

# THE LINK

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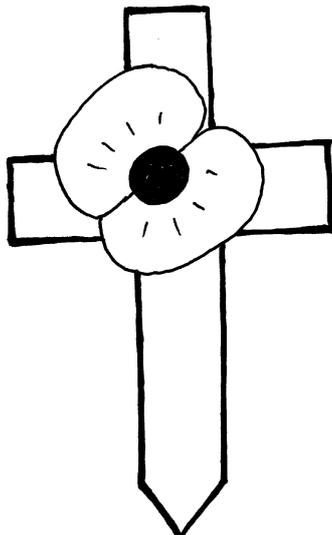
ORFORD

FRAMLINGHAM



November 2018

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# MESSAGE FROM THE MANSE

Dear Friends,

November 2018 sees a very important commemoration. It cannot have escaped your notice that on Sunday 11 November, it will be exactly 100 years since the signing of the Armistice that ended the fighting of the First World War.

The First World War was devastating. Altogether, the total number of military and civilian casualties was around 40 million. There were 20 million deaths and 21 million wounded. The total number of deaths includes 9.7 million military personnel and about 10 million civilians. It is not surprising that it was referred to as 'the war to end all wars'. If it had put an end to wars, this year would have still greater significance, but as we know 21 years later the world was plunged into an even more devastating conflict, and there have been many other wars and conflicts as well.

It is interesting that we choose to remember the date of the Armistice, for the war did not officially end until the signing of the Treaty of Versailles on 28 June 1919. The signing of the Armistice was important because it defined the moment the fighting was to stop: 11.00am (Paris time) on 11 November 1918. That is when each year we remember the vast cost of that war, and of all the wars since. It was the end of the war and the beginning of peace.

Peace, though, is a big word. We usually assume that when the fighting stops we are at peace; but for the many who had lost relatives, homes, livelihoods - real peace was still a long way off. The Roman orator Tacitus wrote of the advancing boundaries of the Roman Empire: 'They create a desert and call it peace'.

Jesus prayed for his disciples to have peace. For them, there would always be the threat, and sometimes the reality, of persecution and death; grim realities not just for the first generation of the church but for the first 300 years of its existence. Nevertheless, Jesus said to them at the last supper: 'Peace be with you, my peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid.' (John 14:27)

The peace of God is not dependent on what is happening around us, it is about what goes on within us. In other words, even in the midst of pain and strife we can be at peace when we put our trust in Christ; at peace with God, at peace with ourselves and at peace with the world. For so many people life is a struggle and we have a choice: we can let the events of life wear us down and embitter us or we can turn to God and find his gift of peace. St Paul calls it a 'peace which passes all understanding' (Philippians 4:7), in other words, a peace which is beyond our reason; illogical and to all appearances, impossible - yet amazingly liberating. The Hebrew word for peace is Shalom, which carries the ideas of wholeness, well-being and harmony and for Jesus this is dependent not on worldly security, but on his victory over sin and death on the cross.

It is thanks to Jesus and him alone that real peace is possible for us, and it is his peace I pray for at every Remembrance service, not just for us, but for all the world.

May the Peace of the Lord be always with you.

God bless,

## WOODBRIIDGE FAMILY NEWS

I think one of the highlights of our church calendar must be The Barry Quiz! It is always an entertaining evening with lots of fun and laughter. Barry produces many varied and interesting questions and Peter Carr provides the written questions on the screen together with amusing pictures. This year's quiz was no exception and seven teams battled it out hoping to be the winners rather than to receive the wooden spoons! The winning team, this year were aptly named the "Hopefuls". Our thanks to Barry Giffard, Peter Carr and to Diane Giffard and Anne Stevenson who provided a superb ploughman's supper in the interval. The total amount raised will be announced later but we do know that it is going towards the cost of a defibrillator to be sited beside our church. I believe the final total needed for this is almost complete. Another event in our calendar is Harvest Festival. Once again, our church was adorned with flowers and food displays. After the service 47 people sat down to a delicious meal prepared by Peter Cogar and Helen Peats. This raised £345.56, also for the defibrillator fund.

