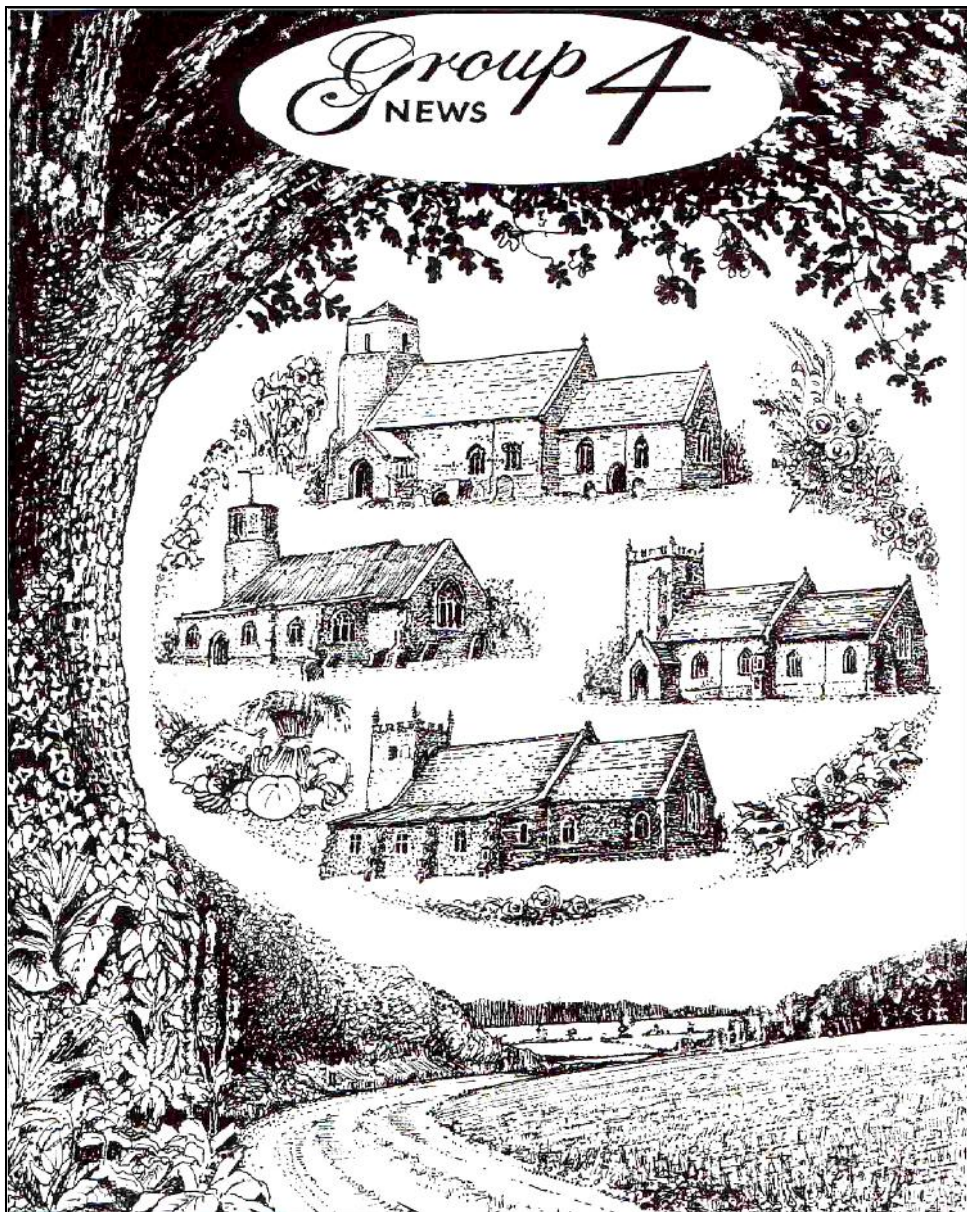


Group 4

NEWS



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

February 2024

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 Stephen for collecting and delivering to the villages.
- ◆ Limetree Printers for their super efficiency.
- ◆ Everyone who has helped with G4N in any way

We do appreciate your continued support.

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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**Deadline for copy for the
March 24 edition:**

11th February

ADVERTISING

Alan Pickering 16 Tinkers Way,
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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

Kevin Fisher, Tel 01366 502224

RED, RED ROSE

Those words begin the famous poem by Robert Burns. My love is like a red, red rose. He wasn't the only poet to use the analogy of a beautiful flower when describing feelings for the one they loved. The nineteenth century poet Helen Hunt Jackson wrote a poem called Dawn. The poem describes the dawning of a new day but woven into it are those same expressions of love, one for another.



With ring of silver, The sun like a lover
And a ring of gold Who glows and is bold
And a red, red rose Woos the lovely earth
Which illumines her face To his strong embrace



Clearly, love and the person or people of our affections, are by far the most prevalent subjects among poets and songwriters. Why should that be? Perhaps the answer lies in that love is the deepest emotion we may have (along with it's opposite hate). We are generally blessed by those emotions either continuously or at one time or another during our lifetime. Another emotion that is common to us all is grief. The late Queen wrote, after the death of Prince Philip, grief is the price we pay for love. The final lines of his famous poem on the death of a close friend In Memoriam A.H.H. Alfred, Lord Tennyson wrote 'It is better to have loved and lost, than to never have loved at all.'

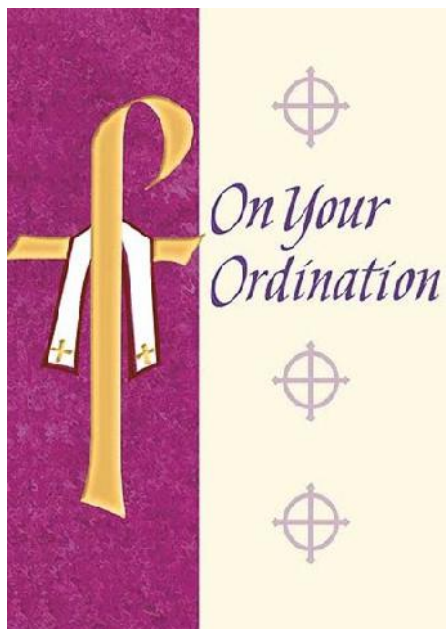
Why have I 'waxed lyrical' about the subject of love? Well, of course, it's St Valentine's day on the 14th of February. Incidentally, it isn't just young men who, in the springtime, turn to thoughts of love (inspired by another of Tennyson's poems). I used to think that St. Valentine was a myth. Perhaps invented in the 19th century by florists, greeting card and chocolate manufacturers. How wrong I was to entertain such cynical thoughts. For the Saint was a martyr in the third century when Marcus Aurelius Claudius was Roman Emperor. He fell victim to one of the many persecutions that occurred before Constantine made Christianity the imperial religion.

