



THE UNITED REFORMED CHURCH  
Stowmarket

<i>Christchurch Needham Market</i>		<i>Debenham</i>
<i>Haughley</i>	<i>Mendlesham</i>	<i>Stowupland</i>

***News of Town and Village***

The *steadfast* love of the  
**LORD NEVER CEASES**  
his *mercies*  
never **come** to an **END**;  
they are new every morning:  
**GREAT IS YOUR FAITHFULNESS**

Isaiah 40:31

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## ***Greetings***

I expect many of you have at some time moved house. Well we have just moved from a house to a flat. Quite a change!

And yes, as everybody says, it seems that moving house is one of the most stressful things we do during our lifetime – upheaval, boxes, waiting, ‘losing’ things, ‘finding’ things, more boxes.

Finally it's time to move. Hurray!

We find ourselves in a ‘new’ place, new neighbours, furniture in new places – altogether somewhere different and an exciting NEW START.

Aren't people lucky that they can have a NEW START from time to time? We get ourselves into all sorts of muddles and struggles as we go through life but we can always find our way to a NEW START if we try. The ‘boxes’ in our way are moveable.

If we look in the Bible we can find many stories where a NEW START showed the way forward – from Noah and Abraham in the Old Testament to Jesus' healing miracles and his parables in the New Testament. All great stories of people getting a NEW START in life culminating in Jesus' death and resurrection – a real NEW START!

There are many more and they all make good bedtime reading. One of my favourites is the story of Zacchaeus (Luke 19:1 – 10) who regularly charges his customers too much - but on meeting Jesus he changes his ways and returns all the money he has falsely taken. A NEW START for everyone.

I wonder what NEW STARTS we will each have this year and how we will make the most of them.

Mary Durrant

Stowmarket URC Elder

## ***News of the family***

The summer has certainly arrived early, far warmer than we would normally expect in May, so I hope everyone is enjoying the sunshine and warmth. The gardeners amongst us long for it to rain all through the night but that does not seem to be in the forecast for us --- yet!

My ramblings are going to be short this month as I am away when the copy for June is due, and I have heard very little news.

We continue to pray for all those in our fellowship who are unwell, or who are struggling with other problems, and we remember all those living alone or in care homes. We think of those who have been diagnosed with conditions that they have to come to terms with and hope with the right medication life will become easier for them. We rejoice with those who have had procedures or tests which have been positive for them.



Christine Mason had a short stay in hospital with an infection but has returned to Uvedale Hall in time to celebrate Gwen Hall's 99th birthday. Barbara Robinson has been in hospital but is now at home recovering. Darryl Jackson has had a knee replacement in Colchester.

### **Good news**

We send congratulations to Ethan, who recently passed his Grade 5 piano exam with distinction. His parents Monika and Ian Herwono are, of course, very proud of their son's achievement. Well done, Ethan. We look forward to you playing some of your exam pieces in Church --- please!



Congratulations are also sent to Freda Delory and her husband as they celebrate their Diamond Wedding Anniversary in June.

## ***News from Christchurch Needham Market***

- Monday - Tiddlers - 9.30am to 11.30am, Accompanied children up to 4 years old  
- Scrabble Club 2.00pm -4.00pm  
New players contact Sheila Norris on 01449 720871
- Wednesday - Knit for Peace (3rd Wednesdays) 2.30pm - 4.00pm
- Thursday - Christians Together 10.30am - 11.30am Term Time  
(contact Barbara Ellis 02449 720154)
- Saturday - Coffee Morning (Second Saturday of the month) 10-.00am to 12.00pm
- Sunday - Prayer in the church (Third Sunday of the month) 12.00pm  
- Bible Study (except the 3rd Sunday of the month) 12.30pm in Room 4.

I started to type that we have had 2 interesting Sunday Worship but realised that was not a polite thing to say and it wasn't what I meant! However, one Sunday, one of our elders led worship and she, Lindsey Gomez, talked about The Prodigal Son, but she was telling us the story with bits of history thrown in.

