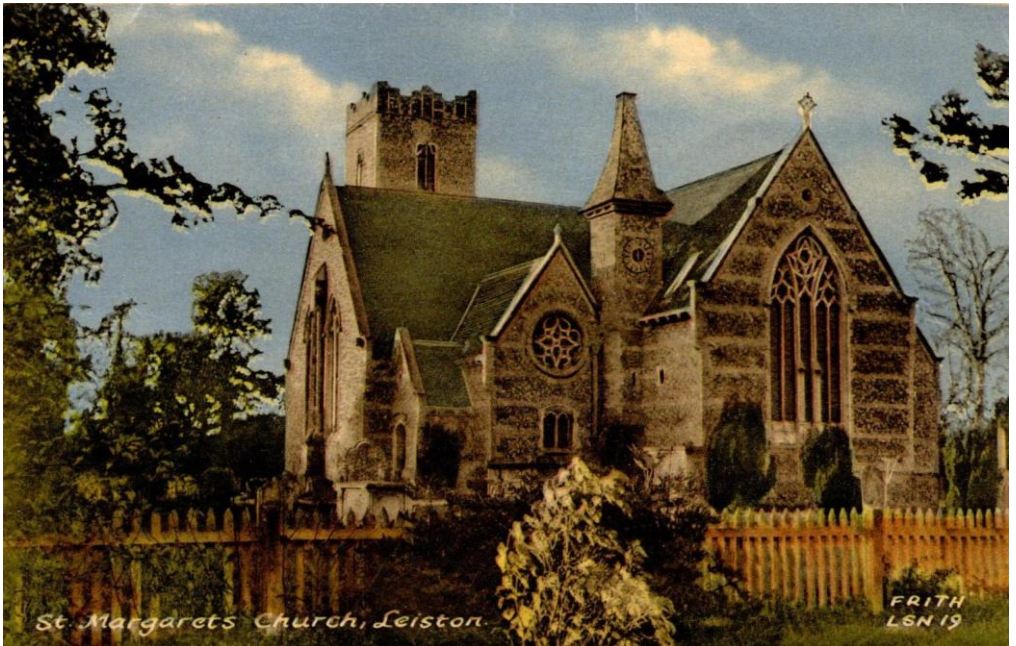


ST MARGARET'S

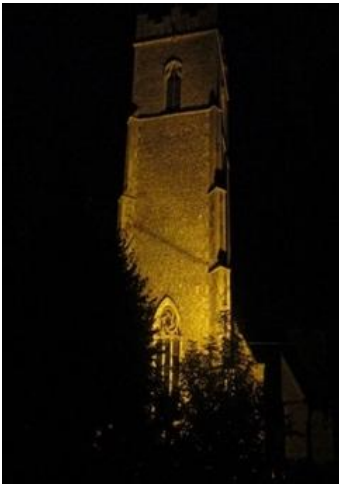
Parish Church for Leiston-cum-Sizevell



Drawing (circa 1965) copied from a note card loaned by Jill Mower

MARCH 2024

£1 50



ST MARGARET'S CHURCH TOWER LIGHTS UP

During February the lighting of the Church Tower was sponsored on

Thursday 8th To celebrate the birthday of Geoffrey Lilley

Saturday 10th In loving memory of Mik Squirrell on his birthday

Tuesday 20th In loving memory of Angus Mackinnon

Wednesday 21st In loving memory of Sheila Mackinnon

If you would like to mark a special occasion by sponsoring the lighting of the Church Tower for a minimum donation of £7 50p per day, please add the details in the diary in church and use one of the envelopes provided to make your donation.

If you have left your request rather late, please contact Sandra direct (contact details page 13) to ensure the tower is lit for your special day.

Baptism Service

28th January 2024

Lily Hayes

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SERVICES AT ST. MARGARET'S

Details of the services can be found on page 7

Out in the wilderness ...

I write this article in February; it is not long since we held our Ash Wednesday service in church to mark the beginning of the church season called 'Lent'. The season continues through to Easter which, this year, will be celebrated on Sunday 31st March.

Lent is the time in church when we think about Jesus being sent out into the wilderness, away from people, hungry and thirsty. In the Gospel writings we read that Jesus had been baptised by John in the river Jordan, there God's voice was heard declaring that Jesus was God's son and telling everyone to listen to him. Mark's Gospel records that Jesus then went immediately into the wilderness and there he was tested.



