

THE LINK

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WOODBIDGE



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ORFORD

FRAMLINGHAM



August/September 2011



MESSAGE FROM THE MANSE

Dear Friends,

This year we spent our summer holiday in the far distant land of Norfolk! Staying not far from Wroxham, we had an ideal opportunity to explore the Norfolk Broads and discover all sorts of little nooks and crannies we had not seen before, as well as going back to some old haunts to relive their particular joys. During the time we were there, we travelled around by car, on a steam train (no surprises there!) and by boat. Ironically, the journey on which we saw the most was taken on foot. We walked the area around How Hill and Ludham before ending up with a cream tea at the little tea room opposite the church in Ludham. I can vouch for the quality of the cream tea, but if anything, walking through the fields and byways of Norfolk was even better. Only when on foot can you see the beauty of nature in detail, any other form of transport is simply too fast.

Walking, I am told, is good for me. It is a form of exercise that not only enables me to see and appreciate the world around, it gives muscles a workout, it strengthens the lungs and the heart, improves circulation and makes me feel good as well - so why don't I do it more? The answer is, it takes too long! It is so much quicker to go shopping, get to church, see friends and relatives, etc, etc, if I get in the car or on the motorbike. That way, I manage to fit so much more into the time available.

It is just possible, though, that I am not really meant to fit quite so much in. After all, we are made to travel at three miles an hour, walking speed. Walking speed is the right speed for human beings, it is good for us, it gives us time to think and we appreciate the journey so much more - but we insist on going 60 or 70mph because of the convenience, because we can get more done and that is progress.

In 1979 the Japanese theologian Kosuke Koyama wrote a little book: 'Three Mile an Hour God' in which he looks at the exodus, the forty years the Israelites spent walking in the desert after Moses led them out of Egypt. All that time they progressed at three miles an hour - walking speed. At three miles an hour they

discovered God, learnt about him, built a relationship with him and emerged from the desert as God's holy nation.

We too can only learn of God, build a relationship with him, follow his teaching and do his work at three miles an hour. Any faster and we start to leave him behind - not literally, but we outrun what he is wanting us to do. At three miles an hour, everyone can keep up. A good Christian leader will move the church forward at walking pace. That way, we keep in step with God and we all keep up, developing our relationships with God all along the way, discovering the joys of our journey one step at a time. It is so easy to be tempted to make the mistake of pushing through our big ideas all at once, a recipe for division and failure. Not necessarily because the ideas are bad, or because we are going in the wrong direction - but because we try to leave God behind.

Walking is good for you, however, we cannot turn back two hundred years of transport history, there are many journeys we can only realistically make on some form of transport, but that doesn't alter the fact that we were designed for walking, and we would benefit from travelling at three miles an hour more regularly. Not just in our personal ramblings, but in the life of the church as well - for we follow a three mile an hour God!

God bless,

Martin

WOODBIDGE FAMILY NEWS

At the very moment that I am writing this piece, the innards of our church kitchen are being ripped out and the clatter when I visited the church this morning took me back to the days of the extension and alterations. It is surely a good sign that the use being made of our premises is such that the replacement of equipment is necessary from time to time and thanks are due to those members of our congregation who are responsible for searching out and purchasing whatever is needed.

We have good news and less good news to report this month. At least two of our friends (a serious operation and a frightening illness) seem to be on the road to recovery and for that we are grateful. Others still tread the tiring path of treatment and the after effects. Many folk ask to be remembered in prayer by placing messages on the cross outside the Sanctuary, while others are named on the prayer rota and some in the Sunday intercessions. All is a matter of choice but none known to us is overlooked in the church's prayers, as we remember those who are ill or have other difficulties to deal with. Just now we have a number of families who have been bereaved.

