

Date	Time	Service	Readings
1 st March Lent 2	8am 10am 4pm	Holy Communion Holy Communion Peter's Praise	Romans 4. 1-5, 13 - 17, John 3. 1-17
2 nd March 4 th March	7pm 10am	Evening Prayer Holy Communion	Jeremiah 18. 18-20 Matthew 20. 17-28
8 th March Lent 3	8am 10am 4pm 6pm	Holy Communion All Age Communion Peter's Praise Choral Evensong	Romans 5. 1-11 John 4. 5-42 Gen 3 Luke 18.31-34 Psalm 40 Joshua 1. 1-9 Eph 6. 10-20
9 th March 11 th March	7pm 10am	Evening Prayer Holy Communion	Deuteronomy 4.1 5-9 Matthew 5. 17-19
15 th March Lent 4 Mothering Sunday	8am 10am 4pm	Holy Communion All Age Communion Peter's Praise	Exodus 2. 1-10 Luke 2. 33-35 Colossians 3. 12-17 Mark 10. 13-16
16 th March 18 th March	7pm 10am	Evening Prayer Holy Communion	Isaiah 49. 8-15 John 5. 17-30
22 nd March Passion Sunday	8am 10am 4pm	Holy Communion Holy Communion Wild Worship	Romans 8. 6-11 John 11. 1-45
23 rd March 25 th March	7pm 10am	Evening Prayer Holy Communion	Isaiah 7. 10-14 Luke 1. 26-38
29 th March Palm Sunday	8am 10am 6pm	Holy Communion Holy Communion Last Words from the Cross	Philippians 2. 5-11 Matthew 21. 1-11
30 th March	7pm	Evening Prayer	

March Diary

March 2nd & 16th

NHS blood donation in the Hall

March 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd & 30th

6.30pm Lent Reflection in Church

March 7th 12pm

Lent Lunch 1 in the Hall

March 10th 9am-12pm

WFPS Family Services in Church

2pm Tea@2 in the Hervey Room

March 14th

12pm Lent Lunch 2 in the Hall

12pm Wedding of Louise & James

March 17th

2.15pm Mothers' Union in the Hervey Room

7.30pm WFGS in the Hall

March 18th

11am Ministry Team Meeting

March 19th 2pm Bible Book Group

March 21st 12pm

Lent Lunch 3 in the Hall

March 23rd 9am WFPS visit to Peterborough Cathedral

March 24th 6pm Born for This in Church (see poster on page 8)

March 25th 2.15pm

Songs of Praise at St John's

March 26th 9am-12pm

WFPS Easter Services in Church

March 28th 12pm

Lent Lunch 4 in the Hall

Every Tuesday and Thursday –

Morning Prayer on Facebook 9am

Every Wednesday in term time –

1.30pm Tiny Tots

Every Thursday - 11am Holy

Communion at St John's

7pm Choir Practice – term time

only (6.30pm for school age

choristers)

1st and 3rd Sundays 6.30pm -

Youth Café for Years 6-8 at the

Church Hall & Youth Life for Years

9 and above at The Rectory

(March 1st & 15th). Term time only.

Team

Rector: Revd. Canon Beverley Hollins 07887 740117

Churchwardens: Joy Matsell & Phil Norris

Lay Vice Chair: John Fazackerley

Assistant Priests Revd. Canon Michael Webber & Revd. Doug Spenceley

Assistant Curate Revd Dr Hilary Halstead

Lay Ministers Clare Pearce & Sue Pinington

Welcome to our March newsletter!

Lent has begun and this month is one of exploring the reason we need a Messiah as we head towards the celebration of his sacrifice and resurrection for us at Easter. The world remains full of sin, but as disciples of Jesus we can confidently navigate the pitfalls around us so long as we keep our focus on him.

During Lent this year we are offering a series of short reflections on being a disciple. You can hear these in church on Monday evenings at 6.30pm, which offers the opportunity to take your prayerful reflection of your own life as a disciple into the service of evening prayer that follows at 7pm. I wholeheartedly recommend this to you. However, you can also see the talks online via our YouTube channel and linked to Facebook.



