



Haverhill Methodist Church

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Connect Issue 80

Friday 5th November 2021

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

Romans 8:35,37

Prayer Chain: If you'd like to request a prayer for yourself, or for someone you know, please email kathy.cohen@btinternet.com (or phone 01440 762536) and your message will be forwarded to all those on the prayer email list (about 80 people).

Prayer Ministry: This is available after morning service each Sunday. Please approach someone wearing a lime green lanyard which has the words Prayer Ministry Team printed on it.

Please remember our Churches Together online Prayer Wall.

The link is <https://haverhillchurchestogether.wordpress.com/prayer-requests/>

Dear Church Family

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your kind messages, cards and prayers over what has been an extremely difficult time following Andy's sudden death.

Thank you to all those who attended his funeral service. It was all that we as a family had hoped for. I know that Andy would have been really chuffed to see so many old friends, new friends and distant family members there, and also a little surprised as to how popular he was!

It has been a real comfort to know that you have all held us up in your prayers.

Thank you and God bless you all
Denny, Emma, Amy & Matt

- Next Door

Next Door will be open for ½ an hour after each morning service in November to allow those who can't get there during normal opening hours (Tue/Wed/Fri 10-12.30) to browse & make purchases. Christmas stock is now available (cards, candles, small gifts etc). Please remember Next Door does not have the facility to take credit/debit cards. You can pay with cash or cheque – please come prepared!

- Christmas Shoebox Appeal – Link to Hope

You have an extra week to bring your boxes as Peter will now be dedicating the shoeboxes on Sunday 7th November and they will be taken to Clare Baptist Church on Monday 8th November for collection by Link To Hope.

Thank you for your support.

Please speak to Gill Wadeson for more information.

- Event Cancelled

The Fairtrade Coffee Morning at Clare Baptist has been cancelled due to a number of the congregation testing positive for covid. No alternative date has yet been provided,

- Service of Remembrance of Loved Ones

Autumn is the season of remembrance.

There will be a Service of Remembrance of Loved Ones on Thursday 11th November at 7pm in our church.

You are invited to come and remember before God loved ones who have died. Names of loved ones will be recorded at the door and during an act of worship we shall read out their names.

There will be the opportunity to light a candle in their memory.

Refreshments will follow. This service is open to everyone. May it be a reminder of the light of God which shines upon all.

- Haverhill Family History Group Presentation

On Thursday 11th November 2021 in the Old Independent Church, Haverhill at 7.30pm the Family History (Haverhill) Group are hosting a presentation given by Sophie Newton, who is going to speak about the important work of the **Commonwealth War Graves Commission**.

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission honour and care for the men and women of the Commonwealth forces who died in the First and Second World Wars, ensuring they will never be forgotten. Whilst this work is now recognised in over 23,000 locations around the world, its early days were characterised by difficult and often controversial decisions. Sophie Newton, Public Engagement Coordinator (East) for the Commission, invites you to learn more about how the CWGC helped shape remembrance as we know it and how their work continues to this day.

We will have on display Haverhill's Roll of Honour for those casualties of the First and Second World wars and also the Foreign Airmen who are buried in the Haverhill Cemetery. We also hope to have printed by then, but cannot guarantee, those British airmen that are also buried there.

Members and friends of our congregation are very welcome to attend, for what is sure to be a very interesting evening.

- Music Exams

On Monday 22nd and Tuesday 23rd November there will be Music Exams in the Church. They will also be using the Vestry & the Coffee Lounge. You **must not** enter the church while these exams are in progress. Keeping noise down in the car park would also be appreciated.

- Toy Service Sunday 5th December 10.30am

Once again you are invited to purchase new toys, which may be sourced in local supermarkets or online, to be given as gifts from our church to local families in need this Christmas.

They are to be brought to church at our morning service on Sunday 5th December please. Our town mayor Liz Smith and her husband will be in attendance.

Please note that **all toys must be brand new and unwrapped** (Social Services instructions) and it would be good if we can cover all ages, from babies to 18 year olds, so that all children in a family are able to be given a gift. We thank Kay Smith for her help in arranging this once again. We pray that many local families in need will be reached and blessed this Christmas. Thank you all for your generosity.

