

Manse Christmas “Open House”

Alison and Robin invite you round to their home (the Haslingfield Manse – address is on the paper version of this notice sheet) for carols, mince pies and coffee on Saturday (21st December) between 2 and 6pm. Just drop in.



Morning service on Sunday 29th December

This united Church at Castle service, to be held at St. Luke’s Church, Victoria Road, will begin at 10.45am (not as advertised).



Christmas carols

Many thanks to all who took part in the Church at Castle carols at St. Giles’ gates last Saturday which was organised by the Mission and Social Responsibility Committee: the nineteen singers of all ages spread some festive cheer to passers-by and raised £56.20 for Jimmy’s.



SOS(P) – Save Our Street (Pastors)

Cambridge Street Pastors has been greatly blessed over the past three years by support from local government in the form of an annual grant of £5,000. However this support was provided on a three year programme and they have received confirmation that the grant cannot be continued in 2014. This has created a financial crisis for the next six months and they need to reach out to the community for urgent assistance.

They are actively chasing other grant support, but need help now to plug the £5,000 gap in finances – without such aid, the trustees will have to consider how long Cambridge Street Pastors can continue to operate in its current form. Information on ways to give can be found on the website www.cambridgestreetpastors.org.uk – follow the link to “how to give”.



What our minister’s husband gets up to...

Many will have met Robin Walker, Alison’s husband, although he is often elsewhere on Sundays. A video taken at the historic church in Florence where he worked can be found at <http://youtu.be/r7c9FU6-fUA>, but he also has a CD for sale which might make a great Christmas present – see www.theorganist.co.uk/discography.htm.

Orwell Methodist Church 13th Annual Christmas Tree Festival

Having begun yesterday, this continues this afternoon (from 2pm to 6pm), with carol singing and mince pies around the fire from 4pm.



Rotary Christmas Tree Festival at Wesley Methodist Church

This also started yesterday, and continues all week until Sunday, between 10am and 4pm. Admission is free, but donations are welcomed for the Cambridge Churches Homeless Project.



St. Augustine's Carol Service with St. Augustine's Community Choir

This is taking place next Saturday (21st December) at 6pm.



St. Augustine's Chamber Choir at Michaelhouse

St. Augustine's Chamber Choir, conducted by Philip Mead, will perform a midwinter concert at Michaelhouse (Trinity Street) next Saturday (21st) at 1pm. It will include works by Sweelinck, Matthias, Gardner, Bach, Palestrina, Victoria, Ives and Tippett. Admission is free.



"Saturday Nights at St. Luke's"

To cheer up the dark winter Saturday evenings after Christmas, St. Luke's is holding a series of three travel talks with themed suppers. Come and be transported around the world and sample the culinary delights of the country you visit. These evenings are to help raise funds for a new sound system which is long overdue. All start at 6.30pm.

- Saturday 25th January: "The Land of the Long White Cloud" – a journey in New Zealand with Paul and Sylvia Custerson.
- Saturday 22nd February: "A taste of Thailand" – a journey from Bangkok to Koh Samui with Margaret Cooper.
- Saturday 29th March: "Pilgrimage and Tapas" – a walk to Santiago de Compostella with Philipa King and Judith Crowe.

Tickets will be on sale from the beginning of each month until the Sunday before the event (and there will be some available at Castle Street). Ticket price is £10, which will include supper and soft drinks. If you would like wine then please bring your own and glasses will be provided.

New Year's Day Viennese Coffee House at St. Augustine's

Delight the palate with Viennese coffee and cakes, and the ear with the seductive sounds of Strauss waltzes at this annual event on 1st January 2014, between 10.30am and 12.30pm.



Roz Savage book signing

Some people will remember Hamer and Rita Savage, and their daughters Roz and Tanya – Hamer was minister at Castle Street almost thirty years ago. Roz was awarded the MBE a few months ago, and visited Buckingham Palace on 12th November to accept it from Prince William. She has recently had her second book published, *Stop Drifting Start Rowing* about her thoughts and feelings arising from rowing solo across the Pacific Ocean, and will be in Cambridge on 4th February 2014 for a book-signing at Heffers. Full details are not yet known, but watch this space.

If anyone from Castle Street does go to see and hear Roz, Rita is sure that they will be impressed not just by her exploits, but by her knowledge and abilities. There is more about Roz on her website www.rozsavage.com.



Training in Creative Communication Skills

John Hardwick is a popular author of resources for children's ministry. He leads all-age worship at Spring Harvest, fun RE days in primary schools, family events in churches, weekly kids events, etc. using exciting Bible stories, cool songs, crazy puppets, juggling and more to present the gospel – and he is leading four workshops for the circuit. They are to take place at Castle Street on Mondays 20th and 27th January, and 3rd and 10th February, starting at 7.45pm and finishing at 9.30pm. Resources will be available. There is no cost (the workshops are being funded by the Cambridge Circuit) but donations are welcome. To book a place, e-mail johnhardwick36@gmail.com. See also www.johnhardwick.org.uk.

Please contact **Brian Carter** if you have any items for inclusion on next week's notice sheet – to cover Sundays 22nd and 29th December – ideally by Friday evening.

Tel: (01954) 782 762

E-mail: briancarter@o2email.co.uk