

The Parishes of Barton Bendish & Eastmoor; Beachamwell, Shingham & Drymere;  
Boughton; Wereham

**December 2015/January 2016**

## WELCOME

We appreciated the feedback.....

*"As a previous resident of Barton Bendish and also on behalf of my family I would like to take this opportunity of thanking Eileen and Pam and all those involved in the production and distribution of the excellent Group 4 News magazine. My family have always retained a strong interest in Barton Bendish and the surrounding villages and through your magazine are kept up to date with news of forthcoming events, countryside notes, gardening tips, recipes, quizzes and much more.*

*Many thanks to all the team and long may your publication continue.*

*Mike Horn and family."*

As always, 'Happy Reading '  
The Editorial Team  
Eileen and Pam

Thanks to all contributors and apologies to any whose work has not been shown in this issue.

We promise to include your articles wherever and whenever possible. Please do keep them coming.

Many thanks to the distributors, we couldn't do without you!!!

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## GROUP 4 TEAM VILLAGE CONTACTS

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Please submit all information through your Village Contacts.

**Deadline for copy for  
the February 2016  
edition: 11th January**

### ADVERTISING

Alan Pickering 5 Old Town Close,  
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If you use any of the advertisers in the magazine, please mention where you have seen their advertisement.

### WEBSITE

[www.group4news.co.uk](http://www.group4news.co.uk)

Kevin Fisher, Tel 01366 502224

## ‘FROM THE RECTORY’



New Rectory  
High Street  
Fincham nr. King's Lynn  
Norfolk  
PE33 9AP  
01366 348079

### **Dear All,      TWO KINDS of PRAYER at CHRISTMAS**

Our Father in heaven,  
Hollow be your name.  
Your Cartier watch,  
Your Prada bag,  
In Harvey Nicholls  
As it is in Selfridges.  
Give us this day our  
Platinum Visa.  
And forgive us our debts,  
As we forgive those  
who stop our Mastercard.  
Lead us not into Apple Store  
And deliver us from Joules.  
For yours is the Cartier,  
the Dior and the Armani,  
For Burberry and Eternity  
Amex.

Our Father in heaven,  
whose Son Jesus Christ became a  
refugee  
and had no place to call his own;  
look with mercy  
on those who today  
are fleeing from danger, and those  
who are homeless and hungry.  
Bless all who work  
to bring them relief;  
inspire generosity and compassion  
in our hearts;  
and guide us towards that day  
when all will rejoice in your Kingdom  
of justice and of peace;  
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

*May God bless you, and keep you and guide you,  
this Christmas and throughout the coming year.*

## BENEFICE NEWS

At the time of writing, our Priest in Charge Barbara Burton is on sick leave and we do not know when she will return to work. I'm sure we would all wish to send our regards and best wishes for a speedy return to health. Thanks to the generosity of the people who take services for us, we hope that all carol services, Christmas services and the regular pattern will continue as planned. Please contact your churchwardens for updates. There will be a meeting with the Archdeacon on 9th December.

On 16th November, the Archdeacon hosted a 'Roadshow' at St Edmund's Downham Market, to discuss the Ely Strategy for the future. It dealt with the need to look at what we do and seek to grow the church, perhaps using our resources in new ways.

13 November 2015

The Church of England's income maybe bigger than a certain burger joint but then we have far more outlets to spend it on.

Our income is all ploughed back into our seven day a week work supporting our priests and churches who provide a Christian presence in every community. Our 16,000 church buildings, house foodbanks, credit unions, post offices, libraries and places for reflection, prayer and worship. Not to mention providing a home for clubs and groups for all ages, often being the main point of contact in the community.

More than 80% of people visit a church every year. Our churchgoers contribute 23.2 million hours of voluntary service a month with more than 100,000 church volunteers working regularly with children & young people. More people do voluntary unpaid work for church organisations than any other.

Our clergy support local schools, offering a pastoral role and more than one million pupils are educated in church schools. 10 million people visited our cathedrals last year with weekly worshippers rising by one fifth in the past decade. Our clergy lead more than 3,000 funerals a week - and CofE funerals are available for everyone - giving support before, during and after the service, for as long as it's needed.

# **CHRISTMAS IN THE PALESTINIAN TERRITORIES**



Christmas is very important in the Palestinian territory of the West Bank as it contains Bethlehem, the town in which Jesus was born. Bethlehem is about six miles (10 kilometres) south of Jerusalem (which is in Israel). Bethlehem means 'house of bread' and back in history was famous for growing wheat for making into bread.

Only about 20% of Palestinians are Christian, but many Muslim Palestinians are also proud that Jesus was born in a Palestinian Territory!

On Christmas Eve there is a parade through the town. This is very important to the Christian part of the population. There are bagpipe bands in the parade, which you might not expect! Playing the bagpipes is a tradition left over from when the British army occupied the area between 1920 and 1948. People also dress up as Santa Claus and give out sweets. The streets and main square are decorated with lights.

Perhaps the most famous part of Christmas in Bethlehem is the church service of the Mass of the Nativity. It is held on Christmas Eve afternoon/evening/ midnight in the Church of the Nativity. The Church is built over the place where it's traditionally thought that Jesus was born. There's a small door into the Church called the door of humility. The church was built, by the romans, about 500 years after Jesus was born. The most holy part of the church is the Grotto of the Nativity, which is under the main altar. A silver star marks the place where Jesus was meant to have been born.

It had been prophesied in the Bible that the Jewish Messiah or Savior (who Christians believe Jesus is) would be born in Bethlehem.

The Church is administered by three churches, the Roman Catholic Church, the Greek Orthodox Church and the Armenian Apostolic Church. The Mass service is led by the Roman Catholic Bishop of Jerusalem. Many local political people go to the service, Christians, Muslims and Jews. The church is crowded and lots of frankincense, one of the gifts bought to the baby Jesus, is burnt. People also sing Christmas Carols on Christmas Eve evening in Manger Square, a large paved courtyard in front of the Church.

The Greek Orthodox and Armenian Apostolic Churches don't celebrate Christmas on December 25th, but rather January 6th & 7th. They hold services on those days.

# **Downham Market Town Council**

**15 Paradise Road, Downham Market, Norfolk PE38 9HS**

Tel: (01366) 387770

Town Clerk: Mrs J M Markwell



## **Downham Market Town Council**

**Thanks you for your support during 2015  
and wishes you all a Very Happy Christmas  
and a prosperous New Year**

### **Events**

**Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December – 2.00pm for 2.30pm and 7.00pm for 7.30pm**

Cinema at the Town Hall

Cinderella (U)

**Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> December – 9.00am - 3.30pm - Town Square**

Table Top Jumble Sale

**Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> January – 2.00m for 2.30pm and 7.00pm for 7.30pm**

Cinema at the Town Hall

Film to be confirmed

**For more information please contact Nikki on 01366 387770 or at**

**[nikki@downhammarkettc.co.uk](mailto:nikki@downhammarkettc.co.uk)**



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## Jen's Pet Care



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[www.facebook.com/JensPetCareWretton](http://www.facebook.com/JensPetCareWretton)

## PIANO LESSONS



Victoria McPhail (Instrumental Teaching Diploma@ St Petersburg School of Music) offers Piano Tuition in Beachamwell, starting in 2016.

Absolute beginners welcome.

Preparation for ABRSM piano exams, and beyond; opportunity to play piano duets, learn music theory and general musicianship as well as simply enjoying music making in a friendly atmosphere.

For details or to arrange an introductory lesson call Victoria after 1st January on 01366 328537 or 07562 312009

or Email [victoriamacphail@yahoo.com](mailto:victoriamacphail@yahoo.com)



## COUNTRYSIDE NOTES DECEMBER 2015

**VILLAGE SIGNS.** I've always found village signs interesting because they're usually the result of local people getting together to create a design depicting a characteristic feature of the village, part of its history, a local legend and often to mark a significant national occasion. They all began when Edward VII made the suggestion, when cars were first appearing on roads, that a picturesque sign in a prominent position would aid the identification of places. The first four village signs were erected on the Sandringham Estate in 1912. Prince Albert, Duke of York, further encouraged the idea in 1920 and King George V voiced his support in 1924.

**Barton** once had three churches, St Mary's, St Andrew's and the long gone All Saints; these are shown on our sign together with a sheaf of wheat depicting the importance of agriculture to the village. Above are two blue and white symbols of St Andrew. Money for the project was raised from 'bonanzas' held in the village and the fibreglass sign was unveiled in 1990. **Beachamwell's** sign is the village name created simply in wrought iron by architectural metal worker Barry Rowe of Demax from Narborough, a business he founded in 1971. It is supported by an oak post shaped by John Sanderson and was erected in July 1978 to commemorate the Queen's silver jubilee. Originally the **Boughton** sign, unveiled by the Bishop of Ely in 1972, depicted a horse drawn wagon but the more recent one was carved from oak earlier this century by Boughton resident Denzil Davies. It shows the Domesday name of Buchetuna, the pond with ducks rising on either side and the church in the background. Best kept village awards won by Boughton are displayed on the supporting post.

**Wereham's** wooden sign depicts the church of St Margaret with a red cloaked priest kneeling in front. Included are cameos of Billy the seal, a resident of the village pond in the 1920s, and the village pump. Unusually on the reverse side is a further picture of a man offering Billy some ale with the pub in the background. Other signs that have attracted my attention are the wrought iron one at Harpley representing local flora and fauna with oak leaves, a sheaf of corn, a pheasant on the left and a hare on the right; I used this in my Hare book. Weeting, near Brandon, has a lovely sign showing the terrace of ten dwellings, believed to be the longest continuous row of thatched houses in England, with a rabbit on one side and a stone curlew on the other. One of my favourites though is at Wretham, near Thetford. On it are a ram's head, marking an old tradition of letting a ram loose among the tenants which they could keep if they could catch



it. There are also trees representing the surrounding forestry, French partridges, the shooting in the 1800s and a witch because witchcraft persisted until the 19th century.

HAPPY CHRISTMAS EVERYONE AND ALL THE BEST FOR 2016

***Jill Mason***

40. Three shots under par (9): Albatross 41. Hop, Skippy and jump! (8): Kangaroo 42. Two black eyes but not a fighter (5): Panda/ Lemur 43. Sporting car? (6): Jaguar 44. Outwit (3): Fox 45. Bird from the Tower of London (5): Raven 46. Publisher of children's books (6): Puffin/Badger 47. Sounds like you are losing your voice (5): Horse/Husky 48. Lambo's badge (4): Bull 49. An aircraft that can hover (7): Harrier 50. Grand Old Party animal (8): Elephant 51. Bird you might have picked up? (7): Penguin 52. No feathers with this squeeze (3, 11): Boa constrictor 53. Rolls' finest (6): Merlin 54. Dam this large toothed creature! (6): Beaver 55. Out, but no score (4): Duck 56. Disney's King of the Swingers (9): Orangutan 57. Um, a savage animal? (10): Wildebeest 58. Sounds like you're longing for meat (9): Porcupine 59. You may get as drunk as one of these but hopefully not as aromatic! (5): Skunk 60. Remove the disguise from this cheese to reveal a small horse (4): Pony

Thank you to all who took part in our quiz. There were 9 entries that got 60 out of 60. The winner of the draw was Ian Ward from Sporle. We are pleased to say that approximately 150 people took part.

