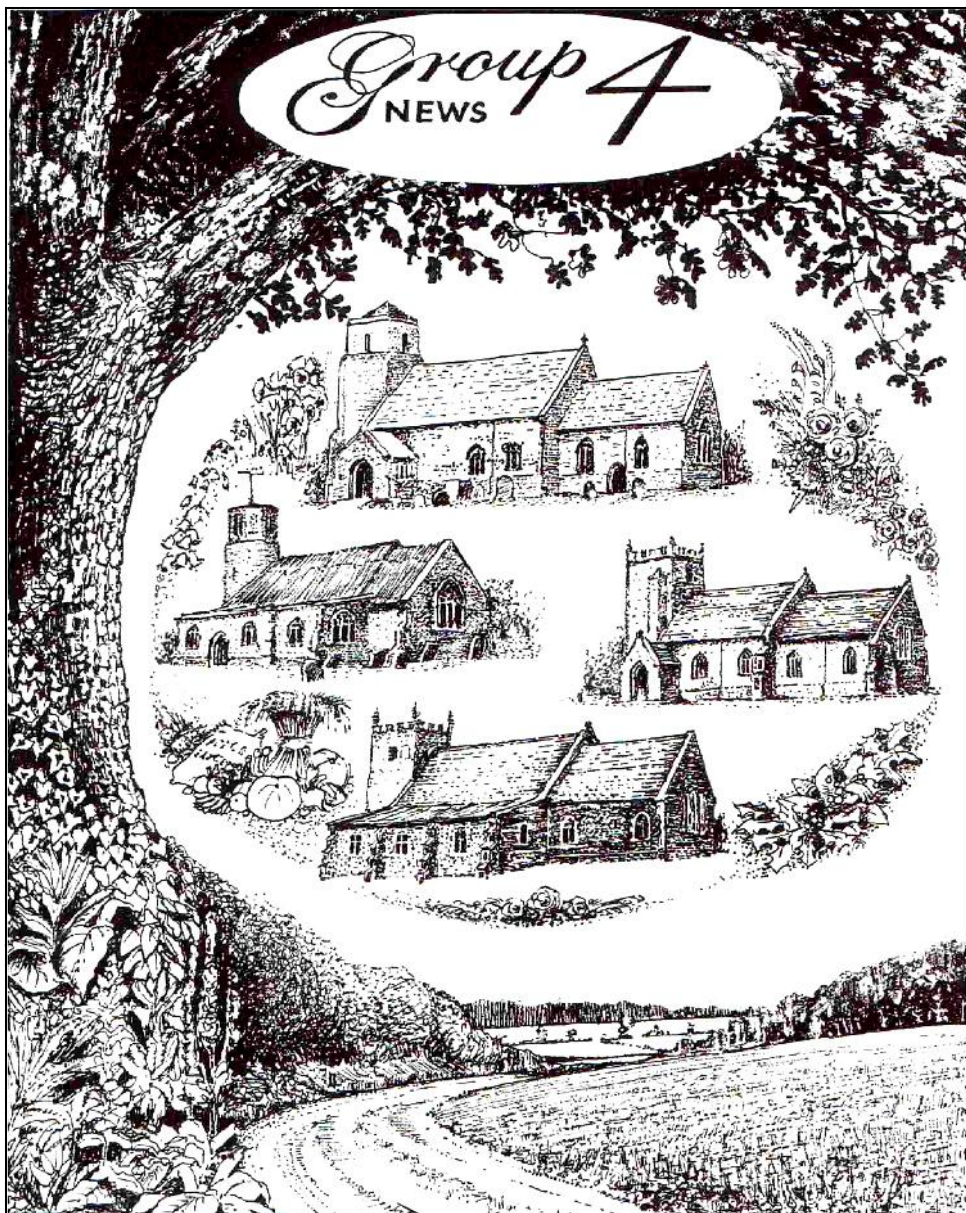


**MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY 2025**



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

**December 2024 & January 2025**

**Cover Illustration drawn by Mark Powell, Beachamwell ©**

# WELCOME



Once again we would like to thank Alan for dealing with the adverts, Kevin for the website, Andrew and Liz for collecting and delivering to the villages, Limetree Printers for their super efficiency (in spite of having trouble with the printing machines) and everyone who has helped with G4N in any way - we do appreciate your continued support.

Seasons Greetings to you all.

Happy Reading  
*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

**Barton Bendish:** Andrew Stephen  
Witsend, Hatherley Gardens, Barton  
Bendish  
Tel: 01366 347 549  
[acstephen@hotmail.com](mailto:acstephen@hotmail.com)

**Beachamwell:** Eileen Powell  
20 All Saints Way, Beachamwell  
Tel: 01366 328 648  
[powells@beechamwell.plus.com](mailto:powells@beechamwell.plus.com)

**Boughton:** Pam Wakeling  
Robet, Mill Hill Road, Boughton  
Tel: 01366 500 429  
[p.wakeling621@btinternet.com](mailto:p.wakeling621@btinternet.com)

**Wereham:** Viv Scott  
Orchard House, Flegg Green, Wereham  
Tel: 01366 500346  
[vivienne.scott@gmail.com](mailto:vivienne.scott@gmail.com)

Please submit all information through your Village Contacts.

**Deadline for copy for the  
February '25 edition:**

**11th January**

## ADVERTISING

Alan Pickering 16 Tinkers Way,  
Downham Market, PE38 9TQ

Tel: 07779 787499 or 01366 386125  
e:mail: [group4news@gmail.com](mailto:group4news@gmail.com)

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)

## FROM THE RECTORY-TRADITIONS

We have always done this or that especially at Christmas. *Always?* Have we always had Christmas trees, tinsel, baubles, lights and decorations, Father Christmas with gifts especially for children, turkeys with all the trimmings and spent a lot of money? Oh! It wouldn't be Christmas without *all* of those things. And, yes, all of those do comprise a tradition that we are expected to follow. I have to admit to a certain level of reluctant acquiesce in following in the footsteps of, what appears to be, the majority. Though I do find choosing presents a task too far and my family receive vouchers from me. They seem to enjoy choosing their own gifts which discharges them from the necessity to exchange wrongly purchased ones.

One of the things I clearly remember from many years ago on the run-up to Christmas. I was going into a supermarket when a lady pushing an overladen shopping trolley, which she could hardly control, came out. The truly ironical thing was that she turned to her companion, who was attempting to pilot the recalcitrant vehicle, and said *Christmas is really about the children isn't it? Were their children really going to consume all that alcohol that the trolley contained?*

I sincerely hope not! Indeed, I hope that those who drank it, did so over a reasonably long period of time. The other point is that you would think that people were stocking up to avoid a famine or other disaster. Supermarkets and other large shops are only closed for two days in the year; Christmas and Easter Days. Smaller shops remain open, including those that are part of the same chain as the supermarkets.

One of the other traditions is that preachers and writers of quasi-religious articles tend to complain about the commercialisation of Christmas. Hence my own reluctant acquiesce to become involved with the other traditions of Christmas. It remains an inconvenient truth that the economy *could not function* without the spending at Christmas. In the retail sector, dependant on the type of organisation, as much as one third of turnover and thus profit is directly attributable to spending at Christmas. And there are manufacturing firms that are entirely dependent on that trade; Christmas crackers being an obvious one. So, what are preachers and such writers going to do? Continue with our verbal or written handwringing or tut-tuting? But, if so, we must take into consideration of that inconvenient truth about the economy.

It is worthwhile remembering why we give gifts at Christmas. That tradition comes from St. Nicholas from the fourth century A.D. who is named in popular culture as Santa Claus. Legend has it that he gifted some gold coins to prevent some children becoming slaves. He is, appropriately, the patron saint of merchants and brewers. But it was the act of giving, during the Season of Advent, that probably began the tradition. However, the real gift we receive at Christmas (Christ Mass) is that of Jesus. He came into the world as a mortal human being to die upon the Cross but to rise again from death that we enjoy the gift of forgiveness of sins.

*Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Tony Mills*

# Wissey Valley Benefice Christmas Services

Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup>	9.30	HC	Wretton & S F
	9.30	HC	Methwold
	6pm	Evensong	Wereham
Saturday 7 <sup>th</sup>	4.00	Christingle	Whittington
	4.00	Carol Service	Barton Bendish
Sunday 8 <sup>th</sup>	9.30	Service of the Word	Methwold
	9.30	S of the Word	Whittington
	10.00	Bkfst Church	Boughton
	6.30	Carol Service	West Dereham
Tuesday 10	7.00	9 Lessons and Carols	Boughton
Sunday 15	9.30	Celtic Worship	West Dereham
	9.30	HC	Wretton & S F
	4.00	Carol Service	Wereham
	4.00	Carol Service	Methwold
	6pm	Victorian Evening	Barton Bendish
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup>	10am	Holy Communion	Boughton
Friday 20	6.15	Carol Service	Beachamwell
Sunday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	9.30	Holy Communion	Whittington
	9.30	Christmas Breakfast	West Dereham
	9.30	Holy Communion	Methwold
	11am	Holy Communion	Boughton
Tuesday 24	4.00	Crib & Carol	Wretton & Stoke Ferry
Christmas	4.00	Crib & Carol	Methwold
Eve	4.00	Carols at the Pond	Boughton
	11pm	Midnight Mass	Wereham
	11pm	Midnight Mass	Methwold
<b>Christmas Day</b>	9.30	Holy Communion	Methwold
	10am	Holy Communion	Wretton & Stoke Ferry
Sunday 29 <sup>th</sup>	10.000	Benefice Breakfast	Boughton



## CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICES 2024

### **Barton Bendish Carols by Candlelight**

Saturday December 7th

4.00pm

St Andrew's Church

5.00pm

Christmas Cheer in Village Hall  
Mulled wine and seasonal food will  
be served. (Donations of food for the  
refreshments, will be gratefully  
received.)