- Beetle Drive and Pudding Evening

There will be a Beetle Drive & Pudding Evening on Saturday 11th December from 5pm. More details to follow.

- Pastoral Friends

Our church is blessed with those willing to be a Pastoral Friend to a number of others in our church family.

It is our goal that everyone will be assigned a Pastoral Friend who will pray, share joys and sorrows and offer support in time of need.

All our Pastoral Friends will be affirmed and commissioned in our morning service on Sunday 7th November.

We hope as many as possible of our Pastoral Friends can attend.

We need several more Pastoral Friends, especially men. If you can respond, please speak to Peter or Janet. Thank you.

- Church Membership

If you would be interested in exploring Church Membership, please speak to our minister Peter and he would be pleased to have a conversation with you.

- Help needed

"At long last we are able to recommence our mental health support group called Open Mind-meaningful support. It will be running from the church hall, every Weds from 10-12 and we begin on November 10th. We have an almost completely new team of volunteers so please pray for them! We are open to everybody, and as before we will be there to listen well. We welcome everybody of any faith, or none.

Obviously the covid situation is unpredictable and so we may need to adjust our opening dates. This last 18 months has taught us how to turn on a sixpence! "

"Most of our congregation know of Ann Goodchild, who has been attending Sunday services regularly for several years. Until now we have been able to support her with just Sarah Glasswell and myself but it's getting very difficult as we both have additional commitments that mean that sometimes we have no one who can support Ann. Her carer Denise has helped out but she attends another church and quite understandably she needs to go there.

We are looking for new helpers to occasionally support Ann during the service. Please do put your hand up if you can help! "

Many thanks
Cham – Lay Pioneer

- Lantern

"The Lantern Cafe are seeking some new volunteers. This is our monthly meeting for adults with learning disabilities who come to experience what it means to be part of the Christian life. In essence they come for an hour of activities, guided chats and home-made cake. It's enormous fun for us all!

We are looking for people to join a team, who are there to join in with everything. If you think you might be able to help, why not come along one evening to get an idea? If you have any questions please do speak to Peter, Sarah or myself, thank you.

Cham – Lay Pioneer

- Big Christmas Card

There will again be a 'Big Christmas Card' available in the Church foyer during December, for everyone to write their messages to the fellowship. Donations from the money saved by not sending individual cards will be given to the REACH Winter Crisis fund.

- Christmas Events

This Christmas, for the first time, we are delighted to be working with all the churches of Haverhill, in creating 2 new community events that are ambitious and hopefully far-reaching. We hope that both become much-loved and much-anticipated events in years to come!

Dec 3rd in the evening

The first event takes place during the late-night Christmas shopping evening on December 3rd. Haverhill Silver Band is combining with Haverhill Singers and St Mary's choir and will be singing from several locations in the High St and Queen St and culminating in a carol concert from the bandstand on the Recreation Ground, prior to the firework display! I hope that people feel enthralled by the familiar carols; we want to inspire the community of Haverhill to join in en-masse!

So I need your help! No surprise I'm sure!

Firstly, please come and lend your voices to the songs. The more singers that we have, the more of a joyful occasion we create. We need volume and enthusiasm!

Secondly I need a lot of people to be there as volunteers as the choir moves through town, to hand out carol sheets. These sheets are doubly-important because they will have details of the Christmas church services. Please tell me if you can commit for some if not all of the evening?

December 4th at 12.00

The 2nd event is an Outdoor Nativity and Carols parade beginning here at 12 noon at Haverhill Methodist Church, we travel through time as we take part in the Christmas story. We have both a real donkey and Geoffery the camel who is making an appearance on loan from Centre Stage! We begin the story inside our church then we all leave to process down Camps Rd to the Drabbet, where it is very likely there will be no room at the inn!! The nativity story will conclude at a specially designed stable outside St Mary's Church.

We would love children to come in fancy dress and there will be prizes for the best angels, animals, shepherds and wise women and men! If any adults want to dress up, even better! There will be plenty of photo opportunities at our nativity stable.

The nativity story will conclude inside St Mary's Church and refreshments will be provided.

Will you please lend your support, ideally by coming along bringing your whole family, maybe encouraging your neighbours and friends? These are 2 really big and to be honest, quite experimental events and they succeed or fail by the number of people who join in! All the schools will be communicated with and there will be advertising in the paper, on social media and (hot off the press!) we are being interviewed on BBC Radio Suffolk on Sunday 28th !