Valentine became the patron saint of 'courtly' love, of beekeepers and of epileptics. The first came about because of a legend that he wrote a letter to a young lady who was his jailer's daughter whom he had befriended and who had been cured of blindness. He signed the letter 'your Valentine'. Some may regard the sending of Valentine cards as an amusing but trivial pursuit. Whilst others are genuine expressions of love (alright, together with flowers, even red, red roses and chocolates). It is to be hoped that all may enjoy that strong embrace expressed in the poem Dawn.

In the Bible there are also expressions of love. Continuous, not partial, love on which we can depend. St. John wrote God is Love and Jesus gave us a new Commandment Love one another, as I have loved you. Let us all take those intensely expressive and profound words of love to heart!

Tony Mills

BENEFICE NEWS



Benefice Candlemas
and Ordination of
Pippa Blackall

Bishop Dagmar

Sunday 4th February
at 11.00am

Boughton Church.

Our thoughts and
prayers are with
Pippa.

SECRET MARHAM

Happy New Year one and all....including those of different faiths, agnostics and atheists. The big global picture remains chronic...would that it were otherwise. Mercifully we are truly blessed with small local communities, such as Marham, where our church, council and community groups offer rays of sunshine. Gosh we need and deserve that.

It would be so easy/ tempting to bang on about the awful wars and the abject failure to find solutions. I will resist that temptation and mention three unrelated things.

- ◆ Firstly I would strongly recommend everyone to attend the monthly coffee session at Holy Trinity. Great camaraderie. Always time well spent and no age limit old or young. Well behaved dogs are also welcome! Next one is Thursday 7th March 10:00 - 12: 00.

- ◆ Next, if you have a few minutes spare, why not sit on one of the several benches in front of Holy Trinity on The Street, and look at the ruin across the field. Just another Norfolk ruin right? Nope! So why is it special? Well, it was the only Cistercian Abbey in England for women. Who granted permission for it to be built? Answer...Queen Eleanor, the wife of



Henry 11...otherwise known as Eleanor of Aquitaine, arguably the greatest women of the middle ages. It was built around 1249 and prospered until its downfall in 1536. Ironically the lady who actually guided its construction, Isabel d'Aubigny, was buried within the abbey grounds. In my mind this

makes Marham Abbey unique and very special.

- ◆ Now I will finish of a lighter, almost frivolous note.. When I was at school 60 years ago, we had a school hymn. Non nobis Domine.(Not unto us, O Lord) I sang it weekly for 7 years but to be honest never really reflected on the words. Because I now have time to kill I thought about the middle verse of the hymn. Here it is..

And we confess our blame. How all too high we hold that noise which men call fame, that dross which men call gold. For these we undergo our hot and god-less days. But in our souls we know Not unto us the praise.

In other words, our world is obsessed with money and fame/ power. No wonder our world is in a mess. On that note I will shout out, Happy New Year one and all. See you soon...perhaps over a coffee! **Brian Ferguson**



PONDERISMS

1. Why do peanuts float in a regular coke and sink in a diet coke? Go ahead and try it
2. I used to eat a lot of natural foods until I learned that most people die of natural causes.
3. Can you cry under water?
4. How important does a person have to be before they are considered assassinated instead of just murdered?
5. Why do you have to "put your two cents in"... but it's only a "penny for your thoughts"? Where's that extra penny going?
6. Once you're in heaven, do you get stuck wearing the clothes you were buried in for eternity?
7. What disease did cured ham actually have?
8. How is it that we put man on the moon before we figured out it would be a good idea to put wheels on luggage?
9. Why is it that people say they "slept like a baby" when babies wake up like every two hours?
10. Why is "bra" singular and "panties" plural?
11. Why are you IN a movie, but you're ON TV?
12. Why do people pay to go up tall buildings and then put money in binoculars to look at things on the ground?
13. Why do doctors leave the room while you change? They're going to see you naked anyway.
14. Why do toasters always have a setting that burns the toast to a horrible crisp, which no decent human being would eat?
15. If the professor on Gilligan's Island can make a radio out of a coconut, why can't he fix a hole in a boat?
16. If corn oil is made from corn, and vegetable oil is made from vegetables, what is baby oil made from?
17. If electricity comes from electrons, does morality come from morons?
18. Why do the Alphabet song and Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star have the same tune?
19. Why did you just try singing the two songs above?
20. Did you ever notice that when you blow in a dog's face, he gets mad at you, but when you take him for a car ride, he sticks his head out the window?



COUNTRYSIDE NOTES STOATS



Stoats are small predators which are found across the UK, in woodlands, fields, sand dunes, low- ground heaths and upland moors, but they are very rarely seen. They belong to the family known as mustelids and are related to weasels, otters, polecats, domestic ferrets, mink and surprisingly badgers. Weasels are no more than two thirds the size of stoats being only about 25cms long and weighing approximately 150 grams. In appearance both are similar in shape to a ferret and are an orangey-brown colour with a creamy coloured chest and underside. When running stoats bound along with an arched back while weasels keep close to the ground. Only rarely is it possible to get a clear view of either. The easiest way to

differentiate between them is that stoats have a black tip to their tail and weasels don't. In northern parts of the UK many stoats turn white in winter while retaining the black tips to their tails. This offers good camouflage in the snow but can be a liability when there isn't any. The fur is also thicker and known as ermine which was used to make the ceremonial robes worn by royalty and members of the House of Lords.

Stoats are fearsome hunters and can easily kill an adult rabbit, many times larger than themselves, which they do by leaping on its back and biting the base of its skull. Rats and other rodents are also favourite prey and stoats will also take birds. Given the opportunity they will kill more than they need and cache away the surplus. During the nesting season they will steal eggs from birds' nests sometimes climbing ivy covered trees in their search. They have been witnessed rolling large eggs along the ground with their nose.

Stoats are solitary animals which hold territories identified by scent marking. They only come together when they mate in mid-August although implantation of the fertilised egg is delayed until the following spring; the young are then born about a month later. They have just one litter a year of up to a dozen kits. Only the female looks after them and it is quite a sight, although very rare, to see them all in a line following mum. The kits are also very playful and it's fascinating to see a whole litter gambolling together in the open, amidst the undergrowth or scrambling about in bracken.

Even though they are widespread across the UK there are a few places from which stoats are absent. They are not present on the Isles of Scilly, most of the Channel Isles, the Outer Hebrides and some of the smaller inner Hebridean islands such as Coll and Tiree. They were first reported as being on the Orkneys in 2010, probably introduced. There is great concern over the effect they are having on the wildlife and efforts are being made to eradicate them. Stoats can be found in Ireland but not weasels although confusingly stoats there are often referred to as weasels!!

