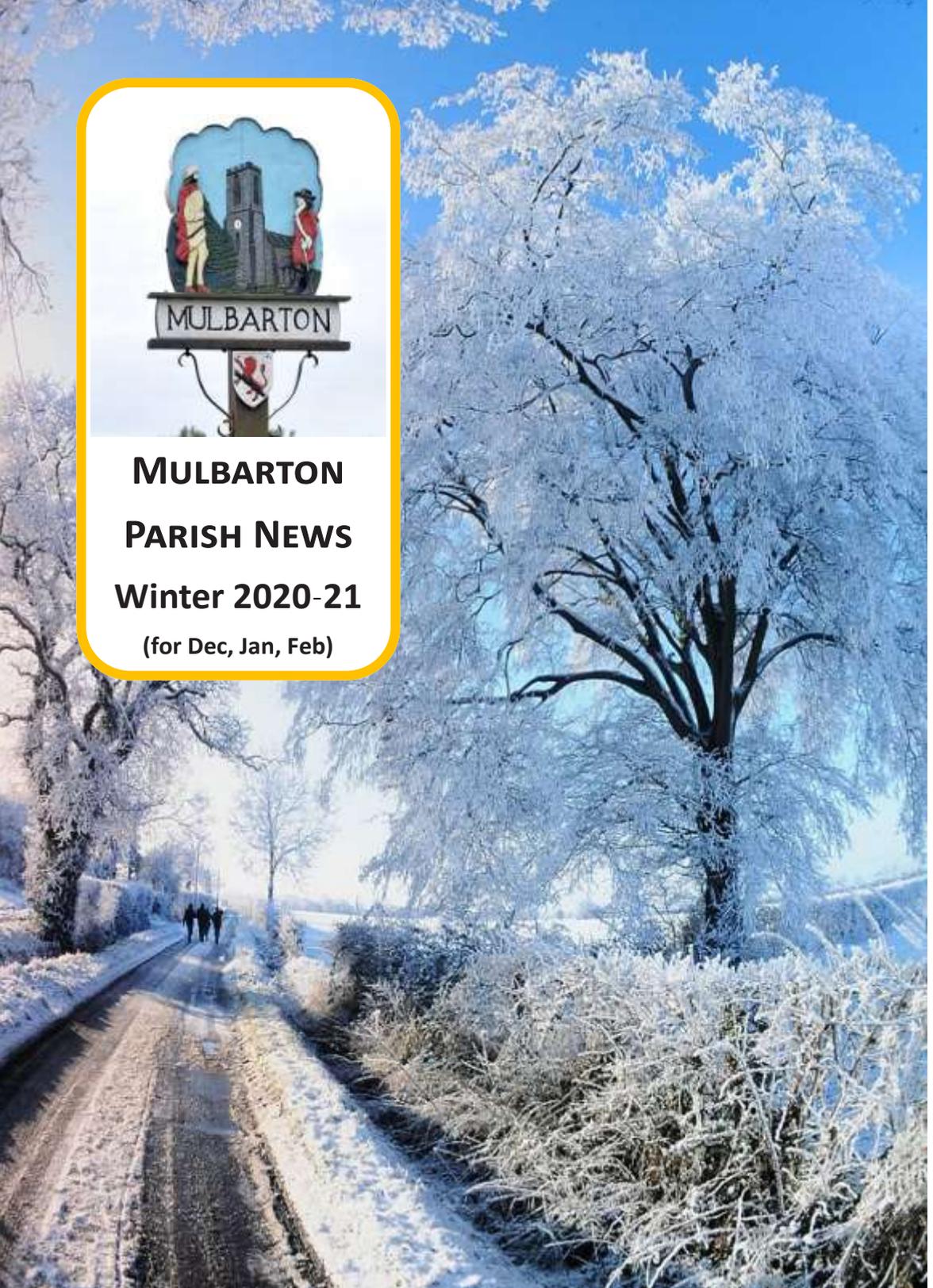




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PARISH NEWS
Winter 2020-21
(for Dec, Jan, Feb)



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“Christmas isn’t cancelled!”

(A reflection by guest contributor Rev Derrick Hill, a retired Baptist minister who lives in Mulbarton and takes services here.)

Christmas is a very special time of year for all sorts of reasons – but as I write at the end of October people are beginning to recognise that this Christmas will be different from any other we have known. The restrictions upon us as a result of the Coronavirus Pandemic mean that many regular festivities in the lead up to Christmas are being cancelled, or at least scaled back, and the Rule of Six is likely to restrict many family gatherings over the holiday itself. However, Christmas is coming!

On that very first Christmas in Bethlehem some 2,000 years ago Mary and Joseph also had to adjust:

- They were required to be away from their hometown of Nazareth;
- They had difficulty finding overnight accommodation in Bethlehem and had to settle for a stable;
- Mary was heavily pregnant and gave birth in dingy surroundings to her first child who was not Joseph’s.

How lonely she must have felt, even in the midst of a crowded town!

But, when events in our life take an unexpected turn for the worse; when we feel isolated and maybe even afraid, where do we turn? Traditionally when times are difficult many have found comfort and support through turning to God in prayer – and Mary certainly did this, learning that her Son, who had been miraculously conceived in her by the Holy Spirit, would be called “Immanuel” which means “God with us”.

And this core message of Christmas remains unchanged – that God reaches out to those who seek Him – and offers to support them on their life journey – forgiving, purifying, strengthening and protecting.

