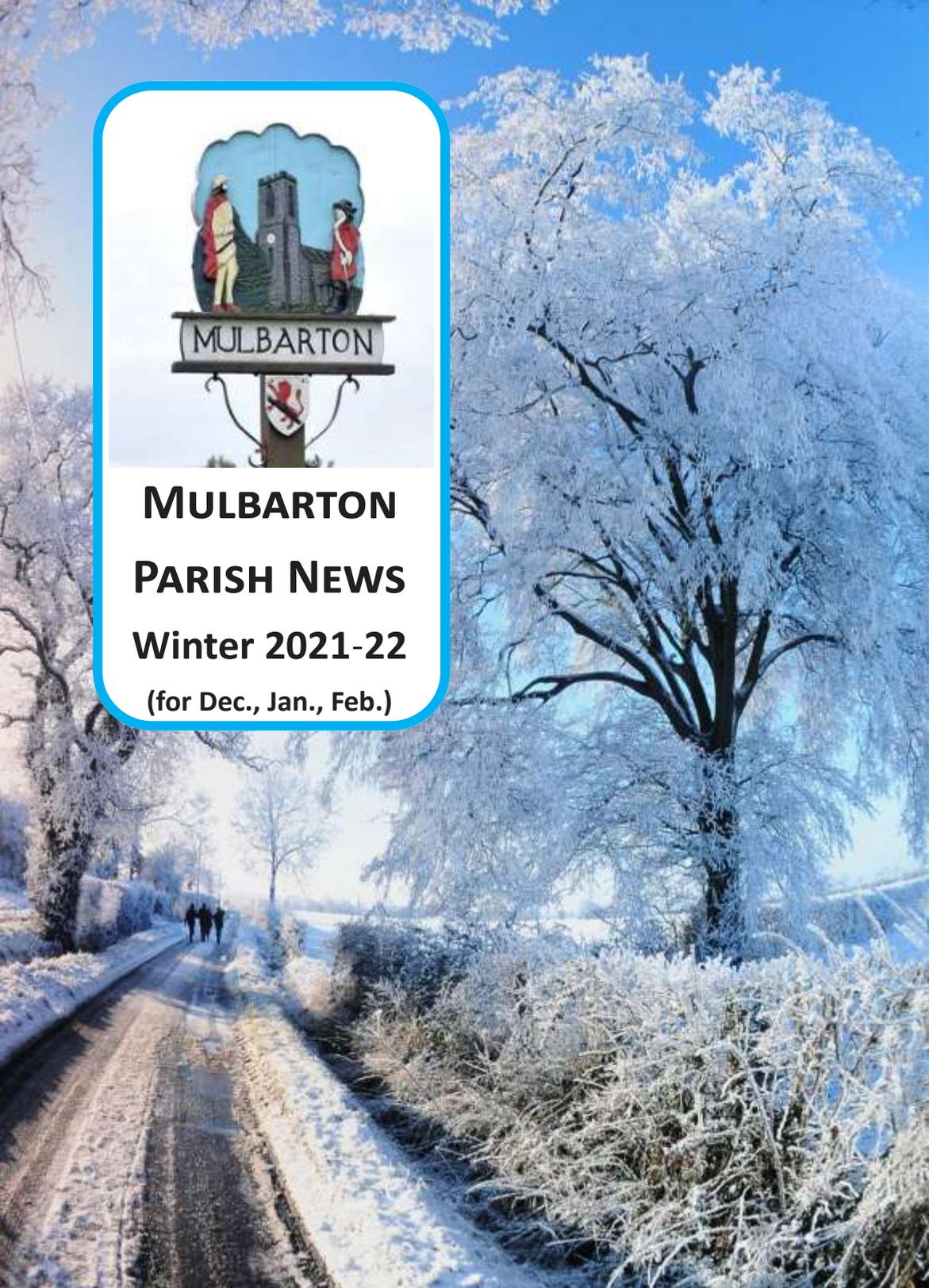




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PARISH NEWS  
Winter 2021-22  
(for Dec., Jan., Feb.)**





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## FROM THE RECTORY

Rectory telephone: **01508 580001**

Rector's e-mail: [adrian@mulbchurch.org.uk](mailto:adrian@mulbchurch.org.uk)



### **Rhythm, perspective, goodness.**

I write this on the last day of October, having completed my challenge to be outside at dawn, with sight of the horizon, on as many days as possible this month. Some of the views were breath-taking. You can see more of the journey on the church website or Facebook page.

In a season of dryness, difficulty and disillusionment, I needed something simple, spiritual and sustaining. I was listening to Jacqui Lewis's podcast, "Love. Period." (look it up!), and one of her guests talked about his discipline of being present for every sunrise. It is a practice that great Christian mystics and writers have recommended for centuries, and it is a universal human point of connection with the beauty and love that has been poured into the natural world. So, I found myself on fields, hills and up the church tower, being present with the rhythm of each day. No agenda, no set prayers or blessings, simply a willingness and openness to be present to the immense beauty and goodness painted in our skies, to ground myself, and seek to stand aside from the internal noise. It brought a certain perspective, standing on Mulbarton church tower, feeling myself hurtling at 1000mph away from the moon hanging low in the sky behind me, and towards the rising sun in front of me, poised between the heavenly bodies, small and absolutely not in control. In need of grace, as are we all.

As we venture into whatever "new normal" this is, and as we discover where we are in terms of what the church is doing and offering in the community, you can be sure we will continue to seek healthy rhythm, perspective and goodness, embracing our limits, and doing all we can to share the journey of life with those in our communities, to rejoice with those rejoicing, and to weep with those who weep. On one morning in Devon, I had company on top of a big hill. A stranger had had the same idea. As the sun rose, he and I talked for half an hour about God, the world, kids, life, truth, suffering and the work of the 14th century Sufi mystic, Hafiz. I don't have all the answers, but I value sharing the journey and learning from others like that.

