

# **ST MARGARET'S**

Parish Church for Leiston-cum-Sizewell



**MARCH 2020**

**£1**

# CHURCH SERVICES

## SUNDAY 1 MARCH

9.00 HOLY COMMUNION SERVICE  
10.30 FAMILY PRAISE & WORSHIP SERVICE

## FRIDAY 6 MARCH

2.00 WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

## SUNDAY 8 MARCH

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

## SUNDAY 15 MARCH

10.00 PARISH EUCHARIST SERVICE

## SUNDAY 22 MARCH

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

## SUNDAY 29 MARCH

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

## CONTACT US

**Priest in Charge:** Reverend Richard Finch: T.830421

The Vicarage, Church Road, Leiston [E.vicarleiston@gmail.com](mailto:E.vicarleiston@gmail.com)

**Associate Priest:** Reverend Morag Finch

**Reader:** Mr Bernard Smith: 3 Daneway Gardens, Leiston T.830105

### **Lay Elders:**

Mrs Pat Carter, 42 Haylings Road, Leiston T.831852

Mrs Sandra Harle: 4 Lime Tree Avenue, Leiston T. 833578

### **Church Wardens:**

Mrs Pat Carter: 42 Haylings Road, Leiston T.831852

One Vacancy

**PCC Treasurer:** Mrs Sandra Harle: 4 Lime Tree Avenue, Leiston T. 833578

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

**'JAM' (Jesus & Me) Sunday School Leader:** Mrs Sandra Ellis T.832168

**Organist & Choir Master:** Mr Matthew Merrett

### **Deanery Synod Representatives:**

Two Vacancies

### **Resident Retired Priests:**

Reverend Richard Ellis: 9 Kings Road, Leiston T.832168

Reverend Pauline Florance: 1 Woodlands, Leiston T.768124

Reverend Jim Florance: 1 Woodlands, Leiston T.768124

**Website Editor:** Mrs Maureen Fox T.830929

**Magazine Editor:** Mrs Pat Carter T.831852 **Email:** pm42carter@gmail.com

## **Let there be light ...**

The church season of Lent started on Ash Wednesday (26<sup>th</sup> February) and goes through March until Easter Day (12<sup>th</sup> April). Traditionally Lent has been a time of focusing attention on God through action (e.g. fasting and prayer). It is also a time to study and reflect. This year our study theme is the environment in which we live, our world and how we care for it.

Some people across the Church of England will be reading a book called “Saying Yes to Life” written by Ruth Valerio. She draws on the account of the Days of Creation (from the book of Genesis, chapter 1) and relates themes of light, water, land, the seasons, other creatures, humankind, Sabbath rest and resurrection hope to matters of environmental, ethical and social concern.

The book includes many anecdotes from people around the world to illustrate and help us understand how each one of us is an integral part of the world and that we are in relationship with our environment and therefore effect the environment both individually and collectively.

The first chapter is on the theme of light and from there Ruth moves on to the use of electricity both as a source of light and as energy. Electricity is now used in all parts of our lives and sustainable electricity from solar, wind or hydro has transformed lives of those who live far from a national grid system, for example allowing farmers to use machinery that helps to mill grain and give them time to plant more crops.

At the end of each Day in the Creation account God looks at what has been achieved and decides it was good. When we take stock of the choices that we make and how they affect the environment can we say they were good? That is the challenge that we are given by God in our daily lives.

To encourage that challenge the Diocese have produced an “Environmental Lent Challenge”, a question each day that encourages us to do good for our world. There will be some printed copies available in church for people to take home, it can also be found online at [www.cofesuffolk.org/bishops-lent-appeal-2020](http://www.cofesuffolk.org/bishops-lent-appeal-2020) .

May you be blessed during this season of Lent and may we all be a blessing to our world.

*Rev Richard Finch*

## Pondering Prayer

It is never straightforward to continue a column that another has been successfully writing for some time. This is particularly the case when following the Revd. Pauline Florance who I am sure has a wider experience and knowledge than I.

