

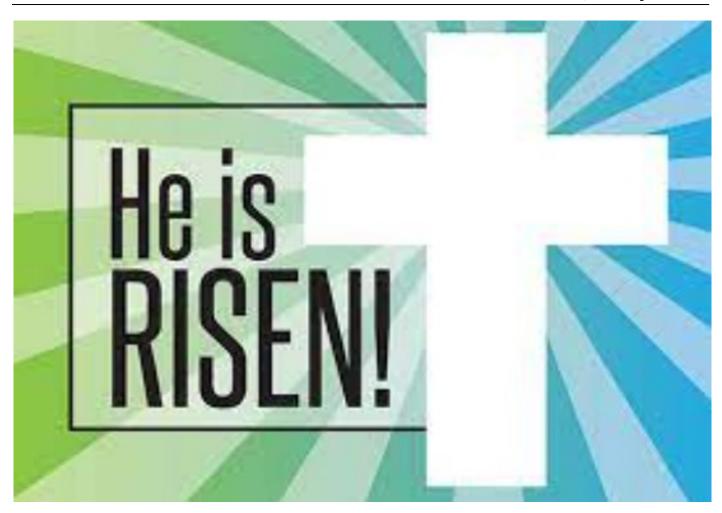
Central Norfolk Circuit

Includes the Circuit Plan

CIRCUIT SUPERINTENDENT:

March / May 2023 Issue 57

01760 720858



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MINISPER'S LEVIER

I wonder how we build ourselves up? How do we 'upbuild', as Paul says in 2 Corinthians 12:19? I ask this because I think we need to be considering the idea of 'upbuilding' right now because we have had a tough few years — a global pandemic, economic difficulties, a climate crisis, leaders lacking integrity, and more, personal worries and hardships. So what does Paul mean by the word 'upbuild' and why is it helpful to think about now?

To 'upbuild' comes from a word that Paul uses that was typically meant for buildings. It might be thought of as an architectural term and it is a metaphor that can be applied to the Church and we as individuals. The word also comes after the bit where Paul talks about the 'thorn in the flesh' in verse 7, and saying that 'when he is weak he is strong' in verse 10. I want to make a link between God's working in us when we are struggling and the idea of



'upbuilding'. To upbuild in a spiritual sense is to place God at the centre of our lives and allow that working in and with us to build us up. When we are weak, continuing the architecture metaphor, we may need scaffolding to support us as we 'upbuild', or have wall bracing put in to keep us upright. When we are struggling, it is so important to place God at the heart of our own buildings – both shared and individual.

I write shared and individual in relation to the metaphor of buildings because this idea of 'upbuilding' is a personal and collective pursuit. We need to 'upbuild' not only ourselves but also each other, especially when we are struggling. There will be times in our lives when our capacity to 'upbuild' ourselves is dwindling and having others who care and love us is so important. It is a mixture of holding and building up one another as well as seeking it for our own person. It is to show mutual love and compassion for each other whilst seeking out God in and with us. 'Upbuilding', therefore, becomes a key part of being a Christian, to construct a faith life that rests upon the foundations that is offered to us through the life, death, resurrection, and ascension of Jesus Christ. In short, to 'upbuild' is to allow God to work in and with us for the betterment of each one of us.

God bless,.

Rev Jonny

THE LINK

This is an exciting *Link* to put together as we look forward to Easter and Springtime generally. This edition is a little thinner than most (24 pages instead of 28) for the simple reason that I've received less material. However a little while ago I received so much we had to go to 32 so perhaps this counterbalances that. There's certainly a very full diary of things happening in the next three months for our information and prayer. And many thanks to the churches that have sent in articles about what they have been doing. If your church does

something special why not write an article straightaway (with pictures if possible) - no need to wait for the deadline. Then we can all rejoice in what has happened and perhaps think of doing something similar in the future in whatever way works for you.

It's good to see that three of our fellowships are getting involved in the World Day of Prayer (see below). Perhaps it may be a few more next year.

Enjoy your read—enjoy your pray.

Tony Hey



WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

Friday, 3rd March

Holt Methodist Church 11.00 a.m.

Mattishall Parish Church 2.00 p.m.

Litcham Methodist Chapel 2.30 p.m.

Prepared by Christians in Taiwan



FOR THE
June—August
EDITION

SATURDAY 29th APRIL

Please include details of activities up to the end of August

CONTACT DETAILS

Please send information for publication to Tony Hey

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HOLT NR25 6DT

REVD ELIZABETH BELLAMY

Although she has been preaching in our Circuit for a while as a visiting preacher Liz has now joined us as a supernumerary having moved to Wells. We are very pleased to welcome her.



12 years ago, when I retired for the second time, I left Wells after 3 years there as an active supernumerary minister. In November 2022, having retired for the third time, I returned to live in Wells – this time as a lady of leisure.

I began my ministry in 1978 serving the Methodist Church in Kenya and was ordained that year in Nairobi. In the 44+ years since then I have been stationed in north Norfolk, Norwich and Ipswich and lived in manses in Holt, Norwich, Ipswich and Wells. Recently I have lived for nearly 6 years as an active supernumerary minister in the manse on Alderney, one of the smaller Channel Isles.

As it happened, in nearly every appointment, I have been responsible for building schemes. It began in Kenya where church growth meant building bigger churches and more manses. The largest was in Ipswich with a £1.3 million job. On Alderney, an island of about 2000 people with some 15 Methodists, we raised over half a million pounds for a major makeover of the church and at the same time raised our profile on the island and doubled the congregation. Now I have a new task: to help develop our Wighton church into a District Heritage Centre so that its Christian witness continues. "Heritage is the mission of the church" (John Hustler, secretary of the Conference).

STROKE GROUPS

Hilary Pegg writes: Stroke is the fourth largest cause of mortality and the single largest cause of adult disability in the UK. (Stroke Association.)

As part of my calling as a Methodist I belong to an East of England stroke group which meets monthly on zoom. It is for stroke survivors or anyone interested in helping the work of the Stroke Association.

It is currently looking for members. There is another larger group for people who have had a stroke or care for someone who has had a stroke.

If you are interested in either group let me know by phone on

01362 693183 or email hilarypegg@btinternet.com



From Elizabeth Bellamy and Sarah Friswell: The Central Norfolk Circuit is supporting the use of Wighton Methodist Church (only 2 miles from Walsingham) as a home for the E A Methodist Heritage Centre.