Let's give Hafiz the last word. He was once asked "What is the sign of someone knowing God?". He replied, "My dear, they have dropped the knife. The person who knows God has dropped the cruel knife most so often used upon their tender self – and others."

I pray a good ending to 2021 for you and that 2022 brings all that you need for health, happiness, and spiritual wellbeing, as we discover more rhythm, perspective, goodness and learn to drop the cruel knife. *Adrian*

**FROM THE REGISTERS** (Mulbarton unless otherwise stated):

**BAPTISMS:**

29th August - George Henry Lewis Morrison  
29th August - Edith Ruth Pidgeon  
5th Sept - Aurora Valerie Coupland  
12th Sept - Violet Carol Rowland

**WEDDINGS:**

14th Aug - Gary J Moorcroft & Rebecca M Mealing (at Hethel)  
21st Aug - David J West & Sarah E Theobald  
30th Aug - Richard J Howell & Claire L Holland  
18th Sept - Ashley M Sutton & Laura M Sims (at Bracon Ash)  
25th Sept - Rick M Notley & Charlotte L Thornber  
2nd Oct - Brett A Ward & Lucy J Lincoln  
16th Oct - Jacon Attenborrow & Lauren Freeston (at Flordon)  
22nd Oct - Wedding Blessing for Ryan P O'Sullivan & Rachael D Martin

**FUNERALS:**

25th June - Peter Amies (at Earlham Crematorium)  
13th Sept - Sydney (Mac) McLeod (at Earlham Crematorium)  
27th Sept - Dorothy Taplin (at Flordon)  
11th Oct - Joan Abbott (at Earlham Crematorium)