These plans are still evolving so please read about us in Connect in the next few weeks, changes may need to be made.

So please talk to me? In person or on my mobile 07875 749441. If you can help on Friday evening that would be amazing !

God bless!

Cham – Lay Pioneer

CAROL SING-A-LONG

*Come along join in and share
some Christmas Spirit*

FEATURING
HAVERHILL SILVER BAND & THE
COMBINED CHOIRS OF ALL THE LOCAL
CHURCHES AND COMMUNITY CHOIRS



Late Night Shopping Friday 3rd December

- 6.00 - 6:15 pm outside the old NatWest bank
- 6.30 - 6.45 pm outside Saffron Insurance
- 7:00 - 7:15 from Queen's Square
- 7:45 - The Bandstand on the Recreation ground



HAVERHILL & DISTRICT
CHURCHES TOGETHER

Supported by Haverhill Town Council

Haverhill & District Churches Together

Mail

EST VERITAS IN EVANGELIO

Saturday, Lunchtime, 1 BC

1 Shekel

ALSO IN THIS ISSUE:

Exclusive Interview
With the Wise Men, Page 6

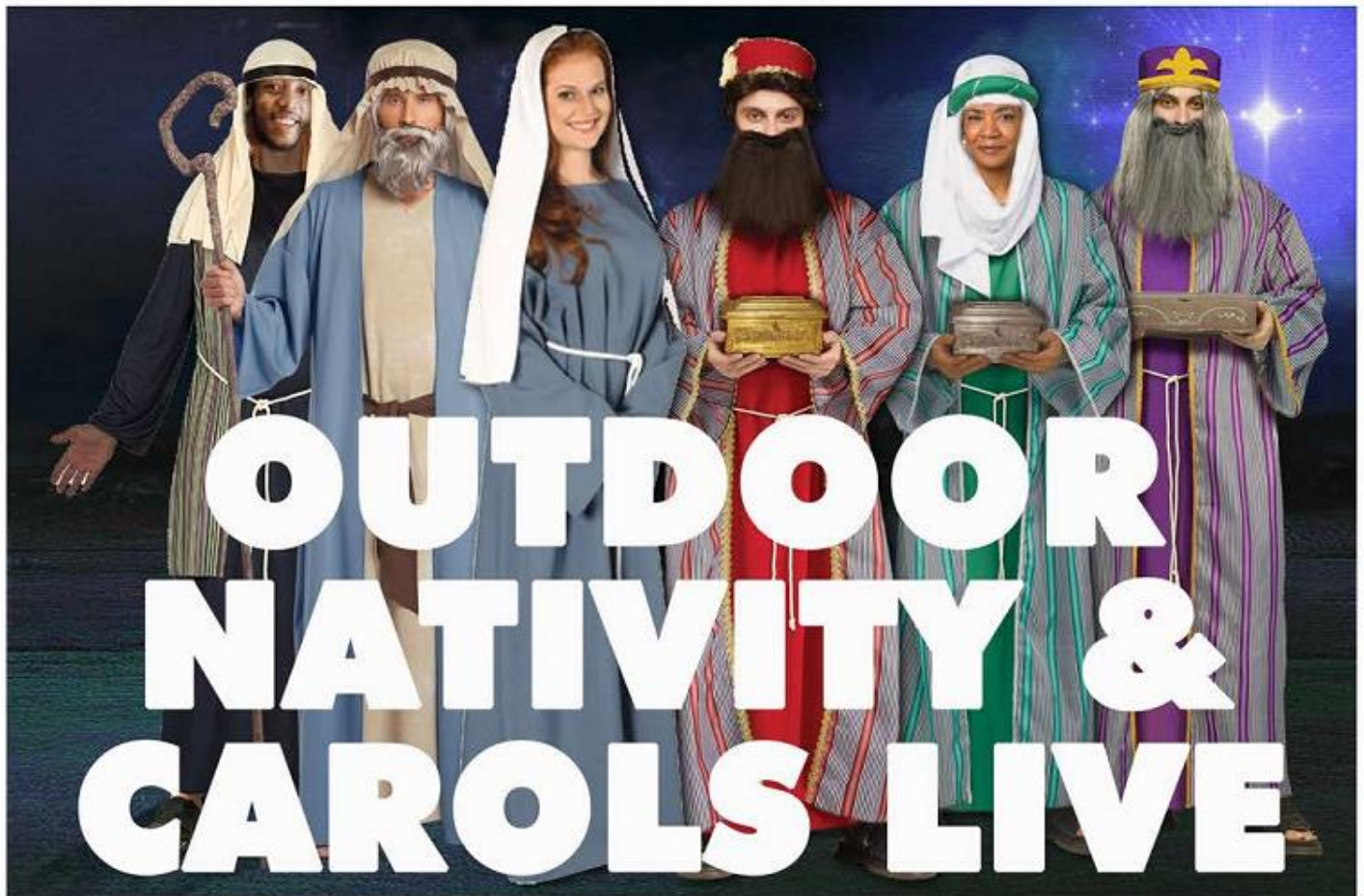
Gold, Frankincense & Myrrh
Full Reviews on Page 10