We send special condolences to Beryl and Ian Mabbutt on the recent death of husband and father, Jim, who has been known to many of us for a considerable time but, because of a long and debilitating illness, has not been able to worship with us in recent years. Jim's funeral service comes too late for this edition of Link and we shall hear more of his life next time. Our sympathy also to Ron Hepworth's daughter, Susan, on the death of her husband Ken Morphew. Susan will be remembered by older folk from her childhood days in the Sunday School. The death has also taken place recently of Elsie Toulson of Tanyard Court, who regularly attended the Day Centre and worshipped with us until prevented by ill health, and, most recently, we have heard of the death of Jean Cotton, who has also been ill for some time and unable to come to worship. We send our sincere sympathy to her husband Bill and we pray for support for all of these families at this most difficult of times.

The people suffering from the disastrous drought in parts of Africa have also been in our prayers and an appeal, in the form of two retiring collections, took place on consecutive Sundays in July. Working with children, young people and their families is our own

Action for Children (still remembered by many as NCH). July 10th was Action for Children Sunday, when those members with collecting boxes returned their offerings. Gill Stevenson has taken on the role of organiser for our church, replacing Dorothy Holmes who has done this much valued work for many years. Dorothy was thanked for her dedication to the work on 3rd July and now Gill is appealing for more members to take a collecting box. It is amazing how much can accrue in the course of a year by just keeping the box in a prominent place and putting in a modest regular amount and small change.

Another form of outreach is the work of the Town Pastors, with which some of our members are involved. This year they were invited to attend the Latitude Festival at Southwold and a prayer vigil was kept at our church, in the same way as is done each week for the work in Woodbridge.

The 25th Anniversary of Martin's ordination was mentioned last month and, as anticipated, a goodly number of friends gathered on 1st July at the church in order to help him celebrate this very special anniversary and pass on congratulations and good wishes. We also send our congratulations to Helen Rothwell, daughter of Deidre and Derek, who attended Buckingham Palace on 13th July to be presented with her Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award. Helen starts a new job in London later in the month and we wish her well for the future. Congratulations also to Matthew Crowe whose degree ceremony was attended by his proud parents, Sandra and Brian (more news of that elsewhere). Last, but not least, congratulations to Edith Warnes who will quietly celebrate her 90th birthday early in August. Edith is unable to attend church but, like her husband Frank, has given a lifetime of service to the Methodist Church.

It is always sad when valued members of the congregation are moving away and we are sorry to be losing Deidre and Andrew Robertson and their children, Caius and Keira, when the family leave to make a new life in Australia. At the morning service on 10th July, Deidre Rothwell presented both children with a newly published Bible, written for children and signed by the author, who lives in Woodbridge and who kindly came along for the presentation. We shall miss them a great deal and we wish them well and hope they will be very happy in their new life in Australia.

Audrey Robertson

FRAMLINGHAM FAMILY NEWS

“The intrepid explorers set out to the northern regions of outer Suffolk on Saturday 2nd July, not really sure what wild animals they were about to encounter and whether they would return alive! Well what do you expect when you visit Suffolk's largest attraction 'AFRICA ALIVE'? 18 of us ventured forth, cameras at the ready, suitably attired as true British citizens are, to enjoy a day out.

It was a slightly chilly but sunny day and this seemed to encourage the animals to be active. Speaking of active, the children's play equipment kept the younger ones engaged for some time at the end of the day when the not so young were happy to sit and watch. We were all impressed by the condition of the animals and their enclosures.

None of us had ever been before but feel we would consider revisiting and it was a special time of fellowship.”

This was the account on the church outing to Kessingland given by Linda & Richard Anderson who have recently become grandparents for the first time. Penny and Stephen are the proud parents of little Livia Evangeline. We send our love and congratulations to them all.

Our Cameo meetings are proving to be interesting and varied. Will and Jenny Elphick gave us a very interesting evening about their involvement in Liberia. Will is an associate Director at SIM and Jenny is the retired headmistress of the Robert Hitcham Framlingham primary school. Their mission is mainly concerned with improving education in the many remote villages in this country that has suffered badly from 14 years of civil war. Having watched their video and listened to their stories we are now aware of how our contributions will be used and are inspired to do more to help.