Our vision is to create a place, open to the public, where we can collect, house and display items that showcase all that Methodism has contributed to East Anglia over more than 2 centuries. **Essential work to be done before opening** includes internal redecoration to create attractive and accessible display areas for the public with thermostat controlled heaters to safeguard the historic items and the building.

Costs: local builder's quote £12,900 (incl VAT)

local electrician's quote 10,500 (incl VAT)

contingencies, set up costs 1,600 £25,000

Can you help us?

If you or your church have **items of East Anglian Methodist history** which you would consider donating please contact <u>sarah.friswell@btinternet.com</u> or on tel. 01366 500671. And we are appealing for **donations** towards making our vision a reality. If you can help please send cheques to the treasurer: Rev Elizabeth Bellamy, 10 Quayside Court, Wells-next -the-Sea, NR23 1FA, made payable to **Wesley Historical Society East Anglia Branch.** *Write EAMHC on the back,* or pay direct: 20-82-75 ac no 90947539 with *EAMHC as the reference,* or set up a monthly direct debit and inform the treasurer <u>ejbellamy451@yahoo.com</u>

SWAFFHAM FRIENDSHIP GROUP

Just before Christmas a good number of us were able to enjoy a delicious meal out together at the White Hart. The Landlord gave us a special rate of £5 per head for main meal and dessert as we're a community group and I must say it was really good to be able to sit and share a meal together.

Swaffham Friendship Group details:

March 9th "Growing up in Norfolk." Major (rtd) Rod Goddard MBE

March 23rd tba April 13th tba

April 27th "A decent bit of sweet stuff." Talk by Rosemary Nattriss.

May 11th Guess the mystery object. Rev Jacqui

May 25th "T-shirts, tales and tunes!" Talk by Sandra Simm.

NB NO FRIENDSHIP GROUP JUNE, JULY, AUGUST.



SPRINGTIME AT THE HIVE

SAVE THE DATE!

Thursday 9 February 11.00 - 12.00 | THOUGHTS ON THURSDAYS

Saturday 11 February 2.30 - 4.00 | MOVEMENT & IMAGINATION

Thursday 23 February 11.00 - 12.00 | THOUGHTS ON THURSDAYS

Saturday 25 February 11.00 - 3.00 | RETREAT DAY

Saturday 4 March 2.30 - 4.30 | YOGA WORKSHOP

Friday 10 March 11.00 - 12.30 | LET'S TALK ABOUT IT . . . RUSSIA PART 2

Friday 17 March 11.00 - 12.30 | CELTIC JOURNEYS

Saturday 18 March 11.00 - 3.00 | WALK ON THE WILD SIDE

Thursday 23 March 11.00 - 12.00 | THOUGHTS ON THURSDAYS

Friday 24 March 2.30 - 4.00 | CAROLE IRWIN TALKS ABOUT LYN'S HOUSE

Friday 31 March 11.00 - 12.30 | MILITARY MEMOIRS - ROD GODDARD

Saturday 1 April 2.30 - 6.30 | SPRING SING - CASUAL CHOIR

Sunday 2 April 7.00 - 8.30 | MUSIC FOR BODY, MIND & SOUL





Book at Eventbrite!



Email: thehiveplace@gmail.com



Chalk Hill, Great Cressingham, Norfolk IP25 6NP Find us with What3Words: winds.fuzzy.stages E: thehiveplace@gmail.com T: 07976 286 645



HOPE AT THE HIVE

'Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old. I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?'
Isaiah 43: 18-19a

Isaiah's words speak 'in due season' or 'just at the right time'. At The Hive we are trying to listen for the meaning and purpose in those words and to turn them into a vision of hope: the hope that God promises in Jeremiah.

For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.'

Jeremiah 29: 11.

Everywhere in today's world we see challenges, both far away and close to home. We know that the church is being rigorously challenged as to its relevance and its place in society and each and every church is facing its own existential challenges. So we have to ask, what is God's vision for the future and how do we become part of that vision? Change is inevitable and it is far better to be a contributor to change than a victim of it!

In 2023 we are in our third year of activity at The Hive. Geraldine, David, Susan and I constantly review the contribution of The Hive. Sometimes this is about practicalities — when are the best days and times to hold events? Sometimes it is about content and offering — what has drawn people to us? Less often it is about the impact of The Hive's programme and that is because while we know what people say to us directly, we can't know how God is speaking to them. It is simpler to take action and trust that the Holy Spirit is at work.

Speaking of taking action, the latest programme for The Hive has some new elements as well as building on established strands. The first new event is called *Thoughts on Thursdays*. Here we set aside 60 minutes to share thoughts on some of life's important questions, over a cuppa. Discussion is stimulated by a short, thought-provoking TED Talk and we have three of these Thursdays across the new series. This season's *Celtic Journeys* occurs on St Patrick's day, 17th March, whose life and example will be our inspiration.

Revd Dr Carole Irwin, formerly of Wesley House, returns on 24th March to talk about *Lyn's House* in Cambridge where a diverse community embraces and supports people with intellectual disability and Susan will continue her *History of Russia* which is helping to shed light on and provoke discussion about the aggression of Russia's leaders today.

[Continued on page 8.]

ELIZABETH ADAMS 25 YEARS A LOCAL PREACHER

Back in January Elizabeth Adams was presented with her Certificate celebrating 25 years as a Local Preacher. It was presented by Rev Anne and Dee Moden, our Local Preachers' Secretary.





Isn't it a joy to see her looking so pleased. Alleluia!

HOPE AT THE HIVE

[Continued from page 7.]

Yoga, walking and movement for well-being run across the programme as well as the popular casual choir in a **Spring Sing**. The programme rounds off with another evening of **Music for Body, Mind and Soul** on 2nd April, presented by Geraldine.



All our events will continue to be free with donations welcomed. Booking is through *Eventbrite* and here is the QR code. Visiting our *facebook* page will keep you up to date.

www.facebook.com/GreatCressinghamHive

If you are still in need of a new year's resolution, why not think about being a contributor to change!

Sarah Rodgers



HOLT PET SERVICE



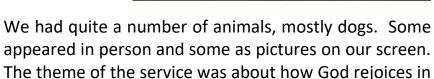
Back in November we decided to hold a Pet Service. We have held such services before with some success and—no—the precautions we had taken were not needed!