**BURIAL OF ASHES:**

17th July - Marylin Anne Bell  
4th Sept - Sheila Elliot Lockhart

[Note from Ed: you are welcome to submit details of weddings and funerals of locals that have taken place at other venues—contact details opposite]

~~~~~

**NEED HELP?—contact the local Help Hub**

**'Social Prescribing' – Appointments** can be made to see Lucy on a Wednesday afternoon. Appointments need to be made by telephoning 01603 977477 then choose Option 3 for Mulbarton.

The **Help Hub** in your local surgery can link you to the right services to provide rapid support with a variety of problems including: benefits, anxiety, relationships, debt, loneliness, housing and accessing local services.

You can also contact either Connector directly:

Rachel Mahoney on 07972 731 176 or e-mail [rmahoney@s-norfolk.gov.uk](mailto:rmahoney@s-norfolk.gov.uk)  
Lucy Baldwin on 07866 135795 or e-mail [lbaldwin@s-norfolk.gov.uk](mailto:lbaldwin@s-norfolk.gov.uk)

## **WELCOME to PARISH NEWS!**

This quarter's magazine was jointly edited by Sue Parker and Jill Wright

**COMPETITION RESULTS** and a new challenge are on page 7.

**THANKS** to all contributors, especially for getting your contributions to us in good time; and to our volunteer distributors; and those who got in touch with Pauline after we asked for further help last time. Anyone else willing to help deliver, please get in touch with Pauline (contact details below).

**NEXT ISSUE** will be our 2022 SPRING issue (covering March, April & May) and the **final deadline for items** will be **FRIDAY 28th JANUARY**— though the sooner the better to as February is a short month so we need to get copy to the printer promptly. PLEASE NOTE the date, and get planning for SPRING!

### **The Team:**

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

Assistant Editor: Sue Parker [sueondartmoor@hotmail.com](mailto:sueondartmoor@hotmail.com)

Proof-checking: Sue Stirling

Distribution: Pauline Campion (570335)

[pauline.campion@btinternet.com](mailto:pauline.campion@btinternet.com)

Advertising Manager, Sara [brumhead2@aol.co.uk](mailto:brumhead2@aol.co.uk) Details on page 22.

Printed by [www.helloprint.co.uk](http://www.helloprint.co.uk)

**Turn to page 23 for the Village Directory**

## **Village Information, especially for newcomers!**

Hello to all reading this Winter Edition of our Mulbarton Parish News, Season's greetings and as always, a special welcome to newcomers to our delightful village – this booklet is a great source of information (*especially if you aren't a computer user*) so do keep it handy! It also features as a downloadable PDF on the Home page of my **Village Website** [www.mulbarton.info](http://www.mulbarton.info) where there's a link to the **Village Google Calendar** which hopefully will include more local activities now things are starting up again. Please let me know about events you'd like included.

I send regular **info-mails** to quite a number of local contacts, (sent Bcc so personal details are *not* shared with any other recipients), Names can be added (or removed) on request - in writing please to comply with GDPR.

If you are new to Mulbarton, or have a new neighbour, do let me know so I can pop a useful village map and welcome note in their door!

With good wishes to one and all and blessings for 2022!

Marina 578186 / [marina@mulbarton.info](mailto:marina@mulbarton.info)

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## New Competition Page!

### An Autumn collage and a new poem!

Thank you anyone who took part and entered our new Competition to create an Autumn Collage. We only had a few entries but congratulations to the winning pictures which are featured on this page giving a splash of colour to our winter edition. Each person will also be receiving a small prize!



**Autumn Scene by Becky Taylor**



**A collage made after a fungus foray in woodland by Susan Allen**

This winter season we thought some of you might like to get your thinking caps on and put pen to paper to see if you can **write a short poem** or ditty which could be shared in our next edition.

To give you a place to start with ideas, we are suggesting the topic of Winter or Spring. You could include weather or nature or hope for the new year, for example..... GIVE IT A GO!.

Please send the entry with name and age (if a younger contributor) to [sueondartmoor@hotmail.com](mailto:sueondartmoor@hotmail.com) by January 24<sup>th</sup>.

There will be age related prizes and the best poems will feature in the next magazine.

**Get thinking and be creative!**

**A prickly creature by  
Clara and Heidi Mills**



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# PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

## Mulbarton Parish Council (MPC)

**The Common** is the centrepiece of the village, and a top priority is keeping it at its best. To do this there is a steering group, including MPC, the owners and South Norfolk Council (SNC) who have formal responsibility for its management. It's this group that looks after the Common by protecting the delicate ecology and providing a space for people to enjoy.

A key part to the Common's ecology is its ponds, and over the coming months the steering group will be aiming to organise more maintenance. This work is essential to prevent the ponds silting up, helps manage the Common's overall water table and means wildlife in the ponds can thrive. Such conservation ensures that Mulbarton Common remains a fine example of the so-called 'South Norfolk Claylands Landscape'.

Another upcoming project on the Common is refurbishing the traditional black and white finger-post signs. These 'old style' direction signs add to the character and heritage of the Common, and are being refurbished – rather than replaced by modern alternatives.

Maintaining the trees on the Common is another important job, and is the responsibility of SNC. Regrettably, from time to time, pollarding is necessary for safety reasons to protect people from the risk of falling branches, and if sadly trees become diseased or damaged by storms. However, the good news is that MPC aims to plant more trees in 2022 and the majority of mature trees we have are in good condition.

MPC owns several **open spaces** and play areas around the village, like the Meadows on Cuckoofield Lane, four allotment sites, and the Village Hall complex which includes Mulberry Park (which is leased to Mulbarton Wanderers and Belles FC), Orchard Park, the skate park, and the multi-use games area (MUGA). These spaces are for the benefit of all residents, so please make the most of these facilities.

**Further afield**, MPC continues to send in comments to national and local authorities about offshore wind farms, the need for effective grid connections, and the reduction of local onshore impacts. For villages like Mulbarton this means addressing the long-term disturbance from construction and the permanent harm to the landscape that large electrical sub-stations and transmission networks would cause. An updated summary can be found on the Parish Council website under planning matters ([www.mulbartonpc.org.uk](http://www.mulbartonpc.org.uk))

Finally, MPC would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a **Merry Christmas and prosperous 2022!**

You can contact the Parish Council on 01508 578134 or [mulbartonparish@btconnect.com](mailto:mulbartonparish@btconnect.com)



