Night Shift (for young people - postponed from Christmas)
Wednesday	6	2 p.m. Friendship Hour recommences: Stephanie Cooper: Christian Aid 3.30 p.m. 'The Swallow Project' (see page 11)
Thursday	7	9 am to 9 pm Christian Aid Bucket Collection at Tesco
Friday	8	2.30 p.m. Pastoral Visitors meet at Church
Monday	11	2.30 p.m. Singing at The Promenade
Tuesday	12	3 p.m. Singing at Stuart House 7.30 p.m. AGM of North Holderness Churches Together in Methodist New Room
Wednesday	13	7.30 pm Elders' Meeting in Church
Thursday	14	2 p.m. Singing at Summercourt Hall
Saturday	16	10 a.m. Christian Aid Coffee Morning at the Parish Hall
Wednesday	20	2 p.m. Friendship Hour: Rev. Steven Knapton
Saturday	23	9.30 a.m. to 1.30 p.m. First of new season of Hornsea Market in Cinema Street 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Table Top Sale 10 a.m. Living Well Café
Thursday	30	2 p.m. Singing at Summercourt Hall