We hope you will join us  
for either or both of these  
festive celebrations.



### **Wereham**

**Christmas at  
St Margaret's**

### **Annual Christmas Carol Service**

Sunday 15th

December

4pm.

Come along and enjoy the  
traditional carols that we  
all know and love.



### **Beachamwell**

### **Christmas Carols by Torchlight**

Friday December 20th

6.00pm

St Mary's Church

(with Permission)

(Followed by Pop-up Pub in Village  
Hall)

**Remember to bring a torch and  
Wear warm Clothes**



### **Boughton**

### **Christmas Carols on the Green**

Followed by refreshments in All  
Saints Church

Tuesday December 24<sup>th</sup>

4pm

Bring along your singing voices, your  
Christmas cheer and a torch.

If the weather is inclement we will  
convene at All Saints Church.

We look forward to celebrating  
Christmas with you all.



# RECIPE PAGE

## Cloud Forest Chocolate Cakes

### Ingredients

- 180g Best Plain Chocolate (broken into pieces)
- 250g Unsalted Butter
- 125g Golden Caster Sugar
- 50g Light Muscovado Sugar
- 6 eggs
- 100g Ground Almonds

### Method

Preheat the oven to 160 deg C.

Line 25cm spring-form cake tin

1. Melt butter and chocolate and half the caster sugar and all of the Muscovado sugar in a bowl over simmering water.
2. Beat the egg yolks and remaining sugar in a bowl until doubled in size
3. In a separate bowl beat the whites until soft peaks.
4. Add the almonds to the melted butter and chocolate.
5. Incorporate the three together folding until well mixed.
6. Pour into lined tin and bake for 25 minutes.
7. Leave to cool in the tin.

This cake is quite dense and very rich so can be divided into many portions and keeps for a week (plus) if it lasts that long!



**\*\*NEW\*\***



**WILD KNIGHT<sup>®</sup>**  
- DISTILLERY -

## Wild Knight<sup>®</sup> Chocolate Mint Martini



### Ingredients

**50ml** Wild Knight<sup>®</sup>  
Chocolate Martini  
**10ml** Crème de menthe  
Mint leaves  
Chocolate Shavings

### Method

1. Fill a cocktail shaker with ice
2. Add the Chocolate Martini and the Crème de menthe
3. Shake until combined
4. Strain into a Martini glass
5. Garnish with mint leaves and chocolate shavings
6. Enjoy!

Tel: 01366 327070 | [www.wildknightdistillery.co.uk](http://www.wildknightdistillery.co.uk)

## COUNTRYSIDE NOTES [WITH A DIFFERENCE]

Christmas is a religious celebration but what a sad place our world has become. It should be a time for compassion, understanding, kindness and peace of which there's little evidence. The ongoing conflict between Ukraine and Russia and the tinderbox situation in the Middle East, destroying lives and property, has made it a very unstable place. Where has it all gone wrong?

Whichever direction you look our own country appears to have got its priorities seriously muddled. We're growing fields full of weeds or maize or covering them with solar panels instead of growing food for ourselves. Two or three weeks of thick cloud with no sun or wind has recently shown the inadequacies of solar panels and wind turbines to reliably produce electricity. Many pensioners trying to make ends meet are faced with choosing between heating or eating and some of our own people are homeless while tens of thousands of illegal migrants look forward to spending the winter in comfort at our expense. What has happened to common sense? There was plenty of it about when I was a kid!

In our personal lives during the last year we'll all have experienced some joy, sorrow, heartaches and a lot of frustration. Yet life around us continues in a pleasant sort of way due in no short measure to those kind souls in our villages who make sure it does. Here in Barton we have Linda, Mhari, Janice and Liz organising events interspersed with the Film Club and the Community Hub. Our Open Gardens and Arts and Crafts Exhibition attracted many visitors and were hugely successful. These two principal events, like others in the surrounding villages, require a huge amount of organisation and preparation involving an army of helpers. Every parish has its own team contributing so much to the community; village life would not be the same without them. Our parish churches would be redundant and the villages appear neglected. The Group 4 team of editors, contributors and distributors ensure parishioners have access to local news, information and more. There are countless unseen and unpaid people who work hard to raise money for the villages' various needs and keep them looking neat and tidy. Incredibly Ernie, now in his 90s, still cares meticulously for St Mary's churchyard. I think I can confidently speak for everyone, both here in Barton and further afield, in saying that Mhari will be sorely missed when she moves back to Scotland. For many years she and Linda have formed an unsurpassable duo in organising nearly all of Barton's major events as well as the popular Pop-Up Cafes. We wish her and her family much happiness as they begin a new chapter in their lives.

Here in the depths of rural Norfolk it feels as though we are a million miles away from the woes affecting this troubled world. And it is here where we can still experience compassion, understanding, kindness and peace. May your Christmas be happy and may the New Year herald a new era of tolerance and common sense.

**Jill Mason (Barton Bendish)**



**HAPPY NEW YEAR!**





Dingbats [thanks to John Lynskey—Fincham]

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Dingbats [thanks to John Lynskey—Fincham]

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## DINGBAT ANSWERS

1. Don't talk back
2. Divide and conquer
3. What goes up must come Down
4. A change of plans
5. Bags under the eyes
6. Bridge over troubled water
7. Sunnyside up
8. Within reason
9. Search high and low
10. Clerical error
11. Backwards glance
12. Old school tie
13. Lie through your teeth
14. Short circuit
15. Split level
16. Ring the changes
17. Like Father like son
18. Whip round
19. Piggy in the middle
20. Last but not least



## HEAVEN HELP US

The questions were set in a GCSE examination.  
These are genuine answers (from 16 year olds)

Q. Name the four seasons

A. Salt, pepper, mustard and vinegar

Q. Explain one of the processes by which water can be made safe to drink

A. Flirtation makes water safe to drink because it removes large pollutants like grit, sand, dead sheep and canoeists

Q. How is dew formed?

A. The sun shines down on the leaves and makes them perspire

Q. What causes the tides in the oceans?

A. The tides are a fight between the earth and the moon. All water tends to flow towards the moon, because there is no water on the moon, and nature abhors a vacuum. I forget where the sun joins the fight

Q. What guarantees may a mortgage company insist on?

A. If you are buying a house they will insist that you are well endowed

Q. In a democratic society, how important are elections.

A. Very important. Sex can only happen when a male gets an election

Q. What are steroids?

A. Things for keeping carpets still on the stairs

(SHOOT NOW, THERE IS LITTLE HOPE)

Q. What happens to your body as you age?

A. When you get old, so do your bowels and you get intercontinental

Q. What happens to a boy when he reaches puberty?

A. He says goodbye to his boyhood and looks forward to his adultery

Q. Name a major disease associated with cigarettes

A. Premature death

Q. What is artificial insemination?

A. When the farmer does it to the bull instead of the cow

Q. How can you delay milk turning sour?

A. Keep it in the cow (SIMPLE, BUT BRILLIANT)

Q. How are the main 20 parts of the body categorised (e.g. The abdomen)?

A. The body is consisted into 3 parts - the brainium, the borax and the abdominal cavity. The brainium contains the brain, the borax contains the heart and lungs and the abdominal cavity contains the five bowels: A, E, I, O & U

(WHAT THE \*!!\*???)

Q. What is the fibula?

A. A small lie

Q. What does 'varicose' mean?

A. Nearby

Q. What is the most common form of birth control

A. Most people prevent contraception by wearing a condominium

(THAT WOULD WORK)

## HEAVEN HELP US

Q. Give the meaning of the term 'Caesarean section'

A. The caesarean section is a district in Rome

Q. What is a seizure?

A. A Roman Emperor.

(Julius Seizure, I came, I saw, I had a fit)

Q. What is a terminal illness?

A. When you are sick at the airport. (Irrefutable)

Q. Give an example of a fungus. What is a characteristic feature?

A. Mushrooms. They always grow in damp places and they look like umbrellas

Q. Use the word 'judicious' in a sentence to show you understand its meaning

A. Hands that judicious can be soft as your face.

(OMG)

Q. What does the word 'benign' mean?

A. Benign is what you will be after you be eight

Q. What is a turbine?

A. Something an Arab or Shreik wears on his head

Have you been affected by a loved one's drinking?

