

NEWSLETTER

JULY /AUGUST 2025



***Joint Pentecost Service with Castle Hill URC
and Whitton Parish Church***

Ministers:

Rev. Adam Earle

E-mail: revaje@outlook.com Tel: 01473 411316

Rev. David Rees

E-mail: revdrees@gmail.com Tel: 01473 402721

Church Web Site: www.castlehillurc.org.uk

SERVICES DURING JULY 2025

All Sunday Morning Services
will be live-streamed.

Access is via the Church website [www.castlehillurc.org.uk]

SUNDAY 6th.

10.30am. Hybrid Morning Worship

Led by Elders

Recorded Sermon by Revd. Adam Earle

with Communion

Led by Elaine Thomas

SUNDAY 13th

10.05am. Pause for Prayer

An informal short time of prayer, before commencing Worship

10.30am. Morning Worship

Revd. David Rees

4.00pm Afternoon Reflective Service

Revd. David Rees

SUNDAY 20th

10.30am. Morning Worship

William Glasse

SUNDAY 27th

10.30am. Morning Worship

Revd. Martin Camroux

SERVICES DURING AUGUST 2025

All Sunday Morning Services
will be live-streamed.

Access is via the Church website [www.castlehillurc.org.uk]

SUNDAY 3rd.

**10.30am. Morning Worship
with Communion**

Michael Hollingsworth

SUNDAY 10th

10.30am. Morning Worship

Revd. Jenifer Haggar

SUNDAY 17th

10.05am. Pause for Prayer

An informal short time of prayer, before commencing Worship

10.30am. Morning Worship

Revd. Adam Earle

SUNDAY 24th

10.30am. Morning Worship

Revd. Jenifer Haggar

SUNDAY 31st

10.30am. Morning Worship

Revd. Martin Camroux

INTER-RELATED: A COMMUNITY OF DIFFERENCE



One of the most beautiful - and sometimes most challenging - aspects of church life is that we don't all look the same, think the same, or live the same way. Yet week after week, here we are, worshipping together, serving the community together, and learning to love one another. The Church, at its best, is a community of difference - inter-related, not because we are the same, but because we are committed to one another.

Adam and I recently attended the Eastern Synod minister's Spring School. The theme, as you can see from the heading of this newsletter article, was **Inter-Related: A Community of Difference**. We were both encouraged, challenged and reminded of our interrelatedness and need for each other on our discipleship journey.

Paul uses the image of the body in 1 Corinthians 12 to describe the Church: many parts, one body. Each part is necessary, and no part can say to another, "I don't need you." That image still speaks powerfully today. It reminds us that our diversity—of age, background, politics, theology, and life experience—is not a weakness, but a strength.

I remember one Sunday after worship, a retired engineer with jacket and tie and a student, with dirty jeans and a T-shirt with dubious suggestions, sat in the hall sharing tea and talking about their lives. They had little in common on paper, but they found common ground in laughter and stories of resilience. That's what church can do—it creates the space where lives that wouldn't normally meet are held together by grace.

It's not always easy, of course. We may disagree, sometimes profoundly. We might not quite understand each other at first. We might come from different generations or backgrounds or hold different views on what worship should sound like, or how we express our faith in the world. Even our problems can appear miles apart. But these differences, if held with love and humility, can help us grow.

Being inter-related doesn't mean we have to all blend into one uniform way of being. It means we choose to listen, choose to honour each other's stories, and choose to stay at the table even when it's uncomfortable. Because we believe that in our diversity, God's fullness is revealed.

Friends, we are all working towards this ideal - where difference is not feared, but welcomed; where all are seen as part of the body; and where the Spirit knits us together, not in sameness, but in shared purpose and love. So next time you're in a church activity, take a moment to speak to someone you don't know well. Ask their story. Share a bit of yours. You might just discover how inter-related we already are, as we all are God's children.

With grace and peace,

David



Pastoral Care & Support

As part of our service and commitment to one another at Castle Hill Church, we offer pastoral care and support to all members and those in regular attendance or association. Each person has a named Pastoral Elder. You should, recently, have received a reminder of the name and contact details of your Pastoral Elder. If you have not, please speak to me (Andrea Rumsby) or Revd Adam. We will arrange for the information to be provided or, if you have not yet been allocated a Pastoral Elder, we will make the necessary arrangements.

If you have a problem or concern (not just health) for which you would value support and prayer, then please contact your Pastoral Elder. He or she will ask how they can assist, and pass on information to the minister(s) if you would like. They will also engage with others, with your permission, to ensure that prayer is offered. We will always respect confidentiality and will not share information without your consent.