My prayer for each person in Mulbarton this Christmas is simply that, whatever circumstances you face when the season comes, you might seek God and find comfort and support from His presence with you.

If you want to talk further about these things, then please feel free to make contact with the church through the website or via any of the churchwardens listed overleaf,

Derrick Hill



ADVENT & CHRISTMAS SERVICES



in the Mulbarton Group of churches

[ALL subject to whatever is allowed on the day!]

(see <http://mulbchurch.org.uk/> for updates & Zoom link)

29th November (Advent Sunday) - **10am** Communion by Zoom (link on church website—above) instead of from **Hethel** Church

20th December, 10am—Family Christingle on Zoom: join us to assemble your own Christingle! (Resource bags with all you need available in the church porches from 12 Dec. If you cannot collect a bag, you will need an orange, some red ribbon /tape, small soft sweets / dried fruit, cocktail sticks, small candle.)



Christmas Eve—5pm Communion in **Bracon Ash** church (instead of a midnight service) Churchwarden: Heather,578462, itsmecliff@hotmail.co.uk

Christmas Eve—7pm Village **CAROL BIG SING** and greet your neighbours (see pull-out centre spread, pages 23—26)

Christmas Day—10am Family Service in **Mulbarton** Church (Churchwarden: Tom Taylor, 570746 tomtaylor@live.com)

Sunday 27th December—NO SERVICE

Current rules about church attendance must be followed (wear masks, no singing, etc) and it would help us organise seating, etc if you contacted the relevant Churchwarden to say you plan to come.

THANK YOU

&

WELCOME!

From the Registers (Mulbarton unless otherwise stated)

WEDDINGS:

22nd August—Tom Leary & Lucy Parker

FUNERALS:

18th September—Geraldine Olive James (at St Faith's crematorium)

29th October—Mark Howard Spooner

BURIAL OF ASHES:

14th August—Elsie Page

[Note from Ed: you are welcome to inform me of Weddings and Funerals of local residents that have taken place at other venues—contact details opposite]



WELCOME
to PARISH NEWS!

Christmas 2020 won't be like any other Christmas – but we can still make it a special **VILLAGE CHRISTMAS!** Your **PARISH NEWS** is promoting an **ANGELS project:** turn to pages 32—33. How many angels can we display for everyone to see? (How many angels can you spot in this magazine?!) 

We've 'clapped for carers'—now we can sing for them, and for our friends and neighbours. The **BIG VILLAGE CAROL SING** is **7pm on Thursday 24th December**—all the information (and carols) in the pull-out centre spread, pp. 23—26.

There is important information from Councillors (pp.11-17) & Surgery (p.21); a feature on the clock (p.7) and your Covid Heroes (p.17); news & photos from organisations. All those useful contact details you need are now in a **NEW 'Village Directory'**, on p.43.

THANKS to all our contributors, especially our guest contributor for p.3; our advertisers, new and renewed (PLEASE SUPPORT THEM!), and our **WONDERFUL** team of deliverers!

DEADLINE for items for the **SPRING** issue (March to May) will be **SUNDAY 31st JAN**—though sooner the better as Feb's a short month!

THE TEAM:

Editor: Jill Wright (570532) dandjwright@hotmail.com

Assistant Editor: Sue Parker sueondartmoor@hotmail.com

Proof-checking: Sue Stirling

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Advertising Manager, Sara, at brumhead2@aol.co.uk

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TIME AGAIN!

The clock is back! Our World War 2 memorial clock in the church tower has been renovated and re-gilded and gleams again.



Above: the faded clock before renovation. Another photo, p.11.

If you haven't stopped to look, please do so, especially on a sunny afternoon! And the renovation is all thanks to Mulbarton Parish Council—and Smiths of Derby who originally installed the clock. Earlier this year they removed the clock-face and took it to Derby for cleaning and re-gilding. Lockdown delayed its return (originally planned to be in time for VE Day) but it was installed in time for Remembrance Sunday.

The clock was the brainchild of the post-war Parish Council, and in particular Sergeant-Major Bill Haverson, DCM, the village postman for 17 years. With Bob Mickleburgh and others he raised the money to buy the clock and have it installed. It was dedicated by the Bishop of Norwich at a special service at 3pm on Sunday 8th October, 1950 where the local British Legion paraded, and 'Last Post' and 'Reveille' sounded. Over the years, it has been maintained (and improved) by the Parish Council (see page11) and should now ring out for another 70 years!

Jill Wright

[Main photo, Jill Wright; inset + photos on p.11, Gerald Peachey, Red Zebra Photography]

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PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

Parish Council Update October 2020

Despite the unusual times in which we find ourselves Mulbarton Parish Council continues to work hard on behalf of all the residents of the village. Zoom meetings have become the norm and residents are welcome to virtually attend meetings on the first Monday of each month, simply email the Parish Council Clerk Anne for a link, the deadline for this is the evening before the meeting or access it from mulbartonpc.org.uk. The Parish Council is working with local SNC Councillors to offer appropriate support to the village during these unprecedented times.

