

# Rejoice!

JULY/AUGUST 2014



**The Magazine of the  
West Norfolk Methodist Circuit**

Dear Friends,

By the time you read this summer edition of ***“Rejoice”*** Janet and I will have been with you 11 months. It has certainly been an interesting and eventful time. We are so grateful for the welcome we have received and the help and support we have had. We are now much more familiar with what is going on and are in a better place to play our part in church and circuit life.

Of course, I came to share the eight churches of the Downham section with my colleague, Marie Whitcombe, and that was going well until the end of 2013. But since then Marie has had a lung condition diagnosed and is just not well enough to work. I hope that you will continue to pray for her and her family. As I write Marie has become a grandmother (again) and she will be seeing a lot of baby Annabelle as her son Daniel and daughter-in-law Erica live with her at Lion House. I hope also that you will pray that we may discern the future shape of ministry for this section as it is not clear what will happen.

Being the sole Methodist Minister in Downham can be stretching at times and there are weeks when some things do not get done that ought to be done. In particular I am not sure how I can make an impact in the villages as I am there so infrequently. On the preaching plan I am just there once a quarter and I need to be there in midweek.

The other day I had a phone call asking me to call at the home of someone I did not know who is terminally ill. So I did. He said “I went to a relative’s funeral which you took. You seem a straightforward person, what you said was helpful, I want you to take my funeral.” I agreed and was able to pray with him and I will visit again. Here is opportunity, as I also met his wife and two daughters and they are not a church-going family.

Someone once said to me, there are no such things as problems but opportunities. I would not put it quite like that. People find themselves in the midst of deeply troubling and tragic situations which need to be taken seriously. In many there are no quick fixes or smooth words that can magic things right but there is the opportunity for others to stand alongside them and offer a listening ear, a supportive presence. When we go to someone we go in the name of Christ as he is part of our identity. We belong to Christ, we are his disciples. We also offer Christ in what we offer - love and care, empathy and compassion. Sometimes our hope in Christ can be put into words or it is appropriate to pray, on other occasions it is unspoken but still real. In each situation there is opportunity, for God is working in that situation and his love surrounds that person whether they recognise it or not.

Now this it seems to me is the work of the whole people of God. There has to be partnership, Minister and Lay People living alongside others and seeking to offer love and care. We sometimes get too focused on the inner workings of the church, its committees and processes that we are not out there in the communities where we live and work. My ministry has been too

church centred and not enough community centred. It is in the community that ordinary people struggle to make sense of their lives and society provides no real answers. But people won't hear the Christian message unless they meet real Christians in the communities where they live. This is the hope for the future that our churches, whether big or small, will experience God's opportunities and relate to the people in their midst and then there will be a new generation finding meaning and hope in the words of Jesus.

Sincerely, *Maurice*

## **90<sup>th</sup> Birthday**

The Rev. David Caink will be celebrating his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday at Dersingham Methodist Church with a tea party on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> August from 3p.m. to 6p.m. All friends from the past (Terrington 1961-1966 and Superintendency at London Road 1985-1990) and from the present around the Circuit would be most welcome.

## **Sunshine bags for Mission**

At this season members are invited to contribute to the Sunshine bag collection. Each year the suggestion has been that for one or more of the summer months we put aside some money in thanksgiving for all God's gifts to us through nature. This year August is the suggested month.

These donations are divided between Mission in Britain and World Church Funds. Churches are asked to dedicate their gifts at a suitable Sunday service before they go to the Circuit Mission Treasurer.

Dawn de Visme for the Mission Committee

**Prayer Handbook 2014/2015 Cost £3.35 each**

**LWPT Diary and Lectionary 2015 Cost £5.50**

and will be available by end of September. Please let me know by **14<sup>th</sup> July** if you wish me to order either one for you.

Elizabeth Batstone  
pebatstone@fsmail.net tel: 01485 541068  
19 Mountbatten Road Dersingham  
PE31 6YE

# Praying together in the Circuit

Ephesians 3:20-21 [ KJV]

Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us,  
Unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages,  
world without end. Amen.

Albert Benjamin Simpson 1843-1919 was a Canadian preacher, theologian, author and founder of the Christian and Missionary Alliance for global evangelism. This is one of his devotionals..

Days of Heaven on Earth. There is power for us if we have the Holy Spirit. God wants us to speak to men so that they will feel it, so that they will never forget it. God means every Christian to be effective, to make a difference in the actual records and results of Christian work. God put each of us here to be a power. There is not one of us but is an essential wheel of the machinery and can accomplish all that God calls us to. There is not a thing that God expects of a person but that God will give him or her the power to do. There is not a command God gives to His children for which He does not provide the enablement for obedience. When Christ Jesus lived and died and sent down the Holy Spirit, He sent resources for all our needs, and there is no place for failure in the Christian life if we will take God's resources. Jesus, the ascended One, and the Holy Spirit, the indwelling energy, life and efficiency of God are sufficient for all possible emergencies. Do you believe this? If you believe it, let Him into your heart, without reserve, and allow Him to control you and work through you today by His power.