In case of urgent or emergency pastoral need you may also contact Revd Adam Earle. Telephone: 01473 411316 or Email: revaje@outlook.com

Andrea Rumsby

Pastoral Coordinator

CARING FOR GOD'S CREATION

At Castle Hill Church, we believe that caring for the environment is a vital part of our Christian witness. God calls us to be faithful stewards of His creation, and we are committed - both in word and action - to honouring that calling.

To guide our efforts, we are proud to be part of **A Rocha**, a global Christian conservation movement active in over 20 countries. (The name "A Rocha" means "The Rock" in Portuguese, where the first project began as a field study centre.) One of A Rocha's five core commitments is to follow Jesus Christ, who calls us to care deeply for the world He created.

In the UK, A Rocha supports churches through the **Eco Church** programme, which encourages practical environmental action. This includes caring for our buildings and grounds, engaging with our community, and reflecting creation care in our worship. Churches are awarded **Bronze, Silver, or Gold** status depending on their progress. Castle Hill currently holds the **Bronze Award** and is steadily working toward the more challenging **Silver Award**.

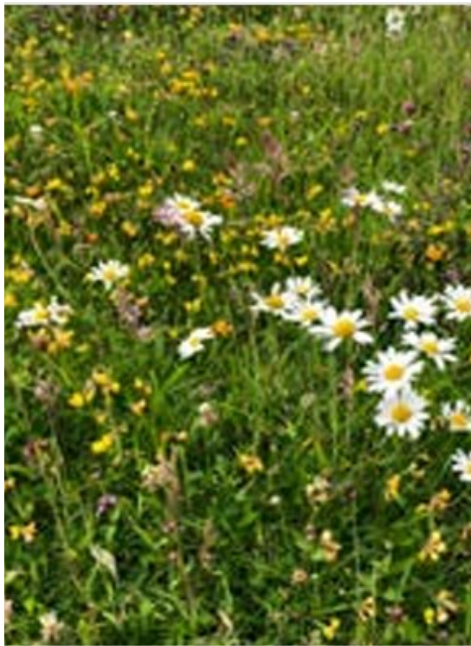
One of our biggest challenges is in the area of **Land and Nature** - but we're making progress! You may have noticed:

- Certain grassy areas are now being left to grow naturally
- Wildflower seeds have been planted
- Bird boxes, a bug hotel, and a hedgehog shelter have been installed

We've already taken part in the **Big Garden Birdwatch**, and starting this month we invite you to join us in the **Big Butterfly Count**—a fun and important way to contribute to wildlife monitoring.

A Rocha's Target 25

We're also preparing to take part in **Target 25 (T25)**—an initiative aimed at helping 25 vulnerable species, habitats, and wildlife groups, either on our land or within the local community. For example, we'll be monitoring our own site to see whether our wildflower planting leads to an increase in bees and butterflies. As always, we aim to share what we're doing not just within our church family, but with the wider community. Through our actions, we hope to care not only for God's creation but also for the beauty and wellbeing of our local area.



WHY DO WILDFLOWERS NEED OUR HELP?

97% of the UK's wildflower meadows have been lost since the 1930s.

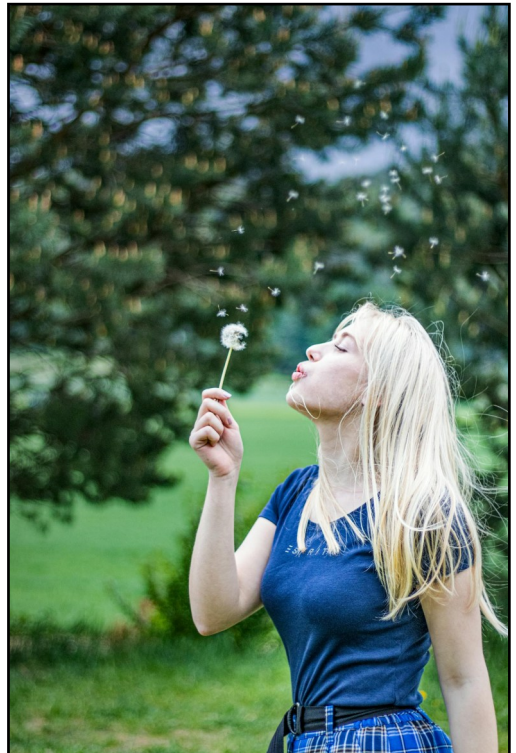
This decline in wildflower habitats has come about largely through changes in farming practices, land development and the processes of urbanisation.