**Nar Valley Ornithological Society (NarVOS)**

Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2016, 7.30pm at the Barn Theatre, Sacred Heart Convent School, Swaffham. Access and parking from Sporle Road.

Please come along to this illustrated talk by Sue Bryan, entitled: Peru.

Many of you know Sue Bryan as a NarVOS member as well as for her work at RSPB Titchwell. Sue loves birdwatching, be it local or across the globe, and she has made at least two trips to Peru. Her presentation is bound to bring out the best of this birding paradise. This NarVOS meeting will start with a short AGM, prior to Sue's talk, but we request that everyone turns up for 7.30pm.

Visitors most welcome. Admission £2 on the night if you are not a NarVOS member. For more information about this meeting or NarVOS call Ian Black on 01760 724092

## **GARDENING TIPS FOR DECEMBER AND JANUARY**

First of all I do apologise for the absence of my November article. Having written for the October edition of Group 4 News just prior to going off on a cruise, I'm afraid an article for November was far from my thoughts at that time. I had made a list of all the jobs to complete in the garden before departing, but I am sorry to say, an article for your magazine was not listed!! I did write one as soon as I returned, having been prompted by Pam Wakeling but, I regret to say, it was too late for publication. Sorry, an age related moment perhaps!!

We are at the end of another gardening year. In many respects the year has been quite kind to us despite periods of cooler than average conditions. The big question now is "What does the winter have in store for us all"? There were grave forecasts a few weeks ago that developments in the central/southern Pacific Ocean could bring us quite a severe winter. However, I have neither heard nor seen anything more about that particular scenario so I suspect things did not quite turn out as expected. I must admit however, to being somewhat concerned that we shall ultimately have to pay for all the mild weather we are experiencing as I write.

I hope you have all managed to get those last minute jobs completed so that it matters not what the season brings. You will then be able to relax and enjoy the forthcoming festivities without having to think about all those jobs that should have been done, but weren't!

My late vacation, and the very wet conditions that we have experienced since I returned, have meant that, at the time of writing, I am desperately trying to complete alterations to my garden, and at the same time endeavouring to catch up with the essential work on the lawns. Things that did not cause a lot of difficulty when in one's younger years suddenly become problems later in life. Fortunately, I am very lucky in still enjoying good health and the ability to get most things done, but even so I am trying to make the garden easier to look after. Hence the alterations.

Unless you have a greenhouse, or a conservatory, there is not much you can do garden wise in December and January. Keep an eye on your stored fruit and vegetables to ensure that none are decaying, and quickly throw out anything that is in trouble. Similarly, if you have dahlias stored away, look over them every so often to ensure that they are in good condition. If you have a tuber that shows signs of mould, clean it up with a clean cloth and put it somewhere safely for a few days to dry off before returning it to store. If you have a major problem then follow the above practise but in addition if you find rot then cut the individual tuber off. A dusting with 'flowers of sulphur' when the tubers are returned to

store will often stop such conditions returning.

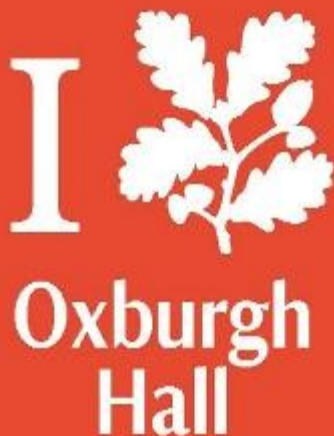
For those of you who are really keen and intend growing onions and shallots for the show bench then early in January is the time to make your first sowings and plantings. It's a bit too early in January to start dahlias and chrysanthemums into growth, but if you are hoping to enter either of these in the early summer shows then start them up early in February to take the first cuttings later that month or early in March.

So much for 2015, let us now look forward to 2016 and all that it may bring.

A Very Happy Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year to you all.

*Roy Coughrey*

*Roy has reminded me that he has been writing these articles for over 5 years and this is article 63. We are all very grateful to him and offer our sincere thanks.*



### **Oxburgh Hall at Christmas**

12, 13 and 19, 20 December

Join us for a traditional Bedingfeld family Christmas as it would have been 100 years ago. Then visit Father Christmas in his grotto (£5 per child, includes gift).

**Normal admission**

### **Garden Bird Walk**

Sunday 24 January

Take a walk with our Outdoors Manager and learn about the many species of birds found in the gardens and woodland of Oxburgh.

**£7.50 per person. Booking essential - 08442491895**

01366 328258

[nationaltrust.org.uk/oxburgh-hall](http://nationaltrust.org.uk/oxburgh-hall)

# **National Trust**

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[www.wix.com/ryeholidays/theoldschoolhouse](http://www.wix.com/ryeholidays/theoldschoolhouse)



**HOLIDAY COTTAGE**

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Rural location on our farm in Beachamwell.

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Grassmere is a recently modernised mid-century modern holiday retreat in the picturesque village of Boughton. An award winning West Norfolk village with an SSSI. Ideally situated for touring Norfolk and its coast. Perfect for family get-togethers and excellent for cycling, walking, bird watching, photography or as a quiet hideaway.

Overlooking a stunning pond, Grassmere can accommodate up to eight people, with four bedrooms and three bathrooms. Just a step away in the garden there is a private spa with a hot tub, steam room and relaxation area.



Grassmere Norfolk Holidays The Green, Boughton, King's Lynn, Norfolk, PE33 9AF  
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07771 636 903 | follow us on Twitter @NorfolkHols



**Volunteers Home  
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Support and friendship  
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**Do you remember those early years?.....  
Sleepless nights, tantrums & teething.**

If you have parenting experience Home-Start Swaffham & District would love to hear from you. We have families waiting for support and all we ask is for a couple of hours a week commitment. We offer a prep course accredited through the Open College Network which takes place one day a week for 10 weeks. Term time 10am-2pm. So, if you think you can make a difference to a family needing a little help call us today to find out more.

Volunteers will be subject to an enhanced CRB check. We are also looking for trustees, for more info contact us on:

**Home-Start Swaffham & District  
The Community Centre, Campinglands,  
Swaffham, PE37 7RB  
Tel: 01760 721271  
Email: [admin@homestartswaffham.org.uk](mailto:admin@homestartswaffham.org.uk)**

## Barton Bendish Film Club



**Proudly presents THE MAN FROM U.N.C.L.E.**

Director: Guy Ritchie

Running Time: 1h 56mins

Showing at Barton Bendish Village Hall **Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2016 - 7.30pm**

Tickets £4 in advance or £5 on the door - Refreshments included

Box Office: 01366 347849 or email: [cinemabarton@gmail.com](mailto:cinemabarton@gmail.com)

[www.bartonbendishfilmclub.btck.co.uk](http://www.bartonbendishfilmclub.btck.co.uk)



# Geoff Dixon

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Over 45 years experience in this industry. I have experience and am happy to carry out jobs such as; fascia and guttering repairs or cleaning; external fence panelling repairs, replacement/ treatments; gates made; doors and locks repairing and replacing; refitting and refurbishment of kitchen cupboards; shelving; and general maintenance jobs around the house.

No job is too small, if there's something you'd like doing that I haven't listed,  
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☎ Telephone: 01366 328330 ■ Mobile: 07726 584502

✉ Email: [geoff@norfolkshandyman.co.uk](mailto:geoff@norfolkshandyman.co.uk)

🌐 Web site: [www.norfolkshandyman.co.uk](http://www.norfolkshandyman.co.uk)

## Paprikache with Soured Cream

(serves 4)

4 tbsp oil

1lb onions, skinned and finely sliced

1 tsp caraway seeds

1 tsp dried marjoram

1lb carrots, peeled and thinly sliced

2 heaped tbsp paprika

1/2 tsp chilli powder (or hot paprika)

1 tbsp wine vinegar

2lb potatoes, peeled and cut into chunks

Small pot of soured cream to serve

Heat oil in a heavy pan and add sliced onions. Sprinkle with salt, the caraway and marjoram. Fry gently, stirring regularly, until the onions soften – don't let them brown and don't hurry.

Push onions to one side and heat carrots for a moment (you might need to add a little more oil at this point). Stir in paprika and chilli and sizzle for a second before adding the vinegar. Add potatoes and stir. Pour in a glass of water and allow to bubble up.

Turn down heat, cover and leave to cook gently in its own juices for about 1 hour, until the potatoes are perfectly tender. Check occasionally and add a splash of water if it starts to stick. Alternatively, cook in the oven for an hour at 180°C / 350°F / gas mark 4.

Serve with soured cream spooned on top.

*Kirstie Urquhart*



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**CHRISTMAS PARTY MENU**

**1st-23rd December**



**2 COURSES, MINCE PIES & COFFEE £25.00**

**3 COURSES, MINCE PIES & COFFEE £29.50**

**CHRISTMAS EVE MEALS 12pm-3pm /6pm-9pm**

**CHRISTMAS DAY (BAR ONLY) 12pm-8pm**

**NEW YEARS EVE MEALS 12pm-3pm /6.30pm-9.30pm**



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## Do you want to get fitter this autumn?

Why not join us in Beachamwell Memorial Hall for a range of activities to suit all ages and levels of fitness?



Remember: Life is like practising Tai Chi - to keep your balance you must keep moving ...

### Tai Chi

Scientific studies show that Tai Chi improves and possibly prevents chronic conditions such as arthritis, heart disease and diabetes. In addition, it improves balance, immunity and reduces stress.

**Wednesday afternoon** classes with Barbara Smith 01760 723102

### Yoga

**Tuesday morning** classes with Julia Wynne 01366 328617 or, to unwind after a stressful day at the office - **Thursday evening** classes with Jayne Winterbone 07544 974342

### Pilates

**Friday morning**, 2 sessions with Electra May 07803 000921

**General enquiries: Leah Spencer 01366 328536 [leah@wissey.co.uk](mailto:leah@wissey.co.uk)**

## Beachamwell Book Group

**Tuesday 1st December**

7.00 - 9.00pm

Beachamwell Memorial Hall

Book to be discussed over a glass of wine

'Scottsboro'

by Ellen Feldman

Annual subscription £15.00

**New members welcome**

Next meeting Tuesday 5th February

Enquiries::

Leah Spencer 01366 328536

## Beachamwell Wednesday Walkers

**Explore the rights of way in and around Beachamwell with us**

We meet at the Village Hall at 10.00 am

**FIRST WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH**

*Walks last between one and a half to two hours*

*All, including dogs on leads, are welcome*

Some paths may be rough underfoot, there may be stiles or fields may be ploughed: come at your own risk and please wear suitable clothing and shoes for the outdoors

## Beachamwell Craft Group

**Thursday 3rd December**

**Thursday 28th January**

2 - 4.30pm

Beachamwell Memorial Hall

Bring along something you are already working on or start a new hobby in a friendly group of like minded people.