Thank you Lord for the blessing of the District 'Big Prayer' event and the Circuit ' Pentecost in the Park'. For the encouragement and inspiration, the fellowship and unity we experienced. Please lead us

forward guided, directed, enabled, enthused, and 'on fire to carry the flame'.

Prayers have been requested for:-

Derek + Viv , Stephanie, Janice, Anne, Amy, Trisha, Linda, Ruth Harbach, Andrew, Mavis, Julia, Rachel, Judy, Dulcie + Neill. Kelly, Kath, Stephen + Victoria, William, Tom . Ken and Norma. Brian and Marjorie Osborne.

Marie from King's Lynn [and her children] have been included in our prayers since the death of her husband. Marie passed away earlier this month. We pray for her children [now in their twenties] in their bereavement.

We also pray for Rev Marie Whitcombe and Reg Manning that their treatment may be successful.

Praying for the Circuit. Mondays at London Road.

We are now meeting at 2.00 pm

Thursdays at Downham Market at 11 am

## Methodist Memories

Whilst re-reading the book about John Wesley by Roy Hattersley, called "A Brand from the Burning" I came upon his comments about Wesley's concern for horses. This induced Wesley to include in his instructions to preachers the duty to feed their animals before they fed themselves. Preaching houses all over Britain were built to include a stable in which the preacher's horse could be watered and groomed. It always added to the efficiency with which the work was carried out. John Wesley was aware that the horses would not understand theology but they could comprehend kindness and care!

At Terrington St. Clement in my day, there was indeed a stable round the back of the chapel, a mounting block and in the wall outside there were two rusty iron rings for the visiting preacher's horse to be tethered. There is now just a large car park!

Rev David Caink

## Reminiscences of a Minister's wife in the 60s

We came to Terrington St. Clement Methodist Church as virtual newly-weds having married the previous April. The lovely manse was full of ladies arranging flowers, the kitchen cupboard full of provisions and a meal was on the table. We never had such a welcome again! Our five years were full of very unforgettable moments. My 21<sup>st</sup> birthday was celebrated at the Christmas Bazaar, but we did not let on! Jack Ward had arrived at the back door as I was opening my cards and presents and we hastily hid them from view.

We survived the exceptionally cold winter of 1962/3 when everything stopped and people (including David) skated on the flooded fens for weeks. Being in the early stages of pregnancy I didn't risk it. No vegetables could be dug up so Alan Jarvis, the grocer, did a marvellous trade in the canned variety and even those were in short supply eventually. Herbie Brown grew vegetables for us in the manse garden (there was no greengrocer's shop) and leeks and new potatoes have never since tasted as good. Everyone grew their own vegetables and often contributions arrived on the manse doorstep. At strawberry time we ate strawberries for breakfast, lunch and tea! Married daughters from away would arrive back to help pick the strawberries on their parents' smallholding next to their bungalow and to earn enough to buy themselves a washing machine or fridge.

One evening a mischievous Jack Ward dropped me off at the manse saying he had something for us in the boot of his car. He handed me, a towny from the suburbs of London, a complete dead hare by its feet! I tried not to show my utter horror and hung it in the outhouse! Next morning Herbie took pity on me and took it home to his wife to "jug". It arrived back in a brown pot and proved to be very tasty.

Our two sons were born in the front bedroom of the manse. Well, Andrew should have been, but an early morning dash in the ambulance on the coldest night of the year with Nurse Stevens in attendance meant that he actually arrived in the old King's Lynn hospital. Home births were the norm in those days, especially for second and subsequent babies. Mary, Betty, Frauke and I pushed our babies in their coach-built prams round the village, went to the baby clinic held in the Sunday School Hall for their monthly weigh-in, collected our orange juice and cod liver oil and met up at the newly formed Young Wives' Group.

The Kerkhams were the Methodist farmers in the village and the Caves attended the Anglican church. Lucy Kerkham, home from her job in an Irish children's home to look after her ailing mother, was in charge of the Sunday School, trained the children for the Scripture Exam and dominated everyone with her piercing blue eyes. She then surprised us all when, on the death of her mother, she announced she was not going back to Ireland, but was marrying the family doctor and going to live at Ashwicken.

Mrs. Ritchie, a lay pastor's widow, lived with her sister in Rose Cottage, next door to the surgery handing out people's prescriptions and noting everyone's appearance at the surgery. The waiting room was their back room. Dr. Reeve, her nephew, tried to keep a modicum of privacy for us by suggesting we visited his Terrington St. John surgery! We remember garden parties held at Terrington Court by the Humes and the Lee Warners; the beginnings of the Skirmishers, a young people's music group led by Wendy Hume and later Charlie Bartrum; Miriam Reeve running the Beginners Department joined later by Mrs. Bartrum; the playgroup started by Mary Short; manse concerts and 'top' tables at harvest suppers (how I hated them!); the tragic deaths of Alan Houchen and David Williamson. A truly memorable five years and it was a privilege some 20 years later to come back to King's Lynn. I met Frauke in town just after we moved back, still pushing a pushchair only this time it contained a grandchild! The Young Wives' Group had lost the "young" from its title and the smallholdings had bungalows built on them. Times had changed!

