

FROM THE REGISTERS . . .

Funerals

21 June Reuben Woolnough	Mulbarton Burial of Ashes
23 June Elvin Ernest Brighton	Hethel Funeral and Burial
21 July Mathew Peter Holmes	Mulbarton at Earlham Crematorium
26 July Stella Bugden -	Flordon Burial of Ashes
27 July George Robert Gooch	Mulbarton at Earlham Crematorium
28 July Ann Joyce	Mulbarton at St Faiths Crematorium
30 July Ann Joyce	Mulbarton Burial of Ashes
9 Aug Robert Patrick	Mulbarton at Earlham Crematorium
10 Aug Thomas Edgar	Mulbarton at Earlham Crematorium
22 Aug Alan Jack Page	Mulbarton Funeral and Burial

Baptisms

24 July Kelsie May Elissa Goward at Flordon
21 Aug Lily Amanda Valerie Willner at Mulbarton
21 Aug James Oliver Harraton at Mulbarton

Praying and Blessing our Community meeting on Saturday 17th September, 8am – 9am, will be at **Hethel Church NOT Harvest House**. We will be praying for the needs for Hethel Church and the benefice. Hope you will be able to join us.

National Prayer Weekend 23 – 25 September. We as a Church have registered to take part in this initiative. The Welcome to its website states 'A weekend to initiate a wave of prayer over our nation, one life, one street, one community at a time. We believe that local people praying for their community can transform the nation. Central to National Prayer Weekend 2016 is the heart to see people in our local communities know and encounter God as their Father through the power of prayer.' It is hoped to hold a prayer meeting in each of the Churches in the benefice over the weekend. Please look out for more details in Pews News or via the Church e-mail. As part of connecting with our community a suggestion made by the organisers is to ask for prayer requests from our community. So in preparation for the weekend you might like to ask your neighbours what they would like the Church to pray for.

Thanks Patrick Theobald

For more see: www.national-prayer-weekend.com

Church website <http://www.mulbchurch.org.uk>

Rector: Rev. Adrian Miller: 01508 571167 - rector@mulbchurch.org.uk

This month's editor: Chris Carter

Articles included in Mardle do not necessarily reflect the views of the church leadership.

MULBARTON • FLORDON • BRACON ASH • HETHEL

MARDLE

September 2016



FROM THE RECTORY

Email: rector@mulbchurch.org.uk

"Not as those who have no hope"

We've been reflecting over the summer on the hope we have as Christians. Our hope centres around the return of Jesus - "Christ in us, the hope of glory" (Col. 1:27). When Jesus comes back, we can expect all things to become glorious. Our bodies, our world, our animals, our tools - this is the kind of language we find in the Old Testament prophets. Jesus calls it the "renewal of all things" when He sits on his "glorious throne" (Matthew 19:28).

What we don't find in the Bible is a picture of floating on clouds with harps and angels, singing hymns for eternity. What we get is the beauty of the most majestic mountain range, but more so. We get the splendour of our favourite and best places on Earth, renewed and made more splendid than ever. We get leadership over the whole world which is true and just. We get prey and predator grazing peacefully together. We get weapons of warfare changed into tools of production. We get new bodies that are what an oak tree is to an acorn - as well as being imperishable and undefiled.

The more I've been reflecting on all this, the more I love this hope that we have. Andrew has been studying this for his dissertation on animal eschatology, which has helped us. And we've also been walking alongside a lot of people who have lost loved ones over the last few months, which again brings this hope into sharper focus. Last year we conducted 15 funerals in total. This year so far, we've conducted 26.

This morning, I was at Earlham Crematorium, reading the ancient traditional words from 1 Corinthians 15 about the hope of our resurrection, founded on the true historical fact of Jesus' resurrection. If the resurrection isn't what's going to happen to us, then we of all people are most to be pitied—but if it is true, then it changes everything. It is stuff that stirs the soul.

