

# THE LINK

ISSUE 67

SEPT/OCT/NOV 2025

## IN THIS ISSUE

Welcome to the  
Vels family and  
autumn events!

The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace,  
forbearance, kindness, goodness,  
faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.  
Galatians 5:22-23

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Thank you all for your contributions towards the last edition of The Link, it was great to see all that is happening across the circuit. In this edition we have an introduction to the Vels family, who will be joining us in September. We also have the dates of harvest celebrations taking place and other autumn dates.

In Tony's words 'The Link is intended as information for ourselves, a means of praying through all that is happening, and something to give to visitors to our Churches.'

Please send any contributions for the next issue to the details listed here.

## Deadline

**FOR THE DEC - FEB EDITION  
SATURDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER**

**Please send information for  
publication to Hannah Martin**

Please include details of activities  
up to the end of February



**Email: [cnc.thelink@gmail.com](mailto:cnc.thelink@gmail.com)**



**Phone: 07538281707**

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# Minister's Letter

Dear Friends,

September 2025 feels to be a season for change, the same thought keeps recurring in my life, that we are closing one chapter and opening a new one. Since I wrote to you last we have held final acts of worship at Great Ellingham and Sporle chapels. Both experiences have been moving, as a chapter in the life of these two societies comes to an end. But that doesn't mean "the end" it means that a new chapter is beginning and we are starting to think about the next chapter in our work of mission in these two places, which won't be the same as before, but God is moving on and we wait to see what "Church" might look like in these places.

We have also seen a change in ministerial staff as Rev Anne has left the circuit after eleven years of working among us and having pastoral charge of over half of the circuit's churches during the last five years. Anne has contributed a huge amount to the life of the circuit and will be missed by many and we wish her and Merlin best wishes as they settle into their new life in Guernsey. But at the same time, we welcome Rev Neil, Lynn and Alex as they come and live among us. Neil's ministry will be different to Anne's and there will be a period of re-adjustment and settling in on both sides and the Circuit Leadership Team will give as much support as possible to help with this process.

I also recognise a year after starting to work among you that we have some small churches that are naturally small, but we also have some churches that are struggling with low numbers, lack of personnel and dwindling finances. Historically the Methodist Church has been guilty of shutting churches and closing the door on vital communities. I would like to engage in conversation with vulnerable churches to try to understand how we can re-shape for the future to continue to serve the mission of God in these places.

September 2025 is a time when we turn a new page and start to look at the future of the Methodist Church in this part of the country and rather than focussing on failure, I long to rejoice in the continuing work of Kingdom building.

Happy new Church Year!  
Derek



# Nature in Norfolk

What would Britain be without our varied weather?

I'm writing this as East Anglia is about to have its third heatwave of the year, certainly the hot dry spells and then heavy rain is affecting our plants and insect life. Despite that my apple tree is laden with fruit as is my cultivated blackberry, both of these will have long roots that find moisture deep in the soil as the surface dries out.

A wet spring last year meant a reduced population of wasps last year and again this year. Good news if we're eating outside but as wasps eat aphids this may explain the numbers of aphids in our gardens and the countryside. Many Buddleias are looking very sick, but are expected to recover without treatment, due to being infested with the Melon-cotton aphid, typical signs are the curling and yellowed leaves. My living willow arch was crawling with Black willow aphids which left the leaves covered in sticky sap. Not wanting to use pesticides as I hang bird feeders from the willow I took the drastic action of cutting most of the arch to the ground then binning the aphids along with the prunings. I've left two strong uprights for the feeders and can now see and squash by hand any returning aphids.

Cycling in Broadland in early July I saw a very large moth resting on the outside of the 'Ladies' in Ranworth. Thanks to the wonders of the internet I could identify it as a Poplar Hawkmoth, just one of many different hawkmoths named after their food of choice. On that same three day cycle tour I saw several fields of pale blue Chicory grown as a 'cover crop'. Chicory is also called Blue Sailors and Coffee Weed, the latter as coffee substitute is made from the roots.



In North Norfolk I've also seen darker blue fields of Vipers Bugloss and the pale mauve Phacelia, the latter has a curled flower head giving it alternative names of Scorpion Weed and Fiddleneck. It's interesting to see how more farmers are using cover crops to prevent soil erosion and to add nutrients and structure to the soil.

Here in Holt I was pleased to see Bee Orchids had returned to an area of verge on Woodfields Rd in June. I've also enjoyed the colourful mixed wild flowers growing in the housing estate on Kerridge Way. The latter will have been seeded by someone, perhaps the housing association, but the orchids arrived by themselves and will keep returning if allowed to seed every year.

**Angela Mason**  
**Holt Methodist Church**

# Welcome to the Vels family!



**Coming from a non-church going home it may seem strange that some of my earliest and most powerful memories relate to the experience of God.**

From reading Bible stories in a children's Bible, to a little girl who led me to Christ (I'm not sure either of us knew what we were doing!) to beginning to read the Bible for myself, and then making a commitment to Jesus, I can testify to the many ways I met God as a boy despite lack of interest from my parents and younger brother.