Rosemary Caink

## **DANDELIONS DAISIES AND BUTTERCUPS**

In his pastoral letter for June Andrew confessed that he did not want them in his front lawn. "I certainly get a little anxious," he wrote "if I see too many weeds growing in our lawn. The sight of a dandelion may prompt me to venture out with a knife to cut it out, right down to the bottom of the root. The sight of daisies or clover may incite me to get out there with some of that clever selective weedkiller which causes the weeds to wither and perish, but not the grass."

Personally I really like them, so do the butterflies and bees and one of my simple pleasures is watching them fluttering from one flower to the next. In fact I plant wild flower seeds in my garden and have a space that I just

leave to nature, my wild garden, to encourage insects for the birds to feed on. They reward me with their singing, although I must admit the dawn chorus is a bit too early for me. And of course, the bees do a wonderful job in pollinating our crops. It is worrying that their numbers are declining, for one thing through loss of meadowland which is their preferred habitat. Friends of the Earth are running a campaign called Bee Cause. 25,000 of us signed a petition urging the government to save the bees.

I saw a lovely programme on television recently entitled "The Wonder of Weeds." The presenter was a top gardener at Kew and Westminster who had spent most of his working life trying to eliminate weeds but discovered that the more we struggle to keep them out the more they come back; they are engineered to be born survivors. In the end he came to realise that weeds are a vital resource in the natural order of things.

During the war I was stationed for a year in Cyprus. In summer the big central plain was quite bare and shrivelled up with the hot sun but when spring came it was a beautiful carpet of wild flowers. If you go there for a holiday the best month is April. I imagine it must have been like that out in the countryside around Nazareth, which is of course in that part of the world. I like to think of Jesus, in his early formative years, out on the hillsides near his home, taking in the sights and sounds of nature which would figure so prominently in his teaching ...."Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them....Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin; yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these."

Everyone knows the quote from Dorothy Frances Gurney's poem:

"One is nearer God's heart in a garden  
Than anywhere else on earth"

Especially if we don't pull up all the dandelions daisies and buttercups.

John Garfoot

## MWiB - Easter Offering Service

This year our E.O. Dedication Service was held at Downham Market. The service entitled 'RISK THE PATH HE TROD' was prepared centrally by members of MWiB on behalf of the World Mission Fund. The service enables the Methodist Church in Britain and Ireland to come alongside its Partner



Churches Overseas in Worship and in giving financial support to them in their work.

Our Leader for the Service this year was Maggie Blowers. Bible readings and personal stories covering Mission Overseas were read by members from various churches around the Circuit. The hymns included a new one from StF written by Rosemary Wakelin. Thanks to Meg Harrison our much appreciated organist. Butterfly cards (MWiB logo takes the form of a butterfly) were given out before the service and thoughts/prayers written on the cards as a response to our own risk taking or in support of others during a time set aside to think about 'transformation though risk'. Examples given in what was a very meaningful and spiritual response time covered;- accepting change, realising we are all different but equal, encouraging others on the Christian path, having the courage to speak out when faced with abuse, persecution, discord, to be aware of the consequences of climate change, to speak out for Jesus, to pray continually, to keep trying, to remember that life itself is a risk, to trust in the Lord in all things and all ways. Before the final hymn and blessing each other we together, speaking in unison, dedicated our gifts and those received previously from Circuit Churches, asking that they be used in the Lord's service and for grace and courage to risk the path he trod for us.

Our thanks go to Downham Market for hosting the Service and for providing the 'tea table' fellowship afterwards.

The collection for MWiB raised £82

The Easter Offering to date amounts to £1378-40.

Mary Uttin – Circuit MWiB Treasurer

## **PENTECOST IN THE PARK**

Thanks to the wet weather the programme had to take place in London Road Methodist Church - but the rain cleared away in time for the procession to take place.

We arrived there just in time to see the walkers return, each one wearing a head band representing flames of fire.

When all were seated the choir sang 'On Fire' - after their walk all were in good voice!

Our Superintendent Minister Andrew Maguire welcomed everyone and commented on all the Circuit banners which had been carried in the procession.