CLOCK

Several residents have remarked on the absence of the Church clock which is the village's war memorial (see page 7). One younger member of our community expressed the opinion that it had been taken down

Below: fitting the regilded hands



“to have its batteries replaced”... After seventy years' service the Parish Council has had the clock fully restored and refurbished by its makers, Smith of Derby. It has now been reinstalled as good as new (see page 9)

REPAIRS & IMPROVEMENTS

The Parish Council has a constant programme of repairing and developing the amenities in the village. A slight pause was necessary during lockdown and a number of projects are now fully underway, including the repair of the zip wire at the Meadows; the topping up of bark in the play areas; the cutting back and tidying up of encroaching vegetation in areas of Council responsibility; the replacement of parking signs which are distressed as well as those which have been unfortunately vandalised in the village. A number of further projects are at various stages, including the tidying up the Common; repairs to play equipment;

replacement of a bench on the Common and a temporary repair of the Common car park followed by a longer term solution to provide a better all-weather surface. Where possible the Council uses suitable local contractors and providers who are invited to tender for work.

Continued on p. 13 >>



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Parish Council Report, from p. 11:

ALLOTMENTS

The transfer of the allotments at Oakley Park is almost complete and there are still plots available for rent. All of this work is possible due to the sound financial position of the Council and is aimed at providing a pleasant and enjoyable environment for the village.

WINDFARM PROJECTS

Part of our wider environment is included in the proposed development of one or possibly more electrical sub stations by the B1113 to the north of the village. This is being closely monitored by the Parish Council as this would have a notable impact on village life. On July 1st the government announced approval for the Norfolk Vanguard wind farm project, which would connect to the grid at Necton, in North Norfolk. The Planning Inspectorate had recommended refusal. Since then, a judicial review has been launched to challenge the government's decision, and the case will be heard early next year. The planning enquiry for the Norfolk Boreas wind farm closed on 12th October. A decision on that project is expected in a few months' time. Also on 1st July, the government announced its intention to approve the Hornsea Three wind farm. This would have a connection to the grid at Dunston, and a sub-station in Swardston alongside the B1113. This was also recommended for refusal. A final decision is due by 31st December this year. The fourth project, for the Dudgeon and Sheringham Shoal wind farms,

Is just starting the application process. It is also looking for a site for a big substation near Dunston. At the same time, the government has launched an urgent review of how these projects connect to the grid. The review is due to be completed by March next year. NOTE what is involved:

Size of infrastructure 149,302 m² - this equals about 22 football pitches.
Size of temporary works 91,000 m² = about 13 average football pitches
TOTAL about 35 football pitches

Height of larger of the proposed substations is 25m. = approx. a 6 storey office building.

Construction time (with possible obstruction of B1113) is 36 months

The details of all the proposed wind farm developments can be found on the Parish Council website:

www.mulbarton.org.uk

Email:

mulbartonparish@btconnect.com

Phone: 01508 578134

The Parish Council office is by the main entrance to the Village Hall.

We wish everyone the happiest possible Christmas and a much better New Year!

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DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORTS OCTOBER 2020

1. Is there still money at the end of your month? Are you, or a group you care about, suffering from the effects of Covid, physically or financially? Please talk to us or South Norfolk Council 01508 533 933. There are other issues here, but this might be the most important for you.
2. An advantage of the Covid crisis is that all council and parish council meetings can be seen on line, so it is easier to contribute. It looks as though this is will be so for the foreseeable future.
3. Planning is a fraught topic. We were not able to debate it at Full Council. We have the new local plan in process and possible Government changes. Anyone can make a speculative bid but most are refused. Our village cluster is Mulbarton, Bracon Ash, Swardeston and East Carleton. If you have any questions ask the Place Shaping Team at LP@s-norfolk.gov.uk or on 01508 533805 as consultations have now closed. The link is; <https://www.greaternorwichgrowth.org.uk/planning/greater-norwich-local-plan/>
4. The national grid are finally aware that they need to consider the infrastructure when planning energy supply and will be rationalising cabling and sub stations in the future. Sadly not in time for us.
5. If you have IT issues ensure you have a VDSL (not ADSL) enabled modem or router and 'fibre to box' connection.



However it is for you, in this strange year, I hope you have a **Very Happy Christmas and a Healthy & Peaceful New Year.**