Sadly, a well-known member of our congregation, The Reverend David Stapleton, died in September. A service of Celebration and Thanksgiving was held at Blaxhall Parish Church. A contingent from WMC attended. David's daughter Mary gave the eulogy and told about his early life in Northampton where he was a congregational church minister (Christine Griffiths knew him then!). David took several church groups on outdoor field trips and camping expeditions. He later worked in Walthamstow and then taught at Sheringham High School. He subsequently went to teach in the Bahamas where he was involved in building a church. In his retirement he kept himself active, even marking out the white lines for Snape Football Club where his grandson worked.

Several of our members are remembered in our prayers due to their recent health problems. Pam Moyes thanks everyone for their cards and good wishes for her recent eye operation, which sadly was not wholly successful, but we do hope to hear good news on that front soon. It was lovely to see in our congregation once more Muriel Booth and also Ron Hepworth after his recent spell in hospital. Milestone birthdays are always worth celebrating, so it was good to be able to sing to Ivan Jacobs on his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday in September. His birthday cake had rows of neat icing vegetables

on it! We hope to welcome Alma back amongst us as she celebrates her 90<sup>th</sup> on 28<sup>th</sup> October.

Several members joined Stephen Yelland in Aldeburgh in September to see A Super Happy Story. Stephen's son Edward, together with two other actors gave an excellent performance. With just three actors and very little in the way of props it was quite amazing how they were able to produce such an entertaining and thought-provoking performance. I remember Edward as a young boy in our Junior Church, so it was a delight to see how he has developed into a talented actor.

There is good news for another former Junior church member. Kerry Clark is soon to start a new job in Dublin. This will obviously be quite a change of location for her and we wish her well. Her older brother Kevin is about to rejoin the army, so soon both sons will be in the army, following in their father's footsteps.

Our ballroom dancers, David and Sandra Ball have been travelling to competitions once again. This time they joined hundreds of competitors in Luxembourg. They enjoyed meeting people from many different countries and watching them dance. They managed to get a recall into the quarter finals, coming 18<sup>th</sup> out of 40 couples so they were obviously very pleased with that!

On the last Friday of this month we shall be having another Messy Church session. The theme will be the Wise Man and the Foolish Man. It will follow the usual format of breakfast, storytelling, activities and finishing in the sanctuary for a short worship time. We do not get many children, but those that we do get are enthusiastic and a joy to have in the sessions. It replaces Mother and Toddler which is only during term time. Sadly, often ill health or holidays mean that we are very short staffed. If anyone can help, perhaps by just being a reserve in an emergency please contact me. Unfortunately, if our volunteers are depleted much more this worthwhile outreach will have to stop so please seriously think if you are able to help on any Friday morning, (male and female). I look forward to hearing from you!

Deirdre Rothwell

## ORFORD FAMILY NEWS

Our many thanks for contributions for Harvest Thanksgiving – the glorious colour of home grown flowers, and vegetables, sheaves of barley and wheat, tins and packet foods all tastefully displayed. The service reminded us of the number of people involved in bringing us bread to our table – we counted as many as 24 and counting. There was joyous singing including that old time favourite ‘Bringing in the Sheaves’ and the children’s song ‘Listen to the rain drops’ - much appreciated by all. Lunch was prepared, cooked and served by Pam and Stephen bringing our day of thanksgiving to a close. Donations for the St Elizabeth Hospice was given for the fresh produce with tinned and packet foods to the East Suffolk Food Bank.

End of September Tea Table Service with a much smaller number was great. Sandwiches, cheese straws, an array of cake, good singing and a ‘Suffolk’ and ‘Biblical’ homily were much appreciated.

First Sunday of the month Soup & Pud lunch got off to a great start on 7<sup>th</sup> October for the Autumn/Winter. This popular part of after church fellowship is really enjoyed.