The story of Pentecost was retold as a sketch - and the message from Rev. Catherine was "Pass it on...and on...!" She led us in a game of Chinese whispers, (which led to one group hearing the given reference in Luke as being in Acts!) and later produced boxes of Celebrations for each

person to receive one chocolate before passing the box on to their neighbour. (A simple and tasty way to underline the message!) As always we enjoyed great hymn singing - including 'All over the world' (which must have been heard by the world outside!) and 'Colours of day' as we waved different coloured flags. It was the first time I had sung 'O for a thousand tongues' to two different tunes! Circuit members led the prayers, and then everyone was invited to write names for prayer on the cut out paper doves we had received with our programme. These were collected then distributed to be used at each church the next day. After the blessing we lifted our voices in the sending out song 'On fire.' A joyful and uplifting service!

Pott Row Correspondent

No edition in **AUGUST**. Any items for the **SEPTEMBER** edition should be with the editor by **AUGUST 12<sup>th</sup>**, earlier if possible. If you don't get an acknowledgment of emails please feel free to enquire if I have received them as some articles have found their way into my spam bin which I don't check very often!



**MENTAL NOTE.**  
**ITEMS FOR OCTOBER WILL NEED**  
**TO GO TO DEREK by SEPTEMBER**  
**12<sup>TH</sup>! MORE DETAILS LATER.**

Mrs Barbara Foster  
140 Stow Road  
Magdalen, King's Lynn  
PE34 3BD  
Tel. 01553 811867  
E mail rabbit1308@btinternet.com

# Around the churches



## Hilgay

On the evening of May 16<sup>th</sup> we were entertained by the Hilgay Youth Band. Seven youngsters under the leadership of Mr. Brian Doy gave us a wonderful concert of music for all.

Thanks to all who supported this event and also thanks to those who provided refreshments and raffle prizes. Well done to all the boys and girls who gave their evening for our enjoyment.

£200 was raised and shared between our church and the Hilgay Youth Band.

We send our love and best wishes to Reg Manning, our oldest member, who has been quite poorly and unable to attend worship for several weeks now. Mr. Manning has always worked hard for the Methodist church in many ways and his support and presence has been sadly missed. We hope you'll soon be back with us Reg. God bless you.

Pauline Driver

## Downham Market

Ladies' Friendship Circle

We had an excellent day out on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> May. We had a full coach, were blessed with glorious sunshine all day, stopped at Wells for a cup of tea and then to Hunstanton via the coast road for a fish and chip supper. On the way home we had a detour around Wolferton on the Sandringham Estate to see the beautiful rhododendrons arriving home at about 6.45pm

The June Open Evening went very well. We had 29 members present and 8 visitors.

Our July meetings:-

2<sup>nd</sup> July is the AGM and Reg Rose is taking this meeting.

16<sup>th</sup> July is a Bring and Buy stall for the Deep Sea Fishermen's Mission.

30<sup>th</sup> July is Surprise Surprise!

We do not meet in August and our next meeting is 10<sup>th</sup> September at 7.30 pm. Everyone is welcome.

Margaret Fox.

Typical English summer; the weather continues variable; some

Saturday mornings very wet but clearing up in the afternoon.

Nevertheless, we continue to attract a goodly number to our Saturday coffee mornings to enjoy fellowship, homemade cakes and the

possibility of some bargains at our stalls. We are, however, running

very short of bric-a-brac, so if you decide to have a declutter, here's

the place to bring it. Our book corner is very well stocked and now is

the time to purchase your holiday reading at very low cost. I

remember when our children were small and we had a long car journey

we would stock up on Ladybird books for them, not as cheaply as we

could now. Oh! and helpers are always needed and welcome.

We have had some really joyful services in the past month. First on

Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> June, to round off Festival Week, Churches Together

organised a celebration of Local Businesses Service which was well

attended, with two excellent speakers outlining how their Christian

principles affect their business life. Lots of rousing hymns they had

chosen were sung with a choir from Downham Singers to swell the

volume. A very satisfactory way to round off Festival Week. Hope this

will become a regular event and gather more support. The Circuit

Pentecost in the Park was also a joyous occasion. It was a pity, with a

rather uncertain weather forecast that the decision had to be made,

to move it into the Church, but we managed the parade in the dry, with

flags flying and the rousing Pentecost hymns sung as we made our

presence felt. The service was a very happy occasion, with the church

decorated with masses of red balloons (recycled to other churches

for Sunday morning) and colourful banners from each church in the

Circuit. Our thanks to those who did all the organising and helped in

any way. Perhaps, next year, the weather will be kinder. On the Sunday morning, our Boys Brigade, Guides and Brownies helped with our Birthday Celebrations, including eating the birthday cake. I was quite relieved that the Pentecost Rap in the order of service was performed by the Boys Brigade and Ralph, not the choir! Another happy birthday party.

Our local food bank, set up by Churches Together, continues to help local people but the money and food are running very low so donations would be really appreciated. There is a collection box for food, in our Social Centre and also at the Downham Market branch of Barclay's Bank. Volunteers to help on Tuesdays and Fridays are always needed (phone Alex on 01366 384474 if you can help) and any fundraising ideas/offers would be appreciated. Until the benefits, of the end of the recession, percolate down to the really needy, the food banks will be needed (21<sup>st</sup> century way of feeding my sheep).