Our new minister, Rev Jonny, was a little cautious so we decided to hold it in November as a trial and, if deemed successful, make it a feature of our summer outreach when there are lots of visitors

about.

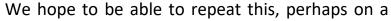
Unfortunately
Rev Jonny was
unwell so one
of our Local
Preachers was
asked to stand
in for him.





all life, domesticated or wild. Some appropriate

animal inspiring hymns were sung and all the animals and their owners received a blessing.





larger scale (but not try to rival Ely Cathedral — they have alpacas which definitely need buckets and shovels!) in the summer months. When you see it advertised why not come and join us, with any animal you wish, to see what happens.



The Pilgrim Methodist Church

Blakeney # Walsingham

NEWS FROM BLAKENEY

The Christmas season was one of quiet reflection at Blakeney, offering the community a little retreat from the stresses of the season. We enjoyed a lovely time of Carol singing in the lounge with friends old and new, followed the next week by one of Aileen's flower arranging workshops - resulting in unique yet marvellous creations!

In January I was pleased to take part in a service for Christian Unity at St Martin's Church in Glandford, the small Church was joyously full and all of the attendees were in

fine voice - filling the space as we sang together.

As we move towards spring and look to the seasons of Lent and Easter it will be good to be fully present once again at the usual Ecumenical services in the village, as well as discerning what the last year of my appointment here will hold - I am sure that there will be celebrations, joyful events and times of laughter alongside times of lament and holding one another in love.

I once found a small slip of paper in the chapel that had 'Lord, whatever may happen today, may I always remember that between us there's nothing we can't handle' (it turned out to belong to Lilian, who kindly let me keep it in the chapel) So, whatever the next twelve months may bring, I reel ready and prepared for the journey!









NEWS FROM WALSINGHAM

It's been a quiet three months at Walsingham with few pilgrims or tourists and cold weather. It does have a timeless atmosphere all of its own however when walking down the empty street in the quiet of a winter's evening, especially during Advent when the Nativity Scene is erected next to the old pump in Common Place. In December we did have some visitors to the Chapel as we welcomed a delegation from the Harare West District of the Methodist Church in Zimbabwe as part of their tour of East Anglia. It was very interesting to contrast and compare Walsingham with the oldest Chapel in their District, which is some 100 years younger! These quieter winter months have afforded us time to have a pre-spring clean, including sorting out and tidying a couple of cupboards — one of which revealed a second and more modern font which is now on display as a contrasting example to the 1886 memorial font which is already on display in the Chapel. The Vestry has also been spruced up, offering visitors a glimpse of the remains of the Franciscan Friary and the opportunity to see a wall mounted paraffin oil lamp, which is likely a survivor of the original lighting in the Chapel.

Services have continued despite the weather and usually around 18 of us gather monthly on Sunday afternoons for a short service followed by a meal together. We had a very enjoyable service in December and the Chapel looked cosy and inviting, Sam even had some visitors pop in to look around whilst she was putting the decorations up. One visitor had been coming to Walsingham annually for over three decades and was delighted to finally find the Chapel open, having often heard that it was well worth a visit (he wasn't disappointed!) Our February service was well attended and it is so good to have a group of regulars as well as welcoming those who are on holiday or pilgrimage. Some people come regularly and some from time to time when they are able. Wherever you live do feel free to join us if you are in the area. Our next services are at 4-30pm on:

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March 12<sup>th</sup>
April 16<sup>th</sup> (Please note that the April service has been moved from the usual second Sunday)
May 14<sup>th</sup>
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We also have a visit from a Camino Pilgrimage walk to Walsingham 23-26th March and the Student Cross Weekend will once again be using the Chapel during their pilgrimage over Easter April 7th-9th.

The National Pilgrimage returns to its usual day this year (having moved last year to accommodate the Jubilee) which is on the 29th May (Spring Bank Holiday) and really is something to behold. Sam will be opening the Chapel on Monday and Friday afternoons again for the snowdrop season, which begins at the end of February and then after Easter for the main Pilgrimage season. School visits continue and we have already taken our first few bookings for the year.

Please get in touch with Sam or Glyn if you would like to arrange a visit at other times or would like to be added to our email list.

NEWSFROMLITCHAM

Writing this on the day after the coldest January night RAF Marham has ever recorded (-10.1 degrees), I hope that you will be reading this in all of Spring's glory, and in anticipation of Easter.

I am sure that preachers will be pleased to hear that we have received the generous donation of copies of Singing the Faith. so will no longer be getting a call asking them to revise their hymn choices. This means that we now have the choice of Singing the Faith, Hymns and Psalms, or Songs of Fellowship (Vols 1 to 4) available, probably the largest choice of hymns in the Circuit with a library of well over two thousand hymns to choose from, 1500 of which I suspect will never or rarely be sung!

We are hosting the area World Day of Prayer service on March 3rd, at 2.30 p.m., which this year has been prepared by the women of Taiwan. The planning for these services is begun several years in advance, and this year's is particularly relevant with China once again raising its claim to the island.

We will be running a Course on each Friday of Lent at 10.00 a.m. each week. At the time of writing the subject has not been finalised, but some lively debate and discussion is ensured. This is an ecumenical venture with our Anglican Friends.

On Palm Sunday, April 2nd, we will hold our now traditional Processional service around the village, accompanied by our (lifesize cut-out) donkey. For the first time, all the surrounding villages from the Upper Nar Anglican Benefice will be joining us, so it should be quite an occasion. We will meet at 10.15 a.m. at Litcham chapel, and provision will be made for an indoor service should the weather be inclement.

On Good Friday we will hold our usual 'mini-pilgrimage' leaving Litcham chapel at 10.00 a.m., and walking to Tittleshall to arrive shortly before 11.00 a.m. Concurrently, there will be a time of worship and reflection taking place at Tittleshall chapel, beginning at 10.15 a.m. and concluding when the walkers arrive.

We are delighted and excited that we will be hosting our first infant baptism service for many years on April 23rd. when Rachel and Andy Carter will bring their first daughter, Sybil, to be baptised. Rachel is the daughter of Marion and John Moulton, and was a member of our Sunday School all through her childhood. Some of the more senior members of the old Swaffham circuit will remember Marion's mother and father, Bob and Sybil Hall, who served the church faithfully at Rougham for many years, and Sybil has been named to honour her great-grandmother's memory.