Vivienne

vivienne.clifford.jackson@gmail.com 07717 296 2020 or 01508 571346

~~~~~

South Norfolk Council continues to operate with many staff working from home or part time at Cygnet House. The offices are open to the general public on a limited basis. Refuse collections continue as normal.

The recent Government White Paper "Planning for the Future" could bring major changes to South Norfolk. The algorithmic calculations on housing need suggest that South Norfolk could be required to accommodate up to 20000 more homes. This would be in addition to the 40000 already allocated for the Norwich Policy Area. The implication is that one or more new settlements could be required. The Village Cluster proposals currently under consideration for the rural areas of South Norfolk are currently being assessed. The final list will be published in February/March next year following which there will be a period of consultation.

**Continued on page 17 >>**

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**District Council reports, continued:**

There are a number of development proposals in the surrounding villages which may have the combined effect of affecting the rural nature of the village. These include a potential *three* windfarm substations at Swardeston (see *Parish Council report, pages 11—13*); the relocation of the Ben Burgess works to Swainsthorpe; the Energy Innovation Centre at Stanfield; and the proposed large Solar Farm at Bracon Ash (which can be viewed at the *South Norfolk website 2020/1409*). Work on the Thickthorn Interchange is scheduled to commence in January 2023.  
NOTE: Member Ward Grants are still available to interested groups. Applicants should contact the District Councillors directly.

Nigel Legg

Contact: [nlegg@s-norfolk.gov.uk](mailto:nlegg@s-norfolk.gov.uk)

NOTE: details of all your District Councillors are available at <https://www.south-norfolk.gov.uk/about-us/councillors-and-committees/your-councillors>

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**Mulbarton primary school** is now well and truly back!

We have been very pleased to reconnect with the children and parents on their return to school. Seeing the children skipping and running into school has been a joy. They have returned eager to learn as well as spend time with their friends and staff.

This term has purposely been a fairly quiet one so we could concentrate on returning the children to our school systems and routines. Despite the heavy rain we have managed to move a lot of the learning outside and we are therefore looking to improve these spaces even more.

Unfortunately our PTA has missed out on vital fundraising which we would have called on to help with the improvements outside. They had to cancel the summer fayre and it is looking unlikely that the Christmas fayre will be able to run. They have therefore set up a **Go Fund Me** page which you can look for if you wish to support us (*the link is <https://gf.me/u/ypat38>*).

Another possible way to support the school is by opting to use Amazon Smile and naming the Mulbarton PTA as your charity.

Mulbarton Words Week have kindly donated 50 books to the school library to celebrate our 50 years anniversary and we are very grateful for their support (*see page 37*).

The church will again be donating a children's Bible to our new reception children before Christmas.

I would like to thank the parents, children and staff for making our return to "normal" as smooth as possible and hope that we will be able to continue to deliver high quality education throughout 2021.

*Bev Theobald* (Head Teacher)

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As we move through autumn and winter and the number of COVID-19 cases increase, we are acutely aware of how important it is to minimise the number of patients coming into the surgery. We would ask all patients to use our online system at [www.humbleyard.nhs.uk](http://www.humbleyard.nhs.uk) or if they do not have online access, to telephone 01603 977477 with any query. This is to enable us to protect those patients who we have asked to come into the surgery and to protect our staff from unnecessary exposure to potential infection.

We have recently installed an intercom at the front door of each of our 3 surgeries. Please ring the bell and wait for a response, please do not walk into the surgery until you have been asked to do so. This again will help us manage the number of patients passing through the surgery and allow us to manage social distancing in a controlled way.

If you are over 65 and still not had your flu vaccination, please contact the surgery using the online system or alternatively telephone us (details above) and we will arrange an appointment for you.

You may be aware that a new group of the population will be eligible for a flu vaccine this year. Later in the season vaccinations will be offered to people between the age of 50 and 64. We understand that NHS England will contact people in this age group directly to advise how to get a vaccination. Please do not contact the surgery until you have received a letter from NHS England and only if they advise you to do so.

We thank all our patients for their cooperation at what is a very difficult time for everyone.

*Humbleyard Practice Staff*



**BUBBIES'** Are you expecting a baby, or do you have a young baby? If so, you may be interested in knowing about the local support group "Bubbies" which is for people in this situation. We had to stop our regular Wednesday meetings during lockdown and at the moment we are not sure when 'Bubbies' can meet at Harvest House. We do however have a Bubbies' Facebook page and Zoom meetings are available when there is a demand for these. So get in touch / keep in touch. Contact Zoe 07944407396



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# Big Village Carol Sing

## On your own doorstep

### Christmas Eve 2020

7pm



Put on your coats, your winter hats and gloves and come carol singing! But we can't .... Oh yes we can! With the absence of a Christmas Carol Service this year we are inviting the **whole village** to join together and sing carols, each person on their own front doorstep or front window.

In the spring we came out of our houses at 7pm on Thursdays to clap and cheer carers: now we are going to sing to and for them—and our neighbours! If you can't come out, grab a blanket and a chair and sit by an open door or window.

You will find the carols we will be singing on the next 3 pages, so pull out this centre fold and keep it somewhere safe. This leaflet will also be downloadable from the Village Website at [www.mulbarton.info](http://www.mulbarton.info)

If you play musical instruments, then bring them out and accompany your carolling neighbours! Suggested keys are printed next to the carols - it's probably a good idea if we are all singing the same notes!

**GUIDELINE are set out in column 1 overleaf— PLEASE READ THEM FIRST. Remember they've been given to keep us safe.**

Above all have fun as we rejoice together with the familiar songs that tell the Christmas story.

*Becky Taylor (570746)*

(additional notes on the carols & authors by Jill Wright)



## PLEASE READ THIS FIRST

- Please stay on your doorstep or at your front window (as happened during the clap for carers), and do *not* use this as an opportunity for socialising beyond the family/friend bubble that you are in.
- If you or your neighbours would prefer, please wear a mask when you sing.
- Please do not come out onto the doorstep if you have symptoms or have tested positive for Covid 19 or are isolating.

*Please be aware that this is being offered on the basis of what is allowable in late October and that the situation is fluid and may change* (check information on [www.mulbarton.info](http://www.mulbarton.info) or <http://mulbchurch.org.uk>).

Remember the (current) slogan:

**HANDS**

**FACE**

**SPACE**

To protect yourselves and others (or, 'love your neighbours as yourself'.

**Now enjoy yourself and have a lovely Christmas!**



**Once in Royal David's city** (G)  
Stood a lowly cattle shed.  
Where a mother laid her baby  
In a manger for His bed.  
Mary was that mother mild,  
Jesus Christ that little child.

He came down to earth from Heaven,  
Who is God and Lord of all.  
And his shelter was a stable,  
And his cradle was a stall.  
With the poor and mean and lowly,  
Lived on earth our Saviour Holy.

And our eyes at last shall see Him  
Through His own redeeming love,  
For that child so dear and gentle  
Is our Lord in Heaven above;  
And He leads His children on  
To the place where He is gone.

Not in that poor, lowly stable,  
With the oxen standing by,  
We shall see Him; but in Heaven,  
Set at God's right hand on high,  
When, like stars, His children crowned  
All in white, shall wait around.