She led us to understand the meaning of Robes, Ring and Sandals, if someone asked us about The Prodigal Son, we could always give them the basics but we won't usually emphasise the part played by the gifts from father to Son. I usually feel sorry for the Son left in the fields.

Another Sunday, we held a full immersion baptism for Lily, a young person helping with the Sunday Club. This was also our Holy Communion and there was a bring and share lunch afterwards. So much included in our Sunday worship!

Next month will be 'flaming June'. I hope it is 'flaming'. I bought solar fountains to pop in my water baths for the birds. They were so good all the water disappeared in about 30 minutes. Now looking for bigger water baths.

We are also going to arrange a garden workshop. We are blessed with so much land but it needs looking after.

Dawn

## ***News from Debenham***

**STARTING IN JUNE** All age Drop In for Coffee 08:30 & 11:00 Look for leaflets.

Coffee Morning every Tuesday 10-11:30

**PLEASE NOTE: THIS MONTH ONLY**, 1st Tuesday 3rd June Special CAKE and PLANT SALE 10-11-30

Friends & Neighbours 2:00pm first Thursday of the month with Steve Fenning

Cakes & choruses 3:00pm last Sunday of the month. Bring your friends to this really popular cake and praise celebration!

## ***News from Mendlesham***

We've enjoyed some lovely sunny weather recently, but our gardens are now suffering through lack of rain and lawns are looking parched.

Afternoon Fellowship continues to meet on 1st and 3rd Wednesdays at 2.00pm. Speakers for June are on Mrs Meg Clarke on the 4th and Miss Anne Scarff on the 18th.

We are continuing to meet at the Old School Room on two Sundays and two Wednesdays a month but unfortunately, we haven't been able to hold our annual coffee morning for Christian Aid. Another great sadness as we've have supported this for over 30 years

We are holding a chapel meeting in the OSR on Monday 9 June at 2pm when we hope to have a little more news on our situation.

On a personal note, Darrell has had a knee replacement but is doing well (at least, I think he is). Our home is looking like an old folk's home with frames lined up especially by the stair lift at the top of the stairs. Meg visited Shirley Charles recently who is residing in Hillcroft House. Shirley was a regular at Afternoon Fellowship and supported us in many ways. We think and pray for each other in our chapel family and try to remain positive about our future.

Margaret Jackson

## ***News from Stowupland***

A walk and coffee morning took place again on the first Monday in May for Christian Aid. Is it really a year since this event was previously held? Those who were able walked around our lovely village enjoying God's beauty around us and good company. Coffee and cake was enjoyed by the walkers and others less able, courtesy of the Gurneys.

Phyllis Risby continues to be looked after by carers in her home. Connie Farrow is enjoying her new living arrangements at Steeple View. Dot Ellis is also quite happy at Langham Manor. We visit these lovely ladies when we can and we still miss them at Chapel.

Our next coffee morning is on 27th June 2025 and there will be a draw at this event. Everyone welcome. Whist and coffee mornings continue to be happy occasions.

Joyce Gardiner

## ***News from Haughley***

7th, 8th 9th June: Art exhibition and flower festival in the church

## ***Church Meeting***

The next Church Meeting is on **Monday July 21st at 2pm**. This is planned to be at Stowupland URC and will NOT be on Zoom.

## ***Pause for Prayer***



How quickly the year is passing . It just seems incredible that we are now just about halfway through and now well into holiday months.

It is encouraging that even when lots of us are away on holiday there are still a good number meeting each week.

It was always one of the points that Revd. Leslie Ivory made about Pause for Prayer .... that it met every week all year. When other Church Activities closed for the summer it still met.

So every Thursday whatever the time of year , whatever the weather you can find us meeting for Pause for Prayer at 9.30 am in the Fison Hall.

All are welcome so pleased do join us if you can.

## ***Prayer Chain***

I nearly forgot to write anything for this month's magazine but fortunately was promoted by an email that reminded me.

God never forgets us and is always there to help us if we turn to Him.