If so, help is at hand!

- Al-Anon Family Groups are online and face-to-face.
- No dues or fees are charged.
- We respect the anonymity of our members and visitors.
- And we understand as perhaps few others can.

Our WEBSITE: <https://al-anonuk.org.uk/>

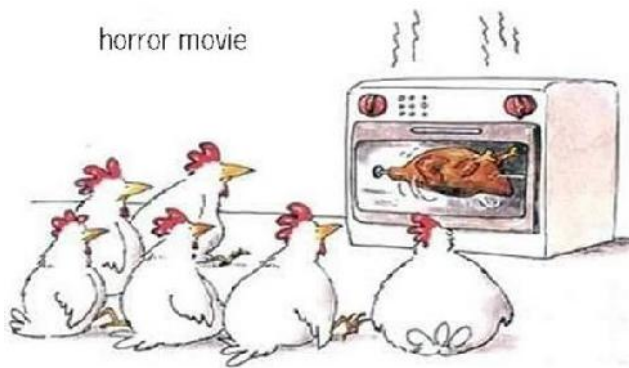
Helpline: 0800 0086 811



HA HA, SMARTY-PANTS... GUESS WHO  
ELSE IS GETTING HIS OWN  
INDOOR BATHROOM?



horror movie



## EAST ANGLIAN SKY

What would you be, you wide East Anglian sky,  
Without church towers to recognise you by?  
What centuries of faith, in flint and stone,  
Wait in this watery landscape, all alone.

To Antiquaries, 'object of research',  
To the bored tourist 'just another church',  
But still the faith of centuries is seen,  
In those who walk to church across the green.

The faith of centuries is in the sound  
Of Christmas bells that ring all Norfolk round,  
And though for Church we may not seem to care,  
It's deeply part of us. Thank God it's there.

## A CHRISTMAS PRAYER

God give you blessings at Christmas time:  
stars for our darkness,  
sun for your day,  
light on the path  
as you search for the Way –  
And a mountain to climb

God grant you courage this coming year:  
fruit for your striving,  
friends if you roam,  
joy in your labour,  
love in your home –  
And a summit to clear.



## LIZ SEYMOUR, SHOULDHAM, WROTE THIS. THANK YOU LIZ

Morning is drifting ,  
Into the darkness ,  
Blackbird is silent ,  
He's gone to bed ,  
Praise for the silence ,  
Praise for the darkness ,  
God will restore us ,  
To start a new day .

**Liz Seymour**



## MAGPIE CENTRE



By now, our thoughts are firmly focused on Christmas but looking towards the New Year, it's time to get organised with a 2025 Magpie Centre calendar, which depicts our lovely horses and ponies in action. Priced at £9.99 each, these are available from the Magpie Centre, Wallington Hall, South Runcton, PE33 0EP. Tel: 01553 810202.

November saw the start of the Magpie Centre's Learning Through Riding programme for home-schooled children, many of whom have learning disabilities. This project has been hugely helped by a grant of £80,000 a year for three years from the National Lottery Community Fund. Parents of home-schooled children who feel their child would benefit from being part of the Magpie Centre's community of horse lovers are welcome to contact the Centre to find out more.

After a busy summer, Tea With a Pony has closed for the winter, and is due to recommence in April 2025. It is designed for older people to meet, socialise and greet one of our ponies in the Magpie Centre's wheelchair-accessible sensory garden at Wallington Hall. It may be of particular interest to care home Activities Organisers, seeking new opportunities for their service users. Tea With a Pony takes place every Wednesday 2.00 to 3.00 from April to October and costs £6.00 per person. Book through the Magpie Centre on 01553 810202.

Wishing all readers a very Merry Christmas and thanks for your support in 2024.

[c.dudley@success-in-english.co.uk](mailto:c.dudley@success-in-english.co.uk) or call 01553 828935.

# Barton Bendish Community Library and Second Hand Bookshop



Open every day 10am – 4pm  
St Andrew's Church  
PE33 9GF

Everyone, including people from  
surrounding villages, welcome  
to borrow or buy books

# Beachamwell

24 Public Rights of Way? Where are  
they?

Come and explore with the  
**Wednesday Walkers**

On the first Wednesday each month,  
leaving the Memorial Hall at 10.00 a.m.

*All welcome*

*dogs on leads please*



**Enquiries:**  
**01366**  
**328452**

# Beachamwell Book Group

**Tuesday 3rd December**  
**7.30**

**Beachamwell Village Hall**

Book to be discussed over a glass of  
wine

'In Memoriam'

Alice Winn

New members welcome  
Enquiries: 07808 581 068

# Barton Bendish Community Hub

Wednesday  
afternoons from 2 – 4pm.

This event offers you a chance to  
chat and meet people and to bring  
hobbies and craftwork with you.

There is no charge.

**ALL WELCOME**

Look out for our new Facebook page: St  
Andrew's Church, Barton Bendish

Enquiries:

[acstephen@hotmail.com](mailto:acstephen@hotmail.com)

**01366 347549**

# Barton Bendish

**COMMUNITY BREAKFAST**  
BARTON BENDISH VILLAGE  
HALL

**Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2025 at 9.30am**

**Menu:**

Coffee/Tea, Porridge, Bacon Rolls, Pastries



Join us for an informal gathering over breakfast with friends to discuss thoughts prompted by faith & spirituality, to motivate and inspire us all!

**Everyone welcome!**

Linda 347563 & Liz 347549

## Barton Bendish Pop Up Café

January 17th 12 noon - 3.00

Village Hall

Drop by for lunch or afternoon tea and have a chat with friends!

Everyone welcome -no need to book.

Pofits to KL Hospitals League of Friends

bartonbendishevents@gmail.com

## Beachamwell

# Afternoon Tea and a Chat.....'

December 18th & January 15th

2 - 4pm

Village Hall

Enquiries: 01366 328108



All Saints Church, Wretton PE33 9QR

10am First Saturday of each month

Pop in and pick up a hot drink

*You can bring your eco cup*

Or stay and sit & chat for a while

*Meet other locals*

October 5<sup>th</sup>

November 2<sup>nd</sup>

December 7<sup>th</sup>



## Boughton

Starting

2<sup>nd</sup> Jan 2025

Twice monthly

Holy Communion

10 am

on 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday



## Boughton

All Saints' Church  
Sunday 8th December  
10 - 11am

Join us for Breakfast Church  
Full English with tea & coffee &  
juice, followed by a discussion  
on a bible reading.

Let Pam 01366 500429  
or Pippa 01366 328 663  
Know

Note: eggs are scrambled!!

## Wereham

QUIZ NIGHT

**Saturday December 10th**  
**7:00pm**

Tickets £5 per person (includes  
jacket potato supper, so please  
pre-book your tickets)

For information and tickets at  
Village Hall office call 01366  
502214 or email [villagehall-  
wereham@gmail.com](mailto:villagehall-wereham@gmail.com)

or call John Eastgate on  
01366 500766



## Barton Bendish Film Club

Proudly Presents:

**'Love Actually'**

**Saturday 14th December**

**6.30 [D/O] For 7.00pm [S]**

Barton Bendish Village Hall

Free Entry [supported by the Norfolk  
Community Foundation - Love Norfolk  
Fund.]

Free post screening refreshments  
included [milled wine & mince pies]

To reserve your seat please contact

Box Office: 01366 347849

email: [cinemabarton@gmail.com](mailto:cinemabarton@gmail.com)

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

## Fincham Fincham Chorus Concert

Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> December  
7.30pm.

St Martin's Church  
Payment on door

Wrap up warmly

Enquiries

01366 348136



## Barton Bendish



St Andrew's invites you to join in their Christmas Celebrations and Carols at

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

**Sunday 15th December  
6pm  
Village Hall**

Do dress up if you feel like it! We are looking for people happy to perform a turn. All are welcome. There is no charge but you might want to book a place with  
01366 347849 or 01366347563

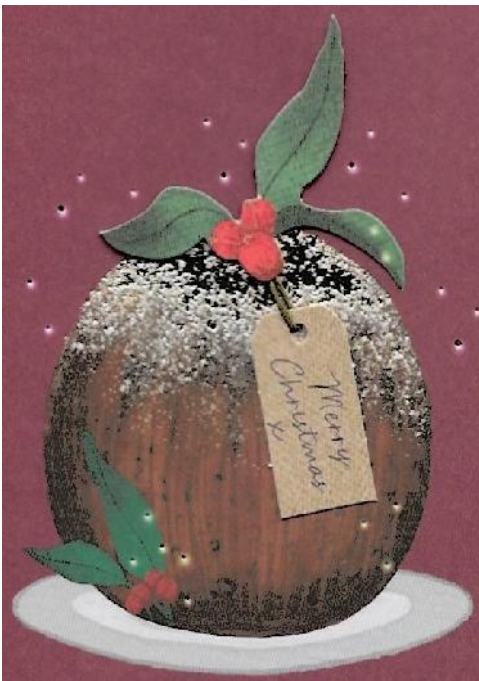
## Beachamwell Pop Up Pub



**Friday 20th December  
7.00pm  
Last orders 10.45**

**Beachamwell Village  
Hall**

Enquiries: 01366 328892



## Wereham

**Community Café  
Monday to Friday  
10am to 2.30pm.**

Hot and cold drinks, biscuits, crisps and chocolate bars on sale, plus other snacks when available.

