

ST. MARGARET'S

PARISH CHURCH FOR LEISTON-WITH-SIZEWELL



FEBRUARY 2015



CHURCH SERVICES

FIRST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

9.00 Holy COMMUNION SERVICE

A Traditional Service using Common Worship

10.30 Family PRAISE & WORSHIP SERVICE

An all-age Informal Service for the whole Family.

Praising the Lord through Drama, Readings & Music

Baptisms are usually within this service

If you are considering a baptism please contact us to discuss this further.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

10.00 SUNG EUCHARIST SERVICE AND SUNDAY SCHOOL

6.30 COMMUNITY HEALING SERVICE

Listen to the healing word of God through Prayer

(This Service will not be held during February - Resumes on Sunday 4th March)

ALL OTHER SUNDAYS

10.00 SUNG EUCHARIST SERVICE AND SUNDAY SCHOOL

WEDNESDAY MID-WEEK HOLY COMMUNION

10.00 Holy COMMUNION SERVICE

(This Service will resume on Wednesday 18th February)

CONTACT US

Priest in Charge: Reverend Martin Phillips-Last:

The Vicarage, Church Rd. T. 561149 E. rev.phillips-last@sky.com

Assistant Priest: Reverend Richard Ellis: 9 King's Rd. T. 832168

Reader: Mr Bernard Smith: 3 Daneway Gardens. T. 830105

Church Warden: Mrs Shirley Newman: 3 Red House Lane. T. 832446

Church Warden: Mrs Pat Carter: 42 Haylings Road. T. 831852

PCC Treasurer: Miss Betty Harland: 6 Eastward Ho. T. 832115

PCC Secretary: Mrs Pat Carter: 42 Haylings Road. T. 831852

Sunday School: Mrs Sandra Harle: T. 833578

Organist & Choirmaster: Mr Jonathan Williams: T. 603936

Website & Magazine Editor: Mrs Kathryn Williams:

T. 603936 E. stmargaretsleiston@gmail.com

Deanery Synod Representative: Miss Rosemary Gale: 7 High Green. T. 832105

Deanery Synod Representative: Mrs Shirley Newman: 3 Red House Lane. T. 832446

THE REVEREND'S RAMBLINGS

LOVE like THERE is NO TOMORROW. FOR THERE will be NO TOMORROW WITHOUT LOVE.

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE



I never really enjoyed Valentine's Day as a youngster. Mainly because while all my friends and I were giving out our cards and tokens of love I, unlike my friends, never received as much as a loving smile in return. Every year I hoped that Valentine's Day would leave me with a Valentine's kiss from the girl next door, but sadly the only thing it ever left me with was the feeling of unloved disappointment.

But then the story of Saint Valentine himself may not seem at first to be as bright as one would have hoped. Saint Valentine was a 3rd century Roman saint associated with the tradition of courtly love. As read in books of the Middle Ages, the story goes that St Valentine refused to deny his love for Christ before the Roman Emperor Claudius, and because of this, the Roman Emperor had Valentine's head chopped off. However, before Valentine's head was toppled, the story goes on to reveal that in an act of love and compassion, Valentine restored the sight and hearing of his own executioner's daughter.

This is far removed from the vast industry of cards and gifts that have built up around Saint Valentine's Day, when expressions of love matter. However, it is at the centre of Valentine's story that we find a surprising depth and expression of love; a love that Valentine found and was inspired to follow and make his own. The love of God offered to him through Jesus. A love through which Jesus offered compassion to a world that would crucify him. A love that Valentine would share with those who jailed and executed him. A love in which Jesus would find the courage to stand up for who he loved; each one of us, just as Valentine had the courage to stand up to Claudius, for his love of Christ.

I hope that this Valentine's you will be embraced by God's love and the love of those around you. And if this Valentine's Day you intend to lose your head over love for someone special, then I pray that the Lord will bless that love, with the depth, compassion and courage displayed by St Valentine, but even more importantly, through the love God expressed in the gift of his Son Jesus. A gift that says, 'I love you.' So this Valentine's Day, if the cards don't come and you're left with a feeling of unloved disappointment, I pray that you will remember the gift of true love that is Jesus, and know that whether it is Valentine's Day or not, in him, you are truly loved.

Happy Valentine's Day adventures.

Many blessings

Martin

The Reverend Martin Phillips-Last

FEBRUARY

The afternoons are getting lighter and that extra bit of daylight makes such a difference. The saying goes '*if you have your tea at 5 o'clock on Valentines Day it should be daylight*', but I expect that depends on whether it's a bright or dull day. The snowdrops and aconites are looking lovely, and everything is starting to stir ready for Spring.

Although Christmas is over I thought this was a nice story my Sister-in-Law told me. Her family were together for Christmas Day, and Josh her youngest grandchild, who'd celebrated his 9th Birthday on the 21st December was saying what a nice day he'd had. The subject then got onto Christmas Day and how old Jesus was etc, when his Uncle came into the room with the Christmas Pudding and lit the Brandy. Josh then said he wanted to sing Happy Birthday to Jesus, so they did.

Margaret Clarke

VALENTINE'S BAKE SALE - SUN 15TH FEB

After the 10 a.m. service on Sunday 15th February we will be holding our annual VALENTINE'S BAKE SALE to:

Celebrate St. Valentine's Day within the love and fellowship of St. Margaret's.
To raise much-needed funds for our church.
And last, but not least, to indulge ourselves before Lent begins the following Wednesday!

Please bring your donations along on the day – biscuits, buns, brownies, etc, and then buy lots back – to either enjoy straightaway with your usual tea and coffee or to take home with you. It would be great if your donations could have a Valentine's theme - hearts, flowers, chocolates – but, of course, the most important thing is that they are made with love!