~~~~~  
Written by Mrs Cecil Frances Alexander (1818-1895), wife of the Bishop of Derry, NI, as one of a series of hymns to help children understand the Creed. She once wrote: 'A namby-pamby, childish style is most unpleasing to children, especially boys...' This carol moves from "Once" (v. 1) to "is" (v. 5). She wanted singers to know that what happened 2000+ years ago is also for NOW, as Jesus is an example to follow (v. 4) and Lord of all (v.5).

O little town of Bethlehem, (F)
How still we see thee lie -
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
The silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth
The everlasting Light;
The hopes and fears of all the years
Are met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary
And gathered all above
While mortals sleep, the angels keep
Their watch of wondering love.
O morning stars together
Proclaim the holy birth;
And praises sing to God the King
And Peace to all on earth

How silently, how silently
The wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts
The blessings of His heaven.
No ear may hear His coming;
But in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive him, still
The dear Christ enters in.

O holy Child of Bethlehem
Descend to us, we pray:
Cast out our sin and enter in,
Be born to us today.
We hear the Christmas angels
The great glad tidings tell:
O come to us, abide with us,
Our Lord Emmanuel



'O little town of Bethlehem' was written by Phillips Brooks (1835-1893), an American clergyman who visited Bethlehem in 1866. He makes us feel we are there! The end of verse 1 is very appropriate for this year—one with many hopes and fears....

This Christmas hymn was also written for a Sunday School—to help people understand that Jesus is still with us (verse 3) and wants us to know his presence—hence the prayer that is the final verse.



Over the page is 'O come, all ye faithful'. This is an older Christmas hymn with an intriguing story: the verses we sing here were written by an Englishman, John Francis Wade (c.1710-1786) who was an exile in France because he was a Roman Catholic. Some books have more verses—added later by a French priest who was an exile in England because of the French Revolution! All verses were originally written in Latin.

Some people think Wade's original carol had coded messages to supporters of Bonnie Prince Charlie! But whether that is true or not, it proclaims loud and clear that Jesus really is King (v. 1) and God (v. 2) and was born a true human like us (v. 4). So we should encourage one another to worship / adore him.

These carols bring together writers of different eras, countries, religious traditions: Christmas unites us all.

It's only a few hours to Christmas day, so we can sing out the last verse of 'O come all ye faithful' and wish everyone a very

Happy Christmas

O come, all ye faithful (G)

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant!

O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold him
Born the King of Angels:

*O come, let us adore Him, (3×)
Christ the Lord.*

God of God, light of light,
Lo, he abhors not the Virgin's womb;
Very God, begotten, not created:

*O come, let us adore Him, (3×)
Christ the Lord.*

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of Heaven above!
Glory to God, glory in the highest:

*O come, let us adore Him, (3×)
Christ the Lord.*

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this
happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be glory given!
Word of the Father, now in flesh
appearing!

*O come, let us adore Him, (3×)
Christ the Lord.*



**HAPPY
CHRISTMAS
EVERYONE!**



We wish you a merry Christmas,
We wish you a merry Christmas,
We wish you a merry Christmas,
and a Happy New Year

Good tidings we bring
to you and your kin;
We wish you a merry Christmas
and a Happy New Year!



**VILLAGE ANGEL
PROJECT
Pages 32—33**

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MULBARTON EVENING WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Hi Ladies.

It was with great regret we had to cancel our proposed comeback in September. The Rule of 6 came into being and so we have cancelled all meetings for this year. It is very encouraging that I have had several enquiries from local ladies, wishing to join the W.I. We will weather this storm and be back in action a.s.a.p. be assured.

The Norfolk Federation of W.I. have been very busy and now offer about 6 virtual talks each month, available on Zoom to members. I send out electronic copies of the county magazine to all those who have the ability to receive them, and distribute hard copies to the other less fortunate members. Modern technology has been a huge blessing. enabling us to keep in touch. Virtual chats are better than no chats, problems can be shared and solved. Whatever this winter brings, we will keep in touch, support each other and have some laughs along the way. In the New Year, a reduced trial membership fee will be available for new members. Full details and any questions ,just contact (see below).

Our W.I. is a very informal group and usually meet on the third Monday each month, in the Village Hall at 7.30pm. We welcome visitors and new members. A new programme will be organised once restrictions start to lift and some semblance of normality returns. Speakers and projects are on stand-by. Stay safe and best wishes to all our readers! For any information contact Anne Hackett. Secretary. Tel 01508 570040 or e-mail aehackett@btinternet.com



Mulbarton Mardlers

We hope that you are all well! Unfortunately, we still have to suspend the group meeting for the foreseeable future. However, we want to remind you that we are here on the end of a phone for any Mardlers who would like to chat, and for those who need shopping or prescriptions collected. Just give us a ring: Sue Mellows 578034, Sue Parker 218692, or Tracey Salisbury





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Join MALGA. It's fun, sociable, interesting & educational.