As a result I was in two minds whether to accept this assignment and first did some pondering and praying of my own. "Father in Heaven how do I approach this? What have I got to say about prayer? There are so many other questions on the subject." The reply that came to me: "So many questions. In fact probably enough for a series." So it begins:

Throughout my life I have often questioned what prayer is about, what purpose it has, what affect has it had on my life or that of others? How I should pray? Over the years many people have asked similar questions of me. Maybe, many of you reading this article will have pondered similar questions, had doubts, or wished to get closer to our heavenly Father through prayer. So initially at least I hope and pray to answer some of the many questions that come to mind, and maybe create new ones for you and for me.

So when were you first introduced to prayer?

I'm not sure if it happens now but one of the earliest things I learned at Primary School was the teacher saying, "Hands together, eyes closed." It came at the end of the school day and we learned to recite 'Lighten our darkness we beseech you O Lord and by great mercy deliver us from all perils and dangers of this night, through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.' It is still a prayer I often use in the evening before I go to sleep and especially when I am tired and do not have much I need to talk to my Heavenly Father about at that time.

However, that wasn't the first prayer I learned though. My parents first taught me that I was to kneel down by the bedside and say, "Our Father who art in heaven....." Many of you reading this will no doubt have had a similar upbringing.

This month ponder on how you first came across prayer and how you came to know about Jesus. How it has affected your life. If you are having difficulty with praying just quietly ask God for his help, and keep asking because in time the answer comes.

Remember the disciples were surprised at how often Jesus prayed and they asked Him, "Lord, teach us to pray." (Luke 11.1)

But that will be for next time.

Brother Christian

## MARCH

March winds came early this year in February, causing much damage across the country. Those poor people who had to contend with flooding, losing everything in such a short time, they make the news for a few days then all is quiet. I'd like to think people are out there to help them. We were grateful we were OK and counted our blessings.

Recently a Leiston lady, Joan Saunders, 97 years old, passed away. She was well known over the years for making wedding and birthday cakes and kept an album of the names of the people who had them made. A history book in a way as it went back a long way.

One of her wishes was after her service at St Margaret's, refreshments would be served at the back of the church and for Betty (Harland) to make her special chocolate biscuits. She had forgotten that Betty had died. Joan's sister Doris (both very good friends of Betty) was talking about this with family when Josh, Doris's grandson, said he'd like to make them, which he did and they were perfect. I think this was the first time since Betty had been gone that her specials were once again amongst the refreshments at church. She knew Josh and would have been so pleased to know he carried on her work.

Thank you Josh

Margaret Clarke

Editor: For those who wish to copy Josh here is the recipe for –

### BETTY SPECIALS

2 packets Rich Tea biscuits, crushed	½lb block margarine
2½ dessertspoons cocoa powder	5 generous tbsp golden syrup
5 heaped tbsp granulated sugar	32-36 squares milk cooking chocolate

In large saucepan melt margarine, sugar and syrup. Bring to gentle boil. Remove from heat, add cocoa powder, stirring well. Add biscuits and combine well. Divide into 2 foil lined Swiss roll tins, smooth flat, leave to set in fridge.

Once chilled, melt 16-18 squares of chocolate for 1 min in microwave and pour over 1<sup>st</sup> chilled biscuit base. Repeat process for 2<sup>nd</sup> biscuit base. When chocolate set cut into 24 squares.

## BRIGHT LIGHTS ON A DARK (SCOTTISH) NIGHT

What does the diary say? That we have to drive to Leiston Church on a cold January night for something called Burns Night? Surely there's some football on the telly? And who is this Mr Burns anyway? Isn't he someone off the Simpsons? And whatever he did, couldn't he have done it at a nicer time of the year?