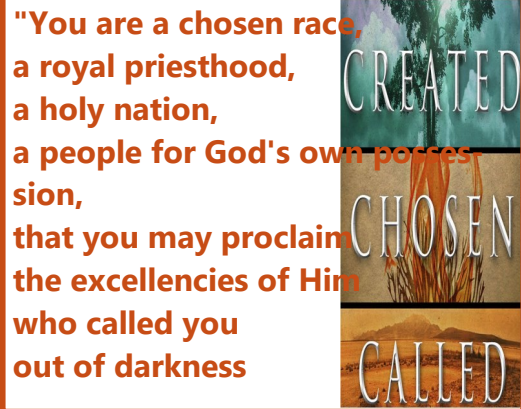
Among those 26 departed, we've said goodbye to some wonderful believers, with whom we've enjoyed valuable fellowship over many years in our churches, including Barbara, Norman, Joy, Stella and Jack*. Their lives stand as inspiring examples for us.

Jack's funeral service this week was marked by such a special sense of hope and celebration of a life well-lived. Yes, we grieve, and it is so important to do so, and to take all the time that we need to grieve well, but we don't grieve as those who have no hope, as Paul says in 1 Thessalonians 4:13. As Paul says there, let's encourage one another with these thoughts.

The last photo of Jack was of him bathed in all the colours of the rainbow at Flordon Church, from the end of our week of prayer in July. As we follow Jack's example of praying and loving our neighbour, there's another opportunity to bless our neighbours through prayer on 23-25 September—see the back page for more details.

Yours in hope,
Adrian

(* see page 5 for a lovely photo of Jack. Editor)



Mulbarton Bene

Church Family weekend
away at Letton Hall
October 21st to 23rd
(Last one at Letton Hall).
More details from
Sue Mellows

Welcome Afternoons for New Residents

Over the next few years as Oakley Park, the new Hopkins' estate, develops, the Church plans to host a series of Welcome afternoons twice a year, in autumn and spring. We have had quite a good take up so far from village organisations and groups planning to get involved by sending representatives and/or information.

The first of these afternoons will take place on **Saturday Sept 24th** 3-5pm in Hanover Gardens' lounge. At this first meeting there will only be quite a small number of residents in Oakley Park so we plan to deliver invites all around Mulberry Gardens to include anyone who is relatively new to the village. We hope that we will fill the room with new residents and representatives, so we are not asking the church family at large to come along, but we will need some help. We will be asking for a few people to bake for us and we will need 2 or 3 to serve refreshments. However our main need is people to deliver the invites to Mulberry Gardens at the beginning of September. We will have approx. 400 leaflets that will need delivering, so we will be asking for volunteers—Watch this space! Can you also be taking note of anyone new in your road where you could pop an invite through the door, as we would like to include anyone who has arrived in the past year in this event?

If you want to know any more details please speak to one of the organising committee: Sue Mellows, Jill Wright, Vivienne Clifford-Jackson, Sue Parker and Andrew North.

THANKS in anticipation of your help. Sue M.

The power of prayer

When trouble looms before us

And we feel so much alone
The power of prayer will be there
To lead us safely home.

When sorrow begins to overwhelm us
And we question if the Lord is there
Just kneel and gently whisper
And speak to the Lord in prayer.

The road may seem long and empty
You will surely need a friend
That's when the power of prayer will help you
On this you can depend.
Angie Fenn



Norfolk Churches Bike Ride

Thousands of individuals, families and groups of all ages, will take part in the annual "bike ride" on Saturday 10 Sept 2016, 9am to 5pm, and will be planning

their routes and signing up sponsors from now until bike ride day.

Sponsor forms will be available in the churches, and by downloading from Norfolk Churches Trust website.

Riders and walkers choose which local church will receive half of their sponsor money. The remainder goes to Norfolk Churches Trust to be given out as grants for essential repairs to our historic churches in need of repair.

The Bike Ride has raised around £2,800,000 over the past 32 years.

Sponsorship forms for Mulbarton Church are also available from Tony James

Tony has kindly agreed to co-ordinate the effort with staffing Mulbarton Church for this event.

We really need people to offer to be in the Church, or Harvest House, to sign the cyclists' sheets and offer hospitality (refreshments will be made available). Please let Tony, Jill Wright or Caroline know if you are able to spare an hour (or two!) on that Saturday to help. It would be great if several people could do a stint - last time Tony did it on his own!