Who would have thought that the Covid-19 restrictions would have lasted this long? Like so many others, we have had to cancel most of our activities this year. We did, however, manage a socially-distanced picnic on the Common in August. Several MALGA members met under the relief of a shady oak, bringing our own food and drink and chatting about the inevitable, and exchanging gardening and allotment tips. Hopefully next year more members will be able to attend.

We hope to start where we left off as soon as it is safe to do so. Members will be informed by email of any future events but in the meantime, follow us on Facebook where you can find full details of our planned events.

These will include Member-only activities such as pub nights, quizzes, a visit to RHS Garden Hyde Hall, dinners and lunches; and other activities open to the general public, such as the Mulbarton Gardeners' Question Time.

Join now and enjoy membership until the end of 2021 for only £4.

To join MALGA, please contact our Chair, Chris Samson, on cjmsamson@yahoo.co.uk or 07837 969 715; or contact our Secretary, Geoff, at geoffandvirginia@tiscali.co.uk or download the form from our Facebook page.

If you have a few spare moments, try our horticulturally-based brain-teaser below.

Solve these anagrams to find some vegetables, flowers and other garden-related items:

**Toot Beer, Rot Scar, Tuna Pie, Rust Nip, Tea Sweep,
Sun Goes Here, Marsh Tower, Low Tear, A Bomb A Cone,
I Show Trees; Peas Sin, Bad Desires, Stone Crew.**

Answers will be given on MALGA's Facebook page in the new year.

Let's fill Mulbarton with Angels this Christmas!

Mulbarton Parish News wants to get the Village celebrating together this Christmas!

During Spring lockdown, we put rainbows and teddies in our windows to show support for the NHS and give the children something to look for on a village walkabout. Now we approach the Christmas season with no town lit up, no carnivals and none of the usual parties and outings. We can't make things the same as normal but your Editors thought it might be an idea for us to pull together once more as a community and make a seasonal impact on our village.

Lots of people have mentioned ANGELS this year: a name for helpers; guardian angels..... So, let's brighten up our windows and the outside of our homes even more than usual at this time of year by hanging lights and angels which can be seen from the street. The angels could be made in any way you can find or even a picture in the window. Anyone can go out for a walk and spot the angels all over the village as a sign of hope and thankfulness for those who continue to care for us.



There are lots of designs for angels on the internet. Here is a simple one to enlarge. How about a string of paper angels (remember how to make strings of dolls on folded paper?) - see below.

Or one made from a paper plate? (See opposite)

Or a mobile of Christmas tree angels hanging from a coat-hangar on your curtain rail? (also opposite)

There are patterns for knitted and crochet angels—in any colour (contact Jill if you want a knitting pattern).

If you become prolific at making angels perhaps some could be shared with our public spaces e.g. the shops; the church porch....



More ANGEL ideas:

RIGHT: Draw on a paper plate and cut along the black lines. Fold round and fix.

Maybe someone can invent a waterproof angel from a polythene bag to hang outside!

BELOW: Use strips of paper to make a tree decoration—or a mobile (with a coat hanger).



ANGELS are especially appropriate for 2020—and an important part of Christmas. On the first Christmas angels appear throughout the story bringing messages of hope: *‘The angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people.’* Luke 2 verse 10. And we sing their song in the carol *‘While shepherds watched.....’*

"All glory be to God on high
and on the earth be peace;
good will henceforth from heaven to men
begin and never cease."

From your Editor: Jill Wright (570532) & Assistant Editor: Sue Parker (218692)

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GROUPS FOR THE YOUNGER READERS



Girlguiding



Mulbarton Rainbows have been super busy. We have had our meetings outside since the start of September and we have been doing lots of activities from conker caterpillars, to games about being kind to others, to discussions about

what it might be like having Dementia. All for our 'Take Action' theme badge.

We finished by doing a survey around our outside area on the things in our

community. Surprisingly a few

girls noted they saw the

'elephant' on the list?! >>>>

We are looking forward to

having more adventures and

activities around the theme of

remembrance and Christmas.

Joanna



1st Mulbarton Brownies need YOU

2020 has been tough, not least

because at Mulbarton Brownies, we'd begun to find our flow: regular meetings, regular fun and new members finding friendship within the group. We've focussed during the Covid period on continuing to meet regularly via Zoom with crafting, quizzes, virtual treasure hunts, and importantly, badges!!

As we look to continue this amazing institution into 2021 and beyond **we need additional adult volunteers** to make sure we continue having fun.

If you've not thought about volunteering before, as a Brownie volunteer, you support girls to learn new skills, have incredible adventures, make friends and speak out about the issues they care about. You may even be given an Owl name!!

As volunteers, leaders and helpers we're here to help empower and inspire girls begin their journey into young women with valuable skills they will require in adult life.

Join us by emailing Fiona: fimacnab@hotmail.com

Fiona Munn

Mulbarton Guides and Rangers have been meeting on Zoom with some great Guides and Rangers. As much as we would love to meet face to face we have decided for now not to, however that has not stopped us having fun. We have done quizzes, scavenger hunts, cooking on cans; made biscuits cakes and Armpit fudge; completed challenges and worked towards Skill Builders which form part of the new programme. We have welcomed two new Guides and one new Ranger with more joining after half term

Leaders have also been busy, renewing our First Aid and Safe Space qualifications online.