FREE WiFi access.

**Enquiries 01366 500 218**



# BARTON BENDISH & EASTMOOR VILLAGE NEWS

## **Barton Bendish Poor's Allotment Charity – Grants Available**

Did you know that the Barton Bendish Poor's Allotment Charity offers grants to residents all year round? If you need essential items like household goods, medical equipment, travel costs to hospital, or school uniforms, you can apply for financial assistance.

To apply, simply download the **grant application form** from the parish council website: <https://bartonbendish-pc.gov.uk/barton-bendish-poors-charity/>

Ensure you provide a detailed quotation for the requested item and confirm your eligibility by indicating if you:

Receive means-tested benefits; Receive a state pension with no other income

Receive non-means-tested benefits; Are experiencing a financial crisis

For more information, refer to the Frequently Asked Questions section included with the application form. Make sure to attach all required documents and send your completed application to [bbpoorscharity@yahoo.com](mailto:bbpoorscharity@yahoo.com).

Remember, this grant scheme is open all year round. Don't hesitate to apply if you need support!

## **A Few Words of Thanks for 2024**

As St Andrews Church Wardens, we would like to warmly thank everyone in the village and beyond for all their generous help and support that has been received over 2024. It always amazes us that a community the size of Barton Bendish's can give such an incredible level of encouragement and enthusiasm for our various events and we are so grateful for all that you do.

Many thanks to those involved for locking and unlocking the church throughout the year. Not all churches are fortunate enough to be open daily and the visitor's book reflects people's appreciation that it is. Thanks also to those helpers who give their time to keep the church clean for services and events and to those who maintain the churchyard, especially the war memorial, -it does not go unnoticed by the community and visitors alike.

Thank you to the many supporters of our Pop-Up Cafes. It continues to be so rewarding to have people come and meet up with friends, old and new, over lunch, tea and cake in our lovely Village Hall while raising much needed funds for various charities. In 2024 the cafes raised over £2000 which has supported organisations including Macmillan Cancer Support, Tapping House, Ukraine deliveries, Marie Curie, RSPCA, Red Cross Gaza Appeal, Yarna, Guide Dogs for the Blind, Dementia UK and The British Legion Poppy Appeal. Thank you also to all the bakers who have kept the cafes and other fundraising events well stocked. Barton Bendish is gaining quite a reputation for providing delicious hospitality (**Well deserved Ed**)

# BARTON BENDISH & EASTMOOR VILLAGE NEWS

The Community Church Library continues to be well used by not only our village but by those in our wider community. Thank you to those who maintain and organize this valuable resource and to those who regularly donate new books.

Once again, we would like to personally thank our fellow PCC members, Janice Parsons our Treasurer, Liz Stephens our Secretary and Sonia Williams and Victoria Burman PCC Members. Much of their hard work and giving of their time will have been unseen by many but it is enormously appreciated by the two of us and we are incredibly grateful and thankful for all that they do – please don't stop!

Finally, our thanks go to YOU! None of the events that go on in Barton Bendish could happen without your participation. We cannot express our gratitude and appreciation enough for your support and good will.

We wish you and your families a happy and restful time over the holidays and hope that peace finds a way forward all over the world in the coming New Year.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to you all.

***Mhari Blanchfield and Linda Webster***

## **The Blanchfield Family**

You may be aware that 2025 will see a change in our PCC committee. After being my fellow Church Warden for over 18 years, Mhari will be returning to Scotland to support her parents. She and Anthony will be hugely missed by so many, and they will leave a great hole in our village community. We all send them our very best wishes for the future, and we know that they will be back for our Open Gardens, Art and Craft Exhibition and many more events that they have been so instrumental in developing. It is good to know that they will still be an active although less frequent part of our lives.

***Linda Webster (Well done and good luck to all in the future Ed)***

## **Barton Bendish Gardening Discussion Group**

If you're interested in exchanging notes, ideas and tips please join us on Tuesday December 10<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday January 14<sup>th</sup> in the Village Hall. Non gardeners also welcome.

If you have any questions or tips you want to pass on but don't want to stand up and speak please hand or email me a note. There will be a table where unwanted plants, seeds etc can be offered.

***Jill Mason email [jill.events@btinternet.com](mailto:jill.events@btinternet.com)***



## BARTON BENDISH & EASTMOOR VILLAGE NEWS

**“Time is the most valuable thing a man can spend.”**

**Theophrastus**

When you read this we will be about three shopping weeks away from Christmas, not that Christmas should be about shopping. Where has the time gone and what have we done with it? We have had many opportunities to be involved in community activities and those of us fortunate enough to live here are blessed to have the regular events that we enjoy and the expertise and unselfish efforts of so many people who make this place so vibrant and so special. Before you go to the Pop Up Café on January 17<sup>th</sup> you will, no doubt, have made some New Year's Resolutions. One might be to get more involved in community activities. After all, a community is nothing unless the people in it reach out to each other in friendship. That is what Barton Bendish is about.

On the 7<sup>th</sup> of December at 4pm Carols at Christmas in St Andrew's Church will be followed by Christmas Cheer at 5pm, which involves breaking bread with your neighbours in the Village Hall, the other centre of community life. The traditional Victorian Evening, full of entertainment and laughter will take place in the Village Hall on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> of December at 6pm. Victorian dress is encouraged but not compulsory. All welcome and no need to book. Please contact Linda or Mhari if you would like to take part with a song, story, poem or musical contribution.

And so much has already happened: Film Club nights, Community Breakfasts, The Community Hub and Pop Up Cafes regularly as well as Open Gardens and the Art and Craft Exhibition and Sale, which are well known and hugely successful. This year a Community Grant has so far funded the Hub, a couple of films and a new Gardening Club venture. I rather fancy hiring a charabanc to take us to the sea side but we will have to see about that. Since the Pop Up Cafes began, we have raised £4,900, which is a phenomenal amount. The money raised this year has been used to support the DEC Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal; Macmillan; Tapping House; Marie Curie; The Royal British Legion; YANA; RSPCA; Red Cross Gaza Relief; Guide Dogs For The Blind and Dementia UK. I would like to thank all those who have given so unstintingly of their time to make all these efforts such a success. The last pop up café attracted 73 people. At times we were almost overrun but most people were cheerfully and encouragingly accepting of the hapless waiter's failings.

The first Community Breakfast of the New Year will be on January 4<sup>th</sup> at 9.30am. Please let us know if you would like to join us.

It has been a little strange to see barbed wire fences going up around some fields. Indeed one appeared just behind my house. For a moment I feared that I was being confined to barracks! I'm sure there is a proper explanation to be had somewhere. It would be nice to know it. Some still complain about noisy aeroplanes. In these uncertain times across the globe, I'm glad to know that they are ready for whatever comes. I certainly felt grateful to all those people who have defended us in the past, some of whom were mentioned by name at our Remembrance Service.

Finally, as Christmas approaches, I will sign off as my friend in Somerset does.

Peace and Love, **Andrew Stephen**



# BEACHAMWELL, SHINGHAM & DRYMERE VILLAGE NEWS



## St Mary's Church

"Work is continuing to get St Mary's past the finishing post so that we can enjoy worshipping in our church again. We are currently putting together a faculty application, as directed by the diocesan Chancellor, that will encompass all the remaining aspects of the restoration from the internal construction to the hanging of the hymn and psalm boards. This is a *magnus opus* and we are working closely with the architect, project

consultants, insurers and the diocese to ensure there are no more glitches.

Now that the Rev Dr Ian Mack has left the benefice as priest in charge we are in a period of inter-regnum during which time we have a new Chair, the archdeacon of Wisbech and Huntingdon, the Ven Richard Harlow. Richard has been working with us since the start of restoration in late 2022, albeit in the background. Our first meeting under his chairmanship is in November. Amongst topics to be discussed will be village meetings with the parish, and the Friends of St Mary's, to ensure that those who have not already seen the proposed plans for the restoration of the church (shown publicly in May, June and September) have the opportunity to both see, and ask questions about them.

In summary these plans are designed to both restore the church as a place of worship and enable its use for other community activities (e.g. concerts and exhibitions), without affecting the valuable work and events led by the village memorial hall. It should be noted that the PCC and the village hall management continue to work closely to benefit our small community.

We appreciate that, at first sight it appears that the church building is lying inactive. However, the reality is that there is a tremendous amount of work taking place in the background, which, once completed successfully, will allow us to complete the restoration of the church. Let us hope that we will be having the 2025 Christmas Carol service in a faithfully restored, 1,000 year old St Mary's.

