

Rejoice!

SEPTEMBER 2014



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

Dear Friends,

As I write this letter I am very conscious of the fact that this is the beginning of a new journey for us all. You I am sure are wondering who are this Minister and his wife, what are they like and what will the future bring. We too are wondering what is to come and what the future will be like and I cannot deny there is a feeling of trepidation as we move house and prepare to meet new people; but there is also the excitement of being part of a new Circuit, and the possibilities there are to come within the Churches themselves

We will be arriving in Heacham like Noah from his ark with a dog, two cats, 3 chickens and one budgie. As yet the logistics of doing this are unplanned but I am sure as we get nearer the time it will all become clear. Both Jill and I were born and bred in Wales though we do not speak Welsh. I personally can read it and have taken the odd service in the Welsh language whilst in Norfolk (something I never did in Wales itself.) Though there are times we miss the mountains, we will I am sure be more than compensated by the beautiful Norfolk Coast and surrounding countryside. Jill is very much into quilting,(although a beginner) whilst I am more into walking my dog and collecting walking sticks (odd pastime I know). We both enjoy antique auctions and programmes, whilst I took it one step further appearing on Bargain Hunt with my colleague from Diss. A great experience but unfortunately profits from our items were not very forthcoming.

So as we begin to pack everything away, time begins to pass very quickly. But in all the rush, the needing to do things, we could lose that quiet time with God. It is so easy to push God out of our minds as we all get caught up in the events of leaving and arriving. The things we do are important but we must all at some point stop doing and have time with God. The psalmist in Psalm 16 puts it this way; *‘(O God) You show me the path of life. In your presence there is fullness of joy; in your right hand are pleasures forevermore’*

On the 1st September we will begin a new chapter in all our lives; it is as I said at the start of this letter the beginning of a journey, and who knows where it will take us. So let us in our prayers ask for guidance and reassurance in the decisions we will make and that our actions in the coming years will always reflect love for each other and of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Steve

Praying together in the Circuit

Fullness of Life in Christ. Colossians 2:6-7

Since you have accepted Christ Jesus as Lord,
live in union with him.

Keep your roots deep in him, build your lives on him,
and become stronger in your faith, as you were taught.
And be filled with thanksgiving.

At the beginning of a new Methodist year we commit
ourselves and our Circuit to God and His purpose for us.

I am no longer my own but yours ...

You are my Saviour and my Lord.

I have been bought with a price,
thankfulness and praise fill my heart and flood my whole being.

How blessed is the communion of life in You.

I am rooted in You Lord, may I go to new depths with You.

My desire is to grow in faith, to follow Your leading
and in the power of the Holy Spirit to
worship, witness and serve You.

Bless our new beginning as a Circuit and each of our churches.

Build us up as living stones shaped and formed by You
according to your own design and for Your glory.

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.

Rev, Marie Whitcombe

Praying for the Circuit. Mondays at London Road.

We are now meeting at 2.00 pm

Thursdays at Downham Market at 11 am

Lay Hospital Visiting – can you help?

For some years the Downham Market and King's Lynn sections of the Circuit have practised lay hospital visiting. Due to the retirement of Stephen and Beryl Watts (KL section) and before that Nan Reid (DM section), we currently have only one visitor for each section – Gill Allen(KL), Sheila Forth(DM). As there are occasions when they are unable to visit it is desirable to have another visitor for each section. Do you feel called to this work? If so please contact either Gill 01553 670379 gillallen@uwclub.net or Sheila 01945 772501 sheila@theforths.com and they will explain their role, take you with them on a visit, and arrange for you to meet the Chaplaincy.

Marion Allard

Sitting at the back of the well attended funeral of Marion, led by Catherine, it was good to know how many will miss seeing her standing outside her house, or chatting with her on the bus. She loved attending church and chapel, Pott Row and Highgate, often breaking into spontaneous songs of praise! She was a great supporter of the Good Companions, always wanting to help where she could. On display was a photograph which showed her just as we knew her. Jesus said that in His Father's house are many mansions - I am sure there was one ready waiting for Marion.

