



Unitarians in East Anglia



On Sunday 15th June Unitarians from all over East Anglia met at the Framlingham Meeting House to share chat, a service and some wonderful food, especially cake.

There was the chance of a conducted tour of the 'sights' of Framlingham led by Suzanne Bartlett too. Next year the gathering will be in Ipswich.

Contents

- 1 – Unitarians in East Anglia; Welcome to Maximus
- 2 – Surprise Visit; Events coming up
- 3 – Heritage Open Days; Services; Birthdays
- 4 – Book Group; Hair Donation; WTW celebrating 50 years; Thought for the Month; Contacts

Welcome to Maximus



Maximus Benedict Santos Shaw was born on 5th June, to Marta & Thomas Shaw. He is a first grandchild for Hortensia & Antonio Santos and Lucy & Gerald Shaw and a first great grandchild for Linda King.

Mother, father and baby are doing well, and all other interested parties have recovered!

We at the Meeting House send our congratulations and look forward to meeting Maximus in person ... and maybe queuing for a cuddle ...?

Surprise Visit from over yonder ...



Seven years ago, my daughter Rachel, with her family, (husband Rob and three sons Finn, Declan and Ivan), bought a boat and left their home in New Zealand to sail around the world. It is a way of life they love, visiting different countries and meeting new people, swimming with dolphins, and other marine life. They once rescued two turtles caught in a fishing net.

Rachel writes a blog about their adventures and if you would like to meet the family and see more of their travels you can look them up on YouTube under the name 'The Cruising Kiwis'.

The reason for Rachel's surprise visit was that Finn (now 23) had previously left the family boat to return to NZ to learn to row and become a member of the New Zealand team, as his Dad had done many moons ago. Finn is now a very accomplished rower and will be representing New Zealand at Henley Royal Regatta in the single and double sculls, which is a very good reason for Rachel to be here too.

'It was soooooo nice to have Rachel with me on Sunday and it was soooooo nice when she said it is sooo nice.'

Rosemary Hamilton

Events coming up

Charity Coffee /tea sale with CAKE at Paula Chapman's home – 11am to 4pm on Friday 25th July – in aid of Suffolk Refugee Support – 62 Phoenix Road Ipswich IP4 4ND – all welcome

Friday 5th September 7pm

"The Harp Maker's Tale"

An inspirational, musical, storytelling adventure with Jorge Jimenez - violin and medieval vielle and Joy Smith - harps, percussion and storytelling

This is a unique and powerful blend of words and music for audiences of all ages, with harps, violin, vielle, percussion and more - come and leave your cares at the door.

Duration: approx. 45 minutes

Ages: 0-100!

'So improvisatory and spontaneous. Very very exciting.'

Sean Rafferty, BBC Radio 3

Remember a time when you had stories read to you, ... a time when anything seemed possible ... you really could become anything you chose, be that a train driver, ballet dancer or flying horse! The Joysmith believes that we can all be reminded of that time and feel again - anything really is possible! Join us for this heart-warming tale of life, love and renewal.

Joy Smith and Jorge Jimenez are internationally acclaimed musicians, performing in venues from The Royal Opera House to the Glastonbury Festival, from the Palace of Music in Barcelona to the Munich State Opera. They have performed with groups/artists including David Gray, Sophie Ellis Bextor, The Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment, L'Arpeggiata.



Heritage Open Days

Weekend of 13th and 14th September – as part of the national Heritage Open Days, an Art Trail starting at the Meeting House with art in various media displayed inside the building and outside in a marquee in the courtyard and continuing through the town. Free entry. There will also be a chance to try your own hand at a creative activity. Saturday 13th from 9am to 5pm, Sunday 14th – the marquee will be open from 10am to 4pm and the Meeting House will be open for the usual service starting at 10.45 and then for the art display from 12 noon to 4pm.

As part of the heritage week, we will also offer two special talks linked to the theme of architecture –

Tuesday 16th September 7pm (19.00) – as part of the Heritage Open Days week – a talk by stone conservator Antonia Hockton – **Stone Conservation – what happens behind the scenes**

Antonia Hockton will give a talk on stone conservation and restoration. For over 30 years she has quietly worked behind the scenes, to keep our heritage buildings and monuments going. Initially training at Lincoln Cathedral, her skills have taken her to heritage sites all around this country and France. Patience and a head for heights are essential, but what else does the job entail? Find out by coming to the Unitarian Meeting House to listen to Antonia's talk and to ask her questions. Free entry – donations welcome to the Meeting House on the night.



Thursday 18th September 7pm (19.00) – also as part of the Heritage Open Days week – a talk by architect Stuart Edgar – **Architectural Oddities – crinkle-crankle walls.**



Services in July

6th - Jodi Warren, Ipswich Unitarians.

13th - Andrew Benedict.

20th - Linda King, Ipswich Unitarians. Flower communion.

27th - Lynne Davies, Octagon Unitarian Chapel, Norwich.

The Flower Communion on the 20th July is a time when we can celebrate diversity in its wholeness. Individual flowers gathered together in a glorious multi coloured, individually shaped and scented bouquet. Please bring your flower to make the bouquet; just as we bring our individual selves to form this congregation, this community.

Birthdays in July

Happy birthday to all who are celebrating, especially to –

Angus Hamilton on 1st; Cherrie Wilkinson on 2nd; Piripi Hudson on 6th; Beatrix Stevens on 15th; Dan Cohen on 17th; Harold Mangar on 27th and Edmund Reed on 28th.

May there be plenty of cake!

Book Group

We will meet again on Thursday 10th July via Zoom to discuss the book ' Haven't They Grown' by Sophie Hannah. All welcome to join us – ask Tessa for the link – tessa@tessajordan.co.uk

Hair Donation

Our wonderful daughter Ona has made a beautiful and brave decision — she's going to cut her long, lovely hair and donate it to *The Little Princess Trust*, a charity that provides real hair wigs to children and young people who have lost their hair due to cancer and other conditions.

Ona is a thoughtful, creative, and kind-hearted 12-year-old who has always cared deeply about others. Whether through her music, her art, or her everyday kindness, she's someone who thinks deeply and acts with purpose. When she found out about The Little Princess Trust, she immediately knew she wanted to help.

She's been growing her hair for years, and it's become a big part of her identity — so cutting it is no small gesture. But she's doing it with joy and love, knowing it can make a real difference to another child's life.

Please consider supporting her in this act of kindness by donating what you can. Every pound goes directly to The Little Princess Trust to help them continue giving confidence and hope to children who need it most.

Here is the link:

https://www.justgiving.com/page/ona-iimenez-moss-1?utm_medium=FR&utm_source=CL&utm_campaign=015

Thank you so much for your support!



#OnaGivesHerHair #LittlePrincessTrust
Jorge Jiménez

WTW celebrating 50 years

Tessa and David Forsdike were honoured on 19th June to represent the Meeting House at the celebration of the 50th anniversary of the building next door – which is also Grade 1 listed and designed by Lord Norman Foster. Lord Foster was also present at the event and in his speech mentioned our Unitarian Meeting House, which we understand inspired him to design the exterior of the Willis building in glass.



Thought for the month

In diversity there is beauty and there is strength. We all should know that diversity makes for a rich tapestry, and we must understand that all the threads of the tapestry are equal in value no matter what their color.

Maya Angelou

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 Friday 25th July ideally by email to tessa@tessajordan.co.uk

To contact our Secretary, ring 01473 728498 (or email tessa@tessajordan.co.uk) or ring our Treasurer Robert Waller on 01473 610723.