Lent Reflections

*Monday evenings 6.30pm
in church,
then stay on for
Northumbrian Evening
Prayer and Compline
or watch on our YouTube
channel*

February 23rd	A disciple is an apprentice and a practitioner - not just a student of the Word but a doer of it.
March 2nd	A disciple is an active, intentional learner
March 9th	A disciple is a follower of a particular teacher.
March 16th	A disciple is accountable to someone who knows them and helps them to learn and grow and live.
March 23rd	A disciple is outwardly oriented, focused on helping others learn what it means to be a disciple.
March 30th	Being a disciple in 2026: Just, merciful and humble.

Elsewhere in this newsletter you'll see information about the opportunities to give to charity during Lent. All year round you can also donate to Shoe Aid by bringing old or unwanted footwear to church, to Baby Basics by bringing items from their list of requests for newborns and parents, and to Weston Favell Foodbank. There are collecting boxes for all three of these in the North Porch of the church. Perhaps you might make a special effort to give to one or more of these during Lent. Please note that these are the only things we collect, so don't leave other items in the porch.



Year Five's trip to the Synagogue by Alice and Isabella

During our trip to the Synagogue, the first thing we did was get on the coach, and we got there in 10 minutes. We arrived and thanked the driver but were surprised because, from the outside, the synagogue looked like a normal building.



We went through the bright blue door. There was one big room in the synagogue and three sets of chairs on each side, facing the middle, where Mike welcomed us. He told us all about the parts of the synagogue and what was important in the lives of Jewish people. We learned about the importance of the Star of David and the story of David and then played a little game to see how many Stars of David there were in the synagogue. We were then split into teams and walked around excitedly, counting. There were 36 in total, but the groups guessed 27, 26 and 33. My group won!

After that, Mike chose two volunteers to come to the front. We had to choose which kippah (Jewish hat) they had to wear. We chose the purple and the red ones for our friends. Mike then went on to tell us about the Sabbath, lighting the candles, and sharing the challah bread. Mike also told us about the stained-glass window, which told the story of Joseph

Safeguarding

Everybody has the right to be safe from harm. If you or someone you know might not be safe, call Joy or Canon Beverley

Parish Safeguarding Officer Joy Matsell,
07906 378617

In an emergency call 999



and his coat of many colours. Another window was to commemorate a man who passed his lawyer exams but sadly died that night. Together, the windows looked beautiful.

We were really enjoying the trip, but all too soon it was time to go. Before we left, Mike let us play a game where we had to match the names of the interesting objects he had shown us earlier to the pictures. Both classes got them all right! It really showed that we were all listening.

On the journey back to school, we were all talking to our friends, surprised at how much knowledge we had picked up. We learned lots about Jewish culture, and the games helped us remember.

Alice and Isabella



Committee Update

News from the groups that make us tick!

Report from PCC held on 10 February

We received a report from the Rector about the huge amount of work with local schools that we had undertaken recently, both in schools and in church, reaching 100s of children.

We reviewed progress on our Vision Point One – encouraging involvement of all ages in services and fellowship. We noted particularly the growing communities of families at Sunday 4pm services, both Peter’s Praise and Wild Worship. The Monday evening Compline and Evening Prayer service has also become established, and the new All-Age Service at 10am on second Sundays has been launched. **If you would like more information on any of these services, please speak to Beverley or Hilary. Or why not come along and try for yourself?**

We received an update on finances and on fabric matters, including a reminder that the

Quinquennial Inspection would be taking place later in the year. Eco Committee and Charitable Enterprise Committee reported on their recent work. Particular attention was drawn to the upcoming Lent appeal and Lent Lunches.

John Fazackerley - Lay Vice-Chair of PCC

Vision update

How we're making our vision happen

Early in June 2025 a new and different service was launched at St Peter’s.

What is it? Northumbria Community Evening Prayer and Compline.

When is it? Every Monday evening.

Where is it? The Crispin Chapel, in church.

What time? 7pm prompt start, for about twenty minutes, and we like to spend ten minutes immediately prior to the service starting, in silence if possible. The church is opened at 6.30pm.

Evening Prayer and Compline	
Evening Prayer	2
The Felgild Compline	7
The Boisil Compline	9
The Ita Compline	11
The Ebba Compline	14

* indicates a change of reader; words in bold are said all together; words in bold italic are said by each person in turn, beginning wherever the reading has got to in the circle; and + indicates where you might make the sign of the cross.