Jill Mason [Barton Bendish]

RECIPE OF THE MONTH

Cappuccino Cake (Cuts into 12 slices)

Ingredients

250g pack butter, softened
250g/9oz light brown soft sugar plus 2-3 tbsp to add to coffee
300g/10oz self-raising flour
4 eggs, beaten
50g/2oz walnuts, toasted and finely chopped (optional)
200ml/7fl oz very strong coffee (made fresh or with instant), cooled

For the Frosting

500g tub mascarpone
2tbs light brown soft sugar
Cocoa powder or drinking chocolate to decorate

Method

1. Heat oven to 180C/fan 160C/gas 4. Butter 2 x 20cm sandwich tins and line with greaseproof paper. Beat butter and sugar together with electric beaters until pale and creamy. Add the flour and eggs in one go and keep beating until evenly mixed. Fold in the walnuts (if using) and half of the coffee mixture. Spoon the mix into prepared tins and bake for 25-30 mins or until golden and well risen.

2. Leave the cakes to cool in their tins before turning onto wire rack. Sweeten the remaining coffee with the 2 tbsp extra sugar and then sprinkle 4 tbsp of the mixture over both sponges. Leave to cool completely.

3. While the cakes cool, make the frosting. Tip the mascarpone into a large bowl and beat in the sugar and remaining coffee until smooth and creamy. Use about half of the frosting to sandwich the sponges together, then using a palette knife spread the rest of the frosting over the top of the cake. Decorate with a dusting of cocoa powder or drinking chocolate.

Best eaten on the day but will keep in the fridge for 3-4 days.

Ann Charles (Beachamwell)





WILD KNIGHT DISTILLERY

WILD KNIGHT® ENGLISH VODKA | NELSON'S GOLD® | ESPRESSO MARTINI | BOADICEA® GINS
• AWARD-WINNING BRITISH SPIRITS •

FEBRUARY COCKTAIL



WILD KNIGHT®

- DISTILLERY -

Wild Knight® - Caramelised Tea



*A tea spiked with sweet liqueurs
and balanced with a citrus and
spice garnish.*

Ingredients

- 25ml Nelson's Gold® Caramelised Vodka
- 25ml Grand Marnier
- Hot Breakfast Tea

Method

1. Pour the first two ingredients in a tempered glass and then top up with the breakfast tea.
2. Stir together and garnish with a lemon wedge and cinnamon stick.



Hello! From Matt & Steph Brown

Since 2001, we have made Beachamwell our home and run Wild Knight Distillery from here. You are invited to stop by, say hello and taste some of our spirits! Don't hesitate to call: 01366 32 70 70

Each month we'll show you a new cocktail recipe using our award-winning vodkas and gins for you to enjoy.

Visit www.wildknightdistillery.co.uk
or call 01366 32 70 70

SPECIAL EVENT PLANNED?



Think of Hiring Wereham Village Hall!!

www.werehamvillagehall.co.uk/hall-hire

If you are looking for a venue to hire - for a wedding reception, family party or other social occasion; a professional environment to hold your next business meeting, to run a training session or conference, Wereham Village Hall could be your perfect choice. We have a range of modern technical equipment available for hire, including a high-definition wide-screen projection system and screen.

We are also able to offer catering for meetings and events to suit your particular requirements and have a fully equipped kitchen for hire too.

When you hire Wereham Village Hall for Badminton or Table Tennis with friends, there's no extra charge for the use of the Badminton Court or Table Tennis Table.

For further details, or to make a booking, please call the office on 01366 502214 - we will be more than happy to show you around.

MAGPIE CENTRE

A Happy New Year to all our supporters from the Magpie Centre, home of West Norfolk Riding for the Disabled Association.

Thanks to a brilliant response to our call for 'hands-on' volunteers to help with pony care, stable management and escorting riders, we are now up to full complement and our new volunteers began their training in January.

If you fancy an evening out, away from the cold and wet, tickets are still available for our Ceilidh Barn Dance, with a caller and live band, on Saturday February 17 at Stow Bridge Village Hall, Holme Road, Stow Bridge PE34 3PW 7.30/11.00

Tickets, at £17.50 per adult and £8.50 per child (13 years and under), include a Hog Roast supper (with vegetarian option), salads and desserts. Bring your own drinks.

To book, just call 01760 337056 or email suer2006@hotmail.co.uk.

The Christmas rides proved popular, with 28 young riders participating over the two days, and they enjoyed posting their letters to Santa as they rode past the Magpie Centre 'post box'.

Future plans include lessons for home schooled children who have additional needs, e.g. asd, or adhd. More details to follow.

As the tax year draws to a close, this is an ideal time for businesses to sponsor activities, ponies and/or renovations at the Magpie Centre. For more details, visit our website www.rda-westnorfolk.org.uk or call the Centre on 01553 810202.

HIRE OUR HALL

**GREAT VALUE. FLEXIBLE SPACE.
FULLY EQUIPPED. PERFECT FOR
REGULAR GET-TOGETHERS,
MEETINGS & SPECIAL EVENTS.**

WWW.BEACHAMWELL.ORG.UK



BEACHAMWELL

VILLAGE HALL

What a great poem by the late Spike Milligan about smiling



Smiling is infectious
You catch it like the flu

When someone smiled at me today
I started smiling too



I walked around the corner
And someone saw me grin



When he smiled I realised
I had passed it on to him

I thought about the smile
And then realised its worth



A single smile like mine
Could travel round the earth



So if you feel a smile begin
Don't leave it undetected

Start an epidemic
And get the world infected.



Every minute, six people over 65 suffer a fall/

We're here to help.

To find out more, call us on 01553 616200
or visit www.careline-cs.org.uk



Careline
COMMUNITY SERVICE



**Care &
Repair**

Borough Council of
King's Lynn &
West Norfolk



**When you become
frustrated with
older people because
of what they cannot do,**



**think of how frustrated
they must feel because
they can no longer do it.**

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

Wereham **WARM SPACE CAFÉ** **Village Hall**

Lunch Mondays & Wednesday
12—2pm
Also

Monday & Wednesday
mornings 10.00—12noon
The Café is the perfect place to
relax and meet friends,
or just pop in to the Hall for a
chat.

The Warm Spaces Café is a
FREE service, for **EVERYONE**

Enquiries 01366 502214

Wereham

SHORT MAT BOWLS CLUB

Thursday 7pm until 9pm

£2.00 per player - free re-
freshments



BADMINTON CLUB



Friday 7.00pm until
9.00pm

£3.00 per player - all
equipment provided

For more info, or just a chat, call
Kevin on 07747 861011

Barton Bendish Community Breakfast



Saturday 3rd February 9.30
Barton Bendish Village Hall

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

Enquiries 01347 849 or 01347 563
Donations for St Andrews Church

Wereham



**INDOOR CAR
BOOT SALE AND
CAFÉ**

Sunday February 4th
8.30am

Village Hall

Cafe opens from 8am

£5.00 a table

Enquiries: **Philip 01366 501330,**
07759033492

rosemary.pease@btinternet.com.

