

ST MARGARET'S

Parish Church for Leiston-cum-Sizewell



JULY 2017

£1

CHURCH SERVICES

SUNDAY 2 JULY

9.00 HOLY COMMUNION SERVICE

10.30 FAMILY PRAISE & WORSHIP SERVICE

SUNDAY 9 JULY

10.00 PARISH EUCHARIST SERVICE & J.A.M. SUNDAY SCHOOL

SUNDAY 16 JULY

10.00 'WELCOME TO THE TABLE' FAMILY HOLY COMMUNION SERVICE

SUNDAY 23 JULY

10.00 PARISH EUCHARIST SERVICE & J.A.M. SUNDAY SCHOOL

SUNDAY 30 JULY

10.00 PARISH EUCHARIST SERVICE & J.A.M. SUNDAY SCHOOL

CONTACT US

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THE INVISIBLE CHURCH

When I first began to worship here at St Margaret's, about four years ago, two things commanded my attention straight away.

The first was the interior of the building itself. It had a serious "wow" factor, looking to me more like a miniature cathedral than an ordinary parish church, and it was hard to believe that such a beautiful building had found its home in little old Leiston! With all due respect, the town is not noted for fine and imposing buildings; the Rough Guide to Norfolk and Suffolk describes it as a "gritty, grounded town" and refers only to the Long Shop Museum and the ruins of Leiston Abbey. I can only assume that the compilers were not fortunate enough to visit St Margaret's, for if they had there would surely have been much lyrical reference to its beauty.

The second impressive feature was the organisation of what went on in this lovely building. The services were wonderful; people appeared from all different parts of the Church, all knowing exactly what they were doing. Handbells rang, and were answered by stern tolling bells. A wonderful choir led us in the hymns, a mighty organ resounded from the walls, and the whole experience constituted a memorable act of worship the like of which I had never before encountered.

I wondered how such a busy and vibrant church community could be organised. Who sets the rotas for services, sidespersons and readers? Who keeps it clean and beautiful, and who polishes the brass? Who ensures that supplies for Communion are ordered and stored? Who unlocks and locks the mighty wooden doors? Who produces the pew sheets and the wonderful Parish Magazine? Who makes the coffee and washes the cups? Who changes the lightbulbs when they fail? Who puts the bins out? Who raises and counts the enormous amounts of money which must surely be needed to keep this fine building going?

The answer, as I gradually found out, is the Invisible Church. Many, many good people going quietly and efficiently about their business, united in their love of God and St Margaret's. Four years on, as a fairly new Churchwarden, I know who some of them are, but I am sure there are others who play their part in the smooth running of the Church.

A great example of their efficiency occurred earlier this year. One Friday evening there was a concert in the Church, and the next day the Easter Fair was due to take

place. How would, how could, the Church be transformed from one event to the other in just a few hours? I need not have worried - the Invisible Church became very visible, sweeping, cleaning, rearranging tables and chairs until within a very short time the concert hall formation had disappeared and St Margaret's was ready for the Easter Fair.

So my respect and admiration go to the Invisible Church. I am proud to be a member of this community and look forward to serving and worshipping with you for many years to come.

Peter Roberts

CANCER RESEARCH CAMPAIGN



A street collection is being held in Leiston again this year to raise funds for the Campaign. I've been asked by the local organiser to help to organise the street collection on Saturday 8 July. This will be from 9 am to 3 pm. Are you able to help for an hour, or even half an hour? If so, please contact me. The local organiser tells me the Co-op have given permission for the collection to take place on their premises (outside the front and back doors).

There aren't many people who have not been touched by cancer either as individuals or their family members. Breakthroughs of cures and treatments are being discovered through intensive research all the time and research is probably the only way this disease will be conquered. As you can imagine this research is expensive so PLEASE HELP IF AT ALL POSSIBLE

Pat Carter, 42 Haylings Road, Leiston Tel 831852

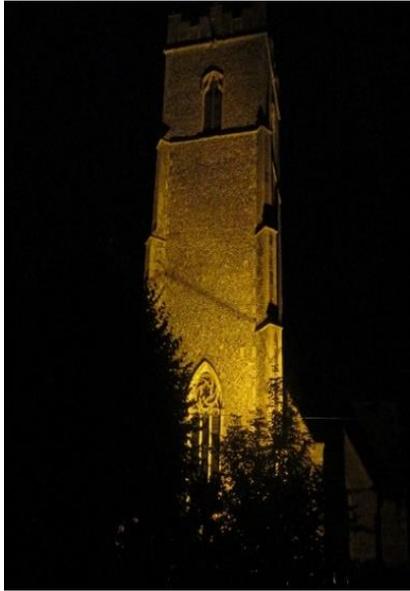


COFFEE MORNING – 2 June at Thorpeness Dolphin

What a great day and what an amazing outcome! We made a whopping £665.31p all of which will go to The Children's Society so they can carry on with their work helping the most vulnerable children. Thank you all so much.