Our bible study evening led by Andrew centred on the book of Jude. This provoked some interesting discussion and for some

of us it was the first time we had read this small New Testament book so it was an interesting exercise!

As a fellowship we were unaware that Martin was ordained a quarter of a century ago and so our congratulations were rather belated. After this milestone in his ministry we are happy that he and Pam have now come to Suffolk.

We wish to remind everyone that there will be no soup and pud lunch in August.

The wonderful 'Glasse Girls' set off on the Orwell walk and completed a staggering 39 miles between them. It was a very hot day and Helen decided to continue after Nichola decided to 'call it a day' after completing 18 miles. The sponsorship money raised will go to the very worthwhile charity 'Compassion'. Well done both of you, it was a fantastic effort. I hope the blisters are fully healed!

With many of our fellowship, and others in the circuit, travelling long distances on holiday we wish them all a happy and relaxing time. For those who have daily struggles for whatever reason, we pray that they find comfort and strength each day to cope

Gay Clarke.

ORFORD METHODIST CHURCH

FISHY FRIDAY, the National Appeal on behalf of the Royal National Mission To Deep Sea Fishermen, received a huge response from friends at Orford and beyond with a Fish & Chips Supper and a formidable quiz to keep us awake after a very tasty meal including delicious desserts! The fun extended with some very 'fishy & chippy' prizes. All the profit (which exceeded expectations) was given to the RNMTDSF Charity. A great evening - many asking that we repeat the same later in the year.

So far this summer we have seen very few visitors to Sunday Church - however the same cannot be said of the Monday Open Church Sessions - most Mondays (with the odd exception) the Wesley Room is 'full' for lunch and afternoon tea from 12 noon through to 4pm. It's great welcoming visitors - many returning week after week for good food at a very reasonable price, a rest in quiet surroundings and if the weather is kind lunching out alfresco on the patio.

The death of Joyce Clift, after a lengthy time in hospital, sees the passing of another 'local' resident. Joyce became a member of our church during the ministry of Rev. Stephen Yelland and participated in all its services and events over many years. Unfortunately, due to health conditions, she had not been able to get to services for a few years but had managed to return to Wednesday lunch sessions until earlier this year. We offer prayers and sympathy to her family and to her brothers, Charlie and John Brown.

August brings with it the opportunity to take a short break (a well earned rest for our 'kitchen staff') from activities for a couple of weeks - hopefully, as planned, these two weeks will see the arrival of the painter & decorator and carpet fitters to the Wesley Room and Conservatory.



TRAIDCRAFT

What a lot of Special offers there have been recently! Is it Good News? Well, it is for the purchasers, but not so good for the producers.

During this year, perhaps due to the recession and hard times, the sales at church have been less than usual, which is why some items have gone out of date. I try to keep a good variety of stock, but items that are less popular will have to be discontinued.

The new catalogue comes out in August and it will be full of useful and lovely items. I am always pleased to order anything for you, so please take a catalogue and have a browse. The purchase of just one item can help to make a difference to someone in the Third World. The hard times and recession we experience are nothing compared to the hardship suffered by the producers whose stories we can read about in the catalogue.

Thank you to all who have bought from our cupboard in the Octagon. As we are told so often:

Every little helps!

Helen Macleod

Michaelina at Ekon in Ghana



Women waiting to be screened

When we visited Joy Preparatory School at Ekon, several of the group received letters written by the pupils. Mine was from Michaelina who is 14, and wants to train to be a nurse when she leaves school. I wrote to her on my return and learned that she is the daughter of the Chief of the village. As she grows up she will become the Queen Mother, as is their custom, and it is hoped she will champion and help the women in the village.

