

Rejoice!

June 2015



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

Just a thought.....

Over the next few months Jill and I will be awaiting the arrival of our new grandchild over in America. It is as you can imagine a very exciting time and we cannot wait until we go over to see the family in February. There is a great feeling of expectation.

And when you think about it isn't there an expectation in everything we do; when we go shopping, visiting, go on holidays, watch the television? We expect something from what we do and see and hear.

But have we any expectation when it comes to being a Christian and being a part of God's church? Jesus promised the Holy Spirit to the disciples, he promised that when it came they would be witnesses to him, and things would change. Have we as Christians, as the church universal, lost that wonder of expectation, lost that excitement at what the Holy Spirit can do? Perhaps under the pressure of an ever strengthening secular society we have become jaded, disillusioned even. But if we can still believe that the Spirit is able to surprise us, that all can be different through the power of Jesus Christ, then we as the church will live to become the witness that Jesus promised to his disciples over two thousand years ago.

In the gospel of John chapter 17 (1-26) Jesus prays for his disciples (it is wonderful reading). But would there be any point in Jesus praying if he did not expect the things he asked for to happen? Of course not and it is the same for us. Each time we come to praying for others or even ourselves do we really believe something will happen or do we expect little from God at those moments? Whenever Jesus prayed, whenever anyone throughout the bible prayed, they expected change; they expected God to make things happen. Do we have that expectation?

Where would the lives of countless millions of people in the world be if they did not have an expectation of something better than they have now; where will peace come unless there is an expectation that hearts and minds can be changed; how can we as Christians continue to believe in a risen Christ without the expectation of change throughout the world?

We in our Churches must continue to have an expectation, an expectation of growth and an expectation of the Holy Spirit to encourage, to transform, to inspire. Without expectation nothing will change, but if we believe the unexpected can happen then things will change for ever.

Steve

Praying together in the Circuit

God has raised this very Jesus from death,
and we are all witnesses to this fact.

He has been raised to the right side of God, his Father,
and has received from him the Holy Spirit, as he had promised.
What you now see and hear is his gift that he has poured out on us.

Acts 2: 32-33

A small part of a powerful sermon
affirming the tri-une Godhead, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Peter preached this to a large crowd on the Day of Pentecost
empowered by the Holy Spirit.

Peter who with the other disciples fifty days earlier,
met together behind closed doors, afraid of the authorities.

What a difference, what a transformation.

Around 3,000 believed the message that day!

Jesus had made it clear that the disciples must wait for this gift
to enable them in their calling to make disciples of all nations.

They waited, they pre-prayered [correct spelling!]
for the Holy Spirit and to become the mission church
Jesus commissioned them to be.

The Acts of the Apostles - The Acts of the Holy Spirit.

Jesus, King of Kings, Lord of Lords,
risen, exalted, enthroned in all the glory of heaven.
You are worthy of all praise, You have conquered death
and have given us new life.

Fill us anew with Your Holy Spirit,
with passion, boldness and absolute confidence in the Gospel.
Lord, keep our eyes, our hearts our minds on You in all Your majesty
as we love and serve You in the newness of life You have given us.
We desire to know Your will, to worship and serve You in spirit and in
truth. Be exalted in our lives, our churches, our Circuit, our
communities. Be glorified and draw all people to yourself.

Give us fresh vision of our calling to be a mission church.

Prayers have been requested for:-

Derek + Viv , Stephanie, Janice, Amy, Trisha, Linda, Ruth Harbach,
Andrew, Mavis, Julia, Rachel, Judy, Dulcie + Neill. Kelly, Kath,
Stephen + Victoria, William, Tom . Ken and Norma. Brian Osborne.
Rev Marie Whitcombe and her family
Barbara Dickinson in Kenya

Praying for the Circuit. Saturdays at Downham Market 11 am

SCRIPTURE UNION

Invites you to

Believing Six impossible things before Jesus

Two talks by Dr. David Instone-Brewer

1. Creation - The first humans in Eden and the flood
2. Babel, Joshua's long day, crossing the Jordan.

Friday 5th June 7.00 pm - 9.30 pm
at The Good News Centre, St John's Church.
King's Lynn

More info - Mike Brown 01553 772036

Around the churches



London Road

Our Thursday Ladies' Group had a very interesting talk from two representatives of Gideons International. The association is a group of Christian men, some supported by their wives, who aim to win men, women and young people for the Lord. They place Bibles in hotels, retirement and nursing homes, schools, colleges and prisons. If any other organisation would like to hear them speak they can contact the chairman Michael Brown on 01553 772036.