Downham Singers, who rehearse on our premises, are holding an Evening of Entertainment to celebrate 4<sup>th</sup> July at the Town Hall, on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm. There will be homemade refreshments in the interval and tickets, priced at £6 for adults or £4 for children, can be obtained from Lewks, choir members or on the door.

And finally, we are always appreciative of, and thankful for, the efforts of our hard-working editor, Barbara. Last month she really surpassed herself. She must get tired of posing puzzles to keep our little grey cells healthy, without receiving any response that people have had a go, if not solved them. So last month was the big one which nobody could ignore. Mind, as the pages were numbered, it wasn't too difficult. Well done Barbara and thanks for all you do.

Joan Macey

The Ladies of the kitchen were delighted to serve tea to a lovely group from Clenchwarton after their Mystery Tour. They are available for future bookings!!

## **Marham**

We will be holding our Summer Fair on Saturday August 9<sup>th</sup>, 10am till noon. Usual stalls, raffle and refreshments. Everybody welcome.

Diana Marriot

## **Terrington St Clement**

NewBeginnings continued the Story Telling theme, more video clips and pairing up to tell Bible stories to each other. This encourages us to share these stories with others. Network was led by Mary Houghton. Jenny Howling read from the Friendship book and Gervaise Phynn. Frauke Adkins had condensed the book "Eloise" by Judy Finnigan and told us of her involvement with the Book Club which meets monthly at "The Victory" Clenchwarton. A special Network surprise for Eileen Spurgeon was held with lots of friends sharing sandwiches cake and cups of tea. Eileen will celebrate her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday on the 21<sup>st</sup> of June. We sang three of her favourite hymns. Margaret Smith sang "You must have been a beautiful baby" and a Frank Sinatra number. Mary read from Helen Steiner Rice, "Growing old gracefully". Sheila Amos read "The Stile", and June Loades read about aging from 80 to 90 years old. The afternoon finished with a 90<sup>th</sup> birthday cake being cut and enjoyed.

Linda Howling

## **Pott Row**

"Strawberry Afternoon Tea"

On Sat July 12th at 3pm, we would love you to join us for Afternoon Tea. With music by Peter Worrell (past member of the Halle Orchestra) with his violin, to entertain us.

Hope you can be there

Jenny Baker.

## **Dersingham**

Our Flower Festival has been and gone and it was good to see so many friends from around the Circuit joining us and helping us to raise over

£2,000. The children from Dersingham VA School opened the proceedings on the Thursday and Friday mornings and charmed everyone with their singing and talking which included action songs and information about healthy eating and exercising! It was good to welcome the Rev. Alec Callaby from Norwich back to take the morning service on the Sunday morning. This was followed by a bring and share lunch before the final chance for visitors to enjoy the 13 flower arrangements depicting passages and stories from the Bible about gardens. Elizabeth Batstone was able later to present Rebekah Mills from Tapping House Hospice with a cheque for £500.

The monthly community lunches at the Chapel on a Monday continue to be very popular and the monthly Saturday coffee mornings provide another social gathering opportunity for the village as well as raising money for charity. A mid-week communion service is held on the fourth Wednesday of the month at 10.30 a.m. and we are grateful to other ministers in the circuit who are officiating at these during Kim's sabbatical.

Rosemary Caink

## **St Faith's**

"We've been together now for forty years and it don't seem a day too much" .....so goes the words of the well-known song and it will be party time at St Faith's Church on 20<sup>th</sup> July when the fortieth anniversary of sharing the church for worship is celebrated.

A full programme of events has been arranged including special thanksgiving services in the morning and evening, a celebration Bring and Share lunch, screening of old films about parish life of yesteryear and a Bring and Share afternoon tea.

There is much to celebrate because the coming together of St Faith's at Gaywood and Gaywood Methodist Church (previously housed in a chapel on Gayton Road) was one of the first Local Ecumenical Projects in the region. Other LEPs have been established over the years and Gaywood has strong links with the LEP movement because St Faith's

Team Vicar, the Rev Dale Gingrich, serves as the Norwich Diocesan Ecumenical Officer.

Former Gaywood Rector, the Venerable Gerald Phizackerley and Methodist Minister, the Rev Tony Windsor, will be returning to their old parish to preach at the morning and evening services. Other past clergy and ministers have been invited to attend the special day.

It will be a day to give thanks to God for all that has been achieved over four decades.

During the lunch and tea people will be able to chat together and share their stories and memories of milestone events along the way. Sadly, some of those church members who witnessed the coming together of the two church communities are no longer with us but, no doubt, on the celebration day some of these people will be brought to mind.