Bill Hone

STOW BRIDGE CELEBRATION

SUNDAY 7TH SEPTEMBER

4PM

SONGS OF PRAISE

**TO CELEBRATE HEATHER VENNI'S 60 YEARS AS
ORGANIST IN THE VILLAGE.**



Around the churches



Downham Market

Ladies' Friendship Circle

Welcome back after our Summer Break.

All the July meetings went very well. We were able to send The Fishermen's Mission a cheque for £65.00 from our Bring and Buy Sale.

The Surprise Surprise evening was a video of my daughter's holiday in Australia and was enjoyed by all.

At the AGM we were able to give the Church £400.00 from our funds and £50.00 each to Messy Church, the Otters, the Boys Brigade and the Brownies.

Our first meeting will be Wednesday 10th September, 'World War Memories' at 7.30pm

Wednesday 17th September we are going on a Mystery Tour.

Wednesday 24th September is our Harvest Festival Bring and Buy evening. The charity we have chosen is the East Anglian Children's Hospice.

We will be very pleased to see new members. Membership is £5.00 for the year and £1.00 each time you attend.

Margaret Fox

We are so very blessed here in Norfolk. Having enjoyed a camping holiday with the family in the New Forest we are, nevertheless, glad to be back home in our beautiful county. While away we were able to kill two birds with one stone. We supported the Trussell Trust who started the food banks many years ago in the Dorset/Hampshire area by buying a number of games for the Social Centre attached to our Church which serves refreshments each morning and a good freshly cooked lunch.

Recently it was decided to collect some of the old fashioned games, draughts, dominoes etc so that after lunch people could prolong the company they were enjoying by playing a game or two. We are very indebted to the kitchen staff and all volunteers who help to run this service as part of the Church's outreach.

Meanwhile our weekly coffee mornings on Saturday are well attended, albeit with a slight drop in numbers during the holiday season. We still need more bric a brac so if you are having a clutter free session you know where to dispose of unwanted items, which will be gratefully received and help us towards making the Church cosier during the winter months. I was lucky to get two willing volunteers to man my plant stall while I was away. I think Meg and Ruth enjoyed themselves.

Our Sisterhood meetings recommence on 3rd September with the AGM. So, after a break for the Summer everything will be starting again in the Autumn with Harvest Festival to look forward to and prepare for. Then Christmas will be upon us with our Christmas Fairs, shoe boxes and food parcels and lots of carol singing, especially in the local supermarkets reminding shoppers of the true meaning of the season. We've had a good rest to recharge our batteries, now it's back to work.

Joan Macey

Messy Church

After much thought and prayer, a visit to St Faith's and a talk with them we decided to step out in faith and have a go. We made all our preparations, advertising, activities, staffing, food, and waited with some trepidation. Would anyone come? Well they did. The head chef had to send out for more pizzas, the badge making was overwhelmed and the atmosphere was electric. So we looked forward to the second session. Some didn't return but we had more newcomers. Again head chef had to get more provisions as we catered for about 100 that time! The August one was slower but we were able to get round and talk to more children and parents.

Are we enjoying it? Yes. The congregation is behind us with offers of food and prayer and it is bringing people to get a glimpse of the love of God.

London Road

Festival Fringe Event

The members of London Road Methodist Church who raised £30,000 to restore their Bishop organ were rewarded by a brilliant display of the instrument's capabilities at the hands of Adrian Richards, Director of Music at King's Lynn Minster. Adrian's programme varied from a major work, "Bach's Prelude and Fugue in B Minor BWV 588" to his final piece "Jazzman Swing" written by Adalberto Guzzine for electronic organs.

The range of the organ was highlighted in many of the descriptive pieces Adrian played, "Elfes by Joseph Bonnet", "Holsworthy Church Bells by Samuel Sebastian Wesley and 6 of the 32 "Mechanical Clock" pieces by Haydn. Also Bach's "Air on a G string" and Pachebel's "Chaconne in F minor."

He also featured music by his predecessor Charles Burney "Cornet piece VI in B flat" and ended the first half with a light hearted "Festmusick from Vag a leve" (Dare to Live) by Takie.

The small audience was very appreciative of this eclectic programme that Adrian had put together, which demonstrated the capabilities of this magnificent organ.

