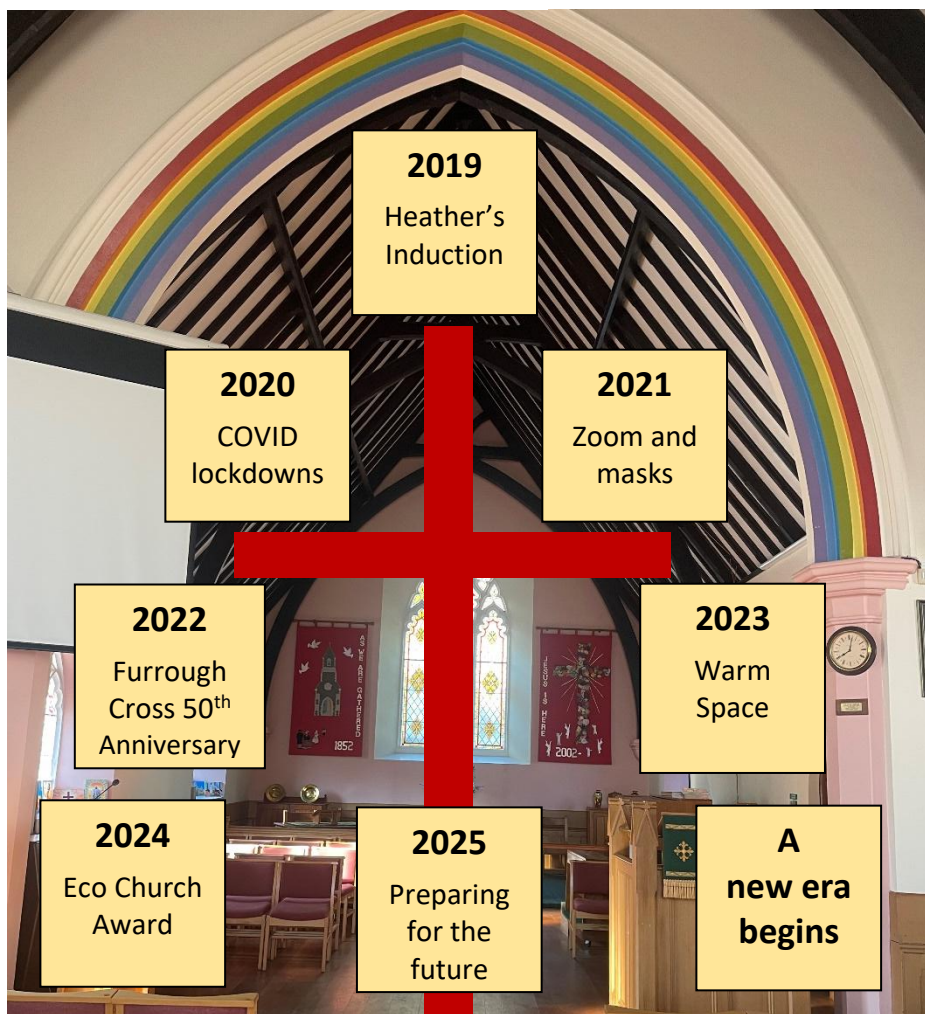


Furrough Cross United Reformed Church

June/July 2025



Website: furroughcross.org

Find us on Facebook: [furroughcross](https://www.facebook.com/furroughcross)



Minister (until 30th June): Rev. Heather Cadoux

(01803) 310156

e-mail: revheathercadoux@gmail.com

Church Secretary: Vacant

Church Treasurer: Mrs Jenny Marshall

Hall Steward: Mrs Ann Close (for hall bookings only)

(01803) 324080

email: annclose49@gmail.com

Messy Church Leader: Miss Shirley Leaman

REGULAR CHURCH ACTIVITIES

Sunday Services: Sundays at 10.30 am. Communion on the first Sunday of each month.

Midweek Worship: Wednesdays at 2.30 pm.

Messy Church: 2nd Friday of each month (not August) 4 to 6 pm.