Lynn's experience was a little different. She grew up as the second child (she has an elder brother) of parents who were deeply committed to the church both prior to marriage and as a family. Her mother remains a Society Steward today.

While I'm sure that there will be many opportunities to share more of our stories in the future, for now I want to confirm that I deeply believe in God's calling not only on my, but on all our lives, and indeed, on God calling us to England and specifically to the Central Norfolk Circuit. A little bit about our family: Lynn and I started dating a little over ten years ago in January of 2015. We got engaged in August, married in December, and immediately thereafter moved about 900 miles from our homes near to Johannesburg to the beautiful city of Cape Town on South Africa's west coast.

Three years later Lynn gave birth to a beautiful baby boy, Alexander Riley, whom we discovered soon after birth and an emergency operation, has the genetic disease cystic fibrosis. This illness is life limiting and affects the thickness of mucus in the body, causing, amongst others, difficulties with digestion and breathing.

We are grateful for many who have prayed for us in South Africa and the wonderful doctors and medical care we have had access to which has enabled us to keep Alex far healthier than expected. In spite of his illness he is a thriving six year old; we continue to keep him in prayer for as yet there is no cure, and we don't know what the future holds in terms of his health.

Lynn works as a vet and hopes to find employment soon after our arrival in the UK. As animal lovers our dogs are important to us, and they will be joining us in the manse. Both dogs are rescues - we have a greyhound, Indigo Jack, usually known as Indi, and a little black labrador cross called Blackie Swart. Swart is the Afrikaans word for black; a common South African nickname for someone with the surname Swart is Blackie, hence Blackie Swart.

Prior to responding to the call to full time ministry I studied film and video production and worked as a journalist / photographer for a local newspaper. I have enjoyed using some of those skills in ministry and hope to find opportunity to continue to do so in Norfolk. I do a little running to keep fit, a little pottering in the garden and DIY around the house. I don't often have time, but I am an avid reader.

In terms of ministry, I enjoy engaging people in how we understand the Bible, what it says to us today and how we continue to encounter Christ, not just in the church, but in the world around us. My hope for the next few months is that I will get to meet as many of you as possible as I believe that a healthy preaching ministry flows from good pastoral relationships. I've always been convinced that God calls all people into ministry and I look forward to journeying with you as we continue in ministry together. Lynn, Alex and I are excited to be moving to Norfolk, getting to know you and working alongside you in the Circuit and to meet you in person. Until then, God's richest blessings!

***Rev Neil Vels***

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## **Stephen Lynn & The Almighty's Music Machine**

Stephen Lynn from Litcham has released a new 15 track album which is now available on all the major music streaming platforms.

The album is entitled 'STEPHEN LYNN & THE ALMIGHTY'S MUSIC MACHINE'.

It is a mixture of pop and rock songs which have been reworked as Gospel numbers.

Any profits from the album will be donated to Litcham Methodist Church.

The album won't be available on CD as Stephen's previous Christmas album was, as it is a very expensive process, and people tend to use on-line platforms or smart speakers now.





# THE HIVE

CREATIVITY ~ SPIRITUALITY ~ WELL-BEING

Not long after Easter, we were delighted to host two students from Cliff College at The Hive. Korben and Evie came to us for two weeks with the aim of experiencing, taking part in and contributing to the programme of creativity, spirituality and well-being at The Hive.

A comprehensive and diverse programme was put together for them which took them from Great Cressingham to Blakeney (for The Hive pop-up), from Swaffham (Morning Worship) to Walsingham (for a day in and around the churches and shrines with Presbyters of various denominations) and on another day, a tour of Castle Acre.



At The Hive, the students had an induction and taster of what we offer and also a tour of the village taking in the Green, the parish church and the Victorian school as well as some Wild Church with David!



**Support Cliff Students at The Hive**

**Saturday 10th May**  
11.00 - 12.30  
**CLIFF COLLEGE PRESENTS**

**MEANINGFUL PLACES**

An exceptional opportunity to hear from and engage with young people on their beliefs and insights.

All our events are free - donations welcomed

How to book  
TEXT to 07876 286 665  
EMAIL thehiveplace@gmail.com  
MESSAGE to facebook page

**THE HIVE**  
110 High Street, NR25 7NX  
Tel: 07876 286 665  
Email: thehiveplace@gmail.com

**THE HIVE AT BLAKENEY**  
METHODIST CHURCH, 110 HIGH STREET, NR25 7NX  
THURSDAYS 2.00 - 4.00PM

**Thursday 8 May 2.00 - 4.00**

**CELTIC JOURNEYS**

**Rhythms**

Discover, explore and experience rhythms and patterns in life as practised in the Celtic tradition

**ALL ARE WELCOME**

All our events are free - donations welcomed

All ability access

Light refreshments provided

**THE HIVE**  
110 High Street, NR25 7NX  
Tel: 07876 286 665  
Email: thehiveplace@gmail.com



At Blakeney, they took part in Celtic Journeys when we were exploring 'Rhythms' and shared ideas for reflecting through Celtic practices of stillness and the senses. When it came to their turn to present at The Hive in Great Cressingham, they put together a thoughtful programme called Meaningful Places. Starting by introducing themselves and their studies at Cliff College, they then went on to talk about and involve us all in thinking about places with special spiritual significance for them and illustrated this through poetry, imagery and a prayer walk.