This is a quiet, reflective service, with a period of open prayer if you are comfortable with that (otherwise it is okay to pray in silence). Numbers fluctuate from two to about ten, and there is no requirement to

be there every week. We take turns to lead, which is arranged beforehand, and whoever is leading chooses the reading which can be selected from the Lectionary, or a favourite part of the Bible, or from the Northumbria Community Evening Prayer website for that particular day. The leader also chooses which Compline we will use that evening.

Why not come and see if it is something you would like?

You can join in, or just sit quietly and feel God’s presence in that holy place. You’d be very welcome.

Sue Pinington

Good Friday Family Event

Friday April 3rd is Good Friday and we will be holding our annual Family Event between



and fun activities.

We all help to build our Easter Garden that moves outside to the



10-12 in the Church Hall. This is a chance to engage with the Passion Story from Palm Sunday through to Easter Day. We do this through a series of reflective stations

West end on the church under the tower. We also offer hot and cold drinks and hot cross buns.

All are welcome to come along and join the fun. There are



always lots of crafts to do and bring home.

Not to mention seeing old friends and making new ones.

GIVING IN LENT

For the last 30 or more years at St Peter's we have developed a particular pattern of opportunities for giving in Lent. In the Christian Church, in recognition of the huge sacrifice made by our Saviour Jesus Christ on the cross, and in resisting the temptations of the Devil, there has always been a tradition that some sacrifice on our part, however small, is the least we can do, to demonstrate our faith and thanksgiving. In recent years, rather than fasting, people have been more likely to give up chocolate or alcohol.

However, our church community has built up the alternative response of making sacrifices, in the form of the Lent Lunches

and Lent Appeal, which has the added benefit of giving to charities. For the **Lent Lunches** hosts offer to produce a simple meal of home-made soups, bread and tea or coffee, which could be viewed as a mini-fast, and they ask for donations for their chosen charity. These lunches also offer fellowship and the fun of a raffle. The impact of Covid and the loss or infirmity of some of our previous faithful supporters means the hall isn't now as full as it used to be. So please come and support the lunches listed above in the church calendar. **All are welcome!**

The Charitable Enterprise Committee also chooses a charity each year to benefit from a direct appeal for money as our Lent Appeal.

Our Appeal is for the Alzheimer's Society



Many of you are aware that there are friends in the St Peter's family affected by Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia. You may already have cause to know what wonderful support the charity offers to both those afflicted and their carers. It also sponsors research into causes, medication to relieve suffering, and potential cures. All your donations, however small, will add up to further support for their work.

At the back of the church there are **envelopes** which you can use for your donations, which give the opportunity for authorising gift aid. These, or your own envelopes, suitably labelled with the necessary information, can be handed into the church office or the postbox under the window. We prefer you to avoid cheques, as these incur an extra cost. Some people find it easier to do a **bank transfer**:- PCC of Weston Favell, 20-51-61, 20345229 with the reference LENTAPPGA - the GA indicating you authorise Gift Aid.

If your name isn't clear on the account, you might need to add that to the reference. Thank you in anticipation of your usual generous support.

Rosemary Pestell, on behalf of the PCC's Charitable Enterprise Committee.

Sunday 6pm Services

Our next service of Choral Evensong has a Lent theme and is on Sunday 8th March at 6pm.

We are currently setting up a mailing list to send details of our Sunday 6pm services to those interested in attending. If you would like to be added to this list, please speak to Clare Pearce or one of the Church Wardens.



Ambulance Services. They search towns, countryside and open spaces, and deploy specialist water and search dog teams when needed, all to bring people home safely. As a completely volunteer-run organisation, NSAR depends on fundraising to maintain their vehicles, equipment and training. So when you come along to our soup lunch, you won't just be enjoying a warming meal you'll be supporting a very local charity that helps people when they need it most. Come hungry, leave happy, and help us raise vital funds for Northamptonshire Search and Rescue.

Born For This
A moving and powerful portrayal in music and drama of the stations of the cross by Jo Boyce

Students from Weston Favell Academy will be staging a unique performance at St Peter's on **Tuesday 24th March at 6pm.** Entry is free.

14th March: Natasha Henson (The Fire Fighter's Charity):



<https://www.firefighterscharity.org.uk/>

Ensuring firefighters (serving and retired) get the right support, delivered in the right way and at the right time. This is the cornerstone on which our support philosophy is based.