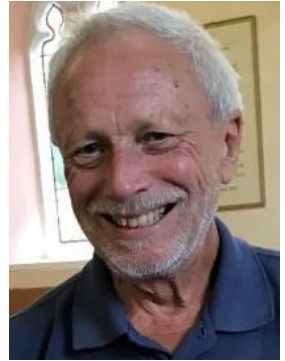
Friday Coffee: Friday 10.00 - 12.00 (until 20th June)

Opinions and views expressed in this magazine may be personal and not necessarily accord with those of the Minister and Elders of Furrough Cross United Reformed Church. Care is taken over the accuracy of the information presented but the Church and Elders cannot accept responsibility for any errors or omissions. The Editor reserves the right to edit or omit material submitted.

FINAL EDITORIAL

Roy Cadoux

As we near the end of our time here, I'm remembering back to when we first came to Furrough Cross in 2019, to meet with the elders to determine if Heather might be the right minister for the church. I was invited to join the meeting, and at one point someone asked me where I thought I might fit in. I mentioned the husband of a minister at our sending church (i.e. before Heather became a minister) who had virtually no relationship with the church, and we were lucky if we saw him once a year on a Sunday. No assumptions can be made about the spouse of a minister. But I think I then said I'd be happy to help out in the life of the church where there was a need. It's been a joy and a privilege over the past almost six years to get involved in many areas of church life and learning new skills.



So much has happened at Furrough Cross since Heather was called and began her ministry here nearly six years ago. Within a few months we lost our dear friend Maggie Field, who was doing so much as Church Secretary. Then Covid struck, and the life of the church was thrown into turmoil. Heather had to take responsibility for ensuring that we were complying with the various regulations and guidance to stay safe – do you remember wearing masks, social distancing, different ways of serving communion, and the many Sundays when we could only meet online thanks to Zoom? Heather had to forgo the 3-month sabbatical that she was entitled to.

It was great when things started to get back closer to normal. Messy Church was able to restart, and we have been so blessed with our volunteers who get stuck in each month. Sadly though (like many churches) children have rarely been coming on Sundays. We have been able to continue to make our Sunday services, and Church Meetings, available online for those not able to get out, and I am grateful to Mariana who has greatly improved what we can offer. We have been without a musician for some time, but we have continued singing with gusto accompanied by the digital hymnal. Wednesday worship and Friday coffee mornings resumed and have both been very successful.

Things have changed in the life of the church, and will no doubt change more, but Jesus Christ remains the same yesterday, today and forever!



There's a BBC TV programme called 'Sort Your Life Out', in which Stacey Solomon and her team encourage and help a different family each episode to have a massive 'declutter' of their homes (everything gets laid out in a massive warehouse so they can realise just how much unnecessary stuff they've got). As Heather and I have been preparing for our move, the programme has been a helpful encouragement to us to think about what we really need, what would be better to give to someone else or to a charity shop, and what really belongs in the bin!

The programme also made me think about our lives – how much clutter have each of us got, that get in the way of us following Jesus? Do we have concerns that we really don't need to keep worrying about? Are there things we are doing that someone else could do much better? Is there rubbish in our lives that needs to be confined to the bin?

It's nearly
time for
some
goodbyes,
and I've
already
said mine
at Torquay
Community
Larder....



...where I've worked with a wonderful team of volunteers most Monday mornings over the past 5 years (*photo previous page*). It's been a privilege to see the generosity of people who donate food and money, and the gratitude expressed by most of the recipients of food parcels. It's been an eye-opener to listen to some of their stories and realise the extent of homelessness, poverty and addiction in our community.

Please continue to support the food banks of Torquay which are so desperately needed. There is a collecting tin for money by the food box in church, or Bill Becher is happy to pass on larger donations directly to the Community Larder.



You are invited to attend a tea party
at 3pm on **Saturday 28th June**
at Furrough Cross United Reformed Church.
An opportunity to wish Heather and Roy
a happy and restful retirement
and hope that they enjoy every moment
of this next phase of their lives.

**A sign-up sheet will be placed at the back of the church
for those who would like to donate food**

FROM THE MINISTER

Rev Heather Cadoux

Dear Friends,

Recently I spent several days at the Synod ministers' spring school. It was an opportunity to renew relationships with ministers that I'd met over the years, either in a different Synod or whilst training, as well as an opportunity to reflect and learn from our speakers.

One of the themes that came out of spring school was 'Bookmarks of Faith', and we were asked to reflect on which of the four bookmarks we were experiencing at that moment.