On Saturday June 6th we are holding a Coffee Morning and Model Trains Day. The trains will be mostly vintage Hornby and will be run by members of the Hornby Railway Collectors Association.

The coffee morning will be from 10am – noon and trains will be running from 10am -3.30 pm. Entrance to the trains will be £3 with accompanied children free. Refreshments will be available. Hope to see you there.

Rachel Vyse

Stanhoe

Our Easter services began with the welcome return of Brian Ogden (and his wife, Pat), who came from Dereham to preach at our joint Palm Sunday Service at Burnham Market.

On Good Friday we welcomed pilgrims from the Student Cross organisation, who had walked all the way from Leicester, carrying a heavy wooden cross, and were heading for Walsingham. As is their custom, they stopped off with us for a time of rest and mid-morning refreshment, when we served hot cross buns and drinks, and were privileged to join them in a short act of worship. We are always inspired by the youngsters (and some older pilgrims, too), whose faith and dedication shines through, despite blisters and exhaustion!

On Good Friday afternoon, we held our usual worship service, a very moving devotion led by our own Minister, Rev. Steve Oliver, following which we again served drinks and hot cross buns, and enjoyed a time of fellowship with each other and several visitors.

On Easter Sunday, our morning service saw the church nearly full (as most of you will know, it's a very small church)! Not only was I preaching, but it was

also my birthday that day, so it was very special to have my two youngest grandchildren, aged 10 and 8, in the congregation, with their parents. They live in Stockholm, and are not normally a church going family, but the 8 year old even said afterwards, unprompted, that he'd like to come again! It's always a pleasure to have children in the congregation, and sadly, for us, it is increasingly unusual.

On 26th April, our former member, Brian Ogden, was recognised as a Local Preacher in a Service at Toftwood Methodist Church, Dereham, in the mid Norfolk Circuit. Several of us from Burnham Market and Stanhoe ("Brian's Groupies")! attended the service, a warm and happy occasion, which included long service certificates given out to several Local Preachers.

Elizabeth MacLeod

Hilgay

HILGAY METHODIST CHURCH will celebrate 144 years on Sunday June 7th . Our Chapel Anniversary preacher will be Rev. Arthur Windridge of Cromer, former minister in the old Downham Market Circuit. The service will begin at 10am and will be followed by an Anniversary Fellowship lunch. We look forward to this opportunity to give thanks to God for the Methodist witness in this village, past, present and future, and also the chance to welcome back our dear friends Arthur, Maureen and Kathryn to share this special day with us.

Pauline Driver.

Downham Market

We are still getting cold mornings and evenings with occasional ground frost to alarm gardeners but the days are gradually warming and 'April' showers have made it a good month for growth in the garden (including the wretched weeds). The main drawback has been some very strong winds; they always seem to occur just as the beautiful magnolias are in bloom, but this year they do seem more violent. One Saturday I really thought the gazebo over my plant stall was going to take off up the road, and there was no way I could label everything with pictures to help those who do not know their bluebells from their daffodils because everything not heavy enough was blowing away. Never mind, I had some keen gardeners who wanted unusual plants so did quite well for the Church financially as well as sending some folk in for refreshments and fellowship in the Social Centre. Our weekly Saturday coffee mornings remain very popular with folk enjoying fellowship, helped by hot drinks and homemade cakes as well as looking for bargains on the bric a brac and book stalls. Our stalwart band of workers is also involved in the chat and

fellowship. These mornings have proved a good outreach to people who otherwise would not come into our premises.