Lorraine Lloyd

ST. MARGARET'S CHURCH TOWER LIGHTS UP



During May and June the lighting of the Church Tower was sponsored on:

Friday 26 May

Happy 80th Birthday, Bill!

Friday 9 June

Pam – in memory and everlasting love on our 61st Wedding Anniversary

If you'd like to mark a special occasion by sponsoring the lighting of the Church Tower for a donation of £5 per day, please write the details in the diary provided in church, then put the completed payment envelope in the wall safe. Many thanks.

LADIES GROUP VISIT TO SIZEWELL

On Wednesday 21 June members of the Group met up at Sizewell Tea to enjoy a fish and chip lunch. It was so hot we decided to sit outside at the picnic tables and pushed two together so that everyone could sit together. Our meals were soon served and we tucked in to delicious fish or scampi and chips.

Once we had all had sufficient, we walked along to Gill Staff's bungalow on the rise overlooking the beach. She has such a lovely view and a lovely home. We were soon all seated outside under the garden umbrellas drinking our choice of tea or coffee. As always when you get a group of ladies together conversation was far reaching. So many subjects were covered and the world was put to rights!

After a while our hostess disappeared indoors and came out with a box of cornettos – strawberry and caramel. They were very welcome on such a hot day. Jill had not brought a sun hat and began to feel the heat. So inventive Clare soon fashioned a sun hat (which Jill is proudly modelling in the photograph). We continued to enjoy each other's company and once again our hostess went off indoors to return with big jugs of iced fruit juices. We were certainly being well looked after.



Our thoughts turned to our next meeting which in the programme was a Treasure Hunt in Saxmundham. All decided that they would rather do something more leisurely and Sue kindly volunteered to host afternoon tea at Woodbine Cottage. So next month we'll all be back in Sizewell again **on Monday 17 July at 2 30 pm**. A food and drink list was quickly made and volunteers found

to provide the various elements to make for a wonderful afternoon tea.

Pat Carter

Pondering Prayer

“The harvest is large, but the workers are few.
So ask the Lord who gives this harvest, to send workers
to harvest his crops.” Matthew 9:37-38

As I write, we have just celebrated Pentecost, the Birthday of the church. Such heavenly energy was poured out that day that three thousand people were baptized after listening to Peter’s invitation to receive the Lord Jesus as their Saviour and Lord.

Can you imagine what pressure the disciples were under to care for all these people? They would need teaching and encouragement and so the disciples would need all their strength to help people understand what it meant to be a Christian. Very soon, they would be looking out for the gifts God had given the new disciples, so they could be used to help build up the body of Christ. Would people like Peter and James and John and others remember that the Lord Jesus had told them to ask for the help they needed? I wonder, as they met daily in one another’s homes to pray together and to listen to someone open up the Scriptures to help them understand, would they have remembered to pray that God would raise up more workers?

If we were to have lots of people suddenly coming to hear about the Lord Jesus we might feel rather overwhelmed, yet what a wonderful problem to have. As we engage in the process of putting down on paper what sort of parish we are, and what kind of leader we require, how about praying that God will send the workers of his choosing into this bit of his harvest field where we live? It is a good opportunity to take a long look at the needs of our society and to ask the Lord to help us see things from his perspective.

God promised Jeremiah, “I will give you shepherds after my own heart who will feed you with knowledge and understanding.” (Jeremiah 23:4) As we look to the future, let’s be praying that God will send to us someone “after his own heart. “ The task of the minister, is not to do it all, but to teach and encourage us, so we develop the skills and qualities which are needed in this community.

Let's be prayerful people as we move through this time of Interregnum, praying that we will be in tune with God's will for our church and our community, and praying that we will exercise faith and compassion in our life together.