Special thanks to Revd Anne Richardson for providing the students with accommodation for the fortnight and to Revd Jonny Bell for guiding them around Walsingham. You may well come across Korben and Evie in the future as they work out God's calling for them. Korben is to be the new Methodist Youth President from September. They seemed to enjoy their time with The Hive team and we wish them every blessing for the future.

**Sarah Rodgers**  
**July 2025**

**SAVE THE DATE AT THE HIVE**  
**A Garden Party to celebrate**  
**5 years of The Hive**  
**SATURDAY 13 SEPTEMBER, 2.30 – 5.30**

# East Anglia Methodist Heritage Centre at Wighton



**Have you visited our very own Methodist Heritage Centre at Wighton, in the former Primitive Methodist Chapel (NR23 1PG)?**

Thanks to the generosity of the Central Norfolk Circuit, it has been possible to create this fascinating collection, telling the story of the Methodist people in East Anglia through exciting displays and archival material.

We have a wealth of photos, orders of service, books, ceramics, hymnbooks, collecting boxes and unique artefacts which evoke all sorts of conversations and memories.

The Heritage Centre reopened for visitors at Easter this year with a new exhibition about the life and work of Norfolk Methodist architect Clifford Dann and the many Methodist Churches he designed, including the school room and toilets at Wighton in about 1960. This is our third season at Wighton and each year we have a new exhibition to encourage visitors to return again and again.

Our builders completed the internal alterations for an accessible toilet and walk-in store before we reopened at Easter and the roof is on the extension that will double the size of our library. We have raised nearly £54,000 in grants and donations and have interest free loans for the remaining £8,000 we expect to need to pay for all of this.

We plan to hold a service of celebration when all the work is complete and we have the books catalogued and back on the shelves and the box files filled with the papers from churches, circuits and district and accessible for researchers and visitors to use.

If any of you would like to bring a car full to visit the Heritage Centre you would be very welcome. There is a lot that is new to see. If you would like to bring a group we would be happy to provide a speaker and guided tour on any day of the week. Please book in advance.



The Heritage Centre is open Tuesdays and Fridays from 11 am to 3 pm until the end of September and you are assured of a warm welcome from our team of volunteers. Car parking, an accessible toilet and refreshments are available. It is free to visit but donations are always welcome.

On **Saturday 13 September**, to link with Heritage Open Days and the Norfolk Churches Trust Bike Ride, Walk and Drive event, we will have a special open day from **11 am to 3 pm**. At 2 pm we will be holding a 30 minute 'Hymn Singalong'. Choose your favourite hymn which will be played on the recently refurbished 120 year old American Reed organ for all to join in.

*Sarah Friswell and Elizabeth Bellamy  
On behalf of the Heritage Centre Volunteers*

A promotional poster for the 3GENERATE 2025 event. The top half has a purple background with the text 'How will you take part?' in white. Below this is a red banner with '3-5 October | NEC Birmingham' in white. The left side features a light blue background with the 3GENERATE 2025 logo (a red cross in a white circle) and the text 'Methodist Children & Youth Assembly'. Below the logo, it says 'Join one of our fabulous volunteer teams' and lists three roles: 'Care' (with a red heart icon), 'Help' (with a blue question mark icon), and 'Engage' (with a green speech bubble icon). Further down, it says 'With roles to suit anyone, bring your gifts to a fabulous volunteer team and have a weekend to remember.' and 'Find out more about the different roles and sign-up at methodist.org.uk/3GenVols'. The right side of the poster shows a photograph of a smiling woman wearing a green hoodie with the 3GENERATE logo and a lanyard, standing in front of a white picket fence. Other people in similar green hoodies are visible in the background.

# How will you take part?

## 3GENERATE 2025

Methodist Children & Youth Assembly

3-5 October | NEC Birmingham

### Join one of our fabulous volunteer teams

- Care
- Help
- Engage

With roles to suit anyone, bring your gifts to a fabulous volunteer team and have a weekend to remember.

Find out more about the different roles and sign-up at [methodist.org.uk/3GenVols](http://methodist.org.uk/3GenVols)