Messy Church in May had 36 children with 20 adult family members and 18 helpers taking part with the theme "Biblical Mountains". The children made edible mountains with ice cream cones, cream and hundreds and thousands (edible things always popular with ever hungry children) and cardboard mountain to represent Mount Carmel where Elijah called on God to light the fire for the sacrificial bulls. After a supper of pizza, beans and ice cream (not all in one dish) and much hilarity and chatter the children left with their cardboard models to remind them of another story in the Bible which had been explained to them. I said in last month's Rejoice that time passes quickly. The next session will be Messy Church's first anniversary and what a wonderful year of growth it has been for the Church. Our Junior Church is now well represented every Sunday morning and the audience participation has to be seen to be believed. Our grateful thanks go to Hazel and John and all the helpers for their hard work which is bearing such fruit.

The last Churches Together meeting covered many topics. It was reported that the pre-election hustings meeting went well but perhaps next time (and 5 years will soon pass) we could start with a prayer as Churches Together has organised the event. We need to start fund raising soon for the Christmas hampers we supply for the needy as there is only half the money needed in that fund now. Several fund raising ideas were put forward but the most popular seemed to be for a ceilidh, which would be held in our Church hall where Reg Rose ran regular tea dances. Costs and dates are being looked into so watch this space. These events are such good opportunities for fellowship when the youngest and the oldest can mix and mingle. If you are unable to take to the floor anymore it's really good fun just watching and there would be a good supper to enjoy.

The Food Bank is still very busy with an average of over 200 adults and just under 100 children fed each month. Donations of tinned vegetables (not sweetcorn or mushy peas) at least 3 months in date, toiletries and washing up liquid are needed, but the Bank is unable to use any homemade produce. Alex Coates the coordinator of the food bank wants to stand down from the job because of pressure of work – **COULD YOU TAKE ON THIS VERY REWARDING TASK?** Basically the coordinator is responsible for the Downham Market distribution centre under the umbrella of the King's Lynn food bank which is

affiliated to the Trussel Trust. The Downham food bank is open on Tuesdays 12.30 to 2.30 and Fridays 10.30 to 12.30 and the coordinator needs to be there at these times leading a team of volunteers and complying with the requirements of the Trussel Trust. For a full job description or to volunteer please ring Alex on 384474.

The refurbishment of our Social Centre is nearly complete with redecoration to be done in the next few months. The number of people coming in is holding up well and many are making use of the multiplicity of games available before and after lunch giving contact and fellowship to many who live alone.

There is to be a meeting at 7.00 on 22nd September in the Town Hall for the Dementia Friendly launch. All those interested in making Downham Market a dementia friendly town are welcome to attend. Do support this very important venture; it may come to us all. There is an ecumenical group meeting on the first Tuesday of the month at 7.30 in St. Edmunds Church hall led by Jean Evans on the theme 'Journey through prayers', tea and coffee provided and all welcome.

There is so much going on in our town and surrounding villages during the Summer; flower festivals, village fetes, charity races and sales, all raising money for good causes, so do try to support all you can during what we hope will be a good Summer. God bless.

Joan Macey

Ladies Friendship Circle - In April we had a good evening with Ruby and Margaret at the Quiz. We had lots of laughter.

The Bring and Buy Sale was a "Yellow Theme" and the money raised went into our own funds. I was on holiday that evening but I understand they all enjoyed it. Pat was the auctioneer.

On May 6th we were given a very interesting talk from Georgina from the Macmillan Nurses. We had a collection and she was given £71.00 to take away with her.

Our next meetings are June 3rd which is an OPEN EVENING including refreshments and entertainment for £2.00. There will be a raffle and £1.00 wrapped parcel. This meeting starts at 7pm. Everyone is welcome.

June 17th is the Annual Outing, this year to Skegness.

Margaret Fox

St Faith's

Two major social events dominate the month of June at St Faith's Church.

The first of these is the annual Grand Garden Fete which is being held in the lovely surroundings of the Rectory Gardens (fine weather allowing) on June 20th starting at 2pm. A lot of behind-the-scenes preparation work goes on for this major fund-raising event to ensure that it is a big success.

This year organisers are delighted that the Grand Fete is to be officially opened at 2pm by the Dean of Norwich, the Very Rev. Jane Hedges. Dean Hedges is looking forward to being at the Fete and meeting stallholders and visitors.