But having made the effort, I was so glad that we did. The big church door opens to a bright warm atmosphere, with colourful decorations and long tables with sparkling glasses and crockery. Soft Scottish music fills the air, and from the kitchen, where Revds Morag and Richard have been working all day, wafts the delicious smell of food. The occasion was a grand Haggis Supper in celebration of the birthday of the acclaimed Scottish poet, Robert Burns, although for some reason he could not be with us in person.

The Leiston Burns' Night is an old St Margaret's Church tradition stretching all the way back to last year. When Richard and Morag organised the original event in 2019 I did wonder whether it had been a very enjoyable one-off, or whether they would repeat it in 2020. Indeed they did, and the increased attendance this year showed that they were right to do so.

There was, of course, a Top Table, quite rightly reserved for the people who had done all the work and their invited guests. The rest of us found places at the two long tables which stretched away, old school-dinner style, from the head. Shot-glasses filled with a dram of golden malt whisky, very kindly donated by two prominent parishioners, were distributed to all, and the festivities could commence.

To the strains of recorded bagpipes, the mighty steaming haggis was triumphantly borne from the kitchen by Mike. After touring the tables to the accompaniment of rhythmic clapping, the haggis was then presented to Morag who proceeded to read a long and powerful poem to it. The haggis looked fairly unimpressed, although the rest of us enjoyed the poem, and it was then carried back to the kitchen to be carved. Teams of skilled helpers then emerged from the kitchen and delivered to us warm plates heaped with haggis, neaps and tatties. The delicious food was heartily consumed, with several of the diners responding eagerly to an invitation to report to the kitchen for seconds. The meal was rounded off with shortbread, biscuits and cheese, and the evening terminated with expressions of thanks to the people who had worked hard to give us such an enjoyable occasion. We could not



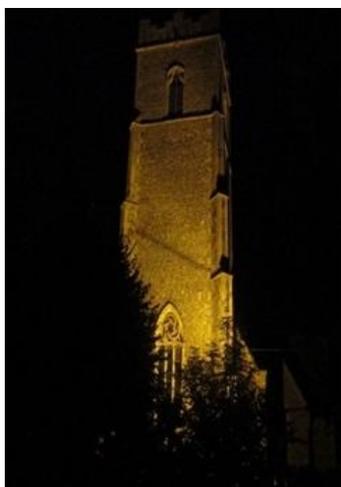
leave without a bit of audience participation, however, so we all linked hands for a rowdy rendition of Auld Lang Syne.

And so we tumbled out into a dark January evening which was still cold and raw, but we were warmed and cheered by the fellowship of the lovely community of St Margaret's which had produced another triumph.

Did you miss it? Stayed in to watch the football, did you? Well take my tip - next year make the effort and come out in the cold to join us. I think I can promise you'll be very glad you did!

Peter Roberts

## ST MARGARET'S CHURCH TOWER LIGHTS UP



**During February the lighting of the Church Tower was sponsored on:**

13 February – In memory of a loving father William Bowley. Born 3/10/06 Died 13/2/78

14 February – In memory of Basil Slaughter on this day

15 February – In memory of a loving mother Violet Bowley Born 15/2/10 Died 13/11/75

22 February – In memory of Peter Mower. With love Jill

*If you would 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 place the completed payment envelope in the wall safe. Many thanks.*

## March 2020

St Perpetua is remembered along with Felicity and their companions on 7<sup>th</sup> March and is seen to be carrying a book. Saints Perpetua and Felicity are the patron saints of mothers, expectant mothers, ranchers and butchers.

Saints Perpetua and Felicity were Christian martyrs who lived during the early persecution of the Church in Africa. With details concerning the lives of many early martyrs unclear and often based on legend, it is unusual to have the actual record of the courage of Perpetua and Felicity written by Perpetua, her teacher Saturus, and others who knew them. This account, known as "The Passion of St. Perpetua, St. Felicitas, and their Companions," was popular in the early centuries and read during liturgies.