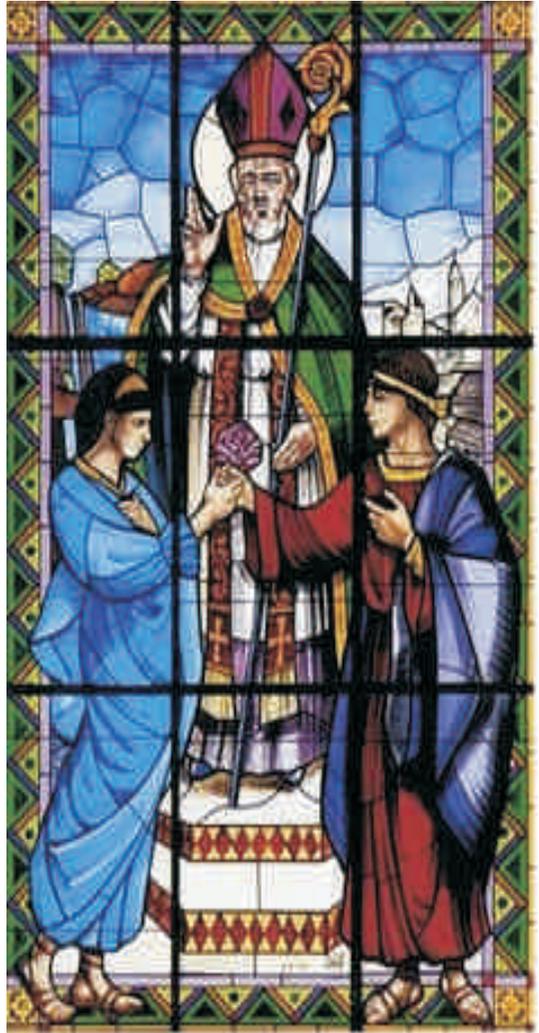
Sandra Harle

ST. VALENTINE

February 14th is the day we remember the patron saint, St. Valentine, and we celebrate this day with the exchange of cards as well as gifts such as, traditionally flowers and chocolates, as a token of the love and affection to our loved ones.

The history of this day is very sketchy but it does appear to derive from Christian and Roman traditions. There are many stories surrounding St. Valentine which have been passed down through history.

One such story dates from the third century when Rome was ruled by the Emperor Claudius II. During this time, the Emperor outlawed marriages for young men as he felt single men made better soldiers than men who were married. However, a priest, named St. Valentine, didn't agree with the Emperor and would marry young lovers in secret.



When the Emperor discovered what St. Valentine was doing, he was outraged; insisting he renounce his love for Christ and stop marrying such couples. On refusing, St. Valentine was subsequently sentenced to death. Whilst in prison, waiting to be put to death, St. Valentine met and fell in love with the jailor's daughter. Before he died he sent her a love letter and signed it "*From your Valentine*". This expression is still used today and St. Valentine is now best remembered as a romantic and heroic figure.

Happy Valentine's Day everyone.

CHRISTIAN Aid - CHRISTMAS CARD DONATION

VERY BEST WISHES FOR 2015 FOR YOU AND THOSE WHO RECEIVE GIFTS FROM THE CHRISTMAS CARD COLLECTION

Following my normal practice I decided to send a donation to Christian Aid in lieu of Christmas cards for my church family. Some of you, once again, expressed an interest in joining me in this venture.

Rosemary Gale, Elspeth and Chris Gonin, Betty Harland, Doris Harvey, Sylvia and Graham Hawes, Marian and Trevor Peskett and Jan Snowden all joined with me to send a donation to Christian Aid.

This year we have been able to send off a total donation of £115.00 to Christian Aid which will be used to help others less fortunate than us. This year we have asked that this donation be used to fund the work of a mobile health clinic.

Poverty is an outrage against humanity. It robs people of dignity, freedom and hope, of power over their own lives. Christian Aid has a vision – an end to poverty – and it believes that vision can become a reality, with our help.

Thank you to all of you who support me at this time of year.

Pat Carter

St. Margaret's Church Choir



Singing together is not only an uplifting and joyful experience,
it's also good for you and great fun!

Is it time for you to rediscover your musical talent, or to try something new in service to our Lord Jesus Christ? Do you feel that you could offer your vocal gift to enhance the worship at St. Margaret's by joining the Choir?



As someone who is passionate about building upon our strong musical tradition, I would love to hear from you. We are a friendly, welcoming and enthusiastic choir who rejoice in serving our church and its wider community through the power of music.

Rehearsal each Thursday in Church: 6pm - 7pm

We look forward to welcoming you there!

Jonathan Williams
Organist & Choirmaster

PROSE FOR THOUGHT

They've gone all modern at the local village church:

My prayer book lays forlornly in the cupboard whilst through the A.S.B I search. I loved the old book as a friend, knew its pages off by heart, pages torn and thumbed with wear, I never thought we'd part.

Old hymn books now languish, packed in a cardboard box, 'cause the Bishop said "come modernise, move forward, pull up your socks".

Music's gone all trendy with guitars and keyboards too, congregations clap and dance, they've even removed the pews!

Some worshippers want all comforts now, constant heat and modern lights, padded seats, draught-proofed doors, double glazed leaded lights. Some think these changes will fill the church, but I still strongly maintain that if folk really want to go, they'll attend come wind, hail, snow or rain.

I wonder what the homeless think, the starving and the poor, of repair appeals outside the church requesting thousands more?

Lord Jesus preached a simple faith based on tolerance and love. He didn't dress in embellished clothes, fancy mitres, copes and cloaks, Lord Jesus wore a simple garb just like ordinary folks. He advocated sharing wealth, loving your neighbour as yourself, worrying not about tomorrow but trusting in God for daily strength. However much church services change or cathedrals charge for admission our Lord's message remains the same that is my submission.

Written by a friend of Hilda - Sent in by Hilda Woodhead

St. Margaret's Church



Join us for a mid-week
Holy Communion Service
10.00am every Wednesday

'Come and let us celebrate together, The Lord's Supper'

Cooking with the Bible

Jesus Christ is a wonderful example of kindness and love. Throughout His earthly ministry, Jesus showed His love for others by blessing and serving the poor, the sick, and those in need of his love. He told His disciples, *“This is my commandment, that ye love one another, as I have loved you”* (John 15:12; see also John 13:34–35; Moroni 7:46–48).