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## LOCAL COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S UPDATE

### Daniel Elmer – Local County Councillor

One of the most significant pieces of work taking place over recent months is Norfolk's participation in the scheme to resettle Afghan refugees. Norfolk has a proud record of offering support to refugees, and was among the first localities to offer to support the resettlement of Afghan nationals under the government's Afghan Relocations and Assistance Policy, launched on 1 April this year. A number of Afghan nationals are already receiving support right here in the county.



Locally on roads, in September the County Council began the process of designating the new estate off Long Lane as a 20mph zone, to improve safety for local residents. The roads affected are Sterlet Grove, Minnow Way, Tench Rd, Gudgeon Rd and Barbel. Those who use the A11 on a regular basis will also notice some disruption over the coming months, as work to restore the road surface between Thickthorn and Spooner Row continues until Mid-2022.

As we approach winter, I also want to remind residents that the Norfolk Fire and Rescue Service offers home fire safety checks to elderly and vulnerable residents. More information can be found on the council website.

As always, if you have any issues at all, please don't hesitate to contact me at [daniel.elmer@norfolk.gov.uk](mailto:daniel.elmer@norfolk.gov.uk).

*Daniel Elmer*

If you have any issues at all, please don't hesitate to contact me at [daniel.elmer@norfolk.gov.uk](mailto:daniel.elmer@norfolk.gov.uk).

Hard to believe the Common had so few trees in 1986!

*(Photo from helicopter ride by Jill Wright)*





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## DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORT OCTOBER 2021

South Norfolk Council is employing consultants to identify a single office site for joint working with Broadland Council. So far, a building known as Horizon House on the Broadland Business Park is the front runner. However, no decisions have been made. It would require the approval of both Councils for such a move and discussions on this continue. Meanwhile home working continues for The Council.

It is proposed that the Development Management Committee will revert to its previous working arrangement of nine members instead of the current five. No decision has been taken on the limitation of the general public to attend meetings.

The Greater Norwich Development Plan and the associated Village Cluster element are being considered by the Higher Authorities. A final decision is to be expected in about a year's time.

An Environmental Impact Assessment has been requested in respect of the proposal by Orsted for the installation of a battery bank at Swardeston. No formal application has yet been received. There are concerns that the technology has not been fully evaluated.

The local General Practitioner Medical Practice is under severe strain due to increasing housing numbers. Discussions have been taking place with local councillors, housing developers and the GP Practice to identify any means of alleviating the situation. Norfolk Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee, of which I am a member, will be discussing the problem at its January meeting.

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

Vivienne Clifford-Jackson adds:

The issue of TREES has been raised with me as a concern by residents. Clearly COP26 will be over by the time you read this, but climate change will not. If we can all do our bit by reducing mowing, keeping and planting trees, checking where our food comes from in air miles (so buy local for example), we can all do something to help. If you want advice about trees at all please contact; Imogen Mole, Conservation & Tree Officer, (01508) 533727; [imole@s-norfolk.gov.uk](mailto:imole@s-norfolk.gov.uk) It would be great if we could have a plastic free Mulbarton – would anyone like to help with this idea?

*Vivienne*

[vivienne.clifford.jackson@gmail.com](mailto:vivienne.clifford.jackson@gmail.com) 077172962020 or 01508 571346

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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In the last parish magazine, I spoke of our hope to be back to normal by the start of the new term. On the whole, we have managed this although October saw a rise in cases of COVID amongst the children and the reintroduction of some restrictions around school. Despite this, we have had a positive start to the term and we have managed to run some events such as our Prefects assembly, which is where we award our year 6 children the honour of being a prefect

and we also announce our house captains and head boy and head girl for the year. Some year groups have enjoyed visits out of school and we have also invited some visitors into school to run exciting events such as an Ancient Egyptians workshop and a Predators 'wow day.' Our oldest children also enjoyed a trip to Eaton Vale to experience a day of adventurous outdoor activities. This involved raft building, tomahawk throwing, climbing and caving (*right*).



During this half term, we received some very kind support to improve the books we have for children to use in the libraries and in the classroom. We received a donation of £1000 worth of books from County Broadband which was matched by Usborne Books, giving the school £2000 to spend on books across school. In addition to this, we also received a cheque for £859.81 following the dissolution of Mulbarton Words Week. I am aware that many villagers supported this group so I am pleased to inform you that this money has been used to improve the reading scheme we use in school. All the children have benefitted from these generous donations which will enable them to learn to read and hopefully enjoy reading for the rest of their lives.

Thank you for your continued support of the local school especially through donations and giving of your time to volunteer. Look out for posters advertising our Christmas Market on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> December on the school grounds. Wrap up warm and come and enjoy some festive activities and pick up some unique Christmas gifts whilst helping the PTA raise funds to build an outdoor reading den and restore the school pond.

*Bev Theobald, Headteacher*



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## Are you expecting a baby or do you have a young baby?

'Bubbies' Bumps and Babies group aims to help local, new and expectant parents. We have not yet resumed our physical meetings (on Wednesday afternoons). In the meantime, there is a Bubbies Facebook page. One of the aims of Bubbies is to raise awareness of important sources of information and groups (websites, groups, other Facebook pages) to do with pregnancy and the postnatal period.

Members are welcome to share positive, informative, inspiring and humorous posts associated with a pregnancy and baby theme. We host occasional Zoom chats when there is a demand for this.

New members are always welcome.

For further info, contact Zoe - Tel 07944407396



**MOBILE LIBRARY** is back on THURSDAYS – 16th Dec; 13th Jan; 10th Feb. We are Route **CEN 416** Mulbarton—and there is a stop near YOU!

9.50—10.35 Bluebell Road

11.15—12 Hanover Gardens

12.05—12.25 Cuckoofield Lane

12.30—1 pm Village Hall

2.30—2.55 pm Lark Rise

3.05—3.35 pm at the School