Changes in trends in gardening have also greatly reduced the availability of wildflowers for pollinators, for example, use of herbicides, harsh mowing regimes and a switch to concrete, slabs and 'plastic grass'

DID YOU KNOW?

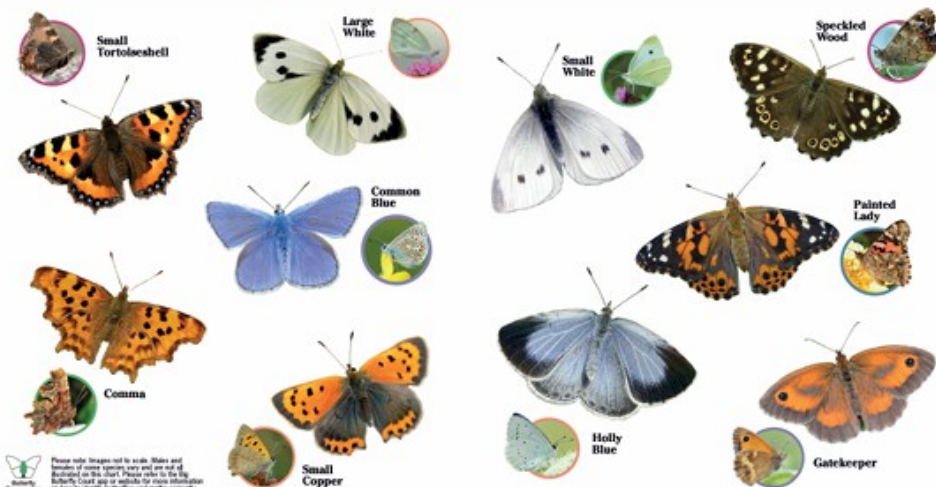
The dandelion, a common lawn 'weed', provides food for pollinators that is especially vital in early spring.

Dandelions get their name from the French name dent-de-lion, meaning 'lion's tooth' and have many colloquial names including 'pee-a-beds' with children being warned not to pick them because of the powerful diuretic effects of their roots. However, the whole of the plant is edible and nutritious for people and it has been cultivated throughout history for human consumption. The seed heads of dandelions have long been blown by children as a fun way of predicting the time...(blow) one o'clock...(blow) two o'clock...(blow) three o'clock!



Spend 15 minutes
in a sunny spot

Use this chart to note how
many of each species you see



Submit your sightings at
bigbutterflycount.org

Or download our free app
by scanning the QR code.



WHERE ARE ALL THE BUTTERFLIES?

Following the results of the Big Butterfly Count 2024, Butterfly Conservation have declared a butterfly emergency, and we need your help more than ever before. By taking part in Butterfly Conservation's Big Butterfly Count - a UK wide survey, you can help assess the health of our environment simply by counting butterflies.

We at Castle Hill will be playing our part by counting the butterflies visiting our Church grounds. But each of us can take part by joining the count from our gardens. Between **Friday 18th July** and **Sunday 10th August** choose a place to spot butterflies and moths. Watch for **15 minutes**. Then record which species you see. You can count for just one day or as many days as you like.

For the smart phone users amongst you there is an app that you can download to record your count. And it doesn't need to be in the same place. You can record your finding while in the local park for example.

To find out more just enter 'Big Butterfly Count' in your browser. Or if its clear enough, scan the QR code on the chart. if you do not have a phone, computer or I-pad but would like to take part , speak to Len Green

This is really an excellent opportunity for everyone to play an active part in Caring for God's Creation.

Caring for Creation Group

SUMER PRAISE SERVICE AT PADDY GEERE HOUSE THURSDAY 3rd JULY AT 3.0pm.

As on previous occasions a small group from Castle Hill to help boost singing and chat to residents afterwards will be most welcome.

Please let Len Green know if you would like to attend.

FNKD AND UGANDA UPDATE



It feels like I've only just returned from Uganda, although it was Easter, time has gone by so quickly. My visit went very well and achieved so much during a short space of time. As well as the meetings, school visits, field visits and spending time at the Children's Centre we planned for and started to construct a well, which was completed just after I returned.

Although FNKD have completed many water projects in the past we hadn't built/dug a well before. Our FNKD team took me to an area of Bucence village (the same village as our Children's Centre) where they have never had access to clean water – they collected their water from a green pond. So, you can imagine their jubilation to receive the Gift of water – we rejoiced too that God used us in this way. Of course the well is already being used but I look forward to commissioning it with a small ceremony during my summer visit.