If you would like to be part of our unit please email us for more information at

mulbartonguides@gmail.com

Pam, Hayley, Sally, and Molly

1st Mulbarton Scouts

We sincerely hope that you are all managing to keep both safe & well. We shall miss seeing so many of you at our annual fireworks event which sadly, but somewhat inevitably, had to be cancelled for 2020. The evening is our main fundraiser on which we really do rely. Several local residents suggested we set up a fundraising page to try and recoup some of the lost income. If you'd like to make a contribution, however small, it would be hugely appreciated. You can do so by visiting <https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/1stmulbartonscouts>



The Bird in Hand at Wreningham came up with a fabulous idea. A competition for our Beavers, Cubs, Scouts & Explorers to design a savoury 'Scout Pie' to be added to the pub's menu. Martha Bird's Corned Beef, Leek & Potato Pie was chosen as the winner & was turned into delicious reality by head chef at the Bird in Hand. For every diner at the pub who chooses the Scout Pie from the menu, the Bird in Hand will make a donation to our fundraising page. Huge thanks to them & well done to Martha for coming up with such a tempting pie recipe!

We have also been supported by the Co-op who ran a 'Guess the Name of the Pumpkins' competition, with all proceeds coming to Scouts.

We are hugely grateful for this support the community has shown us and would love to hear from any other local businesses or groups, so please do get in touch with us if you have any fundraising ideas.

Happily most of our sections are now back running at least some face to face sessions, giving the young people a chance to enjoy being together again. Our fabulous team of adult volunteers have really shown their commitment, passion & ability to adapt & overcome throughout 2020 and we'd like to publicly say a huge **THANKYOU** to them all. We are currently seeking a couple of new volunteers to come & get involved, particularly with our 10 to 14 year olds (Scouts). If you would like to know a bit more then please get on touch via our Facebook page (just search 1st Mulbarton Scouts) or call Chris on 01508 570180 or E-mail us at

mulbartonscouts@live.co.uk More about us at www.mulbartonscouts.org.uk
Cathy Middleton (Publicity Officer)

Here are some photos of a couple of our more recent activities: Cubs at the Scout HQ in Mulbarton on rocket-building night & Explorers canoeing along the Bure between Horstead & Wroxham



ENJOY A GOOD READ?

On a glorious summer evening in August Book Club members met up on the Common for picnic and a discussion of *The Museum of Broken Promises* by Elizabeth Buchan. It was great to be able to meet in person to enjoy not only a good book but lovely weather, a glass of one's favourite tippie and especially some very genial company. We are expecting to hold our next meetings on Zoom under current restrictions. However, we have some interesting books to entertain us.



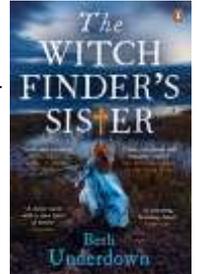
10 December

The Penguin Lessons by Tom Michell

Tom Michell is in his roaring twenties: single, free-spirited and seeking adventure. He has a plane ticket to South America, a teaching position in a prestigious Argentine boarding school and endless summer holidays. He even has a motor bike, Che Guevara style. What he doesn't need is a pet. What he really doesn't need is a pet penguin. Set against Argentina's turbulent years following the collapse of the Peronist regime, this is a heart-warming story.

21 January 2021 The Witch Finder's Sister by Beth Underdown

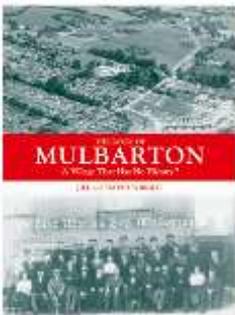
Alice Hopkins returns to the small Essex town of Manningtree, after her husband's tragic accident to be with her brother but home is no longer a place of safety. Matthew has changed, and there are rumours spreading through the town: whispers of witchcraft, and of a great book, in which he is gathering women's names. To what lengths will Matthew's obsession drive him? What choice will Alice make, when she finds herself at the very heart of his plan?



For more information on how and where we will be meeting up please contact Pat Brooks 01508 570016 or email Patriciabrooks569@gmail.com

WORDS WEEK donation

Because Words Week events had to be cancelled—and its future is very uncertain with no new committee to run future Weeks—the outgoing committee decided to use the money which would have been used for an author to visit school to buy books for the school library tagged as “Fifty books for fifty years”, to celebrate the fact that the school has been on the present site since 1970. The photo shows just some of the 50 books chosen and donated.



When it's gone, it's gone!

At the time of writing there are just over 40 copies of *The Book of Mulbarton* left. These few copies are available at Paddock Farm Shop or direct from the author, Jill Wright. My contact details are on p.3 as editor if you want to arrange to collect or have one delivered. Cost £19.99.

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Hethersett 'District' Lions Club

(CIO) – Your local Lions group: Charity No: 1179036



Like most organisations, societies and clubs we have been unable to operate normally through these uncertain times. We still have our bi-monthly meetings via 'Zoom' which is not ideal but allows us to discuss things and stay in touch. Different ideas have been discussed of how we can raise funds to help those less fortunate than ourselves but most of these fall foul of the covid regulations. Two new Members have joined us since the restrictions started. We welcome them to the Club and look forward to working with them when things allow. As this year comes to an end it seems appropriate to thank support workers, volunteers and all the services for everything they are doing to keep us safe and well. Christmas may not be the same this year for families but let's try and make the best of it, stay safe, be happy and hope that 2021 will bring new treatments and a possible vaccine to take us back to some kind of normality. Should you wish to know more about what Lions get up to please get in touch:

Club Secretary John Hewitt 01508 570392

or visit www.e-clubhouse.org/sites/hethersettuk/

SHORT MAT BOWLS

As a small club we are unable to meet all the requirements. At present we are looking optimistically at April 2021!