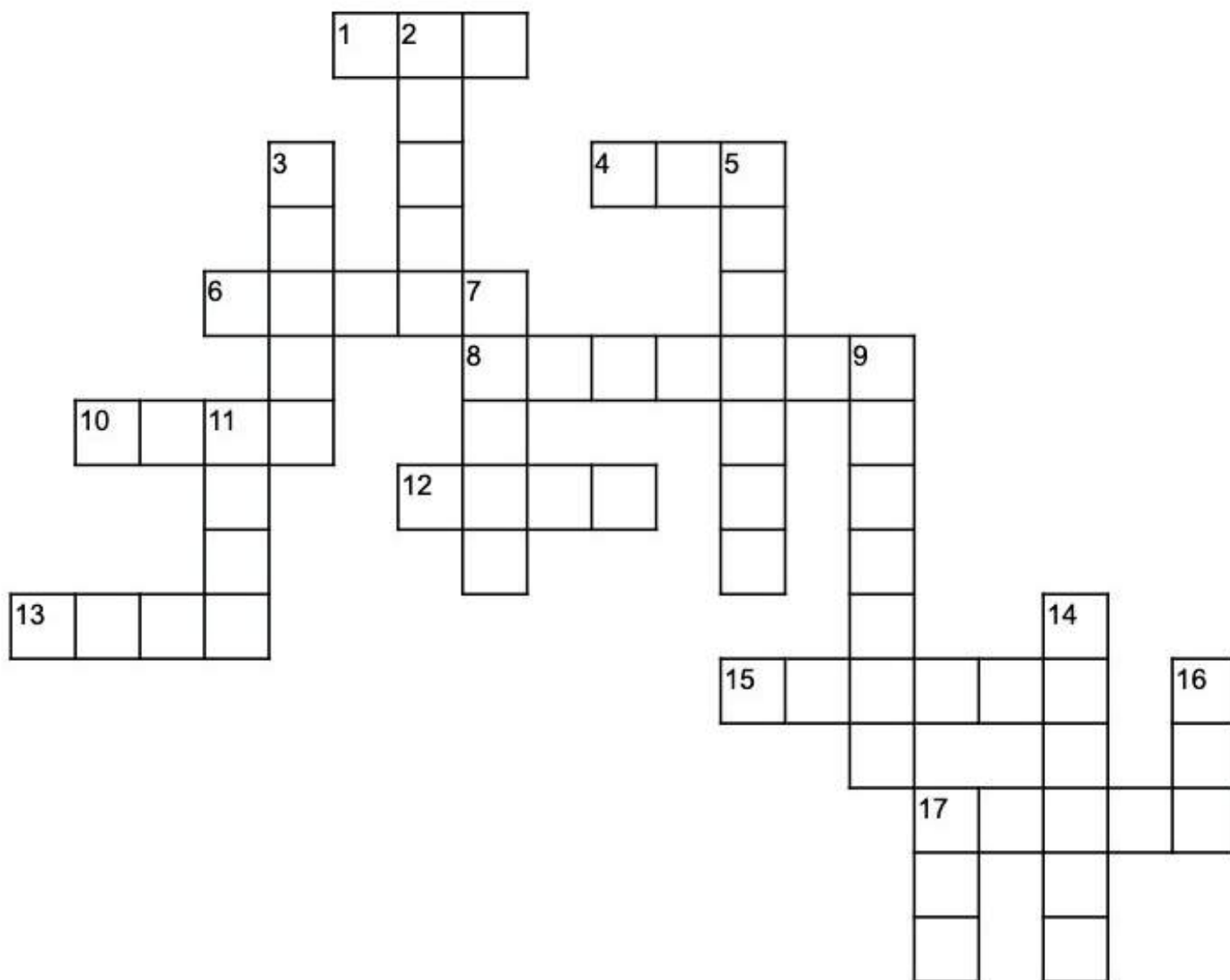


# **Harvest Prayers** **from the Trussell Trust**

**O Lord,  
what a variety of things you have made!  
In wisdom you have made them all.  
The earth is full of your creatures.  
They all depend on you to give them food as they need it.  
When you supply it, they gather it.  
You open your hand to feed them,  
and they are richly satisfied.  
This Harvest, we thank you O Lord for every provision.  
We pray for those who go without,  
That in your mercy you may provide.  
And when we have plenty, help us to share with those in need.  
O Lord of the Harvest we praise you,  
and it is in Your Name we pray,  
Amen!**

**God our father,  
During this season of Harvest we pray for everyone in our country  
and in our local community who are facing hunger at this time.  
We thank you for the work of the food bank network.  
May you bless and sustain all those who respond in acts of loving  
service to the needs of their local communities.  
We know Lord that you are a God of justice.  
May your Spirit guide us then, to have a voice to call for,  
and the strength to take action  
for a country without the need for food banks.  
We ask this in the name of Jesus, your Son.  
Amen.**

# Harvest Challenge by Ted!



## Across

- 1 Crop found in East Sussex town
- 4 Planting out for female pig
- 6 Ely district Detective Sergeant needs these to start growing
- 8 Vast herd lacking backend moving for this season
- 10 Local, new, place for storing grain
- 12 Sounds like King's remit could bring downfall
- 13 Horse rider's handy tool for fruits of labour
- 15 Soft left for right in rough soil preparation
- 17 Short cricketer maybe in or out here?

## Down

- 2 Back down to pick up
- 3 Good attitude to gather left-overs
- 5 I quit restaurant job to get drenched
- 7 Heart condition following Rider Haggard classic produces bundle
- 9 Gold follows religious treatise for farmer's essential
- 11 Gather pear to do this?
- 14 Most of trio calls for silence to separate the grain
- 16 Collie jumps up for the almighty!
- 17 Loud hack is satisfied

Answers on page 34

# Helhoughton Monthly Charity Coffee Mornings

These are the charities supported in the second quarter of the year and the totals raised:

- **April** - The Woodland Trust - £140
- **May** - Watsan (providing fresh water, sanitation and hygiene education to rural communities in Uganda) - £100
- **June** - Veterans Central – West Raynham SHQ (Station Headquarters) (supporting military and emergency veterans and the larger community in wellbeing, socialization and community activities) - £80

Our upcoming Coffee Mornings are in aid of:

- Fakenham Salvation Army on **30th September**
- Refuge, for women and children, against domestic violence in the UK, on **28th October**
- Save the Children, in the UK and abroad, on **25th November**

**All welcome 10 – 12 in Helhoughton Village Church Hall on The Street.**

Meet old friends and make new ones!