Revd. Pauline Florance

Open Doors - Hope for the Middle East campaign petition

Open Doors is an international ministry serving persecuted Christians and churches worldwide. They supply Bibles, leadership training, literacy programmes, livelihood support and advocacy services. They also seek to mobilise the church in the UK & Ireland to serve Christians living under religious persecution.

Open Doors is launching a global, seven year campaign to mobilise Christians around the world to bring hope to the Middle East. Part of the campaign is the ONE MILLION VOICES OF HOPE petition to our government and the Secretary General of the United Nations to ensure that Christians and other minorities in Syria and Iraq enjoy:

1. The right to equal citizenship
2. Dignified living conditions
3. A prominent role in reconciling and rebuilding society

The petition can be signed via social media by using the hashtag #Hope4ME or by going to www.opendoorsuk.org



Open Doors

Serving persecuted Christians worldwide

(Sourced by Linda Hawes from Open Doors' website)

ADVANCE NOTICE



NOT TO BE MISSED!

**St Margaret's Church Summer Fair will be held at the Church
on Saturday 19 August between 2.00-4.00 pm**



ST. MARGARET'S CHURCH FAMILY

INTERCESSION PRAYERS FOR JULY 2017

Dear Friends

July's magazine continues to focus on monthly prayer time, with the St Margaret's Church family group for this month as shown below. There are three family groups with each one appearing in the magazine every three months. However, you remain in our thoughts and prayers always.

If you would like to be included in our family monthly prayers, or have any queries please email stmargaretsleiston@gmail.com. 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 will add you to our 'special prayers' section.

In our Church Family Prayers

Richard & Sandra Ellis
Kevin, Jess & Oliver Ellis
Christopher, Anna and Ada Ellis
Michael, Anika, Darcey & Jack Ellis
James & Kristi Ellis
Chris & Elspeth Gonin
Basil & Jean Jenkyns
Jill Mower
Sue Watt
John & June Geater
Sue Geater
Ron & Diana Geater
Doreen Bardwell
Sandra, Philip, Ellie & Laura Harle
Daphne & Terri Roper
Pam Bloomfield
Grahame, Sylvia, Linda & Susan Hawes
Ann Woods

Mary, Simon, Archie & Edward Reading
Valerie and Maurice Allchin
Betty Harland
Judy Foster
Charlmaine, Lee, Luke & Liam Wright
Doreen Thomas
Vaughan & Jenny Windle
Liz Mills
Jean Crowter
Colin & Penny Tipple
Barbara Moss
Tom & Nona Wadsell-Campbell
Stephen & Claire Miles
Emily & Rob Oxborrow
Eileen Griffiths
David & Lynn Bailey
Kirsty, Shane, Ceylon, AJ & Logan Stone
Olive Wilson

PASTORAL CARE AT ST MARGARET'S

We already know that many of our congregation are, and have been for many years, good friends and neighbours to others, not only to members of our church family but to people in the wider community. This is something that we should be thankful for and encourage throughout the whole church.

To this end, it is hoped that we could develop a small Pastoral Care team (St. Margaret's Mates, as my Laura suggested but maybe that's not quite the name that we're looking for!). Revd. Pauline was part of a Pastoral Care team while she lived in Cheshire and she has kindly offered to share her experiences, and advise on how best to move forward.

If, to start with, we can ensure that any member of our congregation who would enjoy a visit from a church friend, just for a cuppa and a chat, during the week, is included, we can then in time, with the Lord's help and guidance, start to reach out into the wider community.

There are only so many hours in a day and we all have other commitments, work and family, so we definitely need to share the load and work as a team. Communication will be the key to success – finding out what's needed and by whom, and ensuring that no-one 'slips through the net'.

I very much look forward, together with others, to sharing God's love and care not only within our church but with the whole town with this simple and heartfelt gesture.

If you would like to be involved in any way, either as a member of our team or if you would welcome a regular visitor, please let me know either by seeing me in church or by calling 833578. Thank you.

Sandra Harle

APPEAL – if you have any spare duvets, please let me know as they can be used in a variety of ways to help Margaret's Shop. Thank you.