3.40—4.15 pm Birchfield Gardens

4.20—4.40 pm Catmere Herne / Hare Close

4.45—5.20 pm Bromedale Ave / Oatfield Chase



Further information at <https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/libraries-local-history-and-archives/libraries/your-local-library/mobile-libraries> or phone 01603 222303



## Mulbarton Community Speedwatch Group

If you would like to be involved, please send an email to [mulbartonparish@btconnect.com](mailto:mulbartonparish@btconnect.com), with Community Speedwatch as the subject, and your email will be forwarded. (Contact details will be deleted from the Mulbarton Parish Council address once your email has been forwarded)

Sue Stirling

## “Hello from Dogs Trust!

Your local Dogs Trust branch at Snetterton would like to briefly make you aware of a few services that we provide free of charge:

Our Canine Care Card scheme, is a **free** service for dog-owners whereby, in the event of their death or illness, we will look after their dog, providing them with all the care they need until we can find a responsible, loving new home for them. This is often a great concern to the elderly, as their dog may be their only friend and companion. Every year, we care for more than 14,000 dogs at our nationwide network of rehoming centers and we never put down a healthy dog

Secondly, I wanted to make you aware that we provide free talks to local community groups to share about the varied work of Dogs Trust, where we come from and where we hope to be in the future. There are no speaker fees or travelling expenses so please let me know if you believe that your local club would be interested.

If anyone has any further queries, or would be interested in booking in a talk, please contact me by emailing [emily.matthews@dogstrust.org.uk](mailto:emily.matthews@dogstrust.org.uk) or phone 01953 497912.



**FREE**

**Talks**  
for Community & Social Groups

We can offer an online version or socially distanced talks - please get in touch to discuss options.

Contact Paige at  
Dogs Trust Snetterton  
E: [paige.pope@dogstrust.org.uk](mailto:paige.pope@dogstrust.org.uk)  
T: 01953 497912

The flyer features a yellow background with a white curved bottom section. It includes a 'FREE' badge, a 'Dogs Trust' logo, a cartoon dog character, and a photo of a woman with a dog.

## WOULD YOU LIKE TO ADVERTISE WITH US?

We currently print and distribute 2000 copies each quarter. Your advert can also be viewed on the Village Website

[www.mulbarton.info](http://www.mulbarton.info)

### PRICES FOR THE YEAR ARE CURRENTLY:

**£50 ¼ Page**

**£90 ½ Page**

**£150 Full Page**

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION OR TO PLACE YOUR AD PLEASE CONTACT SARA AT  
[brumhead2@aol.com](mailto:brumhead2@aol.com)

## VILLAGE DIRECTORY

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

Parish Council: [www.mulbartonpc.org.uk](http://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](http://www.mulbartonhistory.org.uk) (with links to history of Bracon Ash & Hethel, and Flordon)



**Red Cross loan equipment** (walking frames, 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 Connectors** See page 4 .

**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](mailto:pauline.campion@btinternet.com)

### Available for hire:

**Mulbarton Village Hall:** 4 rooms + licensed bar, for regular or occasional hire. Contact: Louise Gaskin via [mulbartonvillagehall@gmail.com](mailto:mulbartonvillagehall@gmail.com) or phone 01508 578454

**Harvest House** (right): Room & fully equipped kitchen & garden; Wi-fi & fine views of Common available at very reasonable rates. Contact [hh@mulbchurch.org.uk](mailto:hh@mulbchurch.org.uk)

**Mulbarton Scout & Guide HQ:** Contact Malcolm Court on 570461 or [mulbartonhqbookings@gmail.com](mailto:mulbartonhqbookings@gmail.com) for further details.

**Bracon Ash & Hethel Village Hall & Social Club:** equipped with free superfast broadband & Wifi. For all bookings and enquiries get in touch with [contact@bavh.co.uk](mailto:contact@bavh.co.uk) New website at [www.bavh.co.uk](http://www.bavh.co.uk)



# Mulbarton Diary Page

**CHECK THE VILLAGE CALENDAR at [www.mulbarton.info](http://www.mulbarton.info)**

Please note that things are still in a process of change and uncertainty so please check before attending the events listed



Just in time for:

SATURDAY 27th—12 noon-4pm  
Hanover Gardens Christmas Bazaar

SUNDAY 28th—11-3pm Puddleducks  
Christmas fair Jubilee room, Mulbarton Village Hall (see page 35)

SUNDAY 28th—4 pm Advent Service of Light at Hethel Church to open the Christmas season. NB No 10am service at Mulbarton Church



FRIDAY 3rd—Mulbarton School Christmas Market (see page 19)

SATURDAY 4th—"Soul of Tango", clarinet-guitar duo, Mario Olmedo & Nelly Rodriguez, 6pm at Mulbarton Church, £10 on door (see page 17)

SUNDAY 5th—Christingle service at Bracon Ash church, 4 pm.

TUESDAY 7th—Pre-School Christmas service, 9:30am at Mulbarton

SUNDAY 12th—Carol services at Hethel (4pm) and Flordon (6.30 pm)

TUESDAY 14th—Mardlers Christmas Tea, 2pm, Social Club

WEDNESDAY 15th Flordon Film Club showing *Dream Horse* (see page 29)

FRIDAY 17th—Community Carol Singing, 7:30pm, Social Club

**SUNDAY 19th Village Christmas Event** (see opposite)

FRIDAY 24th—4 pm A Chocolate Bar Nativity at Mulbarton church (mainly for children!) & 11.30 Midnight Communion

CHRISTMAS DAY 10 am Family Service in Mulbarton Church





# Mulbarton Christmas Fayre

## Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> December

### All invited!

Mulbarton Village is coming together and putting on THE Mulbarton Christmas Fayre!

Taking place on **Sunday, 19th December, from 2pm**, on into the evening, and takes place in the Village Hall, Social Club and adjoining rooms and spaces.

Come and do some last-minute Christmas shopping at....

- \*\* a variety of Christmas stalls....
- \*\* see Santa in Santa's Grotto....
- \*\* warm yourselves with a mulled wine and mince pie....
- \*\* enjoy the sound of Christmas with the Mulbarton



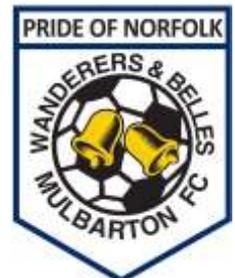
Community Choir....

\*\* bands playing in the evening with a variety of Christmas specials.

\*\* And much, much more to be confirmed!

Our own Revd. Adrian Miller will be opening the event and welcoming you all to what we hope to be a great Community event bringing the Village together.

For stall and other enquiries please email [duane68@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:duane68@hotmail.co.uk) or [secretarymulbartonvillagehall@gmail.com](mailto:secretarymulbartonvillagehall@gmail.com)



## The Swardesdon Day Centre

Christmas is coming..... fast!

Swardeston Day Centre (now our official new name as the bank has finally changed the name of our account, which as many of you will have experienced is no mean feat!), is going very well on Mondays and Wednesdays.

We have made the decision *not* to open Thursdays so that we can be prudent financially in these times and have a better atmosphere with more clients on 2 days. In fact, Monday we are close to full numbers (20 clients) with delicious, home-cooked food, and a range of activities and entertainment.

We have had some new faces on our programme including Charlie Chaplin imitation by Cosmo who will be returning in 2022 with a circus pal, and River One Hundred folk band, a six-piece band of accomplished musicians, that gave a heart-warming afternoon with song and percussion to join in with for Michael's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday!