Wednesday Lunch celebrated its 19<sup>th</sup> year – yes 19 years since we commenced our regular Wednesday Lunch sessions *where have the years gone?* A delicious ‘roast’ lunch and tempting desert was enjoyed by all. Everyone shared the ‘birthday cake’ and went home clutching a box of chocolates – *well, you can’t go home from a party empty handed!* The staff was presented with a signed card and framed plaque in recognition of the 19 years. Our many thanks to Dave Parnell who designed, created and printed the plaque which will hang in the Wesley Room.

Poppy Festival – we will report on this in next month’s Link – suffice to say at the time of printing the November edition, sales of knitted poppies, over a wide, are exceeding supply!

## **FRAMLINGHAM FAMILY NEWS**

With just two months to go when we celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ we can look back on an unusually hot summer which has resulted in numerous conversations about climate change. Farmers were concerned about the lack of rain but the harvest has been gathered in and already the winter wheat is growing well and the fields look good.

Our Church was decorated beautifully for our harvest service and the Salvation Army was very grateful to receive the abundance of produce we took to Woodbridge.

Following the service, a large group stayed behind for a delicious lunch. It was difficult to choose which of Nicky's main courses to have as both looked amazing. Thank you to everyone who contributed to making this such a happy occasion.

It was a bonus having Rosie, Nicky's daughter with us. She came to help her Mum in the kitchen! Rosie told us of her plans before she goes to Durham university next September. We wish her a wonderful year travelling to the Far East and as Graham, her father, is in Nepal with Operation Raleigh, the Seabrook's really are globetrotters!

Now for some sad news. We are really going to miss having Doreen amongst us every Sunday. She had been part of our fellowship for about 35 years. She died very unexpectedly in her home and following a service in our church Doreen will be buried at Wilby Church where her family have been laid to rest. It is very comforting to know that right up until her death Doreen was enjoying many outings with Laurian and friends and at the age of 83 was still helping at Foxearth Nursing Home. At the AGM it was good to know that all our deacons were happy to remain in office and will continue to serve us. It is a serious commitment and we are grateful for all that they do during the year. A date was set for our Christmas Coffee morning which will be on 1<sup>st</sup> December and as usual any help will be appreciated either on the day or with the provision of cakes and produce.

We discussed a future programme for CAMEO and how we could encourage others to join us. It was agreed that the study courses using a film as their basis had been really interesting and so Martin would look into the possibility of another. Games evenings and walks had also proved popular in the past so bearing this in mind another programme will be drawn up

## Quotations Quiz

What have these quotations got in common? Which is the odd one out?

Salt of the earth

Skin of their teeth

Fly in the ointment

Thorn in the flesh

Go the second mile

God forbid

In the twinkling of an eye

No weapon formed against me shall prosper

The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light

I walk through the valley of the shadow of death

Comfort ye, my people

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want

Answer in the next Link. But if you think you know already,  
tell Monty, please, because he has lost the answers!

## 1918 - 2018 Centenary of Armistice Day Special Exhibition

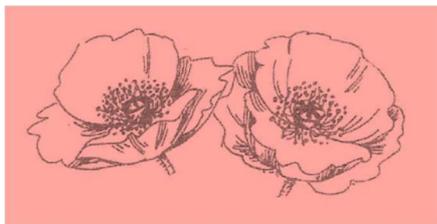
Further to my article in the October issue of the Link about our commemoration of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Armistice in 1918, I have had several offers of framed photos and articles for our church's special exhibition and display.

If you have a family member who fought in WW1, WW2 or any subsequent war and you would like to make a special memorial tribute including perhaps a home-made poppy (of any material), a photograph (perhaps in a suitable frame) and a few words about your relative, we wish to display these in the church.

I propose to create the display in the afternoon, starting at 2pm, of Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> November so it will be seen for at least three Sundays. Also Woodbridge Choral Society are rehearsing in our church on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> November so the display will be seen by at least 120 singers.