We are very appreciative of all the support we receive each month.

We also act as a collection point for items for the Mid Norfolk Foodbank; food, toiletries and cleaning products.

*Elizabeth Lodge,  
Tittleshall Methodist Church*

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## Photo Competition

Are you a budding photographer or a keen artist?

We're looking for artwork or photographs for the front cover of The Link Magazine.

Anything Christmas or winter themed would be appreciated!

Please do send over any submissions and we'll pick one for the next issue, crediting the artist or photographer.

**Email submissions to [cnc.thelink@gmail.com](mailto:cnc.thelink@gmail.com) or call 07538281707 for postal address.**



# Thank you from Anne



I've now cleared the manse and everything is being readied to welcome Rev Neil and his family.

All over the country, the Methodist Merry-go-round is taking place - Ministers leaving and arriving. Of course this is a big upheaval for the ministers and their families but also a huge amount of work for the circuit stewards.

Please pray for us all!

Thank you for the lovely gifts and send-off I received at the Songs of Praise service, and around the churches for the last few weeks.

It has been a privilege to serve in the circuit and I am so grateful for the fellowship we have shared. I pray that God will continue to bless and guide you all, as I know you will be praying for me. It is this wonderful relationship that we share in God that is so precious. In every church and every community, I have been able to work alongside my 'siblings in Christ'.

As St Paul puts it much more eloquently than I can in 2 Thessalonians 3: 16 "Now may the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times and in every way. The Lord be with all of you."

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## Useful Links

### **Central Norfolk Circuit Website**

[www.centralnorfolkmethodistcircuit.org.uk](http://www.centralnorfolkmethodistcircuit.org.uk)

### **East Anglia District Website**

[www.eangliamethodist.org.uk](http://www.eangliamethodist.org.uk)

### **Connexional Website**

[www.methodist.org.uk](http://www.methodist.org.uk)

### **Methodist Heritage Website**

[www.methodistheritage.org.uk](http://www.methodistheritage.org.uk)



Pray for the President (Revd. Richard Andrew) and Vice-President (Matthew Forsyth). They began their year of office on 28<sup>th</sup> June 2025.

# News from Churches

## Mattishall

We held a Coffee Morning and plant sale in May and raised £125 for Christian Aid. The most recent Bible Studies have been on Mark's Gospel and alternated between the Garvestone and Mattishall churches. Bible Study will start again on 25th September at Mattishall after the summer break. The chapel will not be open this year for the annual Churches Trust Bike Ride on 13th September.



## Hingham

The Parish Church of St Andrew's in Hingham, invited our Methodist Church to take part in their Flower Festival. The floral arrangements were on display over the weekend of 5th & 6th of July. The overall theme was 'The Celebration of V.E. Day.'

We did not have much time to come up with an idea for our window display, but settled on the title, **'VICTORY HAS IT'S PRICE'.**



We used a framed copy of the poem 'In Retrospect' by the Poet Laureate, Simon Armitage. His poem is displayed with the poppies at The Tower of London. We surrounded the framed poem, with poppies. Also in our window display was a replica of Hingham's War Memorial. A fresh flower arrangement in the shape of a V for Victory in red, white and blue flowers stood opposite the framed poem. Poppies, caught in a net hanging from our windowsill, completed our display.

We were pleased to add our creative achievements to the many wonderful flower arrangements and inspired ideas, that went to make St Andrew's Church Flower Festival a memorable occasion.

**Heather Parle & Heather Juby**  
**Stewards, Hingham Methodist Church**





Holt Church enjoyed a packed service for humans and their pets on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> August. We counted 10 four legged friends!

Rev Jonny Bell led the service, which included the story of the very ugly duckling and a talk from John from the RSPCA, which reminded us of our responsibility to creation and creatures.

All creatures were well behaved (and their humans too!) and the service ended with a blessing of the pets in attendance and a chance to remember all those pets who have been faithful companions, but are no longer with us.





## Musical Event at Holt

A wide selection of popular music from seven decades was performed by the Norfolk based "One Missing" ensemble at Holt Methodist Church recently.

Versatile singer and bassist Michael Denmark, harmonica man Robert Sutherland and leading guitar exponent Dave McNeill, entertained with original and distinctive interpretations of familiar melodies.



A discerning audience made up of local people, Church members, and visitors responded generously and also enjoyed Holt Church's celebrated refreshments. The event raised £340 and the funds will support The Light and Life for All Project.

This was a return visit for the musicians who perform throughout East Anglia.

Perhaps they could play at your Church event? If so, please contact Michael Denmark (07887503867) or Dave (07921664595).