21st March: Clare Pearce (Mothers' Union Charities):



On Saturday 21st March money raised at our Lent Lunch will be shared between three very worthy causes. Our church branch of Mothers' Union has committed to provide food parcels for each school holiday for 6 families identified by staff at Weston Favell Academy as being in need of additional support. It would be great if, with your support, we could help more families!

We will also be raising money for two Mothers' Union projects. The Away From It

Lent Lunches Update



7th March: Janet Kirkland (Northamptonshire Search and Rescue):



Northamptonshire Search and Rescue (NSAR) is a local volunteer charity that works alongside our emergency services to find missing and vulnerable people across the county. NSAR volunteers are on call day and night, responding willingly when requested by Police, Fire & Rescue, or

All (AFIA) scheme is one of Mothers' Union's longest-running projects, primarily funded



by MU members. The scheme supports families through the provision of holidays and trips, offering much needed respite to people unable to afford or access a

break due to difficult circumstances. Some families may be facing adversity, health problems, economic hardship, bereavement, health issues or other life-changing circumstances.

The global Mothers' Union Literacy Education Programme has been giving a holistic approach to empowering some of the most marginalised communities in the world whilst meeting the Millennium Development Goals. The programme uses participatory methods to enable



communities to acquire basic literacy and numeracy skills whilst discussing and planning action on their daily issues and challenges.

Literacy circles are open to everyone, crossing the boundaries of religion, age, gender or tribe, enabling community unity. The programme has been especially effective in reaching the most marginalised in society, including groups previously discriminated against and displaced communities.

Do join us on Saturday 21st to enjoy fellowship as well as delicious soups. There will also be an opportunity to browse and buy from our bookstall. If you are not able to be there on the day, donations can be made either via Cathy in the Church Office or given to Clare Pearce.

28th March: Sue Griffiths (Wings of Hope)



We are a new charity that came into being through the work of Welcome Churches Drop-in Group for the Asylum Seekers housed at the Westone Hotel, here at St Peter's Church Hall! As we spent time together on Thursday mornings we began to understand, not only people's journeys here, but also the challenges facing them once they left the hotel, especially when English was not their first language. The charity Wings of Hope Northampton (WoHN) was set up in response to a sense that God was calling us to 'welcome the stranger in our land'

<https://wingsofhopenorhampton.org.uk/>

Wings of Hope has two areas of work: accommodation and community support and it is for the latter that we will use money raised through the Lent Lunch. Community support provides practical help to asylum



seekers and refugees who have been housed in Northampton. We aim to support people "moving-on" from the asylum system, towards social and economic independence for their life in the UK. We work with families who are in disbursement or temporary accommodation often with very little in terms of furniture, kitchen equipment, bedding and toys. In an unfamiliar setting people often need some friendly help to access utility services,



schools (and uniform), health services and to fill in the endless online forms

required for life in the UK! We are in the process of setting up an ecumenical Community Friendship and Support Group of volunteers to help with these immediate short-term needs and for some longer-term commitment to help with English and to adjust to life and work in Northampton- if you are interested in becoming a volunteer do speak to Carla Merrey (07838 277319) or Sue Griffiths (07763 762264). Money raised on the 28th will be used for the provision and delivery of short-term goods i.e. school uniform, toys, bedding, furniture, kitchen equipment.



Palm Sunday March 29th 10am – Holy Communion

Join us as we begin Holy Week, remembering the journey Jesus made with his disciples to Jerusalem for the last time. Our service includes the reading of the Palm Sunday gospel, and a procession around the outside of the church waving our palms and singing Palm Sunday hymns. We will also follow the Palm Sunday gospel at our **8am** said communion service.

Palm Sunday 6pm – The Seven Last Words from the Cross in music and readings

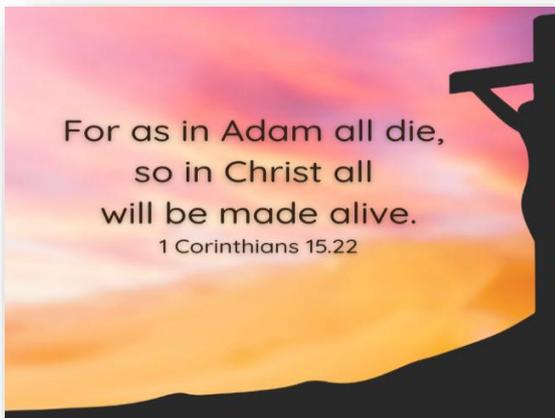
This moving service is based on the Last Words of Love spoken by Jesus from the cross. In each section there is a reading and a reflection, followed by a silence during which time it is suggested that you focus your thoughts on what has been said, giving consideration to the questions printed in the order of service. Between each section there is a congregational hymn or anthem.