Please give me your items before that date, or bring them along at 2pm on 2<sup>nd</sup> November. I could do with a little help creating the display too, please.

Please talk or phone me (01473 625838) or email me (rmguest74@gmail.com) with your offers, ideas, questions and thoughts.



Monty Guest

## **Churches Together: Helping The Homeless in Woodbridge**

Following an open meeting held in Woodbridge on 5<sup>th</sup> September it was felt that Church members in the town would benefit from the advice and knowledge given by Julia Hancock from the Selig Suffolk Trust <http://www.selig.org.uk>

Although as Christians we may feel compelled to offer assistance to those people seen begging or rough sleeping in our town we perhaps need to be aware of the following points:

Rough sleeping and begging are two completely different issues. Not everyone who begs is homeless and the majority of homeless people are not begging. Julia's experience is that most people who are begging are found to have substance misuse issues.

There is a myth that homeless people cannot claim benefits. Almost everyone who is homeless is in receipt of benefits.

The vast majority of homeless people are not rough sleepers. Instead, they are perhaps being put up in hostels, bedsits, accommodation for the vulnerable or "sofa surfing", i.e. sleeping on friends' sofas.

Offering money or food to a beggar or rough sleeping may be compounding their problems. Money may be used to fund a drug issue and giving a meat-based snack may well make them ill, if they don't eat it immediately.

After engaging with a homeless person, however, the offer of a hot vegetable soup or a cheese sandwich, for example, could really benefit someone who has not eaten all day.

Most rough sleepers have complex psychological issues and befriending rough sleepers raises many personal safety issues to those offering help.

Some people we identify as rough sleepers, such as those living in Rendlesham forest, have made a lifestyle decision to live that way and should not be confused with those forced into homelessness.

What should we do when we see someone sleeping rough or begging?

Do not give beggars any money or food – see the points above.

There are organisations that are trained and available to help. When you have access to the internet, report your sighting on the Streetlink website: [www.streetlink.org.uk](http://www.streetlink.org.uk).

They employ dedicated homeless outreach workers who are fully trained to assist and offer practical help

Support the work of the Selig trust who run the Ipswich Night Shelter: [www.iwns.org.uk](http://www.iwns.org.uk) As well as financial support they are looking for volunteers to make a commitment of once a fortnight.

Encourage our churches to work together to provide a unified service for rough sleepers. Our friends in the Woodbridge Salvation Army are already providing support with midweek meals and tents and other equipment to make life more comfortable for those in need.

It is important that we all know what help is already available and not duplicate services in different churches.

We need to realise that the Homeless Issue affects many families who are not highly visible in the street. Their plight is a major issue which we still need to address.

Churches Together in Woodbridge and Melton is determined to press ahead with helping with the Homelessness Issue in our area. Julia Hancock has offered to carry on working with Churches in Woodbridge. Further details of the meetings are available from our Churches Together Methodist representatives: Revd Martin Dawes, Freddie Guest and Diane Giffard.

Roger Bridgeman and Lynn Spall

## **Suffolk Historic Churches Ride and Stride**

### **Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2018**

It was a pleasant Saturday morning when our church doors were opened for the annual Historic Churches Ride and Stride. Our church was represented by John and Helen on bikes; between them they cycled to many of the churches in and around Woodbridge. We also had many volunteers who welcomed and signed in over 70 cyclists and walkers who visited our church during the day. A very big thank you to everyone who supported this event. Over £400 was raised, of which half this amount will come back to our church.

We are all very fortunate to have in Suffolk so many places of worship of all denominations that are part of our historic heritage.

Helen Peats



## *Traidcraft Swansong*

After 40 years Traidcraft plc will cease trading on 31 December. They have been Fair Trade pioneers, and thousands of Third World small producers have benefitted from the sale of their goods in churches and shops up and down this country. Some of the goods have passed into mainstream shops and supermarkets and the Fairtrade Mark is now widely recognised.