The Sunday morning service starts at 10.30 and will be followed at 12.30pm by the Bring and Share lunch. After lunch the old films of life in the parish over the years will be shown and then people will be invited to share afternoon tea before the Songs of Praise service at 4.30pm. Please note the service times and put a note to remind you in your diaries.

Everyone is welcome to share in all or part of the day's programme of events.

St Faith's, along with church communities, towns and villages all over the country, have been making plans to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the outbreak of the First World War.

A small group of church members has been meeting together for many months to put together a number of events starting in August.

August 4<sup>th</sup> is the actual centenary day and, at St Faith's, there will be a vigil between 10am and 4pm. During those hours there will be readings of WW1 poems, prayers and readings of newspaper accounts of the early days of the conflict. Everyone is welcome to attend the vigil and come and go as they wish.

Members of the organising group have been busy carrying out detailed research into the names of some of those soldiers from Gaywood who served at The Front, many of them never to return.



Neil Leggett and Barbara Wagstaff have been involved in this work which will form part of an exhibition telling the stories of some of these local enlisted men who made the ultimate sacrifice and whose names are inscribed on the Gaywood Clock Memorial Tower and on the Roll of Honour Boards inside St Faith's Church.

In November it is also planned to stage a First World War commemorative evening featuring a programme of music and readings and more details of this event will be announced later.

The once popular Parish Outing is to be revived at St Faith's later this summer when it is proposed to have a day out to Ely.

Betty Guy suggested that church members might like the opportunity to spend a day out together when there would be a chance to get to know each other a little better.

The Outing is likely to be on a Saturday in late August or early September, Once in Ely people would be free to explore the town and have some lunch. In the afternoon it is suggested everyone could meet up for afternoon tea before attending Choral Evensong in the beautiful Cathedral and travelling home.

Anyone interested in joining the Parish Outing is asked to contact Betty Guy via St Faith's parish office on 01553 774916 weekday mornings between 9am and 12 noon.

Advance notice: The second St Faith's Church Christmas Tree Festival is to be staged in church from December 11<sup>th</sup> until December 15<sup>th</sup>.

There will be concerts on the Friday and Saturday evenings and special services on the Sunday. Please make a note of the event and its dates in your diaries.

Richard Parr

## **Clenchwarton**

A play, "Keep the Homefires Burning" written by Grahame Sampson, was presented by Clenchwarton Methodist Entertainment Group (CMEG) on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup>, Friday 16<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> May in Clenchwarton Methodist Schoolroom.

It was a true story, though the names have been changed, of how two families who lived in a small village were affected by the events of the

First World War. Very sensitively played by the cast, it must have made a lasting impression on the younger members of the play as it remembers how ordinary people were affected by the events of the war.

Assisted by the Halcyon Singers, the audience participated in singing, at various times during the performance, songs popular at that particular time in our history. The play, touching as it did on how the lives of the families were completely changed, echoed what must have happened in other villages at that time. The soldier wounded coming home unable to find work; the wife whose husband, a horseman, was killed; another wife whose husband had been posted missing, believed killed, refused to believe it. Until she died she expected him to come home and walk through the door again.

Well done all of you.

Harold Smith

## **London Road**

Following a suggestion from Lorna Warriner the Woodland Singers from Rugby approached London Road to see if we would host a concert while they were on their East Anglian tour.

We suggested that, like a touring choir a few years ago, they sang at our morning Service, we would provide them with lunch and they would give the concert in the afternoon.

As Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> May was a CFS it was easy to accommodate four items from the Choir, All things Bright and Beautiful and The Gaelic Blessing by Rutter, Bach's Jesu Joy of Man's Desiring and Pie Jesu.

The service started splendidly with London Road choir singing a "new" hymn 411 from Singing the Faith, "May the God of love go with you", as the Introit.

The first congregational hymn "Born in Song" gave both choirs present chance to exercise their vocal chords to the full.

After the service and coffee, the Woodland Singers took advantage of the beautiful weather to visit the Walks and see the Red Mount Chapel before their lunch.

We did our bit as a "Welcoming Church" church and provided them with a three course lunch!

The concert in the afternoon included classical music, lots of Rodgers and Hammerstein and two sections of memories of the sixties music. We were disappointed in the size of the audiences after all the work we had done to advertise the event in the Circuit and through the local papers.

One of the highlights of the concert was a solo skit on "Memories", where the singer appeared to have forgotten the words; very cleverly written and everyone in the audience fell for the apparent problem.

The donations for the programme and refreshments, organised by London Road Choir, raised over £133 which was donated to the Choir for their charity HELP4U to assist the homeless in Rugby.

Having lived in King's Lynn and worshipped at London Road for nearly 50 years it was amazing to learn from the choir the two aspects of their day which had the biggest impression. One was the beauty of London Road church and the other the magnificent green resources King's Lynn has in the open space of the Walks with the Red Mount Chapel, something we tend to take for granted .

David Gifford

## **Stow Bridge**

Did you hear about the burglar who stole a calendar? He got twelve months!