Please note that in 2024 our car boot sales are now the first Sunday of the month.

Only guide dogs and Assistance dogs allowed in the Hall

Wereham POP UP CAFÉ Village Hall

TUESDAY 6th FEBRUARY
10.45am and 1.00pm

Please feel free to bring along your Family & Friends - There's a warm Wereham Welcome for everyone.

Traditional Pancakes served with Lemon Juice and Sugar, or Maple Syrup, Golden Syrup, etcetera at only £3.00 per person plus a variety of hot drinks - each served with one of our delicious home-made cakes or pastries - for just £2.00

For any further details please call Doreen on 01366 500218

All proceeds to Wereham Village Hall
CIO Registered Charity No 1168472

Beachamwell



**St. Mary's
Church /
Village Hall**

Winter Lunch

Saturday 10th February
12 noon — 2.00

Will take place after the service
Money raised will go to funds
for continuing restoration work

Enquiries 01366 328 779

Wereham



Family Valentine's Disco

with Action Replay Roadshow

**Saturday 17th February
From 7.30**

Tickets: £7.50 per adult, £5 per child under 16, Family Ticket (2 adults, 2 children) £20 + £3 per additional child
Tickets available from the Village Hall office – Monday-Friday, 9am-2.45pm
or call Angela on 07535 399883
Bar available

All proceeds to Wereham Village Hall
CIO – Registered Charity No:
1168472



Beachamwell



Afternoon Tea and a Chat.....'

**Wednesday
February 21st**

2 - 4pm

Village Hall

Enquiries: 01366 328108

Barton Bendish Pop Up Café

Friday February 23rd
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

All profits will be donated
to Marie Curie

bartonbendishev-
ents@gmail.com

Wereham The Village Cinema

Wereham Village Hall

Proudly Presents:

'The Great Escaper' Friday 23rd February

Programme begins at 7.30pm

Bar Opens at 7.00

Tickets Adults £5.00

15 -16 £3.00

Tickets can be purchased in advance from
the Village Hall, Mondays to Fridays, from
9am to 3pm, or on the door.

Registered Charity Number 1168472

Beachamwell



Pop Up Pub

Friday 23rd February

**7.00pm until
Last orders 10.30**

Village Hall

Enquiries: 07818 453 323

Barton Bendish Film Club

Proudly Presents:

‘Miracle Club’

Saturday 24th February

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

Barton Bendish Village Hall

Tickets £5

Free refreshments during interval
included

To reserve your seat please contact

Box Office: 01366 347849

email: cinemabarton@gmail.com

www.bartonbendishfilmclub.btck.co.uk/

Arguing with a women is like reading
the Software License Agreement.

In the end, you ignore
everything and click
"I agree".

BARTON BENDISH & EASTMOOR VILLAGE NEWS

Well, the Christmas and New Year festivities are over with for another year and 2024 is underway. Before Christmas a large audience enjoyed Barton's Victorian Evening encompassing an eclectic mix of mostly home-grown entertainment - with a good time being had by all! It was a truly social community event.



**HOT HUBS
DATES**

Wednesday December 13th
2024

Wednesday January 3rd
Wednesday January 31st
Wednesday February 21st
Wednesday February 28th
Wednesday March 13th
Wednesday March 20th
Wednesday March 27th

it may be possible to fit in additional dates.

acstephen@hotmail.com 01366 347549

So what is in store for the coming months? **Hot Hubs** are back. We also have:

Barton Bendish Community Breakfast Saturday 3rd February

Join us for a Community Breakfast in the Village Hall at 9.30am. All most welcome

Pop Up Cafes - next one Friday February 23rd

This month's Pop-Up Café on February 23rd at 12 noon will be supporting Marie Curie. The usual menu of homemade quiches, soup, filled rolls and cakes will be on offer and we very much look forward to welcoming you all to the Village Hall.

These cafes have become popular occasions for friends and neighbours to catch up with

each other while raising much needed funds for local, national, and international charities. We are delighted to report that during 2023 over £1700 was donated between Tapping House, Marie Curie, Crisis UK, Big C Appeal, EACH, Macmillan Cancer, The Royal British Legion and the Turkey/Syrian Earthquake Appeal. It was an amazing figure to have raised and we thank you all for your generosity and support. We intend to continue supporting such charities and hope to see many of you at our 2024 cafes.

BARTON BENDISH & EASTMOOR VILLAGE NEWS

The cafe in March will support NAYA – You Are Not Alone. This is a Norfolk Farming charity providing confidential support to those in agriculture and rural communities which now covers the whole of East Anglia.

St Andrews PCC

Barton Bendish Film Club February 24th The Miracle Club

The Film Club will be showing The Miracle Club starring, Laura Linney, Kathy Bates, Maggie Smith, and Stephen Rea, at the Village Hall on Saturday 24th February.

Certificate 12 with a running time of 1Hr 31 mins

Doors open at 6:30pm for screening at 7:00pm.

As always, tickets will be £5.00 payable on the door and will include free popcorn and post screening refreshments.

Reservations can be made by made by email to cinemabarton@gmail.com or by telephone to 01366 347849

Pop-up Pubs

Please note Pop-Up Pubs are on hold until the spring

Barton Bendish Parish Council

Please contact the Parish Clerk for any matters concerning the Parish Council

Mrs Sharon Sweet, Locum Parish Clerk

Email: bartonbendishparishcouncil@aol.co.uk

Further information is available on the Parish Council website at

bartonbendishparishcouncil.norfolkparishes.gov.uk



BEACHAMWELL, DRYMERE AND SHINGHAM NEWS

Beachamwell Parish Council

Councillors

Diana Lambert (Chair)

Pat O'Donnell

Johnathan Cooper,

Colin Friend,

Geoff Siddons,

Malcolm Warner.



There remains one vacancy on the Council, so if anyone is interested it would be great to hear from them.

The next meeting will be on the 12th March and will commence with the Annual Parish Meeting at 6.30pm, followed by the Parish Council meeting.

Councillors will be providing refreshments. This is an opportunity for all Parishioners to meet with them and also hopefully for there to be presentations from village groups. I would like, through this publication, to invite anyone involved in any local groups or activities to contact me if they would like to use this opportunity to update the village on their activities. I'd also like to invite all the parishioners to come along to this Annual event and hear the presentations.