The four bookmarks are:

- **Incarnation** – Christ coming into our world as a child and being Immanuel, Christ with us.
- **Suffering** – Maundy Thursday and Good Friday.
- **Resurrection** – The Joy of Easter and knowing our salvation.
- **Pentecost** – Spiritual experience and going deep with God, be that Father, Son or Holy Spirit.

We follow these bookmarks through the church year, but where we are in our own walk of faith may not correspond to what is happening in the church year. I know that I'm very much aware that for some, Christmas is not a time of joy. Sometimes we rush from Palm Sunday to Easter Sunday and almost skip over the sadness and horror of Thursday night and Friday. It is our experiences when we are in those bookmark places that enable us to grow in Christ – be that from a joyful event or from the depths of sorrow, frustration, loss or illness.

I'm aware that when I have had times at the 'suffering' bookmark I have been supported by the prayers of my fellow Christians. Each experience has taught me more about my faith. I think the biggest lesson I've learnt is to trust God, especially for the things over which I have no control, and that has been very freeing. There is little point worrying over those



things you can't change, or that depend on someone else's input. Instead, I concentrate on what I can do.

For me, being a Christian is all about relationships: with God – Father, Son and Holy Spirit – and with those who God places in my path. I find it incredible how many of my conversations with people who say they are not religious end up being very spiritual.

Sadly, this is the final time I shall write the minister's letter to you. As with all changes, there are some things I will miss and others I'm more than glad to give up. For me my time at Furrough Cross has been both challenging and rewarding. The biggest challenge was of course Covid. I'd only been here a few months and hardly got to know you when lockdown came along and we had to find other ways of keeping in contact. There have been many joys as we have shared all sorts of experiences together, both spiritual and social activities, and I will miss the relationships that I have with you.

Roy and I will be praying for you as you go into the future and seek leadership for the church here at Furrough Cross. I'm sure you will find us back here at some point as visitors. I know some of you may well want to keep in touch with us, and elsewhere in the magazine you'll find our contact details for when we move. If you find yourself having to visit Derriford Hospital and have time for a cuppa do let us know, as we will be very close.

With love to you all

Heather

EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE

At 6am on Easter Sunday a large group from many local churches (including Clare and Roy) met on Babbacombe Downs for a wonderful sunrise service, and we did actually see the sun rise just as we were hearing the good news that the Son had risen!



BIRTHDAYS

June: Gordon Latham, Val Banks, Isabelle Taggart

July: Adrian Powell, Angie Newman, Marilyn Smale

BIRTHDAYS ARE GOOD FOR YOU: Statistics show that people who have the most birthdays live longer than the average!

FAMILY NEWS

We have been very pleased to have **Alec and Barbara** worshipping with us in recent weeks, and hope they feel welcome and comfortable in our church.

Jenny Webber has moved to Charlwood Court in St Marychurch We wish her every happiness in her new home.

Roy and Heather will be moving to Plymouth in early July.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Wed 11th June 7pm District Quiz at Kingsteignton URC (must sign up on the sheet in church by Sunday 1st June)

Fri 20th June 10-12 Last Coffee Morning

Sat 28th June 3pm Farewell Tea for Rev Heather and Roy



With our work to gain the Bronze Eco-Church Award we have made a good start in making the church 'greener'. Do we care enough to maintain the momentum? It would be so good if someone could take on the role of 'eco champion', to remind the church (and each one of us in our daily lives) of our ongoing need to care for God's creation.



QUIZ NIGHT



Time to put on your thinking caps!



We invite you to an evening
of fellowship and fun
at Kingsteignton
United Reformed Church

On Wednesday 11th June
at 7.00 p.m.

Refreshments will be served
for brain power!

If you would like to come, please make sure you put your name on the list on the side-aisle table by Sunday 1st June.

We will try and organise lifts to Kingsteignton.

Last year Furrough Cross fielded the winning team – can we do that again?

SMILE

Dale Carnegie (sent in by Val Elms)

A smile costs nothing, but gives much.

It enriches those who receive, without making poorer those who give.

It takes a moment, but the memory of it sometimes lasts forever.

None is so rich or mighty that s/he cannot get along without it and none so poor that s/he cannot be made rich by it.