Betty

Psalm 119 Vs 105 -112

105. Your word is a lantern to my feet and a light upon my path.

106. I have sworn and will fulfil it, to hear your righteous judgements.

107. I am troubled above measure; give me life, O Lord, according to your word.

108. Accept the freewill offering of my mouth, O Lord, and teach me your judgements.

109. My soul is ever in my hand, yet I do not forget your law.

110. The wicked have laid a snare for me, but I have not strayed from your commandments.

111. Your testimonies have claimed my heritage for ever; for they are the very joy of my heart

112. I have applied my heart to fulfil your statutes; always even to the end.

This Psalm with all its various sections can be found in the book of Psalms. In all it has 176 verses. So this month this part of it will be sung by the choir. Many may even be surprised that it exists because few of us will have read, even the small section that will be sung in July.

So it begins with the words 'your word is a lantern to my feet and a light upon my path'. Perhaps the word 'light' reminds us of Jesus saying in St John's gospel 'I am the light of the world'. Certainly for most of us we could do with a bit more light on our journey through our lives. Looking forward we may not always feel we can be clear about our future. On the other hand if we look back – rather as we sometimes look in our car mirrors – we can perhaps observe God's hand in our lives – perhaps our confirmation day and our day preparing to go to the Cathedral in Bury St Edmunds for that moving occasion. I can still remember mine.

For many of us, remembering the births of our children and later the moving occasions in their lives when they were older will bring good memories.

On our way we may have been guided by the two great commandments to love God and one another – or even the ten commandments Exodus 20. 1 – 17. Maybe too we look back on failures and sins from which we see the hand of God calling us back to our loyalty to the commandments he has given us – ‘your word is a lantern to my feet and light upon my path’

In this troubled political time we may find we need to put our hand again into the hand of God as King George VI encouraged us to do in 1939 at the beginning of the second world war as our Queen surely must have done in her dedicated life many times.

Reference The Book of Psalms Archbishop Coggan

The Revd. Chris Gonin

IN MY MIND

There is a garden in Heaven
Where little ones play
There is happiness and joy
And they love each other.
They smile and laugh when they play
An Angel is there looking after them
And when it is time to stop playing
They go and sit at Jesus’ feet
He tells them stories of love,
Joy, peace, and faithfulness
When Jesus has told his stories
The little ones fall asleep

Pam Bloomfield

JULY

We are now in the middle of summer and once again we get visitors calling in, so tea and cakes are always on the go. During half term week my daughter, grand-daughter and two great grandchildren stayed – fine weather allowed them to play outside.

We have kept toys at our house for years. First of all the dolls pram; I got that from the Co-op when my daughter was 3, she is almost 50 now. In those days the Co-op had a big toy department and in July toys were put in the window with a sign 'Pay a deposit now ready for Christmas'. You could pay a little each week until the toys were paid for. The pram is faded now but still very sturdy. Next a wheelbarrow which we got from Titlow's, then the pedal tractor with trailer from Mr Stevens who had the Mace Shop (he took it over from Mr and Mrs Ash) on the corner of Grimsey Road. He asked for a deposit and then to pay what I liked each week. It was my eldest grandson's Christmas present when he was 18 months old; he is now 27. This tractor has been played with by all the grandchildren, friends and relations and now our great grandchildren. Things were made to last then. Now if an oven part goes wrong or a washing machine you are advised to throw it away and get a new one.

The Co-op also did a Club where you had a book, paid so much a week or month and you could get clothes, furniture, carpets – it covered everything and by doing that you didn't run into debt. Back then the Co-op had a large store which sold everything, prams, pushchairs, beds, three piece suites and other furniture. Next door was the men's shop and drapery (rather like 'Are You Being Served') with a wide range of choices. Such a shame how things have changed – it's called 'progress.'