£2.00 + Bring and Buy

All welcome.

Enquiries:01366 328536



## Beachamwell WI

**Thursday 3rd December**

7.30pm

Memorial Hall

**'Momentous Times'  
Three's Company**

Visitors Welcome

Tickets £3.00

Enquiries:

Jenny Gabrielson 01366 328297

## **Beachamwell**

### **“Pop Up” Pub**

**Friday 11th December**

7.00 -10.30

Beachamwell Memorial Hall



Join us for a drink and festive nibbles

Enquiries

Susie Rix 01366 328249

A Beachamwell Memorial Committee  
Event

## **Beachamwell**

### **Afternoon Tea and a Chat.....**

**Wednesday**

**16th December**

**20th January**

2 - 4pm

Beachamwell Memorial  
Hall

Enquiries: 01366 347 673

## **Beachamwell**

### **Children's Christmas Party**

Sunday 20 December

3 - 5pm

Beachamwell Memorial Hall

**All welcome but please book**

Enquiries: 01366 328536



## **Beachamwell WI**

**Thursday 7th January**

7.30pm

**Memorial Hall**

**2016 Resolutions Debate**

Visitors Welcome

Tickets £3.00

Enquiries: 01366 328297

## **Beachamwell**

### **Creative Writing**

**with James Knox Whittet**

*“everyone has their own story to tell”*

**Monday 18th January**

7-9pm (then fortnightly)

Beachamwell Memorial Hall

**£4 All welcome but please book**

Enquiries: 01366 328536

## **Beachamwell**

### **Parish Council Meeting**

**Monday 11th January**

7.30

Beachamwell Memorial Hall

Enquiries: 01366 328648

## **Wereham**

### **Christmas Concert**

**Thursday 17th December**

**7pm**

### **St. Margaret's Church**

Come and hear the fabulous Fincham Chorus singing a Christmas programme with guest readers and singers from the village.

Mulled wine, mince pies and nibbles provided.

Free entry.

Donations welcomed for the church.

This will be SUPER. Don't miss it!



## **Wereham**

### **Messy Church**

### **Carol Singing**

Monday 21st December start 6pm at the church gates.

Please come and join in the singing or be ready to applaud enthusiastically and give a donation as we sing around Wereham village.

**All Welcome**

Enquiries 01366 502083

## **Beachamwell**

### **Carols by Candlelight**

**Monday December 21st**

**6.30pm**

**St Mary's Church**

**Enquiries 01366 328818**

## **Christingle Service by Candlelight**

**St Andrews Church ,**

**Barton Bendish**

**Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> December 3pm**

Come and join us at this special Christmas service for all ages

Everyone is very welcome.  
Refreshments will be served after the service

For more details please contact

Mhari 347849 or Linda 347563

## **Boughton**

**15th December Nine Lessons and  
Carols 7 pm**

**Crib service Christmas Eve 4 pm In  
the barn near the pond. All  
welcome**

## Beachamwell

Local History Group

**Annual General Meeting**

**Tuesday 19th January**  
7.30

Beachamwell Memorial Hall

New members and visitors always  
welcome

Enquiries: 01366 327023  
[www.beachamwell.org.uk](http://www.beachamwell.org.uk)



## Garlic Puppet Theatre

*'Shoe Kangaroo & the Big, Bad  
Boot'*

**Sunday January 17th, 3.00 pm**

Swaffham Assembly Rooms

£7.00 for members  
£10.00 non-members  
Accompanied children free

Tickets from  
Green Parrot 01760 724704  
Ceres Bookshop 01760 722504  
Enquiries: 01366 328648

## Beachamwell

**Pop up Italian Restaurant**

Saturday 16th January

7.30pm  
Memorial Hall



**£16 (bring your own alcohol)**

Booking essential please contact  
Leah Spencer 01366 3285366

## Beachamwell & Fincham Family History Group

**No meeting in December**  
**Next meeting**

**Tuesday 19th January**  
2 – 4pm  
Beachamwell Memorial  
Hall

**Marriages**

**£2 All welcome**

Enquiries  
01366 347694 or 01366  
328536

## Wereham Carols by Candlelight

**Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> December from  
5pm**



At Wereham village pond with the  
Hilgay Youth Brass Band

Followed by food, kiddies craft table  
and story time in the hall.

This event starts after the Wereham  
Nativity service.

For tickets contact Janet Winter on  
01366 500458 or 07962320828.

## CHRISTMAS WREATH WORKSHOP



Would you like to have a go at making your own  
Christmas Wreath?

Then come along to Barton Bendish Village Hall  
on

**Thursday 19<sup>th</sup>, Friday 20<sup>th</sup> or Saturday 21<sup>st</sup>  
November 2015 at 7.00pm or Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> at  
10am**

The cost of this fun and informal workshop is  
£15 per person and includes festive  
refreshment. All basic materials are provided  
but you can bring your own ribbon or  
everlasting decoration to add if you would like  
to, no experience is necessary and you will go  
home with your own beautiful Christmas wreath.

Just bring a pair of secateurs and dress for  
mess!

For more information and to book a place  
please contact Mhari – 01366 347 849 or Linda  
– 01366 347 563.

## TRADITIONAL

## BURNS SUPPER

**BARTON BENDISH VILLAGE  
HALL**

**SATURDAY 23rd JANUARY 2016**

**7.30pm for 8pm**

**Tickets £12.50**

***Inc "a wee dram" Scottish Raf-  
fle !***

**From Mhari 01366 347849 or**

**Linda 01366 347563**

## BARTON BENDISH AND EASTMOOR NEWS

### Mary Reeder

Mary Joan Reeder aged 63 passed away on Monday Oct 5<sup>th</sup> 2015 which was a great shock to all her family and friends. Mary had lived in Chapel Lane, Barton Bendish since early in the 1980's with her husband Ray and in the latter years has been assisting Ray in his business. Mary was a quiet, private person who was held in high regard by all who knew her. Originally from Buckinghamshire she moved to Norfolk in the early 1970's and married Ray in 1975 and then arrived in Barton Bendish after living initially in Downham Market. A well attended service took place on Oct 30th at Mintlyn where her life was both recalled and celebrated. *Brian*

### Halloween

Once again this year there were strange happenings in the village on the last day of October. A band of ghouls, mostly small in stature, were seen creeping round the village after dark. They did not look a bit like the local children so who were they? Why were they there? Where did they come from and where did they go? The next morning it was very misty, was this the breath left behind by a dragon that had been seen with them? Next year (if we remember) we'll set a trap for them, baited with sweets, then maybe we can identify, once and for all, these mysterious spectres. PS Congratulations to all those very imaginative people in Boughton who created the best display of scarecrows yet. How do you come up with such novel ideas?

### Barton Bendish Hall Bonfire Evening - Friday 6<sup>th</sup> November.

Thank you to everyone who helped to organise and who came out to support the bonfire evening at Barton Bendish Hall on Friday 6th November. £268.50 was raised to be shared between Barton Bendish Village Hall and St Andrews Church. Many thanks to Luca and Carolyn for hosting the evening and for providing the BBQ and refreshments. Early evening rain soon gave way to a warm, clear, star filled sky. It was a perfect way to enjoy the bonfire with estate venison and vegetarian hotdogs. *Anthony*

### Y o u n g   V o l u n t e e r   o f   t h e   Y e a r .

On Saturday November 7th 2015, Cailean McCallum, who lives in Chapel Lane, WON the British Judo Association Award for Young Volunteer of the Year. This was out of the whole of England, and Cailean had been shortlisted into the final



## BEACHAMWELL, SHINGHAM & DRYMERE VILLAGE NEWS

### Ralph and Alma Bateman (and Mary)

Ralph and Alma have recently moved from All Saint's Way to live beside their daughter.



When they first moved here Ralph was a serving officer (Sqn Ldr) with the Royal Air Force. After his posting to Marham they spent time away on postings to Germany and London. They moved back permanently in the early 80's and have lived here ever since.

When they both retired (Alma also worked as a civil servant), they spent a lot of time travelling. They enjoyed African Safaris, visited Norway to see the whales and Ralph travelled to the Gallipolis Islands

where he saw the famous George. They spent time abroad visiting their son who was a British Ambassador in various countries.

Ralph was very interested in birds and took many beautiful photos whilst on his travels. As a result he gave some very interesting talks in the Memorial Hall. He even had a beautiful photo of the swans at Welney published over double pages in one of the wild life magazines.

Alma joined in village life and over recent years was a member of the book group and the craft group. She also enjoyed the tea and cakes once a month. Quite recently they had a new addition to the family; a little dog called Mary who took up a lot of her time.

They are a lovely couple and will be missed by all their friends. Best wishes to them in their new home. **Vera Pearson**

### St. Mary's Church

The two monthly services continue to be held at our church with the help of Rev'd Gillian Mann, who is continuing to give her spare time and dedication in order to serve our local congregation.

In addition to this "Church Growth Strategy" meetings are held on the first Sunday of each month. These meetings are open to all parishioners who are

four, before being announced that he had won. This Award was given, as testament for all the time Cailean dedicates to the sport of Judo. Cailean has steadily worked his way up through the ranks of Junior Referee, from, Bronze, Silver, and now is currently Gold Level. He referees at all The Eastern Area Events, and now that he has turned 17yrs old, hopes to move up to a Senior Area Referee. Cailean even Refereed last year on his 16th Birthday! As well as Refereeing, Cailean also helps coach at his Dad's judo clubs, Monday nights at Icen Academy and Thursday nights at Marham. He is due to travel to York this weekend, to complete his assessment, to become a UKCC Level One Coach; and hopes to complete a UKCC Level Two coaching course next year. Cailean also travels to Cambridge twice a week, to train, as he competes nationally, and is currently ranked 11th in Males U73kgs Cadets. This has seen him travel all over the country throughout the year, competing at Ranking Championships, with the end goal being The British Nationals which is held at the end of the year. .

As well as studying A-Levels, Cailean is also studying the AASE programme, (Advanced Apprenticeship in Sporting Excellence) which when completed, will be equivalent to Two A-Levels. Cailean has to dedicate minimum of 16hrs a week to this programme, and travels to The Anglian Ruskin University weekly to achieve this

### **Future Plans for Marham**

The Parish Council Meeting held on November 11th began with a presentation by the Royal Air Force at Marham outlining what would be happening during the next few years. Lightening 11 F35Bs are scheduled to arrive at the base in August 2018 after which the Tornadoes will be gradually phased out. The new planes have short take-off and vertical landing capabilities. However much construction work needs to be carried out before then including a new runway, refurbishing the main runway and building new facilities. This is due to begin next spring and inevitably there will be a large number of construction vehicles involved which is of major concern to local villages even though they are supposed to be confined to using major routes and not B roads.

