

For your diary

Sat 6 May : 7.30-9.30pm. Hugh Lupton tells Beowulf: a Cambridge Storytellers event.

Sun 7 May : 10.30am Service. Led by Jackie Metcalfe, a friend of our church. Theme: Vocation. Organist: Julian Warren. Bring & Share Lunch after service. No evening service.

Wed 10 May : 7.30-9.30pm. Feedback from the Unitarian Annual Meetings (GA)

Sun 14 May : 10.30am Service.
Organist: John Dillistone
6.30pm. Service of mindful meditation.

Wed 17 May : 4.15pm. Church Committee Meeting.

Wed 17 May : 7.30 for 8pm. Evening conversation taking up the theme of the previous Sunday's address.

Sun 21 May : 10.30am Service.
Organist: Julian Warren.
6.30pm. Service of mindful meditation.

Wed 24 May: 12noon-2.30pm. Lunch Club Offering companionship, good food and an opportunity to talk about a particular issue relevant to the well-being and happiness of retired people or those planning retirement. The theme for 2017 is : *Do we, as older individuals, still have a place in the future?* A donation of around £3 is suggested to cover the cost of the meal. Contact: 01480 432284.

Wed 24 May : 7.30 for 8pm. Evening conversation taking up the theme of the previous Sunday's address.

Sun 28 May : 10.30am Service.
Organist: John Dillistone.
6.30pm. Service of mindful meditation.

Wed 31 May : 7.30 for 8pm. Evening conversation taking up the theme of the previous Sunday's address.

Sun 4 June (Pentecost) : 10.30am Service followed at about 11.45am by a short Pentecost Communion Service. Organist: Julian Warren. Bring & Share Lunch. 6.30pm. Service of mindful meditation.

Feedback from GA

Four members of our church (Shirley, Sue, Brendan and Andrew Bethune) attended the Unitarian Annual Meetings ('GA') in Birmingham last month. Andrew Brown was there for one day only in order to give a presentation on our Student Ministry.



If you'd like to know more about GA and what goes on there, please come to the Church Common Room on Wednesday 10 May (7.30-9.30pm) to hear all about it. There will be plenty of opportunity to ask questions.

Among the highlights were:

- the food (buffet pictured above).
- meeting old friends and making new ones.
- the 'opening celebration' in which some Welsh Unitarians told us their story in song.
- learning about Derby Unity, a newly formed Unitarian community.
- Carla Grosch-Miller's lecture on '*Fifty shades of grace: sex and progressive Christianity*'.
- Prof Kate Pickett, author of *The Spirit Level*, spoke about inequality in all spheres affecting those with the least financial resources and living conditions.
- David Kent's singing workshop exploring his *Chalice meditations*.
- listening to the keynote speaker (Prof Ralph Waller) talking about 'muddling through' (he told a good story!).
- Patricia Earle told us about how women in Birmingham have built bridges across the divides of religion and culture.

There were some practical sessions too:

- we learned that Unitarian HQ have negotiated a deal with an electricity broker - just in time for us to use as our 3-year contract comes up for renewal.
- how best to look after church archives (do we need to buy a filing cabinet?).
- about the ThermoChron iButton which (maybe) we could use to help understand how our buildings heat up and cool down, with a view to using gas and electricity more efficiently!

Framlingham Unitarians - Tercentenary



During the weekend of Saturday 13- Sunday 14 May, our Unitarian friends at Framlingham in Suffolk celebrate the 300th anniversary of the opening of their Meeting House.

On 13 May starting at 7pm is an evening of 'erudite historical reflection' and 'mellifluous musical entertainment' highlighting the story of Framlingham Meeting House, seen through the wider lens of Western history! The event features Rev. Cliff Reed, Rev. Matthew Smith and Adrian Cave (tenor).

On 14 May from 2.15pm, afternoon tea will be served, to the accompaniment of music from Zephyr Baroque. Afterwards a service of thanksgiving led by Marion Baker, former President of the General Assembly of Unitarian & Free Christian Churches, with the current minister, Matthew Smith.

Cambridge Unitarians are warmly invited, and a few of us will be going there on 14th May. If you are interested in visiting Framlingham on either day, please speak to Shirley Fieldhouse or Andrew Bethune.

The Meeting House is in Bridge Street, Framlingham, Suffolk IP13 9AJ

Church AGM

At our AGM on 23 April, we elected the church committee for the coming year. The existing committee have all been re-elected, and I am delighted to welcome two more committee members - Ben Grey and Stephen Watson.

Summer tea parties

Every summer, we have a series of tea parties hosted by members of our church. These are usually on a Saturday afternoon, and we plan to have one each in July, August and September.

If you might be interested in having a tea party at your house, please get in touch with Brendan to discuss possible dates.

Accessibility Project

We are now in the final stages of securing grant money for the project. Construction costs came in much higher than we had anticipated, so it is likely that we will only have resources to complete the ramp and the new toilets. The canopy is not critical to providing access and may be abandoned for now. Work is expected to take place in July and August.

We are very grateful to the family of the late Neil Falkner for a bequest to the church of £3000. This will be used towards the Accessibility Project.

About our church

This church belongs to a liberal Christian tradition which welcomes the loving, critical and enquiring spirit. It is founded upon an 'open trust' which imposes no doctrinal tests upon its minister or members. We meet in the spirit which is exemplified in the life and utterances of Jesus, for the worship of God and the service of humankind.

Church address: Memorial Church (Unitarian), Emmanuel Road, Cambridge CB1 1JW

www.cambridgeunitarian.org

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Vice-Chairman: Tony Burns 01480 432284

Treasurer: Shirley Fieldhouse 01223 426514

Secretary and Safeguarding Officer: Brendan Boyle 01480 387883

Committee Members:

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Ben Grey

Sue Tombs 01223 844454

Stephen Watson 01223 319527

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