London Road Methodist Church is very grateful to Adrian for so readily accepting the offer to give the recital.

Ringstead Quartet

What better than to listen to beautiful music, played by The Ringstead Quartet, in the beautiful surroundings of London Road on a Sunday afternoon in Festival Week.

What a pity there weren't more people there to support the Quartet and The Nordoff Robbins Music Therapy Centres.

The range of music included Mozart, the two Strausses, Charles Burney and a late addition to the Programme the Pavanne by Gabriel Faure. Another firm favourite was Percy Granger's Mollie on the Shore.

The quartet, drawn from members of the Norfolk Symphony Orchestra, obviously enjoy playing and this came across very strongly in their music.

Favourites from the Vienna New Year's Day Concert included "By the Beautiful Blue Danube" and the "Radetsky March".

A total of £132 was raised for Nordoff Robbins Musical Therapy Centres.

Harvest Praise

London Road will be celebrating Harvest Festival on the weekend of 27th-28th September. On the Saturday evening, 27th September, at 6.30pm there will be a Harvest Songs of Praise with old favourites led by the Rev. Catherine Dixon. This will be followed by a soup and a roll supper. All are welcome.

David Gifford

Stanhoe

Stanhoe has had a quiet and peaceful summer, each Sunday enjoying the company of our Burnham Market Methodist friends, either at their place or ours! We suspended our Bible Study meetings, but they will recommence with renewed vigour on 8th September, when we are going to be studying The Parables of Jesus.

We continue to support the King's Lynn food bank.

In June, we were delighted to welcome Pat and Brian Ogden back from their new home in Dereham, to preach for us, and Brian presented us with his usual mixture of wisdom and wit.

On 13th July, a CFS service, led by stewards Valerie Shackcloth and Roddie MacLeod when we welcomed Jennifer Hennessey, who is the manager of the Action for Children Family Centre in Wells-next-the-Sea as a speaker. She gave a most interesting overview of their work, including the story of being approached by a young mother who had absolutely no money or food in the house, and how Jennifer was able

to help by driving her to the nearest food bank. A retiring collection was taken and donated for the work of the Centre, and Jennifer subsequently wrote to thank us, saying that the money had been used to pay for 12 children under 5 with disabilities to go to special swimming classes.

Now we all look forward with great pleasure and anticipation to welcoming Rev. Stephen Oliver (and his wife, Jill), as our new Minister, while thanking Rev. Andrew Maguire for his interim care.

Elizabeth MacLeod

Terrington St Clement

Our bicentenary celebrations continue with a Flower festival with the theme "All good gifts around us" on Saturday 4th October 10am to 4pm. There will be coffee and lunches, various stalls and raffle, display of 200 years of Methodism in TSC on show. Sunday 5th October we will hold our Harvest Festival service at 10.30 am led by Rev. Andrew Maguire. The Chapel will then be open from 1pm to 4pm for tea. All are welcome.

If anyone would like instruction on Power Point Presentation, please contact Linda Howling with dates that you would be able to attend. Ralph Perkins is more likely to be free in the day time rather than evenings. You would need to bring a laptop. It would be at Terrington St Clement. I await your response. !

With regard to the Light Party in Oct. suggested at the GIG meeting. We are all committed to other projects so unfortunately this event will not be possible. Any suggestions for future Circuit events for young people?

Fun2Fit continues on Mondays. There was no Network in August so we start again on September 3rd with Mrs. Phyllis Bowman, Saturday Coffee Mornings continue to be popular, including Knit and Natter.

Linda Howling

Pott Row

A big "Thank you" to all the people who helped to make our "Afternoon Tea" such a huge success. We were filled to capacity, to listen to Peter's choice of music which was fantastic, and eat lots of food. Everyone helped to make it a very happy occasion,

From all at Pott Row Chapel.

North Lynn

On Saturday 27th September we will be holding a Macmillan Coffee Event from noon till 2pm. Tombola, cake stall and quizzes. Please support us.

Glenda

Stoke Ferry

We held our closing service at the sanctuary in the James Bradfield School on Sunday June 29th. We had been worshipping there for 27 years. Visitors and members of the church all had a great time together, praising our Lord.