### **Parish Council Vacancy**

At the meeting held on November 11th the Parish Council agreed to co-opt one new member to bring the Council up to their allowed number of seven. If you would be interested in joining the Parish Council please contact the Parish Clerk on the details shown below.

Miss Sarah Thorpe, Parish Clerk

Telephone number: 01945 430930

Email: [bartonbendishparishcouncil@aol.co.uk](mailto:bartonbendishparishcouncil@aol.co.uk)

**Christingle Service      Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> December at 3pm**

Come and join us at this special Christmas service for all ages. Everyone is very welcome. Refreshments will be served after the service

**A Victorian Evening of Christmas Entertainment, Music and Carols  
Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> December 6pm Barton Bendish Village Hall**

This has always been a popular evening of entertainment by local talent so please think about 'treading the boards' with us, - new and 'experienced' performers are all very welcome. If you've not joined in before now is the time, its nothing serious just a bit of fun.

Following the 'first half' of entertainment there will be a short interval and then a chance to sing some of our favourite traditional carols after which seasonal  
r e f r e s h m e n t s      w i l l      b e      s e r v e d ! !  
There is no charge for tickets, a collection will be taken on the night, but we will need to know numbers so please let us know if you intend coming.

If anyone has anything in the way of Victorian costumes that they would be willing to loan us we would love to hear from you.

Mhari – 01366 347849 or Linda – 01366 347563

**Barton Bendish Film Club Present:**

**'THE MAN FROM U.N.C.L.E'**

**New 2015**

**at Barton Bendish Village Hall on Saturday 16th January 7:30pm**

In the early 1960s, CIA agent Napoleon Solo and KGB operative Illya Kuryakin participate in a joint mission against a mysterious criminal organisation which is working to proliferate nuclear weapons. Action comedy spy film

Director: Guy Ritchie

Running Time: 1h 56mins

Tickets £4 in advance or £5 on the door - Refreshments included

Box Office: 01366 347849 or email: [cinemabarton@gmail.com](mailto:cinemabarton@gmail.com)

**Burns Night Supper January 23rd 2016 Village Hall 7.30 for 8.0pm** You are invited to come along and celebrate Burns Night with us in the traditional way with haggis, neeps and tatties together with a wee dram. Tickets £12.50

Mhari – 01366 347849 or Linda – 01366 347563

**Flowers for the church** We are looking for people to take part on our flower rota. There are only two small vases on the altar and a third opposite the main door that just need a few flowers/foilage/seed heads etc to be put in them. Flowers can come from your garden; they don't have to be shop bought. We really need your help, please volunteer and contact us!

Mhari – 01366 347849 or Linda – 01366 347563.



**A Victorian Evening of Christmas Entertainment,  
Music and Carols**

Come and join in the Christmas celebrations at this evening of entertainment for all ages!

**Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> December at 6pm**

Victorian dress is optional for the audience but if you have any 'suitable costumes' you could lend us for the 'cast' we would be very pleased to hear from you! If you would like to take part, we would also be very pleased to welcome you to the 'concert party' !

The entertainment will be followed by light refreshments and mulled wine. Entrance is free but donations are gratefully appreciated.

For more information and to book your seat please contact

Mhari 01366 347849 or Linda 01366 347563

## BEACHAMWELL, SHINGHAM & DRYMERE VILLAGE NEWS

interested in the future of our church. The discussions are aimed at considering the current format of our services and other work of the PCC, in line with the recently launched Diocese of Ely Strategy 2025. Please help us shape the future of our church by joining us for these meetings. They are held at the Memorial Hall on the first Sunday of the month and usually start just after 12 o'clock, following the 11 o'clock service; coffee/tea/biscuits are provided.

The solution to the current problems with pigeons in the church porch is slowly inching forward. The Diocese of Ely has informed us that we do not need to seek their 'faculty approval' for the installation of porch screen doors, providing they are not fixed to the original structure and could be removed in the future without causing any damage to the Grade I listed building. The details of the self-supported design are now being finalised and it is hoped that an order for the manufacture of the screen will be placed within the next few weeks. In the meantime, it would be most appreciated if the local residents who are opening and locking the church daily, would report to the churchwardens any signs of settling of the pigeons within the porch. It would be also very helpful if people noticing any bird mess on the porch floor would inform the Church Wardens

Our Afternoon Teas continue to be held on the third Wednesday of each month. Sonia and Graham continue to co-host these events with Gill and John, despite their recent move to Shouldham. We are very grateful for their continuing hard work for our church and village, especially now they have two more beautiful churches in their new neighbourhood.

The Scrabble Group is still looking for a new host in Beachamwell. Please contact Sonia or Graham if you are willing to take this on. The meetings are usually held on the second Wednesday from 2 till 4 pm.

The forthcoming season of Advent and Christmas is one of great significance for the local congregation, as well as the life of our church. We hope you will be able to join us at one of our forthcoming Sunday services and also for the 'Carols by candlelight' service which will be held on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> December.

The choir are already practising, the flower rota volunteers are planning their special church window arrangements and the smell of mince pies baking will be soon spreading across our neighbourhood.

Do come along to celebrate this special season in our beautiful church.

**Vesna Hudson (PCC Member and Churchwarden Trainee)**

## BEACHAMWELL, SHINGHAM & DRYMERE VILLAGE NEWS

### **Wednesday Walkers in the Rain – a First!**

Actually, despite the wet on 4<sup>th</sup> November, six intrepid Wednesday Walkers enjoyed exploring the western fringes of Beachamwell. It was too misty to spy wildlife but in the distance we caught a glimpse of St Mary's Glebe farm. This 'St. Mary's' is not the parish church in Beachamwell but the tiny 14<sup>th</sup> century thatched church in Barton Bendish and this farm once provided food and an income for the rector of that parish.

Next month on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December after walking the Warren-Larchwood – Shingham circuit we have a festive drink and mince pie (or two) in the Memorial Hall.

On 6<sup>th</sup> January 2016 we shall explore the tracks on the edge of the parish of Oxborough.

Do come and join us – 10.00 am at Beachamwell Memorial Hall. For further details please telephone Sue (01366 328453) or Leah (01366 328536)

***Sue Pennell and Leah Spencer***

### **Beachamwell Memorial Hall (Charity registration number 303900)**

With Christmas just around the corner, why not join us for a Festive Pop up Pub on Friday 11 December 7-10.30pm in the village hall? In addition to the usual selection of real ale, spirits, wines and soft drinks, we will be serving mulled wine and free festive nibbles! This is an ideal way to raise a glass with your fellow villagers at the last Pop up Pub of 2015. We look forward to seeing you.

The children's Hallowe'en party was a great success and is to be followed by a Christmas Party in the hall from 3-5pm (ish!) Sunday 20 December. To book a place for your child contact me, Leah Spencer, on 01366 328536

Here's something for adults to look forward to in the new year. As an antidote to the January blues, we are holding a Pop up Restaurant in the hall at 7.30pm on Saturday 16 January. The meal will have an Italian theme and will be cooked and served by Moyra and Cliff, who make the delicious pre-theatre suppers at Westacre Theatre. The cost will be £16 per head for 3 courses (bring your own drinks) and as there will only be 24 places, early booking is essential. Contact me as above...

As a committee we would like to thank you all for your support in 2015 and wish everybody in Beachamwell, Shingham and Drymere a Happy Christmas and

# BEACHAMWELL, SHINGHAM & DRYMERE VILLAGE NEWS

New Year. (Don't forget that 2016 will be a Fete year, so watch this space for news!)

**Beachamwell Memorial Hall Committee**

**Contact: Leah Spencer, bookings secretary ([leah@wissey.co.uk](mailto:leah@wissey.co.uk))**

## Hallowe'en

Having returned to live in Norfolk after over a decade in exile and facing our three daughters' first Halloween in the county, we were thrilled to attend the Beachamwell Hallowe'en Party in the Memorial Hall on 31st October. As many long suffering parents and grandparents will know, the excitement of this increasingly popular event in the autumn calendar, its spooks and endless links to everything sweet, sends even the most placid youngsters into a frenzy. To know that this could be dispersed at a popular, well organised and fun village gathering was most welcome!

It was great to see so many families on arrival and huge thanks must go to Leah Spencer and Rachel Bond Green for running a fabulous evening. Starting with a ghostly fashion show, we were able to admire all of the wonderfully creative costumes. After games, that included apple bobbing, pin the smile on the skeleton and pumpkin making, we were treated to a marvellous supper featuring kind offerings from all those attending including a highly realistic brain cake



made, so cleverly, by Steve Green. As if this wasn't enough, pass the parcel followed, with spiders, cockroaches, rats and bats tumbling from every layer much to the children's delight. There was time for musical cushions too before the seventeen children attending, and their families, finished a great evening of socialising and togetherness and disappeared into the dark of the Beachamwell night. We've booked our spot for next year. Children's Christmas party on 20 December anyone?

**Bridget James**



## BEACHAMWELL, SHINGHAM & DRYMERE VILLAGE NEWS

### Beachamwell Art Group

Eighteen people attended the first meeting on 27 October. The hall was packed as we all had a go at drawing objects from life using a range of materials – pencils, charcoal, pastels, ink etc. Under the watchful eye of our tutor, Ralph Sliwa, time flew by and it was agreed that we would need at least 2hrs per session in future! Watch out for future dates.

If you would like to be added to the contact list for forthcoming sessions please contact **Leah Spencer 01366 328536**

### Beachamwell Book Group 2015

The following books have been read by the group this year and discussed over a glass of white wine on the first Tuesday of the month:

- ♦ ♦ Bring up the Bodies by Hilary Mantel
- ♦ ♦ Waterland by Graham Swift
- ♦ ♦ The Colour of Milk by Nell Leyshon
- ♦ ♦ All Quiet on the Western Front by Erich Maria Remarque
- ♦ ♦ Agent of the State by Roger Pearce
- ♦ ♦ The Girl Under the Olive Tree by Leah Fleming
- ♦ ♦ Perdita by Paula Byrne
- ♦ ♦ The Light Between Oceans by ML Stedman
- ♦ ♦ The Secret Scripture by Sebastian Barry
- ♦ ♦ The Cloudspotters Guide by Gavin Pretor-Pinney
- ♦ ♦ Scottsboro by Ellen Feldman
- ♦ ♦ The Thread by Victoria Hislop

Two of our founder members – Marie Rich and Alma Bateman - have moved away this year and we will miss their contributions in 2016. However, if you would like to join us next year we would love to see you in the village hall 7pm Tuesday 2 February (we do not meet in January). **Leah Spencer 01366 328536**

### Creative Writing Group In Beachamwell

My wife and I are moving to Beachamwell this month and I am keen to set up a creative writing group in the village. I am a published writer and President of the Suffolk Poetry Society. I was born and brought up in the Hebridean island of

## BEACHAMWELL, SHINGHAM & DRYMERE VILLAGE NEWS

Begin by measuring the water into a preserving pan, then cut the lemon and oranges in half and squeeze the juice out of them. Add the juice to the water and place the pips and any bits of pith that cling to the squeezer on the square of muslin (laid over a dish or cereal bowl first). Now cut the orange peel into quarters with a sharp knife and then cut each quarter into thinnish shreds. As you cut add the shreds to the water and any pips or spare pith you come across should go into the muslin. The pith contains a lot of pectin so do not discard any and don't worry about any pith and skin that clings to the shreds as it all gets dissolved in the boiling.

