



## Spring babies at Easter



Mia Grace Waller was born on 6<sup>th</sup> March to parents Joel and Mary, weighing 2.17kg. Her grandfather Robert Waller describes her as 'the most gorgeous girl ever'.

Mia is the first granddaughter born to Robert, so is very special.



Freya and Christian's little girl, Piper Bibi Couzens (a nod to Beryl being known as BB to many) arrived on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March. She is the first great-granddaughter for Beryl Beech who is very proud of her.

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## Services in April

7<sup>th</sup> - Robert Waller, Ipswich Unitarians

14<sup>th</sup> - Riena Jackson & Liz Constable. Ipswich Unitarians. GA feedback service

21<sup>st</sup> - Andrew Benedict, East of England Faith Agency.

28<sup>th</sup> - Lizzie Kingston-Harrison, GA Congregational Lead. Anniversary Service, followed by congregational shared lunch.

Also on Easter Sunday on 31<sup>st</sup> March we invite you to wear an Easter bonnet ...

All services start at 10.45 and are also available via Zoom. If you would like the link each week, please contact Tessa Forsdike on [tessa@tessajordan.co.uk](mailto:tessa@tessajordan.co.uk) to be put on the list.



The children's box is ready for visitors too ...

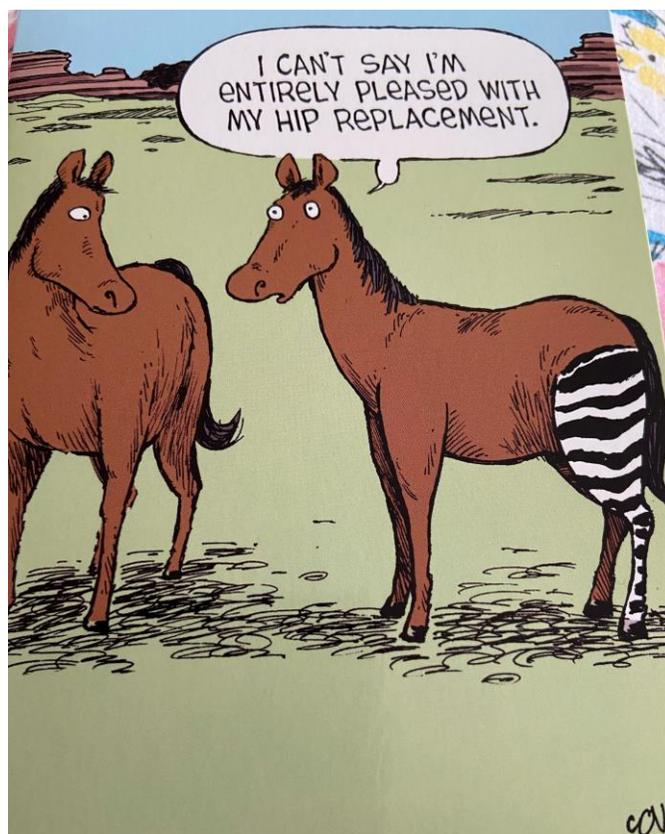
### Birthdays in April -

Happy celebrations to

Miranda McIntosh on 3<sup>rd</sup>; Kate Gray on 5<sup>th</sup>; Morag Blue on 6<sup>th</sup>; Rev Cliff Reed on 12<sup>th</sup>; David Forsdike on 19<sup>th</sup>; Sheila Seal on 21<sup>st</sup> and Rosemary Hamilton on 26<sup>th</sup>.

We hope your special day goes well and that there is an abundance of cake!

## Paula Chapman's progress



In contrast to the sentiments on one of the 'get well' cards she received (above), Paula is doing very well and is already home and conscientiously doing her physio exercises. We look forward to seeing her back at the meeting house when she is feeling stronger.

### Summer Opening

From the beginning of May through to the end of September on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays from 12 noon to 16.00 we open the Meeting House to all visitors. This means we need volunteers to open up and to welcome them, answering questions and handing out leaflets. Sometimes we are busy, sometimes this is a quiet time when you can sit, relax and reflect – or do some dusting! We also hope to have a pianist – Graham Dickerson – playing on some of the days as entertainment. Please see the sign-up board or speak to Paulette Reed to volunteer.

## **Celebrating 325 Years of Dissent: the Unitarian Meeting House in Ipswich – Friday 17<sup>th</sup> May**

Plans for this conference which we are promoting in association with the University of Suffolk are going well.