***Robert Sutherland  
Holt Methodist Church***

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## New Holkham

New Holkham will be celebrating Harvest with our Harvest Festival service at 2.30 p.m. on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> September led by Seb Bell, and continues on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> September at 7 p.m. when we have a short service led by Rev Jonny Bell followed by our harvest auction. This is an opportunity for you to celebrate harvest in what was formerly a granary (grain store).



Due to the fact that our church is in Holkham Park if you would like to attend please ring 01328878383 to get details of access to the church. A warm welcome awaits you.

# Sculthorpe & Fakenham

On the 22<sup>nd</sup> of June, we enjoyed a wonderful Service of Talents featuring some very talented musicians and singers.

On display were many lovely craft items, made from many different materials, photography and hand made cards - made by chapel members and friends.

It was so great to have a full chapel. My grateful thanks to all who came to see and listen and to everyone who took part in any way.



## Wells

By the time you read this our August Carnival activities will be a distant memory but we trust that it will have been a time of great fun and joy for everyone.

We enjoy welcoming visitors from all parts of the country and of all ages to our services at this time of the year as they holiday in North Norfolk. It is a real tonic to share fellowship with them.

In the autumn we plan to hold another Gift Day on Saturday 13th September followed by our Harvest Festival on 21st September.





# News from Walsingham

Another busy three months at the chapel  
**The Pilgrims Cross** groups came as planned at Easter and even more people than in previous years. What a joy to welcome them and share in their pilgrimage. On Saturday morning a group led service with the chapel quite full. Some pilgrims showed tiredness and stragglers arrived all through the service.

**Easter Sunday** 12noon with the sun out and everything quiet in Walsingham. A few people unable to process around the village arrived and we waited and waited. It appeared that their mass at the shrine had taken longer than expected but eventually people with hi-vis jackets approached from the road opposite.



The procession emerged with beautifully decorated crosses and it kept coming, crossing the road and up the slope to the chapel. More crosses appeared and more people until the area outside the chapel doors was packed and a shout went out "Could you start going into the church."

We believe God has a purpose for the Methodist Church in Little Walsingham and we have continued working with the Anglican Shrine in welcoming a huge number of school groups of all denominations and none. An academy from King's Lynn where the youngsters asked about the chapel and what we did and a young man standing in the tall pulpit had the confidence to speak to an audience.



A public school made a self-guided visit and from the older youngsters pertinent searching questions on faith. With their 2 ordained school chaplains also present.

Just this week a small group from a voluntary Catholic primary school came on a residential visit, absolutely brimming with great questions but also having fun and taking time to enjoy the chapel. One question "Are Methodists Christian?" As I went to say yes the Catholic teacher jumped in with yes of course, and whilst they do things slightly differently to us we all believe in God. We were able to explain in more detail. It was wonderful to have a Catholic school emphasising togetherness. Youngsters certainly do set us thinking; **Why can't adults ask questions and learn to work together?**

This week certainly showed us that God is at work and we need to be ready to share our faith in unexpected ways. As we were shutting up on Friday 11th July a lady wandered in and asked if she could look at the building. She had come to Walsingham for one night the previous weekend and felt such joy and peace that when she got back home to London asked her employer for some time off as she felt compelled to return to Walsingham and returned on Friday and returned to stay longer. She started to ask questions about what we believed, and then about Walsingham itself and all that went on. She was delightful, exploring her faith asking lots of questions and listening. We believe that God was speaking to her and we hope she will join us at our monthly service whilst she is here. Most of all we hope she is able to welcome Jesus into her heart.



### **Monthly services**

**2nd Sunday in the month 4.30pm followed by a meal if you wish to stay. No booking needed and everyone welcome.**

### **Opening and Heritage weekend**

The chapel is usually open on the **Friday** before our monthly service and is open at other times by contacting Aileen 07787156335 or Glyn [walsinghammethodist@gmail.com](mailto:walsinghammethodist@gmail.com) However we will be open for the **National Heritage Weekend which coincides with the Norfolk Churches Bike, Walk and Drive Saturday**. Do come and visit us on **12<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> or 15<sup>th</sup> September 2025 10am to 4pm Saturday, 11am-3pm other days.**

***Aileen Fox***

# Dates Around the Circuit

## Beetley

**Services:** 10.30am on the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays  
6pm on the 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays

**Big Sunday:** 6pm on 30<sup>th</sup> November

**Harvest Festival:** 10.30am on 14<sup>th</sup> September with Seb Bell

**Drop-In:** 2 - 3pm. 3<sup>rd</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> September, 1<sup>st</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> October, 5<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> November

**Knit 'n' Natter:** 2 - 3pm. 24<sup>th</sup> September, 22<sup>nd</sup> October, 26<sup>th</sup> November

**Coffee Mornings:** 9.30 - 11.30am. 27<sup>th</sup> September & 29<sup>th</sup> November (25% to Food Bank)

## Dereham Trinity

**Services:** Every Sunday at 10.45 am

**Harvest Festival:** 21<sup>st</sup> September

**Mid Week Communion:** 10.30 am. 4<sup>th</sup> September, 2<sup>nd</sup> October, 6<sup>th</sup> November  
(Contact Jacky Woor 01362 697860)