Widely recognised as one of Gaywood's social events of the year, the Grand Fete always attracts large crowds of young and old. Everyone enjoys spending a couple of hours touring the many colourful stalls and sideshows and picking up a bargain or two along the way. All the old favourites, including bric-a-brac, books, toys, games, jewellery, home-made cakes and preserves and games of chance sideshows will be there with one or two new ones. There is a Grand Raffle with a selection of good prizes and it is hoped the draw of tickets will be made by the Dean at just before 4pm. The fund-raising team works hard to ensure that the Fete is a successful event and that visitors are warmly welcomed and have an enjoyable time meeting up with old friends..

There is always a lovely, old-fashioned flavour to the Grand Fete and people seem to really like this aspect. We are looking forward to welcoming lots of visitors and we will endeavour to ensure they have an enjoyable few hours with us.. Admission is free and everyone is welcome.

Anyone who would like to help in any way on the day would be most welcome, just contact the church office (weekday mornings) on 01553 774916 for more details.

The week after the Grand Fete, June 27th, sees the second St Faith's Parish Outing and this year our destination is to be the lovely Suffolk market town of Bury St Edmunds.

With its medieval buildings, fine Georgian square, beautiful St Edmundsbury Cathedral, attractive mix of small and nationally-known shops and lovely Abbey gardens, there is much to keep visitors occupied for a couple of hours. The plan is to gather together for afternoon tea and attend sung evensong in the Cathedral before heading for home at about 7pm. Tickets for the return journey cost £12 and a £5 deposit should be paid to Betty Guy in advance, the balance of £7 being payable on the coach on the day.

Everyone really enjoyed our visit to Ely last summer and there has been an encouraging early response to this year's trip. We plan to leave Gaywood at 10am and are looking forward to lovely relaxing day in Bury St Edmunds among St Faith's friends.

Everyone is welcome as there will be plenty of seats on the coach. More details are available by speaking to Betty Guy or me.

Now that we are into the summer month of June and start of the summer season, St Faith's Church will once again attract people who are visiting the area on holiday and there is much of interest for them to see inside and out of the building.

There are 23 ancient churches in England dedicated to St Faith. Even in Anglo-Saxon times the lordship of Gaywood belonged to the Bishops of the See. Stones from this period were discovered during the 1909-26 restoration and are now built into the walls.

The church was re-built probably c. 1370, perhaps at the direction of Bishop De Spenser (1369-1406) whose Coat of Arms was still in the East window in 1762.

The surviving tower is a fine example of early brickwork. Some of the bricks are covered with a green glaze and may be a by-product of the Grimston pottery kilns. The east wall and window, and the window south of the altar, also date from this time as does the transept windows, although the transept itself appears to have been added or re-built later, the buttresses, bricks, and mortar being completely different from those in the tower.

In the 16th century, larger windows were inserted in the nave. These were re-used in the aisles added in 1923-6 when a west door was inserted into the tower.

During the 18th century the church seems to have been badly neglected and patched up. Much work was needed in the early 1800s and the walls were rendered with cement.

In 1845 it was a "plain cemented building with a brick tower and three bells", A groined "Gothic" plaster ceiling had been inserted inside and ran the length of the church.

By the early 1900s the fabric was decayed, the roof unstable and the church too small as Gaywood became a suburb of King's Lynn and the congregation grew in number.

The Rector at that time, Archdeacon Radcliffe began a programme of restoration in 1909. Having found the bell fittings so decayed that "the lives of those who used the vestry below were in jeopardy", he had the bells re-cast and re-hung in 1906 and added a further three bells.

In 1909 the chancel was re-roofed, the transepts restored and the vestry and south chapel added.

In a second phase of work (1923-26) the nave, too weak to stand restoration, was re-built with aisles added.

Interestingly, the work on the chancel was carried out at the Archdeacon's own expense.

So sympathetically was the restoration carried out, using old bricks, re-using the old windows and Norman doorway and incorporating the old stone fragments found during the work, that it is difficult to believe that the church has not always been as spacious as it is today.

As regular members of St Faith's Anglican and Methodist Church are only too well aware, restoration of the ancient building continues today.