MULBARTON

SPORTS AND SOCIAL CLUB

The Common, Mulbarton, Norwich, NR11 1BAE

PLEASE KEEP A CHECK ON THE
MULBARTON SPORTS & SOCIAL
CLUB FACEBOOK PAGE FOR
OPENING TIMES AND ANY
EVENTS.

MANY THANKS



SWARDESTON DAY CENTRE

New name for Edith Cavell Day Centre, which has plans to re-open with small numbers. Details in their ad. on page 27.

Bracon Ash & Hethel Village Hall

New pathway and surroundings—all ready for when things return to 'normal'!
NOW OPEN for Yoga classes & Wednesday Pub Nights.

Updates on our Facebook page: Bracon Ash and Hethel Official Village Hall and Social Club. And have a look at our great new website: bavh.co.uk

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VILLAGE DIRECTORY

VILLAGE WEBSITES & INFORMATION:

Village information, google calendar, downloadable map, link to monthly 'infomail' and to digital version of this Parish News: www.mulbarton.info

Parish Council: www.mulbartonpc.org.uk—downloadable **WELCOME** booklet for newcomers here, or collect a copy from the **Parish Council Office** which is to right of the Village Hall main entrance, where the opening times are displayed on a notice on the door.

Mulbarton group of churches: <http://mulbchurch.org.uk>

Mulbarton Primary School: <https://mulbartonprimary.norfolk.sch.uk/>

Mulbarton surgery: <https://www.humbleyard.nhs.uk/>

Mulbarton history: www.mulbartonhistory.org.uk (with links to history of Bracon Ash & Hethel, and Flordon)

RED CROSS loan equipment (walking frames, bedpans, commodes, wheelchairs, etc) available via Dr Andrew Fairclough, Mill House, Norwich Road, Mulbarton on B1113 opposite village sign (entry at side). Tel: 570377

Our **Community Connector** is **Rachel Mahoney** if you need help with anything from a broken washing machine to looking for a new hobby. You can contact her on 07972 731176 rmahoney@s-norfolk.gov.uk

Rich's Trust (a local charity) can make small grants to residents to meet specific needs. You can contact the Almoner in total confidence: Pauline Campion (570335) pauline.campion@btinternet.com

Mobile Library comes Thursday 4-weekly (CEN 416) 17 Dec; 14 Jan; 11 Feb. Timetable at www.mulbarton.info or via Norfolk Libraries website,

AVAILABLE FOR HIRE:

Mulbarton Village Hall: 4 rooms available + licensed bar, for regular or occasional hire. Contact: Louise Gaskin via mulbartonvillagehall@gmail.com

Bracon Ash & Hethel Village Hall & Social Club: free superfast broadband & Wifi. Contact: liz.heath1@outlook.com
New website at www.bavh.co.uk (more on page 41)

Also available when restrictions lift: Harvest House & the Scout HQ

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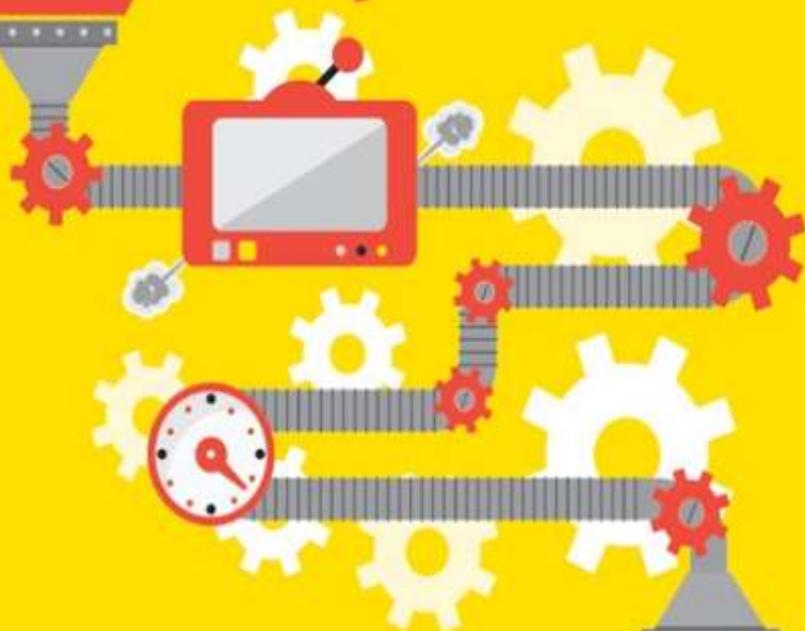
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A tall, illuminated church tower at night, reflected in water. The tower is lit up with warm yellow lights, and its reflection is clearly visible in the dark water below. The background is a deep blue night sky with some dark silhouettes of trees.

**Services for
Mulbarton Group of
churches**

**(Mulbarton, Bracon Ash,
Hethel & Flordon)**

10am

every Sunday

may remain on-line only
via Zoom, with a 'live'
Holy Communion service
each month in one of the
churches IF allowed.

[Christmas services p.4]

Please refer to church
notice-boards and to
<http://mulbchurch.org.uk/>
where services are
recorded and uploaded.