Due to the pre-Christmas icy weather, we were forced to cancel our concert with the Sunflower Choir, so we are delighted that they will be joining us to perform a Spring Concert at 7.00 p.m. on Friday April 28th. Proceeds from the evening will be for Action for Children.

THE COASTAL COMMUNITY SUPERMARKET

The Coastal Community Supermarket is a mobile pop-up shop run by Coastal Health and Wellbeing at the Old Cottage Hospital, Wells-Next-the-Sea.

It offers food, personal care and household products to local residents at between 30% and 50% less than retail to help combat the rising cost of living, provide access to groceries in isolated communities and prevent food waste.

Local residents can sign up as a member to use the supermarket. There is a short membership form to fill in and a one-off fee of £3.50 per



household to join. We then issue you with a membership card and then you can shop as and when you wish.

The supermarket will be in Stibbard on Wednesdays between 10am and midday. The venue will alternate between the Methodist Church and the Village Hall.

If you'd like to know more, please contact Helen by phone or email:

01328 711996 helen.roythorne@wellshospital.uk

HEAVEN'S GROCERY STORE

Author Unknown

I was walking down life's highway a long time ago, one day I saw a sign that read, "Heaven's Grocery Store."

As I came closer the door opened wide and when I came to myself I was standing just inside.

I saw a host of angels, they were standing everywhere.

One handed me a basket and said, "My child, just shop with care!"

Everything a Christian needed was in that grocery store,

and all you couldn't carry, you could come back the next day for.

First, I got some **PATIENCE**, **LOVE** was in the same row.

Further on was **UNDERSTANDING**, you need that everywhere you go.

I got a box or two of **WISDOM**, a bag or two of **FAITH**.

I just couldn't miss the **HOLY GHOST**, for it was all over the place.

I stopped to get some STRENGTH and COURAGE to help run this race

by then my basket was getting full but remembered I

needed GRACE.

I didn't forget **SALVATION**, for salvation was free,

so I tried to get enough of that to save both you and me.

Then I started up to the counter to pay my grocery bill

for I thought I had everything to do the Master's will.

As I went up the aisle I saw **PRAYER** and just had to put that in

for I know that when I stepped outside I would run into sin.

PEACE and **JOY** were plentiful, they were last on the shelf.

SONG and **PRAISE** were hanging near so I just had to help myself.

Then I said to the angel, "Now how much do I owe?"

He smiled again and said,
"My child, Jesus paid your bill a long, long time ago."

[Published in the Whittelsey and Brookside Church Magazines in the Peterborough Circuit. Reprinted with permission.]

NEWS FROM

SAHAM HILLS

First we wish everyone a Happy and Healthy 2023.

We combined our autumn coffee morning with our Christmas Sale on November 26th which proved popular and very successful in helping to boost our finances for last year.

On December 18th it was lovely to see our little chapel festively decorated and full of worshippers for our Carol Service which was joyfully taken by John Hull. Wendy played the organ and gave us interesting information about each of her chosen hymns, they were all favourites and we sang with gusto. It was a lovely service for which we thank John and Wendy and once again our community was very generous with their Christmas donations.

On 22nd January once again our chapel was full as worshippers from St. Georges Church Saham Toney joined us for our Covenant Service. Jacqui, as usual led an entertaining service with congregation readings and communion followed by tea or coffee and biscuits with friendly chatter with our guests.

We now look forward to BIG SUNDAY on the 29th when we join all chapels with thoughts on The Covenant.

On one of our own arrangement services in January we looked at the significance of some of the many mountains mentioned in the Bible, looking at the stories it leads to many 'other stories' we could use at a later date.

I found this poem, author unknown, which we used as a closing prayer. It seems to convey all that God has given us and all that we should thank him for often.

The mountains are my bones
The rivers are my veins
The forests are my thoughts
And the stars are my dreams

The ocean is my heart
Its pounding is my pulse
The songs of the earth
Write the music of my soul AMEN

MATTISHALL

We will be joining in with the village World Day of Prayer Service prepared by women in Taiwan at the Parish Church on 3rd March at 2.00 p.m.

After a winter break we will be starting our monthly Saturday Coffee Mornings for charity on 18th March. We look forward to catching up with Rev Betty Trinder as she will be returning to lead our 123rd Chapel Anniversary Service on 23rd April.

FULMODESTON

In April we are not having a service on the 2nd but a Communion service on Easter Sunday with Rev Jonny Bell, and Mrs. Avril Temple preaching on the 16th.

The preacher on our Chapel Anniversary on May 7th will be Mr. Nelson Tubby.

All our services are at 2.30 pm.

CHURCHES

HOLT

We are having an exciting time at Holt withal sorts of activities which have either happened or are planned. For example see the article on our Pet Service on page 9 or the various celebrations at our Covenant Service on page 16.

We have now had permission to move to the next stage of our Development Project – Light and Life for All. This doesn't mean we can actually start but we can now initiate serious fund-raising. There are conditions to this permission, mostly of a technical nature, but two will require further thought, action (and expense!) Our very efficient heating system is deemed unacceptable in a Listed Building and will have to be replaced. Apparently heaters have to be virtually invisible and definitely not glow. We also need permission for our new chairs – which must not be plastic or upholstered.

We have various plans for special outreach events during the year. In particular we intend to reintroduce our Pentecost Party in the Holt Memorial Gardens at the end of May. This will be widely advertised and people encouraged to join us for a Party with lots of food and drink interspersed with some singing and Biblical thoughts. And, of course, Joselyn's splendid Afternoon Teas (complete with Olive's stall) will recommence in March. We also plan to share in the World Day of Prayer on March 3rd. We did this for many years but, sadly, it has slipped beneath the radar in recent years. Now, hopefully, is the time to re-introduce it to our corner of North Norfolk.



WATTON

At Christmas, we held our usual Candlelight Carol service on Christmas Eve, and although not so well attended as in precovid years, it was a good service with Rev Jacqui and musical accompaniment by Deacon Jen which was enjoyed by those who were there. On Christmas morning our service was led by Deacon Jen with a talk about 'room in the stable for everyone', involving all members of the congregation.

Other Christmas events in The Methodist Centre were enjoyed by many people, including carol singing at the coffee morning and the excellent display of Nativity Sets from Jacqui and Jen's large collection. The New Year has begun quietly, but we look forward to more special services for Mothering Sunday and Easter, as well as more Tuesday afternoon activities monthly in The Centre, which will include crafts and talks.