In May 2006, to mark the centenary of the start of Archdeacon Radcliffe's 39-year ministry at Gaywood, a £250,000 restoration appeal was launched and a range of fund-raising events were staged. A special commemorative service was held in church on May 12, 2006.

The restoration appeal covered the cost of re-tiling part of the roof. Now the fabric committee is looking at raising funds, possibly with the support of grant aid, to repair a further section of the roof and associated works to prevent further deterioration of the building's interior caused by water penetration.

Anyone who would like further information about the latest restoration proposals, or has any ideas for fund-raising projects, can contact fabric committee chairman Liz James or Dennis Stafford via the church office for more information.

The church is open weekday mornings between 9am and 12 noon and at other times by arrangement with members of the clergy team via St Faiths Church office.

My sincere thanks go to Liz James for the historical details of St Faith's Church contained in this article.

Richard Parr

Dersingham

Over thirty people attended our Annual General Meeting in May during which Steve led a discussion about the life of our church, its worship and spiritual mission. He shared ideas emanating from his meeting with our recently formed Mission Team about ways in which we can bring our faith into our activities, and give opportunities at our social and outreach events for people to make contact with Steve or other church officers if they want to. To this end, starting with our Flower Festival (which at the time of writing is imminent) and continuing with the monthly coffee mornings and community lunches, there will be copies of the booklet 'Journey into Life' by Norman Warren available and leaflets welcoming folk onto our premises and giving them an opportunity to make contact by leaving their name and address if they so wish. Steve will also make himself available in the church during coffee mornings if anyone wants to chat to him about anything, so that people are aware that we are not just a social club which raises money for good causes, but that we are a church and that everything we do is as a result of our faith in God and his Son Jesus Christ, a faith which changes lives. The meeting gave its blessing to these new ideas and also to the prospect of a Radical Hospitality event in the autumn the details of which have yet to be decided.

Rosemary Caink

Terrington St Clement

At our MWiB [Network] meeting Mary Uttin spoke about Richard III and death and resurrection. She read to us the psalm she composed while in the Creative Writing Group at Belsey Bridge.

Barbara Foster told us of her trip to Edinburgh. She had visited the city before but Terry hadn't so they had a trip to celebrate meeting 50 years ago. Slides were shown and we laughed about the many tea rooms they visited on their trip.

At our Quiz Night on 24th April we had four teams-"Generation Game" "Super Six" "Silver linings" and "Canaries". Generation Game were the winners and Canaries got most points for the "Sea Creatures" table quiz. A big thank you to Frauke Adkins for organising the questions. Also to Ruth Hannay for scoring and Charlotte Large for being the runner. Refreshments were served and £61

raised . A donation of £10 gives £71 towards the purchase of a new set of CD,s for services.

New Beginnings with Rev. Jackie Goddard mixed Politics and Religion! We had to put in order things that make for a happy life. Various Bible passages were read that related to the problems of today and a good discussion was had by all.

Youth Club: The theme was Princess Charlotte. The word search was won by Chloe. The painting and poetry competition was won by Daniel. Princess cakes were made and decorated. We finished with a game “Put the Baby to Bed”

We will be celebrating our 10 year Anniversary with a meal on Saturday 20th June, 12 midday for 12.30. Please contact Ruth Hannay if you would like to book a place. The Sunday service at 10.30 will be led by Rev. David Howarth.

Linda Howling

Stow Bridge

The sun is shining, there is new growth everywhere in flowers, veg and fruit, refreshing showers, new life in animals, farmed and wild, the birds on my feeder are really busy feeding their families. A good feeling all round of the promised seasons coming round again, of God’s providence and steadfastness.

How different do we feel when in other places there are floods, drought, high wind storms and the latest happening, earthquakes in Nepal? How different are the feelings of these folk who see nothing but loss of housing, food, water, jobs and most important, families? I’m sure we have feelings for them and think of them in our prayers.

My words, I know, are not new; you have read them in similar statements many times over. It does show that joy and thanksgiving, despair and sadness are with all kinds of people the world over.