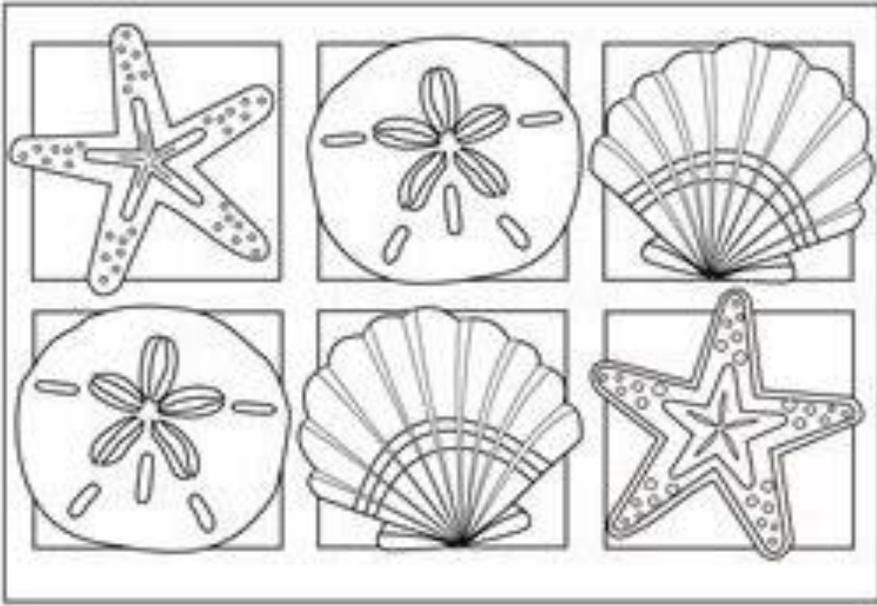
Still, let us enjoy summer; it is so lovely to have these beautiful light evenings.

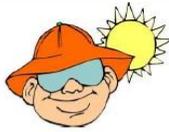
Margaret Clarke

The Friends of Alde Valley Academy are hosting a Summer Family Fun Day at the school on Sunday 16th July between 11am & 4pm. Attractions will include a Dog Show, Student Art Exhibition, Craft Stalls, Bouncy Castle, Live Music, BBQ, Ice-creams and much, much more. To book a stall, pitch or for any other enquiries, please contact Paula Mays or Liz Miller at the Academy on 01728 830570 or email enquiries@aldevalley.suffolk.sch.uk We look forward to seeing you there.

Sandra Harle

Full of fun, activities to enjoy





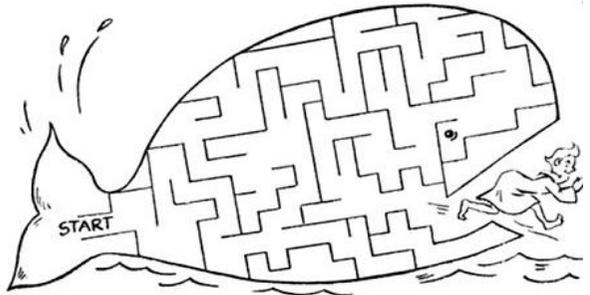
Summer Time



Find these words in the puzzle. Words are hidden → and ↓.

AUGUST
 BALL
 BEACH
 CAMP
 FRIEND
 HOT
 ICE CREAM

JULY
 KIDS
 OUTSIDE
 PLAY
 POOL
 SUNNY
 WARM



Jonah found his way out of the big fish ... Can you?



Want to hear more about Jesus? Come along to our 'JAM' sessions. Kids of all ages welcome!
 Sunday 9, 23 and 30 July – At 10.00 am

In Our Special Prayers

Jill Mower's niece Lynn in USA

Pam's Grandson Joshua

David Dutson

Penny Batho

Doreen Thomas

Ann Colley



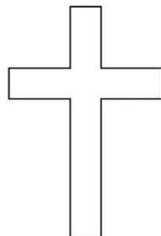
Funerals

Friday 9 June

Wednesday 14 June

Joan Fowler

Ronald Ernest Jones



HOLIDAY TIME!

Yes, it's holiday time, when we exchange the peace and tranquillity of home for crowded trains, traffic jams, roadworks, hideous airports and indifferent service just so we can think now good it is to come home again.

And there are all the little anxieties. Will the house be safe? Will the dogs be all right in kennels? Will the neighbour remember to come round and feed the cat? Have we turned all the taps off? Is it really, really worth going at all?

But of course it is. We all need a change of scenery for a week or two in a busy year. And there is one great consolation - whatever we leave behind, we can always take God with us. Wherever we go, He is there to watch over us, always available for prayer and reassurance. And there is always a place of worship where we can go to be with Him.

Jenefer and I have just had a holiday, and it gave me the opportunity to attend services in two very fine cathedrals for the first time, even though there was a slight feeling of playing truant as I was away from St Margaret's.

My first home-away-from-home was St Magnus Cathedral, a huge and impressive red sandstone building in the centre of Kirkwall in Orkney. The cathedral was founded in 1137 by St Rognvald, in honour of Magnus, his uncle. I attended the Sunday morning service, taken by Revd. Fraser Macnaughton whose fine Scottish voice echoed around the building. Under the theme of Exploring, Revd. Macnaughton said "Until we can see ourselves in the words we read and the stories we hear, it is easy to remark on the rest of the world." And the congregation responded "May the light of these words fall strong upon each of us, that we can find the truth they reveal in our own hearts this day".