Sometimes we just someone to prompt us and remind us He is there and we can turn to Him in prayer with our every need. So I just remind you if you want the Prayer Chain to support you and join you in prayer for a particular need we are here. 01449 745944.

Ann Edwards

## ***Benevolent Fund - June 2025***



The benevolent fund for June is the Stroke Association. The Stroke Association is a charity in the UK. It works to prevent stroke and to support anyone touched by stroke, fund research, and campaign for the rights of survivors of all ages today. If you feel able please place your envelope in the offering plate on Sunday clearly marked Stroke Association or if you would prefer we have a permanent benevolent fund box in the foyer of the church. In anticipation of your generosity, thank you.

## ***Plant Stall***

Many thanks to everyone who contributed to our plant stall on the forecourt on May 10th, either by donating plants or by buying them. It was a beautiful morning, and we made £123.30 for Church funds. There will be another plant stall on **June 14th**, on the same morning as the Jig-saw stall and Second Saturday coffee morning. Please support this morning of activity, if you can.



Jane Gurney

## ***Sunday, July 6th***

The Stowmarket Food and Drink Festival is happening on Sunday 6th July. This means that Ipswich Street will be closed to traffic.

If anyone would like to come to the service and are not able to walk from the car parks please see Anne Scarff.

## ***Can You Help?***

NTV has a wide circulation both as a physical copy and via email. A big thank you to those who take a copy out to friends, family and others. Currently, the editor distributes over 40 copies and there are others who take multiple copies out. One of our distributors no longer drives so we are looking for someone who is willing to take copies to our churches at Stowupland and Mendlesham. If you can help please have a word with Anne Scarff.

## ***U3A***

June 18th - Summer Outing to Audley End.

### **COMMUNION FLOWERS**

Jun	1	Mrs D Pugh
	8	Mrs J Jordan - Pentecost
	15	Mrs S Bonner
	22	Mrs T Tester
	29	Mrs J Rooks



## Upcoming Events



### **"Second Saturday Coffee Morning" at Stowmarket URC**

**Saturday 14th June  
10.00am to 12noon**

#### **With Plant & Jigsaw Sale**

*Wonderful homemade cakes  
& savouries  
Donations for Stroke Association  
and Church Funds  
Come and See. All are Welcome to join us!*

**A BIG THANK YOU**  
**to all who support us in anyway**  
**The "Second Saturday" Coffee Team.**



### **Thursday Coffee Morning at URC Stowmarket**

**every Thursday morning  
from 10am until noon.**  
**All welcome.**

### **Stowupland URC Chapel Coffee Morning**



**Friday 27th June 2025  
10.00am - 12.00 noon**  
**Coffee/ tea, Cakes and  
a Draw**  
**All welcome**

## Communion Table Flowers



We shall be doing the new list to start in September 2025 in the next few weeks.

If you would like to join us you will be very welcome.

All we ask is you put one/two vases of flowers on the Communion table approximately twice a year ready for Sunday's service, which then go out to any of the congregation who are unwell, celebrating, or just in need of the joy of

flowers and knowing they are being thought of. If you feel able to do this, please contact Helen Freeman or Lois Muller.

If you are currently on the list and would like to come off, please contact the above by 30/06/2025.

## Gwen's Birthday Celebration



Gwen Hall enjoyed her 99th birthday celebration on May 20th in Uvedale Hall. Celebrations started the week before with a Wild West themed party.

## ***Jigsaw Puzzles Sale***



On **June 12th** we are having a sale of pre-loved Jigsaw puzzles. If you have any for sale please bring them to church any Sunday or speak to John Webb (01449 615678 or 07746590125) and arrange for them to be picked up. Come along and find a new challenge, enjoy a coffee or tea and check out our final offers on our plant stall.

## ***Visit to Pirmasens, Germany 2026***

We are still looking to pay a visit to Pirmasens in May next year but need to know how many might like to go? Please speak to John or Jan Webb who will give you an idea of what we hope to do. At present the idea is to travel by train and stay in a local hotel on a B and B basis with activities arranged by our hosts.