The service was led by Rev Andrew Maguire and the Rev Maurice Stafford and we were very pleased to have Reg Rose playing the organ. The hymns were chosen by members of the congregation and there was a time for sharing and remembering times past at the Chapel. Especially mentioned were the welcome which visiting preachers received and the wonderful hymn singing!

After the service we finished the afternoon with refreshments and a time of fellowship. We have always joined up with the C of E churches in the area for our annual Carol Service and Walk of Witness followed by a Good Friday service. So the C of E Lay Worker, Carol Nicholson-Leitch will be using the Sanctuary for services and the school's religious education.

Therefore our Chapel will continue in the service of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Marjory Stevens

St Faith's

Septemberthe season of mists and mellow fruitfulnessHarvest Festival is to be celebrated at St Faith's with a special service at 10.30am on 28th September followed by a bring-and-share lunch in the nearby Gaywood Church Rooms. There will be a retiring collection for WaterAid. Everyone is welcome and there will be an opportunity to sing some popular harvest season hymns.

A once annual tradition to celebrate Harvest Festival amid the ruins of ancient Bawsey Church, just outside King's Lynn, is being revived this year thanks to the Gayton Group of Parishes. A service will be held in the ruined remains on Saturday, 13th September starting at 2pm. The service will be followed by a bring-your-own picnic tea. Everyone is welcome and car parking is available close to the site. Further information about this event is available by contacting St Faith's Church Office on 01553 4916 between 9am and 12 noon weekdays. The next Messy Church session is being held on 12th September in Gaywood Church Rooms. The session of family friendly fun and fellowship including craft activities, runs from 4.30pm through to 6.30pm ending with a shared meal. Everyone is welcome, but adults must be accompanied by a child.

This year Messy Church is celebrating its 10th anniversary. There are now more than two thousand Messy Church groups operating across twenty countries with new groups being launched every week. On August 4th St Faith's staged a successful day-long vigil to commemorate the outbreak of World War One. Readings were delivered by church members on each half-hour and a muffled peal of bells was rung at 11am for an hour. The vigil attracted a steady stream of people who came into the church and listened to the readings and said prayers before they left. St Faith's World War 1 Project team said the vigil had been very worthwhile. "People came into the church and listened to the readings and sat quietly reflecting on the conflict and the massive loss of young lives. It was a thought-provoking and emotional day for many people,|"

The day also saw the opening of a major new exhibition which shows the results of research into the names of some of those soldiers from Gaywood (it was a small rural village in 1914) who served at The Front , many of them never to return. Neil Leggett and Barbara Wasgstaff have been heavily involved in this work. The exhibition has been put together with cash awarded from the Heritage Lottery Fund. Sincere thanks must go to the Cambridge office of the HLF for its generous grant award. The cash has meant that we have been able to create a really professional and high quality display, which is only what these soldiers, who made the ultimate sacrifice, deserve. The exhibition, which is open to the public each weekday morning between 9am and 12 noon, is well worth a visit. It will continue until mid-November. Admission is free.

As part of the events being arranged by St Faith's, there is to be a World War 1 commemorative evening in November featuring a programme of music and readings. More details of this special evening will be announced later.

As people may have read in the Lynn News, St Faith's Anglican and Methodist Church celebrated its 40th anniversary of sharing the church for worship and mission.

Former clergy and ministers returned to join in the celebrations and the day included two special services, a lunch. screening of old film reel about the parish and a traditional-English style afternoon tea. It was generally felt that the anniversary had been a great success. There was a wonderful atmosphere of thanksgiving to God for all that has been achieved in sharing at St Faith's down the decades. Looking ahead to October, St Faith's is to stage a Gift Day on October 4th. On that day the church will be open and people are being invited to call in and offer their monetary donations. All the cash raised will go to the upkeep of the historic building. More details about the Gift Day, and how you can help support it, are available by contacting the Church Office.

Plans are well underway for St Faith's second Christmas Tree Festival in December when the church will take on a sparkling winter-

wonderland look with around 30 illuminated and decorated trees on display. This year's tree festival will be open from December 12th to the 15th and there is to be a special invite-only preview evening on December 11th. The festival will be officially opened during this evening. (By?)