As we look through the local paper we see thousands of pounds being raised for many good causes. Where does this money come from as many of us say we are hard up? What a blessing we think of other people. Obeying the second commandment, eh!!?

All together here we enjoy our preachers and services. And we read “Rejoice”. We are having a Flower Festival on June 27th and 28th. Then we have a Songs of Praise at 4pm on Sunday 28th. Do come and join us to celebrate God’s bounty.

Peter Hewitt



The theme of the 2015 Methodist Homes Sunday Appeal is 'Who is my Older Neighbour?' and we focus on the often 'invisible' presence of older people in all of our various communities. We owe immense gratitude to our supporters and by holding a Methodist Homes Sunday Service, your Church helps us to do practical things that help older people not just survive, but to thrive. Your support helps to provide more than 70 of our community networks throughout the country. Led by voluntary committees, they provide company, friendship and neighbourhood support to older people living independently. We hope you will join us on our special Sunday and make use of the Order of Service contained within our Spring Heart & Soul magazine. You can also download a copy at www.mha.org.uk or contact Lesley France on 01332 296200 or email lesley.france@mha.org.uk

The suggested date for your service is 14th June but, if this is not possible, please remember the work of MHA at any time during 2015.

Your local MHA representative is:

Heather Titcomb

8 Paige's Close

Dersingham

PE31 6UF

Telephone 01485 542960

Email: heather38@tiscali.co.uk

Some words of wisdom

Be careful about reading health books. You may die of a misprint.

- *Mark Twain*

I was married by a judge. I should have asked for a jury.

- *Groucho Marx*

I have never hated a man enough to give his diamonds back.

- *Zsa Zsa Gabor*

Don't worry about avoiding temptation. As you grow older, it will avoid you.

- *Winston Churchill*

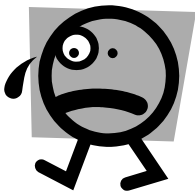
RECEPTION INTO FULL CONNEXION AND ORDINATION OF CATHERINE DIXON

Catherine Dixon will be received into Full Connexion at the Conference Service at Southport on the morning of Sunday 28th June. On the same day she will be ordained at Chester Cathedral. We hold Catherine in our prayers at this very special time for her. One or two from the Circuit (including Helen and myself) will be present at the Conference Service on the Sunday morning and others will also be present at the ordination in Chester Cathedral. It will be good to support Catherine in this way. We are currently looking into the possibility of offering an opportunity to the Circuit to watch a video of the Sunday morning Conference Service and the Reception into Full Connexion at London Road at 3pm on the afternoon of Sunday 28th June. The Conference Service will be live-streamed on the internet on the Sunday morning and we believe that it may be possible to download a copy of the video material so that it can be seen on the Sunday afternoon. We will confirm this through a notice to all of our churches as soon as we know if this will definitely be possible. So pencil a date in your diary!

Andrew Maguire

CELEBRATION OF MINISTRY SERVICE – SATURDAY 18TH JULY AT 3PM AT LONDON ROAD

There will be a special service to “Celebrate Ministry” at London Road at 3pm on Saturday 18th July. This is an event for which we would like to encourage wholehearted support from around the Circuit. A number of really important things will be happening. We are planning to receive Heather Brown as a Local Preacher in the Methodist Church. Heather, who has led worship now at several of our Circuit churches, is an accredited preacher in the United Reformed Church, but since moving to our Circuit she has expressed a wish to be received as a Local Preacher. We will be giving thanks for sixty years of local preaching for Roland Hamon and Stephen Watts. We will also give thanks for the ministry of the Revd Marie Whitcombe in our Circuit. The Service will include the celebration of Holy Communion, led by the Revd Catherine Dixon, who will have been recently



ordained. The preacher at the service will be our Chair of District, the Revd. Julian Pursehouse. So we are looking forward to a memorable and very special afternoon. Please put the date in your diary.

Andrew Maguire

Any items for the **JULY/AUGUST** edition should be with the editor by **JUNE 12th**, earlier if possible. **If you don't get an acknowledgment of emails PLEASE enquire if I have received them as some articles have found their way into my spam bin which I don't check very often!**

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

Why do people stand up at the start of a church service?