We had a very enjoyable Harvest Festival service in late October and a well attended Service of Remembrance in November, where the PCC and the Village Hall Committee both laid wreaths. These services were both followed by light lunches for the enjoyment of those who came to the service and those who joined us for the social afterwards.

The 2024 Carol Service will be on Friday 20th December at 6pm, in the church. Do come along, dress warmly and bring a torch (no naked flames please), it will be well lit and there will be seating for those who need it. As per last year the service is followed by the Pop up Pub in the Village Hall."

**Peter Berendt (Churchwarden)**

# BEACHAMWELL, SHINGHAM & DRYMERE VILLAGE NEWS

## **Friends of St Mary's Church**

A reminder that the Friends of St Mary's are holding their AGM on **Friday the 6th December** at 7pm in the Village Hall. We would love to see as many of you as possible to consider the Friend's proposals for contribution toward the additional costs of church improvement works, new fundraising ideas and the role of FoSM in the future viability of our church

***Peggy Ray (Chair of the Friends of St Mary's)***

## **Beachamwell Parish Council**

No report this month

*Sarah Hunt [Parish Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer]*  
*07355694133 and beachamwellparishcouncil@gmail.com*

## **Wednesday Walkers**

I've just looked at the report for the Wednesday Walkers in October, and do not understand what is printed as it includes two photographs. I did not submit either of these photographs and must tell you that they are completely inaccurate. During the October walk the WW's did not even **step** on a bridleway: we were in the forest and on forestry rides - so why is there a picture of a bridleway? Goodness what the other photograph shows - it is certainly not smooth rupturewort. I never sent a picture of this rare plant to the G4N. Please could an apology be printed in the December G4N as those photographs in the November edition are completely wrong.

## ***Sue Pennell***

I am sorry that you were unhappy about the photographs. I had some space so decided to put in the photograph which is used on the WW's advert. I looked up smooth rupturewort on the internet and decided to use one of the photographs. I accept that this has irritated the Wednesday Walkers and therefore do apologise.

## ***Eileen Powell***

## **Tea and Chat**

Gay and her support group continue to organise very enjoyable Afternoon Teas once a month. They are extremely popular and much appreciated so many thanks to all concerned. You are doing a grand job Gay.

## ***Eileen Powell***

# BEACHAMWELL, SHINGHAM & DRYMERE VILLAGE NEWS

## Beachamwell Village Hall

There have been, or are about to be, a lot of changes on the committee. Mark Lusby has resigned. The Committee would like to thank him for his hard work, a lot of which has been behind the scenes and in a supportive role. He will still be a familiar face behind the bar at the Pop Up Pubs though so you aren't losing him completely!

Sarah Hunt has taken up the position of secretary and book-keeper (Sarah is also the Clerk to the Parish Council) and is a very welcome addition to the Committee – however, if anyone would like to take the role of treasurer or secretary on, it would be appreciated and welcome.

The Committee is still looking for new members to join them and meet the first Thursday of each month at 7.30pm.

Events in the Hall in December are Pop Up Pubs on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December from 7pm onwards and then New Year's Eve from 8pm until late – always a fun evening spent with friends and neighbours.

Unfortunately, the playground has had to be closed for safety reasons and will remain so until it is replaced. Several villagers have expressed an interest in being involved in this project and I'm sure you will be kept up to date by them as things develop.

The Chairman and Committee Members would like to wish all Users of the Hall and Villagers a very Merry Christmas and Best Wishes for a happy and healthy 2025. **Cathy Friend**

*Merry*  
  
 *Christmas*

# BEACHAMWELL, SHINGHAM & DRYMERE VILLAGE NEWS

## **Beachamwell Belles Stitchy Craft Group**

This group has been meeting in the Hall for ten years! Happy Anniversary to us!!!

The first meeting was 6<sup>th</sup> November 2014 when members met to do whole cloth quilting. It all started following on from a workshop run by Iceni Stitchers - who still meet in Swaffham – holding it in Beachamwell, and, as they say the rest is history!!

There are now just over 20 members who meet every Thursday and craft the morning away. The cost is £5 per month – whether you attend one or four times. Crafts include, but are not limited to, crochet, knitting, felting, weaving and hand stitching of every variety – in fact anything that is not using a machine. Many a laugh and tear is shared amongst us all. And of course a mandatory cuppa and biscuit.

In house workshops are often given by members and we are all happy to share knowledge.

Leaders of the group have included Pat Stringer, Leah Spencer and myself in recent times.

A splinter group was formed in March 2019 which allowed the use of sewing machines – it was thought that due to the noise, conversations would not be heard. I was amazed to discover that this has been held the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each month for over 5 years! The cost is £5 per session and starts at 10am. Finish times vary on the time of year.

We would like to thank the various hall committees during our tenure – their patience with dropped pins and needles has been appreciated!

I highly recommend both groups and will be sad to leave. Many of us have been heard to say that these days are the highlight of the week! I wish both groups every success in the future and look forward to hearing about their continued ventures!

**Cathy Friend**



BEACHAMWELL VILLAGE HALL

# Pop Up PUB

**4TH FRIDAY OF THE MONTH  
FROM 7PM  
UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED**



**PLUS VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES  
AVAILABLE TO HELP RUN THE BAR.**



**AT RISK!**



**OUR HALL NEEDS YOU.**

**CAN YOU SPARE A FEW HOURS EACH MONTH?**

**Volunteers & Committee Members needed**

**urgently. Please get in touch via**

**[www.beachamwell.org.uk](http://www.beachamwell.org.uk)**

**BEACHAMWELL VILLAGE HALL**



# BOUGHTON VILLAGE NEWS

## All Saints' Church

Some of you may have noticed that the church is open more often than formerly, thanks to volunteers who open and close it. Having done this once a week for several years, I'm very grateful to those who have stepped up to extend it. Do make use of the opportunity to go in and spend a short while.

I'm also grateful to those who have volunteered to read a lesson at the Nine Lessons and Carols service on 10<sup>th</sup> December – still room for a couple more. We are fortunate that Chris Young will be playing and hopeful for a small choir – do let me know if you are interested in singing.

### **Boughton Church — Please join us for:**

Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> Dec 10am **Breakfast Church** starting with Full English Breakfast. Contact me to book a place.

Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December 7pm **Carol Service** with Nine Lessons and Carols.

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> Dec 10am **Holy Communion** followed by coffee

Or just drop in for coffee at 11am

Christmas Eve (time) **Carols on the Village Green 4 pm** followed by refreshments in the Church

Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> Dec 10am **Benefice Breakfast**. Come and enjoy a Full English with us.

We hope to see you. All Saints Church has a good heating system and comfortable seats.

From Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2025 there will be mid-week communion on first and third Thursday in the church

Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> Feb (time) **Book Sale & Cafe** in the church. We will be collecting donations in late January.

### **Preparation of Electoral Roll**

Every sixth year the preparation of new Church Electoral Rolls takes place, which means that everyone must re-apply to be included on the Electoral Roll of their church. The next occasion for the preparation of new rolls is **2025**.

### ***Pam Wakeling (Church Warden)***

### **East Anglian Air Ambulance**

Our impromptu garden sales this year have raised £536.20. An astonishing amount considering we only managed to hold two events, namely our Get Set for Gardening on Good Friday which raised £297.70 and our rather Late Garden Summer Brocante on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> September raised a further £238.50.

Tremendous thanks to those of you that gave generously, donated items and/or attended the events and picked up a bargain or two.

Look out for 2025 sale dates. **Angela & Andrew ~ The Boughton Village Caravan**

# BOUGHTON VILLAGE NEWS

## **Pam Wakeling - Bishop's Commendation for Outstanding Service.**

Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> October saw ten of us travel to Ely Cathedral to join with Pam as she received a Bishops Award for Outstanding Service. Pam had been nominated by All Saints Church PCC, Boughton. They had to write a submission to the Bishop's Office. The presentation was part of Choral Evensong in the Cathedral.



Pam was commended for her work in the Church and Village. The presentation was made by Bishop Graham Kings. Throughout her 25 years attending All Saints, Pam has served as Churchwarden and played the organ. In the wider

benefice she has been choir member, bell ringer and Deanery Synod rep. Her involvement in many fund-raising activities including her work on Open Gardens was noted. Pam, with Eileen Powell, Moira Saunders, Ann Bercham, Sue Smith, Stephanie Brown and Nicola Grieves was a founder member of the G4N editorial team and continues to be heavily involved with the production and delivery of this magazine.

Pam was one of fourteen receiving the bishop's commendation for their service. A further twenty-one people or couples achieved the Etheldreda Medal Award which is awarded every two years.

The next day, as it was All Saints Church Holy Communion Service, service for the All Saints was followed. This was followed by an invitation for people to join us and share the church's birthday and congratulations to Pam for her award.



**Moira Saunders**

*(Well done to all concerned - Ed)*



## BOUGHTON VILLAGE NEWS

### Our new LLM



We welcome Moira Saunders to our ministry team. She was licensed as a Lay Minister to the Wissey Valley Benefice on 5th October in a splendid service in Ely Cathedral, together with several others from different parts of the Diocese.