Sarah Hunt [Clerk to Beachamwell Parish Council]

Telephone: 07355694133 beachamwellparishcouncil@gmail.com

Mobile Post Office

Monday and Thursday 13.00 – 13.15: Tuesday and Wednesday 11.10 – 11.30

Afternoon Tea and Chat

A reminder that on the 3rd Wednesday of each month, Gay Paterson very kindly organises a thoroughly enjoyable 'Tea and Cakes'. Everyone is welcome so if you haven't yet managed to get there try to do so – you won't regret it. It is a lovely way to catch up and meet with people.

Gay would welcome donated cakes but please let her know in plenty of time beforehand. The cakes are scrumptious. You will find the recipe for a Cappuccino Cake on page 8. Ann Charles, who has very generously donated many cakes has allowed me to share the recipe with you so many thanks Ann. Once again well done Gay and thank you for all you do it is greatly appreciated. Thanks also to the people who help behind the scenes - getting the tables ready, baking and donating the cakes, washing up. It is an excellent team effort.

Eileen Powell

BEACHAMWELL, DRYMERE AND SHINGHAM NEWS

Beachamwell PCC

Revd. Dr Ian Mack (Chairman)
Peter Berendt (Churchwarden and Vice
Chairman)
Sue Pennell (Churchwarden)
Pat Clarke (Treasurer)
Susie Rix (Secretary and Electoral Roll
Officer)
Karen Butler (Safeguarding Officer)
Ann Knox Whittet (Deanery Synod Rep)

"The PCC would wish all parishioners a very happy new year and provide an update on both the church and upcoming events. Firstly the church, by the time you read this brief the scaffolding will be down and you will be able to enjoy the new thatched roof, now fully revealed. The next part of the restoration will be the re-installation of the plain glass windows in the north, south and west windows. Now the church is weather proof we need to be patient while the building dries out prior to other work commencing inside the building, meanwhile we intend to reinstall the electricity supply and bring in experts to plan the lighting and heating options.

The February church service is planned for Saturday 10th followed by a Winter Lunch straight after service from 12-2pm to raise funds for continuing restoration works".

Then moving onto the Easter Service on March 31st which is Easter Sunday.

In January you will have received an invite through your mail-box from the PCC inviting you to participate in the 2024 Open Gardens. This annual event will take place on Sunday 2 June 2024, and we would be grateful to all who accept the invite and open their garden to the public, this is the major Church fundraiser for the year and your support is very important to the parish.

Now the Christmas period is over, and works are starting again, it is intended to get new regular updates back onto the St Marys Beachamwell Public Facebook page, including photos. Please visit the page, if you have not seen it before it contains a very comprehensive photo record of the restoration thus far since 2 February 2022."

Peter Berendt (Churchwarden and Vice Chairman)

BEACHAMWELL, DRYMERE AND SHINGHAM NEWS

Beachamwell Village Hall



Diary Dates

February 23rd Pop Up Pub

March 18-24th Village Hall Week Go Green

March 22nd Pop Up Pub Wear something green

Thursday 11th April 7.30pm - AGM all welcome

April 26th Pop Up Pub

May 24th Pop Up Pub

June 2nd Sunday Open Gardens

June 8th Saturday from 4pm D Day Celebrations

June 28th Pop Up Pub

Happy New Year!

The new website will be up and running very soon and with that a new (to us) on line system called Hall Master to book the Hall. Invoices will be automated too so will be a much more efficient service. There will be guidance on how to use this service on the website.

Another benefit of Hall Master will be that the heating can be programmed to come on prior to the event taking place. After the last few days of freezing mornings this is very welcome news!



The Village Hall is hoping to get a grant for the D Day Celebration taking place this year - 80 years. The event will be similar to the Jubilee and Coronation Celebrations held in the past couple of years.

Dress - 1940's style so get your thinking caps on

Desert - a plate to share

It will take place on Saturday 8th June from 4pm.

We are still on the search for scaffolding poles - any local builders who are reading this? Don't have to be sparkling new! Any lengths would be appreciated - it is to make a bicycle rack.

Cathy Friend

BEACHAMWELL VILLAGE HALL

POP-UP PUB

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

FEBRUARY
FRIDAY 23RD

MARCH
FRIDAY 22ND

APRIL
FRIDAY 26TH

MAY
FRIDAY 24TH

JUNE
FRIDAY 28TH

JULY
FRIDAY 26TH

AUGUST
FRIDAY 23RD

SEPTEMBER
SATURDAY 1ST + FRIDAY 27TH

OCTOBER
FRIDAY 25TH

NOVEMBER
FRIDAY 22ND

DECEMBER
FRIDAY 20TH + TUESDAY 31ST



LIBRARY

RE-INTRODUCTION OF OVERDUE CHARGES

Dear Library Customer,

We are contacting you to let you know that from Monday 5 February the Library Service will be re-introducing overdue charges for items that are returned late. For overdue items borrowed on most adult cards, there will be a charge of 10p per item per day up to a maximum of £4.90 per item.

Children under 16, Equal Access, Housebound, Early Years customers and Reading Groups are exempt from these charges.

Please note: Our previous Playgroup, Childminder and Foster-Carer borrower categories have now been amalgamated into a single new Early Years category.

To help you manage your account, we will still be sending reminder emails.

These changes are helping us to return to what was in place before the Covid pandemic.

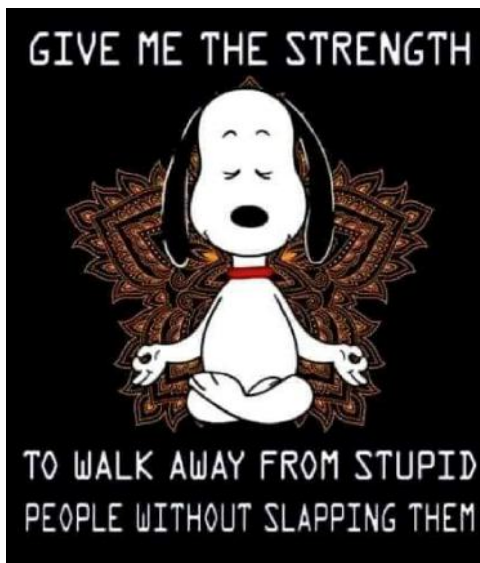
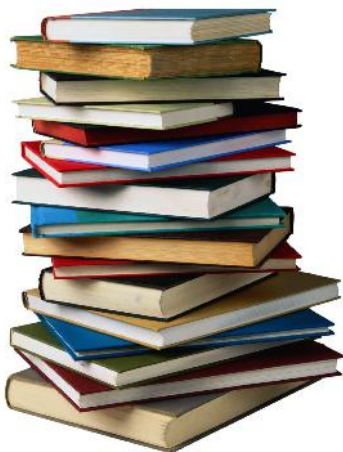
Download the Spydus Mobile App for the fastest way to renew, search and reserve.