Now tie the pips etc. up loosely in the muslin to form a little bag and tie this onto the handle of the pan so that the bag is suspended in the water. Bring the liquid up to simmering point and simmer gently, uncovered for 2 hours approximately until the peel is completely soft. Put the saucers into the fridge at this point.

Next remove the bag of pips and leave it to cool. Pour the sugar into the pan and stir it now and then over a low heat until all the crystals have melted (check this carefully, this stage is important). Now increase the heat to very high and squeeze the bag of pips over the pan to extract all of the sticky, jelly like substance that contains the PECTIN. Stir well.

As soon as the mixture reaches a really fast boil, start timing. After 15 minutes spoon a little onto one of the chilled saucers and let it cool, back in the fridge. You can tell when the mixture has cooled if you have a set by pushing the mixture with your little finger; if it has a really crinkly skin then it has set. If not, continue to boil the marmalade and give the same test every ten minutes until you have a set.

After that remove the pan from the heat (if there is a lot of scum, most can be dispersed by stirring in half a teaspoon of butter). Leave the marmalade to settle for 20 minutes.

In the meantime the jars (washed, rinsed and dried first) should be heated in a moderate oven for 5 minutes. Pour the marmalade, with the help of a ladle, into the clean jars and cover with waxed discs and seal while still hot. Enjoy – we look forward to lots of entrees.....

***Carole Wilson, Diana Lambert, Leah Spencer and Maggie Mackenzie***



## BEACHAMWELL, SHINGHAM & DRYMERE VILLAGE NEWS

Islay and much of my writing has been influenced by my background. Writing arises out of one's own experience and everyone's experience is uniquely valuable and worthy of expression. Although it's often said, it's nonetheless true that everyone has their own story to tell. The advantage of belonging to a group is that you not only get the opportunity to share your own experience and gain confidence in your own voice but you get the opportunity to share and learn from the experience of others. Listening and discussion can be an important stimulus to writing.

Whether you are interested in writing stories, poetry or autobiography, this group will help you to communicate your thoughts and feeling with others with a little guidance for those who feel in need of it. After a while, it may well be possible to produce a booklet showcasing the writing of members of the group

The group will meet fortnightly in Beachamwell Memorial Hall, starting on Monday, 18<sup>th</sup> January at 7pm. The fee will be £4 per evening, which will include refreshments. I look forward to meeting you all. To book a place please contact Leah Spencer 01366 328536

**James Knox Whittet**

### Horticultural Show

We hope you are deciding on what seeds to purchase from the catalogues that are now arriving through the post for the Horticultural Show next August.



As Marmalade is on the Schedule for 2016 we thought you might like to have a traditional Seville Orange Marmalade recipe to try and enter (hide one jar for the event). By the time you receive the G4N for Dec/Jan the Seville oranges should be available.

Seville Orange Marmalade (makes approx 6 x 450g jars)

2lb Seville Oranges (900g)

4 pints water (2.25 litres)

1 Lemon

4 lb Granulated Sugar (1.8kg) warmed

You will also need a 9 inch (23cm) square of gauze, string and three or four saucers.

# BEACHAMWELL, SHINGHAM & DRYMERE VILLAGE NEWS

## **Beachamwell Local History Group**

On November 10<sup>th</sup> Beachamwell's Local History Group welcomed Ed Goodall from the "Breaking New ground" Landscape Partnership. In a fascinating illustrated talk, Ed described the work of this organisation. Its aim is to get people to "wake up to the Brecks", to better understand and connect with the unique landscape and heritage of this remarkable area. It is currently running a number of different community projects of great variety. Some are to promote biodiversity and help the flora and fauna unique to the Brecks to flourish and some are to conserve and improve access to the area's rich history. From pingos and pool frogs to flint mines and rabbit warrens, there is something for everyone with an interest in this special place. (For more information see [www.breakingnewground.org.uk](http://www.breakingnewground.org.uk))

The Local History Group's next meeting (Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2016) will be its Annual General Meeting. Part of the business at this meeting will be to discuss plans for the Group's next big event which will be an Open Day planned for April 2016. Watch this space!

New members and visitors are always welcome at our meetings. Also, if you have any old photos or any items of local historical interest, we would love to hear from you.

***Maggie Mackenzie 01366 327023***

## **Parish Council**

Next Parish Council Meeting, to which you are warmly invited, will be held on Monday January 11<sup>th</sup> at 7.30 in the Memorial Hall.

As always, if you have a query or a problem, you can consult the Councillors at any time – they are more than willing to listen and help if they can.

See the Parish Council Website

([www.beachamwell-pc.norfolkparishes.gov.uk](http://www.beachamwell-pc.norfolkparishes.gov.uk)) or the Parish Council Notice Board for more information.

***Eileen Powell (Parish Clerk)***

## **Mobile Post Office**

At present the opening hours are Monday and Thursday: 11.30 - 12.00 and Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday: 11.15 – 12.00. However, there may be changes in January (Local Public Consultation ended 26th November)

## BEACHAMWELL, SHINGHAM & DRYMERE VILLAGE NEWS

WI

November is the month when we have our Annual Meeting and 18 Members



arrived to listen to Irene, President, give her Annual Report. Jenny, Secretary and Heidi, Treasurer had posted theirs on email enabling members to read and digest them at home. Irene thanked all the Committee for their hard and dedicated work during the year and special mention to Carole and Heidi who were standing down from the Committee and a very big

welcome to Cathy who was joining the team. A cheese and wine supper was enjoyed by Members and prepared by the Committee. Then the fun started in the form of a Beetle Drive. After Helen explained what to do we were off, whooping when we threw a SIX - great fun.

Members brought their craft work to be judged for the Ruth Rix Vase and Pat O'Donnell was delighted to take the lovely vase home for her beautiful cross stitch picture.

Our next meeting is Thursday December 3<sup>rd</sup>, our Christmas Meeting. Three's



Company will be performing 'Momentous Times'. This is a dramatic presentation of the extraordinary experiences of five women in Europe during World War I. Stories from their personal diaries and journals, tell us about their lives from 1914 – 1918; falling in love, fleeing from the front, meeting death for the first time, growing up ... knitting socks for soldiers is referred to, but these women were far too busy for such homely war efforts.

Why not join us you will be most welcome.

**Carole Wilson Photographs Eileen Powell and Philip Spencer**

## COMMUNITY NOTICE BOARD

### MOBILE LIBRARY VISITS - Please note changed days/times

DATE	VILLAGE	LOCATION	TIME
Thursday 21st November	Beachamwell	Post Office	10:05 am
19th December	Drymere	Telephone Box	10:40 am
	Boughton	Sycamore House	15:20 pm
		Mill Road	15:35 pm
	Barton Bendish	Hatherley Gardens	9:40 pm
Thursday 7th, 21st November 5th, 19th December	Wereham	The Pond	9:30 am
		Queen's Close	16:20 pm

For services to all 'Group 4' villages ring Mobile Library Information on 01603 222267 or look at the website - [www.norfolk.gov.uk/Leisure\\_and\\_culture/Libraries/Mobile\\_libraries](http://www.norfolk.gov.uk/Leisure_and_culture/Libraries/Mobile_libraries)

### VILLAGE BUS SERVICES

FROM	ROUTE	OPERATOR	DESTINATION
Barton Bendish	31 (Saturday)	Lewis Coaches	Swaffham
Beachamwell	31 (Saturday) 18 (Tuesday)	Lewis Coaches Eagles Coaches	Swaffham King's Lynn & Swaffham
Boughton	18 (Tuesday)	Eagles Coaches	King's Lynn & Swaffham
Wereham	28 (Mon to Sat) 40 (Mon to Sat)	Coach Services Coach Services	King's Lynn Thetford/Downham

Timetable requests:- (01603) 228888, Traveline (08706) 082608 ([www.traveline.org.uk](http://www.traveline.org.uk))

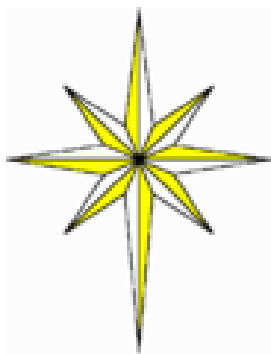
### FARMERS' MARKETS

Ely	Second and Fourth Saturday 8:00-2:00pm
Fakenham	Fourth Saturday 8.30am to 12:00pm
RAF Marham	First Thursday 12.00pm to 5.00pm
Swaffham	First and Third Sunday
Watton	Sadly no longer trading

For information:- [www.farmersmarkets.net](http://www.farmersmarkets.net) or your local Tourist Information Office

### VILLAGE AND PARISH HALL BOOKINGS

Barton Bendish	Bill Tasker	01366 347432
Boughton	Pam Wakeling	01366 500429
Beachamwell	Leah Spencer	01366 328536
Wereham	Doreen Rolph	01366 500218



## **CHRISTMAS SERVICES**

**24th December**

**Boughton 4 pm Crib service in the barn**

**Wereham 11.30 pm Holy Communion**

**25th December**

**9.30 am Shouldham Thorpe Holy Communion**

**Boughton 11 am Holy Communion**



## **CHRISTMAS WREATH WORKSHOP**

Would you like to have a go at making your own Christmas Wreath?

Then come along to Barton Bendish Village Hall on

**Thursday 19<sup>th</sup>, Friday 20<sup>th</sup> or Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> November 2015 at 7.00pm**

**or**

**Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> at 10am**

The cost of this fun and informal workshop is £15 per person and includes festive refreshment. All basic materials are provided but you can bring your own ribbon or everlasting decoration to add if you would like to, no experience is necessary and you will go home with your own beautiful Christmas wreath.

Just bring a pair of secateurs and dress for mess!

For more information and to book a place please contact

Mhari – 01366 347 849 or Linda – 01366 347 563.