We like to get some of our clients dancing when we hear a beat – particularly from the swinging sixties, or singing karaoke which we enjoyed with Sally who led a 'Let's dance!' session complete with individual headphones for each person so they could have the music they chose, at the sound level they liked! A new singer, Keith is coming in January when he claims to 'Sing like Sinatra'.... All musical tastes are covered and includes hymns and spiritual songs at our monthly services.

Christmas, which we so missed celebrating together last year, will include Carol services with traditional sherry and mince pies, on December 8<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> at 10.30am and parties on 20<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> – with turkey dinner and Christmas pud, along with music, Santa and mini-donkeys visiting!!

If you are thinking of yourself or relatives who might be keen to join us anytime then check out our website or contact Julia or Liz during our opening hours 10-3pm on 01508 578826. Don't miss the company, food and laughs!

Happy Christmas and New Year to all the magazine readers!!

[www.swardestondaycentre.org](http://www.swardestondaycentre.org)



## Mulbarton Mardlers

An afternoon of tea and chat and an opportunity to meet others



**Mulbarton Social Club Tuesday 2 - 4pm on dates ...  
23rd Nov, 14th Dec (Christmas tea) , 25th Jan, 22nd Feb  
You are most welcome to join us!**

(Voluntary contribution of £2)

For more information give us a ring: Sue Mellows 578034  
Sue Parker 218692 or Tracey Salisbury 578068.

# Swardeston Day Centre



Hilltops, Main Road, Swardeston, NR14 8DU

🌐 [www.swardestondaycentre.org](http://www.swardestondaycentre.org)

✉ [Info@swardestondaycentre.org](mailto:Info@swardestondaycentre.org)

☎ 01508 578826



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## LOCAL ORGANISATIONS, CLUBS & SOCIETIES

### MULBARTON WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Our W.I. meet once a month on the third Monday 7.30pm in the main room at the Village Hall. We are a friendly and relaxed group. Visitors and new members are always welcomed.

In December we are having a Christmas meal at the Bird in Hand.

On January 17th 2022 (how strange it is to write that!) we are going to share our experiences throughout the pandemic and lockdowns. Just how did people cope? Did they acquire new hobbies or skills?

In February on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> we are having a visit from the Hearing Care Centre. We will no doubt learn a lot, especially just how lucky we are if we are trouble free. We look forward to the new year - may we continue to grow, give friendship, widen our interests and offer a welcome to all the ladies in the village.

A new programme of varied and interesting topics will be issued in April. For further information please contact [aeHackett@btinternet.com](mailto:aeHackett@btinternet.com) 01508 570040

*Anne Hackett* (Secretary)



### Flordon Film Club

The film club started its new season in October by showing **Nomadland**, with an excellent turnout bearing in mind the effect of the pandemic.

The next meeting is to be held on Wednesday 15 December, when we shall be showing **DREAM HORSE**. Based on a true story, this is the feel-good film of the season, which is just what is needed after a year of covid and to lead us up to Christmas!

This is especially so as free mulled wine and sausage rolls are included. Watch the trailer on YouTube.

New members are welcome, and to book tickets or for more information contact David Harrison at [david020747@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:david020747@hotmail.co.uk) or on 01408 470118.

### Mulbarton Short Mat Bowls Club

We are up and bowling again! Every Wednesday evening at 19.30 in Mulbarton Village Hall.

We have welcomed many new members and if you would like to give it a go, please contact Marga Kempenaar 01508 219029.



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## Hethersett 'District' Lions Club

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



We did another litter pick in September taking part in 'The Big South Norfolk Litter Pick'. Nine of us collected litter from the Common, Village Hall area and adjacent roads. The following week we joined a group in Newton Flotman doing the same.

The festive season will soon be upon us and I hear from a reliable source that Father Christmas will be visiting the Committee Room at Mulbarton Village Hall on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> December from 3.30pm to 5.30pm. He is also reported to be visiting the Church Room at Newton Flotman Church on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> December from 4pm to 6pm. To book your slot please call Santa's Elves Sue and Bob on 01508 470766. The cost will be £5 per child including a small present.

Car parking for NCFC home matches is going well at Lower Clarence Road, Norwich. Socially we did a Sunday morning walk round the Reepham area followed by lunch at the Kings Arms. In December we are getting together for a Christmas meal at Netherton Steakhouse, Long Stratton.

Should you wish to know more about what Lions get up to, feel free to come along to any of our meetings on the second Monday of the month at Mulbarton Village Hall Committee Room or the last Wednesday of the month at Bracon Ash Village Hall – both meetings at 8pm.

*Club Secretary John Hewitt 01508 570392 or visit [www.e-clubhouse.org/sites/hethersettuk/](http://www.e-clubhouse.org/sites/hethersettuk/)*

## Mulbarton Community Choir

Mulbarton Community Choir is currently running socially distanced rehearsals at 7.30—9pm on Thursdays in term time in the upper school hall at Mulbarton Primary School. All are welcome – you don't have to have any previous experience. You can come along to a rehearsal



Mulbarton Community Choir

or email [enquiries.mulbarton.choir@outlook.com](mailto:enquiries.mulbarton.choir@outlook.com) or contact us on Facebook.

We will be singing in the village over Christmas:

27 November - - at Co-op as part of the winter lights switch on.

12 December - - at Hethel Church in their traditional Christmas service.

17 December - - carolling at Mulbarton Social Club.

19 December - - leading the carols at the village Christmas event at the village hall.

Come along and listen – or contact us to join!

First rehearsal of 2022 is Thurs 13 Jan 7.30pm in Mulbarton Primary School hall.



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

We are delighted to report that activities are continuing. The day trip to RHS Hyde Hall in September was enjoyed by all. As you read this, all being well, we will have held a quiz night in early November, and the AGM a couple of weeks after that.

MALGA takes climate change and the environment seriously. Many past activities have related to the environment in one way or another and it is the intention to formalise our commitment to the environment by appointing a Committee Member with special responsibility for environmental matters.

In December, the regular Members' meeting will be devoted to planning activities for 2022. So, if you want your say, please come along. One proposed event is MALGA's third "Mulbarton Gardeners' Question Time" in Spring 2022, which will be open to everyone.