Sign up here to have the latest news, event updates and reading recommendations from Norfolk Libraries delivered straight to your inbox.

Thank you for your continuing support and custom.

Norfolk Library & Information Service

www.norfolk.gov.uk/libraries



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 Village Hall	12.25 am 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 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	Cathy Friend	01366 328892	
Boughton	Pam Wakeling	01366 500429	
Wereham	Angie, Lyn or Sarah	07497 430005	weekdays 10 - 3
	www.werehamvillage	hall.co.uk/	Anytime

NEXT WEEK INSTEAD

I almost went to church, but then an old friend came
And to have closed the door on her would have been a dreadful
shame.

So we talked and talked and talked until goodbyes were said
And I made a resolution to go next week instead.

I almost went to church but something made me late
And unpunctuality is a sin I really hate.
So I didn't go and stayed at home and to my conscience said
I'll make a resolution to go next week instead.

I almost went to church but the air was still and cold
To venture out on such a night would be foolish I've been told.
So I sat and rested by the fire, took up a book and read
But I made a resolution to go next week instead.

I almost went to church but my favourite show was on,
And by the time it ended the time for church was gone.
So I stayed and watched the busy screen until the set was dead,
But I really made a resolution to go next week instead.

I really went to church last night, but I went far too late.
The church was locked and silent; 'For Sale' was on the gate.
Oh! The remorse that then I felt – for that little church was dead
And I – yes I – had killed it.....by going next week instead.

CHURCHWARDENS AND CONTACTS

WISSEY VALLEY GROUP

Barton Bendish:	Mhari Blanchfield	01366 347 849
	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	Brian & Ann Hullah	01366 347814
ShouldhamThorpe	Gordon Reid	01366 347253



ONLINE SERVICES IN FEBRUARY

Weekly Online Services

Sunday 6.30	Service of The Word (West Dereham Cell)
Tuesday 5.00	Prayer Group
Wednesday 5.30	Compline

Full details (including the links) from janet.tanton@gmail.com or pickwickclub.cc@btinternet.com

FEBRUARY 2024 CHURCH SERVICES PRIORY GROUP

Sunday 4th February

9.30am	Runcton Holme	Holy Communion
10am	Shouldham	Morning Prayer
11am	Marham	Holy Communion
11am	Watlington	Morning Prayer
6pm	Online	Evening Prayer

Sunday 11th February

9.30am	Shouldham Thorpe	Holy Communion
11am	Fincham	Morning Prayer
11am	Marham	Morning Prayer
11am	Stow Bridge	Holy Communion
11am	Watlington	Holy Communion
6pm	Online	Evening Prayer

Sunday 18th February

9.30am	Wormegay	Holy Communion
11am	Marham	Morning Prayer
11am	Shouldham	Holy Communion
11am	Watlington	Morning Prayer
6pm	Online	Evening Prayer

Sunday 25th February

9.30am	Fincham	Holy Communion
11am	Marham	Holy Communion
11am	Wimbotsham	Holy Communion

Midweek Services

Tuesdays 5.00 pm	Methwold	Evening Prayer
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 rd Thursday of the month 10.00 am	Boughton	Holy Communion
1st Thursday of the month 10.00 am	Runcton Holme	Service



FEBRUARY 2024 CHURCH SERVICES

WISSEY GROUP

Sunday 4th February

11.00 am

Boughton Ordination Pippa Blackall

Sunday 11th February

9.30 am

Whittington Service of the Word

9.30 am

West Dereham Holy Communion

10.00 am

Boughton Breakfast Church

9.30 am

Methwold Service of the Word

Ash Wednesday 14th

7.00 pm

Methwold Holy Communion and
imposition of ashes

Sunday 18th February

9.30 am

Methwold Service of the Word

9.30 am

West Dereham Celtic Worship

9.30 am

Wretton/Stoke Ferry Holy Communion

11.00 am

Wereham Holy Communion

Sunday 25th February

9.30 am

Methwold Holy Communion

9.30 am

West Dereham Family Breakfast Church

9.30 am

Whittington Holy Communion

11.00 am

Boughton Holy Communion

Every Sunday 6.30 pm online service West Dereham Cell [see page27]

DETAILS OF ALL SERVICES ON WISSEY VALLEY BENEFICE WEBSITE

<https://www.wisseyvalleybenefice.co.uk/>

Weekday Services

Tuesdays 5.00 pm

Methwold Evening Prayer

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

Saturday 3rd 9.30 am

Barton Bendish Breakfast Church

Second Saturday 11.00 am

Beachamwell Outdoor Service

3rd Thursday 10.00 am

Boughton Holy Communion





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>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>
Beachamwell		Swaffham			
Cockley Cley		Swaffham			
Crimplisham				Downham	
Drymere		Swaffham			
Feltwell					Brandon
Faulden		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.

CHILDREN'S PAGE

Disney Word Search

v i r w d m d i a i s a t n a f
 i y t u a e b g n i p e e l s i
 g n o m e o a n d j u l i e t x
 t n j y o g y h n t r t p d q b
 w w c u m n v c j o a l e d x r
 c i n d e r e l l a e m t p d p
 a k o p t j m i o k b e e w d r
 v g w n j h y p v z r l r t w m
 s a t n o h a c o p e o p t x o
 p t m p n d k a s y h d a r g b
 g q z t i n k j r v t y n o g m
 p d r a d v e w s y o t f p x u
 q n a r d a h p y i r i q i v d
 n t q z a q i b b d b m y s q l
 p h r a l l f i s i p e j l h q
 h j y n a a j m w r n a l u m h

Words may go vertically and horizontally in either direction only

cinderella

tarzan

peter pan

mulan

sleeping beauty

brother bear

aladdin

gnomeo and juliet

fantasia

dumbo

pocahontas

melody time

BOUGHTON VILLAGE NEWS

Christmas Gatherings in Boughton



Once again, we had a flurry of Christmas activities in Boughton during the month of December. We started with the Children's Christmas Party with seasonal activities and crafts. All Saints looked very festive with a beautiful 8ft tree kindly donated by Gary of Norfolk Nordmann, our local Christmas tree grower. Lovely to see so many local families join us and most went home with faces painted and crafts and sweets in hand. Thanks to those that came along and to Jenny, Lesley, and Pippa for helping make the afternoon so much fun! Next came the Christmas Breakfast church – our regular monthly gathering serving a full English breakfast with plenty of tea and coffee, it was lovely to catch up with everyone's

Christmas plans around our festively-laid table. Nine lessons and Carols was an enjoyable and well-attended service with young Bea reading beautifully, well done and thanks to those that came along and our merry helpers who provided refreshments for all. With Christmas Day falling on a Monday, it meant that Boughton's last Sunday of the month's Holy Communion fell on Christmas Eve morning. Extended families and visiting friends were very welcome alongside our regular congregation. Last, but not least many from the village and elsewhere met up on the green around the pond to listen to the Christmas story and sing our favourite Carols before heading up Church Lane for warming refreshments at the Church space – thanks go to Dave for preparing and delivery leaflets, Lesley for her superb keyboard accompaniment, Bea and Henry for their readings, Jenny for arranging the refreshments and everyone for coming along with their good cheer and singing voices – it was such a fun way to lead us into Christmas Day.