## **CAROL SERVICES**

**Sunday 13th December**

**Barton Bendish 3 pm Christingle**

**Fincham 6 pm Carols and Christingle**

**Tuesday 15th December**

**Boughton 7 pm Traditional Nine Lessons and Carols**

**Thursday 17th December**

**Shouldham 7 pm Nine Lessons and Carols**

**Saturday 19th December**

**Sunday 20th December**

**Wereham 4 pm Carol Service**

**Marham 6 pm Carol Service**

**Monday 21st December**

**Beachamwell 6.30 pm Carols by Candlelight**

**Shouldham Thorpe 6 pm Carol Service**



## CHURCH SERVICES FOR DECEMBER 2015

Sunday 6th December 2nd Sunday of Advent

Shouldham	09.30 am	Morning Prayer
Marham	10.30 am	Café Church
Beachamwell	11.00 am	Holy Communion
Wereham	6.00 pm	Evening Service

**Sunday 13th December 3rd Sunday of Advent**

Shouldham Thorpe	9.30 am	Holy Communion
Boughton	10.00 am	Breakfast Church
Marham	10.30 am	Morning Worship
Barton Bendish	3.00 pm	Christingle
Fincham	4.00 pm	Christingle and carols

**Sunday 20th December 4th Sunday of Advent**

Shouldham	09.30 am	Holy Communion
Wereham	4.00 pm	Carol Service
Marham	6.00 pm	Carol service

**Sunday 27th December**

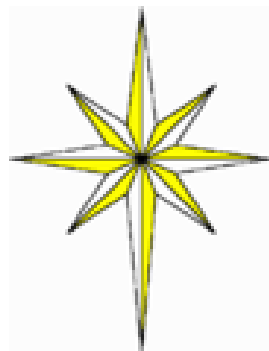
Fincham	09.30am	Holy Communion (said) BCP
---------	---------	---------------------------

**Thursdays at 10 am**

2nd Thursday at Boughton, the remaining Thursdays at Fincham—No service on 24th December

### CHURCHWARDENS

Barton Bendish	Mhari Blanchfield	01366 347849
	Linda Webster	01366 347563
Beachamwell	John Sanderson	01366 328818
	Graham Williams	01366 328774
Boughton	Pam Wakeling	01366 500429
Wereham	Sheila Smith	01366 858165



**Baptisms and Weddings:**

Please contact the Churchwarden in your parish.

# CHURCH SERVICES FOR JANUARY 2016

## Sunday 3rd January

Shouldham	09.30 am	Morning Prayer
Marham	10.30 am	Café Church
Beachamwell	11.00 am	Holy Communion
Wereham	6.00 pm	Evening Service

## Sunday 10th January

Shouldham Thorpe	09.30 am	Holy Communion
Boughton	10.00 am	Breakfast Church
Marham	10.30 am	Morning Worship
BartonBendish	11.00 am	Family Communion
Fincham	6 .00 pm	Evening Service

## Sunday 17th January

Shouldham	9.30 am	Holy Communion
Marham	10.30 am	United Morning Worship
Wereham	11.00 am	Holy Communion
Beachamwell	11.00 am	Familu Service

## Sunday 24th January

Fincham	09.30 am	Holy Communion (said) BCP
Marham	10.30 am	Holy Communion
Boughton	11.00 am	Holy Communion
Barton Bendish	6.00 pm	Evening Service

**Sunday 31st January    10.00 am    Group service of Holy Communion at Shouldham**



**PLEASE NOTE THAT THESE SERVICES MAY BE  
SUBJECT TO CHANGE .**

## BOUGHTON VILLAGE NEWS

### **Boughton Fen Report for Parish Council Meeting 23.10.2015**

We have now completed our programme of summer cutting on both Highland and Lower Fens which should promote more diverse vegetation in these areas.

Our summer visitors have now flown off to warmer climes for the winter, enabling us to start our winter work programme. Quotes are awaited from new scrub clearance contractors who will replace our long serving contractor, Greenfingers Countryside. The clearance works should be underway in the near future to help control the expanding areas of scrub and re-growth.

Our reed cutting programme should continue in the new year, with a further four to five acres in our sights.

The first working party of the year took place last Saturday, 17<sup>th</sup> October 2015.

A large area of willow re-growth was successfully cut down and treated, to hopefully allow the reed to recover in this area.

Two younger members of the village have been involved in the fen recently – one starting his Duke of Edinburgh community service put in a fantastic effort last Saturday at the working party; and the second preparing an 'A' level presentation on wetland management.

We have also had two plant surveys carried out in different areas of the fen which should give us a further insight into the flora that we have here.

*If anyone is interested in joining our working parties, please contact me on 01366 500461, or [mark@pogmore.myzen.co.uk](mailto:mark@pogmore.myzen.co.uk)*

*Mark Pogmore*

### **Welcome again to Boughton Cricket Club (BCC),**

We are an up and coming small, locally-run club which plays its home matches at its own ground, a short distance from the village centre at Boughton near Stoke Ferry, Norfolk. The club plays friendly, social cricket on weekends and evenings throughout the summer months. You may know that BCC applied for a grant from Sport England in the early summer of this year to erect a pavilion at the ground off Wretton Road. This followed a design phase and successful planning application at the end of 2014.

The wonderful news that I am able to pass on to you all now is that the application for grant funding has been successful with the club being awarded approx.£54K towards the total building cost of approx, £72K. Obviously this is fantastic news for the club and I am also delighted to tell you that after further debate and consideration the club committee voted unanimously at a meeting on Mon 19<sup>th</sup> October 2015 to accept the grant offer.

You will note that there is an £18K shortfall in the funding which that club has committed to fund raise to enable the project to progress. The club is further constrained by Sport England rules which dictate that the project has to have begun within 6 months of the offer and be complete within 18months. Pledges, donations and reserves within the club of approx. £2500 have given us a head start towards the target but obviously there is considerable work to be done.

Two subcommittees have been formed, one to oversee the project design and build and the other to fundraise so anything that you can do on either of these fronts would be greatly appreciated but no doubt you will hear from these committees very soon and in particular the fund raising side of things.

The club really does now need everyone's help on this so please volunteer your services and get involved to make this happen. It is a wonderful opportunity for the club, village and local community to progress the project and for us all to enjoy a fine building in a beautiful setting whilst enjoying some cricket.

*Steve Short*

## **Crows!**

The 5<sup>th</sup> biennial Boughton Scarecrow Week was held at the end of October. Boughton was again blessed with warm and sunny weather for the event run by The Boughton Village Caravan, (BVC) who have been putting on social events in and out of the village for some 9 years now.

The week which saw a magnificent 20 scarecrows displayed with an open theme all around the village, culminated in a bbq and prize giving event on Saturday 31st afternoon at the Boughton Village Centre..



The Halloween themed afternoon, with The Fabulous Bacon Boys on duty to provide bacon rolls to entrants and visitors alike, saw nearly 70 people attend, also enjoying teas and cakes provided by the BVC



Judging started at 12.30pm with County Councillor Martin Storey, Parish Council Chairman Tom Roberts and lifetime Boughton resident Tam Payne climbing aboard the hayride, kindly provided and driven by village farmer Geoff Proctor.

Clad in hi viz jackets, and guided by Boughton resident Frank Reid, the hayride toured the village judging the crows on display.

This year proved particularly difficult to judge due to the high standard and varied nature of the entrants, and the judges remained in the deliberation huddle for a

long time deciding the winners. They were sustained by bacon rolls and cups of tea.

Winners in the children's section were the Chandler & Stacey family's joint effort called 'The Campsite', which included a magnificent 11 scarecrows!

Highly commended were Henry & George Simpson, with the help of Mummy and 'Colin the Gruffalo'

The children received a commemorative mug, a cash prize, a medal, bags of Halloween goodies and a certificate. Winner of the adult section was Kevin & Debbie Fisher for 'Cannonball Clive'.

Highly commended were Andrew & Angela Faherty for 'Mr Hedges'



The adult winners received commemorative mug, bottle of wine and certificate.



A magnificent day enjoyed by all, and the BVC thanks all those who helped to make the day a resounding success. We look forward to the next event in 2017.

### ***Boughton Village Caravan***

*Boughton is a friendly place.....really!!*

### **All Saints' Church**

Another successful Bistro Quiz was held on 30th October to raise funds for the church. This is becoming a must in local events and one table of contestants booked for next year on their way out! Thanks to the generosity of the Blackalls and Barbara Burton, a three course French themed meal was enjoyed by everyone, with copious wine donated again by Tony Gold. Barbara had been intending to be the quiz master, but was prevented from doing so by illness. Stewart Waterston kindly provided us with questions - and answers! - so Hannah - Lou and I were able to stand in for Barbara as quizmasters. The raffle raised £71 and the meal a wonderful £375. Many thanks also to Janet Tidy, who came along specially to do the washing up. We are very grateful for all the support.

**PTO**



## BOUGHTON VILLAGE NEWS (contd)

### Christmas

Our traditional carol service will be held on Tuesday 15th December at 7 pm. Volunteers to read lessons will be most welcome., as will the people who are normally 'persuaded' to do so. The choir will be in attendance and all the old carols will be sung. If you would like to bring along some 'eats', there will be an opportunity to enjoy a social occasion after the service.

### Decorating the church

Monday 14th December at times to be arranged. Any offers of greenery would be appreciated. It's always good fun, so come along.

*Pam Wakeling*

1. Joseph and Mary
2. Buzz
3. Jeduthun
4. 1966
5. Jingle Bell Rock
6. In the Southern Hemisphere
7. Mt Crumpit
8. Italy
9. Vixen
10. Ebenezer
11. Santa Baby
12. Cracker

Answers to the quiz on page 74

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## WEREHAM VILLAGE NEWS

Wereham Nativity and Carol service 20th December

4.00 PM to 4:45 PM

It isn't Christmas unless you've seen a child wearing a tea towel!

Why not come to hear the children of Wereham recapturing the magic of Christmas by telling the Christmas story at our traditional nativity and carol service. A warm welcome awaits everyone. You do not have to be a regular churchgoer or a relation of one of the children. Just come along and enjoy the occasion

Afterwards listen and sing along to the carols by the pond played by the Hilgay Brass Band.

Also consider getting a ticket for the party to follow in the Village Hall.

For more information please telephone Debbie Rye 502083



Wereham Nativity and Carol Service

Calling all young performers aged 3 to 14,

Actors, dancers, readers and singers wanted for our traditional nativity play

Rehearsal Sunday the 20th December 12 o'clock to 1 o'clock performance

4.00pm in church

If you have interested youngsters please phone Debbie or Ian Rye on 502083 or call in at the Old Chapel by the pond.

Many thanks

**AT CHRISTMAS...PLAY & MAKE GOOD CHEER FOR CHRISTMAS COMES  
BUT ONCE A YEAR.**

Have you heard the joke:- How many people does it take to decorate a church at Christmas?

Well let's see.... because....on Friday 18th December from 10.30am, St.

Margaret's in Wereham needs decking out ....join us to make the church look amazing...we should love to see you.  
Refreshments at 12.30....to keep us going.