Raspberry & White Chocolate Shortbread Hearts

Ingredients:

260g plain flour

1/4 teaspoon salt

226g unsalted butter - room temp

60g icing sugar

1 teaspoon vanilla extract

For Filling

1/4 - 1/2 cup of raspberry jam / preserve

60g white chocolate - grated



Method:

Shortbreads: In a bowl combine the flour with the salt. Then in a separate bowl beat the butter until smooth & add the sugar then beat until smooth. Add the vanilla extract and then gently fold in the flour. Once combined, form into a dough and flatten into a disk shape. Wrap in plastic film & chill for at least an hour.

Preheat oven to 350°F / 180°C / Gas Mark 4. Line two baking sheets with parchment paper.

On a lightly floured surface roll out the dough until about 1 cm thick. Using a heart shaped biscuit cutter cut out the dough. Place the dough shapes approx 2.5 cm apart on baking sheets. Using a smaller biscuit cutter cut out the centre of half of the cookies on the baking sheet. Place the un-baked biscuits on the baking sheet, in the refrigerator for about 15 minutes to retain their shape when cooked. Bake for about 10 minutes, or until biscuits are lightly browned. Cool on a wire rack.

Assembling Biscuits: Place ‘biscuits with cut-outs’ on a wire rack & dust with icing sugar.

On the bottom surface of the full biscuit (top of biscuit will face out) spread with about a 1/4 - 1/2 teaspoon of jam, and sprinkle with a little grated white chocolate. Place the cut-out biscuit on top and gently sandwich them together, making sure not to smudge the icing sugar. Using a small spoon, fill the cut-out with a little more jam.

Makes about 12 sandwich shortbread biscuits depending on size of cutters used.

Note: You can store the unassembled biscuits for several days in an airtight container. It is best to assemble the biscuits the same day as serving in order to keep them crisp.



CENTENARY COOKBOOK

2014 was a very special year for the Diocese of St. Edmundsbury & Ipswich of which St. Margaret's is a part, as it is the diocese's centenary year. To help celebrate this momentous year we at St. Margaret's Church have created a cookbook full of tasty recipes for you to try.

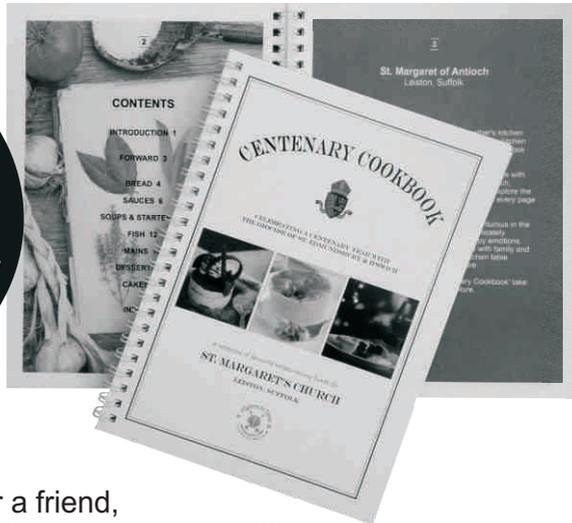
Help us celebrate this special year & also raise funds for St. Margaret's Church. Pick up your copy of the cookbook now!

IDEAL GIFT!

Only £5.00

Over 50 tasty recipes for you to try!

DELICIOUS RECIPES!



Makes an ideal gift for a friend, loved one, or simply why not treat yourself!

Helping to support your local Church and the important work it does.

Available after each Sunday's Service or Pop along and pick up your copy from Margaret's Church Shop, here in the heart of Leiston

JANUARY'S FAMILY SERVICE - CAMELS AND KINGS

Kings are of course very important people, and as we sing Christmas carols such as, 'We Three Kings of Orient Are,' we do so with pictures of royal robes, crowns and expensive glittering gifts for the King of kings, Jesus. However, very little thought is given to the story of the humble camels that carried the three large kings and all their robes, crowns and gifts across field, fountain, moor and mountain following a star.

This Epiphany, at St Margaret's Church Family Service, we focused our attention on the lowly camels and discovered that although they can bite, spit and be rather smelly, they are important too. We listened as the three camels told their ancient story around a desert oasis; of how three wise camels, along with the three wise men, knelt down before the young Messiah named Jesus. Some say that the camels only knelt to let the three Kings climb off their backs, but the truth is, as the camels tell it, is that when they came face to face with Jesus all they could do was bow before him in wonder and adoration.

Through the three wise camels story we realised something very important about Epiphany: It is a time when we can truly celebrate Jesus, the light of God's love in the world, and bow before him in wonder and adoration. Whether we see ourselves as a royal kings or lowly camels, Epiphany is a celebration of God coming into the world for everyone, from Camels to Kings.

Reverend Martin Phillips-Last



Come along & join us every 1st Sunday of the Month at 10.30am

Adopt Me!

the adopt a parish magazine appeal...



There are many species of Parish Magazine, found in a variety of church habitats across this land, that have sadly and for too long been living a life of black & white print.

We here at **'Adopt a Parish Magazine'** have decided to let our magazine live a life of colour. We therefore appeal to you to reach out and help us in our mission to continue bringing colour to the pages of the St. Margaret's Parish Magazine.

In addition to giving £1.00 a month for your magazine, you can also support this wonderful form of outreach by donating to the 'Adopt a Parish Magazine Appeal'. You can do this either as a single donation, or a regular donation each month. All donations will be gratefully received, and will in turn help continue to bring colour to the pages of our parish magazine. Thank you.

We will then watch as these magazines joyfully engage with all they meet, through their illuminated coloured pages; sharing the life, colour and important work of St. Margaret's Church within our community.