Boughton Community & Fundraising Ideas for 2024

All Saints PCC are keen to support more community gatherings in 2024, we have got some ideas but would very much welcome your thoughts and/or offers of support. For those of you new to the village, you may not realise that All Saints church was renovated in 2011 in order to provide a more flexible space for community gatherings particularly as we have no village hall. So, as well as our regular church services you will see published within Group 4, we've also held Afternoon Teas, Quizzes, Book Jumbles, Wine Tastings, Open Garden lunches, children's flamenco dancing, baking competitions and more besides!! Of course, some of these events are designed to raise funds for the upkeep of the Church space as well as get us together. Many of you will have recently donated towards the organ repair, and the new boundary wall

BOUGHTON VILLAGE NEWS

but we also have more everyday bills too such as electrics and fire safety inspections, grass-cutting and tree work along with heating oil and electricity bills. There's also our ministry share to be paid to the Diocese to support mission and ministry, which in 2022 was £2883.20 – to be precise!

So, if there's an activity or event you'd liked to be involved with, whether that's as a willing helper or happy attendee please do let any of us on the Boughton PCC know, you'll see us (Pam, Sue, Pippa, & Carol) around the village else you can email us at allsaintsboughton@gmail.com. We will be so pleased to have your input and involvement. Thank you!

Our next big event...and it's a very special one!

Our next big event at All Saints Boughton is an Ordination service on 4th February for our very own Pippa Blackall. Complete with a Bishop, a *gang* of priests, a procession, special music with augmented choir and lots of people gearing up to come. The ordination of a Deacon (the first stage of the ordination of a Priest) by the Bishop in the Ordinand's own church is a rare opportunity to experience this liturgy which has been used to ordain every priest in the Church of England since the Reformation in the 16th Century. This would usually occur in the Cathedral when a group are ordained together. The precedent in our area was set by the ordination of Carol Nicholas-Letch in Wretton in pre-Covid times. The service will be followed, in true Boughton tradition, by a proper lunch, and everyone is of course, welcome. So we have an idea of numbers, if you are thinking of attending, please either let Pam or Pippa know (if you haven't already) or you can email the PCC at allsaintsboughton@gmail.com

Boughton Open Gardens – Sunday 9th June - save the date!

One crucial event in Boughton's PCC calendar is the Open Gardens Event. It's usually a great day where the whole village has an opportunity to get involved. Of course it couldn't happen without those of you who very kindly offer to open your gardens for visitors to view and those of you who kindly volunteer to help on the day. So please consider whether you could lend your support and keep your calendars free on Sunday 9th June. More details will follow in the coming months.

Boughton PCC – Pam, Pippa, Sue & Carol

Poppy Appeal 2023

The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal house-to-house collection in Boughton raised £332.98. Many thanks for your generosity.

Angela Faherty

BOUGHTON VILLAGE NEWS

How Wet Has it Been?

Surely no-one has failed to notice that it has hardly stopped raining during the autumn.

In fact it really started in July last year, when we had 75.1mm during the month, with rain on more than half the days. The beginning of August was no better, with almost 30mm in the first five days. The beginning of the school holidays must have been dismal. After that, there was some relief until October, when we had 130.1mm in total. Over 56mm of this came down on 19th and 20th – Storm Babet.

Storm Ciaran came at the beginning of November, bringing another 15mm in one day. It felt like it would never stop. But it did – towards the end of November, when we had about a week of hard frost. It came as something of a relief to those of us who spend a lot of time outdoors. It is easier to wrap up warm than it is to keep the rain from permeating your clothing, however good it is, when the rain doesn't stop and it is windy into the bargain.

This respite was short lived though – December was horrendous, with only eight rainless days. The total for the month was 103.9mm. Anyone who thought – New Year, New Weather – was wrong. It rained almost non-stop for the first six days of January, putting down 40.01mm over this period. Everywhere was awash – the rivers were bursting their banks – many of the local nature reserves – Welney, Sculthorpe Hawk and Owl Trust, and others had restricted access or were closed. Even Boughton Fen, for the first time that we have known, was totally engulfed for several days as the Stringside Drain was unable to cope.

The relief channel at Saddlebow has been fully open at every low water since October, flushing massive volumes of water out to sea. Between each opening, the levels have risen several feet as the water travels down the river and drainage system from Bedford.

However, we have been fortunate here. Whilst everywhere is very soggy, and the farmers must be at their wits end, we have not suffered the dreadful flooding that many parts of the country have experienced. And Boughton Pond is full of water. Everyone who thought it would never fill up again after 2022 can relax – nature invariably balances itself up.

Sue Pogmore

BOUGHTON VILLAGE NEWS

Boughton Parish Council

A regular meeting of Boughton Parish Council was held on Tuesday 9th January.

This meeting ratified the council's budget for the year 2024/25 and set the council precept at £58.35 for a Band D property. This reflects increase in costs and the need to build a reserve against equipment replacement. The council adopted a biodiversity policy to comply with new regulations, with an action plan that will be developed and reviewed on a regular basis. We will shortly begin work to improve the water quality in the pond by applying a product to break down the sludge that has built up. This project will take place over a three year period. The council has a new arrangement in place for the village marquee. This is available to residents and organisations to borrow for events in return for a small fee towards its upkeep. See the website or contact the clerk on 01366 683017 or boughtonpc@gmail.com for more details.

We still have a vacancy on the council; if you'd like to know more about what being a councillor entails or would like to know more about becoming one, please contact the clerk.

Neil Matthew (Chair)

Boughton Parish Council chair.boughtonpc@gmail.com



WEREHAM VILLAGE NEWS

Village Hall Monthly Activities

All activities and regular weekly events now featured in the separate inserted sheet. Also details for mobile Library and Post Office.

Wereham Car Boot and Café

Starting in January the car boot sales will be on the first Sunday of the month, dates for the coming year are as follows., 03/03, 07/04, 05/05, 02/06, 07/07, 04/08, 01/09, 06/10, 03/11, 01/12, we look forward to seeing all our regular stall holders plus lots of new ones. For details please contact Philip on 01366 501330, 07759033492, rosemary.pease@btinternet.com.

Short Mat Bowls Club

We meet every Monday evening 7.30pm until 9.30pm and every Thursday afternoon 2pm until 4pm.

