



**I** imagine the buzz whenever Jesus visited a town. Back in the summer I enjoyed a day in London with our grandchildren Sammy and Maddie. Whilst walking through Leicester Square we noticed a large stage erected in the middle. We hung around for a while as more and more people positioned themselves wherever they could hide from the all-seeing eyes of the law. Imagine Maddie's delight when we discovered that the commotion was all because the boy band, One Direction, were attending the première of their new film! Eventually we managed to catch a glimpse of them as they were hustled onto the stage, and we rushed off to catch our train home.

When Jesus came to Jericho, the people would have had more tangible reasons for being excited. In particular, those who were sick would have been hoping for a healing miracle. Imagine how the blind beggar Bartimaeus must have felt after Jesus gave him sight. Other people, like us in Leicester Square, would just have been curious to see what all the fuss was about. Then of course there would have been the Jewish leaders and Roman authorities trying to suppress undue idolisation of this charismatic teacher. Just imagine what it would be like in Leicester Square if Jesus were to appear there!

Back in Jericho, one man was a bit apprehensive about joining the crowd. After all, they despised him, and he was smaller than they were. To be on the safe side he climbed a tree and hid in its branches. Imagine his surprise when Jesus noticed him and called out "Hurry down, Zacchaeus, because I must stay in your house today." (Luke 19:5).

Now imagine Jesus coming to Stansted. Would we be the ones to line the streets; or would we be hiding from the crowd for fear of being recognised as one of his followers; or would we be hiding from Jesus for fear of being called by Him?

*Mike Dyer*

## U3A CONCERT

It is good to see our Church and Hall used by so many organisations in the Village. Saturday 5th October saw the Stansted U3A choir performing for the first time in the Church. The comments on the quality of the sound and the comfortable seats and décor in the Church itself were very favourable. The members of the choir who had not been inside our Church before were all pleased with the venue, and contrary to their fears, did not feel too close to the audience, being raised up.



Two people beside myself are members of the Choir, Valerie as a singer and Marion in her role as accompanist for some of the songs. Marion and Mike, as well as other church members, worked hard to get it all ready for the night. If you have access to YouTube you can see and hear the choir filling the church with the sound of singing.

Judy Colliver

The next edition of **Imagine** will be available on Sunday 24th November. Please submit articles by Friday 15th November to: [news@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk](mailto:news@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk). Alternatively, please pass to one of the editors, or send to: 23A Bentfield Road, Stansted CM24 8HP. Editors: Alan Wheeler and Mike & Marion Dyer

**Copies of this and previous editions of Imagine can be found on our website [www.stanstedfreechurch.org.uk](http://www.stanstedfreechurch.org.uk)**

## WHAT'S ON IN NOVEMBER

### Worship at Stansted Free Church

- 3rd 10.30 am The Worship Team - New Directions  
10th 10.50 am United Remembrance Day Service at St John's  
See below for details. (No service at our church)  
17th 10.30 am Rev'd David Mullins - Holy Communion  
24th 10.30 am Gordon Doyle

**Services are followed by coffee. All are welcome.**

### Other Activities

- Mon 4th 9.30 am Church Oversight Group 7 Blythwood Gdns  
Thu 7th 7.00 pm Shoe box packing in the Hall  
Fri 8th/15th/22nd 6.15 pm Investigators in the Hall  
Mon 11th 6.00 pm Pilots in the Hall  
Mon 11th 8.00 pm Shalom - 7 Blythwood Gardens  
Sun 17th 11.30 am Fairtrade goods on sale after service  
Mon 25th 8.00 pm Shalom At Home - 49 Recreation Ground

### Remembrance Day 10th November

There will be the usual procession from Crafton Green at 10.30 am, followed by an act of worship at 10.50 am around the War Memorial; you may wish to bring a chair. This year there will be no follow-on service in St John's.

### Pilots Mondays 6 - 7.30 pm: 11th Nov and 9th Dec



Some of our Pilots will be attending the shoe box packing evening in our Hall on 7th November.

On Remembrance Sunday, we will be joining in the procession to the War Memorial and the outdoor service.

We will let you know the date of our Play in a Day in the next issue of Imagine. Our 16 regular children are getting really excited to show you what they can do!

Valerie and Peter and all the Pilot team

Tel: 813433

Email: [pilots@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk](mailto:pilots@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk)

# Stansted Free Church

## Methodist / URC

[www.stanstedfreechurch.org.uk](http://www.stanstedfreechurch.org.uk)

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### Sunday Service

10.30 am Morning Worship. 1st Sunday - New Directions (Informal)

#### Pilots Children's Work

**Monday (monthly)** 6 pm Pilots for children aged 5 - 18 years.

Valerie Trundle Tel 813433 Email: [pilots@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk](mailto:pilots@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk)

#### The Place on the Hill Drop-In (All Welcome)

Every Wednesday and Friday 9.30 am - 12.30 pm

Email: [theplace@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk](mailto:theplace@stanstedfreechurch.org.uk)