GARVESTONE

Our regular Bible Studies will be put on hold during Lent and we shall be following a Lent Course led by Rev Anne. Normal service will be resumed shortly after Easter. For further details including dates, time and location please contact Andrew Durrant (01362 858033).

We have started re-organising ourselves for the much bigger scope our redeveloped building will provide. In particular we have a new publicity officer who is working hard to make sure that the community knows what we are doing. Also a new team has taken over the arrangements for hiring the premises which should also become a much bigger task in the coming years.

NEWS FROM CHURCHES

WELLS

In partnership with Churches Together in Wells we will be holding our usual Lent discussion groups throughout Lent. We will also be providing Lent lunches every Friday at The Friends Meeting House in aid of Christian Aid and Cafod. We will be the hosts on Friday 3rd March at 12 noon and again on Friday 31st March. On Good Friday there will be a walk of witness starting at 1.00 p.m. from Our Lady Star of the Sea and ending with a short service at the bottom of Staithe Street. On Easter Sunday there will be a dawn service near the Lifeboat Station at 6.30 a.m.

Sadly we report the death of our long-serving member Mrs Barbara Clarke of Leylands Yard. Barbara lived here for about 40 years and has always been very involved in Wells Methodist Church. She was a very talented lady who used all those talents to further the work of Jesus Christ in this community. She had a lovely voice and sang all round the Circuit. For many years she produced, and sometimes wrote, our annual Nativity Play, which was performed in our Church every Christmas by Churches Together. She was for many years responsible for the Church flowers — latterly working with Jean Benson who took over from her. Barbara was also extremely supportive of our bi-annual Bazaars held at The Maltings. She always had her own stall with lovely hand-made arrangements and gifts. She is sadly missed.

A SPECIAL DAY AT HOLT

Our Covenant service proved to be quite a special time this year, as we welcomed Diana Smith as a new member and also Steve Jones was presented with his Certificate celebrating his 25 years as a Local Preacher. Joy and smiles all round!





AROUND THE CIRCUIT

For your information, prayer and support

STIBBARD

Services; every Sunday at 11.00 a.m. The fifth Sunday services are followed by lunch.

Lunch @ The Centre: 12.30 p.m. March 8th, April 12th, May 10th.

Credo Lunch with Heart of Norfolk

Benefice: 12.30 p.m. March 2nd, April 6th, May 4th.

Railway Film Afternoons with Tea and Cake: 2.30 p.m. March 4th, April 1st, May 6th (7.30 p.m.).

Quiz Night @ The Centre: 7.30 p.m. May

Circuit Choir Practice: 7.30 p.m. March 3rd, 17th, 31st, April 14th, 28th, May 12th.

Coastal Community Shop: 10.00 a.m. - 12.00 noon every Wednesday.

SWAFFHAM

Services: every Sunday at 10.45 a.m.

Power of Prayer Group: Every Friday 9.30 a.m. Praying for God's world. Phone 01760 722611 for the venue.

The Meeting Place drop-in: 10.00 a.m. – 12.00 noon every Tuesday.

Church Coffee Morning: 9.30 a.m. – 12.00 noon March 4th, April 1st, May 6th.

Swaffham Friendship Group: 2.00 – 4-00 p.m. March 9th, 23rd, April 13th, 27th, May 11th, 25th. Various speakers. See page 5.

THURSFORD

Services: fortnightly at 6.30 p.m.

TOFTWOOD

Services: every Sunday at 11.00 a.m. followed by a Bring and Share Lunch on March 5th, April 2nd, May 7th.

Good Friday Service: 9.30 a.m. led by Rev Anne

Weekly Lace Group: Mondays 9.30 a.m. -

12.00 noon

Guides: Mondays 7.00 – 9.00 p.m.

Drop-in Café: 10.00 – 11.30 a.m. March 15th, April 19th, May 17th.

Prayer Meeting: 11.00 a.m. – 12.00 noon March 15th, April 19th, May 17th.

Craft Group: 2.00 – 4.00 p.m. March 1st, April 5th, May 3rd.

Lunch & Linger: 12.00 noon – 2.30 p.m. March 8th, April 12th, May 10th.

Carpet Bowls: Thursdays 1.30 – 4.00 p.m.

Messy Church: 3.30 – 5.00 p.m. March 28th, April 25th, May 23rd.

Film Club: 2.00 p.m. March 10th, April 14th, May 12th.

Gina Card Making: 2.00 – 4.00 p.m. March 22nd, April 26th, May 24th.

Celebration of King Charles' Coronation: 2.00 p.m. May 5th.

WENDLING

Services: alternate Sundays at 10.30 a.m.

Coffee Mornings: 10.30 a.m. March 1st, 29th, April 26th, May 24th.

HOLT

Services: every Sunday at 11.00 a.m.

Friday Prayer Time: 9.30 a.m. on Fridays.

World Day of Prayer: 11.00 a.m, March 3rd,

hopefully ecumenical.

Lent Bible Study: four sessions beginning at 4.00 p.m. on March 6th in the Loades Hall with other churches invited.

with other churches invited.

Ashing Service: 7.00 p.m. March 22nd in the

Loades Hall.

Maundy Thursday: 6.00 p.m. joint service at

Holt with Wells.

Good Friday:

9.30 Hot Cross Buns

10.00 Service

11.00 Ecumenical Walk of Witness from

the Methodist Car Park to the War

Memorial.

Easter Sunday:

6.00 Sunrise Service on Spout Hills

7.00. Communion and Breakfast

11.00 Easter Communion Service led by

Rev Jonny

Pentecost Sunday: 12.00 noon special party (service combined with a BBQ) in the Memorial Gardens to which the public are invited.

Afternoon Teas: 2.00 – 4.00 p.m. March 17th, April 21st, May 19th.

TITTLESHALL

Services: every Sunday at 9.30 a.m.

Church Anniversary: 9.30 a.m. May 7th, led

by John Hull.

Coffee Mornings: 10.30 a.m. – 12.00 noon

every Wednesday.

HINGHAM

Services: every Sunday at 10.30 a.m.

Coffee Shop with stalls: 10.00 a.m. – 12.00 noon March 4th, April 1st, 29th, (none in May

to avoid the Coronation).

Take-a-Break – Tuesday Soup Lunch: 12.00

noon – 2.30 p.m. March 14th

BEETLEY

Services: 10.30 a.m. on the second and fourth

Sundays.