Yet a smile cannot be bought, begged, borrowed or stolen, for it is something of no value to anyone until it is given away.

Some people are too tired to smile ... so give them one of yours as none needs a smile so much as s/he who has no more to give.

Smile!

SAM'S STORY

Sam Cadoux (grandson of Roy & Heather)

I'm doing a Coast to Coast cycle with my Dad to raise money for Children's Hospice South West (CHSW) on 24th - 25th May. We will get the train to Barnstable and then cycle 116km (72 miles) back to Plymouth.

CHSW have 3 hospices, and we go to Little Harbour because my brother, Josh, has epilepsy and gets quite poorly. He was diagnosed when he was 6 weeks old and has still got it now. He is 7 but his mind acts like he is 3 or 4. When we go to Little Harbour I am supported by the Sibling's (Sibs) Team. They play football with me, play in the soft play with me, take me out on trips and play pool with me.

There is usually at least one other sibling so I have some company while the nurses and carers look after my brother. If I have any worries about anything the Sibs team are there to listen and help. All of the nurses and carers at Little Harbour help Josh to do his best, have fun and give me and my parents a break because he is quite hard work sometimes. My brother struggles with his feelings and behaviour which adds to the stress of his seizures at home as well as out and about. Little Harbour gives us time to be a family without needing to worry about him.

CHSW provide hospice care for children and young people with life-limiting conditions and their whole family across the region. The care they offer is wide ranging, including hospice breaks, sibling support, palliative care and end of life care.

If you would like to sponsor Sam's amazing effort for this great cause, you can visit <https://justgiving.com/page/sam-ctc>, or Roy or Heather will pass on any contributions.

STOP PRESS: They did it!

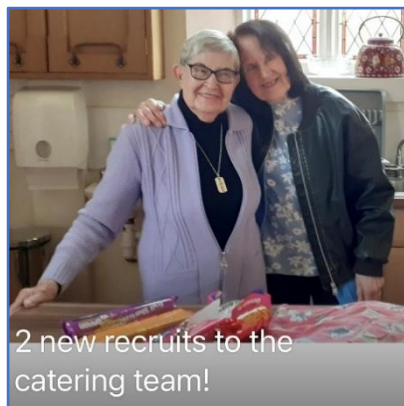


WEDNESDAY WORSHIP EASTER SPECIAL

Beryl Navarro

Put together by Raymond, our pianist, and led by Shirley, children and adults sang and recited the story of the betrayal, death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus, together with extra items by members of the congregation. A solemn and joyous occasion was had by all and we share some of our joy with you here...

[Permission has been received to use the photos of children]



Our brother Roy, with Heather, are retiring and we do thank him for all he has contributed to Wednesday Worship. He has been a blessing and we pray that the Lord will lead and use them both as they go to pastures new.

The Wednesday Worship Team

HERBIE'S POETRY CORNER



CHEER ONE'S DAY
Each time I write a poem
I pray to God above and ask that he
will help me share the wonders of his
love!
Perhaps a word of comfort when it's
really not one's day
Is sometimes all that it will take to
brighten up their day!

MARRIAGE

Marriage is something special,
It's a journey that is new!
When two people love each other,
Make a vow that they'll be true.

Life's not always a bed of roses:
Sometimes troubles mar the way.
But when two hearts share dreams together,
They can face the darkest day!

PRECIOUS MEMORIES

Precious memories are like treasures of gold,
How could we forget those thoughts we unfold?
Maybe of loved ones, or friends of the past;
For these are those moments, that forever will last!



AN OLD PHOTO
The one you say where
"dreams come true"
Is standing there right next to you
The one you cherished from the start
Who pulled the love strings
of your heart
Still walks beside you
through the years
Showing love will never die
But just keeps growing
"as time goes by"!

Written by Herbert J B Doney.

*Thank you
Herbie for all
your
valuable
contributions
to the
magazine
over the
years. -Ed*

LOVING SAVIOUR

For those who share this poem,
May it bring real joy to know
That Someone loves and guides you,
And protects each step you go.
Then should your footsteps falter,
And temptation be at hand,
Remember He who guides you
Is the Rock on which you stand.



Last month was the 80th anniversary of VE Day, celebrating Victory in Europe at the end of the 2nd World War. But we were reminded at Wednesday Worship recently that another VE Day happened around 2000 years ago, when Jesus died on the cross and then rose from death – Victory over Evil!