Breaking News
The Star of Bethlehem Spotted. Page 2

The Shepherd Supplement
For all your herding news.

BABY BORN TO SAVE THE WORLD!

**PRIZES GIVEN FOR KIDS FANCY DRESS
(SHEPHERDS, WISE MEN/WOMEN, ANGELS, & ANIMALS)**



Starting at Haverhill Methodist Church, Camps Road, CB9 8HF
12 Noon, SATURDAY 4th DECEMBER
finishing at St Mary's Church, Market Square, Haverhill

- Dates to remember:

November		
5 th	10pm-2am	Town Pastors on patrol – please pray for them
Sun 7 th	10.30am	Preacher: Peter –All Age worship Flowers: Mrs J Stewart Dedication of Ellie Tappin, Commissioning of Pastoral Friends & Blessing of Shoeboxes. Bring & Share lunch to follow.
		<i>Deadline for Link to Hope shoeboxes</i>
	6.30pm	Come & Sing
8 th	8-8.45pm	Faithful Workout
9 th	11am-12	Tuesday Prayer in the Lounge (or in your own home)
10 th	1-3pm	Young at Heart in the church hall – for everyone!
11 th	7pm	Service of Remembrance of Loved Ones
12 th	8pm	Meeting about HDCT Prayer Walking at Chalkstone CC
	10pm-2am	Town Pastors on patrol – please pray for them
Sun 14 th	10.30am	Preacher: Peter-Holy Communion & Remembrance Flowers: Mr L Jacobs
	6.30pm	Come & Sing
		Deadline for next issue of Faithtime
15 th	8-8.45pm	Faithful Workout
16 th	11am-12	Tuesday Prayer in the Lounge (or in your own home)
17 th	1-3pm	Young at Heart in the church hall – for everyone!
19 th	10pm-2am	Town Pastors on patrol – please pray for them
21 st	10.30am	Preacher: Sarah Glasswell Flowers: Mr & Mrs R Beaumont
	6.30pm	Come & Sing
22 nd & 23 rd	All day	Music exams in the church, vestry, coffee lounge
22 nd	8-8.45pm	Faithful Workout
23 rd	11am-12	Tuesday Prayer - venue to be advised (or in your own home)
24 th	1-3pm	Young at Heart in the church hall – for everyone!
26 th	10pm-2am	Town Pastors on patrol – please pray for them
28 th	10.30am	Preacher: Charmaine Slade Flowers: Vacant
	6.30pm	Come & Sing
		Deadline for next issue of Faithtime
29 th	8-8.45pm	Faithful Workout
30 th	11am-12	Tuesday Prayer in the Lounge (or in your own home)
December		
1 st	1-3pm	Young at Heart in the church hall – for everyone!
3 rd	6-8pm	HDCT Carol Sing-a-long – see poster for details
	10pm-2am	Town Pastors on patrol – please pray for them
4 th	12noon	Outdoor Nativity & Carols Live – see poster for details
5 th	10.30am	Preacher: Peter – All Age & Toy Service + Bring&Share lunch

Information for publication in Connect, or on the Sunday Morning Scroll may be emailed to: kathy.cohen@btinternet.com or handed directly to Kathy. Please try not to leave it to the last minute to send things.