If you would like to get involved and give a donation to the **'Adopt a Parish Magazine Appeal'**, and help continue to bring colour into the world of our parish magazine please talk to our magazine editor, Kathryn Williams.

Many thanks for your continued support; you are helping to show the wonderful colour & life of St. Margaret's Church, through its monthly Parish Magazine.

CHRISTMAS IN THE TRENCHES IN 1916

Whilst recording letters and photographs from my family 'archives' I came across a Christmas card sent by my grandfather from the trenches near Arras on his 25th birthday, 8th December, in 1916 to my grandmother Emily (*see picture on right*). HFW is Harold Frank Windle.

Transcription of a Christmas card sent by HFW to Emily W from France, dated 8th December 1916, his 25th birthday. "the Baby" is my father Donald Charles Frank Windle.

HFW was serving with the London Scottish. At this time he would have known all too well the horrors of the trenches. He took part in two actions during the battle of the Somme, at Gommecourt on the 1st July 1916 and again at "Lousy Wood" (Leuse Wood an objective in the Battle of Guillemont) in early September. HFW was recovering from a minor wound sustained on July 1st.

"I will write you again France or Frank (?)

Dear Emily,

Just a few lines hoping you are quite well, also baby, your Dad and Charlie and I am the same. I am enclosing to order for £1-2-6 and hope you will find it useful ... am sorry it is not more. The 2/6 is for baby but don't know what you can buy him, old girlie, but I daresay you can think of something for him.

My birthday today too... 25th... feel quite old.

I hope you will like this card, Dear Em, written early, I know, but I will send a line while I have the chance.

I expect you will want a top coat and I thought the enclosed would help to buy it and don't forget, old girlie, I don't want you to spend this on parcels for me or John... will be cross if you do.

Well, old girlie, I think this is all so will close with fondest wishes.

Love and kisses to baby,

I remain your loving hubby,

Frank XXXXX

Harold Frank Windle was born into the Victorian era in 1891 and as a ten year old would have witnessed the events of Victoria's death. As a school boy he would have celebrated with his colleagues the diamond jubilee in 1897. His mother died young at 34 in 1904, his father in 1911.

In his early twenties he would have read about the sinking of the Titanic, watched the increasing tensions in Europe as well as courted Emily, my grandmother. He joined the London Scottish regiment in early 1916. He would have done his basic training in England before shipping out to France.



His first action was at the Battle of the Somme July 1st 1916. Although the ensuing battle was inconclusive and the four months of the 'Big Push' did nothing to alleviate the stalemate on the Western Front, the troops were very well trained and the planning of the battle was thorough. Unfortunately military strategy was well behind the technical side, developing ways in which to slaughter people. Tanks were used for the first time during the Battle of the Somme. Mud and incredibly bad weather added to the mix to give us the vision of the First World War that has come down to us today.

The card and other letters transcribed cover the period of July 1916 to April 1917. It can only be imagined what HFW must have seen during his service and what his family must have endured at home. It is quite clear that enough information was getting through to the general public to allow them to know exactly what was happening to their sons and husbands.

HFW was wounded by shrapnel in the arm on July 1st. He convalesced and seemed in fair spirit when he wrote his Christmas card on his 25th birthday. He was killed on the first day of the Battle of Arras April 9th 1917.

Vaughan Windle

WaterAid - LENT 'JARS of CHANGE' Appeal

WaterAid are working hard with communities to bring clean, safe water to many different communities. Support **Jars of Change** this Lent, by donating what you save from giving up a luxury, to help bring water to villages in Ethiopia.

Frehiwot lives in a village called Ashalta, Ethiopia. She spends her mornings walking a dangerous route to the river to collect water. It takes up to four hours to queue and scoop the dirty water into containers, meaning she's missing out on school. Families at her local church, under the guidance of Father Maresha Belachew, are all praying for safe water.



Frehiwot, 11



Azmera, 13

Across the river is another little girl called Azmera, she lives in Habt Amrach. Last year WaterAid drilled a borehole in her village, bringing safe water and sanitation. She no longer suffers from diarrhoea and can even attend school. She hopes to become a doctor one day.

You can give the same life-changing opportunities to Frehiwot and her community this Lent by taking part in the **Jars of Change** appeal.

Please support **Jars of Change** to help deliver safe, clean water to a community like Ashalta.

WaterAid HOW TO GET INVOLVED AND SEND A DONATION:

Please Send your Donation by Post:

Please make cheques, postal orders or charity vouchers payable to WaterAid and send to: Freepost RRRZ-YRRB-ELKE, WaterAid Lent Appeal, 2a Halifax Road, MELKSHAM, SN12 6YY

For Further Information about this Appeal Contact:

visit www.wateraid.org/uk/lent, email lent@wateraid.org or call us on 020 7793 4594



Could you go without safe water for 40 days?

No one should go without safe, clean water. This year, will you donate the money you save by giving something up for Lent to help bring safe, clean water to communities around the world?

Try swapping tea, coffee or soft drinks for the clean tap water we have in the UK. Collect the money you save throughout Lent (Wed 18th Feb - Thurs 2nd April) in a jar and then send it in the form of a cheque, postal order or charity voucher to WaterAid at:

Freepost RRRZ-YRRB-ELKE, WaterAid Lent Appeal, 2a Halifax Road, MELKSHAM, SN12 6YY