Perpetua was a young, noblewoman of Carthage aged 22 who had a young child, we know she was married, but since her husband is never mentioned, many historians assume she was already a widow. Felicity was her personal slave and was pregnant. Along with their male companions they were arrested. It seems most of them were catechumens at this point and only baptised later in prison. After intervention from deacons who ministered in the prison and her family Perpetua was allowed to have her baby with her. Perpetua had various visions while in prison.

They were condemned as Christians by the Roman authorities and dispatched to the public arena, there to be mauled by wild animals. They all survived and were then taken to be executed by the sword. They were martyred in 203





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Leiston, Saxmundham & District

Welcome to 'your page'

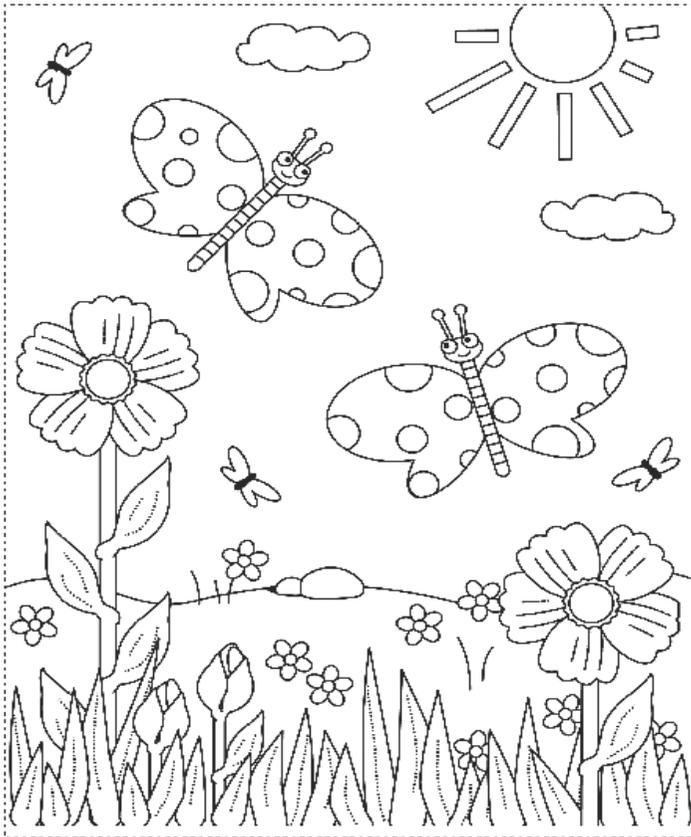
Activities to enjoy, a crossword, a picture to colour – enjoy!

## Spring Colouring Sheet

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

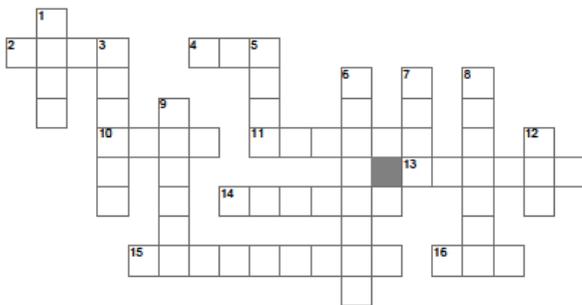
Colour the picture.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Mother's Day Crossword



## ACROSS

- A piece of writing that expresses emotions using words that rhyme.
- Squeeze someone tightly in one's arms, to express affection.
- Make it easier for Mom to do something.
- An expression of gratitude.
- Day of the week we celebrate Mother's Day.
- Looking after those unable to care for themselves.
- Give Mom a surprise and do this for her this morning.
- Happy Mother's \_\_\_\_\_.

## DOWN

- An intense feeling of deep affection.
- Woman who gives birth or who has the responsibility of care for children.
- Another word for a present.
- The quality of being friendly, generous, and considerate.
- Touch with the lips as a sign of love.
- Mom's Mother
- The seed-bearing part of a plant.
- The fifth month of the year.