A week later we were in very hilly, very rainy Durham, where we braved the showers to attend Evensong and Procession on the Day of Pentecost in Durham Cathedral, the Shrine of St Cuthbert. (By coincidence, the same masons who had worked on Durham Cathedral also constructed the Kirkwall Cathedral). The congregation shared the choir stalls with a wonderful choir, and at the appropriate time in the service we joined the procession to the Easter Garden in the Galilee Chapel, led by the Paschal Candle, following the choir and Chapter. The Dean said "We stand at the Font at the conclusion of the great fifty days of Easter. We rejoice in the coming of God's power

and love in the gift of the Holy Spirit and we ask that same spirit to send us out into the world, to live and proclaim the good news”.

So the holiday introduced me to two beautiful places of worship and two very different services. But it was very good to be back at St Margaret’s on the third Sunday.

Peter Roberts

ALDE VALLEY SUFFOLK FAMILY HISTORY GROUP

In July the Alde Valley Suffolk Family History Group will welcome back Sheila Harrison to give a talk on The Diary of a Norfolk Parson. Her previous talks on Leiston Abbey and Butley Priory were very well-attended, and we look forward to more of the same.

In this talk, based on the diaries of the 18th century parson James Woodforde, historian Sheila Harrison will describe Woodforde's life as Rector of Weston Longville, a village eight miles west of Norwich, from 1776 until his death in 1803. We meet Woodforde's family, his fellow-clergymen, the household servants and the village people - all in the context of the social conditions of the time. Parson Woodforde's diaries are history brought to life.

The meeting will be held at 7.30pm on Monday 17th July at Leiston United Church (URC/Methodist), High Street, Leiston, IP16 4EL. Entrance is not at the front of the church, but on the left hand side as you face the building. Parking is available in the Co-op/Solar car park which adjoins it, but you must sign your vehicle in at the tills in the supermarket or face a charge of £100. Visitors welcome. Admission: members £1, visitors £3, including tea/coffee.

FURTHER PROGRAMME:

18 Sept “My Ancestor Was Hanged at Bury St Edmunds” - Di Mann - at 7.30pm
Leiston United Church

16 Oct “Barnardo’s Foster Children in Suffolk 1890-1950” - Peter Davidson
- at 7.30pm Leiston United Church

Maggie Strutt

PHOTOGRAPH FROM THE PAST



This photograph of St Margaret's Church choir was taken in the 1980's by Lee Southgate. On the back row from left to right are Stephanie Borrett, ?, Julia Grant, Fabian Rowsell (organist), Sadie Watling and Caroline Roper. On the front row from left to right are Val Allchin, Susan Hawes, Stephanie Cook, Linda Hawes and Terri Roper. Does anybody know who the unnamed chorister is?

Linda Hawes

MARKING THE CENTENARY OF THEBERTON'S ZEPPELIN

One hundred years ago, on 17th June 1917, Zeppelin L48 met its end over Theberton and, on Sunday 18th June this year, a service of reflection and reconciliation was held at St. Peter's Church.

Zeppelin L48 was one of four German airships tasked with attacking London on the night of 16th June 1917. She was one of the first 'height climber' Zeppelins, which meant she had been stripped back to become as light as possible. She was immense, measuring almost 200 metres in length and having a volume of 55,800 square metres. She could travel at 60 mph and fly as high as 20,000 feet, much further than British anti-aircraft guns and fighter planes could reach. Tactically the Zeppelin would fly at lower levels, using faster winds to approach its target, and then ascend to safer heights before dropping its 6,000 pound bomb load.

After releasing bombs over Harwich and Martlesham, the crew believed they were heading back to the continent but their compass had frozen at high altitude and they were actually heading north up the Suffolk coast. At about 2am, L48 drifted over

Orford Ness and was lit up by searchlights. There was a barrage of shots from anti-aircraft guns on land, sea and in the air and, as a result, the burning L48 could be seen for up to fifty miles away.

The Zeppelin landed at Holly Tree Farm in Theberton. Sixteen members of the German crew died that night. They were initially buried in the village churchyard but in the 1960s their bodies were moved to the German cemetery in Cannock Chase in Staffordshire.