The congregation was large and enthusiastic including a good turnout from our patch.

As those who have read Moira's pieces in G4 will know, she and Steve emigrated to New Zealand fourteen years ago, where Moira was a massive force for good (ably supported by Steve on the building side) in her local church.

She was Churchwarden and also raised huge sums to repair and remodel the church, while completing her Lay minister training and

leading worship.

Now they are back, and again supported by Steve on the practical side (thank you Steve, we are truly grateful!) the ministry team is strengthened by Moira's contribution while we wait prayerfully for a new Priest in Charge which we hope will be appointed after Easter.

**Pippa Blackall**

**Assistant Curate, Wissey Valley Benefice**

*(Well done - Ed)*

## BOUGHTON VILLAGE NEWS

### **Boughton Parish Council**

Have you considered volunteering?

Volunteering is a fantastic way to support people, and research shows that volunteering can boost happiness and confidence. There are plenty of ways to get involved, and anyone, regardless of age, can make a difference.

Volunteering helps build connections, bringing people together and fostering friendships. It's a great way to meet new people, develop skills, and take pride in our communities. Norfolk & Waveney boasts beautiful countryside, tight-knit villages and bustling market towns and our volunteers help keep this special part of the country strong, united, and supported.

By giving just a few hours a week or more, you can have a real impact on the lives of those around you. You're not only improving life for others but for yourself. Whether it's helping at your local hospital, supporting the vulnerable to stay in their own homes or return home after a hospital stay, or driving them to their non-urgent medical appointments, assisting Voluntary Norfolk behind the scenes or helping with community initiatives, every contribution counts.

Visit Voluntary Norfolk at [www.voluntarynorfolk.org.uk](http://www.voluntarynorfolk.org.uk) to explore roles that, with your time and energy, will make a real difference.

You'll be amazed by the positive impact you can have and how rewarding it feels to lend a hand!

**Mike Inder (Clerk & RFO - Boughton Parish Council)**



## BOUGHTON VILLAGE NEWS

### **Boughton Fen going into the winter**

The fen is settling into the winter now, which means we have been able to start getting some work done, as there are restrictions as to when we can do significant work on the site.

So far this Autumn, repairs have been carried out to the boardwalk, with a little more still to do. The late summer cut – which is done to promote habitat for barn owls on the grassier areas – has been completed. This is done on a rotational basis in accordance with the Countryside Stewardship agreement. Quite a bit of strimming and tidying up has been achieved by our two super-strimmers – Stephen and Hugh - but again, it is a bit like the Forth Bridge. It never really stops.

One of the interesting observations we have made this year is that the variety of wild flowers growing adjacent to the main boardwalk has increased considerably. They all came very late in the season though, along with the Common Meadow Rue with its delicate cream flowers. Our thoughts are that this late flowering must be due to the cold wet summer, and the increase in species is probably caused by the regular strimming we do along this area to keep the boardwalk passable.

The presence of many red list birds over the year keeps a steady flow visitors coming to the area, and we are fortunate to have such a haven for wildlife on our doorstep. Grateful thanks go to all the volunteers who help us during the year.

If you would like to join our working parties, please get in touch with me on 01366 500461, or email [sue@pogmore.myzen.co.uk](mailto:sue@pogmore.myzen.co.uk)

You don't need any particular skills – just a willingness to get stuck in, and a decent pair of boots.

**Sue Pogmore**  
**(Boughton Fen**  
**Committee)**



## DECEMBER CHURCH SERVICES PRIORY GROUP

### Sunday 1st

09:30	Runcton Holme	Holy Communion
10:00	Shouldham	Morning Prayer
11:00	Marham	Holy Communion
18:00	Online & Phone	Evening Prayer

### Sunday 8th

09:30	Shouldham Thorpe	Holy Communion
11:00	Fincham	Morning Prayer
11:00	Marham	Morning Prayer
11:00	Stowbridge	Holy Communion
11:00	Watlington	Holy Communion
18:00	Online & Phone	Evening Prayer

### Sunday 15th

09:30	Wormegay	Holy Communion
11:00	Marham	Morning Prayer
11:00	Shouldham	Holy Communion
18:00	Online & Phone	Evening Prayer

### Sunday 22nd

9.30	Fincham	Holy Communion
11:00	Marham	Morning Prayer
11:00	Wimbotsham	Holy Communion
18:00	Online & Phone	Evening Prayer

### Sunday 29th

10.00 Boughton Benefice Breakfast Church

### Christmas Day

See Page 4

### Midweek Services

Saturday 3rd December **West Dereham Church** cre8 club Christmas Party 2-3pm

Wednesdays 9.00 am **Wretton with Stoke Ferry** Morning Prayer

Thursdays 8.30 am **Methwold** Morning Prayer

Thursdays 9.30 am **Wretton with Stoke Ferry** Holy Communion

3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month 9.30 am **Boughton** Holy Communion Also see page 31



# DECEMBER CHURCH SERVICES WISSEY VALLEY GROUP

## Sunday 1st

9.30 Methwold Holy Communion  
9.30 Wretton/Stoke Ferry Holy Communion  
6.00 Wereham Evensong

## Saturday 7th

4.00 Whittington Christingle  
4.00 Boughton Childrens Party and Christingle

## Sunday 8th

9.30 Methwold Service of the Word  
9.30 Whittington Service of the Word  
6.30 West Dereham Carol Service  
10.00 Boughton Breakfast Church

## Sunday 15th

9.30 Wretton/Stoke Ferry Holy Communion  
4.00 Methwold Carol Service  
9.30 West Dereham Celtic worship

## Sunday 22nd

9.30 Methwold Holy Communion  
4.30 Wittington Holy Communion  
4.30 West Dereham Christmas Family Breakfast  
11.00 Boughton Holy Communion

## Sunday 29th

10.00 Boughton Benefice Breakfast Church  
11.00 Stow Bridge Holy Communion  
6.00 Online & Phone Evening Prayer

## 24th Christmas Eve & 25<sup>th</sup> Christmas Day

See page 4

Information about January—see page 39



# CHURCHWARDENS AND CONTACTS

## WISSEY VALLEY GROUP

Barton Bendish:	Linda Webster	01366 347 563
Beachamwell	Peter Berendt	01366 328 779
	Sue Pennell	01366 328 452
Boughton:	Pam Wakeling	01366 500 429
Methwold	Alan Burbridge	01366 727 002
West Dereham	Graeme Pressley	01366 501 179
Wereham	Karen Sams	01366 501 428
Wereham:	Sheila Smith	01366 858 165
Whittington	Susan Smith	07849 157 080
Wretton	Anita Horgan	01366 500 785
Whittington & Wretton	Elaine Taylor	01366 500 948

## PRIORY GROUP

Fincham	Cathy O'Brien	01366 347279
Marham	Philip Fay	01760 444199
	Glenda Jayes	01760 339688
Shouldham [Key Holder]	Alex Gammie	07803 248 230
ShouldhamThorpe	Gordon Reid	01366 347253

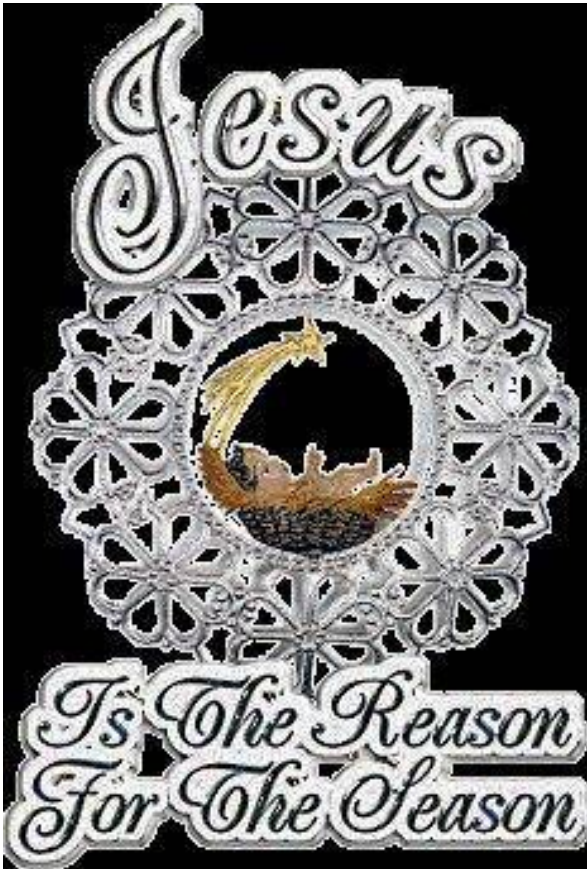


## ONLINE SERVICES IN December 2024 and January 2025

### Weekly Online Services

Sunday 6.30 pm	<b>Service of The Word</b>
Tuesday 5.00 pm	<b>Prayer Group</b>
Wednesday 5.30 pm	<b>Compline</b>

Full details from [janet.tanton@gmail.com](mailto:janet.tanton@gmail.com) or [pickwickclub.cc@btinternet.com](http://pickwickclub.cc@btinternet.com)



**Important NB**

If you are unsure about any services over the Christmas period or you wish to know about the dates and times of the January services, please ask your Churchwarden



# WEREHAM VILLAGE NEWS

## Parish Council

Agenda items must be received before the end of the month prior to each meeting, items received after this time will not be possible to discuss. Please send to the Parish Clerk at [werehampc@gmail.com](mailto:werehampc@gmail.com). The Agendas for meetings are always published on the Wereham Village Notice Board three clear days before the meeting (seven annual meetings), and notified via the Wereham Parish Council Facebook Page and on the website [www.werehamparishcouncil.co.uk](http://www.werehamparishcouncil.co.uk)

You will also find minutes of all meetings here too. Please check the Wereham website in case the date needs to be changed for any reason.