Local Primary schools and church organisations have all been invited to take part and already there has been a positive response. Volunteers will be needed to help with stewarding and for other roles while the Tree Festival is on. If you would like to help, or have any ideas for the event, please contact the St Faith's Office for more details of what is involved.

Richard Parr.

Dersingham

On Saturday 6th September we look forward to welcoming our new minister the Rev. Stephen Oliver at Snettisham. We shall be celebrating our Harvest Festival on Sunday 28th September when he will be taking the morning service and the Rev. Catherine Dixon will be taking the evening service. There will be a church lunch at 12.15 p.m. on Harvest Sunday and a coffee morning on Saturday 27th in aid of the King's Lynn Foodbank. Items for the Foodbank can be brought to the coffee morning to decorate the church.

Over the last few months there has been the occasional evening of Chickenfoot, a social evening which raises money for the church and various charities and provides plenty of fun and laughter. It involves playing dominoes with a difference (the dominoes are coloured) and refreshments are provided. Tickets are needed to attend and can be purchased from Mrs. Irene Hayward (01485 541035). Chickenfoot evenings take place in the church hall every other month on the first Friday evening of the month and the next one is on 7th November.

Rosemary Caink

THANK YOU

David Caink would like to thank all those who sent cards or came to his 90th birthday celebration last month. He much appreciated hearing from and meeting folk from the past and has enjoyed rekindling many happy memories.

MWiB Conference at Belsey Bridge Conference Centre Ditchingham

Usually this is held in the Spring, but this year it was held on a lovely sunny day in July. In our free time we were able to take advantage of walking in the gardens and/or exploring the area around. If so minded we could have had a swim in the out door pool, but we had not been told to bring our swimming costumes, just a Bible and Hymn Book so were unable to avail ourselves of this facility! However some young people on their church's 'weekend away' who were sharing the Centre with us had a splashing time. We were of course well fed and watered as any who go to Belsey Bridge always are.

Our 'Leader' this year was Jill Baker, last year's MWiB National President. This was a poignant time for Jill as it was the second anniversary of the death of her youngest son. She spoke about her Presidential year and her own journey, that had been at times quite difficult. The title she had chosen for the weekend was "Will You Go With This Man" a quote based on the story of Rebekah the bride chosen for Isaac. Could we step out like Rebekah Jill asked and she told us of some who had. We looked at those in the pilgrim band that had followed Jesus realising that although seldom depicted there would have been several women in that group. As followers we were given time to share our stories with those sitting beside us. We realised we came from different parts of the country indeed the world; that we had different backgrounds, different worries and cares. That when we embark on a journey there are always things we need to take with us and possibly we would be carrying heavy burdens too in our hearts and minds.

We were urged not to miss the opportunities given us on our journey and to remember that although we think of Jesus being on the journey with us there are times when He goes ahead to prepare the way.

The Bible passages and the art work Jill used as illustrations beautifully enhanced a very thought provoking day and we learnt at first hand of the women, children and yes the men whose lives she had had glimpses of in her life and in her Presidential Year.

Could we, she asked, envisage packing up along with our whole village and moving on somewhere else not knowing where you would end up, what to take and what to leave? In some parts of the world today this happens.

As representatives of Methodist women and as individuals we worshipped together, we took part in very inspiring group activities; we enjoyed table fellowship, met up with old friends and made new ones. We bought jute carrying bags with our new butterfly logo on, our butterfly styled badges, articles from a stall supporting 'The Turning Point Trust Charity' in its work at Kibera slum, Nairobi. We said our 'goodbyes' to Angela Macquiban our District

President whose project 'Kibera' is in her term of office as she and her husband Tim journey to Rome to take up a new appointment there. How did we fit all that into one day we wondered as we headed for home with the question "Will You Go With This Man" still in our thoughts.

Helen Maguire and Mary Uttin

Can we all get hold of bags and butterflies?

Service of Admission and Celebration

We came early to London Road - having a front seat it was nice to see the brightly coloured summer clothes and the sun shining through the windows high up.

On time Andrew was ready at the lectern to start the act of worship - the service was to admit John Houghton to the office and ministry of a Local Preacher, and to celebrate Harold Smith's 60 years as a local Preacher - a good and faithful servant!