A MESSAGE FROM ALICE AFTER 54 YEARS AT FURROUGH CROSS

Dear Roy,

Thank you so much for all the hard work you put in to the magazine. It helps me, and I'm sure many more like myself, keep in touch with friends and church activities. Not forgetting all the other jobs you took on – you will be missed.

I do wish you and Heather a good, healthy life enjoying your family – God bless you both.

Alice Hilton

Photo: Alice speaking at Wednesday worship last month





MESSY CHURCH TEAM SUMMER MEAL

Our wonderful Messy Church team and friends had a nice lunch together at the Old Engine House in April. Not a child in sight for a change!





Shirley Leaman

Easter Messy Church was certainly a lively one! Although lots of chocolate and eating was involved we were so glad the children heard the story of what Easter really means. We started our afternoon hearing about Jesus riding into town on a donkey (yes we had a life-sized donkey for Freddy, our Jesus, to ride). All the children followed the donkey waving their palm leaves and shouting “hosanna”. The next part of the story was hearing how Jesus was put to death and the children and adults stuck heart shaped post-its on a paper cross and thought about some of the wrong things we had all done.

We then followed on with our activities. The children could make mini Easter gardens or help make a big one. There were Easter biscuits to ice, boulder rolling to do, a Holy Week wheel to colour in, a cross to decorate and a giant Easter picture to make. I think the most popular





activity was the zip-lining eggs. Everyone wanted to take part in that - well who wouldn't?

Our worship time saw the children watching the two Marys visiting the tomb where Jesus had been laid and finding the stone rolled back and Jesus' body gone. Imagine their surprise when Jesus met them in the garden. God had brought him back to life. We all felt it was so important that the children heard the story of the REAL Easter.

Next everyone enjoyed a supper of fish fingers, beans, salad, cheese and crusty

garlic bread, followed by ice cream Vienetta. And if all that wasn't enough, the children concluded the afternoon with an Easter egg hunt. Woo hoo! Never have so many eggs been found in such a short space of time! So, laden with the crafts they'd made, the eggs they'd found and an Easter comic they'd been given, everyone made their weary way home.

(A lovely remark by one of our littlies: "Today I've had a 'rejection' in my arm with a needle" - bless her heart!)

"God's Wonderful World" was the theme of May's Messy Church, and what a wonderful world it is! We started with a video showing some of the marvels of the world - an amazing bridge being held up by two gigantic hands; the tallest tree in the world; the smallest animal; an upside-down house, and houses in the shape of a boot, a violin and a piano! Of course we had to sing "Who put the colours in the rainbow" - such a fab song to praise God for His marvellous creation: "Who put the hump upon the camel", "Who put the sparkle in the stars", "Who put the scent into the roses". Amazing lyrics.

The children had numerous activities to choose from: making a praise quilt (did you know that you could praise God for “Sven’s Grill”? Well at Messy Church you can!); vegetable print animals on a canvas, biscuits covered in creepy crawlies (sweetie insects in case you were wondering !); magical sun catchers (made from recycled CDs); bird feeders (made by recycling bottles and cartons); painty beautiful butterflies, and pictures to illustrate God’s marvellous handiwork in the night and day skies, animals, nature, the oceans, the planets, and His marvellous wonder of giving us families. There was a lot of laughing and shouting and painty hands. A lovely messy and happy afternoon.

In our worship time Heather told the children about how we are all miraculously made and how our DNA makes us all different. She read out the Psalm which praises God for His creation, with the children joyously shouting out “Alleluia”.

Hungry appetites devoured lasagne, crusty garlic bread, salad and cheese followed by ice cream or lollies. Yum.

Our next Messy Church is Friday 13th June from 3.45 pm to 6 pm.



So it's goodbye from him, and hello to our new magazine team: the Editor will be Mariana Wilson, Paul Madge will undertake the printing, and Clare Smith the distribution. Please give them your full support!

I hope you have enjoyed reading FOCUS since it restarted in April 2020, and that it has helped with communication within the church as well as our outreach to visitors to the building.