Jesus was tempted by; food, power, and riches, but Jesus refused all these. His time in the wilderness taught him to rely on, and to serve, God. It was a time to remove all sense of ego or being self-centred. He returned from the wilderness after forty days ready to begin his ministry.

There can be times in our lives when we experience wilderness, whether by choice or circumstance. By choice, it could be going to a place of retreat. Spending time away from work, home, mobile phones, the internet and much more. Giving time to reflect, pray and sort out spiritual life. Or wilderness can happen by circumstance, maybe a time of illness or hurt, and feeling that sense of being cut off. Whether by choice or circumstance, wilderness can be a time to strip away, mentally, all that is not important, or to strip away distractions. Then to realise what is important, what feeds and nourishes in your emotional and spiritual life.

I'm being deliberately broad in these statements because each experience is unique and experiencing wilderness can be a difficult time. Jesus is enriched and spiritually nourished by his experience and realised his purpose and ministry. He still needed time to get away, we are told in the Gospels of occasions when he left his friends, found a quiet place, and prayed.

Lent is a time to have an annual emotional and spiritual 'spring-clean'. To be self-aware, knowing our hopes and fears, strengths, and weaknesses, where

we are tempted, where we are needed and so come to Easter refreshed and renewed ready to continue God's work in our world.

God bless you this Lent.

Rev Richard Finch

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Pondering Prayer

A nest no human hand had touched,
Though human eye did see,
So what in nature came along
And then destroyed thee?
No, not the nest but life within,
Such pain and fear to bear
What took the frightened blackbirds out
And didn't give a care?

It's nature's way, or so I'm told,
"Where's love then?" question I,
"If nature's God's creation way
Just where does God's love lie?"
Nature's way is dog eats dog
Predators too are we.
The human race will fight to kill
As do the ant and flea!

So where look I for nature's love?
Where can I God's love see?
In war, in tempest, storm, or flood?
In mocked tranquillity?
Where do I look for God's great love?
"Can it," I ask, "be found?"
Please help me Lord to understand
Before I'm under ground.

© Bernard Smith 14th April 2002

This month of Lent is a time when we look back perhaps on the past year and wonder perhaps what we can change to improve not just one's own lives and concerns but those of the world around us and beyond. It is a particularly troubled, unsettled world at this time and many of us may question what we can do to change things. These are great concerns which we should take to our heavenly Father. Pray this month for understanding and a more peaceful and loving world across all nations.

'O God, who are the Father of all, and who alone makes us to be of one mind: we ask you, at this time of strife and unrest, to grant to us by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit a fuller realisation of our true relationship of love and care, person to person and nation to nation. Allay all anger and bitterness, and deepen in us a sense of truth and equity in our dealings one with another. This we ask in Jesus name'

(From a prayer by Randall T. Davidson 1848-1930)

Br. Christian

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Generous giving

The church of St Margaret's Leiston relies on the financial giving from fundraising and by personal contributions to maintain the work of the church and the church building.

We encourage you to give what you can and as generously as you can. There are several different ways that you can use.

Planned giving (monthly or weekly): Using the Parish Giving Scheme, the envelope scheme or by standing order. Contact our Treasurer, Sandra Harle, if you would like to get details of how to join these schemes.

One-off donations: Either by a cash donation in church (on Sunday there is a giving plate on the table near the main entrance), or by using the card machine, or via your smartphone just scan this QR code and follow the guidance.

Online: there is a link to the giving page on our church website.

Gift Aid: If you are a UK tax-payer then you can declare your wish for gift aid to be reclaimed by the church.



MARCH

There is a saying – March comes in like a lion and goes out like a lamb and vice versa.

In the past people would rely on the weather by farm workers; they could tell the weather by a smell - rain in the air they would say or we've got wind coming. Even on a sunny day, they would say rain before tea time and they were right. We had a cat and it would come in and go under the sideboard. It could be sunny – Mum would say we've got a storm coming. I think animals sense things. I remember Betty's Mum used to say if there is enough blue in a cloudy sky to make a sailor's hat (or coat) it wouldn't rain.

Now with progress, the weather can be forecast weeks ahead to prepare people for the worst especially in foreign countries, but even then things happen suddenly.

Leiston has and will be changing a lot over the next few years so it's nice to know some people in Leiston have photographs of how things were. One man used to take his camera and get before, during and after photographs or of places where buildings had been so I think history will carry on. It's a changing world now, very uncertain so all the reason to make the most of each day. Most people you speak to have problems, illnesses, etc so you have to be grateful for what you can do. I'm looking forward to the Craft Fair, lighter evenings, spring flowers, warmer weather and good health, God's greatest gift.