As usual there will be several Christmas trees in church; our tree lights and decorations need updating so we should be very grateful to see some contemporary items donated to refresh things.

Perhaps you could contribute by donating some foliage or flowers, enthusiasm, care & attention,  
or ribbon and tinsel. All donations and contributions are valued and included.  
New ideas and themes for our church displays will be happily embraced.

You are welcome to bring your own arrangement into church; maybe to be placed in remembrance of  
someone or to celebrate Christmas in the village.

**The flower buckets will be outside church from Thursday 17th.**

Sadly our church is not visited every week of the year but  
.....Christmas is still our most popular service. Fancy that!  
Treat yourself to a few moments of quiet and peace during the rush of  
Christmas....  
we shall do our best to make the church look lovely and you will be welcome.  
SO.....Let us see how many it takes to make St Margaret's ready for Christmas.  
..... The more the merrier we hope.

Thank you in anticipation.

Sue, Ivy, Ronnie (offers and enquires, Sue 01366 858237)



**Wereham Christmas Bazaar 28<sup>th</sup> Nov 1-4pm**

Entrance fee 20p, raffle & tombola. Santa will be visiting.

Various stalls & refreshments available.

For enquires contact Doreen on 01366 500218

**Christmas Family Prize Bingo 2<sup>nd</sup> Dec 7.30pm**

Doors open at 6.30pm & eyes down at 7.30pm.

Refreshments available plus a raffle.

For enquires contact Doreen on 01366 500218

All will be held at Wereham Village Hall.

**Wereham Christmas concert Thursday 17th December 7pm St.Margarets Church Wereham.**

Come and hear the fabulous Fincham Chorus singing a Christmas programme with guest readers and singers from the village. Mulled wine, mince pies and nibbles provided. Free entry. Donations welcomed for the church. This will be SUPER. Don't miss it!

**Wereham Messy church carol singing**

Monday 21st December start 6pm at the church gates.

Please come and join in the singing or be ready to applaud enthusiastically and give a donation as we sing around Wereham village.

**November Update from Wereham Village Hall Committee**

We held another very successful quiz night last month with about 60 attendees. A big thank you to Angela, Diane, Lynda, Pauline, Lou and Doreen for all their help with food preparation and also during the evening itself, as well as to our quizmaster, John. We made just over £330.

We are now into the Christmas countdown which started with the Christmas Bazaar on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> November.

Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December sees the return of the Christmas Family Prize Bingo – there will be a host of prizes to suit all ages and everyone is welcome. Carols by the pond will be on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> December – join us for candlelit carols around the pond from 5pm with the Hilgay Youth Brass Band, followed by tea and children's Christmas crafts and entertainments in the village hall. For tickets, contact Janet Winter on 01366 500458 or 07962320828.

If you would like to get involved with the Friends Group, we are always looking for new volunteers – there are jobs for everyone. Contact Doreen on 01366 500218.

**Update from the New Build Project Team**

At the end of October, and earlier than expected, we received the fantastic news that we have passed our Stage 2 Lottery Application and have been awarded development funding to aid in the submission of the final Stage 3 Application. Busy times ahead as we have a strict 6 month deadline in which we have to:

Design the building based upon the user group requirements identified to meet the community's needs

**Apply for and gain planning permission**

**Secure the balance of the funding required to complete the project (sadly, the lottery alone will not finance the whole build and we will have to apply for numerous other grants as well as run our own fundraising campaign).**

**With this in mind, we will be holding Community Consultations on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> December 10.30-12, during the Pop up café and on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> December 7.30-9pm. This is an opportunity for you to come along and find out about the project so far and for us to share the decisions we have made to date and the reasons for these. We value your feedback so please do come along and let us know your thoughts – this is the time to tell us if we have missed anything out or got anything wrong before the architects start working on the final design.**

**There will then be a further Public Consultation on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> January from 3-7pm during which the plans and architects designs will be available prior to submission to planning. Both the project team and architects will be on hand to answer your questions.**

**Thank you for your continued support and please do try to come along to the consultations – we are working to provide an amenity for everybody.**

**Victoria, Helen, John & Rachel.**

**Events list**

**Bingo** - Wereham Village Hall "Cash Prize" Bingo every Wednesday, doors open 6.45 eyes down 7.30pm. Teas/coffees available with complimentary biscuits. For enquiries contact Doreen on 01366 500218.

**Pop up Café** – first Tuesday of the month, 10.30-12. Next date Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> December. Join us for a slice of homemade cake. a hot drink, a natter and a read of the daily papers – all for just £1. Cake donations/queries to Doreen on 01366 500218.

**Community Consultations** – Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> December 10.30-12 and Monday 7<sup>th</sup> December 7.30-9pm in the village hall, cotact Victoria on 01366 501277

**Indoor/Outdoor Car Boot** – last Sunday of the month, 9am-1pm (café opens at 8am). No car boot in December but we're back again in January. Café serving bacon butties, hot dogs and hot drinks. £5 pitch or, if you have earned time credits, there are two pitchess/tables available at a cost of 4 time credits each.

To book call Colin on 07961130251/01366 502281.

**Family Christmas Prize Bingo** – Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December doors open 6.45, eyes down 7.30pm, contact Doreen on 01366 500218

**Christmas Carols by the Pond** – Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> December from 5pm, contact Janet on 01366 500458/07962320828

**Public Consultation with architects** – Monday 18<sup>th</sup> January 3-7pm, contact Victoria on 01366 501277

**For all the pictures and feedback** from our events, log onto [www.facebook.com/werehamvillagehall](http://www.facebook.com/werehamvillagehall). By clicking on the 'Like' option, you will be kept up to date on events, pictures and the progress towards a new village hall.

If you have any queries with regards to the plans for funding a new village hall, or anything we're doing, please contact Victoria Gray, Chair, Wereham Village Hall Committee

Home: 501277 Mobile: 07725513583

Email: [darren.gray@tesco.net](mailto:darren.gray@tesco.net) or via [www.facebook.com/werehamvillagehall](http://www.facebook.com/werehamvillagehall)

Wereham Parish Council met on 10th November. Minutes are available from the Clerk. Mrs N Cooper, [werehampc@gmail.com](mailto:werehampc@gmail.com) / 01366 500527.

Wereham Village Hall Management Committee have submitted an application for a grant of £5,500 to provide just under 0.6% funding for a new Community building to replace the current Village Hall which is no longer fit for purpose or able to meet our communities' needs.

The Parish Council will be sending out a letter to all residents by the end of November to GIVE EVERY HOUSEHOLD ONE VOTE on whether to support grant provision. Voting will be accepted by post or email. Please wait for your letter to vote as you will need to quote your unique reference number which will be shown on your letter.

Over the coming months we would like to invite you to attend one of the following consultation sessions set up for you to find out more about the project.

**Representatives from the Parish Council and the Village Hall Committee will be present at all sessions.**

**Wereham Village Hall Management Committee led:**

- Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2015 10.30am to 12pm (during the pop up cafe)
- Monday 7<sup>th</sup> December 7.30pm to 9pm.

**Parish Council led:**

Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2015, 7pm to 7.30pm

## Wereham Pop-Up Café



**1st Tuesday  
every month  
10.30 to 12.00**

Fresh coffee/tea, home-made cakes, sit and read papers or have a natter....



Just £1.00.



All proceeds go to Village Hall.

## Wereham Weekly Cash



**Wereham Village Hall  
Wednesdays**

**Doors open 6.45 pm  
Eyes down 7.30 pm**

**Raffle and Refreshments  
with complimentary biscuits**



**Enquiries: Doreen Rolph  
01366 500218**

All proceeds go to Village Hall  
Registered Charity Number 1151336 Wereham Village Hall

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NEW Range Cooker

NEW Larder Fridge

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**WEREHAM VILLAGE HALL!**



Contact Doreen  
on 500218 for  
Bookings

## WEREHAM VILLAGE HALL PUBLIC CONSULTATIONS

**\*\*We passed our Stage 2  
Lottery Application\*\***

**Community Consultations to  
discuss progress to date and for  
public feedback prior to the final  
design process:**

**Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 10.30-  
12 Monday 7<sup>th</sup> December 7.30  
-9pm**

**Public Consultation with architects:**

**Monday 18<sup>th</sup> January 3-7pm**

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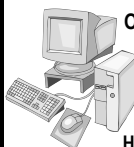
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&  
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Trading Days over the festive holidays:

Mon	14 <sup>th</sup> Dec	CLOSED	GETTING MARRIED
Tues	15 <sup>th</sup> Dec	CLOSED	GETTING MARRIED
Wed	16 <sup>th</sup> Dec	CLOSED	HONEYMOON !!
Thurs	17 <sup>th</sup> Dec	OPEN	09:00 till 16:00
Fri	18 <sup>th</sup> Dec	OPEN	09:00 till 16:00
Sat	19 <sup>th</sup> Dec	OPEN	09:00 till 16:00
Sun	20 <sup>th</sup> Dec	CLOSED	
Mon	21 <sup>st</sup> Dec	OPEN	09:00 till 16:00
Tues	22 <sup>nd</sup> Dec	Hospital Treatment - OPEN PART DAY	
Wed	23 <sup>rd</sup> Dec	OPEN	09:00 till 16:00
Thurs	24 <sup>th</sup> Dec	OPEN	09:00 till 13:00
Fri	25 <sup>th</sup> Dec	CLOSED	
Sat	26 <sup>th</sup> Dec	CLOSED	
Sun	27 <sup>th</sup> Dec	CLOSED	
Mon	28 <sup>th</sup> Dec	CLOSED	
Tues	29 <sup>th</sup> Dec	CLOSED	
Wed	30 <sup>th</sup> Dec	OPEN	09:00 till 16:00
Thurs	31 <sup>st</sup> Dec	OPEN	09:00 till 13:00
Fri	1 <sup>st</sup> Jan	CLOSED	
Sat	2 <sup>nd</sup> Jan	CLOSED	
Sun	3 <sup>rd</sup> Jan	OPEN	09:00 till 16:00
Mon	4 <sup>th</sup> Jan	OPEN	09:00 till 16:00
Tues	5 <sup>th</sup> Jan	OPEN	09:00 till 16:00

WE WOULD LIKE TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO THANK  
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2015 AND LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU IN 2016

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References available

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## CHRISMONS AND CHRISMON PATTERNS

Chrismons are Christmas decorations with Christian symbols on them. They help Christians to remember that Christmas is the celebration of Jesus's birthday. They are often used on Christmas Trees in Churches and Christians homes.

They were first made by Frances Kipps Spencer at the Ascension Lutheran Church in Danville, Virginia, USA. She also thought of the word, Chrismon, which is a combination of Christ and monogram (meaning symbol). The idea quickly spread to other churches. It is traditional that Christian groups can make their own Chrismons with their favourite symbols on.