The wreckage was guarded by naval personnel to secure it for research purposes but many pieces of the carcass did get into the hands of local people. A wealth of souvenirs were available including brooches and paperknives and local photographer, J.S. Waddell, published a booklet of postcards of the crash site.

At the recent service, which was attended by Colonel Herman Hauke, air attache to the German Embassy, prayers were said and candles lit for not only the nineteen German crew members (three men survived and were cared for in a military hospital in Leiston) but also the nineteen men from Theberton and Eastbridge who lost their lives in both the First and Second World Wars. There were also accounts of village life at that time; women, children and older men left to do the farm work, without the benefit of horses and machinery which had been requisitioned for the war effort. Theberton would have had many more inhabitants at that time. The church and the pub were focal points then, as they are now, but the village would also have had its own school (now the Jubilee Hall), a variety of shops, a post office and even a blacksmith. How times have changed!

After Bill Turnbull, who now lives in Theberton, read an account of the seven terrible minutes of the decent and fire written by one of the survivors, flowers and wreaths were laid at both the war memorial and in the churchyard, the burial site where the crew rested for 47 years.

Ellie and I, along with four others, rang the half-muffled church bells before the service and felt privileged to be part of what was a very moving and heartfelt ceremony. As Colonel Hauke said, our two countries must look to a peaceful future but remember the events of the past. Theberton certainly did that, with much thought and compassion.

Sandra Harle

EIGHT NEW DEACONS

Do you remember Nic Stuchfield? As part of his ministry training based in Saxmundham, he spent six weeks with us here at St Margaret's a few months ago and helped Martin with the services.

Well Saturday 24 June was his Big Day. At a service in a packed St Edmundsbury Cathedral, Nic, together with seven other people, was formally ordained as a Deacon.

You probably know who Deacons are. I had heard of them, but had to do some research to find out what they do. They are pretty important people in the Church hierarchy; they are empowered to preach and teach, officiate at morning and evening prayer, baptise, officiate at funerals, and administer Holy Communion. They cannot confirm, ordain, celebrate the Eucharist, conduct a marriage, give absolution or give a Blessing, although clearly Nic will go on to achieve all these powers in the years to come.

The long service (almost two hours) was a wonderful occasion, and the Cathedral looked majestic even with its temporary decoration of internal scaffolding. The service was conducted by Bishop Martin, and a marvellous sermon was delivered by The Reverend Dr Donna Lazenby, Director of St Mellitus College. All the new Deacons had brought with them their "supporters' clubs" of friends and relatives, and joyful congratulations were delivered after the service on the lawn outside the Cathedral. Apart from Nic, a local connection was provided by another of the new Deacons: Johanna Mabey, who with her husband owns and runs Regatta restaurant in Aldeburgh.

I asked Nic if he had a message for his friends at St Margaret's. His message was "I'll be back". So we can look forward to visits from our own local newly-ordained Deacon sometime in the future.

Peter Roberts

A NEW HYMN - *This hymn was written by a friend of mine (Malcolm Andrews) for his church in Oulton Broad. I thought this hymn was also suitable for Leiston during our interregnum, replacing 'St Mark's' for 'St Margaret's'. It is sung to the tune of 'Melita' which is 'Eternal Father Strong to Save.'*

Hilda Woodhead

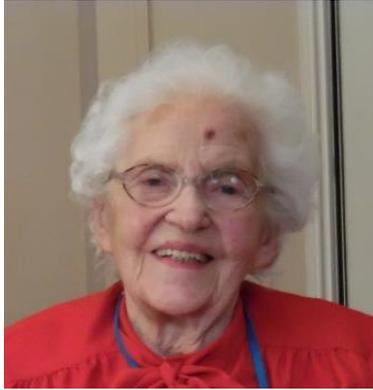
O Lord we give you thanks this day for
St Mark's Church to sing and pray,
Be with us Lord in all we do
Uphold us now and always too,
Be Thou our Guardian and our Guide
Forever walking by our side.

When we feel sad and all alone
Our tears cascade, we feel forlorn,
We cannot see the way ahead
To solve an awesome task we dread,
Take heart and turn to God in prayer
What're the problem He is there.

God shares our sadness knows our fears
Is ever there to catch our tears,
Christ Jesus is our living Lord
Our Friend and Saviour evermore,
Believe His words forever true
'Just trust in me I'll care for you.'