6.00 p.m. on the first and third S

Sundays.

10.30 a.m. on the 5th Sunday,

Maundy Thursday: 7.00 p.m. led by Rev

Anne Richardson

Big Sunday: 10.00 a.m. April 30th.

Prayer Meetings: 9.30 a.m. March 1st, April

5th, May 3rd.

Drop-in: 2.00 – 4.00 p.m. March 1st, 15th,

April 5th, 19th, May 3rd, 17th.

Knit 'n' Natter: 2.00 – 4.00 p.m. March 22nd,

April 26th, May 24th.

Coffee Mornings: 9.30 – 11.30 a.m. March

25th, May 27th.

Joint Church Council with Gressenhall:

10.00 a.m. March 28th, at Beetley

SCULTHORPE AND FAKENHAM

Services: every Sunday at 11.00 a.m.

Mothering Sunday: 11.00 a.m. March 19th,

led by Avril Temple.

Good Friday: 3.00 p.m. led by Pippa Cook.

Easter Sunday: 11.00 a.m. Communion

Service led by Rev Rosemary.

FULMODESTON

Services: first and third Sundays at 2.30 p.m.

Easter Sunday: 2.30 p.m. communion service

led by Rev Jonny.

Chapel Anniversary: 2.30 p.m. May 7th, led

by Mr. Nelson Tubby.

DEREHAM

Trinity

Services: every Sunday at 10.45 a.m.

Mid-week Communion: 10.30 a.m. March 2nd, April 6th, May 4th. (Contact Jacky Woor

01362 697860)

Church AGM & Council: 2.00 p.m. March

8th. (Details Rev Anne)

Cards and Chatter: 10.00 a.m. March 23rd, April 27th, May 25th. (Contact Sylvia Meredith 01362 693425)

Lunch Club: 12 noon. March 9th, April 13th, May 11th. (Contact Pam Beardmore 01362 854394).

Women's Own: 2.45 p.m. March 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th, April 4th, 18th, 25th, May 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th. (Contact Olwyn Brough 01362 692799)

Coffee Mornings: 10.00 a.m. March 16th, April 20th, May 18th. (Contact Jacky Woor 01362 697860)

Coffee Morning at the home of Sylvia and Richard Meredith (12 Elvin Road 01362 693425): 10.00 a.m. – 12.00 noon March 30th.

SPORLE

Services: 11.00 a.m. first and third Sundays

United service with St Mary's (in the chapel) on the third Sunday in the month.

GARVESTONE

Services: in early March every Sunday at 2.30 p.m. except the third Sundays when we meet at 11.00 a.m. From March 26th until September 24th they will be at 6.00 p.m. (except the third Sunday).

Prayer Meetings: 2.00 p.m. March 17th, April

21st, May 19th.

Knit and Natter: 10.30 a.m. – 12.00 noon. March 14th, April 11th, May 9th. Contact Lorna Folkes re venue: 01362 858391.

Special Services:

<u>Sunday March 26th</u>: visit of a Pentecostal Pastor from Tanzania, who will talk and show pictures about his work, especially an orphanage which we have supported financially.

Friday April 7th: 2.00 p.m. Good Friday Meditation led by Douglas Harrison.

Sunday April 30th: 6.00 p.m. Chapel Anniversary led by Rev Andrew King

MATTISHALL

Services: every Sunday at 2.30 p.m.

Chapel Anniversary: 2.30 p.m. April 23rd, led by Rev Betty Trinder

Charity Coffee Mornings: 10.00 – 11.30 a.m. March 18th, April 15th, May 20th.

Mattishall Dementia Support Group – The Link: 10.00 a.m. – 12.00 noon March 7th, 21st, April 4th, 18th, May 2nd, 16th.

GRESSENHALL

Services: first and third Sundays at 2.30 p.m. with light refreshments

NEW HOLKHAM

Services: 2.30 p.m. last Sunday in the month

LITCHAM

Services: every Sunday at 10.30 a.m.

Coffee Mornings: 10.30 a.m. – 12.00 noon

every Thursday

Palm Sunday procession: 10.15 a.m. from

the chapel.

Good Friday mini-pilgrimage: 10.00 a.m.

from Litcham chapel to Tittleshall.

Infant Baptism: 10.30 a.m. April 23rd.

Spring Concert with the Sunflower Choir:

7.00 p.m. April 28th, in aid of Action for

Children.

WELLS

with Churches Together in Wells

Services: every Sunday at 11.00 a.m.

Prayer and Praise: Every Wednesday at

10.30 a.m.

Good Friday Walk of Witness: 1.00 p.m. from

Our Lady Star of the Sea

Easter Sunday:

6.30 a.m. Dawn Service near the Lifeboat

Station

11.00 a.m. Fellowship Service

SAHAM HILLS

Services: every Sunday at 10.30 a.m.

Hot Cross Bun Day: 10.00- 12.00 noon

April 8th.

THE PILGRIM CHURCH

<u>Blakeney</u>

Community Garden: open daily.

Services: every Sunday at 10.00 a.m.

Pilgrim Prayers: every Thursday at 9.30 a.m.

Coffee Morning: every Thursday 10.00 –

11.00 a.m.

Walsingham

Services followed by refreshments: 4.30 p.m. March 12th, April 16th, May 14th.

Open to Visitors for the Snowdrop Season (from end of February) and after Easter.

GREAT ELLINGHAM

Services: most Sundays at 2.30 p.m. in the school room.

Mothering Sunday: 11.00 a.m. in the chapel

led by Jacky Woor.

Coffee Mornings: 10.00 – 11.00 a.m. March

2nd, April 6th, May 4th.

WATTON

Services: every Sunday at 10.30 a.m. (mostly live streamed) and 6.30 p.m.

Coffee Mornings: 9.30 a.m. March 1st, 15th,

April 5th, 19th, May 3rd, 17th.

CIRCUIT MEETINGS

March 15th at Wendling and on Zoom
June 14th at Swaffham

All meetings begin at 7.15 p.m.