**Lunch Club:** 12 noon. 11<sup>th</sup> September, 9<sup>th</sup> October, 13<sup>th</sup> November  
(Contact Katharine Smith 01362 691225)

**Coffee Mornings:** 10-11.30 am. 18<sup>th</sup> September, 16<sup>th</sup> October, 20<sup>th</sup> November  
(Contact Jacky 01362 697860)

**Cards & Chatter:** 10-12 noon. 25<sup>th</sup> September, 23<sup>rd</sup> October, 27<sup>th</sup> November  
(Contact Sylvia Meredith 01362 693425)

**Women's Own** at 2.15 pm. 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup> September, 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup> October, 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup> November. (Contact Olwyn Brough 01362 692799)

**Coffee Morning:** 10-12 noon. 30<sup>th</sup> October  
at the home of Sylvia and Richard Meredith (Contact 01362 693425)

## Fulmodeston

**Services :** 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month at 2.30pm.

**Harvest Festival Service:** 7<sup>th</sup> September at 2.30pm led by Mrs Avril Temple

## Garvestone

**Services: 3pm**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays United Service at 11am**

21<sup>st</sup> September United Harvest Festival 11am at Parish Church

19<sup>th</sup> October United Service 11am at Methodist Church

16<sup>th</sup> November United Service 11am at Parish Church

## Gressenhall

**Services: 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays of the month at 2.30pm followed by refreshments**

**Harvest Festival:** 2.30pm on 21<sup>st</sup> September led by Rev Betty Trinder

Jam and Marmalade Sales at 12 Chequers Lane, NR20 4EU in aid of Chapel Funds

## Hingham

**Services: Every Sunday at 10.30am**

**Harvest Festival:** 10.30am on 14<sup>th</sup> September, led by Nelson Tubby

**Coffee Shop with stalls:** 10am - 12noon. 6<sup>th</sup> September, 5<sup>th</sup> October, 1<sup>st</sup> November

## Holt

**Services: Every Sunday at 11am**

**Informal Evening Services:** 6pm. 21<sup>st</sup> September, 12<sup>th</sup> October, 16<sup>th</sup> November

**Friday Prayer Time:** 9.30am on Fridays

**Harvest Supper:** 6pm on 27<sup>th</sup> September

**Bible Study:** 7pm. 18<sup>th</sup> September, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> October, 6<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> November

**Afternoon Teas:** 2 - 4pm. 19<sup>th</sup> September, 27<sup>th</sup> October, 21<sup>st</sup> November

**Holt Choir Practice:** 4pm. 5<sup>th</sup> September, 17<sup>th</sup> October, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, 31<sup>st</sup> November

## Litcham

**Services: Every Sunday at 10.30am**

**Prayer Walk:** 9<sup>th</sup> September, meet on the green at 10am

**Harvest Festival:** 14<sup>th</sup> September

**Annual Quiz:** 4<sup>th</sup> October at Litcham Village Hall

**Coffee Mornings:** Every Thursday 10.30am - 12noon

**Bible Study:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Fridays at 10am



## Mattishall

**Services: Every Sunday at 2.30pm**

**Harvest Festival:** 2.30pm on 28<sup>th</sup> September

**Weekly Bible Study:** Thursdays at 2pm. Alternating with Garvestone Methodist Church (Contact Fred on 01362 850750 for venue)

## New Holkham

**Services: Last Sunday of the month at 2.30pm**

**Harvest Festival Service:** Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> September at 2.30pm led by Seb Bell

**Harvest Service & Auction:** Monday 29<sup>th</sup> September at 7pm  
(Please ring 01328878383 to get details of access to the church)

## Saham Hills

**Services: Every 1st & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday at 10.30am**

**Coffee Morning:** 13th September. 10am - 12noon. Open for Bike Ride Contestants

**Harvest Festival Service:** 5<sup>th</sup> October at 10.30am

**Christmas Tinsel Fair:** 22<sup>nd</sup> November 10am-12noon

## Sculthorpe & Fakenham

**Services: Every Sunday at 11am**

**Harvest Festival:** 21<sup>st</sup> September at 11am

**Coffee Morning:** 6<sup>th</sup> September 10am-12noon in the Village Hall

## Stibbard

**Services: Last Sunday of the month at 11am**

**Lunch @ The Centre:** 12.30 p.m (Wednesdays) 10<sup>th</sup> Sept, 8<sup>th</sup> Oct, 12<sup>th</sup> Nov

**Choir Practice:** 7.30 p.m. Alternate Fridays from 12<sup>th</sup> September

**Quiz Night @ The Centre:** 7.30 p.m. Friday 28<sup>th</sup> November

**Railway Film Afternoons:** 2.30pm (Saturdays) 6<sup>th</sup> Sept, 4<sup>th</sup> Oct, 1<sup>st</sup> Nov

**Churches on the Air:** All Day Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> September

## Swaffham

**Services: Every Sunday at 10.45am followed by refreshments**

**Welcome Service for Rev Neil Vels:** 4<sup>th</sup> September at 6pm

**Harvest Festival Service:** 14<sup>th</sup> September at 10.45am led by Rev Helen Hollands

**The Meeting Place Drop-In:** 10am - 12noon. Every Tuesday

Free refreshments. Warm welcome for everyone.