New players always welcome. For further details please contact Philip on 01366 501330, 07759033492, rosemary.pease@btinternet.com

Wereham Craft Group

We meet on the second Tuesday of the month 10.30am until about 12.30pm. New crafters very welcome. For details please contact Rosemary on 01366 501330, 07749240606, rosemary.pease@btinternet.com.

Dates for craft group meetings, 12/03, 09/04, 14/05, 11/06, 09/07, 13/08, 10/09, 08/10, 12/11, 10/12.

Make and Mardle

A more casual group who meet on the 3rd Tuesday of every month, we meet in the village hall foyer, 10am until 12 noon. This is aimed at knitters, crochet, embroidery, tapestry. We just chat and do our craft, we have tea or coffee half way through the morning. It is free we just ask people to purchase a tea or coffee for £1.00. Contact details same as the craft group

Wereham Parish Council

Next Ordinary Meeting Date Monday 11th March 2024 at 6.30 pm (To be held in the Wereham Village Hall – Community Room).

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. The Agendas for meetings are always published on the Wereham Village Notice Board three clear days before the meeting, and notified via the Wereham Parish Council Facebook Page and on the website www.werehamparishcouncil.co.uk You will also find minutes of all meetings here too.

WEREHAM VILLAGE NEWS

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 or Phone/Text: 0779 500 6811

St Margaret's Church

Carol Service 17th December 2023

With a congregation of over 60 souls, St. Margaret's Church was resplendent with floral displays by Sue Candler, which made a beautiful backdrop for their annual Carols Service. The service was led by the Archdeacon of Huntingdon and Wisbech, the Venerable Richard Harlow, with the Rev. Dr. Ian Mack in attendance. 'Stone The Crow,' and the local children, brought us the nativity story. The centre of attention was the stable at Bethlehem, kindly constructed by Mr. Ian Sams, and gradually brought to life by the children, who also brought us some very sweet singing, accompanied on the organ by Mr. Chris Young. Thank you to everyone who made this such a beautiful and meaningful occasion.

Christmas Hamper

The Luxury Christmas Hamper made a total of £266 for Church Funds, and our winner this year was Meagan Howes. Congratulations to Meagan.

Christmas Eve Sing-a-Long

Oh, what a hoot we had! Due to the inclement weather, our Sing-a-long took place inside the Church. Just under 100 people, not only from the village, but as far away as Spain, made St Margaret's rock! Led by Keith and Claire, with the chorus of children, treating us to Little Donkey, we all sang our hearts out, and The Twelve Days of Christmas was such fun, with each day of Christmas competing with each other, and getting louder and louder. It was so good, we had to have an encore. Thank you for your donations, both for the Church and the food bank. See you next year!

Our Christmas Communion at 8pm was led by Mrs Pippa Blackall.

It's Time to Start Planning the Summer Festival.

There will be a meeting on Tuesday February 6th at 7pm in the Church. If you can help us we would be very glad to see you there. If you are unable to attend, please let us know how you can help by contacting Chris Murray on 01366 500976. Many thanks.



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Does your puppy need socialising and some basic training? Maybe you're an older person who needs help exercising and caring for your dog?

Contact Jen at Wretton on 07799 733 463

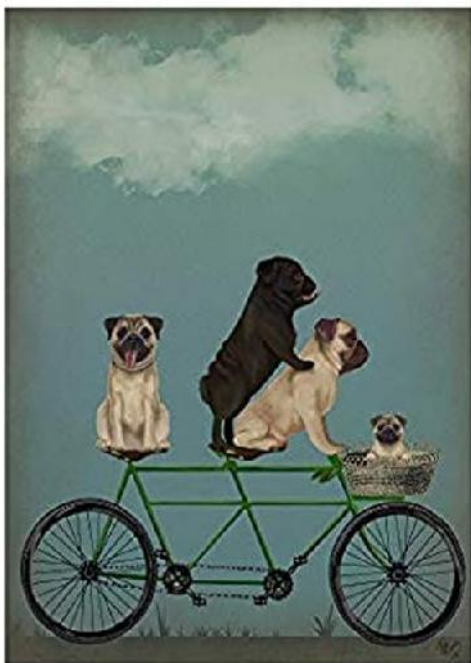
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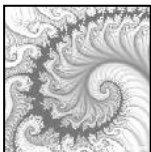
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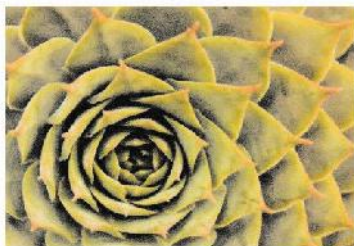
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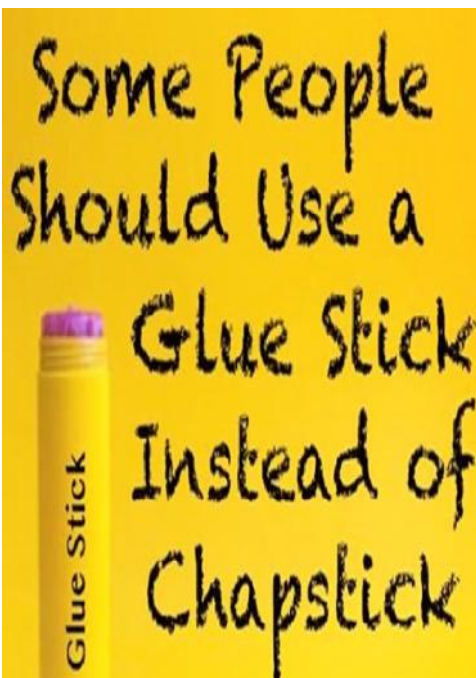
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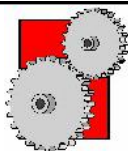
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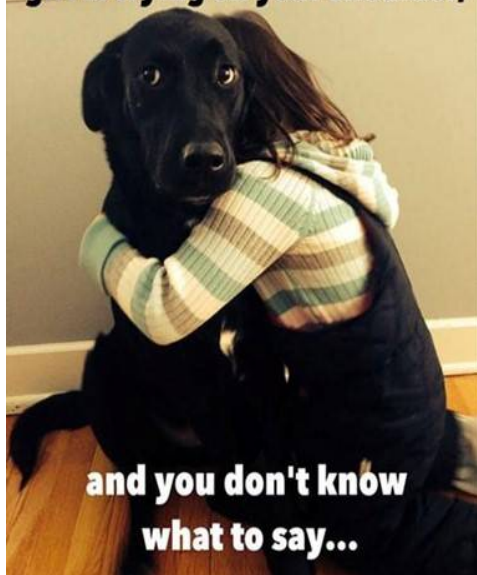
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