Prepare us for the tasks ahead
Empow'ed by God may we be led,
Tending the sick and all in need
Trying each day to do good deeds,
To love our neighbours as ourselves
As Christ taught us to give of self

**JOAN FOWLER -
22 May 1917 to 19 May 2017**



As you can see from the above dates Joan almost reached her century. The photograph shown was taken at her 98th birthday when she had a party laid on for her at Aldringham Court where many of her friends gathered to join in her special day. We were all together again at her funeral at her beloved St Margaret's Church on Friday 9 June 2017.

Joan was meticulous in everything she did and this extended to the planning of her funeral. Following the welcome we sang "Morning has broken". I was then privileged to read Ecclesiastes Chapter 3 verses 1 to 11. "For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven". Joan had asked one of her godchildren, Margaret Hague, in 2009 to read this at her funeral. Margaret was undergoing medical treatment and was unable to travel to Suffolk and asked me if I would read the passage and also read her thoughts about her beloved godmother.

THE BEST GODMOTHER EVER

My name is Margaret Hague, and Auntie Joan, as I called her, was my Godmother. My grandfather had moved next door to Aunt Joan and her parents, and my mother became very friendly with her, and thus asked her to be my Godmother. She was the best Godmother ever. She never forgot a birthday, Christmas or any special occasion. When I went to boarding school she gave me my one and only needlework basket, which I still use today. She also took a great interest in everything I did, and when I married that extended to my family. She was a great pleasure to visit on my trips to Suffolk, and made us very welcome even into

her late 90's. Conversation was never a problem and not only did she take an interest in you, but always had an opinion on things happening in the world. We will all miss her greatly and are sad that she did not make her great wish of making 100 by 2 days. It was an amazing age for one who was told she was delicate as a child. We have all had the privilege of knowing a lovely lady for a long time and in my case, a wonderful Godmother.

Joan's preparations had even extended to writing a letter to us all which she had asked John Hunt, her neighbour and dear friend, to read at her funeral service. It's recorded below.

'I came to Leiston at the age of two with my parents and twin brother Ronald. Little did I know what a long and happy life I was to spend here.

At the age of five I was deemed quiet enough to attend Matins at St Margaret's. I have worshipped here nearly all my life and held the post of PCC secretary for 20 years. St Margaret's is a beautiful and peaceful church which holds many memories for me, and it is fitting that a thanksgiving service for my long and happy life is being held here today.

Being a 'people person' I have enjoyed meeting people from all walks of life, particularly during my business years in Aldeburgh, and more so through voluntary work.

I would like to thank my family and friends for their love and kindness over the years, and for all the fun and laughter we have shared. Although I never married I was blessed with five wonderful god children who brought me great happiness. Three of them were baptised here in St Margaret's.

In 1998 I became disabled and was 'adopted' by my wonderful friends Pat and John Hunt who have cared for me ever since. Nothing has been too much trouble for them, and I thank them from the bottom of my heart.

Life is a jigsaw and the last piece has now been put in place. I am going on the most wonderful journey to meet my Heavenly Father, and to be re-united with my loved ones.
Goodbye.'

Pat Carter

CHILDREN'S SOCIETY BOX HOLDERS

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Children's
Society

August is the month I count the boxes – could you please bring them to church or take them into Margaret's Shop. With thanks to you all.

Below is a poem which was sent from Head Office.

Betty

THE MOUSE THAT ROARED

*There alone it sits in the house
Quiet and still just like a mouse
By itself it can feel like a loner
But it has one careful owner*

*Think for a minute if you will
As it lies there by the window sill
Of all the careful owners out there
And the love for children they all share*

*Most made of plastic
Some made of wood
It's one intent?
To do good*

*Imagine their strength together,
And the roar that mouse can make
When their voices join as one,
With every house box you kindly take*

Tony Sparrow

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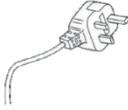
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NOTICE: Items for August's magazine

Please note that all articles, adverts etc. will need to be submitted to Marian Peskett by **18 July** for inclusion in the August Magazine. Thank you.

Email: t.peskett@sky.com

The Parish Magazine is available from St Margaret's Church or Margaret's Shop. Delivery can be arranged.

Keep up to date with all Church Events
By visiting our own website
www.stmargaretschurchleiston.onesuffolk.net

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