## ***A Springtime Walk!***

A very big thank you to all those who supported our spring walk. Some stalwart walkers arrived at 10.30 along with the rain, but they were not put off. They had a cup of coffee and set out later in the sunshine but returned for more coffee and refreshments quite muddy! Others came to socialise and we had a very friendly time together. We raised £165.00 for Christian Aid, which was magnificent. Many thanks, Jane and Dan Gurney.

## ***JAM Community Pot/ Monday Community Brew News***



Last month our volunteers were all busy doing the refreshments for the Royal British Legion VE Day 80 Party which was held on Monday 5 May 2025.

What a day this was. Many members of the group came along and joined up with members of the Royal British Legion. Firstly, there were Bacon rolls and Hot dogs being served. Then there was time to look round the stands in the Church (and a chance to play a board game or two) before listening to the Stowmarket Concert Band. It was time for lunch of various filled rolls or a cream tea before you knew it. The afternoon concluded with more music from the Band and a Remembrance service.

We missed our local hero D Day veteran Jim Grant being there, but he had an invitation to go to Buckingham Palace. Jim had a very busy week because on Thursday 8 May he was back in London attending a service at Westminster Abbey and going to the Royal Albert Hall. He met The King, The Prince of Wales and Prince George. I am sure we will hear lots more about this very special time for him.

We can never thank Jim and all the other veterans enough for their service which has allowed our freedom, but we do say THANK YOU on behalf of everyone at Jam Community Pot and Monday Community Brew.

Monday Community Brew is open every Monday between 10.00am and 12.30am at Stowmarket URC. If you would like any further information, please contact Michelle Frost on 07810 456512

## Children and Youth Activities



### YOUTH & JUNIOR CHURCH

Each Sunday from 10.30am.  
Come and join us.



### BOYS BRIGADE AND GIRLS ASSOCIATION IN STOWMARKET



#### 1<sup>st</sup> Mid Suffolk Boys Brigade and Girls Association

We offer activities for children from age 5 up to 17 and are affiliated to the Stowmarket United Reformed Church (URC).

We meet on Weds evenings during school term time at the  
Boys Brigade Hall on Combs Lane

6.15 - 7.15 pm Anchors (age 5 - year 3)  
6.15 - 7.30 pm Juniors (years 4 - 6)  
7.30 - 9.00 pm Company (year 7 up)

[bb1stmidsuffolk@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:bb1stmidsuffolk@yahoo.co.uk)

#### Stowmarket Boys Brigade Band

A traditional marching band with drums, bugles and cymbals who play at several local events and parades throughout the year.

Open to all ages and training is available.

Practice Thursdays at 7pm

Boys Brigade Hall, Combs Lane  
(next to the Magpie pub)

[stowmarketboysbrigadeband@yahoo.com](mailto:stowmarketboysbrigadeband@yahoo.com)

## Nativity Exhibition



Our church has been fortunate to be chosen to host an exhibition of over 130 cribs on **December 4th to 7th between 10am and 4pm Thursday to Saturday and 12noon to 4pm on Sunday**. We would like your help in publicising this free event and with acting as stewards or helping with the light refreshments. We hope to encourage as many people as possible to focus on the true meaning of Christmas. If you are able to help please speak to John Webb

### Prayer for June

*The blessing of God who created you in love,  
who walks this life beside you and who inspires your every breath, be with you and give you joy, now and always.  
Amen.*

## ***‘The Singing Poem’***

*The Singing Poem. (To the tune of Old MacDonald had a farm.)*

*Artificial ways to learn,  
What do you need to know?  
May come from electric things,  
Ai-Ai-Oh!*



*Artificial, they're produced,  
Systems that will grow.  
It is made synthetically,  
Ai-Ai-Oh!*

*Intelligence, it may seem wise,  
Understand and glow.  
Machines can come up with the goods,  
Ai-Ai-Oh!*



*Information sent to you,  
Sent fast, or mail slow.  
Contents not from anyone,  
Ai-Ai-Oh!*

*Navigation, planning routes,  
Where d'you need to go?  
Use a SAT-Nav, 'lectric map.  
Ai-Ai-Oh!*