NOT because the minister is superior and deserves the congregation's deference! But rather because it is the custom in English law and Tradition to stand up when something important is about to happen; and what is more important than acknowledging that we are about to begin worshipping God together?

Karen Burnett-Hall, priest in charge

Wimbotsham, Stow Bardolph and Stow Bridge with Nordelph.

Creating Safer Space

There are still some people in the Circuit who haven't completed this course who need to do so. Wendy and Linda hope to run another session on THURSDAY JUNE 16TH at 7PM .at HUNSTANTON CHURCH. Could you please let them know if you can attend.

More from Guess who!!

We had our baby on the National Health. It was terrible. We had to wait nine months for it!

.....

In my dreams last night I kept shouting, "Oh Linda, oh Linda!"

The wife said this morning, "Who's Linda?"

I said, thinking quickly, "It's the name of a horse I got a tip from my mate for the Newmarket 3.30 Stakes."

When I arrived home from work all my stuff was on the doorstep. I asked, "What's going on?"

She said, "Your horse phoned!"

.....

This evening at 7 PM there will be a hymn sing in the park across from the Church. Bring a blanket and come prepared to sin.

.....

London Road Gift Day

Saturday 6th June 2015

**Coffee Morning with stalls 10am-12noon in
Church**

**Hornby Model Trains display in Hall 10am-
3.30pm**

All welcome

BLESS `EM ALL

With the recurring wartime anniversaries my thoughts often go back to my 5 years, 8 months and 23 days in the British army. Quite often we were 'brownd off,' fed up with it all but that didn't last long. The antidote was usually to gather round any old piano we could find for a somewhat raucous sing-song, suitably lubricated by liquid refreshment, except of course for those of us who were tee-totallers. I still remember the old songs but must not repeat their rather colourful words. There was one, however, which has respectable alternative lyrics:

"Bless `em all, bless `em all, the long and the short and the tall,

Bless all the sergeants and W.O.1s

Bless all the corporals and their blinking sons

We're saying goodbye to them all

As back to their billets they crawl

There'll be no promotion this side of the ocean

So cheer up, my lads, bless `em all.

In these days there are so many awful things happening which get us down – the barbarity of ISIS...the pitiful hordes of refugees, risking and often losing life in their escape to freedom...the merciless persecution of Christians...and on the day I am writing this, the frightful earthquake in Nepal...and the things which come our way personally. How can we cheer up, how can we cope?

I turn to St John's Gospel chapter 16. Jesus has gathered his disciples round him and warns them of what they must expect. "They will put you out of the synagogues...The hour is coming when whoever kills you will think he is offering service to God...You will be scattered...In the world you have tribulation." He prepares them for his death: "You will see me no more." But the last word of this chapter is "Be of good cheer, I have overcome the world."

That is the promise for us too whatever life may bring. Whenever we come to church the service ends with the benediction, the blessing of God upon our lives and then it is "Go in peace, to love and serve the Lord...in

the name of Christ” In the words of the hymn we will be “Ready for all thy perfect will.”

John Garfoot.

**ACTION FOR CHILDREN
STEP OUT FOR CHILDREN 2015**

Saturday, June 20th 2015

10 a.m. start

(Not as printed in the official brochure)

Starting and finishing at

Upwell Methodist Church

This year's sponsored walk will take the form of a 3½ mile ramble around Upwell & Outwell starting from Upwell Methodist Church. It's a pleasant walk taken at the pace of the slowest and gives you a chance to make new friends, renew acquaintances and get fit. It's a walk along quiet roads, footpaths and orchards. Toilet facilities are available at Upwell Methodist Church with light refreshments afterwards. Why not consider bringing a picnic lunch & enjoy fellowship afterwards, too?

For more information please, contact me on: 01366 385772. Thanks in anticipation.

John Miles

PS If you want to sponsor someone I am ready to be sponsored!!! Ed.

I never knew that!

The Epistels were the wives of the Apostles.

Samson slayed the Philistines with the axe of the Apostles.

The people who followed the Lord were called the twelve Decibels!

A Day in Norwich

On Thursday April 30th a car load of Downham Market Ladies, (not women!) set off to go to the MWiB Spring Conference at Chapelfields Church in Norwich.