For further details:

website: www.wateraid.org/uk/lent email: lent@wateraid.org

or call us on: 020 7793 4594

Support Jars of Change this Lent and turn your small change into safe water



Lent appeal 2015

WaterAid

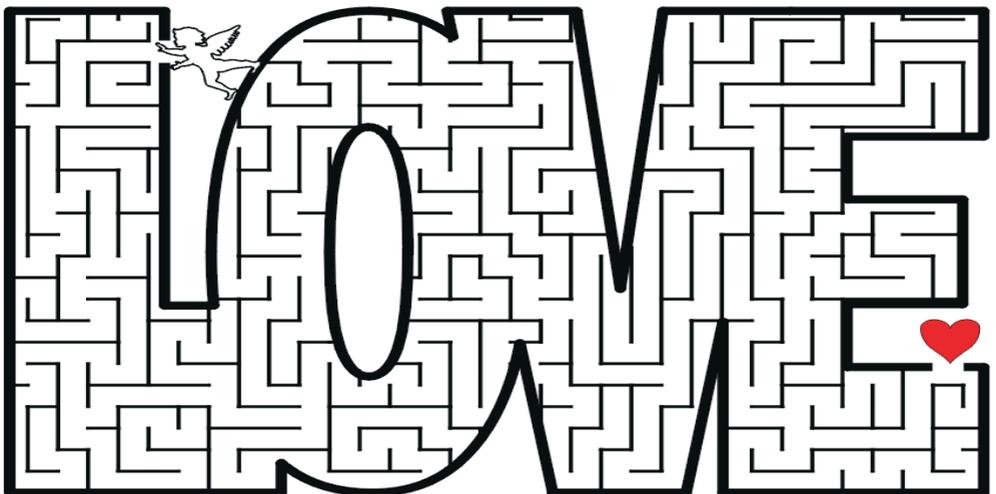
Kids Zone

Welcome to
 'your page'
 full of fun
 activities to enjoy!

Each line of the puzzle has one word hidden in a list of random letters. The blank space is a missing letter that belongs to that word. Fill in the missing letter.

LITTLE CHILDREN TOUCH TRUTH KINGDOM BELONGS BLESSED ARMS

I	U	C	W	H	T	R		T	H	F	B	Y	P	D
Z	V	E	F	R	N	B		E	S	S	E	D	Q	H
O	K	I	N	G	D	O		F	I	X	G	W	I	X
M	C	H	L	I	T	T		E	S	C	R	L	O	S
E	F	F	J	C	H	I		D	R	E	N	D	X	T
G	R	G	T	U	F	Z		R	M	S	O	I	B	Q
X	B	E	L	O	N	G		T	P	K	V	F	R	X
B	C	Z	Q	A	M	T		U	C	H	Y	F	L	P



W B U Z E F L Z J L G M O W L
 I E S T E Y T C Y M I S Y A Q
 M D J M C V A I H G O T N R K
 J Y O G V H E N N I X B T E X
 R C Y G U T J I Y R L E I L U
 R T R U T H G E S O L D H B E
 E P H E D N I G S P N V R L P
 B T Q A I I N N O U I E S E I
 U O Q R N O S E D Y S R F S N
 K U B D L D P C M I E A R S O
 E C M E M Z S Z I D G E T E L
 D H B D Q G O D N P T N N D J
 A R M S Y S D I Z N L W A Y Q
 B C D T G E H Z E E F E W N L
 H K I N G D O M Q N Y W S A T



People
 Bringing
 Children
 Jesus
 Touch

Kingdom
 Come
 God
 Belongs
 Truth

Enter
 Arms
 Anyone
 Blessed
 Disciples



*We are all God's Children;
and he loves us all!*



St. Margaret's

Church Road, Leiston

Family Praise & Worship Service
For all the Family!



Sunday 1st February
at 10.30am

Plus every first Sunday of the Month

We would like to invite you to come along and celebrate a new style of Family Praise & Worship Service.

An all-age informal service aimed at families, praising the Lord through imaginative drama & readings, as well as vibrant, joyful music.

*A warm & friendly welcome awaits you,
we would love to see you there!*

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY of PRAYER 2015

This year the Women's World Day of Prayer service will be held at Leiston United Church, High Street, Leiston on **Friday 6th March at 2pm**. Women's World Day of Prayer is an international, interchurch, organisation which enables us to hear the voices of women, from a different part of the world each year, expressing their hopes and concerns and bringing them before the rest of the world in prayer.

On Friday 6 March an estimated 3 million people (not all, I hasten to add, in Leiston!) in over 170 countries will gather to observe the day of prayer, using an order of service written by Christian women from The Bahamas and translated into over 1000 different languages and dialects. In the British Isles alone over 5,000 services will be held. The day will begin when the sun rises over the island of Samoa, and continue until it sets off the coast of American Samoa some 35 hours later.

The theme of the service is taken from St John's Gospel, chapter 13 verses 1-17. 'Jesus said to them: "Do you know what I have done to you?" and it challenges us to demonstrate the same radical, unconditional love for others that Jesus showed when he washed the feet of his disciples.

The Bahamas consists of over 700 islands, scattered over 100,000 square miles in the Atlantic Ocean, only a small proportion of which are inhabited. It refers to itself as a 'family of islands' and in the service the needs of the smallest islands are given as much prominence as those of the larger ones.

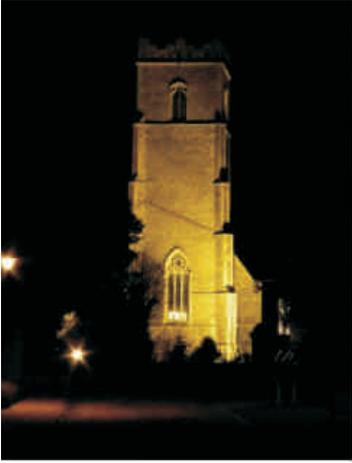
Everyone is welcome to attend the service, men, women – people of all ages.

I thought you might be interested in some facts about the life of women in the Bahamas in the past and in today's world. Bahamian women were hard workers in the slave economy. Since then they have been mainly involved in paid domestic work. Outside of the main islands (New Providence and Grand Bahama) there are few work opportunities for poor women with low levels of formal education and little has changed. In the Family (smaller) islands most mothers are single parents and hold domestic jobs in hotels or restaurants.