Caroline Dunlop

Greeting from **FLORDON** we are looking forward to meeting and greeting all our friends old and new on SEPTEMBER 10th on your bikes hope you can make it, tea will be ready JEAN COOK

WHAT'S ON IN THE BENEFICE THIS MONTH . . .

Heritage Open Days (HODs) in Hethel

What was it like here 100 years ago? 500 years ago? 1000 years ago? Was the church spun out of Wymondham Abbey in the early 1100s? How old is the Thorn? Is the mound near the Thorn a tumulus? Was the original village of Hethel in the field to the east of the Church? What did the farmland look like before the airfield was built in 1943? And after?

Last summer, a group of final year UEA history students surveyed and researched the landscape of Hethel. And wrote dissertations. On September 10 and 11 (10am to 5pm) there will be an exhibition of their work in Hethel Church, which looks at some of the questions above. Some of the now-graduates will be around to discuss their findings with you, and, if you like, take you on a guided tour of the ground. Timings on our website www.acny.org.uk/hethel. Drinks, cake and light lunches will be on sale (but the rest is free!).

389 Bomb Group Memorial Exhibition is also open for HODs – about 10 minutes walk from the church. You can see maps of the airfield as it was, numerous artefacts, and the amazing mural of Christ on the cross. Peter Nicholls



FLORDON'S ANNUAL HOG ROAST AND BARBECUE ON ST MICHAEL'S GREEN

Sunday 11th September at 1pm

Vegetarian option, salads and desserts. Please bring your own drinks, cutlery and plates. If you can bring chairs, it would help. Games and raffle £8 adults £4 children.

To book ring **Tony** 471593 or **Janet** 471070 by Monday 5th Sept. *(Booking essential for catering purposes)* - **COME and JOIN THE FUN!** Janet Negal

SEPTEMBER 2016

Monthly Calendar

Please check Pews News for information and changes

Sunday 4 8.00am **Mulbarton Holy Communion**
 9.00am **Bracon Ash Morning Prayer**
 10.30am **Mulbarton Village Hall Café Church**
 7.00pm **Mulbarton Healing Service**

Thurs 8 2.30pm **Hanover Gardens' Service in The Lounge**

Saturday 10 9.00am Churches Cycle Ride. (See Page 6)
 10.00am Heritage Open Day at Hethel Church
 (See page 3)

Sunday 11 8.30am **Hethel Holy Communion**
 10.00am **Flordon Morning Prayer**
 10.00am **Mulbarton Morning Worship**
 10.00am Heritage Open Day at Hethel Church
 (See page 3)
 1.00pm Flordon Hog Roast (See page 3)

Sunday 18 9.00am **Bracon Ash Holy Communion**
 10.00am **Mulbarton Holy Communion**
 6.30pm **Flordon Evening Prayer**
Copy Date for Mardle to Becky by today, 18th September

Monday 19 7.30pm Barnabas at 22 Birchfield Gardens
Saturday 24 3.00pm Welcome meeting at Hanover Gardens.
 (See page 7)

Sunday 25 8.30am **Flordon Holy Communion**
 10.00am **Mulbarton Morning Worship**
 10.30am **Church at Hanover Gardens. You are invited to bring tins/packets for the Food Bank and cash for the collection for Tear fund**

11.00am Hethel Church Messy Harvest (See below for details)

1.00pm Harvest Lunch at Hill Farm (See below for details))

Hello all,

I don't know exactly who of you have already seen this but I thought I'd share with everyone a photo of Jack I caught a week before he passed away.

It was taken at Flordon-Church, he was in such a happy mood as always! Please note that the crumb on his lip was 'saved for the next person to kiss him!'
 Enjoy!
 Love,
 Katrina



Come and join us at **Hethel Church** for the Bracon Ash and Hethel **Harvest Thanksgiving** with a taste of **Messy Church** on **Sunday 25 September at 11 am**. A service for adults and children with traditional harvest hymns and activities for children.

This will be followed at 1 pm by the **Harvest Lunch** at Hill Farm, Cranes Road, Hethel, by kind invitation of Robert and Penny Gray. Tickets in advance from Peter and Cathy Nicholls (570557) or Penny Gray (570229). Look forward to seeing you there! Cathy Nicholls