We have had a couple of months that have really changed our countryside. Nature has sprung into life; we've had every kind of weather come at us from the skies and the face of the earth has turned green, with colour dashes of flowers everywhere. And, of course, with new life. The swallows fly high, the blackbirds sing all day, our seeds and crops seem to be doing well and just sixty or seventy yards from our house we saw four fox cubs playing near a hedge in the field. I had heard the fox, (vixen or dog), barking late evenings last year but never saw them. Our sighting of them was 18<sup>th</sup> May about 8am; a lovely sunny morning. We keep looking but have seen nothing of them since.

What I am really saying is isn't our world a creating and ongoing system? Surely it didn't just come about out of nothing? It is ordered, knows its place and time and was created by an already living God which helps my faith a lot.

I could write pages (as could many others) of our wonderful world and all its happenings.

Satchmo says, or rather sings, "It's a Wonderful World". And so say I.

Peter Hewitt

**EMNETH FLOWER  
FESTIVAL  
JULY 26<sup>TH</sup> / 27<sup>TH</sup> / 28<sup>TH</sup>  
A TIME TO  
REMEMBER  
LUNCHES  
FROM 12NOON ON  
SATURDAY AND  
MONDAY  
FOR MORE DETAILS PHONE  
DAVID THOMPSON  
01945 584669**



## **ACTION FOR CHILDREN update.....**

Just as the last update went to print I received two disappointing pieces of news; the closure of the Young Carers Project and the departure of our District Fundraising Rep. who has moved to H.Q. at Watford. Her position is now being covered by Lyndsay Wood (Suffolk and Essex).

### **Downham Market Support Group news....**

At our AGM in May we reviewed our role and position as a Support Group. Support Groups were initially set up some 25 years ago to support, and be involved in, the ongoing life of the Independent Living Project (for those leaving care at 16) at the Old Rectory. Over the years, that project, following ones, and the Old Rectory have all closed. Current projects now operate under a wider umbrella, with which we have little contact, so it was felt that we could organise and maintain our current level of support for AforC without the need for formal meetings, especially as we are all members of the Methodist Church.

**ALL OUR USUAL FUNDRAISING WILL CONTINUE** with a named person responsible for each event. I will remain the overall co-ordinator. We have been guaranteed the continuing support of the District fundraising Rep. at the Bury St. Edmunds office who will keep in touch via email or telephone.

**THE IMPLICATION FOR CIRCUIT CHURCHES** is that those who have formerly paid their fundraising monies to Mary Rose will now need to send these to

Lyndsay Wood, Action for Children, 3 Abbeyfields,  
Bury St Edmunds, IP33 1AQ Tel. 01284/755953  
email [lyndsay.wood@actionforchildren.org.uk](mailto:lyndsay.wood@actionforchildren.org.uk)

Events can either be registered with Lyndsay and she will send a coded Bank Paying slip (HSBC), or if preferred, a cheque sent to her after the event stating the nature of the event/donation. These will then be acknowledged.

Lyndsay is a very 'bubbly' young person and is anxious to help in any way she can.

Finally, can I take this opportunity to thank you all for supporting AforC so generously this past year (total paid through the Support Group £3823.20), enabling the charity to help those vulnerable young people and families in greatest need for as long as it takes. Please, please continue.

Sheila Forth

## **West Norfolk Circuit Fellowship**

**Saturday 19th July**

**Outdoor event at Sandringham for all ages, starting at 2.00 pm.**

Organised walks .... or stroll! Sit and relax

Have fun and games,

enjoy fellowship and worship

Bring a picnic tea and something to sit on!

It's best to use the car park with the entrance opposite

'Park House'. We meet up near to the pedestrian

exit from the car park quite close to the play area.

We do not have a plan 'b' if the weather is 'inclement' !!

Contacts:-

Beryl and Stephen Watts, John Houghton,

Janet and Peter Mason.

In view of the fact that there have been so many events planned during the year we decided not to arrange any Circuit Fellowship meetings. However, we will go forward with our usual outdoor event at Sandringham to relax and enjoy fun and fellowship, and worship

**London Road Methodist Church  
Presents**

**A Fringe Festival Event**

**ORGAN RECITAL**

**BY**

**ADRIAN RICHARDS**

**(Director of Music at  
King's Lynn Minster)**

**Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> July 7.30pm**

**Tickets £6**

**£5 Concessions**

**from David Gifford**

**01553 631579**

**Music By :-**

**Bach, Haydn, Burney,  
Dupre, Albinoni, Stanley,  
Pachelbel, Yon,  
Guzzini, Samuel Wesley,  
Bonnet, Takle and Dubois.**



*St. Andrew's  
Methodist Church  
Sheringham, NR26 8SA*

# *Flower Festival*

**3rd - 6th July 2014**

*"Journeys & Adventures"*

Thursday & Friday 10 - 5; Saturday 10 - 6

Sunday 12 noon - 6 p.m.

