



## Best of both worlds!



John Stevens led our service on 27<sup>th</sup> June IN THE MEETING HOUSE!! This was such an important day for us all and we were able to share it with people online via Zoom too. We aim to continue to offer services in person and concurrently online. Thank you to everyone who made this combination possible and to those who were patient as we overcame some technical hitches. We hope these will be easier and smoother as the weeks progress.

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## Feedback after the service

Today we held our first live service in our beautiful Meeting House, since we were forced into lockdown due to the Coronavirus pandemic - sixteen months, and oh how wonderful it was. To physically be in the building with other like-minded souls, although not permitted to sing we hummed our hearts out to the accompaniment of Robert Waller on the organ. We were joined simultaneously via Zoom by others at home and abroad. It was good. In conversation with others after the service it became clear that it was also a very emotional return. John Stevens delivered his well-thought out and sensitive service on the Summer Solstice, coming full circle as it was he who conducted the last service in the Meeting House before lockdown. We remembered those of our community who had died during this time: Ivan Hamilton, Michael Hyde, Jim Higgins, and George Southgate. All in all a satisfying time although I was feeling very tired by the time I returned home!! A different type of tiredness from that after a zoom service.  
Paulette Reed (at the service in person)



It must have been wonderful to return to the Meeting House after all the long absence and extreme efforts that went into the repairs and renovations. Please let everyone involved in making this morning's Zoom possible know that I, and other virtual attenders, I'm sure, greatly appreciate being able to join in. Thank you all.  
Dee de Roche (online via Zoom).

## 'Official Opening' of our toilet



After the service, Linda King and Paulette Reed surprised Tessa Forsdike by bringing in a door festooned with a yellow ribbon and she was invited to ceremoniously cut the ribbon to 'open' our new toilet. These extra facilities will open our Meeting House to more people and make it possible to hold more events there.

Thank you to Maggie Hodges for the photos of our first service.

### **The Upper Room Cobwebs**

The spiders who reside in the Upper Room cobwebs have become very complacent, not having to share the space with us humans. Webs have become dirty and dust filled strands wafting gently from the ceilings and beams. Dust and dead flies gather on windows, ledges and the pictures, the carpet needs a double dose of carpet wash ... or a new one put down??

IT IS TIME FOR AN UPPER ROOM CLEAN UP.

On SATURDAY 3<sup>rd</sup> JULY 10 am - 3pm, please come along and help either with the cleaning or making the coffee! Cleaning materials (especially for the windows), tea, coffee and biscuits provided.

## **MONEY**

Our piggy bank is silent when shaken.

No collections for sixteen months

No 'Bits & Bobs' stall to fundraise

No book sales ditto.

No donations from visitors.

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Please check your membership subscription has been paid up to date.

Please consider making a donation equalling the amount you would have put in the weekly collection over the past sixteen months.

Please use your Restoration Fund tin to save money for our charity Lighthouse Women's Aid. If you do not have a tin, ask Linda King for one.

Have you paid for your Inquirer?

Please hang on a bit longer to goods which may be desirable items for the Bits & Bobs Stall.

Please contact Robert Waller (Treasurer) or Paulette Reed (Membership Secretary) if you need information regarding membership payments or donations.

### **Services in July**

4<sup>th</sup> July - Ali Mercer, Ipswich Unitarian (Devon)

11<sup>th</sup> July - Martin Gienke, Bury St Edmunds Unitarians.

18<sup>th</sup> July - Jodie & John Warren & Fay Coats, Ipswich Unitarians + Mum!

25<sup>th</sup> July - Liz Constable & Linda King, Ipswich Unitarians.

### **Birthdays in July**

Happy birthday to Angus Hamilton on 1<sup>st</sup>; Cherrie Wilkinson on 2<sup>nd</sup>; Pipiri Hudson on 6<sup>th</sup>; Beatrix Stevens on 15<sup>th</sup>; Dan Cohen on 17<sup>th</sup>; Edmund Reed on 28<sup>th</sup>.

May the sun shine on you all.

## Dates for your Diary

**Table-top sale** at St Mary's Church, Offton - Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> July 11am – 4pm. Although not able to hold a church fete, Offton parishioners will be holding a fund-raising event in the churchyard. As usual Linda King will be running their book stall and there will be a table-top sale of many things for discerning purchasers of objets d'art and kitsch.