I have been a Fairtrader for 21 years and our church in Woodbridge has kindly provided me with a cupboard for storage and sales. In the early years John and I used to hump boxes in from Hollesley once a month. Over the years I have sold many thousands of pounds of goods and any profit has been ploughed back into more goods.

However in recent years my sales have been down. Traidcraft has also been hit by the fall in the value of the pound. Perhaps people can't afford to pay a few pence extra for a Fair Trade item, or they can now find it on a shelf in Tesco's. As supermarkets sell more Fair Traded goods there's no need to buy them at church. That can be seen as a success story for Fair Trade.

However the people in India, Peru and other countries making craft items in their own homes, such as clothing, bags, jewellery and knitted goods may now lose their outlets. We can only hope they will find alternatives.

## *Christmas Sales*

Let's make this Christmas an exceptional year for sales! I can order anything you wish from the catalogue, so do please ask. Both Traidcraft HQ in Gateshead and other Fairtraders will be running down their stock by the end of December, hoping there will be little left by then.

Do continue to support Fairtrade whenever you can. The Coop and the Oxfam shop in Woodbridge both sell a good range of tea, coffee, chocolate and other goods.

**Thank you to everyone who has bought Traidcraft from me over all these years!**



**You have made a difference!**



## *News from Gahini Hospital Rwanda*

You will remember that Heather Bentley came to tell us about her daughter Catriona, husband Steve and little Hannah Bennett who were appointed as CMS mission partners to Gahini Hospital in Rwanda, where they expect to be for the next six years.

Gahini Hospital is a long established mission hospital, now jointly run with the Rwandan government. It serves the Eastern part of Rwanda and is a couple of hours from Kigali the capital. The hospital has about 200 beds, A & E, maternity, paediatric, orthopaedic, and general surgical wards. Although there are Rwandan doctors working there no major surgery was possible for lack of surgical and anaesthetic equipment and expertise.

Catriona and Steve were called to set up a safe surgical service and to train local staff so that at the end of their six year placement the hospital surgical department would be fully functioning. So far they have established a surgical department which often operates on 20-25 patients each week. Steve may see up to 30 further patients in a clinic. Emergencies are dealt with in addition to these numbers.

Catriona has trained the non-physician anaesthetists in general anaesthesia (including for children) and leads regular teaching sessions on other aspects of anaesthesia, Steve is training one of the local doctors, helping him to undertake some operations independently. As the hospital's reputation grows more and more patients are arriving, often because they cannot afford to travel to Kigali for treatment.

At weekends Steve often leads worship in the local English speaking service at the cathedral but sometimes they travel to Kigali to find more familiar Christian fellowship and teaching. (That's over an hour in the car to church, and another hour back again!) In the first year they were quite isolated, but recently a colleague from Scotland has moved out on a 6 month placement with his young family so Hannah has some English speaking children to play with.

Heather came to speak to us last year at the morning service prior to a World Church Lunch where we were able to send a donation to support their work.

*Please can we pray for them as they continue this valuable but challenging work in Rwanda. We look forward to arranging a return visit some time in 2019*

**Helen Lewis**

WMC Choir present  
**“A Journey with the Magi”**  
On Saturday, 15th December  
at 6:30 p.m.

Starring Mike Porter, Barry Giffard  
and Ron Hepworth as the Magi  
With Martin as Herod



Tickets from Choir members  
Concert only £6: Concert and Buffet £9  
Proceeds to a Charity to be announced

## **Broadband Is Here**

Woodbridge Methodist Church has now joined the information super highway in the form of Ultra Fibre Broadband access. This went live on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> October. I have managed to extend the WiFi signal to reach nearly all locations of the building. There are two WiFi Networks: WMC WiFi and WMC Guest. Both are password protected so cannot be accessed casually.

WMC WiFi is mainly for Church only use by those who need access.

WMC Guest is for congregation members and those hiring the Church and require WiFi access.