POEM	MOTHER	HELP	KISS
GIFT	MAY	FLOWER	GRANDMA
CARING	SUNDAY	HUG	KINDNESS
THANKS	BREAKFAST	DAY	LOVE

Free Printable Crossword

www.AllFreePrintable.com

**JAM** Jesus and Me

Want to hear more about Jesus? Come along to our 'JAM' sessions. Kids of all ages welcome!  
 Sunday s 8, 22 and 29 March at 10.00 am

**When contacting any of the businesses advertised,  
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St. Margaret's Magazine!**

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## Candlemas and Christingle Service

As it was Candlemas on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> February we made Christingles during our All-Age Morning Worship service. Candlemas commemorates the ritual purification of Mary, 40 days after the birth of her son Jesus. This day also marks the ritual presentation of the baby Jesus to God in the Temple at Jerusalem. The festival became known as Candlemas because this was traditionally the day when all the Church's candles for the year were blessed. Christians also took in their candles for their homes to be blessed. A **Christingle** is a symbolic object used in the Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany services of many Christian denominations. **Christingle**, a word of German origin, means 'Christ Child' and is used to celebrate Jesus Christ as the "Light of the World".

For this service we sat at tables which had been laid out with everything we needed to make our Christingles. Pat Carter, a Church Elder, led an interactive talk. She talked us through how to assemble our Christingles and explained what the different parts symbolised. After each stage we paused for a little time of discussion and reflection. A Christingle consists of an orange with a red ribbon (or tape) round it, a lit candle in the centre and four cocktail sticks with sweets on evenly spaced around the top.





## ALDE VALLEY SUFFOLK FAMILY HISTORY GROUP

### **The Story of a Suffolk Bevin Boy – Barbara McElroy**

This is the story of Barbara McElroy's father's experiences of being conscripted to go down the mines in WW2. With thousands of others, he expected to go into the forces, but instead was conscripted by ballot to go down the mines, NO excuses allowed. Besides his personal story, the talk looks at the reasons for the scheme, the conditions down the mines, subsequent problems, and tells of its impact on those serving.

The talk takes place on Monday 16 March at 2 30 pm at the Waterloo Centre, Waterloo Avenue, Leiston IP16 4HF – previously the Grammar School and Alde Valley Academy 6<sup>th</sup> Form centre. Admission is £1 for members and £3 for visitors. This includes tea, coffee and biscuits. Just turn up – there is no need to book.

For further information see the website

<http://aldevalleyfamilyhistorygroup.onesuffolk.net/> or contact Angela Skelcher on 01728 830949 or [a\\_skelcher@hotmail.com](mailto:a_skelcher@hotmail.com)

#### **CAN YOU HELP?**

As part of the Leiston VE Day commemorations on 8th May 2020, the Alde Valley Suffolk Family History Group is researching the personal details of Leiston folk who served in or were killed in WW2 – whether servicemen/women or civilians - and we are appealing for your help.

Do you have any information or photographs which we could use, please? If so, please contact our secretary Angela Skelcher on [a\\_skelcher@hotmail.com](mailto:a_skelcher@hotmail.com) or 01728 830949. Thank you.

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#### **ST MARGARET'S LADIES GROUP**

Because the church was in use for a Thanksgiving Service on the original date of the meeting, the meeting was moved to Wednesday 12 February and combined with Tea and Chat at the United Church. Eight of our members and eight of the United Church enjoyed completing assorted quizzes with much scratching of heads and good humoured chatter. The next meeting is on Wednesday 18 March when we will be led in gentle exercise by Amanda. All welcome.