**PRIDE weekend** - Friday 23rd July - DRAG, DJs & A DANCE PARTY at Arlingtons!

<https://www.facebook.com/events/318534563274589> Tickets: <https://link.dice.fm/n1t8ghtyOgb>

Saturday 24th July an incredible line-up of local LGBTQ+ musicians OUTside on the waterfront at Cult Cafe. Rock up from 3pm to roller skate to some funky disco classics!! Don't forget to RSVP to the official facebook event pages for updates and get ready for some queer fun & joy! More details here: <https://www.facebook.com/events/520835152604370/>

**The Stars Are Brighter Here** a play by Timothy Allsop – 20<sup>th</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> July – see article for more information.

**Poetry Group** - on 29th July at 2 pm the group will focus on the work of Peter Watkins, a Suffolk poet. Contact Riena Jackson ([mjack76748@aol.com](mailto:mjack76748@aol.com)) for an invitation.

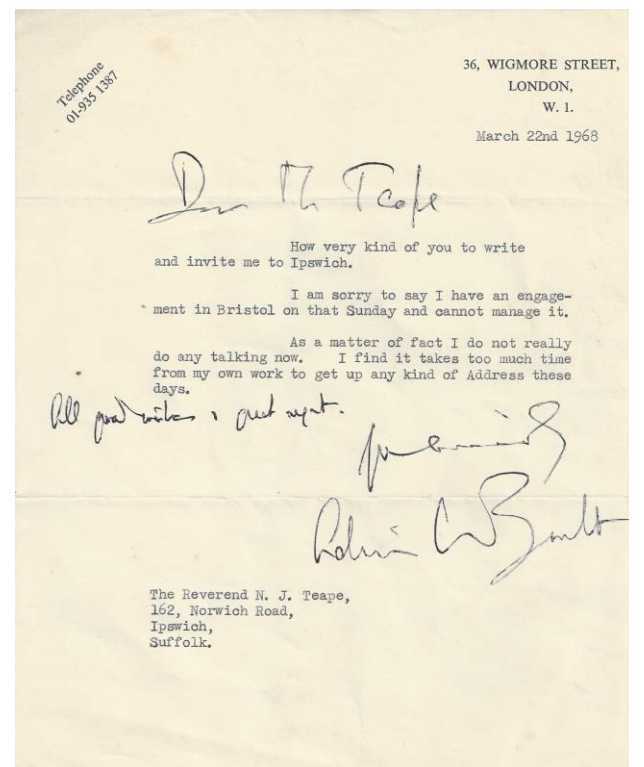
**Book Group** – on 5<sup>th</sup> August at 7pm the group will discuss 'The Salt Path' by Raynor Winn. Contact Tessa Forsdike ([tessa@tessajordan.co.uk](mailto:tessa@tessajordan.co.uk)) for the Zoom link.

**Concert with Yalda Davis**, her final (500<sup>th</sup>) Suffolk church visit in Orford church on Saturday 4th September at 4pm. with friends and family joining her to play the Schubert String Quintet in C major Florence Cooke and Rosie Lowdell (violins), Kurosh Davis (viola), Sheida and Yalda Davis (cellos). See [crosswaysfarm.co.uk/suffolk-churches/concerts](http://crosswaysfarm.co.uk/suffolk-churches/concerts) for more details.

**Trianon Concert** at our Meeting House on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> October in the evening.

## In the archives –

When clearing some papers, June Teape found some letters from celebrities written to her husband Nick Teape when he was our Minister. She has passed them to Linda King for safe keeping. Here is one from conductor Adrian Boult (1889 – 1983)



## Wedding video links

Claire and Cass (Henry)'s wedding videos are now available on the following links –

Blessing ceremony led by Rev Cliff Reed - video – 18.21 minutes - <https://vimeo.com/549647129>

Wedding ceremony in the Library - <https://vimeo.com/547410787>

## Red Cross Memorial Peace Appeal

An emergency appeal, drafted by Rev Feargus O'Connor (Golders Green Unitarians), has been launched. It honours and implements our 2021 General Assembly resolution in support of the Red Cross Memorial Peace Appeal.

<https://www.unitarian.org.uk/2021/06/09/red-cross-memorial-peace-appeal/>

## The Stars are Brighter Here

Suffolk Pride are excited to support this play by Timothy Allsop based on oral testimony from interviews with LGBTQIA+ people from across the UK, including many from East Anglia. On a site-specific journey through different parts of the museum, you will get to meet modern and historical characters and hear some of their stories and experiences. The historical elements are mostly drawn from work done by Pride in Suffolk's Past and Broken Futures. The play will take place in both indoor and outdoor settings. From nineteenth century archaeologists to Betty's nightclub, this play will show you that there has always been a queer presence in the countryside. Directly after the play, there will be a screening of a documentary film. Please note that some of the names have been changed and some elements adapted to protect the anonymity of some of our participants.