After the Old Testament Reading, Epistle and Gospel Reading, Janet Mason preached a thoughtful and challenging sermon.

Then came the Presentation of John to the Superintendent Minister who questioned him before admitting him as a Local Preacher and presenting him with a Bible. We then prayed for John in his new responsibilities, and he gave a short talk about how he was called to be a Preacher.

Next came the presentation of a long-service certificate to Harold to mark his sixty years as a Local Preacher and it was his turn to tell us about his calling along with some anecdotes from his long service.

After Maurice had led us in prayers of intercession we shared the Peace, before giving thanks as we celebrated The Lord's Supper.

The hymn 'Come, let us sing of a wonderful love' was a fitting end to a very special occasion.

Bill Hone



***-- An Invitation to enjoy a taste of foods from
around the world.***



***Saturday 20th September in Doddington
Methodist Chapel schoolroom
from 4-7pm,
£5 per adult.***

***Entertainment included, in the Church.
To book your place phone Evelyn on
01354 740094 by Monday 15th September***

Sat Nav PE15 OTL



METHODIST WOMEN IN BRITAIN REPORT

2013/2014

The year started with our Annual General Meeting held at London Road Church in September.

Autumn District Day was held at Wesley Church, Cambridge in October which included the commissioning of Angela Macquiban as our President. Those who attended had a very enjoyable day. A few weeks after this, it was announced that Angela would be leaving as her husband was taking up a new appointment in Rome. Heather Sorrell has agreed to be Acting President for one year before taking up the role officially.

The Autumn Rally was held in October at South Wootton Church with Mary Cumbers as the speaker.

Women's World Day of Prayer was held at St. John's Church, King's Lynn, and also at St. Dominic's Catholic Church, Downham Market.

Easter Offering this year was held at Downham Market. Maggie Blowers led the service, which was a very enjoyable afternoon.

Future Dates:

A.G.M. at London Road on October 6th 2014 at 2.30pm.

M.W.i.B. Forum Meeting to be held at Diss on September 19th 2014.

Autumn Rally to be held at Terrington St. Clement on October 29th 2014 at 2.30pm. The Speaker will be Rev. Catherine Dixon.

We would like to thank all who helped and supported our meetings throughout the year.
God bless.

Phyllis, Mary and Margaret.

From the Circuit Missions Treasurer

This year's Mission Report from Connexional Team/Mission and Advocacy Cluster

is in the form of a new resource 'Mission Matters'. This covers all Connexional Funds ie Mission in Britain, World Mission, The Methodist Church Fund and The Property Fund. Should anyone want a copy this can be obtained by emailing:-

Fundraising@methodistchurch.org.uk. It gives information on all the funds, ie Mission partnerships with churches abroad; Mission alongside the poor in Britain with articles on sharing the gospel with all ages, ministering opportunities at Heritage Sites; encouraging sustainable use of resources and carbon footprint, making buildings accessible to all and The Governance of Church and its support services.

There is also an Advent resource available 'Waiting and Watching' asking for us to focus our generosity throughout Advent on the Mission in Britain Fund. More details are available on www.methodistpublishing.org.uk. I would hope to have a few copies of the Report at the next Circuit Meeting.

We are now at the end of the financial year. Donations in the main are slightly down on last year but as things are, this is not surprising. Many give generously to our funds and other community and national charities as well. So many thanks to all.

Audited accounts will be presented when available but at the moment they are as follows:-

The Mission in Britain Fund - £909-50

The World Mission Fund - £1754-62 plus JMA £583-34

The Presbyters and Deacons Fund (not included in the report) stands at £290-00

(World Mission) Easter Offering Account - £1517-00

Mary Uttin.

Man told his wife, "There's a hair in my pudding!"

His wife said, "It must be yours cos that come off the rolling pin!"

I said to the man on the dustcart, "Do you need training for that job?"

"No mate, we pick it up as we go along,"

(Where does he find them?)

Terrington St. Clement 200th Anniversary of Methodism

This year in Terrington St. Clement we are celebrating 200 years of Methodist worship in the village.