After an uneventful journey we reached the Park and Ride, missed a bus by a minute, but arrived in time for coffee before the meeting began.

The acting President, Rev. Heather Sorrell greeted us and began the Worship. After a rousing rendition of "Born in Song" we heard news from various conferences, the Forum and the Advent Retreat. Then Rev Jean Simmonds gave us an update on the charity for this year. It is The Turning Point Trust, which works with those who live in the slum in Kibera, Africa. One million people live in three square kms. The trust was started by Jean's daughter and her husband and is making huge differences to life there. They have built a school, have acquired a farm where they learn to farm, tend an acre of the trust land, which enables them to support their families, and finally have their own home and rented piece of land. The founders have now come back home, leaving local people to carry on the work. There is no large office, no employees taking large salaries, every donation goes to the people who need it. Already MWiB has raised £13,400. Please come to our coffee morning and help to increase this sum. (Advert elsewhere!) After more singing we heard the President of the whole lot of us give her personal testimony and later insights into her time as president. We were privileged to have Barbara Dickerson with us. She is on furlough from Maua in Kenya and told us of the fears from the Somali fighters. She is returning to Kenya but doesn't know how much longer she will be able to stay there; the British government bringing them home.

It was a most enjoyable day and I would recommend the Autumn Day to anyone free on 8th October and able to travel to Diss, when Heather will be installed as President for the next two years and we will get to know what her project is.

We were sent on our way to get the bus with the following.

May God's blessing surround you each day

As you trust him and walk in his way.

May his presence within

Guard and keep you from sin.

Go in peace, go in joy, go in love.

Barbara Foster



**METHODIST
WOMEN IN BRITAIN**

**COME AND JOIN US FOR A
COFFEE MORNING
AT**

140 STOW ROAD, MAGDALEN

on TUESDAY, 9th JUNE

10.00am – 12 NOON

Bring and Buy

Raffle, etc.

(Buy a ticket even if you can't come!)

**Proceeds in aid of
TURNING POINT TRUST**

**A Charity supporting a small group of
Christians working
to transform lives in Kibera, the biggest
slum in Africa.**

**St. Andrew's
Methodist Church
Sheringham, NR26 8SA**
www.sheringhammethodist.org.uk



Theme: "A Touch of Wonder"

Flower Festival

2nd. - 5th. July 2015

*Stalls - Refreshments - Music - Children's Area
Admission & Programme - Free*

**Thursday, Friday, Saturday 10 - 5;
Sunday 12 noon - 6 p.m.**

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 be shared between

Sheringham Playpark Revamp and Sheringham Woodfields School



IT'S FREE
**RADICAL
HOSPITALITY**
Methodist Church



WHERE...

**Heacham Methodist
Church**



WHAT...

Inspiring & Joyful Music



**for heart & soul by
REVELATION and**



2 YANKS AND A BRIT

WHEN...

**Saturday 25th July
from 2.30pm**

Free food & refreshments

Be Uplifted and Fed!

West Norfolk Methodist Circuit Diary June 2015 onwards

Saturday 6th June, Gift Day Coffee Morning, 10am - 12 noon and Hornby model trains display in the hall 10am - 3.30pm, London Road.

Tuesday 9th June Coffee Morning for Turning Point Trust at 140 Stow Road, Magdalen.

Saturday 13th June Fellowship Breakfast at Pott Row 8.30 am

Saturday 20th June Step out for Action for Children

Sunday 28th June Rev. Catherine Dixon's ordination at Chester Cathedral.

Sunday 28th June at 3pm – a gathering at London Road to watch a video of the Conference Service from the morning, including the Reception into Full Connexion of the Revd Catherine Dixon. Confirmation of this event will be sent through a notice to the churches once the technical feasibility has been confirmed.

Saturday 11th July Strawberry Tea at Pott Row

Saturday 11th July Fellowship Breakfast at Hilgay at 8.30 am

Saturday 18th July at 3pm – Circuit “Celebration of Ministry” service – preacher Revd Julian Pursehouse, Chair of the District. A very special event in the Circuit. More details inside. Please put the date in your diary!