Holy Monday March 30th - Holy Week Reflection and Evening Prayer

At 6.30pm Canon Beverley brings the Lent reflections to a close, considering what it means to reflect the character of God in our own lives. At 7pm the service of Northumbrian Evening Prayer and Compline offers gentle and peaceful reflective space together.

Bible verse of the month

Bible verse: 1 Corinthians 15.22



At the beginning of Lent we are reminded of the story of the Fall – how Adam and Eve rebelled against God’s command and lost their place in the Garden of Eden in God’s direct company. The danger of listening to the inner serpent and believing that we are wiser than God, or even that God is somehow tricking or deceiving us, is still very real. When humans fail to listen for God’s wisdom and to do God’s will we damage our relationship with God and very often hurt other people or parts of creation. As Christians we take comfort in the knowledge that Jesus our Lord has intervened. The big price of the Fall, or all humans being eternally separated from God, is aid by Jesus for us all. So for all who trust in Jesus and follow him, we can have confidence that we can overcome every temptation and be restored to God’s presence in paradise.

Life Groups:

If you are interested in joining a Life Group, contact Wendy Wheeler, 07711 828985

Holy Tuesday March 31st 7pm - The Way of the Cross

This reflective service allows us to travel through key moments in the story of our Lord's passion and resurrection, using an adapted version of the traditional stations of the cross and artwork created by members of Youth Café. The service is led by young members of St Peter's from across our youth groups.

Holy Wednesday April 1st 10am – Holy Communion

Our midweek service draws us to the story of Judas, remembered on this 'Spy Wednesday'.

Holy Wednesday 7pm – Tenebrae

The word 'Tenebrae' means darkness or shadows. As we come to the end of Lent, we begin a journey into darkness to a place of deep shadows. This is characterised



through this atmospheric service by the gradual extinguishing of candles to symbolise the approach of darkness and Christ's suffering. The service ends with the final candle being hidden as Jesus' body was hidden in the shadows of the tomb.

Maundy Thursday April 2nd 7pm – Communion of the Last Supper with vigil

We remember the Lord's words to his disciples as they shared their final meal together, as we share in bread and wine and in washing of feet. The service ends with the removal of all decorations from the church.



Afterwards those who wish to can stay on (or come and join us if you haven't been able to get to church earlier) for a silent vigil ending with compline at 8.45pm.

Good Friday April 3rd 10am-12pm- Family Event in the Church Hall

Join us as we explore events from Palm Sunday to Easter Day with crafts, storytelling and reflective activities. There is lots to do and to see including making the Easter Garden. Refreshments of course included hot cross buns.

Good Friday 2pm – the Service of the Cross

This solemn service offers time to enter into the events of the Passion, listening to the passion reading from John's gospel and leaving in silence at the end of the service to continue our reflection on this greatest of sacrifices.

Easter Day April 5th 6.30am – Sunrise Service

For the early risers, a chance to gather on Peter's Patch and see the Easter Fire, listening to the story of Mary Magdalene's early morning encounter with the risen Jesus, before going into church to light the new paschal candle.

This service is followed by breakfast in the church hall.

Easter Day 8am

The first communion of Easter

Easter Day 10am

This service begins outside with the blessing of the Easter garden, before continuing celebration of the resurrection of our Lord with a joyful communion for all.

Celebrations continue on Easter Monday with an Easter Egg hunt organised by the WFVRA, starting at the Church Hall at 10am. Thanks to the members of the residents' association for organising this fun event for all.