She had a project to educate the women about breast cancer, as there had been several deaths, and others were too frightened to go and see a doctor or could not afford the fees. I supported this, and Richard Dadzie, the Headmaster, and Michaelina's father arranged for doctors and healthworkers to come for a day to Ekon. This is what happened:

This will seem an incredible story but that is the fact. Today has been a day which I feel so fulfilled in my life.

At 8:00 in the morning the women were seated and at 9:00 , the health personnel were at the venue. We recorded as many as 350 adult women who were screened and educated on breast cancer. By 5:00 pm, everything came to a close. It was not because there were not people to attend to, it was because all the four medical officers were fully exhausted. We could only cover a third of those who came. I was very sad so many people were turned away.

All are very grateful for what has happened and those who could not be screened feel left out. I actually don't know what to do because of its impact. We were very fortunate we had two Red Cross members helping us.

It was a huge success.

Richard Dadzie

So, two more sessions are needed in order for all the women to be seen. Another will have taken place by the time you read this, and other members of the Ghana group have generously contributed to the cost of £250 required for each day. Any further contributions to this worthwhile project will be most gratefully received.

Helen Macleod

LADIES' FRIENDSHIP GROUP

Our July meeting took place on the afternoon of 11th July and was our fund raising Afternoon Tea for the St. Elizabeth Hospice held at the home of Barbara Kirby.

The magnificent sum of £365.80 was raised for this very worthwhile cause. Our thanks go to Barbara for allowing us to use her house and beautiful garden for this event and to all members and friends who made this such a success.

Our next meeting will be on 12th September when Mr Robert Irving will give us talk and slides entitled "A Tour of Britain".

We hope our members have a very enjoyable August and look forward to seeing everyone at the September meeting.

Joyce Irving

Treasurer

a Cuppa
and a Chat



**Coffee, Tea or Hot Chocolate
with Homemade Cake £2.00**

Drink & Biscuits £1.00

Drink only 75p

****Free drink refills!!***

50% of the profit goes to Charity

Please join us any Saturday

10am-12noon

Woodbridge Methodist Church, St John's Street, IP12 1ED

To Martin, Pam and the Church Family

Thank you so much for your prayers and the very welcome gift of the pot plant. I am pleased to say I am making good progress. Prayer means such a lot to us. I was even on Face Book in Texas and my granddaughter had more than twenty replies on the day of my operation and great thanks to God for my recovery.

God Bless you all. In His Name.

Edith Warnes

Thank You

Beryl and Ian Mabbut would like to thank the Church Family for all their support over the past years that Jim has been ill. Especially for all the cards, flowers and comments made to them. They are grateful for all the Church has done and now Jim is at peace they thank you all for your expressions of sympathy.

**FOR THE GARDEN OF YOUR DAILY
LIVING - FOURWAYS METHODIST CHURCH**
Sheffield (West) Circuit, UK

PLANT THREE ROWS OF PEAS:

- 1) Peas of mind
- 2) Peas of heart
- 3) Peas of soul

PLANT FOUR ROWS OF SQUASH:

- 1) Squash gossip
- 2) Squash indifference
- 3) Squash grumbling
- 4) Squash selfishness

PLANT FOUR ROWS OF LETTUCE:

- 1) Lettuce be faithful
- 2) Lettuce be kind
- 3) Lettuce us be patient
- 4) Let us really love one another

NO GARDEN IS WITHOUT TURNIPS:

- 1) Turnip for meetings
- 2) Turnip for service
- 3) Turnip to help one another

**TO CONCLUDE, WE MUST HAVE
THYME**

- 1) Thyme for family
- 2) Thyme for friends
- 3) Thyme for each other

Water freely with patience and cultivate with
love.

Congratulations



Matthew Crowe obtained a 2:1 in his BA(Hons) Animation Degree. The Graduation ceremony took place at Portsmouth Guildhall on Friday 15th July. Matt is now back home and will soon be looking for work in the Animation Business. We can't believe he's been away for 3 years with only brief visits home.