The Meeting House will be open for visitors from 11am with free conducted tours by Margaret Hancock, a local Tourist Guide and with members of the congregation too to answer questions.

We then move to the Hold, the Suffolk Archives building near the University, where all the Meeting House records, and historic papers will be on secure display from 13.00 to 17.00.

There will be two presentations –

*'We are now in the Tabernacle of Meeting: The Origins and Founders of the Ipswich Unitarian Meeting House'* by Minister Emeritus Rev Cliff Reed.

And -

*'A Comet in the System: Joseph Priestley and the Emergence of Rational Dissent in the Eighteenth Century'* by Dr Elizabeth Kingston Harrison.

Refreshments will be provided courtesy of the University.

The Friends of the Ipswich Unitarian Meeting House are planning a reception at the Meeting House in the early evening for all those who are signed up as Friends.

This is a special event which gives us the chance to raise our profile as a congregation and for the historic importance of the Meeting House itself to be recognised.

There is no charge for any of the event, though people will be invited to sign up for a ticket to the presentations via Eventbrite. This will help us to manage the numbers. As we go to print the link is not yet available but will be circulated by email as soon as it is set up.

**PUT THE DATE IN YOUR DIARY!**

## **50<sup>th</sup> Celebration**

On Saturday the 16<sup>th</sup> of March, I was fortunate to celebrate 50 years of being organist at the Unitarian Meeting House in Ipswich. I was joined by Andrew Garfath Cox and Reverend Matthew Smith as we performed an hour of music which was enjoyed by all. I would like to thank my musician friends, Simon Pulham from Bishops (the company which looks after the organ) who kindly gave us a potted history of the organ and everyone who was involved in making this a memorable evening. I would also like to thank the congregation of the Meeting House for the wonderful card and gift that they gave me. I was very touched. I'm looking forward to the next milestone.

Thanks to all.

Robert Waller



**The evening raised £228.74** (£155 cash and £73.74 on cards) and this money will go to Brave Futures – the charity we are supporting this year. Thanks to all for your donations.

## Book Group

Those in the Book Group continue to enjoy some stimulating discussions about their reading. The next book for consideration is 'Babel' by Rebecca F Kuang. Subtitled 'The Necessity of Violence' this also promises to challenge us.

We meet (via Zoom) to discuss the book on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> May at 19.00. If you would like to join us, just ask Tessa Forsdike for the link.

## Hucklow Summer School 2024

Mon 19 Aug 2024 - Mon 26 Aug 2024

The Nightingale Centre, Great Hucklow, SK17 8RH

### Sustainable Living: Changing Our Ways and Saving Our World?

*The real work of planet-saving will be small, humble, and humbling, and (insofar as it involves love) pleasing and rewarding. Its jobs will be too many to count, too many to report, too many to be publicly noticed or rewarded, too small to make anyone rich or famous.' – Wendell Berry*

This year's Hucklow Summer School will tackle one of the most pressing issues facing humankind. Through talks, engagement groups, and personal reflection, we will explore what it means to live sustainably – in the broadest sense of the word – and what might be required of us, if we are to play our part in preserving a habitable planet for future generations, and creating the better world we dream of. Along the way we will consider the significant changes that are likely to be needed – in our personal lives, our communities, our movement, and our globalised society – if we are to flourish into the future, and the place of spiritual practice and religious community in supporting us through these times of transition.

<https://www.tickettailor.com/events/gaunitarians/1087829>

**IPSWICH CAN**  
CLEAN AIR NOW

It's time to save lives



Ipswich  
Polluted  
Air  
Kills

Air pollution kills 66 Ipswich people a year.

Many more suffer heart, lung & brain diseases.

Our councils have a duty to reduce it.

They won't.

But together **we CAN** make a healthier, wealthier town.

Find out more & join our campaign

[www.ipswichcan.org](http://www.ipswichcan.org)



The campaign will have a stand at the Ancient House in the Buttermarket, Ipswich during the Easter weekend – do go and have a look and a chat.

### Thought for the month

If you are neutral in situations of injustice, you have chosen the side of the oppressor. If an elephant has its foot on the tail of a mouse and you say that you are neutral, the mouse will not appreciate your neutrality. - Desmond Tutu

### 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 Forsdike before the deadline of Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> April ideally by email to [tessa@tessajordan.co.uk](mailto:tessa@tessajordan.co.uk)  
To contact our Secretary, ring 01473 728498 (or email [tessa@tessajordan.co.uk](mailto:tessa@tessajordan.co.uk)) or ring our Treasurer Robert Waller on 01473 610723.