An old Deed dated 16th December 1813 declares that a group of Methodist Trustees was established with the legal right to build a chapel on land "in Terrington Saint Clements in Perkin Field". The Methodist Minister appointed by the Methodist Conference at this time, also mentioned on the trust deed, was Maximilian Wilson. It is thought that the land in question was on the opposite side of the road to the current chapel building.

However, with deeper research it was found that the Bishop of Lynn had granted a licence for Methodist worship in two farm labourers' cottages in 1809! It is thought that a chapel must have been built on the land referred to in the deed of 1813, but as yet historic evidence hasn't come to light as to when it was built.

The Sunday School rooms were built on the other side of Wesley Road from the present Chapel apparently on the site of the original chapel building. The School rooms celebrated their Centenary in 1985.

Many people in the village and further afield were married in the Chapel building of 1844 and gang shows, sales and many events that took place in the Sunday School rooms across the road are remembered with great affection over the years by many people in the area and our Circuit. The Sunday school rooms closed in 2004 to help fund the building of the present Chapel.

The present modern, dual purpose Chapel, was opened in 2005, and built on the site of the second Chapel, founded in 1844. Rev. Graham Thompson preached at the Dedication of the Chapel in June 2005.

So in Terrington St. Clement we began celebrating our rich and varied history during the weekend of 14th and 15th June this year. The Chapel was open for coffee, lunch and tea on the Saturday, when there were various fund raising stalls and a large display of memorabilia, Wedding albums and photos depicting the Chapel's history. Some very early photos that had been given by the Terrington History group led by Mr. Bryan Howling were also on the display.

At lunchtime, on Saturday 14th June the occasion was blessed by the presence of three previous Ministers, the Rev. David Blacklock (who also led the special Bicentenary service the next day 15th June), Rev. Barabara Savage, Rev. David Howarth and also our Superintendent Minister Rev. Andrew Maguire. Their spouses were also there and a good number from our Circuit also came for lunch, which was a really good time of fellowship and reminiscing on times past.

Bicentenary celebrations continued on Saturday 28th June with an afternoon concert given by a local group called 'The Halcyon Singers' followed by afternoon tea. Songs from 'The King and I' and 'South Pacific' were sung, along with the theme music of 'Vicar of Dibley' 'The Lord is my Shepherd', and some folk songs. Everyone there, including another past Minister Rev. David Caink (1961 - 1966)

and his wife Rosemary, enjoyed the variety of songs and a delicious tea of sandwiches, scones and cakes.

Celebrations will culminate in a Flower Festival with the theme 'All Good Gifts Around Us' on Saturday 4th October. You will be very welcome to join us for coffee or lunch on the Saturday from 10 a.m to 4 p.m and enjoy the floral displays, some fundraising stalls and raffle, as well as reading the history of 200 years of Methodism in the village.

Harvest Festival service will be at 10.30 a.m on Sunday 5th October led by Rev. Andrew Maguire. The floral displays can be viewed afterwards from 1p.m until 4p.m when tea and cakes will also be served.

YOU WILL BE MOST WELCOME then and any Saturday from 10.00 a.m to 11.30 a.m for coffee.

Helen Maguire

Sitting in my old shed on a lovely afternoon I'm looking at my veg garden, the clouds and hundreds of birds flying here, there and everywhere. The pigeons flap their wings like mad, the rooks and seagulls take a more leisurely flight, the bluetits do a jerky flight and the blackbird flies away with a beak overflowing with food to feed his hungry nestlings.

I wonder where they are going, changing directions like the swallow as he catches his food. Birds are wonderful creatures, masters at building their own type of nest, and certain breeds fly hundreds of miles in their annual migration, often returning to the same place as the year before; diving in the open air and facing all seasons of weather.

I say to myself, I'm like that sometimes; rush here, go there. Like the birds, we are all on a journey, but do we know where we are going? Jesus will lead us on a journey through life and He certainly knows the way that He leads us.

I am quite convinced that the birds, in spite of their to-ing and fro-ing with their wonderful freedom of flight, know where they are heading to. It's a God given way of life. There's the albatross, who soars great distances and the wonderful colours of birds worldwide.