# ST. MARGARET'S CHURCH FAMILY

## INTERCESSION PRAYERS FOR MARCH 2020

Dear Friends

March'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](mailto: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 June Geater Sue Geater Ron & Diana Geater Doreen Bardwell Sandra, Philip, Ellie & Laura Harle Daphne & Terri Roper Pam Bloomfield Graham, Sylvia, Linda & Susan Hawes	Mary, Simon, Archie & Edward Reading Valerie and Maurice Allchin Charlmaine, Lee, Luke & Liam Wright Olive Wilson 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 Kathryn, Grace & Eve Phillips-Last Ann Woods
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# Special Prayers

Magda

Barbara

Hilda

Suzi



## Funerals

Tuesday 24 February 2020

Derek Alfred Charles Wright

## Thanksgiving Service

Monday 3 February 2020

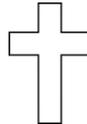
Olive Joan Saunders

Monday 10 February 2020

Frances Shulver

Friday 21 February 2020

Alwyn Lloyd Howell



## PRAYERS REQUESTED

If you would like a person/place/event to be held in prayer, please add the details to the prayer book which is on the small table next to the chapel within the church. The church is unlocked Monday to Saturday from 10 am to 4 pm and during services on Sundays. Details can also be given to the editor of this magazine (contact details on page 2). Prayers will be said at Evening Prayer on Wednesdays and may also be used at other times for a month. If you write a prayer for a person, please don't put in all their details, just their first name and a broad description of their need, e.g. "please pray for Bert who is grieving." Please get the person's permission first.

## WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

### RISE, TAKE UP YOUR MAT AND WALK

This year the World Day of Prayer (formerly the Women's World Day of Prayer) will be held at St Margaret's Church on Friday 6 March, at 2 pm. Women of Zimbabwe have prepared this year's service and the local committee has worked hard to follow their guidelines – although we have had to accept that we can't offer attendees a drink of water in a clay pot on arrival! This is an international inter-church organisation event which has been held in Leiston for many years, with the churches taking it in turn to host the service. Please support this service with your prayers and your attendance. Everyone is most welcome – both men and women.

### MESSAGE FROM OUR TREASURER

This year, once again, regular customers of our church magazine, received in their January magazine an envelope to use to pay for their annual subscription. Sandra Harle is very pleased to report that everyone has paid promptly this year and says Thank You to you all. If anyone would like the magazine delivered on a regular basis please let Sandra know and she will add you to one of the delivery rounds.

### CHRISTIAN AID COLLECTION IN LEISTON

Following a suggestion from one of my usual collectors I have arranged to hold the street collection for Christian Aid on a FRIDAY this year, not a Saturday. The centre of Leiston on Saturday afternoons can be quite deserted and so this year the collection will be on Friday. It will again be based around the Co-operative Store. I have obtained permission from East Suffolk Council and the Co-op at Ipswich to collect at the front of the store and at the car park entrance on FRIDAY 15 MAY from 9 am. Please put this date in your diary now and help if you are able. I will be preparing the list of helpers nearer the time but if you'd like to put your name down now, please contact me.

Christian Aid Week is a huge act of Christian witness that can change lives for poor communities around the world. Please support it in any way you can. Thank you.

Pat Carter

Suffolk Libraries

Leiston Library



# Drop-in Tuesdays

with the  
Alde Valley Suffolk Family History  
Group

**First Tuesday of the month  
2-4 p.m.**

*Keen to research your family history but don't know where to begin? Want some help with work you've already done?*

Starting on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March, experienced members of the Alde Valley Suffolk Family History Group will be on-hand each month to offer practical guidance.

**Free drop in.**

Leiston Library, Old Post Office Square, Main Street, Leiston IP16 4ER 01728 831252  
[leiston.library@suffolklibraries.co.uk](mailto:leiston.library@suffolklibraries.co.uk) Find us on **facebook**

# St Margaret of Antioch



Parish Church of Leiston-cum-Sizewell  
Church Road, Leiston, Suffolk IP16 4HG

## NOTICE: Items for March's magazine

Please note that all articles, adverts etc. will need to be submitted to Pat Carter by **18 March** for inclusion in the April Magazine. Thank you.

Email: [pm42carter@gmail.com](mailto:pm42carter@gmail.com)

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

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

[www.stmargaretschurchleiston.onesuffolk.net](http://www.stmargaretschurchleiston.onesuffolk.net)

## How to Find Us