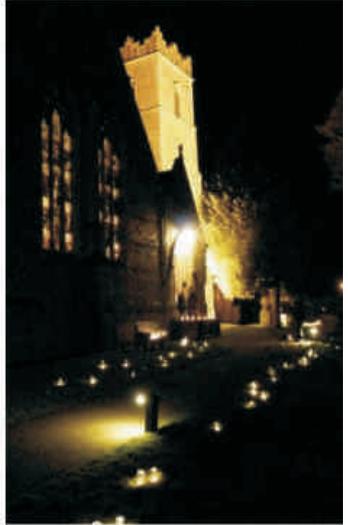
In 1992 the first woman was elected to Parliament and since then the country has had female presidents of the Court of Appeal and Senate, a deputy and governor general and even a deputy Prime Minister. Women have little status under law. They do not yet have equal rights of citizenship for spouses and for children born outside The Bahamas. Some churches and many women believe that a husband has a right over his wife's body and have opposed legislation to change this, which means that women cannot be protected from being raped by their husbands.

Bahamian society requires mothers to take sole responsibility for their families, including husbands or partners, often to the detriment of their own health and well-being. Also women are looked down upon for committing the very same crimes for which men are quickly forgiven. Women continue to look to the church for their social life.

ST. MARGARET'S CAROLS & CANDLES SERVICE



Following on from last month's magazine, here are a few photos taken by Charles Stride, showing the joyful occasion of our 'Christmas Carols & Candles Service'. It was an evening enjoyed by all who shared in this celebration. Thanks to everyone who supported the event, and to those who helped in any way to create such a wonderfully warm atmosphere and special festive evening for all.



THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

LEISTON BRANCH (ALDEBURGH SUB-BRANCH)

The Battle of Neuve Chapelle – 10th - 13th March 1915

'H' Company of the 4th Battalion Suffolk Regiment Territorial Force was from Leiston and District. The Battalion, as part of the Jullundur Brigade, Lahore Division of the Indian Corps attacked the Bois de Biez on 12th March under the command of Colonel Frank Garrett. Mr J S Waddell reports in his publication: Illustrated Memorial of the Great War in relation to Leiston and District – *'some 70 local casualties being reported, about 18 or 20 of these being killed'*. The missing are recorded on the memorial at Le Touret and three dead are buried at the Commonwealth War Graves Cemetery at Estaines. We know of one soldier being brought back to England who died of his wounds and is buried in Aldringham Churchyard.

An original oil sketch of the 4th Battalion Suffolk Regiment at Neuve Chapelle attacking Bois de Biez by Frederick Roe hangs in the Ipswich Museum. A copy of the oil sketch is on the panel of the WW1 Exhibition in the Long Shop Museum, Leiston.

The Exhibition will be open on the following days:-

Sunday 8th March 12.00 - 2.00

Monday 9th - Friday 13th March 10.00 - 4.00

On Sunday 8th March a Remembrance Parade and Service at St Margaret's Church will take place. Parade musters at 2.00 at the Cadet Centre, Victory Road, Leiston. Parade marches off at 2.10.

Service of Remembrance commences 2.30 at St Margaret's Church.

We are delighted that Military Historian Taff Gillingham will give a talk on the Battle at the Long Shop Museum, on Thursday 12th March – 7.00 for 7.30.

Trevor Peskett

Chairman - Leiston Branch TRBL

LEISTON WI

Fancy meeting new friends over a cup of tea & a natter, then come along to the Leiston WI. **We meet every 2nd Tuesday in the month at 7.30pm, WI Hall, John Street, Leiston.**

We have a selection of speakers throughout the year, as well as organising trips out, lunches, afternoon teas and competitions. There's always much fun and laughter and we are all young at heart! We'd love to see you there!

Judith Geater - Leiston WI President

theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN

FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT



We've come so far since the first Fairtrade Fortnight in 1995, educating the public on why to choose Fairtrade and increasing sales on Fairtrade terms for marginalised producers. Over the past 20 years, together we've made the Fairtrade mark the biggest & best known ethical label in UK.

Fairtrade products are now sold in 125 countries worldwide, with 1.57 billion of UK sales being Fairtrade, and 78% of the UK public now recognising the FAIRTRADE Mark. From UK sales alone, £26m of Fairtrade Premium was invested by producers in 2013. But there is still a long way to go to make all trade fair – just 1.2% of cocoa and less than 10% of tea globally is traded on Fairtrade terms. So for Fairtrade Fortnight 2015, we're going to celebrate the impact of Fairtrade and ask you to not only support Fairtrade by buying Fairtrade goods wherever possible, donating to Fairtrade directly, but by also turning the spotlight on the producers who grow the products we love, and their stories of struggle, hope & vision. Whether you're an individual or part of a Fairtrade group, there are many opportunities to take action – including asking businesses directly to switch to Fairtrade in a stock it challenge.

Stock it Challenge - Make Bananas Fairtrade

Ask Asda & Tesco to protect the poorest farmers & workers from the UK's banana price battles by going Fairtrade. Bitter banana price battles between the UK's biggest supermarkets are trapping vulnerable farmers & workers in poverty. Over the past 10 years the price supermarkets charge for our loose bananas has halved, whilst the cost of producing them has doubled, leaving many banana farmers and workers caught below the poverty line. We are asking Tesco & Asda to switch to Fairtrade as they are two of the biggest bananas sellers in the UK and major players in this price war. Thousands of farmers and workers grow the millions of bananas they sell each year, yet less than one in ten of these bananas comes with Fairtrade certification, which research shows is the best independent assurance that those who produced them were protected from the pressure of low prices.

Sainsbury's, Waitrose & The Co-op have already acted giving customers confidence that they're not squeezing their farmers & workers – 100% of the bananas they sell are Fairtrade certified. Asda & Tesco sell less than 10% Fairtrade, lagging far behind.

We need to know that farmers and workers aren't paying the price for our cheap bananas. Asda and Tesco are negotiating their banana contracts right now so it's important to act quickly. You can support this important appeal. Log onto <http://bananas.fairtrade.org.uk/take-part/> and send a message directly to your local store NOW!