One use that will be made is to run a Computer Club. This will run from 10.30-12.00 on Saturdays. It is an informal club aimed at those who wish to find out more about using their own Laptops/Smartphones/Tablets etc. It is completely free and will take place upstairs in Room B. I shall be running it along with a colleague that helps run a similar club in Kesgrave.

Initially it will be open to church members but eventually I will open it up to anyone in the Woodbridge area by advertising in local media.

Any questions about any of the above please talk to me

Brian Crowe



## The Big Breakfast

Every 2nd Saturday of the Month 4Men hold a breakfast followed by a guest speaker. However in November we open up the breakfast to others and donate the proceeds to Christian Aid.

A full English Breakfast, cereals and toast are on offer all for £5. Please come and support this cause.

10th November 8.45 for 9.00am



## **Forthcoming Events**

### **Orford**

As usual the MONDAY TEA ROOM will be open with winter hours of 11am – 2pm(ish) A varied lunch menu always available with coffee, tea, scones and cake too! Also available, cards, crafts, art/paintings & preserves. Come and visit us, no need to book.

WEDNESDAY LUNCH is served at 12.30pm – you are welcome to join with us, however, you will need to book your meal.

### **Framlingham**

On 8 November at 7.30pm there will be a concert at Framlingham College Chapel to celebrate the end of World War One. This will be similar to those which followed the Armistice and it is hoped that it will be well supported.

Prayer meetings continue to take place in the vestry every Tuesday at 9.30am

### **Woodbridge**

10<sup>th</sup> Big Breakfast for Christian Aid

17<sup>th</sup> Treasure Hunt results

### WOODBRIIDGE DIARY

4 Nov	10.45	Mrs A Holmes	All Age Worship
11 Nov	09.30 10.45	Rev M Dawes Mr R Theobald	Communion
18 Nov	10.45	Rev M Dawes	Communion
25 Nov	10.45 4.00pm	Mrs V Vallow Rev M Dawes	Holy Communion with Prayers for Healing

### ORFORD DIARY

4 Nov	10.30	S Caley	Soup & Pud
11 Nov	10.30	S Caley	
18 Nov	10.30	Rev S Yelland	
25 Nov	10.30	Rev M Dawes	Communion

### FRAMLINGHAM DIARY

4 Nov	11.00	Mrs N Glasse	Café Worship
11 Nov	11.00	At St. Michaels	
18 Nov	11.00	Mrs J Paterson	
25 Nov	11.00	Mr W Glasse	Communion

The monthly newsletter for the churches in the Woodbridge Mission  
Area of the Ipswich Methodist Circuit

## **Woodbridge, Framlingham and Orford**

**Minister:** Rev Martin Dawes,

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Woodbridge. IP12 4HJ

Tel: 01394 383674

email: [martincdawes@yahoo.com](mailto:martincdawes@yahoo.com)

**Lay worker:** Mr Stephen Caley,

'Andorra', School Road,

Sudbourne. IP12 2BE

Tel:01394 450676

### **Church Contacts**

**Woodbridge:** Mrs Anne Stevenson

Tel: 01394 385728

email: [stevensonanne61@yahoo.com](mailto:stevensonanne61@yahoo.com)

Church Website: [www.woobridgemethodistchurch.org.uk](http://www.woobridgemethodistchurch.org.uk)

**Framlingham:** Mrs Nicky Seabrook

Tel: 01473 735131

email: [nicky@theseabrooks.co.uk](mailto:nicky@theseabrooks.co.uk)

Church Website: [www.framlinghamufc.onesuffolk.net](http://www.framlinghamufc.onesuffolk.net)

**Orford:** Mr Stephen Caley (details above)

N.B. Items for the Dec/Jan Link must be in no later than 11/11/18

Please use the box provided in the entrance at Woodbridge Methodist  
Church or email to Brian Crowe at:

[link.articles@btopenworld.com](mailto:link.articles@btopenworld.com)