**Wereham Cemetery, The Row – Interment Area** - The Parish Council would like to trace the family/next of kin for some of the interment ashes plots in the Wereham Cemetery as it would like to make improvements Autumn 2024, with gravel inlay and edging. If you are next of kin or know family of those loved ones in the interment area of the Wereham Cemetery, The Row please contact the Parish Clerk, contact details below. The Parish Council would like to seek endorsement from the next of kin for the improvements prior to going ahead.

## Highways – Paths and Roads:

**Defects** Please report anything that you see verges, trees, pot holes, main holes, drains **to Norfolk County Council Highways** via their defects page of their website. You need to set up a login, and once on the site you can easily report issues and upload pictures of the issue. They will then arrange inspection. You are also able to track the report. The Parish Council will report issues that it finds, but if residents do this also we can increase the repairs that we need doing. <https://apps.norfolk.gov.uk/HighwaysDefect/>

***Helen Richardson Wereham Parish Clerk and Finance Responsible Person***  
Email [werehampc@gmail.com](mailto:werehampc@gmail.com) or Phone/Text: 0779 500 6811

**Friends of Wereham Village Hall** is a group of volunteers which organises events to entertain the community while raising funds for the upkeep of the Village Hall. We would welcome people, of all ages, with fresh ideas and willing hands, to join our happy band of volunteers. We need more friends! If you'd like to get involved please call Doreen on 01366 500218. The next meeting of the FOWVH is on Monday, 16th December, 6.30pm, in the Community Room at the Village Hall.



## WEREHAM VILLAGE NEWS

### St. Margaret's Church

It was heartwarming to see such a great attendance, both outside and inside of the Church for the Remembrance Service on the 10th November.

A special thanks goes to the Wereham and Wretton Scout groups who brought us a magnificent display carrying their flags, and thank you to those who laid the wreaths, and to Mr Steve Jones for his rendition of the last post and reveille.

St. Margaret's is busy preparing for our December festivities.



1st December : Raffle tickets go on sale for our Luxury Christmas Hamper, worth over £100.

To be sure of your tickets: Contact:

Karen Sams           01366 501428

Nicola Hooper       01366 500190

Chris Murray        01366 500976

1st December at 6pm : Evensong

15th December at 4pm: Annual Carol Service - a selection of Carols that we all love

24th December at 6pm: Our popular Christmas

Sing-a-long is raring to go again! Put down the turkey and nip to the Church for 30 minutes to sing the village a Happy Christmas! We shall also be congratulating the winner of our Luxury Christmas Hamper.

24th December at 11pm: Our atmospheric Midnight Mass leading us into Christmas Day **Chris Murray**

### Thomas Golden

It is with great sadness that we share the news of the death of Thomas Golden. A retired Teacher, he was our Organist at St. Margaret's, Wereham for many years, and ran our Summer Festival.

Over the years Tom has forged links with all the surrounding churches, partly through members of the choir and also through playing the various organs on many occasions, ranging from funerals to Christmas carols. Tom was always prepared to help and even step in at the last minute to play for a wedding or concert. He would find the time to practice on an unfamiliar organ so he could play at his best for the occasion. So good was Tom that, whichever church he was in, everyone naturally assumed his playing would be to the highest standard. And it always was!

We send our condolences to his family and friends and God grant that he may rest in peace in his eternal home.

**Greg Baddock and Chris Murray**

# REGULAR EVENTS AT WEREHAM VILLAGE HALL (WITH DATES FOR DECEMBER 2024)

Church Road, Wereham, PE33 9AP - Registered Charity No: 1168472

01366 502214 [www.werehamvillagehall.co.uk](http://www.werehamvillagehall.co.uk) [villagehallwereham@gmail.com](mailto:villagehallwereham@gmail.com)

**Monthly Indoor Car Boot Sale & Cafe** - Sunday, 1st December, 8am-1pm. Call Philip on 01366 501330 or 07759 033492 to book your stall, £5 including table.

**Monthly Pop-up Café** - Tuesday, 3rd December, 10:45am-1pm. Fish, Chips & Peas, or Vegetarian Pizza& Chips, £3.50; Home-made Cake or pastry with a Hot Drink, £3.

## Regular Weekly Events:

(Please check with organisers regarding classes over the Festive period)

**Mondays: SHORT MAT BOWLS**, 7:30-9:30pm, contact Philip on [01366 501330](tel:01366501330);

**Tuesdays: PILATES**, 9:30-10:30am, contact Christine on 07796 102677;

**MULTI-SPORT MASH-UP** (5-12yrs) - FREE to attend classes - just pop in or contact [community@alivewestnorfolk.co.uk](mailto:community@alivewestnorfolk.co.uk) for more information.

**EARTH & ETHER YOGA**, 7:00-8:15pm, contact Gemma on 07943 848431;

**Wednesdays: ZUMBA GOLD**, 9:30-10:30am, contact Domonique on 07769 341680;

**LITTLE MOVERS**, 10:45-11:30am, contact Heather on 07881 998780;

**BINGO**, 6:45-9:00pm (eyes down 7:30), contact Diane on 01366 500798;

(4th December is Christmas Prize Bingo, plus the chance win £100 cash with Ding Dong Dell!)

**Thursdays: LINE DANCING**, 9:30-11:00am, contact Ron on 01406 350732;

**SHORT MAT BOWLS**, 2:00-4:00pm, contact Philip 01366 501330;

**Fridays:ZUMBA GOLD** - 9:30-10:30am, **STRETCH, STRENGTH & RELAX** - 11-Noon,

**FIT & FABULOUS SEATED FITNESS** - 12:30-1:30pm, Domonique 07769 341680;

Monthly **SOUNDBATH** event - "Take time out of the busy to step into the calm"

**Soothing Sunday Soundbath** on Sunday, 1st December, doors open at 2:15pm. To book your place or for more information, please go to [robynwren.co.uk/soundbaths](http://robynwren.co.uk/soundbaths)

The monthly get together of **WEREHAM CRAFT GROUP** is on Tuesday, 10th Dec 10:30am-12:30pm. Contact Rosemary on 01366 501330 for information.

The monthly **MAKE AND MARDLE** is in the foyer on Tuesday, 17th December, 10am-Noon. Just turn up with your knitting, crochet or other craft and enjoy a chat and a cuppa with like-minded people, who will help you to learn new skills too if you wish! Free admission. Call Rosemary on 01366 501330 for more info.

**Friends of Wereham Village Hall** is a group of volunteers which organises events to entertain the community while raising funds for the upkeep of the Village Hall. We would welcome people, of all ages, with fresh ideas and willing hands, to join our happy band of volunteers. We need more friends! If you'd like to get involved please call Doreen on 01366 500218. The next meeting of the FOWVH is on Monday, 16th December, 6.30pm, in the Community Room at the Village Hall.



## REGULAR EVENTS AT WEREHAM VILLAGE HALL (WITH DATES FOR JANUARY 2025)

**Monthly Indoor Car Boot Sale & Cafe** - Sunday, 5th January, 8am-1pm. Call Philip on 01366 501330 or 07759 033492 to book your stall, £5 including table.

**Monthly Pop-up Café** – No Pop-up Café this month, back on 4th February.

### Regular Weekly Events:

#### Mondays:

**SHORT MAT BOWLS**, 7:30-9:30pm, contact Philip on [01366 501330](tel:01366501330);

#### Tuesdays:

**PILATES**, 9:30-10:30am, contact Christine on 07796 102677;

**MULTI-SPORT MASH-UP** (5-12yrs) - FREE to attend classes - just pop in or contact [community@alivewestnorfolk.co.uk](mailto:community@alivewestnorfolk.co.uk) for more information.