Roy

QUIZ ANSWERS from last issue: IT HAPPENED IN APRIL

April 4, 1581 - Which English sailor, privateer and explorer was knighted by Queen Elizabeth I following his circumnavigation of the world?
.....Francis Drake

April 9, 1585 - Which English explorer set out to establish the Roanoke colony in modern-day North Carolina?Sir Walter Raleigh

April 5, 1614 - Which Native American, Powhattan woman married John Rolfe of the Virginia colony?Pocahontas

April 29, 1770 - Which captain makes land in eastern Australia, naming the inlet as Botany Bay?James Cook

April 28, 1789 - An infamous mutiny takes place on which merchant vessel in the South Pacific, casting adrift their captain, William Bligh, and other loyal crewmembers?Bounty

April 6, 1830 - The first church of which quasi-Christian denomination was founded by Joseph Smith in upstate New York?The Church of Latter Day Saints (Mormons)

April 10, 1858 - Which bell, which still resides in the Clock Tower at the Palace of Westminster, was cast in its current form in Whitechapel Bell Foundry?.....Big Ben

April 6, 1896 - The first modern Olympic Games opens in which European capital city?Athens

April 20, 1902 - Which Polish-French couple, pioneers in both physics and chemistry, refine Radium Chloride for the first time?Marie and Pierre Curie

April 18, 1909 - Which 15th-century female French warrior - a leading figure and martyr during the Hundred Years War - was beatified in Rome by Pope Pius X?Joan of Arc

April 24, 1916 - Which Atlantic explorer, along with five of his crew, launch a lifeboat from Elephant Island in the Southern Ocean, hoping to organise a rescue for other stranded survivors of his sunken ship, Endurance?
.....Ernest Shackleton

April 1, 1918 - Which branch of the British armed forces is formed from the merger of the Royal Flying Corps and Royal Naval Air Service?RAF

April 14, 1929 - The inaugural Grand Prix in which small European principality was won by William Grover-Williams?Monaco

April 15, 1942 - King George VI awarded the George Cross to the "people and defenders" of which Mediterranean island, to reflect their sacrifice and resilience during the siege by Axis forces?Malta

April 19, 1956 - Which American actress became royalty after marrying Prince Rainier III of Monaco?Grace Kelly

April 9, 1957 - Which canal reopens to shipping following the "crisis" of the previous year?Suez

April 12, 1961 - Which Russian cosmonaut became the first human to ever reach outer space, aboard the satellite Vostok 1?Yuri Gagarin

April 26, 1964 - The newly-independent nations of Tanganyika and Zanzibar merge to form which modern-day state?Tanzania

April 17, 1970 - Which ill-fated NASA mission returned to Earth safely after an incident on-board?Apollo 13

April 22, 1970 - Which day, dedicated to environmental protection around the world, is celebrated for the first time?Earth Day

April 17, 1971 - After a brief war of independence, which country is officially formed from the territory formerly known as East Pakistan?Bangladesh

April 8, 1973 - Which revolutionary Spanish painter, whose work included Guernica, died aged 91?Pablo Picasso

April 27, 1981 - Xerox released which rodent-named computer accessory - the idea of which would be taken over by Apple?Computer mouse

April 26, 1986 - A meltdown at which Ukrainian (then in the USSR) power station is responsible for the largest nuclear disaster in history?Chernobyl

April 13, 1997 - Who, aged 21, became the youngest golfer to ever win the US Masters tournament?Tiger Woods

April 15, 2019 - Which famous cathedral in Paris was devastated by a large fire?.....Notre-Dame

A FINAL QUIZ FROM ROY

Every answer can be expressed as either one, two, or three letters of the alphabet (as shown in brackets). e.g. To rot (2) = DK (decay).

Answers in next issue.

1. A large expanse of water (1)
2. A part of the body (1)
3. A drink with jam and bread (1)
4. A climbing creeping vine (2)
5. A colourful bird (1)
6. A vegetable (1)
7. An insect (1)
8. Animal at a racecourse (2)
9. A line of people (1)
10. A sheep (1)
11. Content all gone (2)
12. A type of jealousy (2)
13. Slippery pavement in winter (2)
14. An English county (2)
15. Foe in battle (3)
16. Too much (2)
17. Do exceedingly well (2)
18. Kind of pepper (2)
19. Whichever you like (2)
20. A river bordering two UK countries (1)
21. A written composition (2)