Green Pastures Christian Bookshop on 14<sup>th</sup> October & 18<sup>th</sup> November

**Power of Prayer Group:** 9.30am. Every Friday (Contact 07468518084 for venue)

**Coffee Morning and Fundraising Stalls:** 9.30am - 12noon. 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the month.  
6<sup>th</sup> September, 4<sup>th</sup> October, 1<sup>st</sup> November

**Coffee Mornings:**

20<sup>th</sup> September 9.30-12noon Hosted by Royal British Legion

27<sup>th</sup> September 9.30am - 12noon Hosted by 2<sup>nd</sup> Swaffham Guides

18<sup>th</sup> October 9.30am-12noon Hosted by Swaffham Scout Group

8<sup>th</sup> November 9.30-12noon

Hosted by Royal British Legion in aid of the Poppy Appeal

**Swaffham Friendship Group:**

11<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> September, 9<sup>th</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> October, 13<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> November

## Tittleshall

**Services: Every Sunday at 9.30am**

**Coffee Mornings:** 10.30am - 12noon. Every Wednesday

**Macmillian Coffee Morning:** Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> September 10am-12noon

## Toftwood

**Services: Every Sunday at 11am (Bring & Share Lunch on 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in month)**

**Weekly Lace Group:** 9.30 - 12noon. Every Monday

**Carpet Bowls:** 1.45 - 4pm. Every Thursday

**Coffee Shop & Stalls:** 10am - 12noon. 1<sup>st</sup> Saturdays

**Christmas Concert:** Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> November 2pm 'Ali Babar & the Naughty Thieves'

## Walsingham

**Services: 2nd Sunday of the month 4.30pm followed by a meal.** All Welcome.  
14<sup>th</sup> September, 12<sup>th</sup> October, 9<sup>th</sup> November

**Heritage Weekend:** 12<sup>th</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup> September. Open Friday & Monday 11am - 3pm.  
Saturday 9am - 3pm. Sunday 11am to 3pm, followed by 4.30pm Service & Meal

## Watton

**Services: Every Sunday at 10.30am (mostly live-streamed)**  
**Evening Services: 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays at 6.30pm**

**Harvest Festival:** 21<sup>st</sup> September at 10.30am led by Rev Derek Grimshaw

**Coffee Mornings:** 9.30am - 11.30am. Every Wednesday in the Methodist Centre.  
Delicious refreshments and a friendly welcome to all.

**Tuesdays at Two:** 2pm. 9<sup>th</sup> Sept, 14<sup>th</sup> Oct, 11<sup>th</sup> Nov in the Methodist Centre.  
All are welcome to a variety of activities. Suitable for all abilities with refreshments.

## Wells

**Services: Every Sunday at 11am**

**Gift Day:** Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2-4pm

**Harvest Festival:** 21<sup>st</sup> September

**Prayer and Praise:** 10.30am. Every Wednesday

**Community Lunch at Congregational Hall:** 12noon. Every Monday

## Wendling

**Due to illness, all Services, Coffee Mornings etc. have been suspended for the next Quarter.**

## Circuit

**Rev Neil's Welcome Service:** 4<sup>th</sup> September 6pm at Swaffham

**Circuit Meeting:** Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> September 7.15pm at Dereham MC

### HARVEST CHALLENGE ANSWERS

Across: 1. RYE, 4. SOW, 6. SEEDS, 8. HARVEST, 10. BARN, 12. RAIN, 13. CROP, 15. PLOUGH, 17. FIELD

Down: 2. YIELD, 3. GLEAN, 5. WATERED, 7. SHEAF, 9. TRACTOR, 11. REAP, 14. THRESH, 16. GOD, 17. FED



# Regular Dates

Day 	Activity 	Location 	Time 
<b>Monday</b>	Weekly Lace Group	Toftwood MC	9.30am - 12noon
	Community Lunch	Wells	12 noon
<b>Tuesday</b>	The Meeting Place Drop-In	Swaffham MC	10 - 12noon
	Women's Own	Dereham Trinity MC	2.45pm
<b>Wednesday</b>	Coffee Shop	Watton Centre	9.30am
	Coffee Morning	Tittleshall MC	10.30am - 12 noon
	Prayer & Praise	Wells	10.30am
<b>Thursday</b>	Coffee Morning	Litcham MC	10.30am - 12 noon
	Carpet Bowls	Toftwood MC	1.45 - 4pm
	Ecumenical Bible Study & Discussion Group	Garvestone /Mattishall MC	2pm
<b>Friday</b>	Prayer Time	Holt MC	9.30am
	Power of Prayer Group	Swaffham	9.30am

**If you have a prayer request, please contact Glyn Constantine  
glynandang@gmail.com**

# The Link Magazine

**PRODUCED FOR THE CENTRAL NORFOLK CIRCUIT**

**Phone: 07736 467831**



**[www.centralnorfolkmethodistcircuit.org.uk](http://www.centralnorfolkmethodistcircuit.org.uk)**



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