MARGARET CLARKE

NEW PLACE TO TAKE YOUR EMPTY PILL BLISTER PACKS

Mr David Jenkins from 8 Uplands Road, Thorpeness (the road to the House in the Clouds) has a black plastic dustbin in his garden ready to receive your blister packs. He is taking them to a recycling depot in Needham Market. If you need any further information you can ring David on 01728 453959 or email him at david1936jenkins@gmail.com

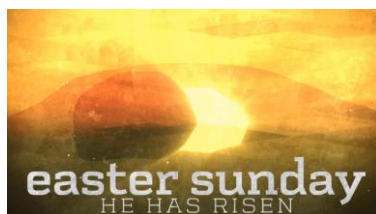
PLEASE NOTE – THIS IS NOT CONNECTED IN ANY WAY TO THE
PREVIOUS COLLECTION AT ST. MARGARET'S CHURCH –
PLEASE DO NOT BRING YOUR PACKS TO CHURCH

VALENTINE BAKE SALE



A very successful Valentine's Bake Sale was held in Leiston Co-op on Saturday 10th February. Many thanks to everyone who supported the Bake Sale and Raffle. The sum of £230 50 was raised for church funds.

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SERVICES AT ST. MARGARET'S....



Sunday 24th March – Palm Sunday, 10am Holy Communion. Retelling the accounts of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem and the Crucifixion.

Thursday 28th March – Maundy Thursday, 7.30pm Holy Communion. Recalling the Last Supper of Jesus.

Friday 29th March – Good Friday, 2 pm. Reflection on the meaning of the Cross.

Sunday 31st March – Easter Day, 10am Holy Communion. The Resurrection of Jesus.

MY TRIP TO NEW ZEALAND

As many of you know I have talked about going to see my nephew for many years now. Some of you thought I was mad and some thought I was brave, given the fact that I am severely sight impaired blind and was travelling on my own. I was given a lot of encouragement by my friends who are also sight impaired although some of them did think I was mad. However, one friend who had done the trip with family told me to ask for assisted travel and she was sure everything would go well. Finally I visited a travel company in Woodbridge. They guided me through the booking of the flights and hotel and I must say everything went completely to plan right from my son taking me to Heathrow on the 30th of November until I returned on the 19th of December and he was there right on time to pick me up. Without all the wonderful support from everyone on my travels I would not have been able to do it.

The only negative comment I have to make about my travel and that is that the Singapore Airlines business travel just does not cater for short legged rounded people. Despite that I was treated like a lady all the way on all my flights.

The photograph shows Sylvia with nephew Justin, his wife Debbie and children Keira and Oliver



The purpose of my visit was of course to visit my nephew and his family. He was only 10 years old when I last saw him - he is now 43 and married with two lovely children. Unfortunately, his father who was my favourite brother died back in 1989 just a year after coming to visit us here in the UK. We went out to see the family in 1990 and I've always wanted to go at least one more time and now I have achieved it. It was extremely emotional when we met at the airport. My nephew gave me a big hug and I must admit it felt just like my brother's was.

Now although the purpose of the visit was to meet the family I've got to say they treated me absolutely wonderful taking me out and about especially at weekends when they were not working and picking me up from the hotel for evening meals.

We had lovely drives up over the mountains and down through many little towns also along the Kapiti coastline. We visited museums, botanical gardens, wildlife parks and vineyards. We also walked around Wellington (North Island)

Sadly we could not go into the Parliament but I was quite struck that there were not any police guards outside the doors and we could walk right up to the building and my nephew pointed out that there were members of the Parliament coming out and getting into taxis etc with no worries for their safety. We visited Wellington's Museum where despite there being very little audio description, I was kept well informed by my great nephew Oliver who is almost nine years old, he reminds me so much of his dad when I visited them in 1990.



We had a lovely walk around Saint Paul's Cathedral which is where my nephew and his wife Debbie were married. Incidentally, they are not Anglicans but Baptists and were permitted to have their own minister take the service.

I also had two great nieces from my brother's daughters, one of whom visited me at the hotel and we enjoyed a meal together one day and coffee the next.

She had flown up from Dunedin (on South Island) especially to see me. Then the next week I was treated to a whole day out on the Kapiti coast with my other great niece. Unfortunately I did not get to meet their mothers but due to work commitments they could not get there. Well this is an overview of a wonderful time spent with family - something which I cannot see myself doing again. Once again I'd like to say that I could not have done this without all the wonderful people helping me along my way.