*Online payments, not for all,  
Money you'll just blow.  
Computer shopping, done by some,  
Ai-Ai-Oh!*

*Do you like to keep in touch?  
Conversations flow.  
Social media, talk online,  
Ai-Ai-Oh!*



*AI, understood or not,  
Just won't go away.  
Ignore, or use it more and more,  
Guess it's here to stay.*

*The Really Lovely Poetry Company   R.R.G.*

# Puzzle

Bible Crossword II by Philologus © BiblePuzzles.org.uk

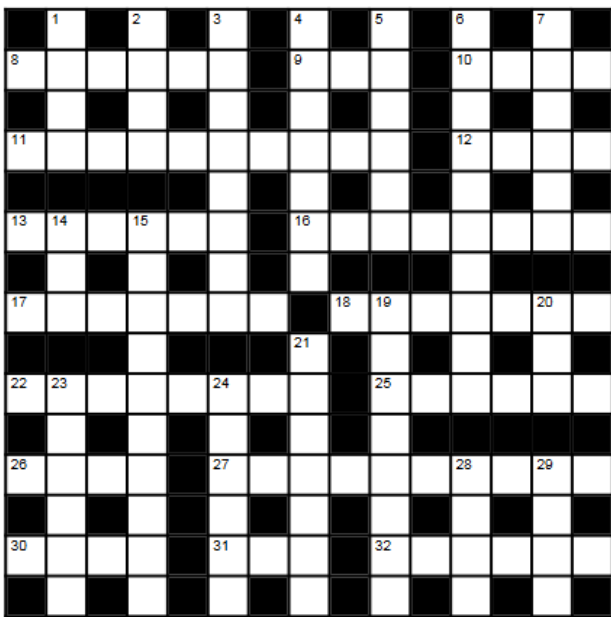
## Across

- 8 Religious service (6)  
 9 Vessel (3)  
 10 Drive forcibly (4)  
 11 Christ does this for us (10)  
 12 Bethesda was the name of this (4)  
 13 Servant of a prophet (6)  
 16 One who leaves the straight and narrow path (8)  
 17 Check the money (7)  
 18 Fragrant offering; make angry (7)  
 22 Come out from among them (8)

- 25 Works with clay (6)  
 26 Main part of text (4)  
 27 Chucked it too far (10)  
 30 Treachery sealed with this (4)  
 31 Simon washed his (3)  
 32 Migratory grasshopper (6)

## Down

- 1 Standard for the tribe of Judah (4)



by Philologus

© BiblePuzzles.org.uk

- 2 Brother of James; Hardy book (4)  
 3 Choice by vote (8)  
 4 Evening glow (7)  
 5 All sing the tune (6)  
 6 To reduce deficiency (10)  
 7 Take no notice of (6)  
 14 Look at (3)  
 15 Alternative Revelation (10)  
 19 Son of Jacob (8)  
 20 The blind will (3)  
 21 Regrets; Serpent (anag) (7)  
 23 Angels by another name (6)  
 24 Decorates (6)  
 28 Say it and you will be in danger of the council (4)  
 29 Cleanse (4)



**COUNSEL**  
**DISCERNMENT**  
**DISCRETION**  
**FAITHFULNESS**  
**FEAR OF THE LORD**  
**FOLLY**  
**GRACE**  
**GUIDANCE**  
**HEART**

**HUMILITY**  
**INSIGHT**  
**INSTRUCTION**  
**JUDGMENT**  
**KNOWLEDGE**  
**LEARNING**  
**PATIENCE**  
**PEACE**  
**PROVERBS**

**RIGHTEOUSNESS**  
**SAGE**  
**SCRIPTURE**  
**TEACHINGS**  
**TRUTH**  
**UNDERSTANDING**  
**VIRTUE**  
**WISDOM**  
**WISE SAYINGS**

# NTV Reminder

Copy for July - August 2025  
To be in by Sunday 22nd June 2025

E-mail to: [ntv.stowmarket@gmail.com](mailto:ntv.stowmarket@gmail.com) or hardcopy to Anne Scarff.  
If you would like to receive copy of NTV by email, please let Anne Scarff know.