EASTER EGG HUNT (free entry)

MONDAY 6TH APRIL 2026 10am – 11am

REFRESHMENTS (£1.50 pp cash preferred) and children's activities in the Church Hall

Facebook Morning Prayer



Cast your minds back to March 2020: Covid was rife. The country closed down. The church building was shut and locked. What could we do to keep our faithful community engaged and worshipping God from their own homes? Revd Matt came up with the idea of live-streaming Morning Prayer via our church Facebook page. Revd Hilary came on board, closely followed by Sue and then Rosie. Canon Beverley joined a little further along the line. Revd Evie, Revd Rachel and Lorraine have also been involved. We started streaming services of Morning and Evening Prayer sometimes six days a week, in spite of occasional technology, wifi and picture quality problems. As the church building re-opened and other online services became available, this has gradually decreased to twice a week, with some people watching us live and others catching up later in the day. Rosie and Sue have now decided to step back from this ministry, so Morning Prayer will be live-streamed on Thursday mornings only at 9am as from March 2026. It is not a decision we have taken lightly and there has been much prayer and discussion involved so that we could all come to a joint decision. Many thanks to the small band of supporters that look for our pre-broadcast reminder and are always so grateful that we are there. (PS - you may find Rosie and Sue reappear very occasionally to cover holidays!) (PPS - if you are interested in live-streaming a Morning Prayer service, please contact Cathy in the office).

The Morning Prayer team

A Midsummer Night's Dream Prayer Spaces for Schools



For the third consecutive year, we have had the privilege of being involved in the Northampton Primary Academy Trust Shakespeare project. This year the play being studied by all the schools in the Trust was 'A Midsummer Night's Dream'. Our involvement started three years ago when we supported Weston Favell Primary School by providing reflective Prayer Stations based on The Merchant of Venice.



These worked so well that last year we were asked to do the same again for Henry V but to include other schools from the Trust over two weeks. This year the project grew again and took us into three weeks and saw us going on tour!



Our first week was based in WFPS where, over the five days, we provided eight Prayer Stations for the children in Years 3, 4, 5 & 6, three simpler activities for those in Years R, 1 & 2, and an even simpler version for the children in Pre School.



In Week Two we spent three days based in church visited by Year 5 children from five different schools and one day where we took the Prayer Stations to another school. We then continued 'on tour' for Week Three making provision for a further three schools. In total we catered for 830 children over the three weeks – 50 more than last year.

The themes we took from the play were: Love & Marriage, Jealousy, Manipulation, Order & Disorder, Transformation,



Appearance & Reality, Friendship and Creative Imagination. All of these were linked by quotes from the play, a passage from the bible, ideas for reflection and included a practical activity.

It was no surprise that the most popular



activity was the one for 'Creative Imagination' where the children had the opportunity to be creative with play dough and make whatever they wanted to.

Their creations included characters from the play, items linked to their hobbies and other interests including food, plants, and a fascinating range of creatures.



As always, none of this would have been possible without our wonderful team of volunteers. The initial planning was undertaken by a group of five who between them had an

excellent knowledge of the play and the bible as well as imaginative ideas for activities. A dream team! And then there were the 23 wonderful volunteers who between them gave up their time to plan what we were going to do, print materials, count out resources, make play dough, set up the activities numerous times and actually deliver the Prayer Spaces. Not



forgetting the prayerful support of so many of you. Without all of this what we achieved would not have been possible.

Canon Beverley and I are extremely grateful to everyone involved in making this project so successful.

Clare Pearce, St Peter's Schools' Team Lead

Organ Recital

Our talented organist, Chris Benton, is performing an Organ Recital on Saturday 25th April 11.30am

at

St Mary's Church, Higham Ferrers NN10 8BT

The recital will be around 40/45 minutes in length and entry is free!

There is also a Farmers Market on that day and the Bede House next to the church will be open between 9.30am to 12.30pm selling coffee/cake.

Do come along to support Chris!



Can you make a donation to St Peter's?
Use your smartphone camera to connect using this QR code, or contact the office for more information.

Pastoral Concern? If you or someone you know need support, or communion at home or in hospital, please call Sue or Canon Beverley

Anna Chaplain and Lay Pastors' Coordinator
Sue Pinington, 07710 774990

Contact Us

The Church Office in the Church Hall is open on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays (term time) 9am-12pm.

Parish Administrator: Cathy de Maid 01604 787117 stpeterswestonfavell@yahoo.co.uk

Website www.achurchnearyou.com/church/16484 or **find us on Facebook** search 'St Peter's, Weston Favell'