SYLVIA HAWES

ADRIAN KNIGHTS, A LEISTON BOY part 2



On Friday 16th February a band of ringers came to St Margaret's to ring a peal in memory of Adrian. The peal was successful and many people were delighted to hear the bells rung, a beautiful sound. All eight ringers had rung at least one hundred peals with Adrian over the years. A further peal will be attempted on Wednesday 13th March. It was lovely to meet the ringers and hear stories about their bell ringing

adventures. One lady had gone from Ipswich on the train to ring at both St Paul's Cathedral and Westminster Abbey on the same day – incredible.

Stephen D Pettman continues Adrian's story

In his day, Adrian was a formidable ringer, ringing 1055 full peals, 885 of them for the Suffolk Guild. Full peals are 5000 or more different changes, taking about 3 hours to accomplish. His first peal was on 18 October 1962, aged 15, at Theberton, a peal of Minor (6 bells). The last peal was on his 70th birthday at Offton, which he accomplished despite already having dementia. As with all sufferers of this terrible disease, it was distressing for his fellow ringers to watch his decline. This entertaining and sociable character became miserable and frustrated.

Adrian's leading tower for peals, my home tower, was Grundisburgh, where he rung 150 full peals. His second highest peal tower was Ipswich, St Mary-le-Tower, where he rang 114 peals. He felt privileged to have been elected to the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths, one of the two prestige Societies in the country, for whom he rang 63 peals.

Adrian's favourite method (specific ringing pattern) was Bristol Surprise. Back in the 1970's, the Maximus (12 bells) was only rung by the top bands of ringers in the country. Adrian and I were thrilled (and nervous) at being asked to go to Shoreditch Church to attempt a full peal of this with the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths on 8 April 1975. There were also two other ringers from Suffolk invited. The peal was successful, so we adjourned to the local pub for a small celebration. A week after this, one of my London ringing friends was talking to Kath Maundrell, who had also rung in this peal. He asked her if it was the normal Shoreditch band. She replied "No. There were four ringers from Suffolk - Howard Egglestone, the Reverend Lawrence Pizzey, Stephen Pettman and some little chap named Arnold, who sat in the

corner drinking lots of beer." Adrian was known by many as "Amie" from that day.

His sharp dry wit and quick retort were enjoyed by many. Few examples are suitable for print in this article, due to choice of words or political correctness! One example, which is possibly acceptable: Adrian returned home one night, just slightly the worse for drink. His mother was keen to know that he had returned home safely, as all mothers are, so she placed the hat and coat stand in the middle of the hall floor. Adrian duly fell over it, causing a bit of a clatter, and his mother appeared at the top of the stairs saying "Drunk again Adrian", to which Adrian replied, "Are you Mother? So am I."

The link with Leiston's famous Bailey brothers puts things into perspective in terms of how things have developed. Charles Bailey, their conductor, was a leading light in Suffolk, guiding his brothers and other local ringers in the 1920s and early 1930s, through first peals in 7 quite complicated Surprise Major (8 bells), including Suffolk Surprise. Charles rang 443 full peals, conducting 412 of them. The Leiston band were clearly an inspiration to the Helmingham band, who continued this ringing of new methods in the 1930s, achieving success in 25 first performances. Ipswich St Mary-le-Tower had a very competent band and rang many first performances in methods on 12 bells. They like Leiston rang peals on handbells but never managed to ring the Stedman Cinques, achieved in 1921 at Leiston. Legend has it that Charles would never reveal to the Ipswich ringers how it was achieved! Suffolk was a significant contributor to bellringing history in this period.

However, Charles Bailey only rang 10 of his peals outside the county, including two at Great Yarmouth on 10 and 12 bells - both Kent Treble Bob. The rest of his 41 peals on 10 and 12 bells were on handbells in Leiston. Compare Adrian ringing full peals at York Minster, Southwark Cathedral, London, Portsmouth Cathedral, Peterborough Cathedral, Lincoln Cathedral, Chester Cathedral, Inverary, Argyll, Scotland, Birmingham Cathedral, Chelmsford Cathedral, Bury St Edmunds Cathedral. He rang many peals in Norfolk, Essex and Cambridgeshire plus numerous other counties. He also rang full peals on all the London "Oranges and Lemons" bells: St Clement Danes, St Martin in the Fields, St Sepulchre (Old Bailey), Shoreditch, Stepney and St Mary-le-Bow (Bow bells). Of his 1055 peals, 274 were on 10 and 12 bells. I feel privileged to have rung in 462 of his peals. Adrian's halcyon days were in the 1970s and 1980s, 50 years after Charles's peak years. Had Charles had similar time and transport opportunities, one wonders what he may have achieved.