Each year a 20ft (6 metre) Christmas Tree is decorated in the Ascension Lutheran Church, as Mrs Spencer intended, and visitors come and hear the story of Jesus explained through her original Chrismons and a few gifts from around the world.

Chrismons are traditionally coloured white and gold. White is the liturgical (or Church) colour for Christmas and symbolises that Jesus was pure and perfect. Gold symbolises His Majesty and Glory. Chrismons can be made from nearly anything, but paper and embroidered ones are the most widely used. You can find them online if you search for Chrismons.

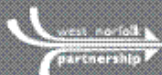
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# ely2025

People Fully Alive: Ely 2025 -a strategy for growth

By Sarah Williams, Diocesan Communications Manager

The Diocese of Ely has formally launched a new strategy, unambiguously aimed at transformation and growth.

This strategy has arisen out of Bishop Stephen's call to imagine our future and from the development over the last few years of a diocesan vision and set of imperatives.

We pray to be generous and visible people of Jesus Christ' is our diocesan vision. It gives us a picture of the kind of church and people of God we hope to be. It gives us something to aim for.

The 'we' is the diocese in all its forms—individuals, PCCs, parishes, deaneries and diocesan bodies

—all of us are invited on this journey to continue to discern what God is calling us to be:

people fully alive here in Cambridgeshire and West Norfolk.

The strategy in its final format has been shaped by the 2,000 plus people who attended the consultation roadshows across the diocese, and the insightful and prayerful responses of individuals, parishes and groups who contributed to the survey. Overwhelmingly there is a desire and sense of urgency for change. There is an appetite to engage with, and welcome, steps towards transformation and growth. There is a widespread desire to cherish the past but to invest in the future. So the strategy aims to begin to help us map out the future of the church over the next ten years

This is a huge challenge. It means there has to be new ways of working, it will take time to adjust to, and not everything will be able to be done at once. We will need to pace ourselves as we immerse ourselves into the unfolding narrative of becoming people fully alive. Key signposts in the strategy are the levers of change. These provide a common language and focus for our priorities and actions. The levers set the agenda and overall direction of travel as we

begin now to identify the opportunities and challenges ahead.

September 2015

**The levers are:**

- 
- Nurture a confident people of God
- 
- Develop healthy churches
- 
- Serve the community
- 
- Re-imagine our buildings
- 
- Target support to key areas.

The strategy will be fully integrated with the outworking of mission and ministry in the diocese. We will, as our imperatives indicate, engage fully and courageously with the needs of our communities, locally and globally; grow God's church by finding disciples and nurturing leaders; and we will deepen our commitment to God through word, worship and prayer.

None of this will work without being deeply rooted in God's grace, help and blessing.

No work of ours is of any use at all unless we seek to abide deeply and continuously in the divine life and love. We wish to be rooted in prayer

Speaking of our strategy, Bishop Stephen says: 'As much as anything else our strategy is a call to prayer. We pray ... that we may be the people God calls us to be, fully alive in Him.'

**Part of Brian Hullah's thoughtful reflection on the future of local churches.....the rest was specifically Shouldham, but could apply in general to most of us, where a small number struggle to keep the villages' historical assets in good condition.**

**A Cautionary Tale** - Over a number of years, we have often mentioned the problem of upkeep of All Saints' church. The Church of England has recently floated the proposal to create "Festival Churches" in those parishes where the regular, average attendance at services is 10 or less. This will apply predominantly to rural churches when the services would be held only on the great Christian festivals, ie: Christmas, Easter, etc. Thus the usage of the buildings for normal worship would be drastically reduced, for reasons of declining attendance, and the increasing difficulty of recruiting clergy willing to work in country areas.

This concept of Festival Churches is currently only a proposal. But – with many large groups of parishes already in the care of just one priest – this reduction in services/usage seems highly likely to materialise. The Diocese of Ely is holding a number of regional meetings to outline its long-term strategy, and by the time you read this we may have a clearer idea of how Shouldham church could be affected.

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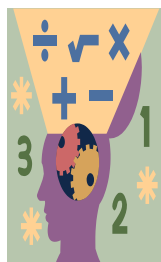
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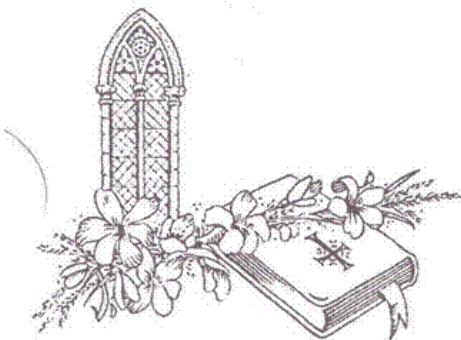
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- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. 26th December   | 12. Hogmanay   |
| 2. Jacob Marley  | 13. Christmas cracker  |
| 3. Holiday Inn   | 14. 1984 (bonus points - Band Aid II was 1989, Band Aid 20 was 2004) |
| 4. Norway  | 15. Turkey   |
| 5. Ladies dancing  | 16. Dr Seuss   |
| 6. Comet, Cupid, Dasher, Dancer, Prancer, Vixen, Donner, Blitzen | 17. Mexico   |
| 7. God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen                                   | 18. Robert Burns   |
| 8. The Nightmare before Christmas                                | 19. Six  |
| 9. White   | 20. Panettone  |
| 10. Clarence   |  |
| 11. Balthasar, Melchior, Caspar                                  |  |

Answers to quiz on page 75



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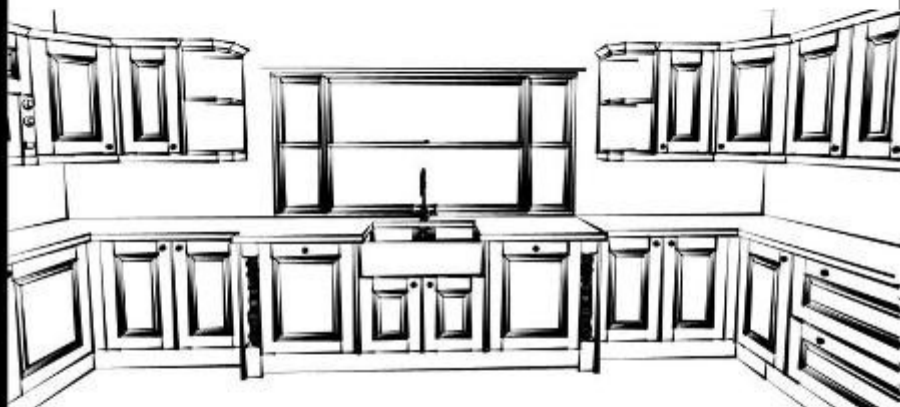
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## Christmas in Ghana



People in Ghana celebrate Christmas from the 20th of December to the first week in January with lots of different activities. Many people travel to visit their relatives and friends in other parts of the country. Over 66 languages are spoken in Ghana and all these language groups have their own traditions and customs!

December is also the start of the cocoa harvest (the bean that make chocolate) in Ghana. Ghana is the worlds second biggest cocoa producer. I really like some fair-trade chocolate that's made with cocoa from Ghana!

Christmas Eve night is the time when the celebrations really start with Church services that have drumming and dancing. Children often put on a Nativity Play or other drama. Then choirs come out to sing and people come out in front of the priests to dance. Songs are mostly sang in the languages that the people understand best. This makes them feels that God speaks their language. Sometimes these services and dancing go on all night long!

Other people celebrate Christmas Eve with fireworks and parties.

On Christmas day the Churches are very full. People come out dressed in their colorful traditional clothes. After the Church service on Christmas morning, people quickly go back to their houses to start giving and receiving gifts.

Traditional food includes stew or okra soup, porridge and meats rice and a yam paste called 'fufu'.

During the Christmas period children's parties, employees' end of year parties, etc. are mostly celebrated in the hotels, at the beaches, school parks and community centers with good wishes for all people on earth.

Some Ghanaians also go to Church on the 31st December to thank God for sending Jesus and to pray for a good and safe New Year. People may also use that time to remember those who died during the previous year and pray that the difficulties that they may have encountered over the year don't carry on into the New Year.

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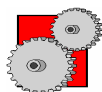
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## CHILDREN'S PAGE

1. What were the names of Jesus Christ's earthly parents?
2. What is the name of Kevin's older brother in the film ♦Home Alone♦?
3. Which of the following is not one of the names given to the Wise Men who visited Jesus after his birth? Melchior, Balthazar, Jeduthun, Caspar.
4. In which year of the 1960s did the UK Post office first introduce Christmas stamps for postage?
5. Which Christmas song includes the lyrics "Jingle bells swing and jingle bells ring, snowin' and blowin' up bushels of fun"?
6. If I was born on Christmas Day, yet my birthday falls in the summer, where would I be?
7. In which mountain does the Grinch live in the film ♦The Grinch♦ (2000)?
8. Children receive presents from 'Befana' depicted as a witch on a broom 9. stick, on 6th January in which European country?
9. If written alphabetically, which of Santa's reindeer would come last10..
- 10 What is Scrooge's Christian name?
11. In which Christmas song is Santa asked to "slip a sable under the tree, for me"?
- 12 Which type of thin biscuit has the same name as a Christmas novelty which goes bang when pulled?

Answers on page 44

## PUZZLE PAGE

1. What date is St Stephen's Day?
2. In Charles Dickens' novel A Christmas Carol, who was Scrooge's dead business partner?
3. The song White Christmas was first performed in which 1942 film?
4. London's Trafalgar Square Christmas tree is traditionally given by which country?
5. In the song The Twelve Days of Christmas, '...my true love brought to me nine...' what?
6. Name the original eight reindeer from the 'Twas the night Before Christmas' poem.
7. Which Christmas carol includes the lyrics '...To save us all from Satan's power, when we were gone astray..'?
8. The character Jack Skellington appears in which 1993 Tim Burton film?
9. What colour are the berries of the mistletoe plant?
10. In the inspirational 1946 film, It's a Wonderful Life, what's the name of George Bailey's guardian angel?
11. What are the names of the three wise men said to have brought gifts to the baby Jesus?
12. What is New Year's Eve called in Scotland?
13. What Christmas item was invented by London baker and wedding-cake specialist Tom Smith in 1847?
14. In what year was Band-Aid's Do They Know It's Christmas the UK Christmas chart-topping record (bonus point each for the years of reissue success by Band Aid II and Band Aid 20)?
15. In which modern country is St Nicholas's birthplace and hometown?
16. Who wrote How the Grinch Stole Christmas?
17. From which country does the poinsettia plant originate?
18. Who is officially credited as the author of Auld Lang Syne?
19. How many points does a snowflake have?
20. What is the name of the cake traditionally eaten in Italy at Christmas?



Answers on page 65



**Saint John's Way  
Saint John's Business Estate  
Downham Market  
Norfolk  
PE38 0QQ**

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**Our surgery times are listed below. Please note that appointments are now necessary for all evening surgeries.**

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