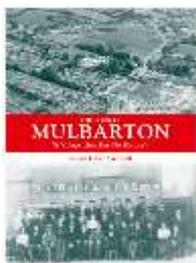
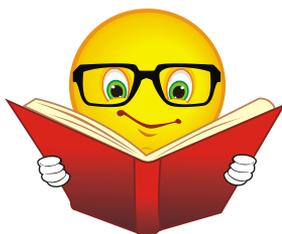
Members will be informed by email of any future events but in the meantime, follow us on Facebook where you can find full details of our planned events.

Note too that on presentation of your membership card, you will receive a 10% discount on plants at the Wymondham Garden Centre, Myhills in Wymondham and at the Foundry Plant Centre in Tasburgh.

To join MALGA (membership £4 per year), please contact our Chair, Chris Samson, on [cjmsamson@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:cjmsamson@yahoo.co.uk) or 07837 969 715; or contact our Secretary, Geoff, at [geoffandvirginia@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:geoffandvirginia@tiscali.co.uk); or download the form from our Facebook page.

## ENJOY A GOOD READ?

Book Club members have finally managed to meet up at The Worlds End and enjoyed some good debates about our recent books *The Offing* and *The Dictionary of Lost Words*. As we move into winter we will continue to meet up monthly to discuss our chosen book. Currently we are unsure if we will meet in person or have online meetings. For more information please contact Pat on 01508 570016 or [patriciabrooks569@gmail.com](mailto:patriciabrooks569@gmail.com).

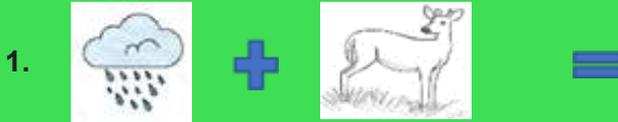


**Only a small number of copies left....**

***The Book of Mulbarton*** (a large-format hard-back, Halsgrove, £19.99) is still available at Paddock Farm Shop or from the author, Jill Wright (editor of this magazine—contact details page 5) – BUT there are now fewer than 30 copies available and when they have gone it will be out of print.... Might this solve your Christmas Gift problem?

# Picture Puzzle

Can you solve these seasonal picture words?



Answers on page 35

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**Please call Mark for an informal chat  
on 01603 867444 or 07468246933**



**Puddleducks**  
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Mulbarton



Registered Charity #1027068

t: 01508 571285

w: puddleducksmulbarton.co.uk

e: info@puddleducksmulbarton.co.uk



Puddleducks have had another lovely start to the year with lots of new children and great activities. Please contact us if you have a child who would like a place at our preschool.

## Come and start the Christmas Countdown at the Puddleducks Christmas fair

Sunday 28th November from 11-3 at the Jubilee room, Mulbarton Village Hall.

We have lots of Christmas fun - Santa's grotto, teddy tombola, chocolate tombola, stalls, crafts, games, hot food and drink and much more!



We'd love to see you all and help raise valuable funds for Puddleducks Preschool.



**Girlguiding**

**Mulbarton Guides** have returned to face to face meetings—it's so lovely to see the Guides meeting together. They have been busy earning lots of badges whilst learning valuable life skills and having fun.

We have also welcomed some more new members but still have space should you want to Join: please email us at [mulbartonguides@gmail.com](mailto:mulbartonguides@gmail.com)

Our Remembrance Sunday parade was at Flordon this year instead of at Mulbarton (which only had room for the Scout Group), but that was the village where local Guiding began!

*Pam, Hayley, Molly*

Exciting news—our **Ranger Unit** has a new meeting-place at Harvest House! For the past 10 years we have met at leaders' houses but due to a change in rules from Guiding we are no longer able to continue. If you are aged between 14-18 and would like to join, email us on the address above.

*Pam & Sally*

Picture Puzzle answers Page 33 1. Reindeer 2. Mistletoe 3. Sleighbells 4. Pinecone 5. Snowball 6. Holiday 7. Gingerbread 8. Northpole 9. Nutcrack-

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## 1st Mulbarton Brownies



Mulbarton Brownies have had lots of fun this Autumn term. The girls voted on which activities they would like to do and for some reason chose some incredibly messy, creative ideas! One of the highlights was creating pictures using shaving foam! We also created our own indoor crazy golf course and enjoyed trying to play. In the run up to Christmas we are looking forward to themed baking and crafts. We are also going to Keswick campsite for a campfire and hopefully, stargazing.

Sadly, due to other commitments I have decided to step down as Brownie leader after just over 4 years in the role. I will be finishing in the Spring term. I am grateful to all the other volunteers who have helped-out over this time, particularly Rachel Matthews. Rachel started helping when her oldest daughter was in Brownies and has just kept going. She does Brownies in addition to her role as a physiotherapist in the James Paget Hospital, and she also manages to run marathons. Thank-you Rachel, you're a star!

The Brownie unit is thriving. We have 25 girls with many more on the waiting list who are keen to join. Volunteering with Brownies is incredibly rewarding and a lot of fun. Would it be something you could consider? Please do get in touch with me or our district commissioner, Sarah Haigh if you would like more information.

Fiona Munn: [fimacnab@hotmail.com](mailto:fimacnab@hotmail.com)

Sarah Haigh: [dc.hethersettnorfolk@gmail.com](mailto:dc.hethersettnorfolk@gmail.com)



**Rainbows** have had a busy half term making a start on the 'Have Adventures' theme. We

have been on a walk to the common, to find local landmarks, learnt about how to keep warm, and how to make sundials. We also completed a Teddy Bear Challenge badge.

This half term we will be making some Christmas decorations and crafts and going on a Christmas Pantomime trip.



If anyone would like to volunteer to be a leader please contact

[mulbartonrainbows@gmail.com](mailto:mulbartonrainbows@gmail.com)

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# Mulbarton Scout Group

1st Mulbarton Scouts would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a happy and healthy 2022.

2021 has seen the pandemic creating further challenges for our group but they all have been overcome and our young people have had some fabulous experiences; creating great memories and gaining new skills. So, once again we'd like to publicly say a huge thank you to our team of adult volunteers for the wonderful work that they continue to do.



The easing in Covid related restrictions meant that our Explorer and Scout sections were both able to return to overnight camping this summer and autumn, enjoying weekends on the Broads and at Thetford Forest. Our Beavers and Cubs made the most out of some exciting activity days. See photos for a small taste of the fun!



We hope that many of you came along to support our bonfire night event (as I'm actually writing this at the end of October, I'm also hoping that it didn't/doesn't rain!!!). The annual fundraiser is of course an important financial support for the group but we also get huge pride & pleasure from putting this event on for the village every year. Our priority being that everyone has a great time.

At the time of writing, we are searching for 2 or 3 new adult volunteers to join our group. We have roles that are hands on with the young people and also vacancies behind the scenes on our Executive Committee (which is not nearly as formal as it sounds!!!). The committee meet for a couple of hours every two or three months to make basic decisions about the running of the group and it's a legal requirement that we have one.