A great and wonderful world God has given us to marvel at and to enjoy.

Peter Hewitt

SEPTEMBER THE THIRD

At St Faith's, with moving services, an all day vigil and a splendid exhibition we commemorated the centenary of the outbreak of the Great War. The day ended with a call to extinguish all lights, just leaving a candle burning as a symbol of hope. As the Dean of Westminster Abbey wrote in his foreword: "Tonight we catch glimpses of people's anticipations of what was to come. But we also have an opportunity to reflect on the attitudes of those preparing for war." As we listened to readings from the diaries and letters of long ago we wondered what it must have been like.

Some of us who are older were to find out for ourselves just 25 years later, for September the 3rd marks the 75th anniversary of the outbreak of World War II. This is what I wrote in my Wartime Diary:

"3rd September 1939

"This morning the British Ambassador in Berlin handed the German Government a final note stating that unless we heard from them by 11 o'clock that they were prepared at once to withdraw their troops from Poland a state of war would exist between us. I have to tell you now that no such undertaking has been received and that consequently this country is at war with Germany."

We hurried home from Chapel on that fateful Sunday morning to switch on the wireless for the expected announcement. Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain's voice came over firm but full of emotion. The word 'adrenalin' was not in our vocabulary in those days but all these years later it could well be used to describe the surge of excitement and dread with which we listened to his measured words. For so long we had lived in suspense and uncertainty, wondering whether all the feverish war preparations had been undertaken to reinforce diplomacy or whether they would really be wanted. The construction of shelters for protection against air raids; sandbags, sometimes even filled by children, piled up against important buildings; the issue of gas masks in square cardboard boxes to all; searchlights probing the night sky; the balloon barrage, impressive and reassuring, sent up; Conscriptio was introduced and on the Saturday evening we learned that full mobilisation had been ordered. Now we knew and we wondered what effect this announcement was going to have on our lives. It was to change the course of history. Nothing would ever be the same again"

I knew that for me it would mean a most difficult decision when my turn came. Was it right for a Christian to go to war? Could I opt out and let others go to the rescue of a ravaged nation and, if it came to it, protect my homeland? This was the terrible dilemma which faced the church as a whole and wisely, I believe, our leaders did not pronounce on either side but equally supported those who came to opposing conclusions. I think for me what tipped the balance was our Lord`s very sympathetic tone towards a Roman centurion. Anyway I decided that I would have to go. Actually I volunteered, not because of any patriotic sentiments but for the pragmatic reason that I would have more choice. So it was that I went to Grantham for an interview and medical and came home with the proverbial King`s Shilling in my pocket. That is how it came about that for the next 8 months and 23 days I found myself in the Royal Army Service Corps, in London during the Blitz, for 4 ½ years without a break in Cyprus, Egypt, Libya, Italy. It changed my life and influenced the whole pattern of my ministry, but that is another story.

John Garfoot

LEADERS OF WORSHIP AND PREACHERS' TRUST LET'S WALK

SUNDAY 5TH OCTOBER 2014

HUNSTANTON METHODIST CHURCH

A number of successful walks have taken place over the last few years. This year`s walk will take place in Hunstanton starting at 3.30 p.m. at Hunstanton Methodist Church with a guided walk round parts of Hunstanton, tea in the Methodist Church at 5.00 p.m., followed by a service of praise and worship at 6.00 p.m.

Everyone is welcome to join in for part or whole of this event. Please let me know by 28th September if you wish to take part in the walk and whether you require tea.

Look forward to hearing from you.

Elizabeth Batstone
Circuit LWPT co-ordinator

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West Norfolk Methodist Circuit Diary September 2014 onwards

Saturday September 6th Welcome Service for Rev Stephen Oliver at Snettisham at 3 pm

Saturday September 20th Fellowship Breakfast at Downham Market 8.30am

Monday October 6th MWiB AGM at London Road 2.30 pm

Saturday October 11th Fellowship Breakfast at Southery 8.30 am

Saturday October 18th 10am-3pm Pastoral Carers Day
Downham Market.



Any items for the **OCTOBER** edition should be with the editor, **DEREK**, by **SEPTEMBER 12th**, earlier if possible.

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