## Zoom

The following are the details for Zoom gatherings for church – eg Services & Church Meeting:-

### **USING A NORMAL PHONE**

Dial using one of the following

0 203 901 7895 United Kingdom

0 131 460 1196 United Kingdom

Then use the ID - 878 9703 9806 followed by the # button AND then Passcode – 269834 again followed by the # button.

### **USING A MOBILE: One tap mobile**

+442039017895,,87897039806#,,,,,0#,,269834# United Kingdom

**OR IF YOU HAVE A COMPUTER** use the following link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87897039806?pwd=V1Z0Y01tOU85b2R6WklKV0FkR3JXZz09>

or use the ID - 878 9703 9806 AND Passcode - 269834

## Services June 2025

### STOWMARKET

June 25	Time	Services	Preacher
Sun 1st	10.30am	Family Worship with HC.	The Revd Janet Tollington
Thu 5th	9.30am	Pause for Prayer	The Revd Mary Playford
Sun 8th	10.30am	Family Worship	The Revd Richard Edwards
Thu 12th	9.30am	Pause for Prayer	Mr Keith Scarff
Sun 15th	10.30am	Family Worship	The Revd David Atkins
Thu 19th	9.30am	Pause for Prayer	The Revd Richard Edwards
Sun 22nd	10.30am	Family Worship	The Revd Michael Jones
Thu 26th	9.30am	Pause for Prayer	TBA
Sun 29th	10.30am	Family Worship	Mr John Webb
	6 pm	Week of Prayer service	

<b>June 25</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Services</b>	<b>Preacher</b>
<b>CHRISTCHURCH NEEDHAM MARKET</b>			
1st	10.30am	Family Worship	Local arrangement
8th	10.30am	Family Worship with HC	The Revd Robert Sheard
15th	10.30am	Family Worship	The Revd Robert Sheard
22nd	10.30am	Family Worship	Local arrangement
29th	10.30am	Family Worship	The Revd Julie Minns
<b>DEBENHAM</b>			
1st	10.45am	Family Worship with HC - 1st in a series on Ephesians	The Revd Norman Tharby
8th	10.45am	Family Worship—series on Ephesians	The Revd Norman Tharby
15th	10.45am	Family Worship—series on Ephesians	The Revd Norman Tharby
22nd	10.45am	Family Worship—series on Ephesians	The Revd Norman Tharby
29th	10.45am	Family Worship	The Revd Richard Edwards
	3pm	Cake and Choruses	
<b>HAUGHLEY</b>			
16th	11.00 am	Family Worship	Mr William Glasse
<b>MENDLESHAM - Meeting at The Old School Room</b>			
9th	10.45am	Family Worship	The Revd Michael Jones
23rd	10.45am	Family Worship	Mr Bruce Thorn
<b>STOWUPLAND</b>			
1st	10.30am	Family Worship	Mrs Veda Berriman
8th	10.30am	Family Worship	The Revd Mary Playford
15th	10.30am	Family Worship	Mr Bruce Thorn
22nd	10.30am	Family Worship	Mr John Webb
29th	10.30am	Family Worship	The Revd Michael Jones

If you want to keep up with all the news, have a look at the Church Website

[www.urcstowmarketandvillages.com](http://www.urcstowmarketandvillages.com)

If you have anything that you wish to put on the Church Website, please see Brian Hewitt.



### **Stowmarket: Office open 10am – 1pm Tue-Fri**

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Phone : 01449 675045

Email : [stowmarketurc@btconnect.com](mailto:stowmarketurc@btconnect.com)

Website: [www.urcstowmarketandvillages.com](http://www.urcstowmarketandvillages.com)

## **Church Officers and Personnel**

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☎ 774792

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See Anne Scarff

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## **Secretaries of Church and Village Chapel**

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☎ 07485516303

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☎ 766321

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Stowupland

Vacant

*Please contact Joyce Gardiner*

☎ 676149