**EARTH & ETHER YOGA**, 7:00-8:15pm, contact Gemma on 07943 848431;

#### Wednesdays:

**ZUMBA GOLD**, 9:30-10:30am, contact Domonique on 07769 341680;

**LITTLE MOVERS**, 10:45-11:30am, contact Heather on 07881 998780;

**BINGO**, 6:45-9:00pm (eyes down 7:30), contact Diane on 01366 500798;

#### Thursdays:

**LINE DANCING**, 9:30-11:00am, contact Ron on 01406 350732;

**SHORT MAT BOWLS**, 2:00-4:00pm, contact Philip 01366 501330;

#### Fridays:

**ZUMBA GOLD** - 9:30-10:30am, **STRETCH, STRENGTH & RELAX** - 11:00am-Noon,

**FIT & FABULOUS SEATED FITNESS** - 12:30-1:30pm, contact Domonique on 07769 341680;

Monthly **SOUNDBATH** event - "Take time out of the busy to step into the calm" **Soothing Sunday Soundbath** on Sunday, 26th January, doors open at 2:15pm. To book your place or for more information, please go to [robynwren.co.uk/soundbaths](http://robynwren.co.uk/soundbaths)

The monthly get together of **WEREHAM CRAFT GROUP** is on Tuesday, 14th January, 10:30am-12:30pm. Contact Rosemary on 01366 501330 for information.

The monthly **MAKE AND MARDLE** is in the foyer on Tuesday, 21st January, 10am-Noon. Just turn up with your knitting, crochet or other craft and enjoy a chat and a cuppa with like-minded people, who will help you to learn new skills too if you wish! Free admission. Call Rosemary on 01366 501330 for more info.

**PLEASE NOTE THAT THE VILLAGE HALL (AND THE OFFICE) WILL BE CLOSED ON NEW YEARS EVE THROUGH UNTIL MONDAY, 6TH JANUARY 2025. HAPPY NEW YEAR EVERYONE!**

# DRAWING FOR YOU TO COLOUR



## QUIZ PAGE

1. Which word meaning to take money illegally for your own use contains two Zs?
2. Gynophobia is a fear or hatred of what?
3. A Royal stag must have at least how many points to its antlers?
4. Why are embalmed bodies called mummies?
5. In 1956 Rose Heilbron became Britain's first what?
6. What is different about a Dutch auction?
7. Subtract the number of years in a tin wedding anniversary from a silver wedding anniversary.
8. Which Burns poem is also a hat?
9. What do the initials of Harry Potter author JK. Rowling stand for?
10. Buona sera is an Italian greeting. What does it mean?
11. Which member of the Royal Family celebrates their birthday on June 10th?
12. In which town in the North of England can you find a statue of Eric Morecombe on the promenade.
13. What is the difference between a meteor and a meteorite?
14. A mercer was a merchant dealing in what?
15. Name the long-nosed character who 'was here' leaning over a wall.
16. Name four breeds of dog containing the names of different animals.
17. Should a men's lacrosse team consist of ten or twelve players?
18. Rat's Tail is a variety of which plant?
19. Which film did the Beatles make for TV?
20. Which is better for you—thinly cut chipped potatoes or thick chips?

**Answers:** 1. Embezzle; 2. Women; 3. Twelve; 4. From the Arabic word 'mum', the wax with which they're embalmed; 5. Female Judge; 6. The price starts high and comes down until someone bids. The first bidder secures the item; 7. 15; 8. Tam O'Shanter; 9. Joanne Kathleen; 10. Good evening; 11. Prince Philip; 12. Morecombe; 13. A meteorite is the remains of a meteor which reached Earth; 14. Expensive textiles, cloth etc; 15. Mr. Chad, also known as Kilroy; 16. bulldog, otterhound, Old English sheepdog, foxhound, Irish wolfhound etc; 17. Ten players; 18. Cactus; 19. Magical Mystery Tour; 20. Thick chips;



### Rural Dial - a - Bus

We offer a Rural Dial - a - Bus weekly service from a variety of villages into local towns. All our vehicles are wheelchair friendly and we provide a door to door service. Please see timetable below for the day of the week each service runs and the destination.

<u>Village</u>	<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesda</u> <u>y</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>
Beachamwell		Swaffham			
Cockley Cley		Swaffham			
Crimplesham				Downham	
Drymere		Swaffham			
Feltwell					Brandon
Foulden		Swaffham			
Gooderstone		Swaffham			
Hockwold					Brandon
Methwold				Downham	Brandon
Northwold				Downham	Brandon
Oxborough		Swaffham			
Southery	Ely *				Downham
Stoke Ferry				Downham	
Weeting					Brandon
Wereham				Downham	
Whittington				Downham	
Wretton				Downham	

Locations marked with a \* are not every week.

Please call us on 01553 770310 for more information on dates and times for our Rural Dial-a-Bus

### Volunteer Community Car Scheme

Our Community Car Scheme offers short or long-distance transport for medical or wellbeing appointments with our friendly volunteer drivers. All Volunteers are DBS checked and transport is provided from 50p a mile. For more information or to book transport please call 01553 770310

### Volunteers Needed

We urgently need volunteer drivers to help out a busy charity to provide transport around West Norfolk. Mileage is paid.

## COMMUNITY NOTICE BOARD

### MOBILE LIBRARY VISITS

DATE	VILLAGE	LOCATION	TIME
Tuesday ?	Barton Bendish	Hatherley Gardens	11:10 am
Tuesday ?	Beachamwell	Old Post Office	09:45 am
Tues day ?	Drymere	Telephone Kiosk	09:45 am
Tuesday ?	Boughton	Mill Road	10:45 am
Friday ?	Wereham	Queen's Close	12.25 am
		Village Hall	12:45 am

For services to all 'Group 4' villages ring Mobile Library Information on 01362 693184 or 01603 222303 or look at the website - <https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/libraries-local-history-and-archives/libraries/your-local-library/mobile-library-routes-and-timetables>

### MARKETS - Farmers' and Indoor

Ely (Farmers')	Second and Fourth Saturday each month 8.00am to 2.00pm
Fakenham (Farmers')	Fourth Saturday each month 8.30am to 12.00pm
Kings Lynn (Farmers')	Second and Fourth Saturday each month
Swaffham (Indoor)	Every Friday 9.00am to 1.00pm
Wisbech (Farmers')	Alternate Fridays 8.30am to 2.00pm

For information:- [www.farmersmarkets.net](http://www.farmersmarkets.net) or your local Tourist Information Office. Check to see if they are actually taking place.

### VILLAGE, COMMUNITY and PARISH HALL BOOKINGS

Barton Bendish	Mary Simons	01366 347 790
Beachamwell	?	?
Boughton	Pam Wakeling	01366 500429
Wereham	sara.villagehallwereham@ Gmail.com	01366502214



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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 721 271

Email: [admin@homestartswaffham.org.uk](mailto:admin@homestartswaffham.org.uk)



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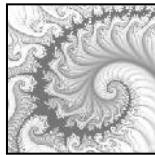
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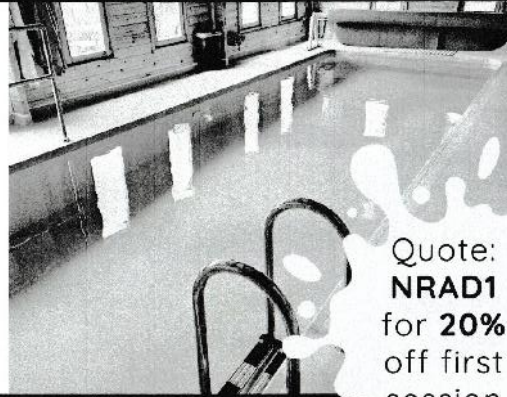
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Please feel free to contact us on 01760 724527 for more information about the centre and whether this would suit your needs. Also we are very keen for any volunteers and/or trustees with a passion to help support our charity, if you are interested please do get in touch.

## Volunteers Home Needed! Start

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for families

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:

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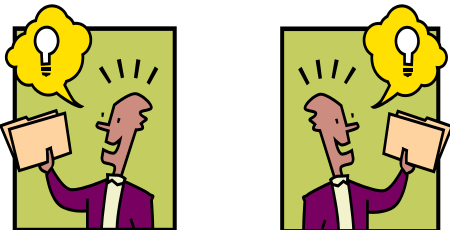
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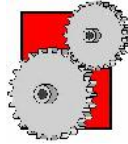
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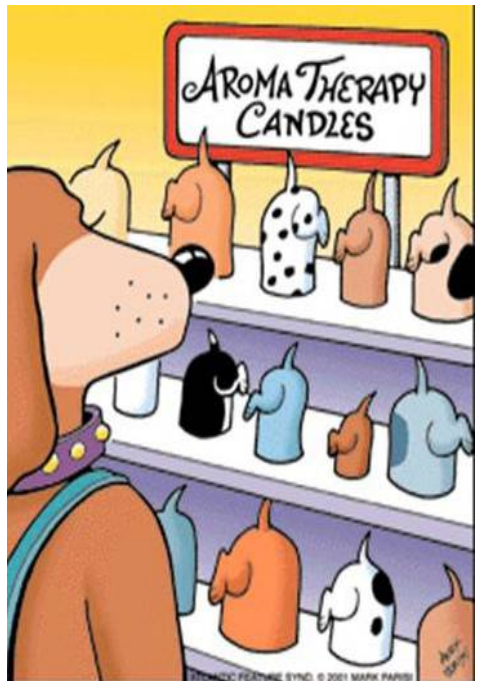
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