Show duration: Approx. 55 minutes Film Duration 10-12 minutes. Suitable for ages 13 and over. Audience numbers per show will be kept to about 25 people to help with social distancing.

### Performance dates

Tuesday 20 July 2pm; Wednesday 21 July 11.30am; Thursday 22 July 2pm and 7pm; Friday 23 July 2pm and 7pm; Saturday 24 July 11.30am.

Book your tickets now via the link -

[www.eastanglianlife.org.uk/events/the-stars-are-brighter-here/](http://www.eastanglianlife.org.uk/events/the-stars-are-brighter-here/)

## Ipswich Clean Air Now

With your help we've got air pollution on the agenda and baby steps are being made from both SCC and IBC towards taking the required leadership, providing honest and useful information, and taking action. But we're pragmatic and know that after 13 years of inaction and denial it will not be easy to get our 2-tiered council to work together for the health of the citizens it serves.

As a group which supports this campaign, we'd like to get your thoughts on how else you'd like to be involved (respecting remaining Covid restrictions).

For instance, are you willing and have time to -

1. Write emails and letters - for instance to MP's and councillors, the local media, etc.
2. Get involved in various activities such as handing out leaflets, holding banners or joining a demonstration.
3. Join debates and discussions.
4. Come along to drink/chat socials to have a bit of fun and provide energy and ideas
5. Help to organise or co-ordinate
6. Research and write reports.
7. Provide us with a social media presence.
8. Contact other groups with a view to widening our presence and effectiveness.

Contact Tony Horner  
[www.ipswichcan.org](http://www.ipswichcan.org)

## Hello from Neil Hodges



Maggie took this photo of her husband Neil when she visited him recently at Handford House. We wish them both well.

**Rev Arthur Golland** was Minister at our Meeting House from 1910 to 1914 and his grandson Jonas Golland has scanned his poetry book and saved it to a shared folder, including a research document at this link -

<https://u.pcloud.link/publink/show?code=kZL3QT XZxxkiQHH7KIQH1TIpVs3RmLx06LWV>

### House of One – Berlin

Jews, Christians and Muslims laid the foundation stone for the House of One on May 27, 2021, in the heart of the German capital Berlin. "This is an important step towards the structural completion of our interfaith peace project," **Rabbi Andreas Nachama, chairman of the House of One Foundation Board**, said Tuesday. "We have already been active in interfaith dialogue for many years, and contribute in our daily work to more understanding, tolerance and togetherness in our society." It is therefore all the more gratifying to soon be able to accompany the erection of this built symbol of that work of understanding.



The House of One will be built on the historic foundations of the former St. Peter's Church. The church, which was damaged in World War II, was completely demolished in GDR times.

### Responsible

When he seduced me with his charm,  
I was responsible.  
When he had a bad mood,  
I had caused it.  
When things didn't go his way,  
I was the one who had to give in.  
When he made me cry,  
It was because I was weak.  
When he was unhappy,  
The world stopped until I made him feel better.  
When I didn't understand,  
It was my fault for being stupid.  
When I couldn't remember,  
It was because I was a liar.  
When another man looked at me,  
I had encouraged him.  
When I looked at another man,  
I was a whore.  
When he shouted at me,  
I deserved it.  
When he broke my things,  
It was because I had argued back.  
When he was violent,  
It was because he had to make me understand.  
I was responsible.

*Author unknown.*

A poem read at our service on 20<sup>th</sup> June focussing on domestic violence and led by Linda King and Deb Johnson from our charity the Lighthouse Women's Aid project.

**Disclaimer** – We welcome contributions from all members and friends of our congregation. Views expressed in the articles are those of the individual and not necessarily those of our congregation or of our Unitarian community

**Contacts** Contributions PLEASE for the next newsletter to Tessa before the deadline of Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> July by email to [ipswichunitarian@gmail.com](mailto:ipswichunitarian@gmail.com) or post to 48 Crabbe Street, Ipswich IP4 5HS

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### Thought for the month

The highest form of knowledge is empathy, for it requires us to suspend our egos and live in another's world. - Plato