Stephen D Pettman, Ringing Master at Grundisburgh.

TEAM OF RINGERS AT ST. MARGARET'S ON 16TH FEBRUARY



Back row: John, Amanda, David, Brian

Front row: Stephen, Christine, Richard, Simon (Image: Richard Knight)

The above photograph shows the band of ringers who rang the peal on 16th February as a tribute to Leiston ringer, Adrian Knights. All of whom had rung over 100 peals with Adrian.

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IN LOVING MEMORY

It broke our hearts to lose you but you did not go alone,
A part of us went with you the day God took you home
If tears could build a stairway and heartache make a lane,
We'd walk our way to heaven and bring you back again.
In life we loved you dearly, in death we love you still,
In our hearts you hold a place no-one could ever fill.

In loving memory of Paul Snowden on March 7th fifteen long years ago.

With our love Jan. Steven, Nicola and family

WORSHIP AT ST MARGARET'S CHURCH

At St Margaret's we offer a service of Holy Communion, 10am each Sunday in church.

There is a short service of Morning Prayer every Tuesday at 9.30am; this is held by telephone conference call. A service of Evening Prayer is held on Wednesdays in church at 5pm. The church is open for private prayer and quiet reflection during the week from Monday to Saturday, 10am to 3 pm – later in summer. It is open during the Sunday morning service.

Our Good Morning news sheet, readings and other resource material and information are shared by email every Saturday.

If you wish to join our mailing list or the Tuesday Morning Prayer please contact me (email: vicarleiston@gmail.com or telephone: 01728 830421). Richard Finch

CONTACT US

Priest in Charge: Reverend Richard Finch: T.830421
The Vicarage, Church Road, Leiston

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

Lay Elders:

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

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

Church Wardens:

Two Vacancies

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

PCC Secretary: Mrs Emma Jameson: 4 Woodlands, Leiston T.832166

Organist & Choir Master: Matthew Merrett

Deanery Synod Representatives:

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

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

Resident Retired Priests:

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

Reverend Christine Redgrave

Website Editor: Mrs Maureen Fox T.830929

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

ST. MARGARET'S CHURCH

Dear Friends

March's magazine continues to focus on monthly prayer time, with the St Margaret's Church family group for this month as shown below. There are three family groups with each one appearing in the magazine every three months. However, you remain in our thoughts and prayers always.

If you would like to be included in our family monthly prayers, or have any queries please email stmargaretsleiston@gmail.com. If you feel you would prefer to be remembered in a particular month then please let us know. Also, if you have a specific need for additional prayer time then please let us know and we will add you to our 'special prayers' section.

In our Church Family Prayers

| | |
|--|--|
| Martin Phillips-Last | Stephen & Gail Southgate |
| Simon, Sheena, Tom & Matt Merrett | Naomi Kerans |
| David & Midge Mackinnon | John & Sue Last |
| Hannah, Stuart, Teddy & Dulcie Tilbrook | Judith & Mike Stigwood |
| Phil, Sue, Joshua, Charlotte, Connie & Greg Watson | Maureen Fox |
| David & Cindy Fitsell | Wayne, Ben & Niamh Fox |
| Emma Fitsell | Fi Long |
| Paul, Alexander, Aidan, Cory & Amyleigh Fitsell | Allison King |
| Jonathan, Kathryn & Joshua Williams | Luke, Asha & Jai Mewett |
| Mike & Lesley Cassie | Clare & Kane Hambridge |
| Stephanie Luckhurst | Peter & Jenefer Roberts |
| Joan Whale | Charles & Pauline Stride |
| Paul Espindola | Christine & Nathan James |
| Mary Murphy | Derek & Sheila Stiff |
| Jo Tozer | Eileen Free |
| Sue, Dale, Ewan & Cameron Threadkell | Lynn and Dave Blake, Gemma, Craig, Florence and Arthur |
| Joan, Philip, Ian & Susan Huxley | |
| Ann Essex | |



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St. Margaret of Antioch



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Church Road, Leiston, Suffolk IP16 4HG

NOTICE: Items for April's magazine

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

Email: pm42carter@gmail.com

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

Keep up to date with all Church Events

By visiting our own website

www.stmargaretschurchleiston.onesuffolk.net

How to Find Us