Brian and Sandra

Harvest Festival - 2nd October

Over the last few years, Woodbridge Methodist Church has generously supported the Methodist Relief and Development Fund (MRDF). From providing access to clean water and improved sanitation in Malawi to supporting Farmers in remote villages in El Salvador, they see small miracles take place all around the world. Thanks to you, many people are living healthier lives and becoming self sufficient.

On Sunday 2nd October, MRDF will introduce you to their Partner a Project scheme. It gives churches and individuals the opportunity to get to know a real community in an African country whilst supporting one of MRDF's partner's life-changing work. Regular updates - including reports and photographs from the project - mean your church will be able to connect with individuals as we support them as they tackle poverty in their own communities.

A Right Royal Do

Sandra and I received an invitation to the Queen's Garden Party on 19th July. This was in recognition from Boys' Brigade Headquarters for the work I do in the BB.

Well you can imagine how excited we were in receiving this invitation. Sandra had to buy a new outfit but I was in my full BB Uniform. The Queen is the Patron of the BB so there are tickets available for the Brigade to decide who will go.

The day finally arrived and we set off to London on the train (First class of course). We arrived in London about lunchtime with a couple of hours before we were required at Buckingham Palace so we had some lunch near St. Pauls.

Taking the underground to Green Park reminded me why I don't miss working in London. We walked through Green Park and saw the length of the queue waiting to get into the Palace. Just as we arrived at the front gate the heavens opened up and so the brolly we had taken was deployed. Everyone was shuffling through the gates and into the courtyard getting wet as we went.

It was nice to see Girls' Brigade members acting as stewards; I spoke to one and she said she came from Weymouth so not a local London Company.

In the gardens we mingled and found some fellow BB Officers and retired BB members to chat to. I was complimented on wearing my Glengarry as it is not now a formal part of the uniform so not often seen.

At 4.00pm the National Anthem was played as the Queen arrived. Guests formed a long queue snaking round to the Royal tent. Although we waited for well over half an hour she had not come into view let alone reached us. As it then started raining again we abandoned the wait and made a beeline for the Tea Tent.

When the rain eased we ventured out and found a couple of relatively dry seats where we rested for a while. Soon another heavy shower started and we huddled under the umbrella eating a tub of ice cream. Eventually it was nearly time for the Queen to depart so we made our way over to the Royal Tent. We managed to get a glimpse of her leaving and then made our own way towards the Palace and eventually out into the courtyard. We took a couple of photos on my iPhone before making our way back across Green Park to the Tube.

It was an occasion not to be missed but would have been more enjoyable if we didn't have the rain.

Brian Crowe

E-mail received from Lesley Barton, daughter of Rev. Morley Waite, on 4th July 2011.

Thank you John for all you and others at Woodbridge Methodist Church have done to make the Anniversary so successful.

I was sorry to miss so much, but very glad I made Sunday Songs of Praise.

We had such a warm welcome from everybody.

What wonderful things you have done to update and expand Mission to the town. Congratulations.

Thanks again

Lesley Barton'

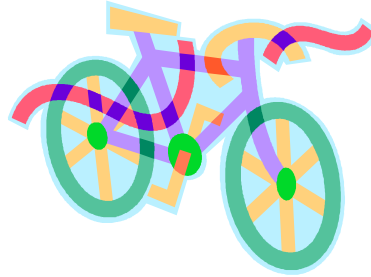
Lesley's e-mail address is lesleylittleowl@gmail.com, if anyone would like to contact her.

On behalf of the 140th Anniversary Committee, I would like to personally thank everyone who helped with the project over the weekend, particularly the catering team.

A very big thank you to all who trusted us with photos, old newspaper cutting, books, etc, without this help the exhibition would not have been the success that it was.