DATES FOR PRAYER AND SUPPORT

Continued from page 22

May 11	12.00 noon	Lunch Club	Dereham Trinity MC
May 11	2.00 -4.00	Swaffham Friendship Group	Swaffham MC
May 12	2.00 pm	Film Club	Toftwood MC
May 12	7.30 pm	Circuit Choir Practice	Stibbard M Ch Centre
May 14	4.30 pm	Service followed by refreshments	Walsingham MC
May 16	10.00-12.00	Mattishall dementia Support Group—The Link	Mattishall MC
May 17	9.30 am	Coffee Morning	Watton MC
May 17	10.00-11.30	Drop-in Café	Toftwood MC
May 17	11.00-12.00	Prayer Meeting	Toftwood MC
May 17	2.00-4.00	Drop-in	Beetley MC
May 18	10.00 am	Coffee Morning	Dereham Trinity MC
May 19	2.00 pm	Prayer Meeting	Garvestone MC
May 19	2.00-4.00	Afternoon Teas	Holt MC
May 20	10.00-11.30	Charity Coffee Morning	Mattishall MC
May 23	3.30-5.00	Messy Church	Toftwood MC
May 24	10.30 am	Coffee Morning	Wendling MC
May 24	2.00-4.00	Knit 'n' Natter	Beetley MC
May 24	2.00-4.00	Gina Card Making	Toftwood MC
May 25	10.00 am	Cards & Chatter	Dereham Trinity MC
May 25	2.00 -4.00	Swaffham Friendship Group	Swaffham MC
May 26	7.30 pm	Quiz Night @ The Centre	Stibbard M Ch Centre
May 27	9.30-11.30	Coffee Morning	Beetley MC
May 28	12.00 noon	Pentecost Party	Holt Memorial Gardens

REGULAR Weekly dates for prayer Further details elsewhere in *The Link*.

Daily	All day	Community Garden	Blakeney MC
Mon	9.30-12.00	Weekly Lace Group	Toftwood MC
Mon	7.00-9.00	Guides	Toftwood MC
Tues	10.00-12.00	The Meeting Place Drop-in	Swaffham MC
Tues	10.30 am	Ecumenical Prayers and Coffee	Stibbard M Ch Centre
Tues	2.45 pm	Women's Own	Dereham Trinity MC
Wed	10.00-12.00	Coastal Community Shop	Stibbard M Ch Centre / Village Hall
Wed	10.30-12.00	Coffee Morning	Tittleshall MC
Wed	10.30 am	Prayer and Praise	Wells MC
Thurs	9.30 am	Pilgrim Prayers	Blakeney MC
Thurs	10.00-11.00	Coffee Morning	Blakeney MC
Thurs	10.30-12.00	Coffee Morning	Litcham MC
Thurs	1.30-4.00	Carpet Bowls	Toftwood MC
Thurs	2.45pm	Women's Own (not in January or Februa	ary) Dereham Trinity
Fri	9.30 am	Friday Prayer Time	Holt MC
Fri	9.30 am	Power of Prayer Group	Swaffham MC

DATES FOR PRAYER AND SUPPORT

Continued from page 23

	10.00		5
April 13	12.00 noon	Lunch Club	Dereham Trinity MC
April 13	2.00 -4.00	Swaffham Friendship Group	Swaffham MC
April 14	2.00 pm	Film Club	Toftwood MC
April 14	7.30 pm	Circuit Choir Practice	Stibbard M Ch Centre
April 15	10.00-11.30	Charity Coffee Morning	Mattishall MC
April 16	4.30 pm	Service followed by refreshments	Walsingham MC
April 18	10.00-12.00	Mattishall dementia Support Group—The Link	Mattishall MC
April 19	9.30 am	Coffee Morning	Watton MC
April 19	10.00-11.30	•	Toftwood MC
April 19	11.00-12.00	Prayer Meeting	Toftwood MC
April 19	2.00-4.00	Drop-in	Beetley MC
April 20	10.00 am	Coffee Morning	Dereham Trinity MC
April 21	2.00 pm	Prayer Meeting	Garvestone MC
April 21	2.00-4.00	Afternoon Teas	Holt MC
April 23	10.30 am	Infant Baptism	Litcham MC
April 23	2.30 pm	Chapel Anniversary	Mattishall MC
April 25	3.30-5.00	Messy Church	Toftwood MC
April 26	10.30 am	Coffee Morning	Wendling MC
April 26	2.00-4.00	Knit 'n' Natter	Beetley MC
April 26	2.00-4.00	Gina Card Making	Toftwood MC
April 27	10.00 am	Cards & Chatter	Dereham Trinity MC
April 27	2.00 -4.00	Swaffham Friendship Group	Swaffham MC
April 28	7.00 pm	Spring Concert with the Sunflower Choir	Litcham MC
April 28	7.30 pm	Circuit Choir Practice	Stibbard M Ch Centre
April 29	10.00-12.00	Coffee Shop with stalls	Hingham MC
April 30	11.00 am	Service followed by lunch	Stibbard M Ch Centre
April 30	6.00 pm	Chapel Anniversary	Garvestone MC
May 2	10.00-12.00	Mattishall dementia Support Group—The Link	Mattishall MC
May 3	9.30 am	Prayer Meeting	Beetley MC
May 3	9.30 am	Coffee Morning	Watton MC
May 3	2.00-4.00	Drop-in	Beetley MC
May 3	2.00-4-00	Craft Group	Toftwood MC
May 4	10.00-11.00	Coffee Morning	Great Ellingham MC
May 4	10.30 am	Mid-week Communion	Dereham Trinity MC
May 4	12.30 pm	Credo Lunch with the Heart of Norfolk Benefice	Stibbard M Ch Centre
May 5	2.00 pm	Celebration of King Charles' Coronation	Toftwood MC
May 6	9.30-12.00	Church Coffee Morning	Swaffham MC
May 6	7.30 pm	Railway Film Evening with Tea and Cake	Stibbard M Ch Centre
-	9.30 am	Church Anniversary	Tittleshall MC
May 7	11.00 am	-	Toftwood MC
May 7		Service followed by Bring and Share Lunch	Fulmodeston MC
May 7	2.30 pm	Chapel Anniversary Knit and Natter Garvestone	
May 9	10.30-12.00		-for venue see page 19
May 10	12.30pm	Lunch @ The Centre	Stibbard M Ch Centre
May 10	12.30 pm	Lunch & Linger	Toftwood MC