For further information on Fairtrade or to donate please see contact details below:

web. <http://www.fairtrade.org.uk/en/get-involved/donate-to-fairtrade> tel. 020 3301 5041
3rd Floor Ibex House, 42-47 Minories, London EC3N 1DY (Cheques payable: The Fairtrade Foundation)

CHRISTMAS IN DURHAM

Durham, as you may already know, is a beautiful place. Add to that the twinkle of Christmas, and you get a truly stunning sight!

The first sign of Christmas in Durham was the huge tree being put up in Market Square and decorated with simple, white lights, followed by elegant strings of lights hanging high above our heads. Every narrow, cobbled street had its own festive decorations, and the Gates roundabout even had a little family of illuminated reindeer on it! On dark, cold winter evenings, the cafés looked extra inviting, particularly with their seasonal specialities of 'gingerbread latte' and other such delights.

Durham Christmas Market is always a highlight for me, as it is an opportunity to buy unique and original gifts for friends and family. Held on Palace Green, a marquee is filled to the brim with local shops and traders who sell everything

from homemade cupcakes to handmade jewellery. There is literally something for everyone, and often you can get things that you wouldn't find anywhere else.

One particularly special occasion was the Christian Union Carol Service. This event is always hugely popular, and over 3,000 people squeeze into every space in the Cathedral, with some even sitting on the floor! The majestic surroundings of this ancient building only emphasise the awe and wonder of the Christmas message – Christ born as a baby, as God came into this world to 'seek and save the lost' (Luke 19: 10). The beautiful singing of the Choir helped to create an atmosphere of praise and adoration as we listened to readings from scripture and a sermon on why the baby born at Christmas was 'no ordinary baby', but far from it, an extraordinary baby, the Son of God incarnated.

Christmas is such a wonderful season, and you can see why I always enjoy spending (some of) it in Durham!

Emily Harle



ST. MARGARET'S CHURCH Family

INTERCESSION PRAYERS FOR FEBRUARY 2015

Dear Friends,

February's magazine continues to focus on monthly prayer time. Below is the St. Margaret's church family group for this month. Please remember each family group appears in the Magazine every three months. This is not to say you are not in our thoughts, you remain in our church family's prayers always, however this will allow for our growing church family, and also for us all to focus our thoughts and prayers specifically on those listed for that particular month.

If you would like to be included in our family monthly prayers, or have any queries please contact Revd. Chris Gonin on 01728 635549. If you feel you would prefer to be remembered in a particular month then please let us know. Also, if you have a specific need for additional prayer time then please let us know and we'll add you to our 'special prayers' section.

In our Church Family Prayers

Jim & Pauline Florance

Bernard & Patsy Smith

Joe Diegnan

Shirley Newman

Matthew, Vanessa, Alex, Kierah & Sasha Newman

Kathryn, Mark, Ian & Stuart Langley

Jan Snowden

John & Joy Kemp

Mary Joel

Kate Kersey

Peter Downey

Donna Button

Billy & Margaret Clarke

Margaret Cuthbert

Lesley Martin

Julie, Ellie & Charlie Howard

Kay, Trevor & Grace Nash

Frank & Joan Huxley

Hilary & Richard Slaughter

Toby, Sharon, Emma & Sophie Slaughter

Jill Staff

Adrian & Jackie Shotter

Stephanie & Craig Shotter

Kim Shotter & Dan Keeble

Derek & Barbara Cole

Pat, Neil, Lucy, Craig & Ryan Carter

Daryl & Helen Worsley

Cathy & Ursula Dickson

Eamonn Harvey

Glyn & June Clarke

Robin & Mary Cornish

Gladys Stannard

Trevor & Thelma Hawkins

Roy Hubbard

Anthony & Sue Hawkes

Kirsty Stowe

June Linsel

Magdalene Chandler

Hilda Woodhead

Pat & John Swatton

Sara, Paul, Sophie & Liam Swatton

Debbie, Samantha & Matthew Vettesse



In our Special Prayers



Leah Crudgington

Jean Cracknell

Ray Newstead

Kane

Lucy Horsefield

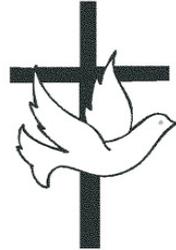
Sally Hitchcock

Bill Jackson



Funerals - January 2015

Betty Joyce Booker



'May your unfailing love be my comfort, according to your promise to your servant'. (NIV).

Psalm 119:76

A Prayer for Resting in God's Love

Father God,

I come into your presence so aware of my human frailty
and yet overwhelmed by your love for me.

I thank you that there is no experience that I might walk through
where your love cannot reach me.

If I climb the highest mountain you are there, and yet
if I find myself in the darkest valley of my life, you are there also.

Teach me today to love you more.

Help me to rest in that love that asks nothing more than
the simple trusting heart of a child.

In Jesus name, Amen

anonymous



LET US PRAY

BEING TRANSFORMED INTO HIS LIKENESS

February begins with the church celebrating the Presentation of Christ in the temple. Mary and Joseph focus their energies on seeking God's blessing for the baby Jesus, little realising what an amazing prophecy will be told them.

The Collect for the first of February asks that we may be “presented to God with pure and clean hearts by Jesus Christ.” Putting our trust in him enables us to have clean hearts. However that cleansing needs to be ongoing. We are called to think about things which are true, pure, noble, lovely and admirable. (Philippians 4:8) This is surely unnatural to us and something which requires us coming back again and again to the Lord in prayer for his grace to discipline our thoughts.

Recently we have seen how the slaughter of innocent people in Paris has brought a powerful response within the population of France and elsewhere, to stand for freedom of expression. Freedom is important, yet as Christians we have to ask ourselves when disrespect of the values of others maybe become licence?

Let's be praying about our patterns of thought and speech, that we might bear testimony to the love of God in what we think, say and write.

As we intercede for the nations, let's be praying for governments and members of the media that they may be given wisdom to promote peace and harmony rather than hostility and aggression. May the Prince of Peace so rule our hearts that we exercise our liberty by promoting goodwill among our family, friends and neighbours as we are transformed into his likeness.