During my Easter visit, as well as my regular FNKD work, I was very involved in church work and was asked speak/preach at four services. The last was at a Church called Nyabiteete and although I wasn't the one to count them, but there had been 1004 people in the congregation plus 400 children – can you imagine? They would dearly love a Sunday School as the children sit in the service which are very lengthy. I did do a little gulp when I stood up to talk to so many but pretended there were just two people – one each side. But it was really quite wonderful to share a few words of God with so many.

I was pleased to bring back this letter of appreciation from the Diocesan Secretary on behalf of North Kigezi Diocese – they really appreciate and

value the work of FNKD and all its supporters, sponsors and donations to help the needy people in this remote part of the world.

I'm travelling out to Uganda again on 17th July to continue with the work and starting to put plans in place. Please think of me, pray for me and maybe email me a message while I'm there as I appreciate your support.

Canon Rachel Harris

rachh123@hotmail.co.uk





**Wednesday 30th and
Thursday 31st July**

Two days of activities, entertainment, food, drink and good company for Senior Folk. Sign up early to avoid disappointment.

For further information and to sign up speak to Liz Combes,
Sandra Bragg, Vanessa Butt or Andrea Rumsby.

Email: secretary@castlehillurc.org.uk



Saturday 2nd August
@ 4:00pm

In Anita and Michael's garden,
33 Cotswold Avenue.

**Soft drinks will be provided; however, you are
welcome to bring your own tippie if you wish.
Please also bring your own chair!**

There will also be a Raffle!

VOLUNTEERS WANTED FOR CHURCH SUMMER CLEAN



If you can spare a few hours during August to help with our Annual Summer Clean please speak to Michael Robertson . The dates cannot yet be finalised as the cleaning has to fit in with electrical work.

Many hands make light work so please, if you can spare a little time, let Michael know.

ADVANCE NOTICE

Haunted House October 30th - November 1st.

Rehearsals are already well underway for the CHAPS Halloween Panto, Haunted House.

So book the date in your diary now. It promises to be a show you won't want to miss!

CASTLE HILL AMATEUR PERFORMERS PRESENT ...

HALLOWEEN FUN FOR ALL THE FAMILY

HAUNTED HOUSE

A SPOOKTACULAR NEW PANTOMIME BY BARRY CROSSLEY

WITH JASPER THE FRIENDLY GHOST

CHAPS

Castle Hill Church
Dryden Road
Ipswich
IP1 6QF

In aid of  **Children in Need**

Thursday 30 October
Friday 31 October
Saturday 1st November

or email castlehillamateurperformers@gmail.com

TUESDAY WELCOME



**EVERY TUESDAY
10am-12noon**

TEA, COFFEE, CHAT



FISH AND CHIPS FRIDAY

**FOR THOSE LIVING WITH DEMENTIA
AND THEIR CARERS**

**Organised by Headway
A time filled with activities and entertainment**

Every fourth Friday of the month

No need to pre-book

For more information contact:
maureenhowes@headwaysuffolk.org.uk
Phone 01473 712255

**Cost £10 (includes fish & chips,
tea, coffee biscuits and cake)**

Castle Hill URC is a Dementia-friendly Church

IN-BETWEEN CLUB

**FRIDAY JULY 4th
2.30pm.**

GAMES AFTERNOON

Tickets £5.00 from Chris Goldsmith

**Please note: No meeting in
August**

NO INDOOR CAR BOOT SALE DURING JULY AND AUGUST



DIARY DATES FOR JULY AND AUGUST

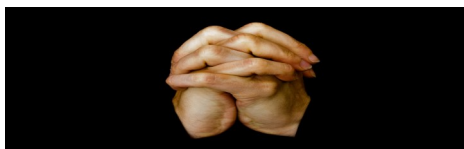
JULY

3rd	Elders' Meeting 7.00pm.
4th	In-Between Club 2.30pm.
9th	Busy Fingers 2.00pm
15th	Wool Court 10.30am.
23rd	Busy Fingers 2.00pm.
25th	Fish and Chips Friday 11.45am.
30th	Holiday at Home 9.30am
31st	Holiday at Home 9.30am

AUGUST

2nd	Charities Barbecue 4.00pm. At 33 Cotswold Avenue.
13th	Busy Fingers 2.00pm
19th	Wool Court 10.30am

**OUR STREET PRAYER FOCUS FOR
JULY AND AUGUST IS FOR THE RESIDENTS OF
MACAULAY ROAD**



Deadline for the September Newsletter
Submissions to Len Green by **Friday 22nd August please**
E-mail: editor@castlehillurc.org.uk