DATES FOR PRAYER AND SUPPORT

Continued from page 24

March 22	2.00-4.00	Knit 'n' Natter	Pootloy MC
	2.00-4.00		Beetley MC Toftwood MC
		Gina Card Making	Holt MC
March 22	10.00 am	Ashing Service Cards & Chatter	
	2.00 -4.00		Dereham Trinity MC Swaffham MC
		Swaffham Friendship Group	
	9.30-11.30	Coffee Morning	Beetley MC
March 26	•	Visit of a Pentecostal Pastor from Tanzania	Garvestone MC
March 27	•	Lent Bible Study	Holt MC
	10.00 am	Joint Church Council with Gressenhall	Beetley MC
	3.30-5.00	Messy Church	Toftwood MC
	10.30 am	Coffee Morning	Wendling MC
	10.00-12.00	Coffee Morning	12 Elvin Road, Dereham
March 31	•	Circuit Choir Practice	Stibbard M Ch Centre
April 1	9.30-12.00	Church Coffee Morning	Swaffham MC
April 1	10.00-12.00	•	Hingham MC
April 1	2.30 pm	Railway Film Afternoon with Tea and Cake	Stibbard M Ch Centre
April 2	10.13 am	Palm Sunday Procession	From Litcham MC
April 2	11.00 am	Service followed by Bring and Share Lunch	Toftwood MC
April 4	10.00-12.00	Mattishall dementia Support Group—The Link	Mattishall MC
April 5	9.30 am	Prayer Meeting	Beetley MC
April 5	9.30 am	Coffee Morning	Watton MC
April 5	2.00-4.00	Drop-in	Beetley MC
April 5	2.00-4-00	Craft Group	Toftwood MC
April 6	10.00-11.00	Coffee Morning	Great Ellingham MC
April 6	10.30 am	Mid-week Communion	Dereham Trinity MC
April 6	12.30 pm	Credo Lunch with the Heart of Norfolk Benefice	Stibbard M Ch Centre
April 6	6.00 pm	Joint Maundy Thursday Service with Wells	Holt MC
April 6	7.00 pm	Maundy Thursday Service	Beetley MC
April 7	9.30 am	Good Friday Service	Toftwood MC
April 7	10.00 am	Good Friday Service	Holt MC
April 7	10.00 am	Good Friday mini-pilgrimage	Litcham MC to Tittleshall MC
April 7	11.00 am	Good Friday Ecumenical Walk of Witness	From Holt MC
April 7	1.00 pm	Good Friday Walk of Witness From O	ur Lady Star of the Sea, Wells
April 7	2.00 pm	Good Friday meditation	Garvestone MC
April 7	3.00 pm	Good Friday Service	Sculthorpe & Fakenham MC
April 8	10.00-12.00	Hot Cross Bun Day	Saham Hills MC
April 9	6.00 am	Easter Sunrise Service	Spout Hills, Holt
April 9	7.00 a.m.	Breakfast and Communion	Holt MC
April 9	11.00 am	Easter Communion	Holt MC
April 9	11.00 am	Easter Communion Service	Sculthorpe & Fakenham MC
April 9	2.30 pm	Easter Communion Service	Fulmodeston MC
April 11	10.30-12.00	Knit and Natter Garves	stone –for venue see page 19
April 12	12.30pm	Lunch @ The Centre	Stibbard M Ch Centre
April 12	12.30 pm	Lunch & Linger	Toftwood MC
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DATES FOR YOUR PRAYERS AND SUPPORT

Further details on pages 21-23

M 4	0.00	Day and Marilland		Desile MO
March 1	9.30 am	Prayer Meeting		Beetley MC
March 1	9.30 am	Coffee Morning		Watton MC
March 1	10.30 am	Coffee Morning		Wendling MC
March 1	2.00-4.00	Drop-in		Beetley MC
March 1	2.00-4-00	Craft Group		Toftwood MC
March 2	10.00-11.00	Coffee Morning		Great Ellingham MC
March 2	10.30 am	Mid-week Communion		Dereham Trinity MC
March 2	12.30 pm	Credo Lunch with the Heart of Norfolk Benefice		Stibbard M Ch Centre
March 3	11.00 am	World Day of Prayer Service		Holt MC
March 3	2.00 pm	World Day of Prayer Service		Mattishall Parish Ch
March 3	2.30 pm	World Day of Prayer Service		Litcham MC
March 3	7.30 pm	Circuit Choir Practice		Stibbard M Ch Centre
March 4	9.30 - 12.00	Church Coffee Morning		Swaffham MC
March 4	10.00-12.00	Coffee Shop with stalls		Hingham MC
March 4	2.30 pm	Railway Film Afternoon with Tea and Cake		Stibbard M Ch Centre
March 5	11.00 am	Service followed by Bring and Share Lunch		Toftwood MC
March 6	4.00 pm	Lent Bible Study		Holt MC
March 7	10.00-12.00	Mattishall dementia Support Group—The Link		Mattishall MC
March 8	12.30pm	Lunch @ The Centre		Stibbard M Ch Centre
March 8	12.30 pm	Lunch & Linger		Toftwood MC
March 8	2.00 pm	Church AGM & Council		Dereham Trinity MC
March 9	12.00 noon	Lunch Club		Dereham Trinity MC
March 9	2.00 -4.00	Swaffham Friendship Group		Swaffham MC
March 10		Film Club		Toftwood MC
March 12	•	Service followed by refreshments		Walsingham MC
March 13	•	Lent Bible Study		Holt MC
	10.30-12.00	•	stone	-for venue see page 19
	12.00-2.30	Take-a-Break, Tuesday Soup Lunch		Hingham MC
March 15		Coffee Morning		Watton MC
	10.00-11.30	Drop-in Café		Toftwood MC
	11.00-12.00	Prayer Meeting		Toftwood MC
	2.00-4.00	Drop-in		Beetley MC
March 15		CIRCUIT MEETING		Wendling MC & Zoom
	10.00 am	Coffee Morning		Dereham Trinity MC
March 17		Prayer Meeting		Garvestone MC
	2.00-4.00	Afternoon Teas		Holt MC
March 17		Circuit Choir Practice		Stibbard M Ch Centre
	10.00-11.30			Mattishall MC
	11.00 am	Charity Coffee Morning Mothering Sunday Service		
		Mothering Sunday Service	المانية	Great Ellingham MC
	11.00 am	•	ocuiti	horpe & Fakenham MC
March 20	•	Lent Bible Study		Holt MC
warch 21	10.00-12.00	Mattishall dementia Support Group—The Link		Mattishall MC