Psalm 25 - A COMMENTARY

One of the points it is important to make about the psalms is that they often reflect the deep feelings of the individual who is the author. This psalm is no exception. The author here is praying intensely. If we take our prayers seriously we can learn much about this prayer which tells us that he is asking God to teach him to pray 'I have put my trust in thee vs 1' and 'Show me thy ways O Lord and teach me my paths vs 3' He sees God as the great teacher 'Lead me forth in thy truth and learn me for thou art the God of my salvation (vs 4). In addition we hear him praying that God will help him out of his sin (vs 10) and how he confesses to the need for support (vs 16) and he finishes with a prayer for his country Israel (vs 16).

I wonder how many of us ask God to help us develop our relationship to Him – especially in prayer?

Are there moments when we wonder how we can break a sin or failure? Here we have a person who knows their weaknesses and reveals how human they are?

It is a challenge to share our humanity with God in our prayers and ask for his help as the writer of this psalm did.

The Psalms

I am one of those who used to groan at the thought of a Psalm in worship. However I have learned, as I have written elsewhere, that they are often the prayers and yearning of human beings of long ago. In recent years as a part of my priestly worship I regularly daily read two Psalms. There are two things that strike me about them. One is that I am reading very often about the desires, hopes and fears of an ordinary human being like the rest of us. The second point is that I am reading the writings of human beings who are certain about God. They have no doubt, it seems to me who they are addressing – their Lord and their God. Psalm 25 for example, which we sing this month prays with certainty that the Lord keeps watch of us at all times 'of going out and our coming in' In Psalm 48 we are assured in vs 8 'of the loving kindness of God' and as human beings we need to know about the love of God. King David the greatest King of Israel was concerned that through the Ark of the covenant God had a resting place among them. In their winter days as fierce storms go over their country Psalm 46 tells us 'how the waters rage and swell, and though the mountains shake at the tempest of the same.' that the psalmist too was afraid of stormy weather' but reminds us in the same lovely poem 'The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge'

Other psalms speak of the confidence of the psalmist. In Psalm 55 vs 1 'Hear my prayer O God and hide not thyself from my petition' the psalmist puts his trust in God.

The theme of trust continues in Psalm 2 vs 12 'Blessed are all they that put their trust in him' and again in Psalm 20 'Some put their trust in chariots and some in horses, but we will remember the name of the Lord our God' In these days when so many question faith it is good to be reminded by the psalmist about the conviction of the authors.

(The quotations are from the Book of Common prayer)

Rev. Chris Gonin

SUNDAY SCHOOL'S CHRISTMAS NATIVITY



WI LEISTON Inspiring Women

Hello all,

A new year 2015 has begun and this is our first report for the year.

On the 6th January we had our Subscription and Social Evening. This year is a very special year for it is the millennium year for the WI. Each member was presented with a millennium brooch as a memento of this special occasion. The evening went as follows with a choice of two picture quizzes, and a game of bingo this was enjoyed by all. Refreshments were also provided by the members and the committee. There was also a draw.

I would like to add that the Leiston WI meet on every second Tuesday of the month at 7.15pm.

Our programme for the year is a selection of speakers, in house competitions, along with an Afternoon Tea, Garden Party, as well as a Harvest supper.

So, if you would like to join us then come along we would like to meet you. We are all very young at heart.

The Leiston Wi are starting a new project for 2015. We want to get as many beanie hats knitted for the baby units in the Norfolk & Norwich and also the Ipswich premature units - They need each at least one thousand in the year. If you are interested in helping please contact: Judy Geater for Patterns and further information on **01728831628** or **11 Urban Road Leiston**. So all you Ladies out there come on give us support get your knitting needles clicking. Thank you.

Judy Geater

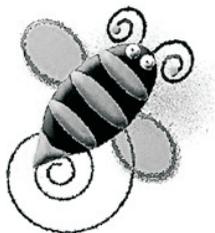
theWI
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B busy of body, B modest of mind,
B earnest, B truthful, B firm and B good,
B sure that your B'haviour B all that it should.



B sharp in the morning,
And never B flat,
B'ware most of all that you never B that.
B all of these things
And whatever B fall,
B sure you'll B happy
And B loved by us all!



Eleanor K Pratt - Sent in by Kathleen Clubleby

A big thank you to everyone who is currently advertising in the magazine. Your advert is helping to support your local church & its work in the community.

If interested in advertising in this magazine & would like further details please email: stmargaretsleiston@gmail.com

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Notice: Items for March's Magazine:

Please note that all articles, adverts etc. will need to be submitted to Kathryn Williams by the **18th February** for inclusion in March's Magazine. Thank you.



Keep up to date with all Church Events
by visiting our own website:



www.stmargaretschurchleiston.onesuffolk.net

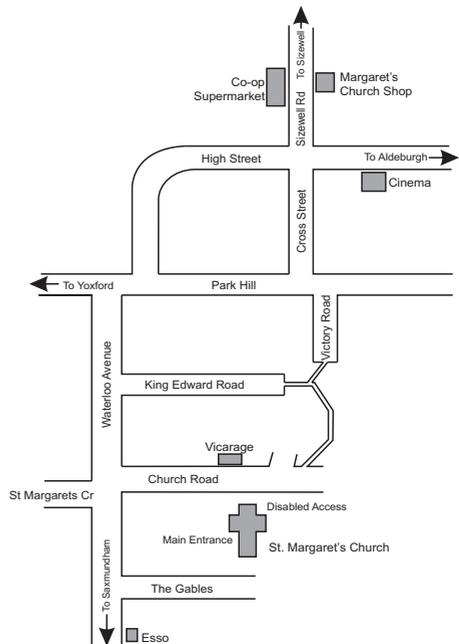
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LEISTON PRESS
PRINTING Signage PUBLISHING

Magazine Printed by Leiston Press
with the grateful thanks from
all at St. Margaret's Church
www.leistonpress.com (01728 833003)