PS. All copied material has been filed away ready for the 150th in 2021

John Orme



SUFFOLK HISTORIC CHURCHES CYCLE RIDE

Can I ask you to put this date in your diaries

Saturday 10th September

as I will be needing volunteers to man the
“Welcome Table” at Church on that day and also
for the more energetic and able, cycling on the day.

For further information of the event please see

Derek Peats.

Thank you



WOODBIDGE DIARY

August

7th	10.45	Rev. M. Dawes	Family Service
14th	09.30 10.45	Rev. M. Dawes Mrs. B. Mabbut	Communion
21st	10.45	Rev. M. Dawes	Communion
28th	10.45	Mr. H. Chicken	

September

4th	10.45	Rev. P. Howes	Family Service
11th	09.30 10.45	Rev. M. Dawes Mr. B. Nichols	Communion
18th	10.45	Rev. M. Dawes/ Mr. W. Glasse	Communion
25th	10.45	Mrs. J. Paterson	

FRAMLINGHAM DIARY

August

7th	11.00	Mr. C. Westren	
14th	11.00	Rev. M. Dawes	Communion
21st	11.00	Mrs. M. Playford	
28th	11.00	Mrs. J. Paterson	

September

4th	11.00	Rev. A. Royal	All Age Worship
11th	11.00	Rev. M. Dawes	Communion
18th	11.00	Mrs S Liddell	
25th	11.00	Mr. W. Glasse	

ORFORD DIARY

Aug. 7th 10.30am Stephen Caley
6.30pm Bishop Nigel Stock - Annual Quay Service
Supporting The Royal National Mission To Deep Sea Fishermen
- At St Bartholomew's Church if wet weather!

Aug 14th 10.30am Songs of Praise
6.30pm Informal Cafe Worship

Aug 21st 10.30am Mr. Roger Fern
6.30pm Stephen Caley

Aug 28th 10.30am Rev Martin Dawes - Communion
5.30pm Picnic Service
- enjoy the old Sunday School Songs!!

Sept. 4th 10.30am Stephen Caley
6.30pm Circuit Service - No service at Orford

Sept 11th 10.30am To be confirmed
6.30pm Stephen Caley

Sept 18th 10.30am Rev Norman Davis
5.30pm Informal Tea Table Service

Sept 25th Harvest Festival
10.30am Rev Martin Dawes - Communion
6.30pm Harvest Songs of Praise

ORFORD DIARY

MEETINGS & EVENTS IN AUGUST

Monday Meeting Place/Open Church 22 Aug (12noon - 4pm) and
29^t Aug (Bank Holiday) 11 - 5pm

Wednesday Lunch 12.45pm 3rd, 24th & 31st Aug

NOTE: No Quiet Day or Tea & Chat in August

Wesley Room closed from 8th - 21st Aug for Redecoration/
Refurbishment - No Monday Open Church on 8th & 15 Aug.

No Wednesday Lunch on 10th & 17th Aug.

MEETINGS & EVENTS IN SEPTEMBER

Monday Meeting Place/Open Church 12noon - 4pm Lunch,
Afternoon Tea always available as is Art, Crafts, Cards & goods
from the dresser inc. Fair trade.

Wednesday Lunch at 12.45pm

Tuesday 6th Sept - New Horizon's Lunch Club (Woodbridge)
annual visit to Orford - lunch & tea with us at church.

Quiet Day - Tuesday 20th Sept 11am - 4pm. As before, No Agenda
- read, paint, pray, walk, sleep & eat! *Lunch provided*

Harvest Coffee Morning Tuesday 27th Sept 10.30am ,with a
ploughman's lunch!

Harvest Supper - BOOK THE DATE Friday 7th October, 7pm

**The monthly newsletter for the churches of the
Woodbridge section of the Ipswich Methodist Circuit
WOODBIDGE, FRAMLINGHAM, ORFORD**

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N.B. Items for the October Link must be in no later than
Sunday 11 September 2011. Please use the box provided in the
vestibule at Woodbridge church or send to Brian Crowe:

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