Volunteering is the perfect way to give something back to your local community. If you think you might be able to help then get in touch to find out more.

Call Chris on 01508 570180 or find us on Facebook...search "1st Mulbarton Scouts".

*Cathy Middleton* (Publicity Officer)



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## A DAY AT THE RACES

If you have driven along the A11 from the Thickthorn Roundabout to the turning for East Carleton and Mulbarton near the old Hethersett Station, then you have been along Hethersett Racecourse!! Easily accessible from Mulbarton, it was a popular day out when race meetings were held. Special trains ran from Norwich and Fakenham, and a London via Cambridge train stopped at Hethersett on those days.

The first recorded race was in 1875, organised by the 19th/20th Hussars regiment, but regular racing began in 1904 until WW1. The course was sold and from 1928 races were organised by the Hethersett Race Committee. Again, war stopped racing, but the site was later used for point-to-point racing by the Norwich Staghounds, and meetings finally stopped in 1970.

There were never any permanent buildings—tents of various sizes were put up, and the toilet arrangements were described as ‘primitive’ by those who remember! But the beer, the bookies, the tic-tac men, as well as the horses, gave race days a wonderful atmosphere. Other memories include a crackly PA system and an announcer with a very posh voice! The class system prevailed—with one entry for the ‘toffs’ and another for the general public.

The standard of racing was considered good and huge crowds were attracted. Hethersett Races were made internationally famous by the artist Alfred Munnings (1878-1959), whose paintings of horses are world-renowned. And Alfred Munnings went along from Mulbarton, where he had a studio at his Aunt Polly’s house, Lodge Farm in Rectory Lane! (Detail from his painting, right.) You can read more about his Mulbarton links at [https://](https://www.mulbartonhistory.org.uk/lodge-farm/)



[www.mulbartonhistory.org.uk/lodge-farm/](https://www.mulbartonhistory.org.uk/lodge-farm/)

If anyone reading this remembers going to Hethersett Races (or the racing at Ashwellthorpe which continued well into the 1970s) please get in touch—my contact details are on page 5.

*Jill Wright*

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

[www.bracon-ash-and-hethel-history.webnode.com](http://www.bracon-ash-and-hethel-history.webnode.com)

[www.flordonhistory.webnode.com](http://www.flordonhistory.webnode.com)

[With thanks to Peter Steward for information on the races.]

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# Christmas Crinkle Cookies

Crinkle Cookies are a great favourite of mine and they work really well with Gluten Free flour too. Here is a dairy free festive variation of the recipe – don't miss out the icing sugar dusting to give them a winter look!

## Ingredients

- 80g cocoa powder
- 180g caster sugar
- 60ml vegetable oil
- 2 eggs
- 170g plain flour
- 1 tsp baking powder
- 1 zest of orange
- 2 tsp mixed spice and/or cinnamon (optional)
- 50g icing sugar



## Method

1. Whisk the cocoa, caster sugar, oil and eggs together.
2. Combine the flour, baking powder, orange zest, spices and a pinch of salt in a separate bowl, then add to the cocoa mixture and mix until a soft dough forms. Add a little more flour if you can't roll the mixture in your hands.
3. Put mix in the fridge whilst your oven heats to 190C/170C fan/ gas 5.
4. Tip the icing sugar into a shallow dish. Roll heaped teaspoons of the dough into balls then roll in the icing sugar to coat.
5. Space the balls on greased or lined baking trays. Bake for 10mins.
6. As they cool, they should firm up but remain squidgy in the centre. Dust with extra icing sugar if required.

Sue

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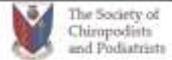
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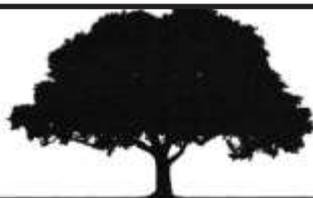
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# **SUNDAY SERVICES** – December 2021—February 2022

**PLEASE NOTE THE PLAN BELOW MAY CHANGE, WITH WINTER UNCERTAINTIES—PLEASE CHECK!**

| December                |                                                                                                                                    | January          |                                                                                                                      | February                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                      |
|-------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 5 <sup>th</sup>         | 8am Holy Communion<br>Mulbarton<br><br>10am Morning Worship<br>Mulbarton<br><br>4pm Christingle<br>Bracon Ash                      | 2 <sup>nd</sup>  | 10am Benefice Service<br>Mulbarton                                                                                   | 6 <sup>th</sup>                                                                                                                        | 8am Holy Communion<br>Mulbarton<br><br>9am Morning Prayer<br>Bracon Ash<br><br>10 Morning Worship<br>Mulbarton       |
| 12 <sup>th</sup>        | 10am Morning Worship<br>Mulbarton<br><br>4pm Carol Service,<br>with choir, Hethel<br><br>6:30pm Carol Service<br>Flordon           | 9 <sup>th</sup>  | 8:30am Communion, with<br>blessing of plough - Hethel<br><br>10am Morning Worship<br>Mulbarton                       | 13 <sup>th</sup>                                                                                                                       | 8.30am Communion<br>Hethel<br><br>10am Morning Worship<br>Mulbarton                                                  |
| 19 <sup>th</sup>        | 10am Holy Communion<br>Mulbarton<br><br>10:30am CAROL SERVICE<br>Hanover Lounge<br><br>2-10pm Mulbarton Village<br>Christmas Fayre | 16 <sup>th</sup> | 9am Holy Communion<br>Bracon Ash<br><br>10am Holy Communion<br>Mulbarton<br><br>3:30pm Evening Prayer<br>Flordon     | 20 <sup>th</sup>                                                                                                                       | 9am Holy Communion<br>Bracon Ash<br><br>10am Holy Communion<br>Mulbarton<br><br>3:30pm Evening Prayer<br>Flordon     |
| Fri<br>24 <sup>th</sup> | 4pm Crib Service<br>Mulbarton<br><br>11:30pm Midnight<br>Communion<br>Mulbarton                                                    | 23 <sup>rd</sup> | 8:30am Communion<br>Flordon<br><br>10am Morning Worship<br>Mulbarton<br><br>10:30 Church @ Hanover<br>Hanover Lounge | 27 <sup>th</sup>                                                                                                                       | 8:30am Communion<br>Flordon<br><br>10am Morning Worship<br>Mulbarton<br><br>10:30 Church @ Hanover<br>Hanover Lounge |
| Sat<br>25 <sup>th</sup> | 9am Christmas Communion<br>Flordon<br><br>10am Christmas Communion<br>Bracon Ash<br><br>10am Christmas Celebration<br>Mulbarton    | 30 <sup>th</sup> | 10am Meditative Service<br>Mulbarton                                                                                 | <p><b>PLEASE CHECK<br/>DATES &amp; TIMES<br/>on notice-boards or:<br/><a href="http://mulbchurch.org.uk">mulbchurch.org.uk</a></b></p> |                                                                                                                      |