(The Cafeteria will close at 5p.m daily)

*Stalls - Refreshments - Music  
Admission & Programme - Free*

Festival Worship

Friday Communion 9.15 a.m.

Sunday - Morning Worship 10.30 a.m.

Festival Praise 6.30 p.m.

Proceeds for Church Funds and a donation to  
Sheringham Woodfields School

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





## Marit Eide

Gone to Glory, 9<sup>th</sup> May 2014

Marit's funeral was held at her beloved St German's chapel on Ascension Day, 29<sup>th</sup> May 2014. By ten past one all the chairs were full. By quarter past one we had run out of orders of service. When the service began at 1.30 the chapel was full, with extra chairs brought in and many standing. This was a great tribute to the way Marit touched people's lives through who she was, and her ministry in preaching (on full plan since 1960) and Sunday school teaching.

Marit had chosen her hymns and readings and they communicated the faith in which she lived and died. We began with a hymn that she got to know when she came to a personal faith; *I am not skilled to understand*. Not, as she was keen to emphasise, to the hymn book tune which she considered dull, but the Sankey tune. Her other choices were *When I survey the wondrous cross* and *And can it be?*

The Bible reading was Psalm 103. Shortly before Marit died I visited and asked if he would like me to read it. Her eyes lit up: "my favourite Psalm" she said. After I finished reading we sat quietly together and agreed that nothing more needed to be said.

Tributes to Marit were given by her cousins, Terry and Berry, and friends from St Germans, Pearl and Pat. Marit's Norwegian relatives – including the 'other' Marit – were not able to attend, but were represented by a beautiful floral wreath.

The service was not without sadness as we mourned a dear friend and sister in Christ, but was also a joyful celebration of Marit's life and of the faith that was so central to it. Her call to proclaim the word continued in death. We ended, at her request, with the chapel doors opened wide so the village might hear us singing *And can it be?*

At the interment of Marit's ashes in St Germans churchyard we sang *This, this is the God we adore*. The closing lines were so fitting "we'll praise him for all that is past and trust him for all that's to come". Marit was full of praise and thanksgiving to God to the very end of her life and trusted absolutely in him. She was a real inspiration in faith, and a joy to know personally. Her simple memorial stone is engraved with her name and John 3:16. She leaves us with the most important message of all:

*For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.*

Catherine Dixon

“Wake up, dear, there’s a burglar downstairs eating that pie I made this afternoon. Ring 999.”

“Shall I ask for police or ambulance?”

.....  
Will you remember me in a week? Yes  
Will you remember me in a month? Yes  
Will you remember me in a year? Yes.  
Knock, knock.  
Who’s there?  
Forgotten me already?

.....  
“Who was that at the door?”

“A man selling bees.”

“Tell him to buzz off.”

From our resident joker.

**Downham Market Methodist Church  
Presents  
KING'S LYNN  
MALE VOICE CHOIR  
in concert  
on Friday July 11<sup>th</sup> at 7.30 pm  
tickets £5 on the door  
to include light refreshments  
proceeds for Church funds**

Well done to everyone who managed to unravel last month's edition. I will try not to tax you to such an extent again.....but I can't promise!

Sorry to the two ladies who were upset and thank you to everyone else who laughed at me! Sorry St Faith's and Gwen. A special prize to Bill, or it might have been Shirley, who realised pages 14 and 15 were missing all together.

There is a saying that if you don't make mistakes you don't make anything!

Perhaps it's time I stepped down. Any offers??

Ed.

## **West Norfolk Methodist Circuit Diary**

### **July 2014 onwards**

Saturday, July 5<sup>th</sup> Farewell Picnic for GT at Cambridge

Friday July 11<sup>th</sup> King's Lynn Male Voice Choir Concert at Downham Market 7.30pm

Saturday July 12<sup>th</sup> Fellowship Breakfast at Marham 8.30 am

Saturday/Sunday 12<sup>th</sup>/13<sup>th</sup> July MWiB Conference at Belsey Bridge

Sunday July 27<sup>th</sup> 6pm at London Road – Service of Admission as a Local Preacher for John Houghton, and also celebrating 60 years as a Local Preacher for Harold Smith

Saturday August 9<sup>th</sup> Fellowship Breakfast. At 140 Stow Road Magdalen 8.30 am

Saturday August 30<sup>th</sup> Welcome Service for new Chair of District, Rev Julian Pursehouse at Chapelfields Road Norwich at 3 pm

Saturday September 6<sup>th</sup> Welcome Service for Rev Stephen Oliver at Snettisham at 3 pm

Saturday September 20<sup>th</sup> Fellowship Breakfast at Downham Market 8.30am

Monday October 6<sup>th</sup> MWiB AGM at London Road 2.30 pm

Saturday October 11<sup>th</sup> Fellowship Breakfast at Southery 8.30 am